

Belovezhskaya Pushcha is a forest complex, characterized by high natural and historical values. The last fragments of a primary forest and the largest population of free auroch survived in Belavezha. With the exception of a few, kept in open-air enclosures, these animals roam freely within the reservation. Modern attraction is the seat of Belarusian Father Frost. It is a favorite place for children and adults during the winter holidays. Belovezhskaya Pushcha is the unique historical and cultural heritage of the Republic.

National Park "Narochansky" is the crown jewel of the Belarusian Lake District. Picturesque forest landscapes, beautiful blue lakes and rivers, meadows and swamps attract many tourists. Lake Naroch undoubtedly is the most precious object. Nature lovers will find plenty of attractions for everyone: hunting, fishing, eco-tour routes, including ornithological ones. National Park Narochansky also offers health tourism. Wellness program aim is to improve health and strengthen the body. Suitable climate, mineral springs, excellent therapeutical procedures attract 60,000 visitors a year.

In conclusion I'd like to mention that today Belarus is becoming more and more popular as a tourist destination.

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TO THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE DPRK

К ПРОБЛЕМЕ НАРУШЕНИЯ ПРАВ ЧЕЛОВЕКА В КНДР

For the time being, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (the DPRK), commonly referred to as North Korea, stands high on the international agenda in view of the escalating conflict involving the Republic of Korea (popularly known as South Korea), Japan and the United States of America regarding the threat of a nuclear attack. However, in our research we focused not on the geopolitical situation but on the systematic violations of human rights inside North Korea as we believe they have served as a prerequisite for the building up of the country's unfavorable image in international relations and consequently translated into the recent humanitarian crisis. Our purpose was to analyze in what way the current situation with human rights in the DPRK impedes the development of the country. The subject of the research was to work out possible solutions.

Despite the fact of being a United Nations member state, a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the DPRK does not fulfill the relevant

obligations in good faith. According to the estimation of such non-governmental organizations as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the report issued by the United Nations Special Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the situation connected with human rights violations in this country has no parallel in modern world. In accordance with the resolution adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Council as of August 29, 2013, some of the infringements committed within its borders amount to the crimes against humanity.

Speaking about social and political rights, it should be mentioned that *de facto* there is no freedom of speech and all the media are strictly controlled by the state; there is also no freedom of conscience and the followers of any other religion or system of beliefs apart from Juche not infrequently face persecution on the part of the state; the freedom of movement within the country is largely limited, not to mention the movement outside the DPRK; moreover, there exist camps for political prisoners as well as "re-education" camps for ideologically unreliable citizens. The deification of the Kim political dynasty is in place, while public executions are commonplace.

In respect of economy, the DPRK is a centrally planned system aimed at complete self-sufficiency. There exists a principle of Songun in accordance with which the armed forces enjoy a priority when it comes to the distribution of resources. The food is rationed and the vulnerable groups of population are at a disadvantage. The DPRK is one of the few nations that did not join the International Labour Organization (the ILO) and the use of child labour is a widespread phenomenon. The per capita income in North Korea is many times lower than that in the neighboring Republic of Korea. At the same time, the capitalist model of economy is publically condemned and the lifestyle of population in Japan, South Korea and, especially, in the USA is deemed hostile in the DPRK.

It is obvious that the country with a reputation of a rogue state in terms of human rights violations is investor unattractive and doomed to poverty and exclusion.

As possible solutions to the existing humanitarian crises we believe that:

- the international community should pressure China, Laos, and others to discontinue the forcible repatriation of North Korean defectors;
- the international community should partner with the NGOs for streamlining assistance for defectors;
- states and international organizations should implement stronger sanctions to hold the DPRK accountable for its human rights violations.

Reference

1. World report on human rights in the DPRK [Electronic Resource] // Human Rights Watch. – Mode of access: <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2016/country-chapters/north-korea>. – Date of access: 18.11.2017.