# ANALYTICAL REVIEW OF GLOBAL TRENDS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN SOCIETY, AFFECTING THE CURRENT STATE OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## EVALUAREA ANALITĂ A TENDINȚURILOR GLOBALE ÎN DEZVOLTAREA SOCIETĂȚII MODERNE, AFECTATĂ STARE ACTUALĂ A SISTEMULUI JURIDIC AL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA

**CZU: 341.1/.8:316.32:342.1(478)** **https://doi.org/10.59295/spd2024j.53**

**Anna CHUVALNIKOVA**,
ORCID: 0000-0002-5368-6697
e-mail: assolas88@gmail.com
Institute of Legal, Political and Sociological Studies, Moldova State University

***Abstract:*** *The article contains an analytical overview of global social development trends that can influence the current state of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova. Research objectives: 1) to form a holistic view of modern trends in social development at the global level; 2) identify connections between the leading global trends in social development and the current development of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova. To achieve these goals, we analyzed the results of scientific research in this area, international acts affecting global problems of social development and proposing ways to overcome them, as well as national legal acts of the Republic of Moldova, defining the strategic directions of the country's development for the coming years. Research methods: formal legal method, system analysis method and a complex of logical methods. The results of the study: 1) the dualism of global trends in social development was identified and the leading global trend in the development of the world community was determined; 2) direct and feedback connections were identified between the global trend of sustainable development and the development of the legal system of society; 3) conclusions were drawn about the current development of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova in the context of its connection with the leading global trends in social development.*

***Keywords:*** *global trends, legal system, sustainable development.*

## INTRODUCTION

Global processes of social development today, to a greater or lesser extent, cover the entire world community with their influence, and therefore the legal systems of modern states cannot exist and fully function in absolute isolation. This general position is also true for the analysis of the current process of development of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova, which should be considered not only as a process of its internal self-development, but also as part of larger processes determined by the leading trends in social development at the global and regional level. However, to truly understand whether the current development of the national legal system of Moldova is conditioned

by any global trends, deep scientific analysis is needed. To identify existing connections between the development process of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova and global trends in social development, we conducted an analytical study, the main results of which are presented below.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

To determine the general range of global trends in social development, it is necessary to find out: what explains the emergence of directs of social development that can have a global impact? We can answer this question if we pay attention to the existence of a mutual cause-and-effect relationship between trends on a global scale and problems of no lesser scale that affect all of humanity. Considering the mutuality of this cause-and-effect relationship, we must proceed from the fact that global trends in social development can be both a consequence and a cause of global problems. Therefore, having understood what problems modern humanity faces, we will be able to logically establish those global trends that have become either a consequence of the search for ways to solve global problems, or the cause of their emergence.

A significant contribution to the study of global problems of humanity was made by the activities of the Club of Rome, which sought to obtain scientifically based results that would provide an understanding of the global problems facing humanity and the main trends in world development. This non-governmental organization collaborated with the world's leading experts in the field of system analysis of the dynamics of global processes and research centers in Europe and the USA, which managed to recreate the future of human civilization using mathematical models. The results of these scientific studies were recognized by the entire scientific community and were reflected in reports prepared by scientists for the Club of Rome. The first report, prepared in 1972 with the participation of D. Meadows and called «The Limits to Growth» [1], indicated that population growth, pollution levels and the depletion of non-renewable resources are critically increasing the load on the biosphere calling into question the well-being of today living and future generations of humanity. The same problems were also pointed out by the authors of the second report, prepared in 1974 with the participation of M. Mesarovic from the USA and E. Pestel from Germany and called «Mankind at the Turning Point» [2].

The beginning of the participation of the world community in finding solutions to global problems, which were pointed out in the reports to the Club of Rome, were the steps taken by the United Nations immediately after the publication of the first report «The Limits to Growth»: 1) holding the United Nations conference in Stockholm in 1972 and the creation of the United Nations Environment Program, thanks to which government agencies of member countries of the United Nations were involved in solving global environmental problems; 2) adoption of the Tbilisi Declaration on Environmental Education in 1977; 3) the publication in 1987 of the report of the International Commission on Environment and Development «Our Common Future», where in the

context of analyzing ways to overcome global problems of humanity the term «sustainable development» was used and defined; 4) holding a United Nations conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which resulted in the adoption of a number of important documents (Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Agenda 21, United Nations Convention on biological diversity and others), the Commission on Sustainable Development was created, and the governments of all countries were invited to develop and approve their national strategy for sustainable development; 5) the signing in 1997 at the Third Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Kyoto, Japan, of the Kyoto Protocol, which entered into force in 2005 after being ratified by states responsible for 55% of global carbon dioxide emissions; 6) the holding of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, which ended with the adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development; 7) holding the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012, which resulted in a document entitled «The Future We Want»; 8) holding the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in 2015, which identified 17 sustainable development goals and approved a strategically important document called «Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development» [3].

