

DOI: 10.55643/ser.1.51.2024.550

Viktoriia Rudevskia

D.Sc. in Economics, Associate
Professor of the Department of
Financial Technologies and Consulting,
Ivan Franko National University of Lviv,
Lviv, Ukraine;
e-mail: rudevskia@ukr.net
ORCID: [0000-0001-6697-9096](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6697-9096)
(Corresponding author)

Natalia Shvets

D.Sc. in Economics, Professor, Head of
the Department of Finance, National
University of Life and Environmental
Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine;
ORCID: [0000-0002-3113-7689](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3113-7689)

Victoria Tanase

PhD Student, Ivan Franko National
University of Lviv, Lviv, Ukraine;
ORCID: [0000-0001-7261-1167](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7261-1167)

Received: 05/01/2024

Accepted: 09/03/2024

Published: 31/03/2024

© Copyright
2024 by the author(s)



This is an Open Access article
distributed under the terms of the
[Creative Commons CC-BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

CIVILIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS A PREREQUISITE FOR PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ABSTRACT

In this article, an attempt is made to explore the similarities and differences between the concepts of civilization development and sustainable development, considering various scientific and practical approaches to understanding the concept of sustainable development. A critical analysis of theoretical approaches to define the concepts of "sustainable development" and "civilizational development" revealed that dominant perspectives focus on the ecological component and balancing the needs of future generations. This analysis allowed the authors to formulate their vision, emphasizing the tri-vector structure of sustainable development and its dependence on the level of civilization development in society.

Using the example of the degree of implementation of sustainable development principles across individual states, it has been demonstrated that countries and societal organizations based on the principles of civilizational order also show a higher degree of implementation of sustainable development goals. The article argues that achieving social and humanitarian goals is an integral component for both civilized societies and in the process of transitioning to the concept of sustainable development. Maintaining a focus solely on ecological or economic components cannot ensure the harmonious development of society at the level of individual states and on a planetary scale. Thus, consideration of civilizational development in the context of sustainable development opens up opportunities for a deeper and more comprehensive approach to solving modern problems of mankind.

Keywords: sustainability, sustainable development, civilization, civilizational development, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), society

JEL Classification: Q01, E70, F63

INTRODUCTION

Today's global challenges encompass both traditional problems for humanity and new contradictions of social progress that are unique to the current stage of the development of productive forces. For example, preserving modern trends of industrialization, environmental pollution, depletion of resources and drinking water, and population growth are unprecedented and unparalleled in world history. However, challenges that humanity has faced over an extended period of evolutionary development remain relevant: military conflicts, pandemics and epidemics, food security, and natural disasters. Addressing these challenges is a task of global magnitude, yet each country independently determines its development priorities and the timelines for achieving set goals. In the adoption of the 2030 global agenda, countries are moving forward to create a world free from poverty, gender inequality, and economic inequality thereby ensuring a healthy planet for future generations. These goals are multi-dimensional and integrate various social, economic, and environmental dimensions. The basic documents of the sustainable development concept and discussions about its essence still pay limited attention to the analysis of the role of the laws of civilization development. These laws are essential and form the basis for the transition to sustainable development.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The scientific works of both foreign and domestic scientists, including V. Egorov, Yu. Kallistov, V. Mytrofanov, and A. Piontkovsky [1], represent the origins of the concept of sustainable development. These scientists analyzed the nature of sustainable development, defining its contents in all of its objective manifestations, identifying conceptual differences in the approaches of its principles, and clearly identifying the impacts on the operation of contemporary public administration, as well as their organizational and functional capacity management processes for sustainable development.

"According to B. Burkinskyi, sustainable development is the ability of the ecological and economic system to withstand changes caused by external and internal influences in the economic and ecological subsystems, as well as the ability to maintain a certain dynamic balance" [2; 3, p. 38]. "M. Esarovych researched public administration for sustainable development: challenges and prospects at the national and local levels. O. Obolenskyi, R. Shchokin, Ye Romanenko and I. Zhukova investigated directions of public management in the economic, institutional, social, cultural, and political spheres are proposed considering the stated tendencies in the formation of modern civilization, etc." [3, p. 38].

The foundations of the civilizational approach were developed by M. Danylevsky, O. Spengler and A. Toynbee [17]. An important contribution to the theory of civilizations was made by such scientists as the German philosopher O. Spengler, the German sociologist M. Weber, the French historian F. Braudel, the American political scientist S. Huntington and others [4].

The civilizational paradigm of sustainable development is the subject of research by Y. Borshchuk and V. Zahorsky [5].

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the article is to attempt, from the perspective of civilization theory, to analyze issues and outline patterns that arise in the transition to the principles of sustainable development, both in the scientific-theoretical and practical aspects.

METHODS

During the research, various methods were employed, including analysis, synthesis, and scientific abstraction, especially in refining and developing the categorical-conceptual framework. Documents were identified using a combination of search queries, utilizing keywords and terms related to the research. No date restrictions were imposed on the search, as priority was given to the relevance of materials based on their substantive contribution to the current discussion, regardless of their publication date.

