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L. E. MENABDISHVILI, PhD (Econ.), Researcher
Institute of Demography and Sociology of the Ilia State University
0162, Georgia, Tbilisi, C. Cholokashvili Str. 3/5
E-mail: lalaman@gmail.com
ORCID: 0000-0003-3847-6250

N. E. MENABDISHVILI, PhD (Econ.), Assistant Researcher
Institute of Demography and Sociology of the Ilia State University
0162, Georgia, Tbilisi, C. Cholokashvili Str. 3/5
E-mail: nanamen@gmail.com
ORCID: 0000-0002-3577-4888

N. A. GOMELAURI, Associate Researcher
Institute of Demography and Sociology of the Ilia State University
0162, Georgia, Tbilisi, C. Cholokashvili Str. 3/5
E-mail: gomelaurinino@yahoo.com; nino.gomelairi@ilaiuni.edu.ge
ORCID: 0000-0003-4796-4221

GLOBALIZATION AND THE GEORGIAN FAMILY

The process of globalization has picked up its pace in the last period and it affects every sphere of societal life. It brings about the new epoch in the human civilization. The history of the establishment and development of the family runs parallel to the history of the development of humankind. Therefore, it is of utmost urgency and importance to study the impact of globalization on the institute of family. The presented work touches upon the immensely urgent issue for modernity - the impact of globalization on the Georgian family. The aim of the article is to delineate those positive and negative changes that occurred within the Georgian family as a result of globalization. This is one of the first attempts to demonstrate the basic characteristics of the modern Georgian family. In order to display the issue clearly, the authors have employed the data

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of the Georgian statistical service as well as that of the European Union and made a comparative analysis. The researchers have also used the results of the sociological survey conducted with their direct participation during 2013-2015. The main discoveries, which have been obtained by the researchers in this work, are connected with the various types of changes that came to pass in the family. Since the turn of the new century, tolerant attitude toward sexual freedom has been established in Georgia. The beginning of sexual life is no longer associated with the creation of the family. Consequently, the marriage age has increased and the youth are in no hurry to create the family. The postponement of marriage has dialed back the birth of the first child in ages above 30 and, thus, the start of the late parenthood. During 2000-2018, from among the total number of children born by the women of all age group, the share of the children born to only the women within the age group of 30-40 went up from 20.8 % to 33.6 %, i.e. increased 1.6 times. The 1.4 times increase in the fertility rate among the women aged above 40 during the last 18-year period is unprecedented. Religious or legal marriage is no longer necessary to start the family, couples cohabit without it. The increase in the number of cohabiting couples, in its turn, has boosted the number of out-of-wedlock births. It was only two decades ago that such a thing was totally unacceptable in our society. Globalization opened the door wide to international migration. The globalization has brought with it "transnational families", which were unusual for Georgian society. The man was traditionally considered to be the breadwinner in the Georgian family, however, this did not preclude the woman from working and earning income. It was a given that the woman's labor was not necessary to retain the living standard of the family. Since the last years of the previous century, because of the fundamental transformations the country was undergoing, the income of the women became not only necessary for the family, but also of life and death importance. The high level of unemployment within the country gave rise to the large number of "transnational mothers". The Georgian researchers established that the share of the money transfers executed by the Georgian women in emigration is more than half of the total transfers. The instances of family violence are characteristic of Georgian society, like for the majority of societies. It was considered that the facts of domestic violence must not leave the confines of the family. Globalization, additionally, changed the attitude of our society toward this harmful malaise. The victims of violence no longer hide the facts, as a result the exposure of as well as reaction to these instances has increased. Since 2015, the exposure rate of the facts of family violence has grown nearly by 50 %. Superficial attitude of the youth toward marriage has significantly increased the number of divorces. Traditionally, divorce was condemned in Georgia. However, today it is tolerated. In the XXI century, the highest crude divorce rate in Georgia (in 2019 – 3 ‰) lags by only one-tenth behind the highest rate encountered in the EU countries such as: Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg (3.1 ‰ divorce per 1000 persons). The mean duration of marriage is 10.6 years in Georgia, and it is shorter than that of Great Britain (11 years), Italy (17 years) and France (13), however, it exceeds that of the USA (8 years).

Keywords: globalization, family, marriage, divorce, transnational family.

