

THE INFLUENCE OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND GLOBALIZATION PROCESSES ON A CONTEMPORARY STATE

Dr. Viktoriya Serzhanova

University of Rzeszów (Poland), Faculty of Law and Administration

***Abstract:** Problems connected with the integration processes taking place in Europe, as well as globalization phenomenon, considerably change the vision of a contemporary state. Its description with hitherto terminology, established in the second half of XIX century, does not appear to be in accordance with the reality. The paper has been dedicated to deliberations on the changes of a contemporary state, which is influenced by globalization processes, among them great people migrations, free capital flow, loss of influence on national economy, etc. At the European continent the institution of a state is undergoing many changes connected with the integration processes, regionalization and autonomization of territorial division units. The paper discusses the three spheres, in which the European integration processes run: economic, political and military, as well as cultural. Preserving cultural identity in the face of attenuation of national states remains a considerably important issue. All these factors cause the necessity and even enforce implementing essential changes into national constitutions.*

***Keywords:** globalization and European integration processes; changes; vision of a contemporary state; national constitutions; migrations; free capital flow; regionalization; autonomization of territorial division units; economic, political, military and cultural integration.*

1 INTRODUCTION

The theory of a contemporary state and modern European constitutionalism cannot keep from answering a question about the relations between a national state and the integration processes taking place on the European continent, as well as globalization processes persisting in the world. These relations seem to be obvious, although the range of the changes, which appear in the vision of modern states and enforce implementing new constitutional regulations, is constantly being verified. It depends upon the level, in which particular national states involve themselves into these processes.

At present we can observe some new phenomena, the scale and dynamics of which have been unknown in the history of the Old Continent. On the one hand, the trend of economic, political and cultural integration is clearly visible. On the other hand, what we have to do with is the processes of national states' disintegration. The fact is, that there appear not only the new states, which came into being out of the break-up of Yugoslavia or the Czechoslovakian Federation, but we can also perceive a process of creating states, which possess an undefined status from the international and constitutional law perspective. Kosovo is such an example. Moreover, one can notice the trend of regionalization and reconstruction of old traditional connections over the hitherto existing political borders.

At the present stage of integration process there is a sharp exchange of two points of view. On one side there are the so-called constitutionalists, sometimes also named federalists, who see the aim of the integration in creation of a common European state (a

so-called super-state). On the other side there are the so-called functionalists, who are in favour of loose cooperation based on collaboration, mostly in the field of economy and also, to some limited extent, in the field of politics. Such an attitude would guarantee preserving sovereign national states without the necessity of creating a common state structure. "On this background the process of integration appears as endeavour to uniting or joining together some autonomic local spaces in order to build a common universal space – in this case within the frames of Europeanism. This is what remains the universal basis of the integration process's existence. In this process a symbolic space, being expressed in a cultural sphere, plays an essential part. The process of uniting is possible to take place as a result of this symbolic space's existence, by means of which the universal in relation to the local is expressed".¹

The second point of view is close to the vision of Europe proposed by General Charles de Gaulle (1890-1970), which is called the "Europe of motherlands".

The reasons for the European integration are multifaceted. It is worth noticing that before and during World War II the attempts of integrating the European states were undertaken from the position of strength. It was the experience gained from the war conflagration, the attempt of creating effective mechanisms guaranteeing the observance of human rights, as well as the intention to really deprive the German economy of the ability to renew armaments, that made it possible to unite the Old Continent peacefully.

Today the European national states are politically and above all economically too small and in consequence too weak organisms. They are not able to meet the requirements of economic competition on a global scale. The appearance of new, dynamically developing economies of the Asian countries, in particular China, has considerably changed the vectors of strengths and the competition conditions at the world markets.