Primary data was collected by gathering relevant materials, including reports, theses, presentations, and other documents available on the Internet, providing up-to-date information dating from 2022 to 2023. In the analytical part of the research, comparative and statistical analyses, as well as graphical analyses, induction methods, and extrapolation methods were utilized.

RESULTS

Recently, the civilized world has been facing acute geopolitical and economic challenges. Against the backdrop of the conflict in Ukraine, the escalation of tensions between Israel and Hamas, and the competition between the United States and China on the global stage, the principles and goals of sustainable development proclaimed by the United Nations are perceived as particularly relevant and attention worthy from global public and economic thought. Humanitarian catastrophes caused by armed conflicts underscore the need to achieve the goals set by the UN to address current issues, balance future development, and harmonize global markets within the theory of globalization. The mentioned socio-economic processes of societal transformation unfold on the current horizon, intersect actively, and influence the outcomes of their interactions. These outcomes are reflected in the characteristics that societies acquire.

Despite the historical aspect where civilization and sustainable development have their origins in different temporal and geographical points, in current realities, they shape public opinion about the principles and goals of further development. Issues such as equality, education, ecology, and responsible use of bioresources are simultaneously seen as signs of both a civilized society and one that chooses its future economic development with consideration for the needs of future generations.

The process of exploring sustainable development issues requires attention not only to the development of the genesis of sustainable development but also to civilizational development as a prerequisite for the successful implementation of the concept of sustainable development.

It is worth commencing the research by delineating the content of civilization and sustainable development, which will enable us to identify points of intersection between these concepts and find differences. This will serve as a prerequisite for testing the hypothesis that these processes are closely related but not identical.

At the initial stage of sustainable development, the ecological component dominated. Today, sustainable development encompasses not only environmental issues but also a broad spectrum of economic and social aspects. However, the economic and social dimensions of sustainable development are expressed to varying degrees in countries depending on their current economic status and social composition.

In this study, we will not consider theories asserting that the enrichment of some countries occurs at the expense of others. Instead, we will focus on existing theories of inequality between economically developed and developing countries. This topic is vast, ambiguous, and controversial. We view sustainable development as a development guideline for UN member countries, irrespective of their current economic conditions and social institutions. However, in the context of civilizational development, these manifestations of inequality may have a decisive character.

Before discussing the underpinnings of the idea of sustainable development, let us examine its historical context. The notion of sustainable development is an extension of the noosphere theories of Vladimir Vernadsky [7]. At the turn of the century, the noosphere philosophy came into being as a key conceptual framework for developing the triple idea of sustainable development—economic, social, and ecological. On our planet, the noosphere is a brand-new geological phenomenon. It is in it that humanity emerges as the dominant geological force for the first time. With its labour and contemplation, it can and must reconstruct its way of existence in a fundamentally different way from what it was previously. Prior to it opening up ever-greater creative options [7, p. 117].

Subsequently, this problem was developed and researched in many countries of the world, including the Soviet republics. Theoretical approaches to determining the content of the definition of "sustainable development" are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Theoretical approaches to defining the content of the definition of "Sustainable Development". (Source: compiled by the authors [3])

Author	The author's view on sustainable development
V. Tregobchuk	Sustainable development is economic growth, in which the most important problems of life support of society are effectively solved without depletion, degradation and pollution of the environment [8, p. 32].
V. Danilov-Danilian, K. Losev	Sustainable development is defined as development that does not push global civilization beyond the biosphere's economic capacity. It does not cause destruction processes in the biosphere, the result of which can be the emergence of conditions that are fundamentally unacceptable for people [9].
O. Bilorus	Sustainable development requires an adequate level of democracy, respect for human rights and freedoms, including the right to development, and transparent and accountable governance in all spheres of society [10].
L. Melnik	Sustainable development is understood as a permanent reproduction of the so-called state of homeostasis (dynamic equilibrium) with a periodic change in its level, in which there would be a constant resolution of contradictions between the internal components of the system, and the change in the parameters of the biosphere would not go beyond the limits of catastrophic (fatal) transformations for the system [22].
P. Samuelson	A balanced approach to development that maintains society's capacity for self-regulation is called sustainable development [11].
R. Emas	Sustainable development requires the elimination of fragmentation; that is, environmental, social, and economic concerns must be integrated throughout decision-making processes in order to move towards development that is truly sustainable [12].
R. Kulik	Defines sustainable development as an approach to social, economic, and environmental planning that attempts to balance the social and economic needs of present and future human generations with the imperative of preserving, or preventing undue damage to, the natural environment [13].

