



DOI: https://doi.org/10.46502/issn.1856-7576/2025.19.01.8

Cómo citar:

Hotsuliak, Y., Hartman, M., Batan, Y., Hryb, A., & Baadzhy, N. (2025). Generations of human rights and their implementation in modern legal systems: modern scientific research and implications for teaching. *Revista Eduweb*, 19(1), 120-133. https://doi.org/10.46502/issn.1856-7576/2025.19.01.8

Generations of human rights and their implementation in modern legal systems: modern scientific research and implications for teaching

Generaciones de derechos humanos y su implementación en los sistemas jurídicos modernos: investigación científica moderna e implicaciones para la enseñanza

Yurii Hotsuliak

https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6765-4592 v.hotsulyak@donnu.edu.ua

Doctor of Law, Associate Professor, Head of the Department of Theory, History of State and Law and Philosophy of Law of Vasyl Stus Donetsk National University, Vinnytsia, Ukraine.

Mariana Hartman

https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3894-1589 hartmanmt77@gmail.com

Docent, Candidate of law sciences, Department of theory and history of state and law, Uzhhorod national university, faculty of Law, Uzhhorod, Ukraine.

Yurii Batan

https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4924-2054 vu.d.batan@gmail.com

Associate Professor at Constitutional Law Department, National University "Odesa Law Academy", Odessa, Ukraine.

Anna Hryb

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8464-9821 amykharchan@gmail.com

Associate Professor of the Department of International and European Law, National University "Odesa Law Academy", Odessa, Ukraine.

Nataliia Baadzhy

https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9889-4879

Associate Professor, Associate Professor of the Department of International Law and Comparative Law, International Humanities University, Odessa, Ukraine.

Recibido: 19/01/25 Aceptado: 28/03/25

Abstract

This article examines the development of the concept of human rights generations and their implementation in modern legal systems. In response to global challenges such as digitalization, climate change, and the rights of indigenous peoples, the study highlights the need to reassess the traditional three-generation classification proposed by Karel Vasak. Using legal policy analysis, comparative analysis, and empirical



methods, the research explores how civil, political, economic, social, cultural, collective, and emerging rights—such as digital and bioethical rights—are addressed within international and national legal frameworks. Special attention is given to the indivisibility of rights and the growing relevance of a potential fourth generation of rights. Additionally, the article analyzes the teaching of this subject in law faculties worldwide, emphasizing interdisciplinary approaches, technological tools, and experiential learning through virtual simulations and case analysis. The findings suggest that existing legal mechanisms must adapt to contemporary realities by integrating new rights categories and ensuring more effective enforcement. The article concludes by recommending legal and educational reforms aimed at improving the protection of human rights and promoting sustainable development and social justice in an increasingly interconnected and complex global context.

Keywords: teaching, generations of rights, social justice, sustainable development, legal mechanisms, civil society.

Resumen

Este artículo analiza el desarrollo del concepto de generaciones de derechos humanos y su implementación en los sistemas jurídicos modernos. Frente a desafíos globales como la digitalización, el cambio climático y los derechos de los pueblos indígenas, se plantea la necesidad de revisar la clasificación tradicional de tres generaciones propuesta por Karel Vasak. A través del análisis de políticas jurídicas, métodos comparativos e investigación empírica, el estudio examina cómo se abordan los derechos civiles, políticos, económicos, sociales, culturales, colectivos y emergentes—como los derechos digitales y bioéticos—en los marcos jurídicos internacionales y nacionales. Se presta especial atención a la indivisibilidad de los derechos y a la creciente importancia de una posible cuarta generación. Además, se analiza la enseñanza de este tema en las facultades de Derecho, destacando enfoques interdisciplinarios, el uso de herramientas tecnológicas y metodologías activas como las simulaciones virtuales y el análisis de casos. Los resultados indican que los mecanismos legales actuales deben adaptarse a las nuevas realidades mediante la integración de nuevas categorías de derechos y el fortalecimiento de su aplicación. Se concluye con recomendaciones orientadas a reformar marcos jurídicos y educativos para mejorar la protección de los derechos humanos y promover el desarrollo sostenible y la justicia social.

Palabras clave: enseñanza, generaciones de derechos, justicia social, desarrollo sostenible, mecanismos legales, sociedad civil.

Introduction

The issue of human rights generations remains one of the key topics in modern legal science, as it reflects the evolution of approaches to ensuring fundamental rights and freedoms amid global transformations. The concept of three generations of rights, proposed by Karel Vasak in 1979 (EIFEC, 2024), has served as the foundation for numerous legal studies. However, contemporary realities necessitate a reassessment of this traditional classification and the integration of new categories of rights. One of the primary challenges remains the need to ensure the indivisibility of human rights, as confirmed by international documents and analytical studies.

