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Formation and directions of demographic policy of development in the Republic of Azerbaijan

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The purpose of this article is to consider the theoretical and legal foundations for the implementation of demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the analysis of the main directions of its development, which provides for resettlement and regulation of population dynamics.

Methods and methodologies. The article mainly uses the methods of content analysis of republican and international acts, conventions on this issue, a comparative analysis of the growth of population dynamics with other countries, the analysis of methodological recommendations and rules, the method of socialization.

The novelty of the article. For the first time in the domestic scientific literature, attention is drawn to the issues of the country's demographic security, which emphasizes that this problem is an integral part of national security and depends to a certain extent on the real incomes of the population and, indirectly, on the level of economic development. It is noted that the provision of demographic security in the Republic of Azerbaijan is directly related to the improvement of the socio-economic situation of the population, the elimination of poverty, the implementation of state programs in the field of employment and migration.

Conclusions. The study concluded that the demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan was carried out not in a retail form, but in the context of socio-economic reforms in the country in accordance with world practice, demographic optimality, population growth, which is the main goal of the country's demographic policy. It is noted that the Azerbaijani government, as in all areas, attaches great importance to international cooperation in the field of demography, pays special attention to the study of foreign experience and the application of positive trends. It is especially important to emphasize cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in this area. Thus, significant progress has been made in obtaining reliable socioeconomic and demographic data through population censuses, household surveys, citizenship registration systems, and population transfer systems implemented with the support of UNFPA.

It is emphasized that in order to strengthen national institutional capacity to access, analyze and use the evidence and information needed to monitor population dynamics and support sustainable development, UNFPA, in close collaboration with its community of partners and experts, has made great strides.

Key words: demographic policy, re-enhancement of the population, natural growth, population, demographic security.

Introduction. In modern times, when the world's population growth rates are extremely active and this is uneven across the regions, the demographic policy is the main focus of both international organizations and countries. Like other post-Soviet countries, the process of state-building in the Republic of Azerbaijan since independence has been accompanied by radical reforms in the economic and political spheres. Thus, as a logical consequence of the collapse of the Soviet administrative-command system, the old principles of governance have become obsolete to regulate the new socio-political and economic relations, and there is a great need for the creation and application of innovative governance mechanisms. It is in this context that the action programs that laid the foundation for radical reforms in the political, economic, social, cultural and other spheres of society began to be adopted, and today the implementation of these programs continues successfully.

Goal of this article is to consider the theoretical and legal foundations for the implementation of demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the analysis of the main directions of its development, which provides for resettlement and regulation of population dynamics.

Review last publications about that's problems.

One of the directions of the state policy was demographic policy, which envisages the settlement of the population and the regulation of population dynamics, the implementation of which can be divided into two stages:

1. 1993–2003 – formation and implementation of demographic policy;
2. From 2003 to the present day – the implementation of demographic policy at a new quality level with further development.

It is known that to implement the concept of demographic policy, the country must have stable and sustainable socio-economic development. Thus,

it takes a long time to achieve the expected results in the conduct of demographic policy. The implementation of demographic policy, i.e., the influence of the state on the birth process, has been accepted by practically all countries of the world. Depending on the demographic conditions of the state, two types of demographic policies are implemented: a population policy aimed at increasing the birth rate and an expopulation policy aimed at reducing the birth rate [1, p. 256].

Although historically, population growth in Azerbaijan has been high and there has been no demographic crisis, the policy in the field of demography has been generally population-oriented. Both political and socio-economic changes in the country since independence have had a significant impact on the demographic situation, but this impact has not been adequately studied and the development of demographic processes in the country has not been predicted. Since demographic processes are interrelated with many aspects of society, this relationship is a manifestation of the impact of socio-economic events on demographic processes and, in turn, the impact of demographic processes on socio-economic events. This is explained by the fact that demographic policy is an important and key component of the social policy of any state and forms its basis [2, p. 1].

In order to create a scientific-conceptual and legal basis for the implementation of demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Concept of Demographic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan was adopted by Order No. 290 of December 9, 1999. The concept stated that the main goal of demographic policy, which includes family, marriage, birth, death, natural growth, protection and strengthening of human health, improvement of employment and living standards, prolongation of life, migration and other processes, is the most important to achieve the creation of conditions that meet the interests of society and each of its members, ensuring the normal process of reproduction of the population [2, p. 1].

