

Socially Just Society in Terms of Technospherization of the Planet

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Abstract. The possibility of creating a socially just society in terms of technospherization of the planet Earth has been analysed. Humanity has always faced the problem of creating a socially just society. The paper deals with the features of the emergence of such a society in the conditions of technogenic development of society and the formation of an inanimate subject artificial world of the technosphere. This world, on the one hand, is a natural product of industrialization, urbanization of the planet, the technogenic development of industrial and post-industrial societies, and on the other hand, leads to an increase in environmental crises, technologization of natural and biological processes, the formation of biotechnological forms of life and unpredictable technospheric transformation of the biosphere. These and many other circumstances dispute the possibility of safe existence of mankind in the conditions of the social and technological development of life and world. Therefore, in the study of the content of such a society, along with the generally recognized theories in social philosophy, the methodology of the socio-natural approach is used, based on the works by V. I. Vernadsky and modern researchers of socio-technological processes. Social changes are considered in direct relationship with natural changes, and now also with the technospheric ones. The mediator in this interaction is the technosphere. Technospherization of the Earth radically changes the biospheric life, which is reflected in the formation of a socially just society. In the context of modern social and technological development of the world, a just society is a type of the society in which all its members (present and future) have favorable and safe social and natural conditions of life. The preservation of the biospheric life and social justice are closely interrelated, so the creation of a socially just society is possible only if the diversity of the biospheric life is maintained in the conditions of expansion of the artificial world.

1. Introduction

It is known that mankind has always tried to find a way to create a socially just society, which would take into account the wishes of all its members. Historically, society is unequal and is divided into certain social strata, on which basis there appear difficulties in the formation of social justice. It is undeniable that society is changing, and the understanding of justice is also changing with it. With the transition of society from the rural-agricultural to the industrial-urban development the formation of the technospheric society at first as the industrial one began in Western Europe and Russia about three centuries ago. Subsequently, in the conditions of scientific and technological revolution, most industrialized countries of the West, the USA and Japan moved to the post-industrial high-tech stage of technological development. The basis for the development of the technogenic society is science, machinery, modern science-intensive technologies that are created in the urban environment – the technosphere [2]. The technosphere is a multifaceted subject artificial world, which includes industrial

complexes, synthesized substances, electromagnetic fields, transition to artificial biotechnological, cloned life forms [16]. This world, on the one hand, is a natural product of industrialization and urbanization of the planet, the transition of the population to urban living conditions and the formation of the appropriate lifestyle, using every kind of engineering and technology, that is, the technological development of society [6]. In the second decade of the 19th century, more than half of the world's population lived in an urban environment, that is, in technospheric conditions. On the other hand, the expansion of the socially created technosphere leads to an increase in environmental crises, technologization of natural and biological processes, the formation of biotechnological forms of life and unpredictable techno-genic transformation of the biosphere. In the process of socio-technogenic development of the world, as noted by researchers of the scientific and philosophical school of integrated socio-technological processes E.S. Demidenko and E.A. Dergacheva, there is a transition of humanity from the biosphere to the artificial technospheric shell of life. There is also a transition of biological processes to this shell as a result of creating biotechnological industries [3]. These and many other circumstances prejudices the possibility of a safe and socially just existence of mankind in the conditions of expansion of the technosphere and technogenic transformation of the biosphere.

Returning to the concept of "justice", it should be noted that it was formed in the time of the ancient world by the great thinkers of that time such as Aristotle, Plato and others. Ancient thinkers associate the concept of "justice" with a deep philosophical understanding of justice as a common good. Justice is the main goal of politics, and politics, in its turn, is the basis of life in a civilized society [4]. Justice has always assumed equality in the provision of life's goods, so it was an unattainable factor in the life of the ancient man.

Changes in public life affect the expansion of the substantial characteristics of the concept of "justice". The main feature of modern justice is liberal thought. The concept of "liberalism" was considered in the works by T. Hobbes, J. Locke, B. Spinoza and others. The main feature of the diversity of definitions of liberal thought is the inviolability of human rights and freedoms. Hence, the concept of "justice" becomes identical to the concept of "freedom". Here, freedom is understood not only as the granting of primary democratic rights such as freedom of speech, conscience, religion, but also the equality of all members of society, regardless of their social status in society. During the domination period of the new European civilization liberalism enables certain strata of society to liberate their activities. Many European nations and the United States dictate the rules of justice with a huge share of liberalism, which, in its turn, can not be applied to all countries of the world and creates modern international conflicts. The liberal scenario of the development of the technogenic society leads to the expansion of the technosphere and even more rapid destruction of the biosphere, as the political and economic elites of the modern world associate the issues of profit with the construction of technospheric objects and the formation of a high-tech business environment.

It is the stated questions that the paper brings up in order to analyze the possibility of the emergence of a socially just society in the conditions of social and technological development of the world and technospherization of the planet. The disclosure of the problem of justice in the technogenic society will provide materials for further reasoned decisions when determining the possibility of formation of a socially just society both in Russia and in the world.