Despite significant attention from theorists and practitioners, the concept of sustainable development has its critics. While specific details of criticism may vary, let's examine the general aspects that are often mentioned:

1. *Unrealistic Nature*: Critics argue that sustainable development is unrealistic as it requires a global shift in production and consumption, which may be impractical or even impossible.
2. *Definition Ambiguity*: The term "sustainable development" can be challenging to define or interpret, leading to inconsistent or inaccurate applications.
3. *Economic Challenges*: Achieving sustainable development may demand significant economic sacrifices, especially for developing countries seeking to improve the living standards of their citizens.
4. *Conflicts in Goals*: The goals of sustainable development may be conflicting. For example, economic growth may lead to increased consumption of natural resources and environmental pollution, contradicting sustainability goals.
5. *Impact on Wealth and Inequality*: Some critics argue that sustainable development policies may unfairly restrict economic growth in wealthy countries or hinder wealth development in poor countries.

It's important to note that these criticisms highlight challenges and considerations associated with the implementation of sustainable development rather than dismissing the importance of addressing environmental, social, and economic issues. Addressing these critiques often involves finding balanced and context-specific solutions. These are just a few examples of criticisms of sustainability. It is important to remember that this theory is still being actively discussed and developed. Exploring the principles of the concept of sustainable development, let's turn to scientists B.V. Burkinsky [2] and O.M. Zgurovsky [14, p. 112], who argue that the concept of sustainable development is based on five main principles, the critical analysis of which allows us to identify their contradictory nature.

1. *Indeed, humanity can make "development sustainable and long-lasting, so that it meets the needs of the people alive today, without depriving future generations of the opportunity to meet their needs. The limitations that exist in the exploitation of natural resources are relative"* [23, p. 26]. In our opinion, this position is correct in the short term. However, today it is difficult to predict the needs of future generations, taking into account the development of technology and the acceleration of such development. A change in priorities in energy sources and drinking water may well be transformed into new alternatives, which are still unknown to our contemporaries and easily accessible.
2. *"One of the main causes of environmental and other disasters is poverty, which has become commonplace in the world"* [23, p. 26]. It is difficult to agree with this position because most disasters are not directly related to poverty, including environmental and natural disasters. However, it is really sad to recognize cases of environmental disasters that were the result of criminal decisions or negligent attitudes (destruction of the Kakhovska dam, nuclear weapons tests, accidents at nuclear power plants, etc.).
3. *"It is necessary to meet the basic needs of all people and allow everyone to realize their hopes for a more prosperous life. Without this, sustainable and long-term development is simply impossible"* [23, p. 26]. This thesis is quite contradictory and has a populist connotation. Economic theory and practical experience do not confirm the viability of the thesis of equal distribution of benefits. Moreover, the long-term receipt of any subsidy from successful countries and world organizations significantly reduces the potential for further autonomous development of the recipient country and its population, makes the population almost impotent in adapting to the market rules of the economy, and develops a "victim" complex within society.
4. *"The size and rate of population growth must be aligned with the productive capacity of the Earth's changing global ecosystem"* [23, p. 26]. This thesis proclaims birth control to balance the productive potential of the global ecosystem, while at the same time moving society towards the oppression of women's freedom of choice regarding their bodies. This right was enshrined not so long ago and only in developed societies. The growing trend of population on Earth is also restrained by epidemics, pandemics, natural and environmental disasters, and wars. We will leave the religious aspect of birth control outside the scope of this study.

A "Summit Plan of Implementation" was agreed upon at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, announcing the global shift to sustainable development and outlining precise metrics and timelines for its implementation. The SDGs are a set of 17 goals and 169 targets that were adopted by the UN in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 [15]. The SDGs are integrated, meaning that they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The SDGs also aim to leave no one behind, by prioritizing progress for those who are furthest behind. There are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as defined by the United Nations:

no poverty; zero hunger; good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality; clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation, and Infrastructure; reduced inequalities; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; climate action; life below water; life on land; peace, justice, and strong institutions; partnerships for the goals. These SDGs were adopted by the United Nations to address a wide range of global challenges and create a more sustainable and equitable world by 2030 [15].

The analysis of theoretical approaches to defining sustainable development has revealed a weak focus on the social sphere in the paradigm of societal development. In most existing definitions, the emphasis is placed on balancing ecological and economic components. However, it is essential to highlight the role of socially significant elements in societal development, such as the quality and accessibility of education, gender equality, and human rights, as well as the preservation of peace and justice. These components are embedded in the concept of sustainable development as goals and must be considered in the content of the sustainable development concept, taking into account their relevance and impact on future generations.

Building upon a critical analysis of the genesis of the "sustainable development" definition, we propose our own vision of the content of sustainable development. This vision is grounded in the goals of sustainable development, which can be conventionally divided into economic, ecological, and social aspects, considering the degree of civilization development in society. Thus, we suggest viewing sustainable development as a paradigm for the development of a state or another territorial unit. This paradigm takes into account the balance of current and future generations' needs and is oriented towards achieving goals in economic, ecological, and social development, considering the synergistic influence of all components and the level of civilization development in society.