In the twentieth century, the pace of development of the Azerbaijani population faced four severe demographic challenges: as a result of foreign intervention, civil war, the genocide of Azerbaijanis by Armenians and other events during the First World War in 1913–1920, the population of Azerbaijan decreased by 387,000 people or 16.6 percent. From 2339 thousand people to 1952 thousand people; During the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945, the population of Azerbaijan decreased by 568.4 thousand people or 17.4 percent, from 3274.3 thousand people in early 1940 to 2705.6 thousand people in early 1945. Its population reached its pre-war level only 10 years later, in 1955; In 1948–1953, more than 150,000 Azerbaijanis were deported from their native lands from the territory of Armenia; Since 1988, as a result of the Armenian aggression,

20% of our lands have been occupied, about one million of our compatriots have become refugees and internally displaced persons, including more than 250,000 Azerbaijanis expelled from Armenia, and thus more than 1.5 million Azerbaijanis over the past two centuries were forcibly deported from his historical lands [2, p. 2]. In order to solve the problems in this area, the Concept of Demographic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan identified the priorities of demographic policy:

- Creation of comprehensive conditions for the quantity and quality of the population that can provide the birth rate necessary for normal reproduction;
- Reduction of mortality, prolongation of life by improving the health and life of the population;
- Regulation of marriage and divorce processes in the interests of society as a whole and each family individually;
- Creating conditions for improving the settlement and increasing the demographic potential of the population in the country, including the border areas and the occupied regions, guided by the socio-economic, political and demographic interests of the republic;
- Promotion and exchange of moral values of the family institution, regulation of the formation of a healthy lifestyle in accordance with the norms.

Main matters. The world's leading countries are implementing demographic policy measures as part of socio-economic reforms. As a result of the implementation of active socio-economic reforms and the implementation of state programs in our country since the second half of the 1990s, certain achievements have been made in the field of demography.

Research has shown that short-term, rapid socio-economic reforms have facilitated the development of the regions and, as a result, the settlement of the demographic situation. Although natural growth declined at the end of the twentieth century, the exact opposite was observed in the first years of the twenty-first century. The country has already entered a period of stabilization of demographic development. In administrative districts dominated by the rural population, natural growth remains high [3, p. 1].

In order to achieve the development of demographic processes in the second stage of demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan in accordance with the socio-economic strategy of the country, increase life expectancy, ensure maternal and child health, strengthen families and regulate migration, Order No. 517 of 11 November 2004 began with the approval of the State Program in the field of demography and population development in the Republic of Azerbaijan [4, p. 4].

In order to achieve the development of demographic processes in the second stage of demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan

in accordance with the socio-economic strategy of the country, increase life expectancy, ensure maternal and child health, strengthen families and regulate migration, Order No. 517 of 11 November 2004 began with the approval of the State Program in the field of demography and population development in the Republic of Azerbaijan [4, p. 4]. In particular, the strengthening of the tendency in families to move from large to medium-sized children was one of the factors contributing to the decline in the birth rate. As a result, the share of children born with 3 or more children in families has decreased, and analysis in this area shows that half of all births (49.6 percent) among women are mothers with general secondary education. This shows that the increase in the level of education of the population and in women's economic independence and other factors are the main reasons for the decline in the birth rate.

Furthermore, there are other demographic factors influencing the decline in the birth rate in the Republic of Azerbaijan, including changes in the age-sex structure of the population, an increase in the number of women of childbearing age and a decline in the marriage rate. A recent analysis of demographics shows that although boys predominate among birth rates, the mortality rate among boys is higher than among girls, leading to an increase in the number of women in all age groups from the age of 20 to more than men.

According to the general pattern of demography, the number and structure of women of childbearing age (15–49 years) determine the birth rate. Although the number of women of childbearing age in the Republic of Azerbaijan has increased by 33.9 percent in recent years, this increase has mainly had a negative impact on the birth rate, as it has more than doubled the number of inactive women of childbearing age in the 35–49 age group.

The program notes that one of the main reasons for the decline in birth rates in Azerbaijan is the decline in the number of marriages. Thus, in 1990–2002, the share of marriage decreased by 54.3 percent in the 18–21 age group, 33.5 percent in the 25–34 age group, and 32.0 percent in the 35 and older age group. At the same time, the number of divorces in the country decreased by 2.4 times during that period [4, p. 3]

In 1990, the infant mortality rate in Azerbaijan was quite high, i.e. 9.8 percent. As a consequence of the first stage of the demographic policy implemented in the Republic of Azerbaijan after gaining independence, this problem was solved to some extent and it accounted only for 3.1% of the total number of deaths.

In the meantime, the program notes that the average life expectancy of the population decreased from 71.1 to 69.1 years in 1990–1995, while in 1995–2002 this figure increased to 72.2 years (or 3.1 years). The dynamic economic development achieved

in the country and the improvement of the social situation of the population had a direct impact on the positive change in the demographic situation.