Relevance of the article. The globalization brings about a new epoch before the human civilization. This is an epoch with new challenges, possibilities and anxieties. The globalization was once a myth, but gradually it has assumed the form of unavoidable reality. It has entered into every sphere of life: trade, finances, employment, migration, technologies, communication, environment, social systems, ways of life, culture, modes of governance, and transformed them. The agents of globalization: digital technologies of communication, electronic media and English language, at the initial stage, started functioning only with the aim of economic and political service, however, during the decades, they have encom-

passed socio-cultural issues, environment, family relations and even every one of us. The globalization is a reality which touched every nation and society. Some of them support this process, but other nations and societies do not receive it positively. Many of us might say that this is modernity. However, this modernity harms, especially, family and behavior approaches, which drift further and further away from positive traditionalism. It alters the system of values, emotional connections, norms of behavior, which create connections and links among family members and generations. Since the 1970s, the second demographic transition has been practically observed in the demographically developed countries of the world, and it has been developing at a rapid pace since the last decade of the 20th century. This period marks the crucial transformation of socio-demographic behavior within the families residing in highly-developed countries of the world. The instances of postponing the first official marriage became frequent and, thus, the age at which a person enters the first marriage has also increased; unregistered marriages became prevalent and divorces saw growth. The process of transition to families with few children started to accelerate by means of the reproductive behavior transformation; the creation of family without official marriage fostered the emergence of alternative forms of the family (cohabitation, etc.) and the increase of fertility sans marriage. All of the above-mentioned had an important impact on the decrease of the reproductive period and thus, on fertility.

Literature review. Important alterations have occurred in global demography since 1986. The opinions of Ron Lesthaeghe and Dick van de Kaa, regarding the “second demographic transition” (SDT), are connected with the mentioned period. They were convinced that the substituting fertility would be a long-term characteristic, and that pre-marriage cohabitation would expand in Europe. They emphasized the cultural changes of the 1960s, which put every form of authority under doubt. According to the arguments advanced by them, an epoch of much more individual discretion and autonomy was under the process of creation. This view was shared in France by Philippe Ariès (1980) and Louis Russell (1983).

The further advance of “the revolution of ethics” indicated the increasing dominance of individual autonomy over traditional societal norms. This exercised a significant influence on family. Four main courses of socio-demographic behavior within a family took shape [19]:

1. The wide spread of the legally unregistered cohabitation (unregistered marriage) and alternative forms of family;
2. The transition from the children-centric model of the family to individually oriented families with few children (1 or 2 children);
3. The transition to planned comprehended childbirth;
4. The transition from the unified model of the family to the pluralistic one.

Since the end of the last century, family has become the center of attention of researchers and society. Zilhi (Zilhi 2001) notes that the issue of the diversity of

family has emerged strongly within family sociology. R Kelly (Kelly R.M. 1998) in his work "Family conflict, divorce and adaptation of children" focuses on family environment for the adaptation of children. He discusses such issues as are: family conflicts, family violence and hostile relations, living apart and divorce, their impact on children. A. Grishi (Grishi A. 2009) in his article "The impact of economic globalization on work and family collectivism in India" shows two leading trajectories within the historiography of families: socio-demographic and state regulator. Roland Robertson [10] thinks that the globalization signifies the contraction of the world and strengthening the awareness of the world as the whole. It makes the world into one place with its thinking and action. In this regard, family values and relations change according to the global norms and styles. Allan Carlson in his book "American family – yesterday, today, and tomorrow" shows those changes which the family underwent and especially underscores the influence of liberalism.

The aim of the article and innovation character. The following paper is one of the first attempts which combine the results of various sociological researches and statistical data. A comparative analysis of Georgian statistical data and that of the European Union is carried out. The work displays those problems that the Georgian families faced as a consequence of accelerated rate of globalization. It shows how the traditional values changed due to "the ethical revolution" and the effect it had on the Georgian family. How the Georgian family loses the traditional features and gradually becomes similar to the families of the other countries under the conditions of globalization. The goal of the work is to describe and introduce to researchers as well as the wider society the deep ongoing changes within today's Georgian family. It underlines those negative and positive sides which globalization has brought to the Georgian family.

Data and methods. The work is based on the statistical data as well as the material of sociological researches conducted by the Institute during various years on different issues. The work makes use of the material of the quantitative research of 2013, which studied the socio-demographic problems of the family. It also employs the materials of the quantitative research of 2014-2015, which focused on the issues related to family violence.

The description of the research problem. In Georgian reality a family has represented a single acknowledged form of a relationship between women and men during the centuries. Family and family life were considered to be important values in our society. The rapid pace of globalization has had an impact on Georgian society's system of values. Such individual values as are: career advancement, material wellbeing was brought to the foreground. The changes of family structure form and functions have started. The family is getting accustomed to the changed global society. According to the theory of an American sociologist Alvin Toffler, the first to react most swiftly to every kind of novelty is market, family occupies the second place in flexibility and the speed of reaction [5].