At the same time the collapse of the USSR and as a result of it the bipolar arrangement of political and military blocks – on one side the world of the West with the leading part of the USA and on the other side the USSR with the block of socialist countries – considerably revalued the political and military objectives in Europe. Historically the European integration process was stimulated by the blocks rivalry. It formed protection against the widening influences of the USSR on the continent by assuring stabilization and prosperity. Successes in expanding of the common market, the flow of capital and goods, as well as human mobility were to be a support.

Independently from the integration processes going on the European continent a contemporary national state is also influenced by a globalization phenomenon. It remains one of the most dominating vectors in the development of the contemporary world. We are not always aware of the depth of this influence over people's life, societies, economy and state. However, many were touched by this process during the crisis at the end of 2008, when in a very short period of several months' time the USA financial sector's collapse directly influenced the fates of other states' national economies and caused existential problems to people on a global scale. This fact may be perceived as a visible proof of the lasting globalization process and could change the mentality of people in the world, especially those, who are still functioning in the narrow framework of national economy and state. The process of globalization has speeded up especially in the nineteen eighties and nineties. The noticeable social and economical changes were surely the biggest since the industrial revolution.

¹ GOŁEMBSKI F., Kulturowe aspekty integracji europejskiej, p. 203.

2 MODERN EUROPEAN STATES AND THEIR CONSTITUTIONS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE INTEGRATION PROCESSES

The European integration processes run in three areas:

- economic;
- political and military;
- cultural.

In each area it enforces to introduce various changes to the national basic laws.

2.1 Integration in the Economic Area

Integration in the economic area is a great achievement of the states belonging to the European Union. It ran through five stages:

- free trade zones;
- customs union;
- common market;
- economic union;
- full economic integration.²

The introduction of the European currency Euro became the coping stone of the process. It happened on 1 January 1999, though in fact it was introduced to the common circulation at the beginning of 2002. The financial crisis, which touched Greece in 2010, orders to revise some opinions concerning the European currency. Its weakness derives from the lack of an integrated system of its exchange rate management. In such a situation relying on national solidity in creating budgets by the Member States turned out to be delusive. Among others the Euro stabilization must be based on the central management of its exchange rate, which will imply the necessity of consulting national budgets with the European Union institutions in a rather close perspective. This fact, in turn, will cause political consequences. National states will lose independence in the field of creating their budgets, which is determined by practice and experience. The USA are coming out of the financial crisis more quickly because they possess the central dollar exchange rate management.

The result of the integration in the economic area is the necessity to include provisions implementing Euro as a national currency into particular constitutions. This is what is going to happen to the Polish basic law as well. The changes aiming at controlling national budgets by the EU institutions are better and more and more frequently seen. Moreover loud are also the voices which intend to implement gathering taxes from individuals for the benefit of the EU. Provisions stipulating this will also have to be included into the national constitutions.

2.2 Integration in Political and Military Area

As opposed to the successes, which accompany the processes of creating a common European economy, the area of political and military integration comes across far-reaching difficulties. The matter of issuing an act called "The EU Constitution" is still being discussed. The idea of naming this document a Constitution has been rejected, because it

² KAWECKA-WRZYKOWSKA E., MICHAŁOWSKA-GORYWODA K., Geneza i rozwój integracji w Europie [in:] Integracja europejska, p. 24.

has too strong connotations with the state; it clearly suggested heading for creating a federal state.³

An important step, which stood on this way, was the second referendum in Ireland from 2 October 2009. The first one, as it seemed, shattered introducing the Treaty of Lisbon. It was held on 6 and 12 June 2008. 53,4 % of voters were for rejecting it, whereas 46,7 % of them were for accepting it. The second referendum raised hope for introducing the Treaty, as 67,1% of voters were for it and 32,9% were against, with the voter turnout amounting to 58%. Ireland attained a guarantee of neutrality, maintaining control over ethical issues (including separate regulations on family law) and having its own Commissioner of the European Union.