Analyzing the indicated steps of the world community to overcome the global problems of mankind, it can be established that behind the numerous formulations used in these international acts there can be traced a general concept in which measures to overcome the global problems of mankind, different in their focus, act as components of a single «route» that the world community has chosen to overcoming them is «sustainable development of society». A common feature of all the directions of social development associated with the concept of sustainable development is their restraining and guiding nature, indicating the desire of the world community to «take control» of those changes that are assessed as negative and to make the development of society the most manageable process «with minimal costs».

Following the recommendations of the United Nations for the governments of all countries to develop their own sustainable development strategies, the public authorities of the Republic of Moldova adopted new national legal acts and made the necessary changes to current legal acts the country to bring them into line with the goals of sustainable development, and also implemented international cooperation with foreign partners, within the framework of which the Republic of Moldova assumed certain international legal obligations to ensure the country's participation in the implementation of sustainable development goals.

Currently, a number of national legal acts of the Republic of Moldova have been adopted, which are designed to ensure the integration of the country into the general mainstream of the global trend for sustainable development of society. Among them, the following documents of strategic importance should be especially noted: 1) Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 377 of June 10, 2020 «On the draft Law

on the approval of the National Development Strategy “Moldova 2030”» [4], 2) Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 102 of May 2, 2013 «On the Energy Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2030» [5]; 3) Resolution of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova № 391 of December, 15 2023 «On approval of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Moldova» [6]; 4) Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 56 of February, 17 2023 «On approval of the National Strategy for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas for 2023 – 2030» [7]; 5) Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 4 of January, 14 2014 «On approval of the Roadmap to improve the competitiveness of the Republic of Moldova» [8] and others.

From the point of view of the cause-and-effect relationship between global problems and global trends in social development, it should be recognized that global trends united by the concept of sustainable development are a consequence of the search for ways to overcome the problems facing humanity. But are there trends in social development that have caused these problems? Unfortunately, we must admit that such trends exist, although we cannot clearly assess their impact negatively. We also cannot completely eliminate the impact of these trends on global processes or reverse them. The influence of these trends is subject to the laws of social development, which are as inexorable as the laws of nature. The «driving forces» that determine the emergence of these trends are the scientific, technical and technological progress of society, as well as the socio-economic development of society, an integral feature of which has become mass consumption. Under the influence of these trends in the Republic of Moldova and in other countries that orient their development towards achieving the goals of environmental and socio-economic sustainability, we are seeing a parallel introduction of modern high-tech technologies not only in the sphere of socio-economic and environmental relations, but also in the public administration system, including law-making and law enforcement activities of various subjects of the legal system of society. This process is the result of social development, subordinate to another group of trends, the leading positions among which are occupied by the trends of informatization and digitalization of almost all aspects of the life of modern society. The influence of this group of trends on the development of the Republic of Moldova, including the development of its legal system, is clearly demonstrated by the analysis of the Digital Transformation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2023 – 2030 [9].

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

An analytical review of modern trends in social development that can influence the current state of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova at the global level allows us to detect the *dualism of modern global trends in social development*. The first group of global trends orients social development towards the aggravation of modern global problems. This group of trends is directly related to the ever-growing demand of mass consumer society for continuous scientific and technological progress and acceleration of social communications, revealing the trends of informatization and digitalization at

the tip of this «iceberg». However, the potential spread of these two trends to the area of environmental and socio-economic relations in order to ensure their sustainability indicates the possibility of a partial reorientation of global trends that aggravate global problems in the opposite direction, that is, it indicates the possibility of using their potential to overcome global problems.

The second group of trends in social development is aimed at containing the negative consequences caused by social development in the directions determined by the first group of trends. This second group of trends orients the entire world community and each country towards ensuring environmental and socio-economic sustainability and fits within the framework of the concept of sustainable development of society that unites them, offering ways to solve global problems of humanity to ensure the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. All of the above gives grounds to consider the trend of sustainable development of the world community as the *leading global trend of social development*, which accumulates in its content almost the entire complex of areas of social development that contribute to overcoming global problems of humanity, and forms a *«world trend» that can influence the development of all spheres of life of modern society, including its legal system*.