The globalization introduced and gradually established in our existence the previously unacceptable and reprehensible occurrences such as: the growth of unregistered marriages, therefore, the increase in out-of-wedlock births; the increase of divorce; a relatively high figure of spouses living apart, which is determined by one of the spouses's migration for an unspecified term; the clash between the old and new values of the spouses has contributed to the growth of family violence; the number of single persons has increased, etc. All of this creates the danger of social degradation of a family. The family no longer remains the regulating form of the society. Under these circumstances, it is important to formulate the kind of family policy, which will add to the firmness of the family, increase the family advantage, equality between the spouses, and stress the significance of children in the family and their upbringing according to the traditional national values. The goal of the family policy must be to retain the physical continuity and national originality of the Georgian people. The creation of such a policy is impossible without a thorough research of the family and related problems. The department of family sociology which belongs to the Ilia State University's Institute of Demography and Sociology has been studying the family-related issues for 30 years. During this time, the scientific staff of the Institute has published many scientific works that touch upon the certain issues of family. This article shows how, under the conditions of globalization, the Georgian family loses its traditional form and gradually resembles the families in other countries.

The main results of the research. *Marriage age and postponed parenthood.*

Traditionally, marriage in our country has been deemed the highest value and, thus, was necessary. As a youngster came of age, he/she had to establish a family, even if they could not provide for material needs independently. Therefore, the newly-weds, for the most part, lived together with their parents and were dependent on them. Within such families the man's authority was quite high. The expanded type of the family was considered to be traditional and dominant. However, in modern existence, independence has attained a large significance. The view in the society is: "in order for the marriage to be happy, it is necessary for the couple to live independently" (this view is shared by 82 % of the respondents)¹. In most cases, the youth begin working early, earn their own income and start living independently after marriage. Gradually, the traditional expanded family was replaced by the nuclear one. The start of the sexual life is no longer identified with the creation of the family. The society has become tolerant toward free sexual life. 54 % of the respondents think that "couples can live together without getting married". This has resulted in the increase of the average age of marriage. The youth are no longer in haste to create a family. The first order of

¹ The article uses the data of the sociological research which was conducted by Institute of Demography and Sociology Ilia State University in 2013 in three of the largest cities of Georgia where 1220 respondents were interviewed.

business for them is to provide for themselves materially and set up a career. Until recently, in many countries, the marriage age of women was lower than that of men. However, due to gender equality, it has increased to the age of the men. As to the average age of the first marriage, the situation is following in the countries of Europe: the earliest marriage is seen in the Eastern European countries, where brides are aged 22-26, and bridegrooms – 24-27 at the time of marriage. In most Central European countries, women get married at 27 and men at 30. As regards the Northern, Southern and Western Europe, here the mean age of the first marriage is the highest. Sweden is the leader with the highest rate of these data. In 2013, the mean age at first marriage for men was at least 30 years in all EU Member States, except Poland (29.0 years), Lithuania (29.5 years) and Romania (29.7 years). The highest mean age for men at first marriage was recorded in Sweden (35.7 years), followed by Denmark, Spain and Italy (each around 34 years) [17]. Sweden had the oldest mean average age of marriage in Europe for both males and females at 36.7 for males, and 34.1 for females. By contrast, North Macedonia had the youngest average age at marriage, at 26.5 for both males and females.

The average age of the registered marriage is characterized by the tendency for growth in Georgia. While in 1994 the mean age of marriage for men was 27.7 years, in 2021 it has become 33.6 years. The increase was noticed among the women as well, in 1994 – 23.8 years, in 2021 – 30.9 years. The age of the first marriage showed the tendency for growth too. The age of the first marriage for the women was 28.1 years, and for the men – 30.7 years. Supposedly, this tendency will continue in future [14].

The postponement of marriages naturally shifted forward the birth of the first child in the ages above 30 and, therefore, the beginning of the late parenthood. In addition, the postponed realization of having the desired number (first and consecutive) of children on the part of parents had an impact on the increase of childbirths in the ages above 40. During 2000-2018, among the total number of the children born to the women of every age, the share of the children of the women aged 20-40 grew from 20.8 % to 33.6 %, in other words, it increased 1.6 times and constituted 1/3 of the born children. In a similar fashion, the share of the children born to the women above 40 increased 1.4 times and in 2018, it constituted 2.9 %. It is noteworthy that after 1973-1974, during the 18-year period, the share of the childbirths of the women above 40 increased 1.4 times, which was unprecedented. The mentioned fact was determined more by the laws of the second demographic transition than by the local socio-economic factors.