The Treaty of Lisbon is an essential step on the way to political integration, because it expands a catalogue of human rights and freedoms. This must also influence the trends of changes undertaken and implemented into particular national constitutions. Moreover, it modifies the EU organizational structure itself, which in consequence also improves its functioning, since it introduces the President of the European Council and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. At the same time it increases the role of the European Parliament, as well as the national Parliaments in the processes of taking decisions in the EU, especially in creating law. And at last – which seems to be the most important thing – it has departed from unanimity in decision making for a qualified majority. These reforms may considerably improve the Union functioning in the international aspect, as well as speed up the integration processes. They also open a way to enroll the new members.⁴

These changes essentially influence the new way of comprehending the concept of sovereignty. Additionally, the process of organizing European diplomacy is taking place, which, among others, aims at protecting the EU citizens disregarding their state belonging. Creating of the European military forces in the frames of the West European Union remains a considerably important issue for the problem of sovereignty. This will probably need changes in the national constitutions in the scope of the provisions stipulating protection of motherland (one's own state), as well as the permission to serve or move a part of national military forces under the supranational command. The hitherto regulations were limited to the break of the judiciary monopoly and transferring it under the jurisdiction of supranational judiciary authorities, such as the European Court of Human Rights or the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Similarly to political integration, military integration in the EU is proceeding with far-reaching resistance of the Member States. The West European Union (WEU) has covered a long way from being a defensive pact of the Western European countries, which was organized against the Germans in the nineteen forties, to becoming a component of the European Union defence in the nineteen nineties.

The Treaty on the European Union transformed or resuscitated the WEU within the framework of the Common Foreign and Security Policy.⁵ At present this structure possesses its own headquarters, satellite centre and research institute. It is connected with the NATO military structure through the Combined Joint Task Forces. Within this structure there take place consultations, planning and agreeing upon joint activities in the scope of external safety of the EU.

³ DZIAŁOCHA K., Poszukiwanie formuły suwerenności państwa – członka UE [in:] Instytucje prawa konstytucyjnego w dobie integracji europejskiej. Księga Jubileuszowa dedykowana prof. dr hab. Marii Kruk-Jarosz, ed. WAWRZYŃIAK J., LASKOWSKA M., p. 45 & next.

⁴ KOWALCZYK-BANŃCZYK K., SZWARC-KUCZER M., Traktat z Lizbony – reforma czy jej pozory?, p. 5 & next.

The WEU has resigned from its own defensive structure. The initiatives of establishing intelligence service acting for the EU and the European Armed Forces have not succeeded so far.

Not undertaking activities tending to organize the internal safety does not appear to be the effect of lack of organization abilities but rather the result of dubious political will of the Member States.

2.3 Integration in the Cultural Area

Cultural integration remains the most troublesome area. Here there is distinct lack of joint views and recipes on how it is to proceed.

The integration of the states forming the EU in the cultural area is the most touchy and, what is more, not enough specified. This state of affairs derives from two reasons:

- fear of the states, which have small population, as well as the ones, which have recently gained sovereignty, to lose their own identity;
- lack of the precise and consistent enough EU policy in this scope.

The states of a small population potential, such as Denmark or Malta, as well as those, which have recently gained independence, like Slovakia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia or Kosovo, are clearly afraid of losing their own national identity. They pay much attention to keeping their sovereignty and cultivate their own statehood.

Moreover, these fears are intensified by lack of rules and, in consequence, any established political trends, which would show the direction the EU is going. Is it about the beginning of creating a “European nation” and disappearing of the identity of the nations, which have been establishing their own national states so far, or maintaining cultural diversity of the European nations?

However, the future of the integration is sometimes contested. The most clearly the success of uniting Europe is questioned by Walter Laqueur. In his opinion, the integration trend will be undermined by the increasing wave of uncontrolled immigration from the countries of Asia, Africa and the Near East, mainly believers of Islam. The immigrants, who are culturally alien, do not want to integrate with the communities of the European Union countries. The process of ghettoization of newcomers is becoming noticeable. New social and political divisions are being established, which bear certain tensions and cause the increase of dissatisfaction and xenophobia in particular EU Member States.