The proclaimed goals of sustainable development as a whole include the obvious humanitarian values of a civilized society: no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality, peace, justice, and strong institutions. We will consider the defining feature of the civilizational paradigm of sustainable development to be the fact that the basis of scientific research on the problems of sustainable development is the civilization theory, the centre of which is the concept of "civilization".

The concept of "civilization" has been known since ancient times, and the term was typically used to characterize a society based on reason, justice, education, and the supremacy of law. Over time, the concept of "civilization" began to acquire new meaning. Winston Churchill defined civilization as a society founded on the thought of its citizens. This implies that violence, the rule of the military and despotic leaders, camp conditions, war, uprisings, and tyranny give way to parliaments where laws are enacted, and independent courts that protect these laws over an extended period. Based on civilization, freedom, tranquillity, and culture flourish [16].

Most modern scholars interpret civilization as a separate, relatively autonomous, multi-ethnic, socio-cultural system capable of self-organization and self-development, which has specific spatiotemporal dimensions, basic spiritual and cultural foundations, as well as stable, long-term forms of being, which are based on social technologies of production and reproduction of direct life. The leading scientists of various scientific fields focus on the problems of finding patterns, basic principles, and effective mechanisms for the development of human civilization, managing society itself, the future of human civilization, and a new model of social evolution [4].

A. Toynbee, considering civilizational development, emphasized that civilizational development in itself is not connected with improvements in the field of agricultural or industrial technology. He also denied the connection between the development of society and any expansion: political or military. He saw military expansion as a sign of decline, not development. "Development occurs when a response to a challenge is not only successful but also leads to a further challenge, which is again answered successfully" [17].

Considering civilizational and sustainable development, it is necessary to highlight significant differences in their theoretical foundations and practical manifestations, which are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Key distinctions between traditional civilizational development and the more contemporary approach of sustainable development.

Features	Civilizational Development	Sustainable Development
Time Horizon	Often focused on short-term gains and immediate progress.	Emphasizes long-term viability, considering the needs of future generations.
Economic Focus	Primarily economic growth and material prosperity.	Balances economic, social, and environmental dimensions for holistic development.
Social Equity	May not prioritize social equality and inclusivity.	Advocates for social equity, aiming for fair and inclusive development.
Environmental Consideration	Historically neglectful of environmental impacts.	Integrates environmental sustainability into decision-making processes.
Resource Management	May exhibit exploitative practices leading to resource depletion.	Encourages responsible resource management and conservation.
Interconnectedness	Often views civilizations in isolation from one another.	Acknowledges global interdependence and interconnectedness.
Cultural Preservation	May or may not prioritize the preservation of cultural diversity.	Values and seeks to preserve cultural diversity as part of development.
Resilience	Focuses on short-term resilience, if at all.	Emphasizes building resilience in social, economic, and ecological systems.
Global Collaboration	Historically less emphasis on global collaboration.	Advocates for international cooperation to address global challenges.

This table highlights key distinctions between traditional civilizational development and the more contemporary approach of sustainable development, emphasizing a more balanced and inclusive perspective that considers long-term consequences and global interconnectedness. We believe that these two types of development are not competitors, but rather complementary and provide better results in their synergistic interaction. The effect of strengthening the results of the implementation of sustainable development goals in a civilized society is ensured by common aspirations, basic requirements and vulnerabilities (Table 3).

Table 3. Common values, goals and barriers for sustainable and civilizational developments. Note: (+/-) direction of impact on development.

Values and goals	Sustainable developments	Civilizational development
Quality of life of people	+	+
Culture, education, science	+	+
Technology and innovation	+	+
Cooperation, dialogue, mutual understanding	+	+
Tolerance and equality	+	+
Law and resilient institutions	+	+
Epidemic and pandemic	-	-
War	-	-
Natural disasters and climate changes	-	-

Having explored the common aspects of civilization and sustainable development, we propose to highlight the following:

- both developments strive to achieve a better life for people and the planet;
- both developments define the importance of culture, education, science, technology, and innovation;
- both developments require cooperation, dialogue, mutual understanding, tolerance, and equality;
- both developments are based on the supremacy of law and resilient institutions;
- both developments undergo significant setbacks in achieving their goals due to wars, natural disasters, and climate changes.

The shared goals and common priorities embedded in both the concepts of sustainable and civilized development allow us to assert that societies that have achieved higher levels of civilization demonstrate better results in achieving the goals of sustainable development. The list of countries leading in the implementation of sustainable development principles supports the idea of synchronizing the goals of sustainable development with the principles of a civilized society. Here are some of the leading countries in sustainability (Figure 1).

