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International and regional cooperation in disaster management

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Abstract:

Every year in the world there happens about 150 different types of disasters. Natural disasters that accompanied the Earth since the dawn of history cannot be predicted. International assistance and cooperation in case of disaster is the result of experiences that humanity has gained as a result of the dramatic events following the mass. The study characterized the main entities involved in international aid for disasters as well characterized procedures taken in case of such events.

Key words: disaster, international assistance, cooperation

With international statistics show that steadily increased the frequency, magnitude and importance to both natural disasters and those caused by humans. Every year in the world happens about 150 different types of disasters. Natural disasters that accompanied the Earth since the dawn of history cannot be predicted. Most of them (about 80%) are floods and earthquakes. Among the disasters caused by humans dominate the so-called. disaster fire (about 70%), which are the result of deliberate arson or negligence of safety requirements (eg. a collision of trains, cars, terrorist attacks, major fires vegetation, buildings, factories, hospitals, sports stadiums, camping, etc.). Fire disaster are associated with a high risk of serious injury and death of the victims. [1] Also fatal to humans are related catastrophes with uncontrolled release of radiation or toxic chemicals. The combination of terrorism, weapons of mass destruction is the greatest threat to global [2]. Increased exposure to the mass uprising accident or catastrophe forces the organization measures to protect these remarkable events and to prepare for the liquidation of their consequences. Individual states to defend themselves in the event of a disaster vary considerably depending on the degree of development of a country. Developed countries are characterized by a high degree of organization and planning of rescue, while in developing countries the organization is inadequate. Of the 90 developing countries there is little such that they have sufficient resources technical skills and the ability to plan, to cope with the disaster which might occur at any moment. Also in developed countries, natural disaster or other extraordinary event can destroy the infrastructure, equipment, to create chaos and panic, and in a moment frustrate development plans of the country. Its effects cannot be controlled agents and local forces, assistance is required from the outside [3,4].

International assistance and cooperation in case of disaster is the result of experiences that humanity has gained as a result of the dramatic events following the mass. The creation of the International Red Cross is associated with the Battle of Solferino in 1859, the League of Nations "grew out" of the First World War, the rise of the United Nations associated with the Second World War, the famine in Greece (1941-1942, Nazi caused by occupation) He contributed to the creation of Oxfam. Modern international cooperation and assistance in the event of disasters consists of four different systems, whose activities are mutually penetrate and supplements.

The first system consists of the United Nations (UN), its funds and programs, the Ex The United Nations Children's Fund - UNICEF, the United Nations Development Program - UNDP, the World Food Program - WFP and specialized United Nations organizations, such as

the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations - FAO World Health Organization - WHO International Monetary Fund - IMF [4,5,6,7,8].

The second system is The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement - IRC. It consists of :. International Committee of the Red Cross - ICRC International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - IFRCCS and the National Association of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - NRC [4,5,6,7,8].

The third system consists of Non-governmental Organizations - NGOs or voluntary organizations carrying many selfless, humanitarian assistance not only to victims of disasters, but also people in need of such assistance worldwide. Organizations included in this system are: World Council of Churches - WCC, Caritas Internationalis, Oxfam, Terre des Hommes, Doctors Without Borders. World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine - Wade. [4,5,6,7,8].

The fourth system is bilateral Agreements of direct assistance - BALL) which is usually the result of previously signed agreement between the Government of the sending State and the Government of the receiving State aid. This system also includes specialized organizations carrying the necessary assistance associated countries, for example United States Agency for International Development - USAID, Arab Gulf Program for United Nations Development Organizations - AGFUND, The Canadian International Development Agency - CIDA [4,5,6,7,8].

The United Nations and intergovernmental organizations

United Nations - UN is an organization of universal character having the widest range of activities of all international organizations. The United Nations was founded On October 24, 1945 following the entry into force of the Charter of the United Nations. This legal act regulating the activities of the UN was devised, adopted and signed on 26 June 1945 by 50 countries at the first UN conference in San Francisco. Poland is considered founder member of the UN, despite the absence of representatives of our country at a conference in San Francisco. Poland has signed the United Nations Charter 16 October 1945 year. Members of UN as of July, 2006 are 192 sovereign states, rather their governments, because the UN is an intergovernmental organization.