In the survey conducted by the Institute of Demography and Sociology (2013), from among the 1112 interviewed respondents of the reproductive age, 60 % were aged above 30, of which 55 % were women. The survey enabled us to, more or less, study the main reasons for the postponed parenthood. According to the research, the postponed parenthood is, first and foremost, related to the need

of an individual for having a child and the situational possibility for the fulfillment of this need in time. It can be described in the following succession:

1. The discomfort of an individual over not having a child (children);
2. Priority of having children in time as compared to other types of needs in the individual's whole system of needs;
3. The situational possibility of fulfilling the need for having children in time and space, which can accelerate or postpone parenthood.

Cohabitation and out-of-wedlock birth. As of today, three forms of marriage can be encountered in Georgia: the registered marriage, which is legally formalized and, thus, is acknowledged by the state; religious marriage, which is acknowledged by the church, however, it is not recorded by the state, and the unregistered marriage – cohabitation, which is acknowledged by the society, although it is not recognized and recorded by the church or state. Mere 2-3 decades ago, cohabitation was not acceptable for Georgia because of the traditions; however, the globalization has introduced changes in this regard and gradually established them into existence. In lots of countries of the world thousands of couples begin living together without marriage or, in other words, cohabitation. The latter means living sans the legal and social obligations related to the marriage. This is an institutionalized way to create a family. Every form of marriage has its positive and negative sides. The researchers have varying opinions regarding the relationship between cohabitation and the risks of divorce. Some of them maintain that cohabitation decreases the loyalty between the partners and, thus, increases the risk of separation. Others seem to believe that cohabitation before the actual marriage (as the experimental marriage) will strengthen the familial stability. According to the data for the first decade of the 21st century², in some countries, for instance: Austria and the USA, more than 30 % of the couples cohabited before getting married, and in such countries as are: Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Russia, Spain and the Great Britain, more than half of the marriages weren't preceded by cohabitation [20].

The number of the cohabiting couples is increasing in Europe. Nearly 40 % of the French couples aged 25-44 chose cohabitation in 2010. This figure exceeded 50 % in Sweden [21]. The number of the cohabitants grows each year. Eurofond's calculation using the European Union's data shows that in 2017 France (13 %), Sweden (13) and Finland (12 %) produced the highest figures in Europe in this regard. The total figure of cohabitation in the European Union rose from 5 % to 7 % during 2007-2017 [20]. The number of such families in the Great Britain has increased by 8 % from 2008 to 2018. The data produced by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) show that the number of the cohabitant couples

² Some of the analyses from Liefbroer and Dourleijn are based on the data for the first decade of the 21st century: Gender and Generations Programme (GGP), linear interviewing conducted among the youth from 18 to 29 years of age in 19 countries of Europe.

grows faster than the number of the married families. The increase amounted to 25.8 % during the decade [18].

The exact recording of the cohabitants is non-existent in Georgia. Based on the calculations done according to the data of the Caucasus Barometer (CRRС 2013) research, 5.6 % of the couples are in cohabitation. The Institute of Demography and Sociology of Ilia State University conducted a research in 2013 in three cities of Georgia and interviewed 1220 respondents. Among these people, 15.4 % live in cohabitation with their partners, that is, without legal and religious marriage [2].

The increase of the cohabiting couples contributes to the increase in out-of-wedlock birth. This tendency is characteristic to many countries of the world. The share of the out-of-wedlock live-birth amounted to 42 % in 2018 in the European Union. This figure is still growing in the EU. According to the data for the same year, the out-of-wedlock birth rate in eight EU countries: France (60 %), Bulgaria (59), Slovakia (58), Portugal (56), Sweden (55), Estonia (54), Denmark (54), the Netherlands (52 %), was substantially higher than the fertility in marriage. However, it must be noted that some of the countries avoid the mentioned tendency. For example: Greece and Croatia together with Lithuania and Poland are on the other end of the spectrum regarding the out-of-wedlock birth rate. The share of those children who were born with legitimacy status in these countries (more than 70 %) substantially exceeds the share of those born out-of-wedlock. In comparison to 2000, the figure of the fertility outside of marriage increased in nearly all EU member countries in 2017, with the exception of: Sweden, Estonia and Latvia, where the decrease was insignificant [17]. Nevertheless, it must be said that a permanently growing tendency of out-of-wedlock birth is not characteristic to every developed country, for instance: Germany, Canada and the USA.

