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# INTERNATIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE REALIZATION OF WOMEN'S **RIGHTS**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This article discusses the issue of ensuring the rights of women in the world. The author focuses on the origin of international cooperation in the field of women's rights and the stages of its development. Based on the analysis of international legal acts aimed at protecting the rights and interests of women, in particular in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as in a number of other international treaties and conventions created on the basis of these acts, conclusions are given regarding discrimination against women.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Women, CEDAW, declaration, convention, women's movement, feminism, discrimination, gender discrimination, equality, gender equality.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Human rights arise from the need for every person to use the conditions necessary for a decent life. These rights have been created through a long process of change over the past two centuries. Philosophers of the ancient world have been thinking about the question of the position of a woman in society and

family for a long time. In the Middle Ages, women had the right to participate in society, own property, conclude contracts and other rights. Bunday garashlar feminizm nazariyasiga asos slogan (Feminism (from Latin femina - "woman") is a socio-political movement whose goal is to provide women with full civil rights. It

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appeared in the 18th century. Especially since the late 1960s, it has become stronger. For the first time, the ideas of feminism were expressed by Olympia de Gouges in the "Declaration of Women and Civil Rights" (1792)). Later, feminist movements manifested themselves in demanding the protection of other rights of women.

Significant changes in this direction were achieved in the 20th century when the women's suffrage movement (suffrage) expanded. As a result of the mass movement of women in the first half of the XX century, provisions on women's rights were strengthened in the legislation of a number of countries [8.10]. In these actions, we can see that they opposed the discrimination of women in political and economic life.

#### THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

The beginning of a high level of international cooperation in the field of women's rights was put together with the establishment of the United Nations after the Second World War [9.47]. Since the establishment of the United Nations, equality between men and women has been one of the main guarantees of human rights. The Charter of the United Nations, adopted in 1945, set before it the task of "reaffirming faith in basic human rights, human dignity and dignity, and the equal rights of men and women". Article 1 of the Charter states that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to promote and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all "without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion". The prohibition of discrimination based on sex is reaffirmed in Articles 13 and 55 of the Charter [1].

One of the most important provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948 is

enshrined in Article 2. According to it, it is established that every person shall not be discriminated against for all the rights and freedoms declared in the Declaration, regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other beliefs, national or social origin, property or other status [14]. Based on this article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, anti-discrimination international legislation has developed and found its expression in the Constitutions and national legislation of most countries. The concept that men and women should be able to enjoy their human rights equally is part of all major international human rights instruments. Documents called the Bill of Human Rights - the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two Covenants: "International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" and "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights" are not only explicit principles of non-discrimination and equality, but also more specialized treaties on human rights, stipulates that they must respect and ensure the said rights without any modification [6].

The equal enjoyment of all human rights by men and women is one of the fundamental principles recognized by international law and is enshrined in major international human rights treaties. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provides for the protection of human rights that are fundamental to the human dignity of every person [11. 156-163]. Article 3 states that "States parties to this Covenant undertake to ensure the equal rights of men and women in the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights provided for in this Covenant". Article 7 is related to equality in labor relations and requires "equal pay for equal work". Article 10 provides for the protection of mothers before and after childbirth, taking into account the

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rights of married and intellectual women, and the wellbeing of intellectual women at work. Article 13, in accordance with Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, requires states parties to recognize the right of everyone to education.

The Covenant was the first to legally ratify international agreements on economic, social and cultural rights, and requires women to have equal rights with men. It also eliminated traditional human rights principles that represented unilaterally implied civil and political rights and unspoken restrictions on women, and contributed to the formation and development of women's human rights. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, each state party to it guarantees that all persons within its territory and under its jurisdiction shall enjoy all the rights recognized in the Covenant, and shall not be discriminated against because of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, it is emphasized that he must respect and guarantee that he does not differ in any way from his nationality or social origin, property status or other status.