According to the analytical report At a Glance (European Parliament, 2018), the issue of the indivisibility of human rights is one of the key concerns in the context of unifying the two main international covenants: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. Despite their shared principles, the implementation of these rights within national legal systems remains uneven, creating barriers to their effective enforcement. Similarly, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2023) emphasizes that economic, social, and cultural rights are often perceived as less significant compared to civil and political rights, complicating their full realization.



Modern international discussions highlight the necessity of a comprehensive approach to human rights. EU Priorities for UN Human Rights Fora in 2025 (European Union, 2025) states that the European Union actively promotes the strengthening of human rights protection on a global scale, particularly by improving mechanisms for their implementation and monitoring. At the same time, the United Nations Human Rights Appeal 2025 (Office of high commissioner, 2025) underscores the growing importance of collective rights in response to global challenges such as climate change, migration, and digital transformation.

Another important aspect is the interrelation between human rights and business. According to Top Ten Business and Human Rights Issues in 2025 (IHRB, 2024), corporate responsibility, the ethical use of technology, and the enforcement of social standards are becoming an integral part of modern legal discourse. This demonstrates the need to adapt legal systems to new realities and to integrate the fourth generation of rights, which includes digital, environmental, and bioethical aspects.

The object of this study is the human rights system, its classification by generations, and the mechanisms for implementation in modern legal systems as well as the teaching process of the subject "Generations of Human Rights and Their Implementation in Modern Legal Systems" in law faculties worldwide, focusing on its unique features, methodologies, and challenges. The subject of the study is the legal regulation, implementation, and protection of different generations of human rights in international and national law, their interconnection, development trends, and contemporary challenges.

The research objectives are as follows:

- Analyze the theoretical foundations of the concept of human rights generations.
- Identify the main features of the implementation of civil, political, economic, social, cultural, and collective rights in modern legal systems.
- Analyze and highlight the unique features of teaching the subject "Generations of Human Rights and Their Implementation in Modern Legal Systems" in law faculties worldwide. This includes examining different pedagogical approaches, curriculum structures, regional variations, integration of theoretical and practical aspects, interdisciplinary connections, use of digital tools, and the role of international cooperation in legal education.

One of the main research problems is the lack of a unified doctrinal position on the number and content of human rights generations. Despite the widely accepted concept of three generations, contemporary challenges related to technological development, globalization, and environmental issues necessitate a reconsideration of the traditional approach. The relationship between civil and political rights and socioeconomic guarantees remains a subject of debate. Additionally, there is a gap between states' international human rights obligations and their actual implementation.

Thus, studying human rights generations in modern legal systems requires a comprehensive analysis that considers the concept of rights indivisibility, international trends, and emerging challenges. In this context, an essential task is to examine the mechanisms for implementing all generations of rights and to explore ways to ensure their effective protection in today's world.

Theoretical Framework or Literature Review

The analysis of scientific works allows for an assessment of modern approaches to this concept, its rethinking, and its impact on national and international legal systems (e.g. Ivankiv (2019), Reid (2019), Cornescu (2009), etc.).

Thus, in his work, Batan (2018) examines the issue of collective rights as a component of the third generation of human rights. The author emphasizes that collective rights, such as the right to development and environmental rights, are closely linked to individual rights but require different implementation mechanisms. Special attention is given to the legal recognition of these rights in the constitutional law of



various countries. The study highlights the importance of expanding legal protection for collective rights and their implementation in national legislation.

Bratko (2017) focuses on analyzing the interconnection between human rights and the concept of sustainable development. The author examines international and European legal mechanisms for ensuring sustainable development, emphasizing the role of human rights as a tool for achieving a balance between social, economic, and environmental interests. In our opinion, the study confirms that the concept of third-generation human rights includes not only individual rights but also global issues of sustainable development and environmental security.

Magnovsky, Shevchuk, & Berezovenko (2024) explore the concept of humanity's rights, emphasizing their connection with the collective rights of the third generation. The authors point out that globalization and environmental challenges necessitate the expansion of legal protection at the level of all humanity and that modern threats, such as climate change and technological risks, require adaptation of existing legal mechanisms. Their research broadens the traditional concept of human rights, stressing the need to recognize humanity's rights as a separate category.

At the same time, Tyryna (2011) criticizes the traditional three-generational model, pointing out its shortcomings in modern conditions. She proposes alternative approaches to the classification of human rights that consider new challenges, particularly the development of digital rights and artificial intelligence rights.