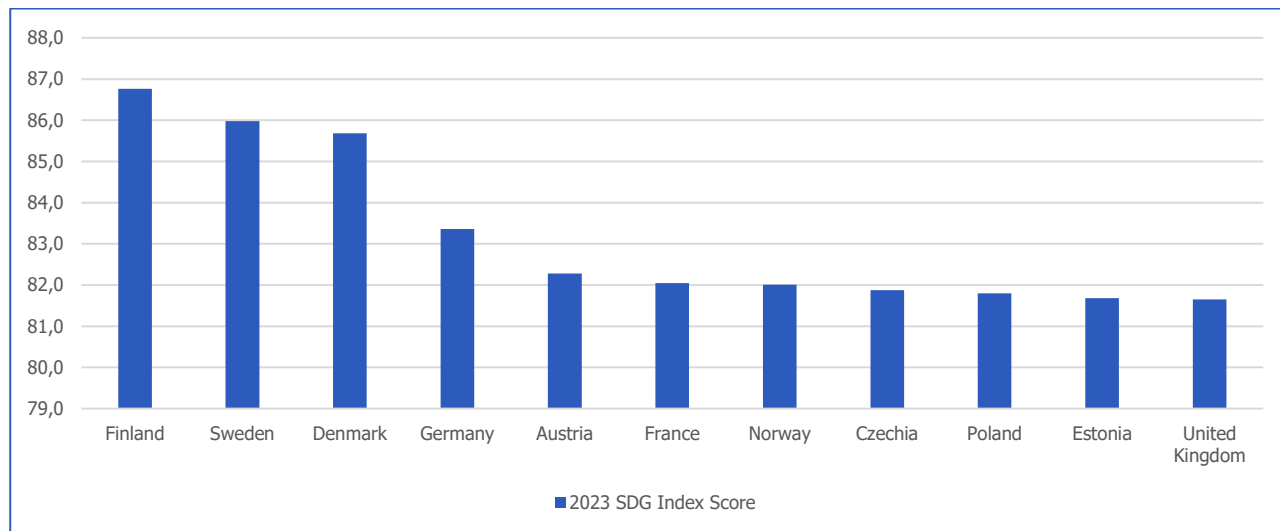


Figure 1. Leading countries in sustainability according to SDG Index in 2023. (Source: [19])

As seen from Figure 1, the leading positions in the SDG Index Score, demonstrating the level of achievement of sustainable development goals, are held by countries typically associated with Western civilization. Finland is ranked first in the Sustainable Development Report 2023, with a score of 86.764. Sweden is also a leader in sustainability, ranking second in the Sustainable Development Report 2023 with a score of 85.984. Denmark is often ranked at the top of sustainability rankings. The country has set a goal to reach 100% renewable energy by 2050 year. Germany ranks fourth in the Sustainable Development Report 2023, with a score of 83.364. France has been shifting away from industrialization by focusing on environmental efforts. It ranks sixth in the Sustainable Development Report 2023, with a score of 82.054. All 20 countries ranked from 1st to 20th in the leaderboard are European countries. It should be noted that the top ten leaders are formed by the countries of European soybeans (Figure 2).

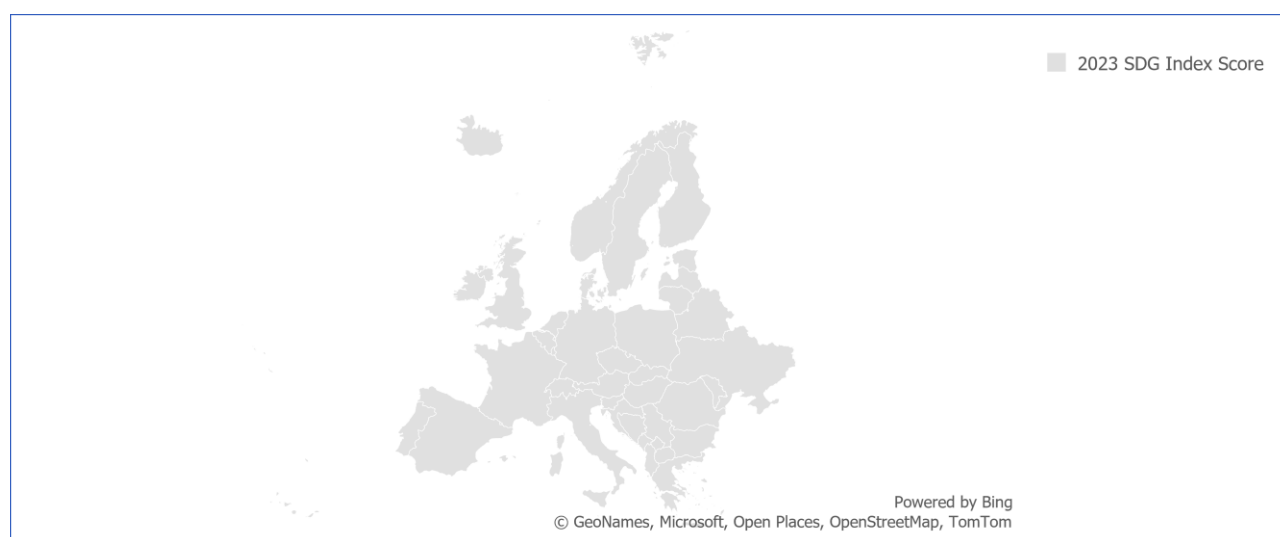


Figure 2. Geography of Leading countries in sustainability according SDG Index in 2023. (Source: [19])

