

Krol C. I.

ETHICAL ASPECTS OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS HANDLING

Scientific supervisor senior teacher Prostotina O. V.

Department of Foreign Languages

Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk

Relevance. The problem of mass destruction weapons circulation is one of the most discussed in the world scientific community. The war rules, its forms, means and methods have taken their place in the philosophical and cultural discourse. The main discussion questions are the following: 1) if the war is ethical; 2) whether there are war laws, including moral ones; 3) ethical weapon possibility. All this proves the given topic importance and relevance, requiring more detailed consideration. This topic is of practical importance and its further development will allow the world community to develop approaches to resolving and preventing military conflicts.

Aim: to reveal the ethical problems associated with the invention, testing and use of biological weapons in armed conflict and open confrontation absence.

Materials and methods. In the research methods of literature analysis, generalization of the material and its comparative characteristics were used. The study was conducted taking into account the following principles: chronological, objectivity, situational modeling.

Results and discussion. Despite the fact that modern society has moved to a new development stage, where, apparently, there is no place for conflicts, wars continue. Mankind has worked out the warfare rules, but technological progress requires additional discussion and correction. One of the most controversial aspects is the biological weapons ethics. Here are some ethical dilemmas:

1) The bacteria and viruses study is a modern science integral part, but the results can be used both for peaceful purposes (combating microorganisms) and military (dangerous strains modification). Commercialization of developments.

2) Microorganisms can't be completely controlled, even within laboratories, leaks are possible, and not always accidental.

3) The most serious aspect is selective destruction. In this case there may be an appropriate modifications presence. The microorganism can operate in a certain climate or in the globe certain part and can affect certain races, remaining safe for others.

4) The information about the people responsible for the biological weapons use can't be figured out. It is liquidated, masked, and deliberately hidden.

5) The flip side of biological weapons is its "non-lethality", i.e. the injured can be cured.

Conclusions. War has moral principles. The warfare means can be humane. Biological weapons do not meet ethical standards and humanism because of the following factors: the laboratories work results can become the basis for the invention of mass destruction weapons; experimental material leakage may be intentional; the biological weapons development is largely for commercial purposes; such weapons are selective; biological weapons are not total; the weapons use is concealed. It is important to strengthen the protection and control level over laboratories where dangerous pathogens are studied. If humanity cannot do without armed conflicts, the military politicians' task is not to turn war into violence and exclude the biological weapons use.