

## History of Development and Current Trends in Social Policy Aimed At Ensuring the Rights And Interests of Persons With Disabilities

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### **Abstract**

*Today, global and national socio-political institutions are focused on the formation of an inclusive social policy in which the interests of all segments of the population are protected. It should be noted that despite the attention paid to people with disabilities by global and national institutions in recent years, people with disabilities still face many obstacles in achieving their rights. In turn, the implementation of social policy aimed at persons with disabilities requires scientific research in this direction. Based on this, the article analyzes the history and current trends of social policy aimed at people with disabilities, as a result of which the author came to the conclusion that the effectiveness of social policy aimed at people with disabilities is associated with expanding their direct participation.*

**Keywords:** *Globalization, global institutions, financial institutions, social policy, social protection.*

### **Introduction**

Today, the number of people with disabilities in the world is growing. People with disabilities make up 15% of the world's population. If you take into account their family members and relatives, disability issues concern a quarter of the population living on Earth [1]. Based on this, non-governmental non-profit organizations around the world pay special attention to improving the effectiveness of social policy in the field of disability.

On the other hand, improving social policy processes aimed at people with disabilities requires studying its historical roots and scientific analysis of current trends.

### **METHODS, RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

It should be said that social policy is carried out by state and non-state organizations, and its main goal is to regulate the social relations of society. Social policy is based on the interests of the state, individual social groups and individuals. At the same time, social policy is a process associated with decision-making, which represents real relations that have developed in society. Also, social policy is inextricably linked with the ideology formed by state power in society. Based on this, one can see a direct connection between social policy and power. It is the government that makes certain social decisions and implements them. Certain groups offer society a certain socio-political program in the process of struggle for political power. In turn, social policy not only uses economic resources, but also makes a great contribution to the development of the economy of a particular country. In the developed countries of Western Europe, it is clear that social policy plays an important role in the development of society and the state. At the same time, social policy is also related to the cultural, political and natural conditions of a particular country. It should also be noted that the formation of social policy is associated with a certain historical period. Social policy refers to the activities of the state to realize the interests of

various social groups, as well as the activities of various entities aimed at meeting the needs of the population [2].

Based on the definitions and concepts given to social policy, we can conclude that social policy is the activity of various subjects aimed at improving the quality of life of different segments of society. In turn, it should be noted that the objects of social policy include social groups in various difficult situations. One such group is people with disabilities.

In recent years, social policy aimed at people with disabilities has become the main focus of government activities. There are processes of rethinking the phenomenon of disability. Disability is now treated as a social problem rather than a stable disease, since certain barriers in society have a negative impact on the ability of people with disabilities to lead full lives. Despite its universal nature and principles, social policy in the field of disability has its own character and history. This situation is not connected with the author's exclusive attitude towards people with disabilities, but with relationships that arose in different historical periods. Over the centuries, two types of attitudes towards people with disabilities have developed:

The first is the formation of exclusive relationships. This attitude implies the exclusion of disabled people from society, as well as their physical destruction. This position has been formed since ancient times. In Ancient Rome and Greece, the idea of an ideal body generated hatred and fear in society towards people with disabilities. It should be noted that attitudes towards people with disabilities have changed during the development of culture, history and civilizations of individual nations. In ancient times, only strong, self-sufficient, strong members of society had the opportunity to survive. The rest died for certain reasons. Historical sources indicate that in ancient Sparta, disabled infants were saved by throwing them from a high cliff.

As mentioned above, in Ancient Rome and Greece it was believed that getting rid of disabled people would have a positive impact on the development of society. According to historical sources, in some countries, getting rid of disabled and weak members of society continued until the 20th century. This situation was observed in some parts of India and Japan. [4]

Despite the wide spread of Christianity, in the Middle Ages in Europe a negative attitude towards people with disabilities developed. In medieval Europe, disability was understood as a punishment sent by God. It was the position aimed at getting rid of or surrounding people with disabilities that was widespread in the 20th century during the Third Reich. According to some reports, from 1933 to 1944 more than 300 thousand mentally retarded people were killed. Disabled people are considered mentally poor and it is believed that getting rid of them will cleanse the nation of negative elements [7].

