

Секция «Социальный диалог: точки роста и проблемные зоны для выстраивания моделей социального партнерства на ближайшее десятилетие»

## **Social partnership as a factor of sustainable development in the Republic of Armenia**

**Научный руководитель – Алексаян Ашот Сейранович**

*Алексаян Нане Ашотовна*

*Студент (бакалавр)*

Ереванский государственный университет, Факультет международных отношений,  
Ереван, Армения

*E-mail: nane.alexanyan@gmail.com*

The democratic transformation in the sphere of social management of Armenia makes the formation of new social and economic priorities in public policy relevant. The purpose of this article is to conduct a comparative analysis of the strategies of social partnership of state bodies, trade unions and employers unions in Armenia based on the tools of sustainable development and corporate social responsibility. It is obvious that the functioning of civil society organizations (CSOs), the effective protection of labor rights and freedoms, the improvement of the quality of life, as well as the deepening and expansion of civic culture and social dialogue are of civilizational importance for Armenian statehood. As integration processes intensify and a market economy develops, the relevance of theoretical understanding of the tasks of sustainable development and social partnership for maintaining political stability, as well as developing an effective social partnership environment, is increasing. In the context of the humanization of tripartism and labor relations, it is important to apply the Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Armenia [1]. The task of social partnership is currently very diverse. At present, social partnership is increasingly serving as a tool for regulating various social relations, going beyond the social and labor sphere. In the formation and development of the mechanism of social partnership, ultimately, all social groups and the state as a whole are interested, since this ensures stability in society, its progressive social and economic development. This phenomenon is considered as a factor of social, economic and political stability, the formation of civilized relations between social actors and social groups, based on the coordination of their intersecting interests [2]. At the present stage of development of the Armenian social partnership, its interaction with international labor principles and norms becomes not only legally justified and above all the Constitution of Armenia, but also democratically necessary, based on the process of social and political dynamics. Because of this, the law-making mechanism of international organizations in the field of social partnership and the humanization of labor relations is becoming an integral part of Armenian labor law, which carries the future basis for the application of the national model of their regulation. The dynamism of social partnership implies, as a consequence, the need to constantly update and even in some cases create a new regulatory framework that meets the directions of European integration. Experience shows that the trade union movement and the Confederation of Trade Unions of Armenia (CTUA) have a weak status in the political system and cannot even require the authorities to legally recognize the mechanisms of the ILO and develop appropriate regulatory tools for them. After the collapse of the USSR, the Armenian trade union movement is still in a process of continuous changes, which is not even promoted by the Republican Tripartite Commission (2015), the Republican Collective Agreement between the Government of the RA, the CTUA and the Republican Union of Employers of Armenia (RUEA) (2015), ILO Conventions ratified by the RA, etc. [3]. Considering that after the Early Parliamentary Elections of Armenia in 2018 [4], the positions of the new Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan

and representatives of the parliamentary majority of the My Step Alliance on the role of trade unions coincide, it is obvious that the further development of Armenian trade unions may depend on their constructive cooperation with the ruling party Civil Contract and from the political will of the new political elite of Armenia. A significant obstacle to the development of the CTUA and the trade union movement as a whole is the negative attitude of budgetary and commercial enterprises to trade unions. After the Armenian Velvet Revolution, trade unions need to get rid of a priori negative image and make every effort to turn into a real mechanism to protect the constitutional rights of citizens and thereby promote the development of new trade unions. But perhaps the most important problem for trade unions is the passive attitude of citizens, for various reasons, to participate in the development of the trade union movement, to create trade unions in the workplace, distrust of this form of social activity, indeed, largely compromised in the past. At present, there are acute contradictions between the traditional understanding of trade union work as a social activity and the democratic need for the highly professional performance of the diverse functions of trade union work. Given the complexity of the social and political processes taking place in Armenia, it is necessary to raise the level of competence of trade union leaders of the CTUA. The post-revolutionary new government of Armenia assumes the most complicated duty to remove this contradiction by solving a dual problem: conducting an active and effective social policy and providing comprehensive assistance in business development, since only well-developed production can provide these social programs. As for an important issue in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Armenia, trade unions have their own special place among the various social institutions [5]. Considering the significant role of trade unions, it is necessary to guarantee their effective activity, since the CTUA has sufficient social capital and labor, as well as democratic opportunities to influence the quality of health, education, gender equality, decent work, economic growth, partnership for sustainable development, etc. The strategic activity of trade unions of Armenia and the participation of trade unions in the process of developing and making decisions in the context of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for Armenia. In this regard, the main function of trade unions is the participation of trade unions in social partnerships; participation in the application of established working conditions in the organization; participation in the resolution of labor disputes; implementation of trade union control over compliance with labor legislation.

### Источники и литература

- 1) ILO (2019) "Tripartism and social dialogue." Accessed March 16, 2019. <https://www.ilo.org/global/and-employers-organizations-tripartism-and-social-dialogue/lang-en/index.htm>; ILO (2019) "Standards Review Mechanism (SRM)." Accessed March 16, 2019. <https://www.ilo.org/global/s-en/index.htm>.
- 2) Aleksanyan, A. (2019) "On the Civiliarchic Dimension of Democracy." Bulletin of Yerevan University. International Relations, Political Science 2 (29): 52-60; Nelson C. (2019) Social Partnership and Governance under Crises. Jamaica: IGI Global, pp. 51-76; Streeck W. and A. Hassel (2003) The crumbling pillars of social partnership, West European Politics 26(4): 101-124.
- 3) CTUA (2019) "Social partnership." Accessed March 16, 2019. <http://www.hamk.am/social.php?lang=CTUA> (2019) "Activity Plan of the CTUA for 2012-2017." Accessed March 16, 2019. <http://www.hamk.am/engid=19>.
- 4) OSCE/ODIHR (2019) "Republic of Armenia: Early Parliamentary Elections, 9 December 2018 ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report." Accessed March 16, 2019. <https://www.osce.org/odihr/elections/armenia/413555?download=true>.

- 5) UN (2016) “SDGs and Armenia.” Accessed March 16, 2019. <http://www.un.am/en/p/sdgs-and-armenia>; UN (2016) “Sustainable Development Goals.” Accessed March 16, 2019. <http://www.un.am/un.am/en/news/657>.