

**THE MARGINALIZATION PHENOMENON IN THE
PROCESS OF THE DEMOCRATIZATION, EUROPEAN
AND NATIONAL APPROACHES**

(The case of Moldova)

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In the XXI century marginalization phenomenon is considered to be as one of the global issues that affects the development of individuals on many levels because of their social or cultural differences. Marginalized communities are restricted and isolated from the participation in public activities, from enjoying quality healthcare, education, employment opportunities as well as social goods and services. Some of them live in extreme poverty and feel vulnerable, or doomed so that this unstable state of mind can turn them in criminals or in targets of violence, slavery and human trafficking. Currently, marginalization is presented on every continent, in each country, especially in those, which are in the process of democratizations of their institutions. Furthermore, governments that strive for economic growth, cannot make a significant breakthrough if some invisible groups of their society remain underrepresented and excluded. The problem of marginalization is relevant for the Republic of Moldova, it faces strongly marginalization on its territory. To achieve international and European standards, Moldova has to ensure that all social layers are protected and not isolated from economic and political lives.

To understand the essence of marginalization, it is advised to use the following methodology: method of analysis, historical method, deduction and induction methods, method of generalization and

comparative method. Applying these methods, we can observe that marginalization is not a new phenomenon, it was always presented in the development of countries and human relations. However, marginalization became the subject of scientific interests only at the beginning of the XX century. Marginalization was presented in the American historiography, where it appeared in as a problem of integration process of migrants into the US society. In the European historiography, marginalization was understood as a process when individuals were marginalized because of social and political disturbances such as unemployment, which caused the decrease of labor capacity and loss of social bonds. Meantime, in Russian historiography analysis the concept of marginalization became popular for studying during the political movement of Perestroika and after the collapse of the Soviet Union, when Russian society experienced deep social stratification and the creation of marginalized zones.

Marginalization has developed a multidimensional character and it has been conceptualized and used in sociological, economic, and political thought. To comprehend the roots of marginalization, we can study the European history. Marginalization appeared in Europe due to urbanization and industrialization, diseases and epidemic outbreaks, antisemitism and racism, women's domestic labour, religion, stereotypes and prejudices. Generally speaking Europeans were not so open to marginalized communities, many of these groups were facing stigmatization, which brought physical and mental injuries. Slowly, Western Countries began their democratization through replacement of political regimes which was explained by the fear of political elites to lose their wealth because marginalized groups had a potential to unite and to organize revolutions. Political elites started adopting reforms to improve their lives. After the World War II, the European continent faced other social and political movements, and one of them was gradual development of the EU institutions that changed the face of the Europe, but left problem of marginalized groups in the on political agenda.

To combat the new forms of marginalization, the EU develops strategies for inclusion and democratization of the marginalized groups. Strategy Europe 2020 focuses on youth policies, on education

of population of middle age, on development of energetic sector, increase of employment rate and lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion. State members invest heavily in the education because education improves human capital, innovative capacity and promote mutual respect and recognition. Focusing on the educational policies, helps to solve marginalization at many different levels and to contribute to the development of the inclusive society. Rural area is another space that captures the attention of the EU in order to build an inclusive society. The EU Rural Development Policy focuses in promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas that can play an important role in creating a wider variety of better quality jobs and in improving the overall local development.

The problem of marginalization in the Republic of Moldova is not efficiently addressed. However, Moldova strives to become a genuine democratic state, where Government institutions, civil society and the whole population are strong enough to concentrate their efforts and to reach to international standards. The European dimension offers to the Republic of Moldova political, economic and social recommendations for increasing its democratic prospective. The European dimension is called to guide the Government to adapt all necessary national and international treaties, which will reduce poverty, violence of laws, criminality and increase the respect to the rule of law, promote independent justice, freedom of media and human rights. Moldova's policymakers adopted two National Human Rights Action Plans (2004-2008 and 2011-2014)), which included important treaties for inclusion of persons with disabilities and creation of the Council for preventing and eliminating discrimination and ensuring equality. Despite all of these, the legal system of Moldova remains weak because public authorities show resistance to implement international recommendations for different social layers of Moldovan society.

In order to combat marginalization in Moldova, the Parliament should develop national mechanism of indicators in order to monitor the peculiarities of the marginalization within state borders. Public administration should implement tools for creation of inclusive society that will allow to marginalized groups contributing equally to the

country's political and economic development. The Ministry of Education, Science and Research should introduce in schools and universities curricula lessons about human rights and national mechanism for combating different forms of marginalization as well as organize special professional trainings for teaching staff for raising their awareness about advantages of inclusive and diverse society. Civil society should integrate more underrepresented groups in their activities.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that marginalization phenomenon in the process of democratization is analyzed as natural obstacle that can speed up the transition or remain that huge impediment, which stagnates the development of democratic institutions. The Republic of Moldova is capable to embrace the most efficient EU strategies for the prevention of marginalization phenomenon and to become a democratic state, where policy-makers provide to vulnerable groups access to their social, economic and political rights and combat their marginalized status.

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Recomandat

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