The main objectives of the United Nations are: maintaining international peace and security, cooperation in solving international problems and promoting respect for human rights, to develop friendly relations among nations, coordinating the activities of countries in the world.

UN bodies are: The General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council - ECOSOC, Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice as well. Secretariat, which is the executive body of the UN - chaired by the Secretary General.

The United Nations, its programs and funds (eg. UNICEF) and specialized organizations (eg. WHO) form the United Nations system.

UN provide assistance. Emergency Relief and runs complex humanitarian operation. Long-term Action. UN also supports the actions carried out by the governments of the countries affected by the disaster, and organizations specialized in assisting [4,7,10,11].

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

Red Cross idea was born from the impulse of compassion that views about 40,000 wounded and dying French soldiers, Austrian and Sardinian raised at the Henry Dunant, a Swiss banker, who accidentally found on 25 June 1859 near the Battle of Solferino in northern Italy. Henry Duant after returning to Switzerland he published a book Fri. "Memory of Solferino", which among other things called for the creation of associations in peacetime care with personnel ready to care for the wounded during the war and the protection and recognition in international law of volunteers supporting the military medical services. In 1863, with a view to implementing the ideas Dunant Geneva Public Welfare Association appointed a committee, which was formed the International Committee for the Care of wounded soldiers, who later became the International Committee of the Red Cross [12,13,14].

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement - IRC a big family bringing together millions of volunteers around the world That unites the original institution, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the 186 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies located around the globe and their federation, the International Federation of National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Each of the three constituent members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies has its own specific properties and fills specific tasks. However, the paving differences between its component parts Red Cross and Red Crescent is seen as a whole. The most important decisions are taken collectively, as well as the implementation of a number of specific tasks, especially regarding: international aid for victims of natural disasters or armed conflicts, preparing society for disaster training in first aid, the dissemination of international humanitarian law, etc. [4.15].

IRC is the supreme authority of the Conference, which sits every 4 years. In 1965, at the Twentieth International Conference of the Red Cross in Vienna and in 1986 in Geneva at the XXV International Conference of the Red Cross adopted the seven basic rules governing the

activities of the IRC: Humanitarianism. International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (IRC) born out of concern for helping the wounded on the battlefield without making any difference between them, take on both the international and national efforts in preventing human suffering and mitigate. Aims to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human personality. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace among all peoples. Impartiality. IRC does not make any distinction on grounds of nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavors to relieve the suffering, guided by their needs and giving priority to the most urgent cases. Neutrality. In order to maintain public confidence in the IRC refrain from participating in hostilities and in disputes of a political, racial, religious or ideological. Independence. IRC is independent. National associations, serving with the public authorities in their humanitarian and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always use the autonomy to allow them to act at any time in accordance with the rules of the IRC. Voluntarily. IRC provides help voluntarily, not guided by the desire to achieve any benefit. Unity. In each country it has only one Association of the Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies. It should be open to all and include its humanitarian work throughout its territory. Universality. International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all associations have equal rights and obligation in helping each other, its activities include the whole world. [16]The mission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, "to prevent and alleviate human suffering in all circumstances, to protect life and health and ensure respect for the human being, especially in times of armed conflict or in the most urgent cases, act to prevent disasters and promoted the health and social welfare, encourage voluntary service, readiness to develop the steel members of the Movement to provide assistance in a spirit of solidarity with those who need their care and support "[17,18].

International Committee of the Red Cross - ICRC. The organization was founded in 1863 by five Swiss citizens (Henry Dunant, Guillaume-Henri Dufour, Gustave Moynier, Louis Appia and Theodore Maunoir), originally called International Committee for Aid to Wounded Soldiers or the Committee of Five- due to the number of its members. In the mid 70s the nineteenth century, the Committee changed its name to the International Committee of the Red Cross. ICRC is an impartial, neutral and independent humanitarian institution. Its headquarters are in Geneva. It works in the intervals between the Conferences of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Committee selects its members from among Swiss citizens. ICRC bases its activities on its own statutes and the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 (main documents of international

humanitarian law). ICRC conducts humanitarian, bringing aid to the victims of international and internal armed conflicts. Delegates Committee assist the wounded, sick and shipwrecked - members of the armed forces, site visit prisoners of war and political visit the places of internment. They help in connecting families separated by war and mediate the exchange of family messages. They organize convoys with humanitarian aid and restore the supply of water. Conduct field hospitals and medical assistance points. They negotiate with terrorists on the release of hostages. The ICRC's motto is *Inter arma caritas* ("love of neighbor struggle"). The ICRC is a three-time winner of the Nobel Peace Prize [4.19].