Moreover:

- demographic relations change in a fast tempo, Europeans’ fertility rate decreases for the sake of immigrants’ sudden increase;
- immigrants use all social and insurance benefits offered by a welfare state – it will soon lead to the bankruptcy of national budgets;
- they also use liberal law, which regulates rights and freedoms, to defend their own, different culture and religion.

In Walter Laqueur’s opinion “this is how Europe looks like in the first decade of a new century. It is a picture of a gradual decline, which does not give euro-optimists many reasons for joy. Future historians will not have any idea why the awareness of this sad state of affairs has come so late, though all the threats, such as demographic problems, stopping the movement towards the European unity, as well as the welfare state crisis, were already known before the turn of the centuries”.⁵ Whereas the vision of a perspective, which

⁵ LAQUEUR W., *Ostatnie dni Europy. Epitafium dla Starego Kontynentu*, p. 184.

Europe stands before, he – jokingly for sure – pictures in the following way: “Having taken into account the shrinking population it is possible that Europe or, in any case, its quite large areas will change into a cultural amusement park, a peculiar Disneyland, a sophisticated attraction for wealthy tourists from China and India, in something resembling Bruges, Venice, Versailles, Stratford-upon-Avon⁶ or Rothenburg ob der Tauber, though on a larger scale. There already exist such funfairs: when the coal mines in the Ruhr district were closed down, a Warner Brothers Movie World was opened in Dortmund, where you can not only watch Batman, but also visit the museum of the German film Agfa history” – and finally he came to the following conclusion: “This is the most optimistic scenario, but it is also not excluded, that the general decline and regression will develop and they will even get stronger. As a result of the flowing wave of mass immigration conditions in Europe may become similar to those existing in the North Africa and Near East. Such and maybe some other similar scenarios seem probable nowadays. It is rather impossible for XXI century to belong to Europe, as it was still thought by some observers from the United States a few years ago. At that time they discerned that the united Europe had not only caught up with the US economy, but it would also most probably overtake it in a short period of time. The European states lived in peace with each other and their neighbours, working out a model of a more civilized and humane life than all the remaining ones. The truth is, that it was not a political and military superpower in a strict sense of the word, but thanks to its “power of transformation”, serving as an example, it was changing the world”.⁷

Oriana Fallaci (1929-2006) perceives the future of the Old Continent even more pessimistically. In her opinion, the contemporary Europe has already become a colony of Islam – Eurabia. The uncontrolled immigration from Islamic countries, which stream is increasing from month to month, as well as the reproduction level, which is higher than the Europeans’ one, have led to the change of our continent’s cultural face. It is becoming more and more Muslim: “In each of our towns there is another town. A town within a town, the same as the one, which the Palestinians established in Beirut in the nineteen seventies, creating a state within the State, a government within the Government. The Muslim town, governed by the Koran. A stop for Islamic expansionism. The expansionism, which nobody has ever had a power to defeat. Nobody. Not even the Persians of Cyrus the Great. Not even the Macedonians of Alexander the Great. Not even the Romans of Julius Cesar. Not even the French of Napoleon. Because this is the only art, in which the sons of Allah have always outstood, the art of invading, capturing, conquering. Europe has always been their most craved trophy, the Christian World”.⁸

At the present stage these processes result in strengthening of the provisions or expanding legal regulations, which would stipulate the protection of national heritage, especially the language. At the moment a discussion on such a law is being observed in Slovakia.

⁶ Stratford-upon-Avon — a town in middle England, the place of birth and burial of William Shakespeare (the translator’s note).

⁷ LAQUEUR W., *Ostatnie dni Europy ...* op. cit., p. 16.

