

## Georgia in the Context of Global Demographic Processes

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In respect of the development of demographic processes, the XXI century will be unprecedented in the history of mankind and hardly predictable in certain cases. It will be the age when the ongoing and expected demographic processes have no limits; they are irreversible and are virtually common to all countries of the world.

Since the 1960s, the total fertility rate in West Europe (mostly, in Scandinavian countries) could not ensure the replacement level fertility of the population (it was less than 2,1). Following the global scales of this process, its geography expanded in the following decades and in fact covered the entire developed world. In a global scale, among many reasons for the reduced fertility, most important are the sharp reduction of mortality rate, the changing role of the family in the society and devaluation of a child's role in the parents' value system.

An important demographic event of the third millennium will be the population aging as a result of the general increase of life expectancy. The current century will be outstanding for its migration processes with their scales capable of changing the age-sex and national structures. This event can drastically change the relations between the countries and world economic and geopolitical systems, and international conflicts are not excluded, either.

Among many problems of modern Georgia, most important are demographic problems and those associated with the restoration of territorial integrity of the country. Unless these problems are regulated, even the existence of the country is questionable.

The aggravation and crisis of the demographic situation in certain layers of the society in recent years are often explained by the negative social-economic processes taking place since the 1990s. Such an approach to the question is the result of the superficial knowledge of the demographic processes and incomplete evaluation of the events. It is noteworthy that if talking only about the logical reaction of the demographic system to the social-economic crisis of the 1990s, as a result of the situation recovery in the country, the demographic system will more or less restore its lost balance. However, the demographic processes taking place at present have deeper roots to be sought in the past. They are determined by global and systemic changes, which have various impacts on individual states. Following the above-mentioned, at present, in fact there is no reason to rely on the chance of self-correction.

One of the ways to regulate the situation in Georgia is the development and implementation of the demographic policy by the state.