UDC 504 (502.131.1) GREEN ECONOMY: LEGAL SUPPORT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

E. BORODAVKINA, A. KLIMANSKAYA

Scientific supervisor – Yunash M., PhD in philology, associate professor Belarusian State Economic University Minsk, Belarus

The concept of "green economy" is a model of the economy, which is a tool that leads to an increase in the well-being of people and social equality, significantly reducing the negative impact on the environment. On the social level, it is associated with such areas as health care, ensuring a high quality of life, the education system and public awareness. However, the key point of the concept is a significant reduction in environmental risks and the creation of an enabling environment for the development of environmental benefits [1].

The principles of the "green economy", which are observed in the Republic of Belarus, are set out in national policy documents, including the National Strategy for Sustainable Socio-Economic Development for the period up to 2030, approved at a meeting of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on February 10, 2015, and the National Action Plan for the development of the "green" economy in the Republic of Belarus until 2020, approved by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Belarus until 2020, approved by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated December 21, 2016 No. 1061.

The development of the "green economy" in accordance with the provisions of the National Action Plan for the Development of the "green" economy in the Republic of Belarus until 2020 implies the solution of environmental problems while ensuring economic security, social stability and creating additional conditions for the resumption of sustainable economic growth. At the same time, it seems that legislation on legal liability for committing offenses against environmental safety, the environment and the order of nature management can play a significant role in reducing environmental risks and the rate of environmental degradation. The legislation of the Republic of Belarus provides criminal, disciplinary, property, administrative liability for committing offences against environmental safety [2].

An administrative offense against environmental safety, the environment and the order of nature management can be defined as a socially harmful, illegal, guilty action or inaction of an individual or legal entity, an individual entrepreneur, infringing on relations in the field of ensuring environmental safety, environmental protection and rational nature management, causing environmental harm or creating a threat of causing such harm, for the commission of which the Code of Administrative Offences establishes administrative and legal liability.

The objects of ecological public relations include natural ecological systems, the ozone layer of the atmosphere, earth, surface and ground waters, atmospheric air, forests and other vegetation, wildlife in a state of natural freedom, microorganisms, genetic fund, natural landscapes, specially protected natural objects as well as endangered animal and plant species and their habitats [3]. For example, chapter 10 of the Code of Administrative Offenses establishes administrative liability for violating the right of state ownership of subsoil, water, forests, wildlife (articles 10.1–10.4); in chapter 23 – for unauthorized occupation of a land plot (article 23.41), in chapter 15 – for violation of the requirements of legislation on the protection of plants from harmful organisms (article 15.7). Violation of these norms entails the imposition of a fine of up to 10 basic units, for an individual entrepreneur – up to 25 basic units, and for a legal entity – up to 100 basic units [3].

As noted in the National Action Plan for the Development of the "green" economy in the Republic of Belarus until 2020 (approved by the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated December 21, 2016 No. 1061), the irrational use of natural resources not only undermines the sustainability of ecological systems to external influences, but also leads to consequences (both direct and indirect) for the health and living standards of people. In the process of conducting inspections, the regulatory authorities most often reveal violations under four articles of chapter 15 of the Code of Administrative Offenses 132, for example, under article 15.21 "Violation of the procedure for the use of the logging fund, harvesting and removal of wood, harvesting resin", under part 1 of article 15.22 "Illegal destruction, seizure or damage to trees and shrubs or other vegetation", under parts 1 and 3 of article 15.52 "Violation of the rules of water use", under part 2 of article 15.63 "Violation of legislation on waste management." The same article establishes liability for violation of other requirements of the legislation on waste management, in particular, warning or imposition of a fine in the amount of 5 to 50 basic units, for an individual entrepreneur – up to 200 basic units, and for a legal entity - up to 1,000 basic units [3].

To sum up all the above we can conclude that the development of environmental legislation and the application of successful practices in the management of natural resources in the Republic of Belarus are fully consistent with the basic principles of the "green" economy of UNEP and generally accepted principles of sustainable development.

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UDC 504.75 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE "GREEN" ECONOMY

Д. Д. БЫСТРОВ, В. И. ГУСАКОВА

Научный руководитель – Шубович А. Ю. Белорусский государственный экономический университет Минск, Беларусь

The search for alternative energy sources and the urgency of solving global problems related to the depletion of natural resources at the present stage require the search for optimal conditions for economic development based on new models. One of such models is the "green" economy, which, unlike the traditional "brown" economy, which uses fossil fuels in production, seeks and actively uses natural resources to increase GDP [1]. At the same time, the very concept of a "green" economy today does not have a single universally recognized formulation, which makes this issue relevant for scientific consideration.

The concept of "green economy" includes the ideas of many other areas in economics and philosophy related to the problems of sustainable development. Supporters of the concept of a "green" economy believe that the prevailing economic system is imperfect. Although it has produced certain results in improving the living standards of people in general, and especially its individual groups, the negative consequences of the functioning of this system are significant: these are environmental issues (change climate change, desertification, loss of biodiversity), depletion of natural capital, widespread poverty, shortage of fresh water, food, energy, inequality of people and countries. All this poses a threat to present and future generations [2].

For the survival and development of mankind, a transition to a "green" economy is required – that is, a system of economic activities related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services that lead to an increase in human well-being in the long term, while not exposing future generations to significant environmental risks or environmental deficit.

The Green Economy Initiative is based on three main principles:

- assessment and highlighting of natural services at the national and international levels;