⁸ FALLACI O., *Siła rozumu*, p. 37 i 38. The author expressed her views in three studies: *Rage and Pride (Wściekłość i duma)*, Warszawa 2003, *The Force of Reason (Siła rozumu)*, Warszawa 2004 and *An interview with Herself. Apocalypse (Wywiad z sobą samą. Apokalipsa)*, Warszawa 2005.

3 CONTEMPORARY NATIONAL STATES IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION

3.1 Globalization Concept and its Evolution

For the first time the term „globalization” appeared in press. In 1953 it was used in *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and in 1959 – in one of *The Economist’s* issues. In 1961 it was already found in the *Webster’s Third New International Dictionary of the English Language Unabridged*.

It was implemented into the scientific literature in 1960, when Marshall McLuhan for the first time used a term “global village” to name the way the world functions after having adopted the new communicational technologies.

There exists an extend variety of globalization definitions, which is caused, among others, by the fact, that it is an interdisciplinary problem, escaping research within one scientific branch.

The first stage of globalization started with the liberalization of goods’ exchange in the XIX century between 1850 and 1880 and finished along with the economical crisis at the turn of the nineteen twenties and thirties.

Contemporary, being at the same time the second, stage of globalization started after World War II. At that time there was created a system of institutions, which were supposed to prepare the foundations for liquidating barriers in free trade, among them also financial ones, aiming at steering capital flow.

In 1945 two considerably important supranational organizations started their activity: the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB). Of much more importance for the global economical development was adopting in 1947 in Geneva the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Perhaps a little less known was the fact of founding on 20 January 1930, during the conference in the Hague of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) with the seat in Basle. It provides international bank payments and contributes into making easier the cooperation between national central banks. Therefore it is often called “the central bank of the central banks”. It also steers the world financial market, as well as plays a part of an international banking supervisor and financial market regulator.⁹

The most capacious descriptive definition of globalization can be found in the studies of Władysław Misiak, who sates that “Globalization is an objective and systematic process, which is characterized by a permanently extending net of economical, political and cultural connections and co-dependencies of states and societies, which were relatively distant from each other during the previous periods. Globalization processes, in which great world-wide corporations are becoming a dynamiting factor, lead to appearing of considerable divisions into centres, semi-peripheries and peripheries on a global scale. Mass media and electronic forms of communication become powerful actors on a global scene, which mould people’s consciousness. In the period of late modernity, in which globalization processes are becoming stronger, national states are loosing some of their functions for the benefit of international and global structures. In the era of globalization in the field of culture there are seen three principle processes: commercialization, uniformization and attempts to include regional values into the world circulation of cultural goods and values.”¹⁰

⁹ The analysis of the realization of hopes put onto the global institutions is made by the noblist J. Stiglitz in „Globalization“: STIGLITZ J., *Globalizacja*, p. 21 & next.

¹⁰ MISIAK W., *Globalizacja więcej niż podręcznik. Społeczeństwo – kultura – polityka*, p. 13. It is also worth reaching lectures of GULCZYŃSKI M., *Nauka o polityce*, p. 203 & next.

An extremely interesting remark on this matter was made by Zygmunt Bauman: “In its deepest sense the concept of globalization shows an undetermined, naughty and autonomous character of the world and its affairs, lack of the centre, lack of the operator’s pulpit, group of directors, management’s office. Globalization is another name for Jowitt’s “new world disorder”.¹¹

In the modern history there was a sharp exchange of two opposite concepts concerning the role and functions of a national state. The first one, connected with liberal capitalism, assumed minimizing the role of a state in the field of economy (*laissez faire*), limiting its functions to order matters – “a state of a night guard”. However, such a vision of a state was carried out during a relatively short period of time in XIX century.

In XX century two totalitarianisms led to an extreme increase of the state functions. One was fascism and the other was real socialism. Both ideologies glorified state, which was becoming omnipotent and dominating over economy and an individual. Hence the communist ideology propagated the necessity of abolishing private property and adopting economy steered by the state, i.e. implementing planned economy. In order to fulfill the objectives of the state both totalitarianisms considerably extended repression apparatus, which aimed at guaranteeing domination over an individual.

