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## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Introduction.** The United Nations is the first intergovernmental organization which is responsible for environmental issues; the UN contributes to solving environmental problems at various levels – global, regional and national; the UN is able to implement a comprehensive analysis of environmental issues; the UN includes the vast majority of countries in the world, and therefore has an effective mechanism for coordinating and combining their efforts in solving global environmental problems.

**Review of recent publications.** Environmental problems have worsened around the world. In 1972, UNESCO raised the issue of environmental education and upbringing. The corresponding UN Program has appeared. The Stockholm Conference on the Environment adopted recommendations for the development of an international program on these issues, and in 1975 it was established. These problems were also discussed in the USSR: in 1977 in Tbilisi as well as in 1987 in Tallinn [2]. According to the UN documents adopted by the Rio Conference on Environmental Issues (1992), efforts should be made to preserve the biodiversity of all levels of living things, to ensure the functioning of biosphere systems, and the balanced

development of society. Following the publication of the fourth report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in February 2007, the Paris Call to Action read by French former President Jacques Chirac, who was supported by 46 other countries, and called for UNEP to be replaced by a more effective environmental organization. United Nations (UNEP), which should be developed on the basis of the World Health Organization [1].

**The objective of the paper** is to find out and analyze the environmental policy of the United Nations, how it develops and how it solves environmental problems around the world.

**Results of the research.** In 2015, 193 UN member states signed a document setting out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for improving people's lives in the areas of health, society and the environment. They were conceived as a "single call to action" coming from all countries and to all countries. Directly ecological order relates to the goal of conserving aquatic ecosystems, terrestrial ecosystems and combating climate change [3].

In September 2019, the UN Summit on Sustainable Development was held in New York. The SDG Summit formulated a new Declaration "Readiness for a Decade of Action and Achievement for Sustainable Development". The participants decided that it was necessary to move from plans to real actions [4]. The decade 2020-30 is recognized as decisive for the quality of life of future generations. What will be done (or not done) in the next 10 years will decide the fate of the entire planet.

77 countries have pledged to green their economies and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. China has committed to reducing emissions; France refused to produce coal and oil on its territory; 87 large private corporations (including Danone, IKEA, Nestle, Electrolux) have pledged to reduce CO2 emissions to zero by 2050.

The parties to the Agreement had to move to concrete actions in 2020. This required modeling the world of the future, understanding how carbon markets would change, and agreeing on rules. Negotiations on these issues took place in December 2019 in Madrid with the participation of 27,000 delegates and hours of debate – and have not lead to anything so far. World leaders have not been able to agree.

The Paris Agreement did not become a regulatory document. After all, no sanctions threaten the participating countries for non-compliance. However, the agreement allowed the movement of climate activists created by Greta Thunberg to file a lawsuit against Argentina, Brazil, France, Germany, Turkey for non-compliance with the declarations and for violating the rights to clean air and health [3]. In February 2021, the Fifth UNEP Assembly met. They discussed actions to "restore degraded and destroyed ecosystems."

**Conclusion.** "Today's interim report from the UNFCCC is a red alert for our planet. It shows the governments are nowhere close to the level of ambition needed to limit climate change to 1.5 degrees and meet the goals of the Paris Agreement", Secretary-General António Guterres commented on the report's findings. He said 2021 is a "make or break year" to confront the global climate emergency. "The science is clear, to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, we must cut global emission by 45 per cent by 2030, from 2010 levels", he stressed [3].

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## FIRST LADIES OF THE USA AS ADVOCATES FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

**Introduction.** Today, the figure of the First Lady is an integral part of the US political culture. The wife of the US president has special duties which are not enshrined in the national law, but were established by American society and considered to be obligatory. Domestically, the First Lady is an “example” for a female audience, the embodiment of the values and moral principles of American society, she reflects the public perceptions of the “ideal woman’s image” of her time period. At the same time, the First Lady is also a representative of American women and an advocate for women’s rights. The president’s wife may influence the domestic gender policy and decision-making process. That is why the First Lady is analyzed in terms of her contribution to the empowerment of women.

**Review of recent publications.** The issue of advocating for women’s rights by the First Lady of the USA has not constituted a separate area of theoretical research. However, the topics related to our research have been studied mostly by foreign scholars, among them are M. Borrelli [2], N. Gonnella-Platts [4], D. Grinhaus [5], K. Kuptz [10] and oth.