The out-of-wedlock births are separately recorded in the Georgian statistical data. Furthermore, those live-birth children registered by the statement of both parents and those that are registered only by a mother's statement are recorded separately. Since the beginning of the XXI century until today, the dynamic increase of the number of extra-marital births is not noticeable. Moreover, its high rate does not coincide with the high figure of the live-birth registered only by the statement of the mother. During this period, the rate of the extra-marital live-births was the highest in 2006 (54 %), whereas the rate of the live-birth that was registered only by a mother's statement was the highest in 2008 (15.3 %). Additionally, the rate of the children born in an unregistered marriage was the lowest in 2014 (30.7 %), and the rate of the children registered only by the mother's statement was the lowest in 2015 (7.1 %). In other words, the increase or decrease in the number of the extra-marital live-births does not signify the increase or decrease in the number of the children registered only by the statement of the mother. Therefore, the extra-marital live-birth children cannot be equated with the registered extra-marital births. Children born out of wedlock are registered

only by the mother's statement. It is necessary to change the accounting in the country. First of all, it is necessary for the state to record a religious marriage insofar as today live-births children born in such marriages are recorded as the extra-marital births. Second, like in the European Union, we, too, must separately record the children of the single mothers and cohabiting couples [1].

The results of the sociological researches show that our society is becoming ever more tolerant toward the children born outside of marriage. Forty-two percent of the respondents believe that such a behavior is totally justifiable, and according to 27 % of them, the behavior is justified only if the woman cannot marry. It was only 2-3 decades ago that the fertility outside of marriage was condemned and completely unacceptable in our society. Nowadays, not only the members of the society but also the members of one's own family are no longer reproved because of this behavior.

Transnational families. The important part of the globalization is the mobility of the people inside societies and beyond the national borders. Due to the growing economic inequality, a significant portion of the individuals move from villages to cities, from the developing countries to the industrial ones, they change their places of residence in the search for opportunities and resources. International migration has caused the formation of the new type of family, which is known as the "transnational family". Together with the development of the society, in the epoch of globalization, we frequently encounter marriages where one of the partners is a local, and the other – an immigrant. The opening of the borders has brought about intensive social contacts, people are leaving the places where they reside and go abroad in order to study, work, travel – under these conditions, marriage is considered as the main indicator of integration, where the high figure of interrelationship means assimilation or social openness. After changing the place of residence, people begin living in the receiving country and participate in certain demographic processes. It is characteristic to the "transnational families" to retain roots in their homeland and, at the same time, create new connections within the host country. The "transnational mothers" are the women who leave their own families, more concretely their children, and go abroad to work at a job which is incompatible with their education levels. They are forced to work mainly as the domestic helpers, babysitters, caretakers of the elderly, bed-ridden patients. They do this because of the limited opportunities which exist in their own homeland. Their goal is to provide a better life for their children and relatives who are left behind.

The results of the 2014 population census enabled us to analyze the married couples, according to their place of birth and sex. In Georgia, the share of the men who are in the transnational marriage is 1.1 % higher than that of the women. The country of birth gives a general impression on the partner who was born in other country. The census showed that during mixed marriages the partners still favored those individuals who were born in the neighboring countries. 44.2 % of

the men and 46.1 % of the women were born in the Russian Federation, the next big group consists of those who were born in the countries of the Southern Caucasus (men – 25.1 %, women – 29.4 %). From among the spouses born in foreign countries, 8.8 % of the men and 13.1 % of the women were born in Ukraine. The rest of the countries are represented with a relatively low intensity [14].

The critical aspect of the new wave of the global migration is related to the importance of a woman's labor. The opportunities for their employment have opened, and this has increased the number of the emigrant women, approximately 49.6 % of the migrants are women [8].

According to the general population census of Georgia in 2002 and the sociological surveys conducted at the same period, the share of the women among the emigrants was 43 %. Later this figure grew further and according to the general population census of 2014, it reached 54.6 %. The main portions of the emigrants are labor emigrants. The share of the transfers of the emigrant women is significant. As of January 1, 2015, the remittances received through the Georgian bank network amounted to 1079 952 000 US dollars. If we take into account the fact that 40 % of remittances do not come through the bank, then, supposedly, the whole remittances amount to 1800 000 000 US dollars (2014). The study of those migrants who have returned established that the share of the remittances executed by the women is more than half in the total remittances [4]. While the amount of remittances increased during 2010-2013, in 2014-2015 it was characterized by the decreasing trend (in 2014 – 1440 952 000 US dollars, in 2015 – 1079 952 000 US dollars). In 2014, the rate of remittances decreased by 2.5 % compared to the previous year [7].