A model of a strong state dominated in the XX century in considerable areas of Europe, Asia, as well as on other continents. However, globalization processes destroyed such its vision.

3.2 Changes in the Comprehension of Sovereignty and Contemporary State Functions

Determining the range of changes in the concept of contemporary states’ sovereignty possesses basic importance for the theorists of state and constitutionalists.

The evolution of sovereignty, both in the sphere of its defining, as well as in its practice has a considerable influence on the objectives and functions of contemporary states. One can observe a process of its significant restricting, both in the external, as well as in the internal area.

One of the undisputable aspects of sovereignty was the monopoly on issuing commonly binding legal rules and their enforcement, as well as exercising justice.¹² However, presently more and more norms in particular states are being created outside them, by international organizations, which strive for unification of law, or by regional associations of states, as it happens in case of the European Union, which uses the principle of priority of the law created by it over domestic law.

Another factor restricting sovereignty is the loss of national states’ military and protective functions for the benefit of foreign political and military structures. NATO is the biggest organization of the Euro-Atlantic world, which after intervention in former Yugoslavia has officially promoted a new strategy allowing the restriction of sovereignty for the sake of human rights and democracy priority, although the last are treated selectively and not always consequently.

A contemporary state is also losing its monopoly on information for the benefit of global media. A net of stations, which broadcast it, possess a world-wide range, like CNN or Al-Jazeera. The role of internet, which allows to exchange information between individual users without the interference of a state, becomes hard to overestimate. It results in restricting the possibilities of a state to provide its own media policy. In consequence it

¹¹ BAUMAN Z., *Globalizacja*, p. 71.

¹² WOJTYCZEK K. K., *Przekazywanie kompetencji organów władzy sądowniczej podmiotom międzynarodowym* in: *Institucje prawa konstytucyjnego ... op. cit.*, p. 426 and next.

leads to disability to promote its own history and culture. The role of a state is limited here to providing order in ether by allocating frequencies for broadcasting radio and television programmes, mobile phones and other means of transferring information.

The economical function of a state has considerably changed. In the globalization process states are losing control over their economy. It results in the separation of a state from its economy. In socialist countries, which executed the principle of planned economy, it was unimaginable. Capital circulates on a global scale as quickly as internet and is not connected with the exact territory. Capital flow remains out of the national governments' control. Steady balance in particular states' economies, which was a necessary condition of the whole economical thinking, is becoming a fiction nowadays.

One of the effects of the capital flow on a global scale is difficulties for national states to gather taxes. International corporations try to escape from paying, using among others "tax paradises", i.e. the states, which exist mostly thanks to taking provisions from transactions (Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Cyprus, the Cayman Islands, etc.)

Constructing budgets, which final shape depends upon external factors, is subject to significant changes. In European countries donations flowing from the EU form a part of national budgets.

Because of restricting of many state functions the role of a contemporary state has come down to guaranteeing safety of trade and investments at the territory under its jurisdiction. This is how Zygmunt Bauman comments upon it: "Weak states is exactly what the New World Order, which suspiciously frequently looks more like a new disorder, needs in order to be able to guarantee itself duration and reproduction. Weak quasi-states easily allow to be amounted to a useful function of police provinces, assuring a little bit of order necessary to make business; however, one should not be afraid of an effective restriction of the freedom of firms' and companies' functioning."¹³

Globalization also influences to a great extent the disappearance of citizens' identification with their national states.¹⁴

There is distinctly seen an increasing role of the institutions of civil society, which in the process of decentralization are overtaking some of the state competences, significantly determining the content and shape of political decisions. Among others, it is taking place through decentralization of power for the benefit of local self-governments. They have become one of the characteristic features of a democratic state, finding their place among constitutional principles.

