



ISSUES OF CIVIL PROTECTION ORGANIZATION AT THE PRESENT STAGE

**Xudaibergshanov Zakirzjan Rajabbayevich,
Ochilov Bakhrom Arolovich**
Tashkent State Medical University, Uzbekistan

Abstract

The article discusses current concepts of the organization and functioning of civil protection (CP) in modern conditions, international treaties regulating issues of prevention, preparedness, response and liquidation, fundamental laws, by-laws of the direction of development and priority tasks in the conditions of strengthening of global threats. Special attention is paid to modern approaches to risk management, issues of training of the population and interaction of forces and means of civil protection at various levels, the sustainability of functioning of economic facilities, application of digital technologies and integration of CP in the system of national and international security.

Keywords

conditions, preparedness, response and liquidation, Prevention, mitigation, public preparation, notification, social, environmental, and industrial safety,

Civil protection today is a comprehensive state system of measures aimed at protecting the population, the environment, and material and cultural assets from emergency situations (ES), both peacetime (natural and man-made disasters) and the dangers arising during military operations.

Civil protection addresses not only the consequences of the use of modern weapons but also natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, fires), man-made accidents (at nuclear power plants, chemical facilities), and new threats (cyberattacks, epidemics, climate change). The current stage of development of civil protection (CP) is characterized by a comprehensive approach to security, focusing not only on military threats but also on a shift from narrowly focused defensive mechanisms to a broad range of measures to prevent, localize, and eliminate threats associated with global processes: climate change, man-made impacts, urbanization, and geopolitical instability.

It should be especially noted that in the face of global risks such as climate change, pandemics, man-made disasters, and geopolitical tensions, the future of civil protection lies in the field of comprehensive risk management, enhancing societal resilience, and integrating modern technologies.

With the growing interdependence of global economies and social systems, the role of structures that ensure the resilience and security of citizens is significantly increasing.

Civil protection today is a scientific discipline and a practical system of measures that requires modernization in accordance with the challenges and demands of the 21st century.

Geopolitical instability, urbanization, and the emergence of new threats (cyberattacks, epidemics, climate change) necessitate a consistent approach to the organization and functioning of civil protection (CP) in modern conditions.

Civil protection is a set of nationwide measures aimed at protecting the population, territories, and valuables in both wartime and peacetime from hazards and emergencies (natural, man-made, military, and terrorist).

It includes:



- * Prevention, mitigation, public preparation, notification, and rescue operations.
- * Monitoring, forecasting, and developing measures to reduce the risks and damage from natural disasters, man-made accidents, and military conflicts.
- * Threat warning.
- * Evacuation from hazardous areas.
- * Provision of protective structures (shelter).
- * Provision of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- * Emergency rescue and other urgent operations (ERO).
- * Providing first aid to victims.
- * Restoring life support and public order.
- * Training the population and specialists, creating, equipping, and maintaining readiness of civil defense forces and assets.

* Creation, storage, and use of state reserves and stockpiles for civil protection needs. The main regulatory documents for organizing measures aimed at protecting the population, the environment, and material and cultural assets from emergency situations (ES), both peacetime (natural and man-made disasters) and dangers arising during military operations, are:

- * Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Civil Protection” (May 26, 2000)
- * Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the Protection of Population and Territories from Emergencies of Natural and Man-made Nature” (LRU-790 of August 17, 2022)
- * Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers regulating the activities of the State System for Prevention and Action in Emergency Situations (SSEPS) No. 171 of April 29, 2023.
- * Regulations on the SSEPS No. 525 of July 19, 2017.

The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Civil Protection” defines the main objectives, legal foundations, powers of government agencies, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in the field of civil defense aimed at protecting the population, territories, and valuables from the dangers of military action, natural disasters, and man-made emergencies.

Furthermore, legal regulation of civil defense is based on:

- national laws on civil defense and population protection;
- documents on the prevention and response to emergency situations;
- international standards (the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, documents of the UN and the Ministries of Emergency Situations of partner countries);
- industry standards on industrial, fire, radiation, and sanitary-epidemiological safety.