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - IFRCCS. The organization was founded in 1919 under the name League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It is an international federation of all National Societies. Currently focused in their ranks 186 national associations of individual countries and has over 300 million members. The task of the Federation is to contribute to the development of humanitarian associations, national, coordinating their aid operations for victims of natural disasters, aid to refugees outside the areas of conflict and thus bringing its contribution to the development and maintenance of world peace. The motto of the Federation is *Humanitate per ad pacem* ("the humanity to peace") [4,17,19].

National Association of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies - the NRC. Polish Red Cross. The organization was founded on 18 January 1919 as accompanying Polish State Red Cross, and since 1927 bears the name of the Polish Red Cross (PCK). Polish Red Cross operates on the basis of the Act of 16 November 1964 year by Polish Red Cross (Dz. U. No. 41, item. 276), its statutes and resolutions of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Polish Red Cross is an association of national Red Cross within the meaning of the Geneva Conventions on the Protection of Victims of War of 12 August 1949. (Dz. U. of 1956. No. 38, pos. 171) and the Additional Protocols to the Convention of 8 June 1977 r. (Dz. U. of 1992. nr41, pos. 175). Red Cross operates on a voluntary basis, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian Business areas, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols, as the only national association, authorized to conduct Business areas in Poland [4.18].

The aim of the Red Cross is to prevent human suffering and mitigation in all circumstances and at all times, while maintaining impartiality and without any discrimination, especially on grounds of nationality, ethnicity, social origin, race, sex, religion or political views. To achieve this goal the Polish Red Cross: helps in times of armed conflict military and civilian health care in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the

Additional Protocols of 1977 and conducts humanitarian activities for the victims of armed conflicts, disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law of armed conflict and cooperate with public authorities in an effort to ensure its respect; leads - at the request of the State - national Bureau, provided for in the Geneva Conventions; promotes the ideals and principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; performs humanitarian tasks arising from resolutions of the organs of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; It operates for the development of blood donation and transfusion, and obtaining blood donors; provides assistance to victims of natural disasters or disasters in the country and abroad as well as preparing the public for appropriate behavior in the event of a disaster; It operates in the field of health and social assistance; It operates in the field of health, including improving public health and preventing addiction, shaping the right attitudes and health behaviors and environmental; provides training in first aid; develops activities of children and young people, taking into account the implementation of all the statutory tasks of the Red Cross; organizes and conducts educational institutions and educational, welfare and social, recreational, rehabilitation, therapeutic and other - for children, youth and adults; It works for people with disabilities; It works for people injured in traffic accidents, and conducts activities to disseminate the principles of safe behavior on the road; It operates for the benefit of national minorities; recruits, trains and organizes volunteer staff and necessary for the performance of its tasks; provides training in professional activation of persons subject to social exclusion; performs other tasks in line with the objectives of the Red Cross, including public tasks commissioned by the state administration and self-government [4.18]. In pursuing its objectives and tasks of the Red Cross works with state and local authorities, social organizations, institutions and other entities, with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the national associations of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies [4.18]. including public tasks commissioned by the state administration and self-government [4.18]. In pursuing its objectives and tasks of the Red Cross works with state and local authorities, social organizations, institutions and other entities, with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the national associations of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies [4.18]. including public tasks commissioned by the state administration and self-government [4.18]. In pursuing its objectives and tasks of the Red Cross works with state and local authorities, social organizations, institutions and other entities, with the International Committee of the Red

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Non-governmental organizations

Non-Government Organizations - NGO It is primarily voluntary organizations, which carry selfless, humanitarian assistance to victims of disasters and help people in need all over the world. These include both global organizations firmly fixed on the merits and in helping organizations whose assistance covers only the local communities.

