Termination of states' membership in international organizations

Summary

International organizations are subjects of international law whose role and importance is constantly growing. Joining them is a sovereign decision of the state, which results in not only the acquisition of rights, but also obligations.

The main goal of the work is to present the issue of termination of membership of an international organization, with particular emphasis on the organization's practice in terms of suspension of membership rights, termination of membership, withdrawal from an international organization and exclusion from it. The study verified the research hypothesis: is it possible to leave an international organization, despite the lack of legal regulations in this regard in the founding act. Moreover, an important answer to the question was: what is the effect of leaving the structures of international organizations in the absence of a clause in the contract creating it, and whether the omission of such regulations affects the speed of breaking the membership with a given organization.

Answering these questions was possible thanks to the use of methodology and conceptual apparatus in the field of public international law. Institutions in the field of European law, theory of law and constitutional law were also used.

The first chapter presents the problem of an international organization as a subject of international relations. Historical approach to international organizations was analyzed, its concept was defined, as well as classifications based on criteria reflecting its character. Attention was paid to the statute of an international organization as well as its structure and functions. Particular attention was also paid to the subjectivity of an international organization.

The characteristics of membership in international organizations is the subject of chapter two. The concept of membership and its content were introduced. The types and methods of its acquisition are characterized. The non-member status of participation in an international organization was also analyzed.

The next chapter analyzes the issue of suspending the state as a member of an international organization. The term "suspension of membership rights" was defined and the legal basis for initiating proceedings in this matter was determined. The legal prerequisites of this procedure and its stages were analyzed. Reference was also made to the effects of the declaration of membership suspension, both on the part of the suspended state and the international organization. The analysis contained in this chapter is based on examples from the practice of countries which have been subject to legal regulations regarding the suspension of membership rights.

The fourth chapter of the hearing concerns the institution of a member state's withdrawal from an international organization. The definition of this concept and the legal regulations that determine the initiation of the procedure are presented. The entire procedure was analyzed, as well as its effects, both on the part of the Member State and the international organization. Attention was also drawn to the procedure resulting in the withdrawal of a member state from an international organization in the event that its founding act does not provide for such a possibility.

The last, fifth chapter presents the problem of excluding a member state from an international organization. The concept of exclusion was defined and the legal basis for the implementation of the procedure in this regard was characterized. Examples of Member States for which this procedure has been conducted are also indicated. The entirety of the proceedings related to the exclusion of a member state was analyzed, as well as its consequences for the excluded state and the international organization. Attention was also paid to the issue of termination of membership as a result of the loss of international legal subjectivity by the state.

The presentation of the international legal aspects of the termination of the membership of international organizations in the above-mentioned manner created a coherent and logical whole. It also made it possible to achieve the goal of the work and verify the hypothesis.

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