A similar perspective is developed by Jensen (2018), who explores modern critical approaches to the concept of human rights generations, emphasizing its conditionality and proposing alternative models of understanding human rights based on historical context and legal institutions. Jensen questions the relevance of Karel Vasak's concept, arguing that the division of rights into three generations is arbitrary and does not reflect the real dynamics of human rights development. He also stresses that human rights cannot be strictly classified by historical periods, as many economic and social rights evolved alongside civil and political rights. Moreover, he argues that the generational theory contributes to a hierarchy of rights, which may create an imbalance in their protection. Instead of a three-generational division, he suggests a more flexible approach that acknowledges the interconnection of all categories of rights and their simultaneous evolution in different contexts.

Fredman (2006) analyzes the role of states' positive obligations in the realization of human rights, criticizing the traditional division into "negative" rights (which limit state interference) and "positive" rights (which require active state involvement). The author argues that all human rights demand both negative and positive obligations and that the generational division of rights may be artificial in light of this interdependence. Fredman emphasizes that instead of a mechanical distribution of rights, they should be viewed through the lens of state obligations concerning equality, social justice, and effective human rights policy.

Domaradzki, Khvostova, & Pupovac (2019) analyze Karel Vasak's contribution to human rights theory and the modern interpretation of his concept. They note that the three-generational model has significantly influenced international law, particularly through the activities of the UN and the European Union, but also has several shortcomings. In particular, the researchers highlight problems in implementing collective rights of the third generation, which often remain declarative and lack sufficient enforcement mechanisms. They also emphasize that the modern human rights discourse extends beyond the three-generational concept, considering digital rights, artificial intelligence rights, and environmental rights as separate legal categories that do not fit into Vasak's traditional classification.

Fantin (2022) explores the evolution of the human rights system and its relationship with the concept of generations of rights. The author agrees that the three-generational model is an important historical stage in the development of human rights but emphasizes that modern challenges, such as digitalization, the environmental crisis, and globalization, require a rethinking of the human rights protection system. She



suggests considering human rights dynamically, recognizing their ability to transform in response to new social realities.

The analysis of scientific works allows for several important conclusions regarding the implementation of the concept of generations of human rights in modern legal systems. The legal protection of third-generation human rights remains underdeveloped, as collective rights, such as the right to development or environmental rights, do not have the same legal force in different countries. There is a need to rethink the traditional three-generational model, as some authors propose alternative approaches that include new categories of rights, such as digital rights or humanity's rights. Ensuring sustainable development requires expanding international legal mechanisms, highlighting the necessity of strengthening international cooperation for the realization of third-generation rights.

Criticism of the traditional concept indicates its shortcomings, as modern global challenges call its universality into question. National legal systems adapt this concept differently: in some countries, collective rights have constitutional status, while in others, they remain merely declarative.

Many researchers point to the conditional nature of dividing human rights into three generations, as civil, political, socio-economic, and collective rights develop in parallel and do not have clear historical boundaries. They propose more dynamic models that recognize the interconnection of all rights and their joint evolution. Furthermore, instead of treating different generations of rights as separate categories, modern scientific approaches emphasize their unity. Human rights cannot exist in isolation: the realization of civil and political rights is impossible without socio-economic guarantees, and the protection of collective rights depends on the security of individual rights.

Contemporary scholars actively study new groups of rights that do not fit into the traditional three-generational concept, including:

- Digital rights (protection of personal data, the right to privacy in the digital environment, freedom of expression on the internet);
- Artificial intelligence rights and bioethical issues (legal aspects of AI usage, human rights in the context of technological development);
- Environmental rights (the right to a clean environment, state responsibility for climate change).

Researchers increasingly focus on the role of the state in ensuring human rights. The traditional division into "negative" (limiting state interference) and "positive" (requiring active state involvement) rights is becoming outdated. Instead, concepts of comprehensive obligations are proposed, including active protection mechanisms at all levels of state governance.

Studies show that while third-generation rights (the right to development, environmental rights, the rights of peoples) have gained international recognition, they remain insufficiently protected in practice. Scholars analyze the problems of their legal recognition and possible mechanisms for effective implementation.

Among the prospects for further research, the need to integrate digital rights into the concept of generations of human rights, analyze the role of artificial intelligence and technology in expanding human rights, and further develop legal mechanisms for ensuring collective rights should be highlighted.

Overall, the concept of generations of human rights continues to evolve, and scientific discussions about its effectiveness and relevance are crucial for the future of modern legal systems.

Methodology

The study is based on a comprehensive approach to analyzing the evolution of the concept of human rights generations and their implementation in modern legal systems. The research methods used ensured the



scientific validity of the conclusions and allowed for an assessment of the effectiveness of existing legal mechanisms for human rights protection.