The main principles set out in both Covenants are the principles of equality and non-discrimination. This principle emphasized gender equality. Both covenants note in their preamble that "...recognition of the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and universal peace". Also bearing in mind that recognition of the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and universal peace, recognizing that these rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person., according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of a free human person, free from fear and want, enjoying civil and political freedom, can be realized only when conditions are created in which every person can enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights [2]. ..." That is, the essence of these Rights Covenants and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is that women enjoy the political, economic, social and cultural rights of citizens on the basis of equal rights along with men. Assessment, implementation, promotion and development of human rights and human rights situation assessments should be comprehensive.

In the first three decades, the UN's work on women's issues focused primarily on defining women's legal and civil rights and collecting information on the situation of women around the world. However, over time, it has become increasingly clear that laws alone are not enough to ensure women's equal rights. The second stage of the struggle for gender equality was the convening of four world conferences on the initiative of the United Nations to develop strategies and action plans for the development of women. Efforts have gone through several stages and transformations from looking at women only in terms of their developmental needs to empowering them to participate fully in all spheres and stages of human activity [3]. During this period, the UN played an important role in identifying all areas where women were denied equality with men and their rights were violated.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action [4], adopted at the Fourth International Conference on Women in September 1995, focuses on 12 areas of action for the realization of women's human rights and out a number of tasks for women's empowerment. Based on the results of the three World Conferences on Women, they are seen in themselves as an important step towards clearly affirming women's rights as human rights. The platform of actions defines a number of strategic tasks

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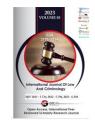












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aimed at ending discrimination against women and achieving equality between women and men. It includes global political and legal strategies based on human rights principles. It was in the platform of action that states found a general expression of their obligations to protect women's human rights. As strategic goals and actions cover all aspects of women, it is understandable that the international community's attention to women's issues and women's rights is increasing - from focusing on progress in women's basic human rights to women's to focus on discrimination. The Platform for Action noted that women face common challenges in achieving the common goal of gender equality worldwide, which can only be achieved together and in partnership with men. With

the arrival of the new millennium, the world community is increasingly realizing and emphasizing the inextricable link between the goal of achieving gender equality and other pressing global issues in the world, in particular, the realization of this goal. The "Millennium Declaration" adopted at the summit of the UN member states in September 2000 clearly stated that the promotion of gender equality is an important condition for reducing poverty and hunger and a condition for development. In 2000, the international community agreed on eight development goals to be achieved by 2015. Specific indicators of their achievement have been identified for seven goals. While not without their flaws from a human rights perspective, the Millennium Development Goals are an important political commitment and have provided international support for efforts to address some of the world's greatest challenges. In terms of women's rights, Millennium Development Goal 3 aims to promote gender equality and women's rights. However, the specific indicator that accompanied it only called for the elimination of the gender gap in education by 2015. While girls' access to education is a

prerequisite for gender equality, such a narrow measure is insufficient to measure progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment. Goal 5 is to reduce the maternal mortality ratio by three quarters between 1990 and 2015. Unfortunately, the 2010 General Assembly High Level Plenary Session on the Millennium Development Goals found that, regardless of whether sufficient knowledge and skills are available to address threats to the lives of pregnant women and newborns, all of these goals have been met, the realization of the goal is the most difficult. In 2010, the Secretary-General developed the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, which outlined key actions needed to improve women's and children's health worldwide.

Due to the uneven development of different regions and countries, on September 25, 2015, the United Nations Development Summit was opened at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and officially launched "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", including 17 adopted development goals. The fifth goal is "Achieving gender equality and empowering all women". The United Nations Agenda states: "Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a critical contribution to progress towards achieving all the goals and objectives. Full human potential and sustainable development will not be possible if half of humanity continues to be deprived of all its rights and opportunities... All forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, including men and will be destroyed by boys as well" [5.8]. Therefore, in order to achieve sustainable development in the whole world, it is necessary to build a world that respects human rights and respects equal opportunities. At the same time, it is necessary to focus on increasing the role of women in political, economic, cultural and social

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life, protecting women's rights, and ensuring gender equality.