Globalization processes considerably cause and intensify the problem of people's migration. It significantly influences the internal functions of national states, because it determines the necessity of implementing certain legal solutions, breaking civilization barriers, as well as providing economical, cultural and educational integration.

In consequence globalization leads to the erosion of national states. The forces, which put these processes into motion, are of a supranational character. However, they still seem to be necessary to keep the international balance between different political blocks.

These forces are very difficult to be defined. Their functioning is covered by secret fog. Their aim is mainly to manipulate demand, to artificially create needs and, what is more important, the wish to reach a quick profit.

¹³ BAUMAN Z., *Globalizacja*, op. cit., p. 82.

¹⁴ An interesting study of an individual in the globalization processes can be found in: STANISZKIS J., *Antropologia władzy. Między Traktatem Lizbońskim a kryzysem*, p. 149 & next.

4 CONCLUSION

Reassuring, it should be underlined clearly, that contemporary national states and their constitutions not only notify on a wider scale, but also open themselves to the European integration and globalization processes. On the other hand one can observe the attempts of implementing regulations aiming at protecting and connected with preserving national heritage, culture and language. However, the key problem is the new comprehension of the sovereignty concept, which is clearly expressed as a fundamental principle in most of the national constitutions.

Contemporary states undergo dynamic transformations connected with globalization, as well as the integration processes taking place in Europe. The hitherto existing model of a national state, which was described in the literature of the XIX and XX century by the classics, is losing its cognitive significance. The need of overworking a new notional net, which would be able to describe the institution of a state at the turn of XX and XXI centuries, is clearly being born.

Globalization trends are distinctly changing the scope of the functions of a contemporary state, which has been deprived of the influence over the national economy, taxes and military protection. It narrows the area of its activity, limiting it to assuring law and internal order on a certain territory.

Autonomization of many regions remains an important factor of weakening of the central power, especially in the modern European states. This causes the restrictions of central authorities' competences and in extreme cases can lead to breaking-up of the hitherto state structures. It also causes a separate problem of the necessity of implementing relative changes into national constitutional regulations as a result of the process of autonomization of the regions, which are not formally the subjects of a federation.

Great migrations of people – unknown in the hitherto history of civilization – are changing the cultural face of states and nations, especially in Europe, even more than liquidating borders inside the Union.

These migrations were mainly caused by economical reasons and in the last decades were also the effect of climate warming up. On the one hand they are advantageous, because they support the economy of the uniting Europe. On the other hand they cause the changes of its tradition and culture. Economical migrations presume lack of people's and the whole societies' wish to struggle the adversities and making the environment they live in more friendly. Examples from the history of many European nations give us a considerably different picture. One can refer to the thousand-year history of the Icelandic society, which in particularly difficult climate and environmental conditions succeeded in organizing a contemporary state and assuring its citizens wealth. It also concerns many European nations, among them the Swiss and others.

A distinct tendency of extensive changes in the scope of a contemporary state's functions is the fundamental principle of "civil society", adopted in basic laws, which establishes self-organization of various social and professional groups as an alternative and counterbalance to the omnipotent state.

Moreover, national states are trying to regulate on a wider scale the organization and functioning of local self-government in accordance with the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

Local and professional self-governments are overtaking more and more tasks, which have been carried out by the state authorities and institutions so far, and many of them, such as protection of life, health and citizens' property are even entrusted to non-governmental organizations.

From the chaos of changes there emerges a new type of political organization of a society, being considerably different from the ones having been described so far.

On the one hand, the “new state” is characterized by weakening of a national state and on the other hand – by transferring the central government competences to local, autonomous or self-government authorities, or by “privatizing” of its hitherto tasks and entrusting them to non-governmental organizations.

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Contact information:

Dr Viktoriya Serzhanova
e-mail viktoria@univ.rzeszow.pl
University of Rzeszów, Faculty of Law and Administration
Address ul. Grunwaldzka 13
35-074 Rzeszów
Poland