These countries have shown commitment to sustainable practices and have implemented policies and initiatives that align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, these countries are also characterized by developed economies,

the rule of law, no internal wars for almost 80 years, recognition of the importance of culture, education, science, technology, innovation, and ensuring a high standard of living for their citizens. In other words, all the mentioned countries have achieved a high level of civilization development, which has become the basis for the introduction of the concept of sustainable development and the achievement of significant results.

The absolute values of the SDG Index are composed of the achievements of each country in each of the 17 stated goals. The sustainable development goals that correspond to civilization goals for the top five leaders and some developing countries are presented in Figure 3. As seen from the presented ranking, the greatest emphasis on the stated goals of sustainable development is placed on the energy sector and environmental technologies. However, the leading countries have also achieved maximum values in education, the implementation of innovations, and the well-being of the population. Gender equality remains the most vulnerable goal of sustainable development, especially in developing countries.

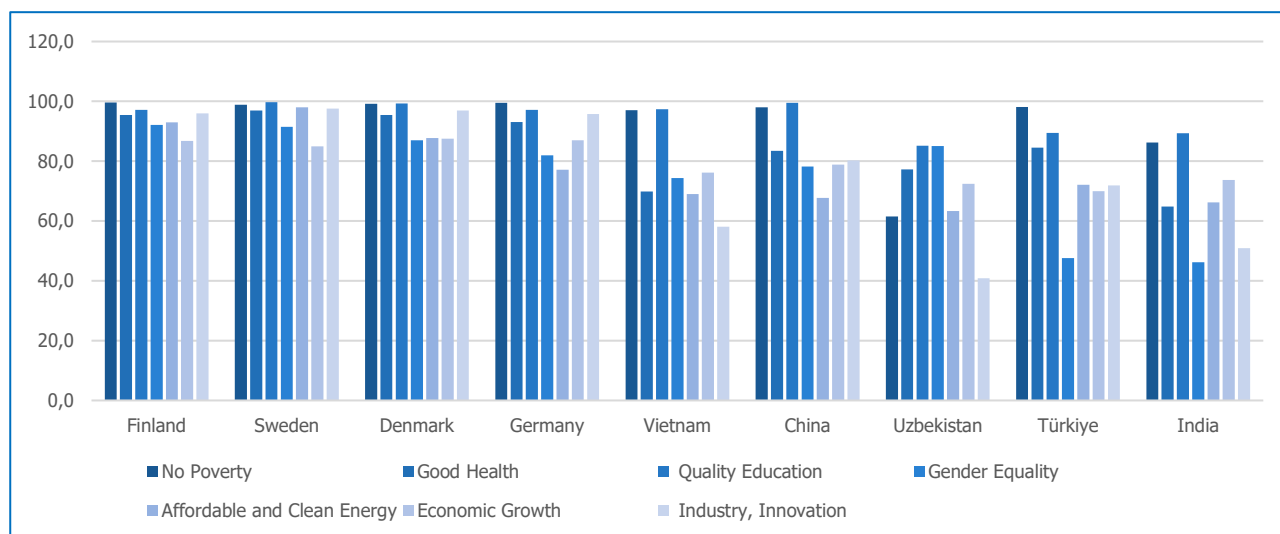


Figure 3. Ranking of the achievement of the fundamental goals of sustainable development in the context of economically developed countries and developing countries (selective), 2023. (Source: [19])

Here are a few instances of how sustainability has been successfully implemented in China and India. India has carried out a number of programs that support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through the introduction and implementation of numerous laws and measures pertaining to sustainable development, climate change, resource efficiency, and air pollution, India continues to aim for and maintain its economic growth. India has launched a number of programs in an effort to achieve its 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a comprehensive manner. India's SDG Index Scores for States and UTs vary from 42 to 69 and 57 to 68, respectively. Out of all the States, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh lead with a score of 69; among the UTs, Chandigarh and Puducherry lead with scores of 68 and 65, respectively. [19]. India has also made significant strides in renewable energy. The country has set a target to install 450GW of renewable energy and restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030 [20].

China's economic structure has shifted significantly from an over-reliance on manufacturing industries to low-carbon services. China has achieved food security and the eradication of extreme poverty. By the end of 2020, China had successfully combated poverty as planned, eliminating it for the 98.99 million rural citizens who currently live below the poverty line and fulfilling SDG 1 targets ten years ahead of schedule [21].