World Council of Churches - WCC. It is largest international ecumenical organization of churches of various Christian traditions: Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, Old which provides help to people in need around the world. It was established in 1948 in Amsterdam during the first General Assembly of Christian Churches. Now the headquarters of the organization in Geneva. The basic goals of the WCC is to initiate, coordinate and develop cooperation between Christian Churches, joint actions of an evangelical, missionary and social and charity.

In the countries of Central and Eastern Europe WCC implemented the program "Preventing and dealing with the consequences of disasters and catastrophes." The premise of the program was to build a new relationship between government and communities and non-governmental organizations in the former Soviet Union and former communist countries of central and eastern Europe, which are to serve the creation of civil society in the conditions of reviving democracy. The aim of the program was to introduce new ways of organizing humanitarian aid to people in need of physical, spiritual and psychological time of the crash. [20].

Caritas Internationalis (Inter-charity). It is a federation of 146 organizations of Caritas from 194 countries and territories around the world. Its central authorities play a coordinating role, the representative information and organizing charitable Roman Catholic Church on a global scale. Caritas Internationalis a public juridical personality according to the norms of canon law. Caritas Poland charity is the Polish Episcopal Conference. The organization was revived in 1989 under the Act of 17 May 1989 on the Relation of the State to the Catholic Church (Acts. In 1989, No. 29, item. 154, as amended. Amended) and June 1999 and is a member of the Executive Committee of Caritas Internationalis. In Poland Caritas Poland coordinates the work of 44 Caritas diocesan and archdiocesan and internationally cooperates with Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Europa. The main goals of the Polish Caritas is providing assistance to the unemployed, the homeless, the sick, the disabled, the elderly, children and

immigrants and refugees. Caritas Poland also provides humanitarian aid to victims of disasters outside the Polish.

Oxfam. It is an international humanitarian organization, which was founded in 1942 in the UK as the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief. The main objective of Oxfam is to fight hunger and humanitarian aid to victims of natural disasters and other catastrophes in the world.

World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine - Wade. The most important non-governmental international organization recognized by the Program of the Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) of the United Nations as the main source in cases concerning health issues in disasters and emergencies. Wade leads a broad, non-governmental activities in the field of disaster prevention and to limit their effects. He is the publisher of the magazine devoted to disaster medicine "Prehospital and Emergency Medicine".

Other non-governmental organizations. The best known are other non-governmental organizations: Earth People (Terre des Hommes), Doctors Without Borders (Medecins Sans Frontieres), the Salvation Army, Polish Humanitarian Organization, etc. [4,7,8].

Bilateral assistance

Bilateral Agreements of direct assistance - BILAT This is usually already negotiated and signed an agreement between the government of the affected country and the government of the country carrying aid. Such an agreement regulates the basic principle of voluntary assistance during catastrophes, natural disasters and other extraordinary events that threaten human life and health, property or the environment and which cannot be fully or quickly mastered his own resources of the country requesting assistance.

Other forms of bilateral aid is the activity of specialized aid organizations affiliated countries. These are among others:

- United States Agency for International Development - USAID. It is an independent government agency established in November 3, 1961 year pursuant to Presidential Decree John F. Kennedy under the Act of 4 September 1961 of the Foreign Assistance (Foreign Assistance Act). USAID is the seat of Washington. The organization grants if necessary long-term economic support countries affected by natural disasters, fighting poverty, and implementing democratic reforms.
- Arab Gulf Program for United Nations Development Organizations - AGFUND. The organization provides financial support to projects, among others, World Health Organization and the United Nations. Development destined for developing countries and victims in the aftermath.

- The Canadian International Development Agency - CIDA. It is created in 1968, the government agency dealing with the countries being in transition in the transition to democracy and market economy and the promotion of development assistance to poorer countries [4,5,7,8].

Summary:

The international aid despite this helping to organize was the most efficient, organized and team work will, however, only a small part of the overall effort, which each bear country affected by a disaster. Based on the survey, it is assumed that the efforts of the affected country always exceed more than 80% of the costs necessary for the liquidation of its consequences. Therefore, the huge importance of countries proper preparation for disasters. The better the preparation, the more effective they will rescue.

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