The method of legal policy analysis played a key role in identifying trends in the development of human rights at both the international and national levels. A systematic analysis was conducted on foundational documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly, 1948), which laid the groundwork for the subsequent classification of rights by generations, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (UN General Assembly, 1966a) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UN General Assembly, 1966b), which contributed to distinguishing between the first and second generations of human rights. The analysis of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (Organization of African Unity, 1982) and the UN Declaration on the Right to Development (UN General Assembly, 1986) enabled an evaluation of the development of third-generation rights. Through this method, it was established that national legal systems integrate the concept of human rights generations unevenly. For instance, in EU countries, social and economic rights enjoy a higher level of protection, whereas in the Global South, the concept of collective rights is actively evolving.

The comparative method was applied to assess different approaches to classifying human rights. The study examined the classical concept of three generations of human rights, which divides rights into civil-political, socio-economic, and collective categories. A comparison of this concept with the critical perspectives of other scholars, who advocate for revising the three-tier model in response to contemporary challenges and question the clear separation of generations, revealed that while the three-generational concept remains significant, it requires updating. Notably, there is a growing trend toward recognizing a fourth generation of human rights, related to digital technologies and the rights of future generations.

The empirical research method was used to analyze the actual implementation of human rights in modern legal systems. Primary sources for this analysis included UN reports reflecting progress in social and economic rights, EU documents on human rights—particularly regarding priorities in climate justice and digital rights—as well as studies on the impact of business on human rights. This analysis led to the conclusion that different legal systems are adapting to evolving understandings of human rights, and the international community is increasingly focusing on issues of environmental security and technological development.

The combination of legal policy analysis, comparative analysis, and empirical research provided a comprehensive understanding of the evolution of human rights generations and their implementation in modern legal systems. This confirmed the need to reassess the classical theory of human rights generations and adapt it to contemporary global challenges.

Results and Discussion

Basic grounds

The concept of generations of human rights is a key approach to understanding the development of international human rights discourse. The concept of human rights divides them into three main generations: the first generation includes civil and political rights, the second encompasses socio-economic and cultural rights, and the third consists of collective and environmental rights. Contemporary research also discusses the possibility of a fourth generation of rights, which includes digital rights, rights in the field of biotechnology, data protection, and rights related to the development of artificial intelligence.

The concept of human rights is a fundamental element of modern international law and policy. It is based on the aspiration to ensure equality, freedom, and dignity for every person, regardless of race, nationality, gender, or social status. At the same time, the historical development of this institution reflects the complex process of forming a system of human rights that continuously evolves under the influence of social, political, and economic factors (Domaradzki et al., 2019).



The generational approach to human rights allows for an understanding of their evolution and interconnection. Although the traditional division into three generations is widely accepted, modern challenges, such as digital rights and ethical aspects of artificial intelligence, indicate the necessity of expanding this concept.

In international practice, there is growing awareness that the realization of civil and political rights is impossible without socio-economic well-being, and collective rights are essential for maintaining global stability. Thus, modern legal systems must adapt to new challenges, ensuring a comprehensive approach to human rights protection.

The first generation includes fundamental freedoms related to personal autonomy and protection from state interference. It is based on the ideas of natural law and legal humanism that emerged during the Enlightenment.

- 1. The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (National Assembly of France, 1789) was one of the first legal acts to establish the fundamental principles of liberty, equality before the law, property rights, and resistance to oppression.
- 2. The United States Bill of Rights (1791) consists of the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing freedom of speech, religion, the right to a fair trial, and protection from arbitrary state interference.
- 3. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly, 1948) is a foundational international document adopted by the UN General Assembly, proclaiming the right to life, liberty, equality before the law, and protection against discrimination.

These documents became the basis for the further development of the international human rights law system, ensuring their implementation through national and international protection mechanisms.

This generation includes rights that guarantee personal autonomy, including:

- The right to life;
- Freedom of speech, conscience, and religion;
- The right to privacy;
- · Freedom of assembly and association;
- The right to a fair trial.

The second generation of rights is associated with the development of the welfare state and the concept of social justice:

- The right to work and fair remuneration;
- The right to social security;
- The right to education;
- The right to medical care and health protection;
- Cultural rights and the right to participate in cultural life.

It is based on the need to guarantee economic equality and access to basic social benefits.

- 1. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UN General Assembly, 1966b) enshrines the right to work, fair remuneration, social security, health care, education, and cultural development.
- The Declaration on the Right to Development (UN General Assembly, 1986) recognizes development as an inalienable human right and emphasizes the obligation of states to create conditions for socioeconomic progress.
- 3. The Council of Europe's Recommendations on the Dignity of Older Persons in Care Settings (Council



of Europe, 2018) aim to protect the rights of the elderly and ensure their autonomy in social security systems.

Unlike civil and political rights, economic and social rights require an active role of the state and appropriate financial mechanisms for their implementation, which creates challenges for their full realization.

The third generation of rights emerged in the second half of the 20th century in response to global challenges such as the environmental crisis, decolonization, and the struggle for the rights of Indigenous peoples.

