

MOLDOVA AND RUSSIA: TRADITIONS AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES OF HUMANITARIAN COLLABORATION

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Astăzi, când pozițiile principale în sistemul relațiilor internaționale le ocupă procesele de globalizare și integrare, o problemă dintre cele mai importante este căutarea noilor temeuri pentru colaborarea interculturală și internațională. Cultura națională în dezvoltarea sa dinamică este rezultatul unui proces îndelungat pe parcursul căruia se dezvoltă etnosul, națiunea, statul. Rusia și Moldova sute de ani au conviețuit și s-au dezvoltat în același anturaj civilizat. Acest fapt obiectiv și-a găsit reflectare în cultura acestor două state. Din punct de vedere istoric, între țările care sunt parte integrală a unui stat s-au format relații umaniste, care poartă un caracter îndelungat. Conservarea și consolidarea acestor relații pot să contribuie la menținerea stabilității sociale, politice și interetnice în societate. Printre problemele bilaterale umaniste un loc aparte îl ocupă chestiunile ce țin de schimbul cultural, de susținerea diasporelor naționale, de procesele integraționale în domeniul științei și învățământului.

At present, when the process of globalization and integration takes the leading positions, one of the most important options is to find new general reasons for international cultural and national communication. Civilized character of mutual relations, respect for human rights and national minority, tolerance and high level culture are reflected in social and humanitarian features of mutual relations of two nations. Humanitarian collaboration always implies multitude of perspectives, but for all that it remains the most delicate aspect of collaboration.

The important part of humanitarian domain is culture that presents complex and multi-perspective phenomena. The dynamic developing national culture is always the result of the long lasting process, during which people, nations, and states certainly come into contact with the environment. Russia and Moldova co-existed during the long period of time and were developing in the same civilization conception. This impartially has reflected in culture of two nations, as culture can not exist isolated, and all kind of relations between people is more effective when they have common-related culture [1].

With the independent development of the countries very often the citizens of Russia and Moldova continued to live considering that the common territory remained. Today is obvious, that a lot of serious changes in the politics, economics, and cultural development of our countries are caused by the disintegration of the Soviet Union. This disintegration caused a serious conflict between the desire to create a national state and the aim to keep the same atmosphere that does not differ nations and reacts to the reality of language development and cultural situation [2]. With the process of democratization the meaning of culture has become more significant to the whole world, and became one of the most important themes of world's politics and of certain relations between the countries. All of this makes the humanitarian collaboration one of the most important problems on the government level and even for the whole humanity in general.

Historically, long term humanitarian relations were formed between the countries that were the members of the Soviet Union. Russian people that were outside Russia have influenced a lot on these relations. The disintegration of Soviet Union caused very complex situation, when ten thousand million people were alienated from their historical motherland and became automatically the residents of foreign countries.

At present the legal regulations in the field of humanitarian relations between Russia and Moldova are controlled by such bilateral documents as Cultural and Scientific Collaboration Agreement, Agreement in the Field of Certification of the High Skilled Scientific and Pedagogic Specialists. With all that the relations between Russia and Moldova are based on the historically formed traditions of cultural relations and friendly relations of nations of two countries, according to the principles of General Declaration of Human Rights of Helsinki Final Act, Regulations of Paris Charter for the New Europe.

According to the Concept of State National Policy of Republic of Moldova Russian language got status of the official language of the international relations and is used in all spheres of government and social activity since 2004 [3]. It is important to highlight that in 2001 some attempts were made to recognize Russian language as an official language along with Moldavian language, but as the reality shows Moldavian society

is not ready to take this decisive step. Any pressure concerning this matter could have caused the escalation of the national conflict. Either opponents, either followers of this project share the idea that mutual consent or tolerance that was achieved in multinational Moldavian society in the long and painful way must not be broken [4].

After the disintegration of Soviet Union all the efforts to form the legal basis to support compatriots were formed on the post soviet area by initiative of Russia. Among the recent events in the humanitarian sphere of the Commonwealth of Independent States we can highlight the initiative of Russia dated with October 2006 to create Humanitarian Collaboration Fund. According to the Minister of Culture of Russia: "Humanitarian Collaboration Fund is one of the Russian initiatives, that draws analogy between the practices of UNESCO and needs of CIS. From the political point of view it is important because if the 'constant' of the international relations of the Commonwealth's countries will be searched, then it goes without saying that it should be looked for in culture" [5].

Close attention of Russia to the fate of its compatriots is explained by the interpretation of this term itself. According to Potapov E., the representative of Moscow Compatriots' House, the idea of "compatriot" implies the man who lives abroad but has close connection to Russia. This is first of all a man that speaks Russian and considers him to be Russian by nationality [6].

