

SOME PECULIARITIES OF THE REALIZATION OF GREEN ZONES POLICY IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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The reasons for the emergence of the domestic policy of green zones in the Republic of Korea are analysed in the theses. The negative and positive features of the implementation of the policy of green zones in the territory of the given state were revealed.

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Each state, aware of the importance of preserving our planet, develops own environmental policy, own approaches and methods for it's implementation. Many states are trying to protect and preserve the natural resources of their territory. The Republic of Korea is a developed industrial country. In a short time, South Korea has achieved impressive economic successes and entered the elite of the world economy. However, rapid industrialization, urbanization and the growth of domestic consumption inevitably caused pollution of the environment. Household and industrial waste, as well as the excessive use of chemicals and fertilizers, caused the pollution of the seas, rivers and lakes. Therefore, the environmental pollution became one of the most serious national problems in the 70s in South Korea.

In 1980, the Constitution of the country was supplemented by a new article proclaiming the human right to life in a normal natural environment. At the same time, the Office for Environmental Problems was created, which in January 1990 received the status of a ministry. When the Republic of Korea became an industrial country, the population and trade of the country were concentrated in the cities. For example, the rate of annual population growth in the 1970s and 1980s in Seoul exceeded 100 %. In this regard, the government has developed a policy of a "green zone" (restricted development zone, RDZ) with three fundamental objectives: national security, prevention of urban sprawl, conservation of natural objects near urban centers. The green zone is a natural area, a tightly fitting city or urban area where the layout should be permanent or at least very difficult to change. Green zones are designed as buffers to protect open space, pristine nature, ecosystems and for a more compact development of cities and urban areas. These areas include areas (areas) in which there is a need to limit urbanization, in order to prevent chaotic urban sprawl or the connection of urban areas to neighboring cities. The goal is to preserve the natural environment and ecosystem around the city and provide a healthy environment for citizens.

Unlike other countries, the Republic of Korea has always strived to control the development of own green zones strictly. This domestic policy for three decades has caused a constant flow of complaints from residents of these zones. This is due to the fact that the "green zone of Seoul", for example, has generated both significant disadvantages and advantages. Some environmentalists insist that the green zones should be canceled, that "the policy of the green zone is not very successful and caused the sprawl of cities around Seoul, and this has led to a distortion of the structure of urban growth. Meanwhile, other environmentalists argue that the green zone should remain, because its advantages are significant: the green zones have become an instrument of control over the expansion of Seoul, which allowed to conserve natural resources in the vicinity of the capital. Also green areas are a source of land resources for the future.

In general, the green zone policy in the Republic of Korea is not fully socially just, as it was implemented by an authoritarian government's decision. The green zone system was adopted as a precaution against the side effects of the National Economic Development Plan of the Republic of Korea, which accelerated urbanization and population growth in Seoul. Ensuring social justice was not a priority when the authoritarian government decided on the arrangement of green areas. As practice showed, planners of green zones did not fulfill the role of negotiators, but demanded from residents to agree with the state's policy on this issue. Also, no one educated the residents of the green zone on its potential impact on their daily lives. In order not to increase the infrastructure of residents of green zones is prohibited on its territory to conduct business. But, on the other hand, the policy of the green zone in Seoul made it possible to slow down urbanization and save the ecosystems near the capital.