

THE NATIONAL STATE IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEANIZATION AND GLOBALIZATION

Associate Professor, Mircea TUTUNARU, PhD.
Titu Maiorescu University, Faculty of Law Tg-Jiu, (ROMANIA)
mircea_tutunaru@yahoo.com

Abstract

Today's national state must respond to the contemporary and future needs, and at the same time must transform and perfect. National sovereignty, being the main feature of state power, is an important component of the state.

At EU level and on the international arena, states are each sovereign, and the EU is a juxtaposition of the sovereignty of the Member States, so in the context of Europeanization, the concept of sovereignty needs to be rethought. Globalization processes are the focus of researchers and politicians, representing certain changes in the place and role of contemporary states in the political and economic structure of the world community.

Keywords: *state, sovereignty, European Union, Europeanization, globalization*

Introduction

There is no definition of globalization in a form that is universally accepted because it includes a multitude of complex processes with variable dynamics reaching different areas of a society. Globalization is the modern term used today to describe the changes in societies and the world economy resulting from the extremely high international trade and cultural exchanges. At international level, globalization creates the necessary conditions for the manifestation of entities that erode the traditional role of the state as the only international actor.[1] In fact, this means that globalization is associated with a new sovereignty regime as a result of the emergence of new and powerful non-territorial forms of economic and political organization in the global sphere.[2]

As distinguished specialists and researchers in the field think, the contemporary state seems to be at the intersection of the vectors of globalization which, on the one hand, come to alter the status on the international arena and, on the other, the forces that diminish its internal power.

After the end of the Cold War, globalization has become the preferred term to describe international reality, and most of those who analyze it refer to an evolutionary process[3] , a historical transformation, or a multidimensional reality.[4]

Globalization involves complex processes that internationalize domestic politics, but it also shapes foreign policy according to internal pressures. National states have learned to share their sovereignty with regional and global institutions and to open up their economies to the regional and global dimension. In the pragmatic formula of liberalization, globalization produces, of course, a series of changes in the state's internal functioning

Analyzing globalization from the point of view of current developments, it can be seen that it has several aspects:

- Economical – highlighted by the current global economic crisis;
- Institutional – emerged on the background of the perpetuation of international institutions established after the Second World War;
- Geographical – generated by the effect of moving the center of gravity of the contemporary world toward the East, toward Asia;
- Hierarchical – caused by the redistribution of the roles played by the main actors on the scene of international relations.[5]

Joseph E. Stiglitz, in his work *Globalization Mechanisms*, identifies the following aspects of globalization:

- The international flow of ideas and information;
- Common cultural experiences;
- Global civil society;
- More intensive cooperation among the world's states through increased circulation of goods and services, capital and people.[6]

Reality has shown that only a few countries have benefited from globalization in the direction of increasing Gross Domestic Product, but in these situations globalization has not had a major advantage for the population of those countries.[7] There are also reasons of concern, in addition to the advantages of globalization, which, if not adequately managed, could turn into elements of risk to security.[8]

Globalization dimensions

Globalization is not just a simple process of increasing the unity degree of the world; it involves a reconsideration of time and space in social life.

Globalization began to take place two to three centuries ago, with the regional and universal scale of the acquisitions of science and technology. Globalization of social and economic relations has been associated with inequalities between different parts of the world. Today, however, a new struggle takes place in the competitive process, namely that of mastering information.[9] There have also been new relations between state and economic institutions, between the state and the market as well as between the public and the private. In many ways the world becomes more united, and some conflicts between states - nations or regions tend to disappear. Homogenizing the world is a first dimension of globalization. Under today's conditions, trying to identify the dimensions of globalization, we find that they are about to be individualized and seeking their way and means of realization and consolidation.

Globalization is today marked by the means of communication via the internet, due to which the geographic criterion has disappeared, these being measured according to technological, economic criteria, etc., which imposes a new world order. We can mention that cybernetics, electronics, the Internet have abolished borders in some areas such as communications and transport, trade and banking. The world we live in today is a world of globalized communications in which information is standardized, dematerialized, symbolic, direct, uncontroversial, a world in which information circulates with great intensity and speed, transmitting both positive and negative effects at a great distance as a result of the complexity, complementarity and connections in which all national-state markets are involved, with or without permission (e.g. e-commerce accompanied by new financial and banking instruments, also electronic, for payment, credit, settlement, etc., which melt down commercial circulation and trade facilitating remote transactions without travel). As dimensions of globalization, we enumerate the political, economic, social, cultural, and ecological dimension, etc.

Another dimension of globalization consists in the tendency to unify space and time, moving from local, private space to the unique global space, and so also local times unite into a global time by overcoming temporal discontinuities.[10]

In historical terms, we can say that globalization induces a new stage in the civilization of global society, of a society diversified into the universal.[11]

Globalization is achieved independently of the will of states, governments, markets and civilizations, liberalizing and unifying through the force of combining the achievements of science and technology (information networks, financial-banking networks, communication networks and technologies, etc.).

Thus, globalization is not limited to the economy and its means of moving it in a superior form; it looks at the elements of civilization as a whole and in all dimensions starting from the political one, then the global and the economic, the social, and even the military ones.

Given that through globalization the markets economies, the capital, etc., will not have borders, in which competitiveness, competition and efficiency become reference factors, it increases the role of man, education, professionalism and pragmatism, but also of intelligence and its ingenuity, its power to adapt to an increasingly mobile world.[12]

Regionalization and regional integration are the main gateway to global society, and the UE is a regionalization model for the whole of European space, and why not for globalization.

Globalization as a process of transition to a global society implies a material basis with a diffusion able to ensure promoting democratic, political, economic, social, technical, etc. concepts, to ensure the rule of law and the competitive market, to hinder the entry of those market elements that perversely and brutally disturb the process of globalization.[13]

Globalization should be viewed as a new historical threshold that must be understood by its meanings and implications, as it prefigures a new political, economic and social order in which ideologies must adapt to the system, its institutionalization, leadership, organization and functionality and where global fundamental issues (institutional, economic, legal, environmental, and security, etc.) are solved in common. Reconstruction of public institutions and confidence in their functioning is a top priority of contemporary society. The government and state power must adapt to the requirements of the globalization era, with the changes it brings to sovereignty.[14] Also, governance requirements need to be adapted to new risk situations. Government and state self-reform

should not only achieve the objective of efficiency but also respond to the apathy of voters, of which suffer the most recognized democratic states. In many countries, the level of trust in political leaders but also in other forms of authority and also decreased the number of voters participating in elections. As A. Giddens points out, a second wave of democratization - or what he calls democratization of democracy,[15] which will require a differentiation of policies according to country history and the previous level of democracy. The second wave of democratization must reveal the influence of globalization; this normally implies the devolution of power towards realities and regions as well as the transfer of democratic power from the bottom up, beyond the level of the national state. In Europe, the further democratization of the European Union is the most obvious way to achieve it. The States - nation are the most important actors on the international stage.[16] Developing the future democracy of the states could be greatly strengthened by building transnational forms of democracy. The Constitution of the European Union is such a process.

Conclusions

1. A society must find the balance between the government, the markets and the social order.
2. An active policy to develop education is essential.
3. It has to increase the investment in human capital.
4. Among the most important issues to be solved globally an important role is played by the problems of resources, consumption, diminishing the differences between rich and poor countries, otherwise the planet would paradoxically face a phenomenon of underdevelopment that would coexist with an overdevelopment one.
5. The complexity of the problems of international collaboration - both in the field of material and spiritual life, determines today the development of relations between countries on the basis of principles, respecting essential norms of law and morality.

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