The international community, represented by the United Nations, has developed special indicators for an objective assessment of the social situation of women. In the political sphere, these are women's political and civil rights, the level of their political participation, and the freedom to express their displeasure. In the professional field, this is the level of implementation of the right to work, the fairness of paying it, the possibility of promotion in the workplace, the conditions for combining production and family roles. Indicators such as family, education, health care, culture, protection from violence are also important [16.62]. It should be noted that women make a special contribution to the life of society. Not only do they represent their interests better than men, but they also hold leadership positions and can influence the political system.

The constant expansion of international legal cooperation in the field of ensuring and protecting women's rights has led to the formation of a separate institution within the framework of international law on human rights. A number of authors consider the international protection of women's rights as an institution of international human rights law. However, some Western scholars distinguish international human rights law for women as a separate branch of international law. For example, R. Cook justifies the existence of this field by the fact that women's rights do not correspond to the traditional understanding of human rights and therefore cannot be ensured within the framework of the existing doctrine of international protection of human rights [13.634]. According to F.Khamdamova, despite the large number of international documents and mechanisms, international cooperation on the protection of women's rights is not a separate branch of international law, but a small branch of international human rights law. To justify this, we can refer to the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, according to which: "The human rights of women and girls are an integral part of universal human rights (paragraph 18). Based on this, it is not appropriate to consider the protection of women's rights as a separate area of international law [7.15]. In this regard, we agree with the views of F. Khamdamova, and we found it necessary to add that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights also stipulates that it is not allowed to divide human rights according to gender.

There are 30 articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all of them focus on nondiscrimination and equality for all because of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth etc. embodies the principle.

Also, the fact that persons of different sexes have all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, as well as the universality and equality of human rights for women, ensures that they are recognized as subjects.

Internationally, there are two main phases in the women's rights movement. The first is the stage of combating discrimination, which culminated in the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It talks about discrimination in health and education, social relations, political activism and equal rights in the family. This Convention did not include issues of violence against women. The second stage began in the 1980s. At this time, issues of approaching women's rights in the context of violence against women and protection of human rights came to the fore. The international

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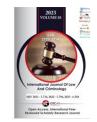












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women's movement was seen as a force to effectively influence the authorities and encourage them to change legal norms in accordance with international standards. This stage ended with the adoption of the UN declaration on the elimination of violence against women and the establishment of a special rapporteur on violence against women at the UN Human Rights Committee.

Based on the development of the international community's attention to women's rights and the theme and content of the above-mentioned international mechanisms, we can see that the demand for women's rights gradually changed from the initial demands based on equality and the use of basic human rights to political, like men's, began to focus on life and economic rights. Although the Convention does not directly mention domestic violence and violence against women, this document aims to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence. became the basis for further resolutions and recommendations [10.43-66].

Based on the above, it can be concluded that women's human rights have been developing since the Middle Ages, and the establishment of the UN and the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights brought it to a new stage. After the adoption of this declaration, international anti-discrimination legislation developed and found its expression in the Constitutions and national legislation of most countries. But the acceptance of these norms and their determination in the basic laws is not considered a solution to the problem. In most of the developing countries of the world, especially in the countries of the Middle East, South Asia, and North Africa, the existence of various barriers to girls' primary education and the fact that women's rights in using medical services are limited compared to men's indicate the existence of global problems.

#### **CONCLUSION**

As long as human rights are not divided by gender, race or socio-political background, some of these rights cannot be recognized or protected and some cannot be ignored. Women's rights should be considered like other rights and should be considered together with the rights that are considered to be most relevant or important. An integrated approach to human rights is the only way to ensure respect for each of these rights and prevent them from becoming mere formal categories without meaning.

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