The volume of remittances to Georgia in 2021 exceeded 2 billion 349 million US dollars. This figure is 25 % more to the figure of 2020. The list of the top 10 countries from where Georgia has received the most money transfers is the following: Russian Federation, Italy, the USA, Greece, Israel, Germany, Turkey, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan [16]. If we take into consideration the above-mentioned calculations of M. Shelia, then we have to declare clearly that the income of the emigrant women is not only necessary to retain the level of life of the left-behind family, but it is also of life and death importance. Moreover, it is a significant part of our country's GDP.

Family violence. Family violence has not been talked about for a considerable amount of time. This topic was tabooed and to talk about it was considered to be shameful. It was widely accepted in the society that “the internal affairs of the family must stay inside”, that traditionally, the family was untouchable and it was not appropriate to meddle in its affairs. Nobody sued the husband and dragged him to the court for battery and sexual abuse. Gradually, the attitude of the society toward the mentioned issue changed. With the support of international organizations, the study of such topics as are family relations, gender equality, and family violence commenced. The sociologist Steve Bruce describes how

under the influence of certain societal groups the social constructs of family violence gradually changed in the Great Britain. “During the 1960s, the British police mostly ignored “the family affairs”. They justified this by saying that the victim frequently objected to testifying in the court and the latter often could not convict or was satisfied with the slap on the wrist. The police were up to its neck, busy with other affairs and could not bother to allot time for family violence, however, the situation changed in the 1970s, when with the endeavor of women’s organized groups, the mass media started to shed light on this issue. This, in turn, had had influence on judges and they became less tolerant toward the abusers. They came up with new measures so as to lessen the stress for the defendants (at the stage of investigation and trial process), which increased the number of complaints. The witnesses started giving testimonies more boldly and freely and the police began acting more industriously when they calculated the “benefits commensurate with their efforts” [9].

The statistical data that records the violence against women is lamentable. In 2017, the EuroStat confirmed the 854 facts of femicide perpetrated by a family member or an intimate partner [7]. Experts deem this fact to be the global crisis of the violence against women. Marceline Noud, the president of the group of the experts of the European Council (GREVIO), says, regarding the violence against the women and against family members, “I do not think that some of the societies are worse than others in this respect, insofar as every third or fourth instance (statistics) of violence occurs nearly everywhere” [15].

In Georgia, according to the Freedom of Information Development Institute (IDFI), based on data for 2013–2018, since 2015 the number of detected domestic violence cases has increased by almost 50 %. This period has witnessed 6464 instances of violence, 172 facts of harm to health, and 89 facts of homicide [15]. While in 2011 the victims of the family violence amounted to 285 individuals, during the decade their number increased 29 times. In 2021, the number of the victims reached 8339 individuals [14]. Among the victims of violence are both sexes as among the abusers. Nonetheless, the women, on average, are 7 times more likely to be the victims of violence than the men. Moreover, among the types of violence, the most instances fall on psychological violence (78 %). The instances of physical violence lag 4 times behind it. Those types of violence as are: economic violence, neglect, sexual abuse and coercion range from 0.5 % to 2 % [13]. The presented data make it clear that the attitude of the Georgian society toward family violence has sharply changed. While only several years ago the talk about it was deemed to be shameful and the victim of violence did not speak about it, today the facts of violence are massively denounced and people no longer avoid talking about the problem. This is the reason why the indicator for the revealing of violence has increased.

The spread of the new coronavirus has entailed the self-isolation and quarantine of humans. They found themselves to be under constant psycholo-

gical stress, which determined the increase of the facts of family violence. In some of the EU countries, the instances of family violence increased by approximately 33 %. The General Secretary of the UN Antonio Guterres exhorted the countries to adopt the relevant measures in connection with the rise in family violence.

Divorce. The complexity of the modern life, as well as bringing the “freedom” and “individualism” to the foreground has altered the humans’ views on marriage and family. A superficial attitude toward marriage has significantly increased the number of divorces. The level of divorce has been exhibiting the rising tendency since the previous century. This problem is characteristic to many countries, especially the developed ones. As the OECD’s base of the family data declares, since 1997 up to 2017 (by the newest supposed estimations) the figure of divorce has increased in 18 OECD countries, and it has decreased in 12 of them. The growth is especially large in the USA. According to the Census Bureau of the United States of America (2009), it has been established that from 40 to 50% of the marriages end in divorce [12].