In its turn, a wide range of documents that regulate national relations were issued in Moldova. The realization of these documents may lead to ascertainment of the equal rights of the titular nation and the representatives of other nations living on the territory of Moldova and also to the satisfaction of their cultural and language necessities. In the Moldavian public governance special organizations that provide the activity in this sphere are activated. These are the Commission for National Minority of the Parliament, the Department of Interethnic Relations, the House of Nationalities, the Institute of National Minorities of the Academy of Science. With all this, most initiatives in the sphere of humanitarian collaboration, education and language development are realized due to the help of Russia. Along with this, projects that popularize Moldavian culture on the territory of Russia are realized. Every year with the support of Federal Agency of Culture and Cinema of Russian Federation and Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Moldova days of Moldavian culture are held in Russia. At the cultural activities in Moscow, Saint-Petersburg and other cities Moldavian movies, photo exhibitions, decorative art exhibitions are other activities are taking place.

But it goes without saying that ethno-cultural organizations play the leading role in the preserving and revival of the national traditions, languages and spiritual values. Cultural movements started in Moldova in 80-s and found gradually its place in the civil structure of society of the country. For more than 15 years the number of ethno-cultural organizations is growing along with the sphere of their activity. They influence on the society's activity in general, reflecting the tendency of interethnic relations in Russia and Moldova.

It is well known that the normal existing of diasporas in any society help to preserve political stability and favors the formation of cultural polycentrism without degrading their national character [7]. Russian diasporas and national communities are trying to play the significant role in social activity of Moldova. Until the year 1989 the Russian Diaspora of Moldova was one of the most numerous and was playing the leading role in country's life. At present there are some problems in its functioning on the territory of Moldova as it was splintered into small groups each of which pretends for leadership.

Days of Slavonic Writing and Culture are traditionally held every year during 15 years in the cities of Moldova, the organization of which are made by the Slavonic ethno-cultural organizations of Moldova together with the Department of Interethnic Relations of the Republic of Moldova. In the period of 2003-2006 Russian Community of Moldova organized such activities as festivals of Russian book and publicity, poetic evenings, competitions of young poets, concerts of Russian classical music. In Moldavian schools, especially during the days of Slavonic literature classroom activities, quizzes based on the works of Russian Classical authors competitions dedicated to anniversaries of Russian Classics are held.

The comfortable existing of diasporas promote the preserving of social, political and international stability in the society. The Consultant Committee of the European Council on the Convention Defending the National Minorities marks that Moldova tries to create lawful and institutional foundation for defending the national minorities, especially in the field of education and culture. At the same time the drawbacks and problems remain in such spheres as mass media, participation in social life, use of the languages of national minorities [8]. In this way the creation of the conditions for effective functioning of ethno-cultural organizations is the important component of state institution's activity of two countries that deal with the problems of humanitarian collaboration.

In this relation, according to the author's opinion, the revival of the lost scientific relations in the sphere of humanitarian researches is very worthwhile and appropriate. It is supposed that the extension of the relations between Russian and Moldavian scientists and educational institutions can be very useful for both sides. The results of joint research may be presented in International conferences with the issue of scientific research journals, monographs on different branches of science. The support of different educational programs must be stronger. Straight relations between the educational institutes of Russia and Moldova might be established and extended. At present there was made an agreement between the Lomonosov State University of Moscow and the State University of Moldova. Large scale agreement of 2001 provided students exchange, aspirants and professors collaboration. Along with the realization of the program of cooperation between Russian Federation and Moldova in the humanitarian sphere for the year 2002-2003 some activities for scientists cooperation were held. There was recreated the two sides commission of historians, were done some publications about the foundation of Moldavian country and ethno-political situation in Moldova in our days [9].

All of this must promote the demand for professional scientific work and for organization of scientific practical conferences, symposiums, seminars, as well as introduction to the educational process theoretical and analytical models. The practical proof for this cooperation is a row of international scientific conferences that took place during the period of independent development where Moldova and Russia participated together.

In this way in humanitarian collaboration of Moldova and Russia the problem of integration in the educational sphere demands special attention. At present the process of reformation is taking place in the system of higher education of two countries aiming to join to the European educational process. The aim of this process is the commitment to establish the European Higher Education Area by 2010 [10]. If Russia will be the competent participant of Bologna process in 2010, Moldova has already entered the European system of high education in 2005. It is obvious that the reforms in the higher education must be correlated with the events in Europe, as the external environment determines the internal content. The main idea of European education is that higher education should be considered a public good and is and will remain a public responsibility, and that students are full members of the higher education community. So experience of Moldova, difficulties concerned with the realization of Bologna program, may be taken into consideration by Russia for its entering into Bologna educational process.

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Prezentat la 14.09.2007