These rights include:

- 1. The right of peoples to self-determination;
- 2. The right to a clean environment;
- 3. The right to development;
- 4. The right to peace.
- 5. The Stockholm Declaration (UN General Assembly, 1972) was the first international document to recognize the right of every person to a favorable environment.
- 6. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (UN General Assembly, 1992) established the principle of sustainable development and the need for international cooperation in environmental protection.
- 7. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (United Nations, 2007) guarantees Indigenous peoples the right to autonomy, control over their natural resources, and the preservation of cultural identity.
- 8. The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (Organization of African Unity (OAU), 1982) recognizes collective rights, including the right of peoples to self-determination and economic development.

The third generation of rights is aimed at protecting group interests, making them difficult to implement legally, as they do not always align with classical legal mechanisms.

In modern conditions, technological advancements necessitate a reassessment of legal approaches to human rights protection. The fourth generation of rights includes:

The right to personal data protection and digital security – regulated by the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Bioethical rights – concerning the protection of human rights in the context of genetic developments, artificial intelligence, and medical technologies.

The Paris Agreement (Law 1469-VIII, 2016) – dedicated to climate change and emphasizing the interconnection between environmental and social rights, which are part of the new generation of human rights.

An analysis of international legal documents demonstrates the gradual evolution of the human rights concept. As noted by the European Parliament (2018): "Ensuring economic, social, and cultural rights is impossible without the observance of civil and political rights," highlighting their indivisibility and universality. The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (2023) emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to human rights implementation, particularly in the context of sustainable development.

Implications for teaching the subject

Teaching the subject "Generations of Human Rights and Their Implementation in Modern Legal Systems" in law faculties worldwide has several unique features that distinguish it from other legal disciplines. This



course requires an interdisciplinary approach, combining legal theory, history, political science, and international relations (Baxi, 2012; Donnelly, 2013). Given the evolving nature of human rights, the curriculum must be flexible and continuously updated to reflect contemporary challenges such as digital rights, climate justice, and emerging ethical dilemmas related to artificial intelligence and biotechnology (Klabbers, 2017; De Feyter, 2011).

One of the key features of this subject is the emphasis on the historical evolution of human rights. Law students must understand the theoretical foundation of Karel Vasak's concept of three generations of rights and how they have expanded over time (Vasak, 1977). The inclusion of a possible fourth generation of rights, encompassing digital and bioethical issues, requires a critical analysis of legal frameworks and international treaties that govern these emerging areas. This historical perspective helps students see how human rights norms have adapted to political, economic, and technological shifts (Freeman, 2011).

A distinctive characteristic of teaching this subject is the comparative approach to legal systems and their role in human rights protection. Students analyze different regional and national mechanisms, comparing, for example, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and domestic constitutional frameworks (O'Connell, 2017). This comparative analysis enables future legal professionals to appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of various enforcement models and how geopolitical factors influence the effectiveness of human rights protections.

Another important aspect of teaching this course is the integration of case law and practical applications. Students study landmark human rights cases to understand how courts interpret and enforce different generations of rights. Special attention is given to cases concerning socio-economic rights, collective rights, and contemporary legal disputes involving digital privacy, climate change litigation, and indigenous rights (Smith, 2019). Moot courts and legal clinics focusing on human rights advocacy provide students with hands-on experience in legal reasoning and argumentation.

Pedagogical Strategies and Technological Innovations

To ensure effective teaching and learning, law faculties are increasingly incorporating modern pedagogical approaches and digital tools into the curriculum. Problem-based learning (PBL) has emerged as a valuable strategy, encouraging students to analyze real-world human rights scenarios and propose legal solutions (Barrows, 1986). Gamification techniques, such as interactive quizzes and virtual court simulations, foster student engagement and practical skill development (Deterding et al., 2011).

Additionally, competency-based approaches ensure that students not only gain theoretical knowledge but also acquire practical competencies crucial for modern legal practice. For instance, legal simulators enable students to practice drafting human rights complaints and arguing cases in virtual courtrooms. Augmented reality (AR) applications can recreate historical human rights events, helping students to visualize and critically analyze the evolution of rights over time.

Digital tools, such as artificial intelligence-based legal research platforms, streamline access to human rights case law and treaty databases (Ashley, 2017). Online learning platforms facilitate collaboration between students from different countries, allowing for comparative legal analyses and discussions with international experts (Laurillard, 2012). Furthermore, virtual guest lectures provide valuable perspectives on human rights implementation from various jurisdictions (Keppell et al., 2013).

