

inadequate technical reconstruction and modernization of border customs clearance offices; the delay of vehicles at checkpoints; the inspection of goods in transit, that creates additional expenses for loading-unloading and warehouse operations.

We consider that these problems can be solved by the following ways to improve the transit potential in Belarus: the development and implementation of information technologies in the field of transport logistics, the improvement of cross-border, customs and other controls, the increase of competitiveness of Belarusian carriers in the transport market, the increased utilization of electronic goods declaration. the monitoring, analyses and organization of new promising transport operations along international transport corridors, the road construction and reconstruction and the development of roadside service, the expansion of transport services and improvement of their quality and accessibility.

Thus, a favorable geographical location of the republic allows it to be a link in the trade among different countries all over the world. The actual implementation of this advantage brings transit to the level of strategic priority of the country's economic growth. Transit development in the Republic of Belarus allows to use its economic potential more efficiently, namely: to take advantage of its geographical position; to attract additional investments and to create new workplaces as well as to increase the volume of freight traffic.

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THE PROBLEM OF DISABILITY IN MODERN SOCIETY

In accordance with the first global report released by the World Health Organization, about 1 billion people around the world are disabled. These data cannot but cause alarm to the world community taking into account that the proportion has grown from an estimated 10% in the 1970s to 15% nowadays. [1]

The *goal* of the research is the analysis of both the difficulties which people with disabilities encounter and the means of combating these obstacles worldwide. Primarily, we shall refer to the experience of the UN and the USA which seem to be the trend-setters. To achieve this goal we have analyzed the legal documents and recommendations concerning the problem of disability.

The UN has always spent considerable efforts in order to upgrade the life of the disabled. All the achievements concerning the rights of such people were summarized in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which was adopted by the General Assembly on December 13, 2006. First and foremost, it gave a comprehensive definition of disability which later was supposed to be introduced to the national legislation systems of the parties to this treaty. Nowadays it states that "Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others".

[2]

The 3 main problems which people with disabilities encounter can be easily deduced from this definition: 1) physical barriers; 2) psychological challenges connected with their inability to contribute to the life of society; 3) discrimination. These problems have been recognized by the 159 States which signed the Convention and 151 States which ratified it (as of October 29, 2014). [3]

It is important that the Convention draws attention to the spheres of life where certain changes should be made in order to upgrade the living conditions of the disabled and improve their right protection mechanisms. To achieve this, **the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities consisting of 18 independent experts** helps to monitor the execution of its provisions in real life. [4]

In general, the problem areas for people with disabilities include living standards, communications, housing, transport, employment, education, leisure, social and cultural activities, civic involvement, justice system, etc. [5] In this regard tribute should be paid to the Americans with Disabilities Act (the ADA) of 1990 adopted by the US Congress. The ADA has become a great breakthrough on the way to "help turn disabilities into abilities", guaranteeing millions of individuals support in enhancing the quality of life. [6, p. 1] The success of the Act lies in the structure of this document and, undoubtedly, in the high level of legal culture of the US. The 4 Titles of this document cover a particular sphere: hiring and employment; discrimination by state or local government; discrimination in public accommodations; requirements for providers of telecommunications to make their services accessible to people with disabilities. [6, p. 6] The US positive experience which has been largely conditioned by the ADA should stimulate all the States to introduce corresponding regulations or amend them for better efficiency.

Below are the main findings of the research:

- in order to mitigate the problem of disability in modern society, every state should raise awareness of this issue by bringing the national legislation in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- it is recommended that every state should make the principle of non-discrimination of the disabled an inherent part of their law system and guarantee its implementation.

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