China has actively addressed climate change and promoted green growth worldwide. China has sped up the shift to green development by adopting the notion that crystal-clear water and verdant mountains are priceless assets. China has achieved significant progress in the comprehensive preservation and management of its mountains, rivers, forests, farms, lakes, grasslands, and deserts. It has also triumphed in the three major conflicts to maintain its sky blue, water-clean, and soil pollution-free. China has taken a leading role in international climate governance. In terms of installed capacity and output of wind and photovoltaic power generation, China is the global leader [21]. The country has also been aggressive in shifting the mix of its fuel consumption away from carbon-intensive coal to oil, natural gas, hydro, and renewables.

The conducted research allows the authors to make assumptions that civilization and sustainable development are processes that exert mutual influence: a higher level of civilization development ensures better results in achieving sustainability, and sustainable development is capable of balancing civilization and slowing down or even postponing the decline of civilization development. The development of civilization in a historical context implies its stage-by-stage nature and

includes both elevation and decline. This perspective has been advocated by thinkers such as O. Spengler, A. Toynbee, and K. Kołakowski. While their models may differ, each shares the assumption that history exhibits a certain rhythm of the rise and fall of civilizations. However, the political and economic structures created by humanity possess many characteristics of complex systems. From this standpoint, civilizations are extremely complex systems, created with a large number of interacting components, asymmetrically organized [16, p. 387]. Based on this, a community that, in the strategic vision of its development, acknowledges the necessity of implementing the goals and approaches declared in the concept of sustainable development, may have additional advantages in its civilization development in the long term.

DISCUSSION

In analyzing the transition processes to the principles of sustainable development from the perspective of a civilization approach, many avenues for further broad research open up. These avenues will provide answers to debatable questions such as exploring the dynamics of civilization development within the global society and different time horizons, identifying general factors of historical civilization development in society and their characteristics in the context of the contemporary transition to sustainable development principles, and obtaining an objective analysis of the sustainable development concept in the context of societal historical development. Another current debate involves determining the ultimate goal of sustainable development and the role of purposeful human activity in achieving such a result.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of theoretical approaches to defining sustainable development revealed a weak focus on the social sphere within the paradigm of societal development. In most existing definitions, the emphasis is on balancing the ecological and economic components. Relying on a critical analysis of the genesis of the definition of "sustainable development," we propose our own understanding grounded in the goals of sustainable development, which can be conventionally divided into economic, ecological, and social dimensions, taking into account the degree of societal civilization development.

During the research, based on the analysis of analytical data, the hypothesis was confirmed that countries that have achieved a high level of development from the perspective of civilization theory demonstrate better results in the transition to sustainable development. States at a higher level of civilization development show faster progress in achieving sustainable development goals. This is due to the common aspirations, basic conditions, and vulnerabilities shared by both civilization and sustainable development. The conducted research allows the authors to make assumptions that civilization and sustainable development are processes that exert mutual influence: a higher level of civilization development ensures better results in achieving sustainability, and sustainable development is capable of balancing civilization and slowing down or even postponing the decline of civilization development.

Further research is needed to clarify the sufficiency of the toolkit of sustainable development in ensuring the harmonious coexistence of current and future generations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization: *Viktoriia Rudevska*

