

DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.4274063

# Public administration of ensuring environmental safety as a component of the national security of the country

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**Abstract.** Environmental threats have an impact on the political, socio-economic, demographic situation at the global and regional levels and become a political factor, affect the national interests of states and determine the emergence of new national priorities. Revealing the patterns and specifics of national interests, including in the environmental field, substantiating the main directions in the implementation of national priorities are among the most important and urgent problems. It is noted that the strategic goals of ensuring environmental safety and rational use of natural resources are: preservation and restoration of natural systems, ensuring the quality of the environment necessary for human life and sustainable economic development; elimination of environmental damage from economic activities in the context of increasing economic activity and global climate change. The achievement of the strategic goals of environmental safety and rational use of natural resources is carried out through the formation and implementation of a long-term state policy.

## Introduction

In the last decade, there has been a steady trend towards globalization in world political and socio-economic relations. At the current level of development of the world community, characterized by the unification of political, economic, information and socio-cultural space, it is extremely difficult for any state to find itself outside this process. Among the tasks facing the state, the task of ensuring security is one of the priority areas. Safety is a prerequisite for the life of any society. Security is understood as the state of protection of the interests of an object from internal and external dangers and threats.

Environmental safety is the state of protection of the environment, life and health of citizens from threats arising from anthropogenic influences, as well as factors, processes and phenomena of natural and man-made nature. The main national interests in the environmental sphere are: ensuring environmentally friendly conditions for the life of citizens; overcoming the negative consequences of radioactive contamination of the country's territory and other emergency situations, rehabilitation of ecologically disturbed territories; sustainable natural resource support for the country's socio-economic development; rational use of natural resource potential, preservation of biological and

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landscape diversity, ecological balance of natural systems; assistance in maintaining global and regional ecological balance.

## **Theory of the matter**

The problems of environmental safety in recent decades are increasingly coming to the fore of the global problems of our time, along with the atomic threat, climatic changes, and epidemics. Since the destruction of ecological space threatens the complete destruction of all life on earth. Modern states are forced to pay more and more attention to solving issues of effective management of the problem of environmental protection. In this context, in our opinion, the problem of studying various ecological theories of the development of states, their relationship with environmental safety and the role of public authorities in resolving issues of environmental protection, is extremely urgent.

Various theories of ecological development are an important factor in the development of state security. They determine methodological approaches to the implementation of environmental protection activities and the nature of environmental safety. A huge number of scientists were engaged in the study of this scientific topic, such as: Baumol, W. J., Baumol, W. J., Oates, W. E., Baumol, W. J., Bawa, V. S., Bawa, W. S., Dabelko, G. D., & Dabelko, D. D., Myers, N. and others.

Despite the range of issues that have been studied in the works of foreign and domestic scientists, the problems of public administration of ensuring environmental safety remain insufficiently investigated. The above confirms the relevance of the topic of our study.

## **Discussion of results**

National and environmental security in essence can both coincide and contradict each other. Within the framework of national security, the state guarantees the society protection from environmental risks, thus we can say that environmental safety is an integral part of the national one. On the other hand, the implementation of the external (maintaining sovereignty) and internal (ensuring the integrity and unity of the state) components of national security often contradicts the desire to ensure environmental security. So, national security refers to a limited area, and environmental: security is a phenomenon that often goes beyond state borders.

The environmental problem remains largely conceptual due to dangerous tendencies not only in marginalized groups, but also in regions, and even in government structures due to the lack of the necessary political consensus. Environmental factors underlie many conflict situations, and lead to a weakening of the state's security, then the attitude towards them should be a priority both in domestic policy, the state, and in foreign.

The national interests of the state in the environmental sphere are to preserve and improve the environment. However, the system of existing national priorities does not sufficiently take into account the environmental factor, limiting itself only to its statement. Making appropriate adjustments to the development strategy of states, taking into account environmental requirements, presupposes, first of all, public recognition of the priority of environmental values and the presence of political will on the part of the ruling authorities in implementing an effective environmental policy.

Formal environmental policy at the state level leads to the fact that national projects, the main goal of which is to ensure the social well-being of the population, increase the living standard of the citizen, are implemented due to excessive pressure on the natural and resource potential of the country. Environmental aspects in national projects are of secondary importance, giving rise to an imbalance of priorities leading to infringement of

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long-term national interests; aggravating threats to national security and political stability of the state.

