Global food problem: doctrinal approaches, concept, stages of origin and formation

Valery A Vlasov¹ and Tatyana V Shitova²

¹ Siberian Law Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, 20, Rokossovsky street, Krasnoyarsk, 660131, Russian Federation
² Krasnoyarsk State Agrarian University, 90 Mira avenue, Krasnoyarsk, 660049, Russian Federation

E-mail: vav.70@mail.ru, tgp_law@mail.ru

Abstract. The authors of the article attempted a scientific analysis of the individual stages of the origin and formation of the global food problem. There is no unity of opinion among scholars in modern scientific doctrine in the periodization of the phenomenon under study. Individual experts distinguish from three to seven stages, the authors of this article are convinced that it is advisable to distinguish six stages. The study pays considerable attention to the study of the concept of "food security" in international documents and works of foreign scientists.

1. Introduction
The effective development of agriculture in many countries of the world indicates a significant increase in the economic and physical accessibility of food products to the final consumer. However, due to the fact that in reality the distribution of food products is not effective, the problem of ensuring food security in many regions of the world (especially in developing countries) is extremely urgent. The objectively existing differentiation between developed countries, which are characterized by intensive agriculture, and developing countries, which are becoming more and more dependent on major food exporters every year, does not contribute to solving the global food problem.

The purpose of the study is to show the main stages of the emergence and formation of the global food security problem on the basis of a systematic and integrated approach. The object of the study is world food security, which is aimed at preserving food products with the availability of basic food products for all countries of the world.

Such methods of scientific analysis as dialectical, abstract-logical, methods of systemic, structural and comparative analysis, induction and deduction were used as a methodological basis.

2. Research results and discussion
For the scientific analysis of world food security, it is extremely important to study the ideas of foreign scientists and specialists in this field. So, G. Conway and E. Barber believe that food security is ensuring guaranteed access for all residents and at any time to food in the quantity necessary for an active healthy life [1]. According to P. Ehrlich, one can talk about two main directions to ensure world and national food security. The first is characterized by the fact that self-sufficiency in food products is the only guarantee of food security in the long term. The second boils down to the fact that only a
food trade system free from market distortions is capable of ensuring long-term food security for all [2]. J. Rogers includes three basic elements in the system of food security: 1) the availability of food (sufficiency and constancy of food of good quality for the whole population); 2) the availability of food (the adequacy of the resources available to each person for the purchase of products necessary for a healthy diet); 3) the use of food (adequate biological use of food based on an appropriate diet, adherence to water quality, the application of sanitary measures and public health) [3].

It is also advisable to consider B. Lietard’s multi-product standard model, which has the form of a derivative and is based on the competitiveness of the economy. This model makes it possible to reduce the level of agflation and strengthen mutual export-import relations between states, as well as increase the level of food security, and, on the other hand, to build the world's food financial system based on the formation of a specialized currency center for regulating food and agricultural commodity prices [4]. D. Klapp classifies all countries into two groups in the world food balance: the donors who are independent in food supply and the recipients [5].

The problem of food security has existed since the inception of mankind, while its forms and dimensions change as the world economy, the establishment and activities of international organizations and other factors develop. It should be noted that individual authors distinguish a different number of stages in the development of the idea and concept of food security (for example, L.S. Revenko indicates three stages [6], A.V. Malkhasyan reveals four stages [7], I.A. Kolesnyak denotes seven stages [8], E.V. Nehoda, as applied only to the XX century, writes about three stages [9]).

The author of this scientific study believes that for a more complete and accurate understanding of the origin and formation of the problem of food security at the world and national levels, six stages in the evolution of its development should be distinguished.

Stage 1: from the inception of human society - until the second half of the XIX century. The solution of the food problem at the local level was carried out at the level of a single country, taking into account its traditions and customs, the development of its national economy by providing citizens with food products without taking into account the influence of factors from outside.

Stage 2: the second half of the XIX century - the middle of the 40s of the XX century. The origin of the global food supply system occurred. The emergence and development of market relations in the global food market, which, through a system of supply and demand, began to influence the formation of necessary stocks and the level of food consumption.

Stage 3: the end of the 40s of the XX century - the beginning of the 70s of the XX century. Designing the global food supply system through the creation of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the adoption of a number of major international treaties.

The strategic moment should be recognized as the establishment of FAO within the UN [10]. In the period from October 16 to November 1, 1945, the constituent session of FAO Conference was held in Quebec (Canada), at which its Charter was adopted on October 16, 1945. The main goal of this universal international organization is to reduce hunger and malnutrition on the basis of a fundamental change in socio-economic and agricultural policies. Currently, FAO is an intergovernmental organization represented in more than 130 countries. It consists of 194 member states, two associate members and one-member organization - the European Union [11]. It should be noted that the Russian Federation joined the FAO only in 2006 [12]. After joining the FAO to ensure the participation of our country in the work of its intergovernmental bodies and in the activities of international conferences held under its auspices, there is a very serious cooperation. Accordingly, this allows Russia to participate in the development and adoption of key FAO decisions between conferences.

It is also advisable to provide definitions on the issues addressed, enshrined in international treaties. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights explicitly stated: "Everyone has the right to such a standard of living, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and the necessary social services necessary to maintain the health and well-being of himself and his family." [13] The 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights also provides the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, which includes adequate food, clothing and
housing, and for the continuous improvement of living conditions. The fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger [14]. It should also be noted that already in the mid-sixties of the last century, the world community came to a reasonable conclusion about the need to provide food aid to poor countries. In 1963, the United Nations created the World Food Program (WFP) [15].