2. Methods

The technogenic development of society and consequently the transformation of nature affect significantly the approaches used in the study of social and natural world phenomena. The society living in the era of the technosphere is a complex and multifaceted component that affects not only itself, but also the biosphere in which it exists. The biosphere is a shell of the Earth inhabited by living organisms. The maintenance of a favorable environment for society in the biosphere depends on humanity and reasonableness of human activity. Society should not be considered as a system based solely on social laws of development without regard for any connections with natural and biological patterns, as pointed out by researchers of socio-technical and natural processes[8]. Society is developing in the biospheric system. It is connected with it by exchange processes, and this fact allows us to talk about

the existence of social relations and the laws of its functioning, including the ones concerning the understanding of the possibility of formation of a socially just society [3]. Therefore, in the study of the content of such a society, along with the generally recognized theories in social philosophy by G. Fedotova, D. Harvey, D. Rawls, and others [10, 11, 13, 21] we use the methodology of social and natural approach based on the works by V. I. Vernadsky about the biosphere and the noosphere (i.e. a reasonable shell of the planet) of the first half of the twentieth century and developed in the works by modern researchers in the field of socio-technological processes such as E.V. Girusov, O.E. Baksansky, E. S. Demidenko, E. A. Dergacheva, K. V. Dergachev, I. K. Liseev, N. V. Popkova, A. N. Chumakov, A. Gore, L. Brown, Den. and Don. Meadows, St. Hawking and others [1, 4, 5, 12, 15, 18, 19]. In their works, social changes in the system of life are considered in direct relationship with natural, and now technogenic ones, the socially formed technosphere being a mediator in their interactions.

As a result of the technogenic transformation of nature, man as a biosocial organism changes himself, and these changes are not always positive, which is discussed in detail in different studies [7]. Technogenic changes in nature affect social justice in modern society. Society is a product of the biosphere, and therefore the development of these two components of the Earth's world should occur in a single interaction. The modern civilized world has become possible only thanks to the biosphere and the resources in the bowels of our planet. Today, humanity as a product of the biosphere can be called an actively developing system, technogenically reconstructing the biosphere. While studying the technospherization of the Earth and the possibility of the emergence of a socially just society, we can draw conclusions about the future structure of the world and the values that will prevail in it. The industrial society does not give much consideration to the negative impact of the technosphere on the nature of the planet, because it does not take effective measures to preserve the biosphere. The indices that reflect the environmental well-being of the planet, become negative in terms of their dynamics and give evidence concerning the increase of crises in the ecosystem, the deterioration of a favorable environment for human life. All this confirms the fact that the process of the emergence and the supremacy of social justice in the new technogenic life conditions is complicated.

3. Results and discussion

The concept of a "socially just society" is complex and multifaceted. The main component of this definition is social justice, because it lays the foundation for the vital functions of this type of society. The content of the concept of "social justice" has changed throughout the history of mankind. The principle of social justice means that there is an equal distribution of social benefits in society such as rights, opportunities, recognition, life standards, cultural values [21]. The equitable distribution of social benefits requires consistent implementation of the principle of remuneration and recognition for work, ensuring a minimum socially guaranteed level and quality of life for all the citizens and the equal distribution of information resources. This understanding of justice is confirmed by the data of sociological surveys conducted in Russia in 2016 [17]. The basic principle is the redistribution of wealth between the rich and the poor [9].

Can we call the modern technogenic society socially just? The greatest problems of our time are environmental problems, which in the near future can lead to fatal consequences – the death of all the biospheric life. The existence of life, and consequently of man, and his relationship with nature are subject to a multi-stage system of environmental laws [2, p. 652]. The development of the artificial environment and its fundamental role in the life of modern man leads to global degradation of the biosphere of our planet. Studying the possibility of the evolution of life in the global degradation of the biosphere, E. S. Demidenko and E. A. Dergacheva emphasize that in recent decades, changes in the plant and animal world, which is the basis of the biosphere, have reached an enormous scale [3]. The changes also affected the reduction of soil fertility. Thus, more than two thirds of the species composition of freshwater fish has decreased over the past 40 years [14]. Bee populations, pollinating insects which directly influence the existence of the Earth's flora diversity disappear even faster. Depredation of forests and logging in conjunction with the growth of industrial and automotive gases lead to deterioration of air quality. It follows that clean air will become inaccessible to all members of society, and

this will lead to an unfair distribution of natural benefits among people. Based on these and other data, E. S. Demidenko and E. A. Dergacheva conclude that under the influence of man-made technospherization there is a change in the evolution of life on the Earth. So far as these technogenic changes affect, first of all highly industrialized countries, they show in which direction society and nature are developing. The consequence of this spontaneous "development" of the world is a mortal danger to humans and the biosphere [3, 4, 6, 22]. Therefore, the dream of mankind for a just society in which all its members (present and future) have favorable and safe social and natural conditions of life are open to question.

4. Conclusion

The preservation of the biosphere and social justice are closely interrelated, so the creation of a socially just society is possible only if the diversity of the biospheric life is maintained in the conditions of the expansion of the artificial world. To solve this problem, it is necessary to consolidate the world community, political, scientific and economic elites of the world at international conferences in order to find means and methods for the safe development of the technosphere and its impact on the biosphere, since the vital well-being of the world's population depends on it. A socially just society and social justice cannot exist according to the principles on which they are based in the conditions of transformation and degradation of nature caused by the technospherization of our planet. Therefore, the preservation of a favourable environment is not a political issue, but a "moral choice" our civilization is being faced with.

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