

#### SUMMARY

**Khalafli A. International legal responsibility for the use of nuclear energy.** The article deals with peculiarities of international legal responsibility when using nuclear energy. The author has used such methods of research: analysis and study of international legal documents containing provisions on international legal responsibility when using nuclear energy. He has found out that in the area of liability for nuclear damage there are several international legal instruments. The Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage and the Brussels Convention on the Liability of Operators of Nuclear Ships do not have fundamental differences with the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy. However, some differences between them still deserve attention.

In recent years, a revision of the Vienna Convention has been undertaken within the framework of the IAEA. The Brussels Convention on the Liability of Operators of Nuclear Ships, as well as the Paris and Vienna Conventions, focuses responsibility for nuclear damage on the operator of a nuclear vessel. With regard to nuclear damage, the regime of State liability complements the civil liability regime proposed in the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development is unlikely to be accurate. Extensive experience exists in the area of State responsibility for transboundary environmental damage. However, despite the fact that in the field of nuclear activity the issue of liability for transboundary nuclear damage is resolved within the framework of civil liability, this does not exclude the possibility that in the future there will be a positive experience of applying the norms already existing in international law on the responsibility of the state for transboundary damage (stipulated by the 1991 Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal of 1989), this experience can not serve as a model for resolving the issue of liability in the international nuclear law

The author has made proposal to include this issue on the agenda of international organizations.

**Keywords:** *international legal responsibility, environmental safety, nuclear damage, Vienna Convention, civil liability, Brussels Convention, operator liability, Paris Convention, IAEA.*