The second position regarding the formation of a positive attitude towards persons with disabilities has also existed since ancient times. In this position, disability is not studied from an everyday point of view, but more attention is paid to it in a symbolic sense. For example, Themis, the goddess of justice in Ancient Greece, was depicted as blind, and her blindness was interpreted as a symbol of impartiality and justice. Subsequently, the spread of Judaism, Christianity and Islam was of great importance in the formation of a positive attitude towards people with disabilities, because it was in these religions that ideas such as compassion, human equality, and humanity were widely introduced into society.

In the East, the attitude towards people with disabilities was characterized by tolerance, unlike in Europe. The sacred book of Zoroastrianism, Avesta, describes in detail the methods of treating people with disabilities, and the phenomenon of disability is not considered as a punishment for sins. Disability

issues were interpreted by ancient Chinese thinkers based on deep philosophical observations. The philosophical approach to the phenomenon of disability is especially evident in Confucian teachings. According to the book "Lun Yu" (a collection of Confucius's teachings collected by his students), a person's qualities are determined not by physical disabilities, but by his spiritual image. According to historical sources, in the Ottoman Empire, people with disabilities were considered useful people in the palace service. Hard of hearing people were hired to guard and maintain the palace so that there was no noise at night, and communication with them was carried out through sign language. This fact is recognized by many European tourists [10].

It is known from history that the countries of the Central Asian region have a tolerant attitude towards people with disabilities. This situation is associated with the spread of Islam, as well as the traditions and mentality of the peoples of Central Asia. According to the Holy Quran, Hadith and the teachings of famous scholars, people with disabilities are recognized as equal members of society. Islamic teachings state that society should care for people with disabilities and provide them with useful employment whenever possible. We see a practical example of social protection of vulnerable segments of the population in the public administration of Amir Temur. In the state of Amir Temur, various institutions were created to provide assistance and benefits to vulnerable segments of the population, and assistance to socially needy segments was under the control of the ruler [10]. In his work "Tuzuklari Temur," Amir Temur states: "I decided that special assistance should be provided to the disabled and the poor and benefits should be assigned to them." [8] After the death of Amir Temur, the policy of social protection was continued by such intellectuals as Mirzo Ulugbek, Mirzo Shahrukh, Zakhiriddin Muhammad Babur, who were descendants of the Timurids.

The political crisis that began in the 17th century weakened social protection for people with disabilities in Turkestan. During the reign of the Ashtarkhanid dynasty, there was a weakening of power and an increase in taxes.

Due to the increase in the number of people with disabilities after the Second World War, the attention of countries around the world to their social protection has increased. The international community has adopted many international documents aimed at social protection of persons with disabilities. It is also worth noting that the growing attention of the international community to persons with disabilities is associated with an increase in the activity of persons with disabilities. By the mid-20th century, thanks to the work of disabled people such as James Meredith, Eighth Roberts, Paul Hunt and Judy Human, great emphasis was placed on protecting the rights and legitimate interests of disabled people in society. USA and Western European countries. It was during this period that a social model of disability was created [6]. As mentioned above, the social model views the phenomenon of disability as a social problem, since the condition that makes disabled people disabled is existing barriers. States and international organizations are beginning to adopt fundamental legal documents aimed at protecting persons with disabilities. These include documents such as the Declaration of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (1975), the Universal Disability Program (1982), the Standard Clauses on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (1993) and UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006).

The main goal of the above-mentioned documents is to create an inclusive society. Analysis of the evolution of social policy regarding persons with disabilities allows us to identify the following stages:

1. The period of segregation and fencing. This stage lasted from Antiquity to the Modern Age, and disabled people were marginalized and acted as a separate group. During this long historical period, there were also radical attitudes towards people with disabilities. They emphasized that people with disabilities bring only misfortune to society, and therefore society should abandon them and destroy them (Ancient Sparta, Ancient Rome) [3]. A more lenient approach saw people with disabilities as a group surrounded by society. Although there are certain exceptions to the worldview of this period, they also define disabled people as a special group.

2. The period of integration covers the 18th century – the 60s of the 20th century. The emergence of this stage was greatly influenced by two world wars. Because of these wars, the number of people with disabilities increased, and the opening of special schools for people with disabilities led to an increase in their legal culture.

3. The period of activity covers the 60-80s of the 20th century. This stage is associated with the creation of strong civil society institutions, as well as strengthening the civic position of persons with disabilities.