Data curation: *Victoria Tanase*

Formal Analysis: *Viktoriia Rudevska*

Methodology: *Natalia Shvets*

Resources: *Victoria Tanase*

Supervision: *Natalia Shvets*

Validation: *Victoria Tanase*

Investigation: *Viktoriia Rudevska*

Visualization: *Viktoriia Rudevska*

Writing – review & editing: *Natalia Shvets, Victoria Tanase*

Writing – original draft: *Viktoriia Rudevska*

REFERENCES

1. Egorov, A., Kallistov, Yu., Mytrofanov, V., & Piontkovskyi, A. (1980). *Mathematical models of global development*. Moscow: Gidrometeoizdat.
2. Burkinskyi, B., Stepanov, V., & Harichkov, S. (2012). Economic vector of the sustainable development strategy in Ukraine. *Ecology and nature management*, 163-173. <http://dspace.nbuv.gov.ua/bitstream/handle/123456789/57466/19-Burkinsky.pdf?sequence=1>
3. Rudevska, V., Shvets, N., Shkvaryliuk, M., & Tanase, V. (2022). Genesis of the concept of sustainable development and the directions of its achievement in society. *Socio-Economic Relations in the Digital Society*, 4(46), 37-48. <https://doi.org/10.55643/ser.4.46.2022.467>
4. Maslova, N. V. (2005). *Systema Vseobshchikh Zakonov Myra*. Moskva.
5. Zahorskyi, V. S., & Borshchuk, Ye. M. (2020). Tsyvilizatsiina paradyhma staloho rozvytku. *Efficiency of Public Administration*, 3(64), 197-211. <https://doi.org/10.33990/2070-4011.64.2020.217621>
6. Toynbi, A. (1995). *Doslidzhennya istoriyi*. Kyiv: Osnovy.
7. Vernadskyi, I. (1944). A few words about the noosphere. *Advances in modern biology*. № 18, pub. 2. pp. 113-120.
8. Tregobchuk, V. (2002). Concept of Sustainable Development for Ukraine. *Bulletin of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine*, 2, 31-40. http://irbis-nbuv.gov.ua/cgi-bin/irbis_nbuv/cgiirbis_64.exe?C21COM=2&I21DBN=UJRN&P21DBN=UJRN&IMAGE_FILE_DOWNLOAD=1&Image_file_name=PDF/vnanu_2002_2_7.pdf
9. Danilov-Danilian, V., & Losev, K. (2000). *Environmental challenge and sustainable development*. Moscow.
10. Bilorus, O. G., & Matseyko, Yu. M. (2005). *Global Perspective and Sustainable Development*. Kyiv: MAUP. <https://maup.com.ua/assets/files/lib/book/nw07.pdf>
11. Education for sustainable development. Education and science at the threshold of the third millennium: Theses of the International Congress (for 50th aniv. of UNESCO). UNESCO. <http://www.unesco.org/education/desd>
12. Emas, R. (2015). *The Concept of Sustainable Development: Definition and Defining Principles*. Florida: International University. <http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.34980.22404>
13. Kulik, R. M. (2024, February 10). Sustainable development. Encyclopedia Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/sustainable-development>
14. Zgurovsky, O.M. (2001). Research of the discontinuous nature of globalization in the context of social development and security of the countries of the world. *System research and information technologies*, 3, 112-122. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Fjournal.iasa.kpi.ua%2Farticle%2Fdownload%2F106947%2F101945%2F226689&psig=AOvVaw0FmZrcc-XSZISBgcSErvR&ust=1710056483806000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CAkQr5oMahckEwiI8rW1-aEaXUAAAAAHQAAAAQBA>
15. Sustainable development goals. Official Site UNDP (n.d.). <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals>
16. Ferguson, N. (2022). *Civilization. How the West Became Successful*. Kyiv: Nash Format.
17. Toynbee, A. (1995). *Doslidzhennya istoriyi*. Kyiv: Osnovy.
18. Sustainable Development Report (2023). <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/rankings>
19. India follows a holistic approach towards its 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (2019). Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Finance. <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1577014>
20. Voluntary National Review (2020). <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/india>
21. Voluntary National Review (2021). <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/china>
22. Melnik, L. G., Biliavsky, O. G., et al. (2005). *Fundamentals of Sustainable Development*. https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fssuir.sumdu.edu.ua%2Fhandle%2F123456789%2F44620&psig=AOvVaw3E_nXDeeETywrE8nr791hf&ust=1710056866813000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CAkQr5oMahckEwjY79a52OaEaXUAAAAAHQAAAAQBA
23. Abdallakh Leila Najibovna (2020). International Economic Cooperation as an Approach to Achieving Sustainable Development Goals. Global and Regional Aspects of Sustainable Development. *Scientific Collection "Interconf"*, 3(33), 24-30. <https://r.donnu.edu.ua/bitstream/123456789/1732/1/2020.10.26-28.pdf>

Рудевська В., Швець Н., Танасе В.

ЦИВІЛІЗАЦІЙНИЙ РОЗВИТОК ЯК ПЕРЕДУМОВА ПРОГРЕСУ В ДОСЯГНЕННІ ЦІЛЕЙ СТАЛОГО РОЗВИТКУ

У статті досліджено подібне й відмінне між поняттями цивілізаційного розвитку та сталого розвитку. Розглянуто різні наукові та практичні підходи до розуміння концепції сталого розвитку. Критичний аналіз теоретичних підходів до визначення понять «сталий розвиток» показав, що домінуючі погляди на суть сталого розвитку фокусуються на

екологічній складовій і збалансуванні потреб майбутніх поколінь. Проведений аналіз дозволив авторам сформулювати своє бачення, підкресливши тривекторну структуру сталого розвитку та його залежність від рівня цивілізаційного розвитку в суспільстві.

На прикладі ступеня реалізації принципів сталого розвитку в окремих державах продемонстровано, що країни та суспільства, засновані на принципах цивілізаційного порядку, також демонструють вищий ступінь реалізації цілей сталого розвитку. У статті аргументовано, що досягнення соціально-гуманітарних цілей є невід'ємною складовою й для цивілізованих суспільств, і в процесі переходу до концепції сталого розвитку. Збереження орієнтації виключно на екологічну або економічну складові не може забезпечити гармонійного розвитку суспільства на рівні окремих держав і в планетарному масштабі. Таким чином, розгляд цивілізаційного розвитку в контексті сталого розвитку відкриває можливості для більш глибокого й комплексного підходу до розв'язання сучасних проблем людства.

Ключові слова: сталий розвиток, цивілізаційний розвиток, цілі сталого розвитку (ЦСР), суспільство

JEL Класифікація: Q01, E70, F63