Application of Technological Resources in Teaching Practices

Specific examples of technological integration include the use of platforms like LexisNexis and Westlaw for comprehensive legal research, alongside Al-powered tools that analyze large volumes of case law to identify patterns and emerging trends in human rights jurisprudence. Virtual moot court competitions, hosted through platforms like Zoom and Microsoft Teams, simulate real-life litigation scenarios, preparing



students for professional practice.

Augmented reality applications, like those developed by educational technology companies, provide immersive experiences where students can explore the historical contexts of landmark human rights decisions (Bower et al., 2014). This interactive approach makes abstract concepts more tangible and facilitates deeper understanding.

Incorporating these contemporary pedagogical models and technological tools not only enhances student engagement but also prepares future legal professionals to navigate the complexities of human rights advocacy in a technologically advanced world.

Relevance and Practical Outcomes

The study of "Generations of Human Rights and Their Implementation in Modern Legal Systems" prepares students not only for careers in law but also for work in international organizations, NGOs, and governmental institutions. By engaging in debates, legal drafting, and policy analysis, students develop critical thinking skills essential for addressing contemporary human rights challenges in an increasingly complex and interconnected world (Tibbitts, 2002).

The generational framework of human rights, introduced by Karel Vasak, remains a useful tool for structuring discussions on human rights, though this concept has faced some criticism over time. It provides a clear distinction between rights that emerged in different historical periods in response to changes in political and social conditions. Modern legal systems, considering the impact of globalization, technological progress, and new challenges, must adapt these categories of rights to ensure their effective implementation (Sen, 2004).

Therefore, in contemporary conditions, legal systems must adapt to emerging challenges related to digital transformation, climate change, and ethical issues arising from technological advancements. Consequently, the concept of human rights generations remains open to further development and revision, as human rights continue to expand in response to societal and scientific progress.

Conclusions

- 1. Using the empirical method, it has been established that the concept of generations of human rights, proposed by Karel Vasak in 1979, remains an important approach to understanding the development of human rights. The analysis confirmed that the division of rights into three generations reflects the evolutionary process of their recognition and implementation in international law. At the same time, modern research questions the rigid distinction between generations of rights, emphasizing their interdependence. New challenges (digital rights, environmental threats) require a reassessment of the traditional classification of human rights and the possible introduction of a fourth generation of rights.
- 2. The policy analysis method has helped determine that the implementation of civil and political rights in modern democratic legal systems has a high level of protection due to constitutional guarantees, the activities of international judicial bodies, and human rights mechanisms. Socio-economic rights largely depend on the level of development of specific states and have weaker judicial protection mechanisms. Collective rights (environmental rights, indigenous peoples' rights) face implementation challenges due to conflicts of interest between states and global corporations. Overall, the effectiveness of human rights implementation depends on a comprehensive approach that includes international standards, national legislation, and public oversight.
- 3. Modern challenges in the field of human rights go beyond traditional categories of rights protection. Globalization promotes economic development but also exacerbates inequality and exploitation. Technological progress creates new challenges, particularly in the areas of digital rights and privacy protection. Environmental threats (climate change, pollution) jeopardize fundamental rights such as the right to life and health. Armed conflicts, especially in relation to Russia's war against Ukraine,



- demonstrate the weakness of international human rights protection mechanisms. In this regard, there is a need to improve legal mechanisms for responding to contemporary challenges.
- 4. To enhance human rights protection mechanisms, measures must be taken at the international, regional, and national levels. At the international level, it is essential to reform the United Nations to improve the effectiveness of human rights bodies, strengthen the enforceability of international standards, and create new mechanisms for rapid response to mass human rights violations. At the regional level, it is necessary to expand the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights, strengthen the role of the African and Inter-American Courts of Human Rights, and promote the development of effective human rights protection mechanisms in Asia, where such institutions are still underdeveloped. At the national level, key tasks include improving the judicial system to ensure its independence and accessibility, strengthening the role of ombudsmen as an effective mechanism for public oversight of human rights compliance, and actively implementing digital technologies for monitoring and enforcing human rights, allowing for faster detection and response to violations. A comprehensive approach to improving human rights protection mechanisms will help strengthen the international human rights protection system, ensure its adaptation to contemporary challenges, and enhance the effectiveness of rights and freedoms enforcement on a global scale.
- 5. The subject "Generations of Human Rights and Their Implementation in Modern Legal Systems" is a critical area of study within law faculties across the globe. Its unique features lie in the complex evolution of human rights, the need for a multi-disciplinary approach, and the adaptation of traditional legal frameworks to contemporary global challenges. The subject requires an understanding of historical context, international law, and the intersection of social, political, and technological factors that shape human rights today. Legal education on this topic promotes critical thinking, encourages active engagement with international human rights issues, and prepares students to address ongoing and emerging challenges in the protection and implementation of human rights. As this field continues to evolve, its teaching must be dynamic, incorporating new legal developments and societal changes to stay relevant and effective in producing competent legal professionals capable of contributing to human rights advocacy and reform.