Modern civil protection requirements combine elements of defense, social, environmental, and industrial safety, forming a unified risk management system.

Taking into account new risks (environmental, climate, terrorism, precision weapons), the modern system has evolved into Civil Protection (CP).

The main functions and objectives of civil protection at the present stage, under the leadership of the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES), are aimed at protecting the population, territories, material and cultural assets from dangers in both peacetime and wartime (natural disasters, man-made disasters, military operations).

These include:

- * Public education, training in protection methods and actions in emergency situations.
- * Emergency prevention, forecasting, monitoring threats (hydrometeorological, seismic), and risk mitigation measures.
- * Alerts and information, timely notification of the population about the threat or occurrence of an emergency.



- * Conducting rescue and emergency operations, promptly eliminating emergency situations, rescuing victims, and providing them with assistance.

- * Evacuation and organizing the evacuation of the population, as well as material and cultural assets, to safe areas.

- * Ensuring the readiness of forces and assets, maintaining the combat and mobilization readiness of civil defense units.

- * Engineering, radiation, chemical, and other types of reconnaissance in affected (contaminated) zones.

- * Managing the State Emergency Service (SES), developing and managing the State System for Warning and Response in Emergency Situations (SES).

- * State control and supervision of the implementation of civil defense measures at facilities and territories.

To train the public in protection methods and actions in emergency situations, online courses and distance learning methods, virtual simulators and training equipment, regular comprehensive and tactical-special exercises and drills, and the use of QR codes and mobile apps for accessing instructions are conducted. In emergency situations, monitoring and forecasting emergency threats includes: advance collection and analysis of information on emergency sources (natural and man-made) and risk assessment to take measures to prevent and reduce damage. Alerts to the public about emergencies and threats are provided through centralized warning systems (CWS/KSEON): sirens are activated ("Attention everyone!"), outdoor loudspeakers, media - the use of television and radio channels (activation of emergency messages), mobile communications - sending SMS messages, wireless emergency alerts, voice alerts over dial-up networks (automatic dialing), internet technologies - alerts via mobile applications (e.g., FEMA), instant messages, email, facility and local systems - include audio, visual (running line boards, light alarms) and personal alert devices (vibrating bracelets). All these channels are used to ensure maximum population coverage and prompt transmission of information.

Emergency rescue operations (ERO) are carried out to save people, valuables, protect the environment in the emergency zone, localize and minimize hazardous factors, and urgent work is carried out to provide ERO, medical and other Assistance to victims and the creation of basic living conditions. Rescue measures include searching for, unblocking, and evacuating victims to a safe location, as well as providing first aid until medical personnel arrive.

Population evacuation during emergencies and natural disasters is a set of measures for the organized removal (expulsion) of the population, as well as the transfer of material and cultural assets from emergency zones or predicted disasters to safe areas. It can be general (for all categories, except for exceptions) or partial (for specific groups or assets), and is carried out preemptively (in advance) or urgently (immediately). Evacuation is carried out using various modes of transport or on foot.

Currently, special attention is paid to ensuring the readiness of civil defense forces and resources. This includes their creation, training, maintaining constant readiness, equipping them with the necessary material and technical resources, and organizing training for personnel and the public in emergency response.

In emergency zones, engineering, radiation, and chemical reconnaissance is organized to collect specific data. Engineering reconnaissance determines the nature and extent of damage, debris, flooding, the condition of roads and structures, and identifies the safest routes for rescue forces and the location of victims. Radiation protection measures in the affected area are aimed at protecting people from ionizing radiation to preserve their lives and health.



Chemical reconnaissance establishes the fact, type, scale, and degree of chemical contamination (hazardous chemicals), determines the boundaries of the contaminated zone, finds safe bypass routes, and monitors changes in the chemical environment.

The above types of reconnaissance are necessary for decision-making regarding emergency rescue and other urgent operations (ERUO).