Considering that a conscious and targeted impact on environmental, economic and social relations in order to ensure sustainability in their development requires standardization, regulation and authorization, it is also necessary to recognize that ensuring environmental and socio-economic sustainability is impossible without the participation of subjects of the legal system of society who implement these functions (standardization, regulation and authorization) within the framework of law-making and law enforcement activities. It can be said that the tasks of social development, determined by the global trend of ensuring environmental and socio-economic sustainability, create an urgent need for modern states in the stable development of the legal system of society. In other words, *sustainable development of society requires sustainable development of the legal system*. At the same time, *the quality of implementation of the concept of sustainable development of society within one state largely depends on the quality of functioning of the legal system as an integral mechanism organizing the legal life of the country*.

## CONCLUSIONS

Using the results of our study to analyze the current state of development of the legal system of the Republic of Moldova, it should be noted that both groups of global trends in social development are reflected in the content of the country's national legal acts. On the one hand, there is a certain legal framework for the implementation of the concept of sustainable development in the Republic of Moldova. On the other hand, there are national legal acts that direct social development towards informatization and digitalization of various spheres of social life, which require improving the technical and technological potential of the country. Both groups of trends are developing in parallel in the Republic of Moldova and taking into account the general orientation of national legal

acts that define strategies for the development of various spheres of public relations for the purpose of sustainable development, there is reason to recognize the global trend for sustainable development as a leading global trend that determines strategically important directions for the country's development, as well as strategically important directions of legal regulation of public relations. At the same time, addressing issues of environmental and socio-economic sustainability, ensured by expanding the use of renewable energy sources, is for the Republic of Moldova not just a «fashionable trend» of sustainable development of the world community, but also an urgent need in the context of the energy crisis in the European region.

In this regard, we can conclude that *the thoughtful, stable and consistent development of the national legal system of the Republic of Moldova is an important means of ensuring not only environmental and socio-economic sustainability as elements of the concept of sustainable development of society implemented in the country, but also strategically important choice on the path to the country's energy independence and ensuring the national security interests of the Republic of Moldova*.

## REFERENCES

1. DONELLA, H., MEADOWS, D., MEADOWS, L., RANDERS, J., BEHRENS, W. W. *The Limits to Growth: A Report for the Club of Rome's Project on the Predicament of Mankind*. New York: Universe Books, 1972. 205 p. ISBN 0-87663-165-0.
2. MESAROVIC, M. D., PESTEL, E. *Mankind at the Turning Point: The Second Report to the Club of Rome*. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co, 1974. 211 p. ISBN: 978-0091234713.
3. United Nations. Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at 25.09.2015. Available: https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n15/291/89/pdf/n1529189.pdf?token=ApaXPuS7YoipeS9wAj&fe=true [Accessed: 21.06.2024].
4. Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 377 of June 10, 2020 «On the draft Law on the approval of the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2030"» // Published on June 26, 2020 in Monitorul Oficial № 153-158 article № 508.
5. Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 102 of May 2, 2013 «On the Energy Strategy of the Republic of Moldova until 2030» // Published on February 8, 2013 in Monitorul Oficial № 27-30 article № 146.
6. Resolution of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova № 391 of December, 15 2023 «On approval of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Moldova» // Published on January 17, 2024 in Monitorul Oficial № 17-19 article № 28.
7. Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 56 of February, 17

2023 «On approval of the National Strategy for the Development of Agriculture and Rural Areas for 2023 – 2030» // Published on April, 6 2023 in Monitorul Oficial №117-118 article №244.

8. Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № 4 of January, 14 2014 «On approval of the Roadmap to improve the competitiveness of the Republic of Moldova» // Published on January, 24 2014 in Monitorul Oficial №17-23 article №27.
9. Decree of the Government of the Republic of Moldova № HG650/2023 of September, 6 2023 «On approval of the Digital Transformation Strategy of the Republic of Moldova for 2023 – 2030» // Published on October, 12 2023 in Monitorul Oficial № 383-386 article № 900.

*N.B.:* The analytical review was prepared within the framework of the research subprogram 01.05.01 – National security of the Republic of Moldova in the context of accession to the European Union: legal, political and sociological approaches.