The age structure of the population is one of the important indicators characterizing demographic development. The decline in the birth rate in the Republic of Azerbaijan has led to an increase in the share of people aged 15–59 and over 60 in the total population, which is mainly due to a decrease in the average annual population growth rate in the country. Thus, the average annual population growth has decreased from 105.6 thousand to 61.1 thousand people over the past years

A large part of demographic processes is population migration. The collapse of the USSR, the state of war in the newly independent country, and the economic crisis have exacerbated migration, including forced relocations. However, since 1995, some progress has been made in this area towards stability. Consequently, while the migration balance in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 1990 was minus 53.6 thousand people, this figure was only minus 3.1 thousand people in 2002. In the early 1990s, labor migration was characterized by an influx of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan to foreign countries, but now political stability and socio-economic development in the country have sharply reduced the flow of migration abroad [4, p. 4].

Therefore, the main goal of the State Program on Demography and Population Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan, which adopted on November 11, 2004, is to achieve optimal reproduction, increase life expectancy, strengthen protection of mothers and children, create a favorable socio-economic basis for family development and to identify ways to regulate migration processes. This program is implemented in conjunction with other state programs on socio-economic development of the Republic of Azerbaijan, defining the medium-term strategy of demographic and population development in the country.

In general, measures aimed at promoting the comprehensive development of the population have been approved by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan at various times. Socio-economic development in the regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development, Employment Strategy, Implementation of the Employment Strategy, Migration, Azerbaijani Youth, Improving the Education and Protection of Children's Rights, Social Protection of Disabled and Disabled Children, Refugees and Work has been done to solve the problems of IDPs, improve the living conditions of refugees and IDPs and increase employment.

Indicators in the structure and dynamics of the population are key elements of national power, and, issues such as the protection of the gene pool

of the Azerbaijani people, migration and demography are inevitably very important in terms of national security. Demographic security, which is an integral part of national security, is a state of demographic processes in which the reproduction of the population and the provision of geopolitical interests of the state with human resources are possible without the influence of external factors. Demographic security depends to some extent on the real incomes of the population and, consequently, the level of economic development. In turn, ensuring economic security depends on the number of specialized labor resources arising from demographic conditions. As a logical consequence, Article 18.2.7 of the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On National Security" states that "regulation of migration and demographic processes" is one of the areas considered necessary to ensure national security in the social sphere of the Republic of Azerbaijan (1, Article 18). Taking all this into account, during the period covered by the Development Concept "Azerbaijan 2020: Vision for the Future" approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev dated December 29, 2012, the country's population increased by an average of 1.1 percent annually.

Lack of regulation of migration processes is one of the most pressing demographic threats for any country. Although Azerbaijan became an active participant in international migration processes after the collapse of the USSR, it faced serious external and internal migration problems, such as the outflow of population due to the difficult socio-economic situation, especially in the post-Soviet space, and the influx of refugees and IDPs due to war. The establishment of migration legislation in the Republic of Azerbaijan covers the initial period from 1990 to 2000, and its improvement covers the period from 2000 to the present.

In the first stage, migration processes are regulated by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Leaving the country, entering the country and passports" adopted on June 14, 1994, the relevant articles of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted on November 12, 1995, and December 22, 1998. It is regulated by the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On Immigration". During this period, the establishment of the legal basis for migration processes was very progressive and effective, played an exceptional role in the regulation of mechanical flows of the population and created a stable basis for a positive migration balance.

In the second stage, on July 13, 2004, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted a Resolution on the approval of the "Concept of State Migration Management Policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan" and on July 25, 2006 State Migration Program" was adopted. On March 19, 2007, the State Migration Service was established in Azerbaijan as

the central executive body to ensure the implementation of migration policy and regulate migration processes, and the legislation aimed at regulating activities in this area was improved. In this regard, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On approval, entry into force and related legal regulation of the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan" adopted on July 2, 2013 is a perfect unification of the existing laws in the field of migration in Azerbaijan.

As a result of the implementation of the "State Program on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2008–2015" approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated September 15, 2008, increasing social welfare, reducing poverty, increasing employment, Appropriate measures have been taken to protect and develop these measures, and these measures are currently being continued [5, p. 2].

As a result of the successful demographic policy pursued in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the population of the country increased by 33050 people or 0.3 percent from the beginning of 2017 and reached 9843031 people as of June 1, 2017 [6].

Azerbaijan has also become the most demographically dynamic country in the South Caucasus, reaching a population of 10 million in 2018. The impact of external migration on population growth in Azerbaijan is insignificant, and this is provided and is provided only by the fact that the number of births exceeds the number of deaths. According to statistics for 2019, 52.8% of the population settled in cities and 47.2% in rural areas. The average life expectancy in the country is 74 years for men and 78.7 years for women [7, p. 1].