Existing international treaties regulating issues of prevention, preparedness, response, and liquidation in emergency situations have a constructive impact on the organization and functioning of civil defense. These include:

*The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, which is a key international agreement complemented by regional and bilateral treaties, as well as the Guidelines on International Disaster Response Law (IDRL).

Furthermore, the regulation of emergency prevention, preparedness, response, and liquidation issues is carried out on the basis of a number of multilateral treaties within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Furthermore, the main international treaties between countries defining cooperation in this area are:

* Agreement on Cooperation between the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States in the Field of Prevention and Elimination of Emergencies (October 16, 2015). This document is the most modern and comprehensive, replacing a number of earlier agreements.

* Agreement between the Governments of the CIS Member States on Cooperation in the Field of Prevention and Elimination of Consequences of Natural and Man-Made Emergencies (January 22, 1993). This fundamental document, despite the adoption of a new agreement in 2015, laid the foundation for the formation of a cooperation system and is still cited as the basis.

* Agreement between the Governments of the CIS Member States on the Exchange of Information on Natural and Man-Made Emergencies, on Information Interaction in Eliminating Their Consequences, and Providing Assistance to the Affected Population (September 18, 2003).

To implement these agreements and coordinate joint actions within the CIS, the Interstate Council for Natural and Man-Made Emergencies (ICES) operates. Thus, cooperation within the CIS encompasses all stages of the emergency management cycle: prevention (forecasting, monitoring), preparedness (planning, information exchange), response, and liquidation (providing assistance, deploying forces and resources).

The organization of emergency and disaster management plays a significant role. Management of the State Emergency Prevention and Response System (SEPWS) is carried out through governing bodies (e.g., the Cabinet of Ministers, khokimiyats), day-to-day management bodies (such as the Crisis Management Center of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, local emergency management agencies), and emergency response forces and resources. The State Emergency Prevention and Response System (SEPRS) operates in three modes: day-to-day, high alert, and emergency mode.

The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of the Republic of Uzbekistan exercises state control and supervision over the implementation of civil protection measures in emergency situations. The main objective of monitoring is to verify compliance with legal requirements regarding the protection of populations and territories from natural and man-made emergencies, as well as civil defense. The objects of monitoring include government and business administration bodies, as well as legal entities and individuals. All these activities are aimed at preventing, identifying, suppressing, and eliminating violations in the area of civil protection.



Currently, in the context of the prospective development of civil protection, it is necessary to:

- * Shift to Prevention (Prevention Focus): The emphasis is shifting from response to prevention and risk reduction (Disaster Risk Reduction), which includes forecasting, monitoring, and early warning, particularly with regard to environmental and climate threats.

- * Technological modernization: Implementation of artificial intelligence (AI), big data, remote sensing (drones, satellites), and modern telecommunications networks to improve the efficiency and accuracy of situation assessment and management in crisis centers.

- * Resilience: Developing the capacity of key systems (critical infrastructure, economy, life support systems) to withstand and quickly recover from emergencies. This includes public preparedness and awareness raising.

- * International Cooperation: Given the transboundary nature of global risks, deepening cooperation and integration of national civil protection systems, as well as the exchange of experience and resources, is necessary.

- * Integration with National Security: Civil protection is becoming an integral part of the national security system, encompassing not only natural and man-made disasters but also threats related to cybersecurity and hybrid conflicts.

The development of civil protection in emergency situations today should be aimed at creating a flexible, adaptive, and high-tech system capable of quickly responding to the full spectrum of modern threats.

Literature:

1. Handbook of the Head of Civil Defense" edited by V.A. Puchkov, 4th edition, 2017
2. collection "Natural and man-made emergencies" by O.A. Morozova, A.S. Rydelya, 2022.
3. "Protection of the population and territories in emergency situations" (authors V.M. Emelyanov, V.N. Kokhanov, P.A. Nekrasov 2020).
4. Textbook "Protection in emergency situations" (2014) edited by V.A. Puchkova EMERCOM of Russia.
5. "Fundamentals of life safety. Civil Protection"; Shamansurova E.A. Teacher-Tashkent: "METHODOLOGIST NASHIATI," 2024