Further scientific research on the generations of human rights and their implementation in modern legal systems should focus on several key areas. First and foremost, it is necessary to study the impact of globalization on the development of human rights, particularly the interdependence between economic processes and social standards. Another important area is the analysis of challenges related to technological progress, particularly concerning the legal regulation of artificial intelligence, digital human rights, and cybersecurity. The environmental dimension of human rights also requires further research, especially in the context of climate change and its impact on fundamental rights such as the right to life, health, and a clean environment. Additionally, attention should be given to mechanisms for adapting human rights institutions to contemporary crises, such as armed conflicts, pandemics, and migration processes. Another crucial task is improving international law in the field of collective rights protection and the rights of vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples, women, children, and persons with disabilities. Future research should not only analyze existing problems but also develop practical recommendations for their resolution, considering the legal, social, and political realities of the modern world.

Bibliographic references

Ashley, K. D. (2017). *Artificial Intelligence and Legal Analytics: New Tools for Law Practice in the Digital Age.* Cambridge University Press. Retrieved from https://acortar.link/sjjLlv

Barrows, H. S. (1986). A taxonomy of problem-based learning methods. *Medical Education*, 20(6), 481–486. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2923.1986.tb01386.x

Batan, Yu. D. (2018). *The Problem of Collective Rights. Problems of Modern Constitutionalism.* Kyiv: Yurinkom Inter. Retrieved from https://acortar.link/TrpDAK

Baxi, U. (2012). *The Future of Human Rights (3rd ed.)*. Oxford University Press. Retrieved from https://pure.jgu.edu.in/id/eprint/3153/1/43953657.pdf



- Bill of Rights. (1791). United States Bill of Rights. Retrieved from https://www.archives.gov/files/legislative/resources/education/bill-of-rights/images/handout-3.pdf
- Bower, M., Howe, C., McCredie, N., Robinson, A., & Grover, D. (2014). Augmented Reality in education—cases, places and potentials. *Educational Media International*, *51*(1), 1–15. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1080/09523987.2014.889400
- Bratko, I. V. (2017). Human rights in the context of sustainable development. *European and international approaches to the protection of human rights, 1,* 89–94. Retrieved from https://elibrary.kubg.edu.ua/id/eprint/19762/1/I_Bratko_Konf_07_04_2017_FPMV.pdf
- Cornescu, A.V. (2009). *The Generations of human's rights*. Brno: Masaryk University. Retrieved from https://acortar.link/9ebHjC
- Council of Europe. (2018). The Right of Older Persons to Dignity and Autonomy in Care. Retrieved from https://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/the-right-of-older-persons-to-dignity-and-autonomy-in-care
- De Feyter, K. (2011). *Human Rights: Social Justice in the Age of the Market*. Zed Books. Retrieved from https://www.bloomsbury.com/in/human-rights-9781848131446/
- Deterding, S., Dixon, D., Khaled, R., & Nacke, L. (2011). From game design elements to gamefulness: defining "gamification". In *Proceedings of the 15th International Academic MindTrek Conference: Envisioning Future Media Environments* (pp. 9–15). ACM. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1145/2181037.2181040
- Domaradzki, S., Khvostova, M., & Pupovac, D. (2019). Karel Vasak's Generations of Rights and the Contemporary Human Rights Discourse. *Human Rights Review, 20,* 423–443. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1007/s12142-019-00565-x
- Donnelly, J. (2013). *Universal Human Rights in Theory and Practice* (3rd ed.). Cornell University Press. Retrieved from https://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/9780801477706/universal-human-rights-in-theory-and-practice/
- EIFEC. (2024). Export Controls Laws converging towards more attention to the protection of Human Rights. Retrieved from https://www.eifec.org/human-rights-compliance
- European Parliament. (2018). *Indivisibility of human rights: Unifying the two Human Rights Covenants?*Retrieved from Retrieved from https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_ATA(2018)628296
- European Union. (2025). *Priorities for UN Human Rights Fora in 2025*. Retrieved from https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/eu-priorities-un-human-rights-fora-2025 en
- Fantin, N. (2022). The Human Rights System Series: Generations of Rights The Route to the System. Arcadia. Retrieved from https://www.byarcadia.org/post/the-human-rights-system-101-generations-of-rights-the-route-to-the-system
- Fredman, S. (2006). *Human Rights Transformed: Positive Duties and Positive Rights*. Oxford: Oxford Legal Studies. Retrieved from https://ssrn.com/abstract=923936
- Freeman, M. (2011). *Human Rights: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (2nd ed.). Polity Press. Retrieved from https://www.amazon.com/Human-Rights-Interdisciplinary-Michael-Freeman/dp/0745639666
- Hew, K. F., & Lo, C. K. (2018). Flipped classroom improves student learning in health professions education: a meta-analysis. *BMC Medical Education*, *18*, 38. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-018-1144-z
- IHRB. (2024). Top Ten Business and Human Rights Issues in 2025. Retrieved from https://www.ihrb.org/latest/2025-top-10-business-and-human-rights-issues
- Ivankiv, I. B. (2019). *Human rights: state and prospects for their provision*. (Degree thesis) National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kyiv. Retrieved from https://ekmair.ukma.edu.ua/items/8e528109-90fb-4cbe-ad0f-c5b57e72279f
- Jensen, S. L.V. (2018). *Putting to rest the Three Generations Theory of human rights*. Universal right group. Retrieved from https://www.universal-rights.org/putting-rest-three-generations-theory-human-rights/
- Johnson, L., Adams Becker, S., Estrada, V., & Freeman, A. (2016). *NMC Horizon Report: 2016 Higher Education Edition*. The New Media Consortium. Retrieved from https://library.educause.edu/resources/2016/2/2016-horizon-report