The statistics is alarming in Portugal and Spain, where 70 % of the marriages culminate in divorce. As we have already said, high divorce rate is a characteristic feature of all of the developed countries. However, from among the developed countries, the statistics is, more or less, hopeful in: Chile, Bosnia and Thailand. The figure of divorce ranges up to 10 % of marriages over there.

In 2001, the total number of divorces in Georgia was 1987. Nevertheless, over 10 years (2011) this rate increased nearly three times (2.94), in 15 years (2016) – 4.8 times. The growth did not show signs of slowing down and before the beginning of the pandemic in Georgia (2019), the number of the divorces was already 5.6 times higher. With regard to the first year of the pandemic, the number of the divorces decreased nearly 1.5 times compared to the previous year. The pandemic and unusual way of life, in which everyone of us, unexpectedly, found ourselves, undoubtedly exercised influence on this change. The number of the divorces increasing again in the second year of the pandemic gives ample proof of this. In 2021, the number of the divorces rose nearly 1.4 times as compared to the previous year.

The highest crude divorce rate in Georgia in the XXI century (2019 – 3‰) only by one-tenth lags behind the highest rate of the EU countries, which was recorded in Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg (3.1‰. divorce per 1000 persons) [12]. As the statistical data manifest, the number of the divorces is largely dependent on the age of the divorcees. The highest divorce rate is noticed among the youth. While in 2001 the share of the divorce of the youth (aged 20-29) amounted to 35.1 % of all of the divorces in Georgia, in 2019 it equalled to 42.5 %. According to the data of GeoStat, the number of the divorced people aged below 25 in the total quantity of the divorcees, whose marriage lasted from 0 to 4 years, is not so small, however, it is characterized by the declining tendency.

Table 1. Percentage of young people aged below 25 among divorced persons by duration of marriage in Georgia, 2015-2019.

| Years | Duration of marriage, % | |
|-------|-------------------------|----------|
| | 0-4 years | 5+ years |
| 2015 | 14 | 2.2 |
| 2016 | 13 | 2.2 |
| 2017 | 12.6 | 1.7 |
| 2018 | 10.4 | 1.6 |
| 2019 | 10.4 | 1.6 |

Source: URL: <https://www.geostat>

The respondents think that the main reason behind the rise in divorce is “incompatibility of characters”. Today’s youth is more likely to change conjugal partners than to devote time to “bringing them up anew”. This could be the result of their more superficial attitude toward marriage. Such an attitude determines the further increase in the number of the divorces.

Conclusion. The globalization brings with it deep changes, which concern families as well. These changes occur in every society, but their quality and time are different. In Georgian reality that, which was completely unacceptable and unimaginable 20-25 years ago, is now established and gaining foothold. The “traditional” breadwinner/owner of the home type of family no longer represents the basic form of the family, or the only normative environment, where the children are reared. Instead, single parents, families with only one parent, never married persons, cohabiting couples and families created by remarriage are proliferating more and more.

Georgia used to be a traditional country; however, a swift social transformation caused by the globalization has cost the country this image. During the last two decades, the tolerant attitudes toward sexual freedom, single parenthood, cohabitation and divorce have been established in the society. In spite of the ongoing deep changes within the family, it still remains a necessary and important small social group. Eighty-nine percent of the respondents believe that the family and family life are necessary for a human. Such an attitude of our society makes us think that the ongoing changes in the family are necessary and unavoidable, however, they need management so that the family might fulfill its functions successfully.

It is of utmost necessity to formulate the family policy compatible with the time and ongoing changes within the society, in order for the family to fulfill its functions successfully. It is crucial that the Georgian family be able to retain the physical and cultural continuity of the nation.

The average duration of marriage in Georgia is 10.6 years and it is shorter than that of the Great Britain (11 years), Italy (17) and France (13 years), although it exceeds the data witnessed in the USA (8 years) [3].

In the opinion of researchers, the instability of the family institute is felt in the form of an array of problems. The successful solving of them is dependent on the individual traits of the partner.

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Л. Е. Менабдишвілі, канд. екон. наук, дослідн.

Інститут демографії та соціології Державного університету Ілії
0162, Грузія, м. Тбілісі, вул. К. Чолокашвілі, 3/5

E-mail: lelamen@gmail.com

ORCID: 0000-0003-3847-6250

Н. Е. Менабдишвілі, канд. екон. наук, асист.-дослідн.