The effectiveness of state policy in the field of environmental protection largely depends on the ecological maturity and education of the ruling elite. The effectiveness of environmental policy also directly depends on the presence of democratic processes in social development, which creates conditions for attracting broad layers of the population to participate in the formation and implementation of environmental activities.

Since the middle of the 20th century, the world has been politicizing environmental problems and greening political processes, which makes it possible to speak of such a global phenomenon as the greening of the political sphere. Attitudes towards the role of environmental factors, resources, and population are changing as it concerns the very survival of human civilization. Environmental policy is one of the means of regulating socio-environmental interdependencies in order to ensure environmental safety.

International environmental security is a relatively new concept and it arose in the late 1980s, when in many developed countries, revising the concept of security, they included not only traditional military, but also non-traditional threats, among which environmental was one of the main ones. At the session of the UN General Assembly in 1987, the USSR came up with a resolution on international environmental security, and then a year later proposed an international regime for environmental security and the main instruments for its implementation. These initiatives of the Soviet Union were in many ways a reaction to the Chernobyl disaster and a desire to demonstrate to the international community new approaches to environmental issues.

In addition, in the world community, at the same time, a new environmental policy began to form, as well as an environmental social movement and environmental publicity, which were almost completely absent before. It is quite obvious that international environmental safety is directly related to the need to maintain at the international level the global natural resource potential and the required quality of the environment. It is also quite possible that this condition cannot be realized without effective interaction of international and national legal mechanisms that meet the norms of international law in terms of the safe use of natural resources and their protection. In this case, the requirements of international environmental safety should certainly dominate in the national environmental legislation.

In an era of global interdependence, environmental safety has become an integral part of human consciousness. The concepts of "ecological crisis", "ecological disaster" have come into use, requiring a set of urgent measures as a way out of them, which, in turn, are inextricably linked with "ecological modernization", the formation of ecological culture and ecological morality. The recognition of the existence of global problems has led to the allocation of an independent branch of knowledge - global (or planetary) ecology, focused on regulating the relationship of all mankind with the environment in order to preserve it. The inability to solve global environmental problems through the efforts of one country contributed to the revision of the priorities of the foreign policy of states and the greening of international relations. Government measures in most countries have begun to combine resource conservation measures with the production of competitive environmentally friendly goods.

Environmental policy has become a structurally formed, necessary direction of activity of any state. Participation in international environmental cooperation is seen as a necessary element of strengthening the country's security. In addition, it is a matter of the international political prestige of a state, a reflection of its ability to quickly and adequately respond to planetary or global changes. Environmental safety in modern conditions is considered as an integral and important part of the security of the individual, society and state. The main subject of ensuring environmental safety is the state, which carries out its

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functions in this area through the bodies of national legislative, executive and judicial authorities.

Security is understood as the qualitative state of society and the state, which ensures the protection of every person, his rights and civil liberties, as well as the reliability of existence and sustainability of the country's development, the protection of its basic values, material and spiritual sources of life, state sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity from internal and external enemies. This is a typical definition of security. The sum of the conditions under which a scientifically grounded or practical exclusion of the harmful effects of economic activity on the life of the population and the quality of the environment is achieved ensures environmental safety. Environmental safety is achieved by a system of measures (forecasting, planning, advance preparation and implementation of a set of preventive measures) that provide for a minimum level of adverse effects of nature and technological processes of its development on human life and health while maintaining a sufficient rate of economic development. Environmental safety is carried out within all forms of sectoral nature management, including direct and indirect impact on humans at all levels - global, regional and local. Humanity at all stages of its existence was constantly exposed to numerous dangerous influences from external forces. The attitude to these events was different - from the humble recognition of "God's will" to the creation of protective and preventive measures.