UNFPA works closely with its community of partners and experts to strengthen national institutional capacity to access, analyze and use the evidence and information needed to monitor population dynamics and support sustainable development. Implemented strategic interventions include the development and use of disaggregated quality population data, the establishment of a knowledge base through assessment and in-depth analysis of population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and gender equality, and demographic analysis to analyze the relationship between demographic change and socioeconomic development. focused on promoting research priorities. UNFPA also supports the continuation of a policy dialogue to better understand the relationship between population inclinations and sustainable development [7, p. 1].

Compared to the demographic statistics of the 1990s, the demographic indicators of the Republic of Azerbaijan in recent years are satisfactory: the population has increased, the fertility rate of women of reproductive age has increased, the number of marriages has increased, divorces have decreased, and the migration balance has

improved. The number of dependents per 100 able-bodied residents in the Republic of Azerbaijan is 38 people. If we take into account that 30 of them are from the 15-year-old group, it will be clear that the demographic situation in the country is progressive [8, p. 137]. In 2017, Azerbaijan ranked 80th in the world in terms of living standards (for comparison, Russia ranked 90th in this table, and Armenia ranked 94th) [9, p. 3].

Conclusions. The study concluded that the demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan was carried out not in a retail form, but in the context of socio-economic reforms in the country in accordance with world practice, demographic optimality, population growth, which is the main goal of the country's demographic policy. It is noted that the Azerbaijani government, as in all areas, attaches great importance to international cooperation in the field of demography, pays special attention to the study of foreign experience and the application of positive trends. It is especially important to emphasize cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in this area. Thus, significant progress has been made in obtaining reliable socioeconomic and demographic data through population censuses, household surveys, citizenship registration systems, and population transfer systems implemented with the support of UNFPA.

It is emphasized that in order to strengthen national institutional capacity to access, analyze and use the evidence and information needed to monitor population dynamics and support sustainable development, UNFPA, in close collaboration with its community of partners and experts, has made great strides.

Thus, we can conclude from the above research that the demographic policy in the Republic of Azerbaijan was implemented not in a retail form, but in the context of socio-economic reforms in the country in line with world practice, demographic optimality, ie population growth. In general, as a result of the successful policy pursued by our state, the demographic situation in the country is relatively high; increase in the number of able-bodied population; with the young age of the population structure; can be characterized by the activation of migration processes.

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Формування і напрями розвитку демографічної політики в Азербайджанській Республіці

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Мета цієї статті розглядати теоретико-правові засади реалізації демографічної політики в Азербайджанській Республіці, аналіз основних напрямів її розвитку, що передбачає розселення та регулювання динаміки населення.

Методи та методології. У статті використані в основному методи контент-аналізу республіканських та міжнародних актів, конвенцій з даної проблематики, порівняльний аналіз зростання динаміки населення з іншими країнами, аналіз методологічних рекомендацій та правил, метод усупільнення.

Новизна статті. Вперше у вітчизняній науковій літературі звернено увагу на питання демографічної безпеки країни, де наголошується, що дана проблема є складовою національної безпеки і залежить певною мірою від реальних доходів населення і, побічно, від рівня економічного розвитку. Зазначається, що забезпечення демографічної безпеки в Азербайджанській Республіці безпосередньо пов'язане з покращенням соціально-економічного становища населення, ліквідацією бідності, реалізацією державних програм у сфері зайнятості та міграції.

Висновки. У дослідженні зроблено висновок про те, що демографічна політика в Азербайджанській Республіці здійснювалася не в роздрібній формі, а в контексті соціально-економічних реформ у країні відповідно до світової практики, демографічної оптимальності, зростання населення, що є основною метою демографічної політики країни. Зазначається, що Азербайджанський уряд, як і у всіх галузях, надає великого значення міжнародному співробітництву в галузі демографії, приділяє особливу увагу вивченню закордонного досвіду та застосуванню позитивних тенденцій. Особливо важливо підкреслити співпрацю з Фондом ООН у галузі народонаселення (UNFPA) у цій галузі. Таким чином, було досягнуто значного прогресу в отриманні надійних соціально-економічних та демографічних даних за допомогою переписів населення, обстежень домогосподарств, систем реєстрації статусу громадянства та переміщення населення, реалізованих за підтримки UNFPA.

Наголошується, що з метою зміцнення національного інституційного потенціалу для доступу, аналізу та використання фактичних даних та інформації, необхідних для моніторингу динаміки народонаселення та підтримки сталого розвитку UNFPA у тісній співпраці зі своєю спільнотою партнерів та експертів досягли великих успіхів.

Ключові слова: демографічна політика, відтворення населення, природний приріст, населення, демографічна безпека.