Інститут демографії та соціології Державного університету Ілії
0162, Грузія, м. Тбілісі, вул. К. Чолокашвілі, 3/5

E-mail: nanamen@gmail.com

ORCID: 0000-0002-3577-4888

Н. А. Гомеллаури, асоц. дослідн.

Інститут демографії та соціології Державного університету Ілії
0162, Грузія, м. Тбілісі, вул. К. Чолокашвілі, 3/5

E-mail: gomelaurinino@yahoo.com; nino.gomelairi@ilaiuni.edu.ge

ORCID: 0000-0003-4796-4221

ГЛОБАЛІЗАЦІЯ ТА ГРУЗИНСЬКА СІМ'Я

Останнім часом процес глобалізації прискорився і стосується всіх сфер суспільного життя. Це означає нову епоху в людській цивілізації. Історія становлення та розвитку сім'ї йде паралельно з історією розвитку людства. Тому надзвичайно актуальним і важливим є дослідження впливу глобалізації на інститут сім'ї. Представлена робота торкається надзвичайно актуальної для сучасності теми — впливу глобалізації на грузинську сім'ю. Метою статті є розмежування тих позитивних і негативних змін, які відбулися всередині грузинської сім'ї в результаті глобалізації. Це одна з перших спроб продемонструвати основні характеристики сучасної грузинської сім'ї. Щоб чітко відобразити проблему, автори застосували дані статистичної служби Грузії, а також Європейського Союзу та провели порівняльний аналіз. Дослідники також використали результати соціологічного опитування, проведеного за їх безпосередньої участі упродовж 2013—2015 років. Основні відкриття, зроблені в цій розвідці, пов'язані з різного роду змінами, що відбуваються в сім'ї.

З початку нового століття в Грузії утвердилося толерантне ставлення до сексуальної свободи. Початок статевого життя вже не пов'язується зі створенням сім'ї. Відповідно, шлюбний вік збільшився, а молодь не поспішає створювати сім'ю. Відкладення шлюбу відклало народження першої дитини у віці понад 30 років і, таким чином, початок пізнього батьківства. За 2000—2018 рр. серед загальної кількості дітей, народжених жінками всіх вікових груп, частка дітей, народжених лише жінками вікової групи 30—40 років, зростає з 20,8 % до 33,6 %, тобто в 1,6 раза. Збільшення частки народжуваності в 1,4 раза серед жінок, старших 40 років, за останні 18 років є безпрецедентним. Релігійний або законний шлюб більше не є обов'язковим для створення сім'ї, пари живуть без нього. Збільшення кількості співжиття пар призвело до зростання кількості позашлюбних дітей. Лише два десятиліття тому таке було абсолютно неприйнятним у нашому суспільстві. Глобалізація широко відкрила двері для міжнародної міграції і принесла з собою незвичні для грузинського суспільства «транснаціональні сім'ї». Годувальником у грузинській родині традиційно вважався чоловік, проте це не заважало жінці працювати та отримувати дохід. Вважалося, що жіноча праця не була необхідною для підтримання життєвого рівня сім'ї. Починаючи з останніх років минулого століття, у зв'язку з докорінними перетвореннями, що відбувалися в країні, доходи жінок стали не лише необхідними для сім'ї, а й життєво важливими. Високий рівень безробіття в країні породив велику кількість «транснаціональних матерів».

Грузинські дослідники встановили, що частка грошових переказів, які здійснюють грузинські жінки в еміграції, становить більш як половину загального обсягу переказів. Випадки сімейного насильства характерні для грузинського суспільства, як і для більшості суспільств. Вважалося, що факти домашнього насильства не повинні виходити за межі сім'ї. Проте глобалізація змінила ставлення нашого суспільства до цього: жертви насильства більше не приховують факти, внаслідок чого збільшилося викриття та посилилася реакція на випадки насильства. З 2015 р. показник розкриття фактів сімейного насильства становив майже 50 %. Зневажливе ставлення молоді до шлюбу значно збільшило кількість розлучень. Традиційно розлучення засуджувалось у Грузії, однак сьогодні воно є прийнятним. У ХХІ ст. найвищий загальний рівень розлучень у Грузії (3 ‰ у 2019 р.) лише на одну десяту відстає від найвищого показника в країнах ЄС, як-от: Латвія, Литва та Люксембург (3,1 ‰ розлучень на 1000 осіб). Середня тривалість шлюбу в Грузії становить 10,6 року і менша ніж у Великій Британії (11 років), Італії (17) і Франції (13), але перевищує американську (8 років).

Ключові слова: глобалізація, сім'я, шлюб, розлучення, транснаціональна сім'я.