For a long time, the concept of security was interpreted in a narrow sense: the security of the territory from external invasion, the protection of national interests through foreign policy activities, global security from the threat of nuclear destruction. This concept applied more to states than to people. Developed countries are busy solving their social and economic problems, competing for sales markets. The newly independent developing countries are acutely aware of any real or perceived threats to their fragile national sovereignty. For ordinary people, safety lies in unimpeded daily life. For many of them, this means no threat of disease, hunger, unemployment, crime, social conflict, political repression and environmental disasters. For most people, the feeling of insecurity arises more from the anxieties of everyday life than from the premonition of some kind of global catastrophe. The history of the development of civilization shows that there is a certain competition between safety and quality of life.

The solution to the security problem must be sought along the lines of agreement between political, environmental, economic and social requirements. The state plays a decisive role in ensuring environmental safety. The leading role of the state as the main subject of environmental safety in the creation and organization of the effective functioning of the national system of environmental safety is due to the following circumstances. First, national security in general and environmental security in particular are closely linked to the fundamental human rights to life, health, and a healthy environment. The main guarantor of ensuring these rights is the state as a political institution with the highest level of differentiation and specialization of internal structures. Secondly, it is the state that possesses the most significant and powerful "resource arsenal" necessary to effectively counter environmental hazards, threats and risks. Third, the most serious environmental hazards and threats, as a rule, are large-scale in terms of their parameters, territory, time, and consequences.

Accordingly, effective and comprehensive counteraction can be provided only under the auspices of the state. In modern times, in the context of globalization, it would be absurd to assert that the concept of environmental safety is limited to the safety of only one state. Recently, environmental safety has been understood as a complex of states, phenomena and actions that ensure an ecological balance on the entire Earth. From the standpoint of the concept of national security, the essence of environmental security is revealed through the category of interests of the individual and society.

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In this case, the national interests are the health of the nation and the preservation of the natural resource potential. Both indicators are an important condition for further stable socio-economic development. At the same time, environmental safety, first of all, must have a human dimension, which is due to the special place of man in nature. A person and his health are a kind of measure for determining the cleanliness of environmental conditions. Based on the foregoing, "environmental safety" is the state and process of protection of the vital activity of objects, or rather a person, state, society, natural environment, from real and potential threats of anthropogenic or natural origin.

The mobilization of the forces of the whole society, a change in the system of values and world perception, necessary for the implementation of the transition to sustainable development, determine the special role of measures to educate and educate the population, overcome anti-ecological stereotypes of behavior, and form a type of social consciousness that corresponds to the co-evolution of civilized man and nature. The concept characterizes the main directions and tasks of international cooperation in the field of environmental protection on sustainable development issues, noting the special role of our country in solving global environmental problems and preventing an environmental disaster.

The deterioration of the global ecological situation on earth is characterized by a qualitative change and the complication of the international situation. The rapid development of the globalization process led to the further transformation of international relations. The interpenetration of national economies, the development of information exchange in the world, scientific and technological progress in aggregate to the fact that the process of globalization has expanded even more. In the new conditions of globalization, a transformation of the security structure is observed. Today, in the face of an exacerbated environmental crisis, the countries of the world are taking all possible measures for sustainable development and developing national concepts of state security, in which environmental safety is of paramount importance, since environmental safety is an important prerequisite for sustainable world development.

## **Conclusion**

The issues of ensuring environmental safety and the problems of sustainable development today acquire special relevance and are treated as the most paramount for each state. Today, in the context of globalization for any country, environmental safety is considered an obligatory, necessary and most important part of the general state policy. The environmental security of each state separately determines the overall international political stability and security of the world.

At the current stage of its development, mankind is faced with large-scale environmental problems. Pollution of water resources, decrease in forest area, disappearance of biological species, accumulation of hazardous waste - these and other problems cannot be solved by the efforts of one state. Cohesion and integration of policies of different states, public participation can serve as a powerful means of protecting the environment and human safety.

Accordingly, the formation and implementation of the strategy of the country's socio-economic development and the state policy in the field of ecology should be interconnected, since the health, social and environmental well-being of the population are inextricably linked. In order to ensure long-term sustainable development, the state authorities should be engaged in ensuring environmental safety at all levels and the solution of environmental problems should also acquire the status of a priority not in words, but expressed in specific program documents and political decisions.

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The task of achieving environmental safety is directly included in the understanding of the general content of national security, therefore, the environmental imperative, already defined as an integral part of ensuring national security, needs to be given increased attention and its system of national priorities should be introduced.

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