- Keppell, M., Souter, K., & Riddle, M. (2012). *Physical and Virtual Learning Spaces in Higher Education:*Concepts for the Modern Learning Environment. IGI Global. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-60960-114-0
- Klabbers, J. (2017). *International Law* (2nd ed.). Cambridge University Press. Retrieved from https://www.amazon.com/International-Law-2nd-Jan-Klabbers/dp/1316506606
- Laurillard, D. (2012). Teaching as a Design Science: Building Pedagogical Patterns for Learning and Technology. Routledge. Retrieved from Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203125083
- Law 1469-VIII. On the Ratification of Paris Agreement. *The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine*, 2016. Retrieved from https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_I61#Text
- Magnovsky, I. Y., Shevchuk, V. V., & Berezovenko, L. S. (2024). Human rights as third generation rights: challenges of the present. *Legal system: theory and practice, 1,* 75-83. Retrieved from http://sulj.oduvs.od.ua/archive/2024/1/14.pdf
- National Assembly of France. (1789). *Declaration of the Rights of Man*. Retrieved from http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp
- O'Connell, M. E. (2017). *International Law and the Use of Force: Cases and Materials*. Foundation Press. ISBN: 9781647082444
- Office of high commissioner. (2025). *United Nation Human rights appeal*. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/annualappeal/United-Nations-Human-Rights-Appeal-2025.pdf
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (2023). Key concepts on ESCRs Are economic, social and cultural rights fundamentally different from civil and political rights? Available at: Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/en/human-rights/economic-social-cultural-rights/escr-vs-civil-political-rights
- Organization of African Unity (OAU). (1982). *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights ("Banjul Charter"*). Retrieved from https://www.refworld.org/legal/agreements/oau/1981/en/17306
- Reid, L. (2019). *The Generations of Human Rights UAB Institute for Human Rights Blog.* Sites.uab.edu. Retrieved from https://sites.uab.edu/humanrights/2019/01/14/the-generations-of-human-rights/
- Sen, A. (2004). Elements of a Theory of Human Rights. *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, 32(4), 315–356. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1088-4963.2004.00017.x
- Smith, R. K. M. (2019). *Textbook on International Human Rights*. Oxford University Press. ISBN 0198746210, 9780198746218
- Tibbitts, F. (2002). Understanding What We Do: Emerging Models for Human Rights Education. *International Review of Education, 48*(3-4), 159–171. DOI: 10.1023/A:1020338300881
- Tyryna, M. (2011). Generations of human rights: problems of modern classification. *State and law, 52,* 728–732. Retrieved from http://dspace.nbuv.gov.ua/bitstream/handle/123456789/34078/118-Tyrina.pdf?sequence=1
- UN General Assembly. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 217 A (III)*. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcomp act/A RES 217(III).pdf
- UN General Assembly. (1966a). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/ccpr.pdf
- UN General Assembly. (1966b). *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights*. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/cescr.pdf
- UN General Assembly. (1972). Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Declaration). Retrieved from https://www.un.org/en/conferences/environment/stockholm1972
- UN General Assembly. (1986). *Declaration on the Right to Development*. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/declaration-right-development
- UN General Assembly. (1992). *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*. Retrieved from https://acortar.link/Qz9vOT
- United Nations. (1993). Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action Adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna on 25 June 1993. Retrieved from https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/vienna-declaration-and-programme-action



- United Nations. (2007). *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. Retrieved from https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf
- Vasak, K. (1977). Human Rights: A Thirty-Year Struggle: the Sustained Efforts to Give Force of Law to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. *UNESCO Courier*, *30*(11), 29–32. Retrieved from https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000048063