4. The period of formation of a global inclusive society continues from the 80s of the 20th century to the present. It should be said that global social policy of this period was strengthened by the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This document raised important questions for civil society and policymakers. These include the following fundamental questions:

- Are there limits to universal design?
- how to create equal opportunities for all people living on earth to demonstrate their potential?
- what mechanisms should be used in the process of forming a positive image of people with disabilities?
- how to manage risks that may arise in the processes of ensuring employment and inclusive education for people with disabilities?
- global va milliy darajada nogironligi bo'lgan shaxslarni ijtimoiy-siyosiy ishtirokini qanday qilib ta'minlash kerak?

In our opinion, the answers to these questions determine the prospects for social policy regarding persons with disabilities. In general, it should be recognized that the evolution of social policy regarding persons with disabilities is positive. Currently, the main goal of these social policies is to ensure inclusiveness in society.

Today, despite the strengthening of social institutions aimed at protecting people with disabilities, people with disabilities still remain a marginalized group, unable to fully and equally participate in society. The development of social policy in the field of disability can be justified by the following factors:

First, today 15% of the world's population are people with disabilities. If you count their family members and loved ones, improving the quality of life of people with disabilities will positively impact the lives of many people living on Earth. In turn, the increase in the number of people with disabilities, the destruction of the environment, and the spread of various diseases are associated with an increase in people's life expectancy.

Secondly, the increase in the number of people with disabilities occurs mainly in poor countries.

Third, disabled women and older people continue to be discriminated against by some members of society due to their disability.

Fourth, people with disabilities continue to achieve lower educational and employment outcomes than people without disabilities in society. At the same time, people with disabilities are seen as a marginalized group that is not economically active and has a high risk of poverty.

Sixth, people with disabilities are less likely than other members of society to report dissatisfaction with medical and other social services. For example, they are three times less likely to report to the community that they have been denied health care than other community members without disabilities [5].

Thus, factors such as the physical and legal barriers faced by persons with disabilities, their discrimination by members of society, the inextricable link between disability and poverty, and the lack of a universal model for creating an inclusive society are of strategic importance for social policy in the field of disability at the global and national level. In turn, social policy in the field of disability should cover the following areas:

1. Ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities.
2. Strengthen the activities of state and non-state organizations to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities.
3. Development of optimal measures to allow persons with disabilities to make independent decisions on how to build their lives.
4. Development of mechanisms to ensure equal and full participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the state and society.
5. Development and implementation of global and national level projects aimed at creating a barrier-free environment for people with disabilities.
6. Conducting information campaigns aimed at creating a positive image of people with disabilities.

Analyzing modern social policy regarding disability, Professor M. Oliver from Great Britain focused on the following main perspectives [1]:

1. Creating opportunities for independent living for persons with disabilities.
2. To enable persons with disabilities to contribute to the socio-economic development of society and the state.

According to M. Oliver, if people with disabilities become taxpayers, they will pay money to the state treasury. Transforming people with disabilities into equal subjects of market relations serves to strengthen the economies of countries. The scientist says the failure of social disability policy is that it is inextricably linked to the concept of meeting the needs of people with disabilities. According to M. Oliver, today people with disabilities are trying to become equal members of society. In turn, an obstacle to this is the fact that the needs of people with disabilities are determined by others. The transformation of modern social policy regarding disability is associated with increasing the ability of persons with disabilities to determine their own needs. According to M. Oliver, when interpreting the transformation of social policy in the field of disability, the following circumstances should be taken into account. Today, modern social policy in the field of disability is undergoing a strong transformation. Because people with disabilities want to live independently and decide their own lives.

### Conclusion

Analyzing social policy regarding disability, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. Social policy is an important part of government policy. This situation is connected not only with the fact that social policy is humanistic in nature, but also with the legitimization of state power.



2. Summarizing the various definitions of the concept of social policy, we can give the following definition of the concept of social policy:

Social policy is the activity of social institutions aimed at improving the quality of life of the population.

3. Although the processes of forming social policy have universal principles, it is clear that social policy in the field of disability has its own characteristics. This situation is due to the fact that the history of the formation of social policy in the field of disability is dramatic, and also due to the fact that people with disabilities still remain a marginalized group in society. This situation is still observed today in democratic countries.

4. The main goal of modern social policy in the field of disability is the formation of an inclusive society. In turn, the formation of an inclusive society requires ensuring equal opportunities and improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities.

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