Stage 4: the beginning of the 70s of the XX century - the beginning of the 90s of the XX century. Solving the problem of global food security began. At this stage, the formation of a global food system aimed at solving the food problem on a planetary scale, overcoming food crises, joining forces at the global level. In 1974, the World Food Conference was convened under the auspices of the UN. Its central theme was the formation and maintenance at the regional, national and international levels of sufficient food supplies in order to mitigate the negative effects of crises. In the same year, the UN Committee on World Food Security was established, which tried to focus on measures to increase global grain production to solve the food problem.

The 1974 Universal Declaration on the Elimination of Hunger and Malnutrition developed measures to eliminate the danger of hunger in the world community and contained the following definition of the phenomenon under study: world food security is aimed at preserving food products while basic foods are accessible to all countries of the world. Every man, woman and child have the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition for the full development and preservation of their physical and mental abilities. Modern society already has sufficient resources, organizational capabilities, technology and, therefore, is able to achieve this goal. Accordingly, the eradication of hunger is the common responsibility of all countries of the international community, in particular developed countries and those capable of providing assistance [16].

Stage 5: the beginning of the 90s of the XX century - the beginning of the XXI century. Enhancing the role of the state in ensuring national food security and in the system of world food security took place. Food security is seen as one of the elements of globalization, the interconnectedness and interdependence of world and national economic development. Moreover, there is an awareness of the need to study food security not only at the global level, but also at the regional, national and personal (individual) level. These aspects are reflected in the documents of the World Summit on Food Security in 1996 and 2002, held under the auspices of the FAO.

The 1996 World Food Summit resolution in Rome used the following interpretation of food security: food security exists when all people at any time have physical and economic access to an adequate supply of safe and nutritious food that can satisfy their nutritional needs and preferences for an active and healthy lifestyle [17]. This definition sets forth four main criteria for assessing food security: food availability, accessibility, use and stability of consumption.

The Voluntary Guidelines in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, which were adopted at the 127th session of the FAO Council in November 2004, are also important [18]. The purpose of their adoption is to provide practical recommendations to states for the realization by them of the gradual realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. Thus, guiding principle 15 “international food aid” in 15.1 expressly provides that donor states should ensure that their food aid policies support the national efforts of recipient countries to achieve food security, and base food aid on results reliable needs assessment and especially focus on unsecured and vulnerable groups. Food assistance should be provided with a clear strategy for completing the operation and avoiding addiction. Donors should encourage greater use of local and regional commercial markets to meet the food needs of countries affected by hunger and reduce their dependence on food aid.

Stage 6: beginning of the XXI century - to the present time. A serious threat to international food security became the financial and economic crisis that began in 2008, called the “global” crisis, since it affected almost all states. The global financial and economic crisis has contributed to job cuts and increased poverty. The food crisis that arose against it led to the need for additional coordination of efforts to improve the multilateral management system in this area. Consequently, the new global food crisis that began in 2008 can be considered the starting point of a new stage. It was provoked not only
by unpredictable natural disasters, but also by a sharp decline in food prices, reduced competition in food markets, the ruin of small agricultural producers, etc.

The 2009 World Food Security Summit Declaration marks a new milestone in complementing the concept of “food security”, which exists when all people always have physical, social and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and nutritional preferences for maintaining an active and healthy life [19]. Compared with the concept enshrined in the 1996 World Food Summit Resolution was added with another element, namely social access.

3. Conclusion
As a result, it is possible to draw a reasonable conclusion that, based on the foregoing, it is advisable to distinguish six stages of the origin and formation of the “global food problem” category in the study.

References
[1] Conwau G and Barber E 1990 After the Revolution. Ustalpable Agriculture for Development (London) p 60
[2] Ehrlich P 1968 The Population Bomb (N Y: Sierra Club and Ballantine Books) p 26
[3] Rogers J 1997 Food Security: From Global to Universal Development Express 5 31
[4] Lietaer B 2013 The Future Of Money (Random House) p 384
[5] Clapp J 2012 Hunger in the Balance: The New Politics of International Food Aid (Cornell University Press) p 216
[6] Revenko L S 2003 The world food market in the era of the "gene" revolution Economics p 37
[7] Malkhasyan A V 2014 Agrarian and legal problems in the field of food security (Moscow) pp 35-44
[8] Kolesnyak I A 2014 The development of the food supply system in the region (based on materials from the Krasnoyarsk Territory) (Novosibirsk) pp 9-11
[9] Nehoda E V 2013 Food security and state support for agriculture in the interpretation of the WTO Bulletin of Tomsk State University 377 123-8
[10] 2019 The official website of the Organization Available from: http://www.fao.org
[11] 2006 Federal Law On the Adoption by the Russian Federation of the Charter of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (SZ RF)
[12] 1948 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights Available from://www.un.org/ru/
[13] 1966 The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (General Assembly Resolution 2200A) Available from://www.un.org/ru - the official website of the UN)
[14] 2019 History of World Food Program (World Food Program) Available from: http://www.wfp.org/about/corporate-information/history
[15] 1974 The Universal Declaration on the Elimination of Hunger and Malnutrition Available from://www.un.org/ru
[16] 1996 World Food Summit (Pome, Italy) Available from: http://www.fao.org
[17] 2004 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) Available from: http://www.fao.org
[18] 2009 Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security Available from: http://www.fao.org