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Title of Session: Society and Ecology: Problems and Priorities in a Transforming World

Name of Session Convener(s): Irina A. Sosunova

University/Organization incl. City: International Independent University of
Environmental and Political Sciences, Moscow

Chair: Irina A. Sosunova

University/Organization incl. City: International Independent University of
Environmental and Political Sciences, Moscow

I) Title of Selected Paper: Ecologisation of education in a transforming society

Name/s of Author/s: Irina A. Sosunova; Danilo Markovich

University/Organization incl. City: International Independent University of
Environmental and Political Sciences, Moscow; Academy of Education, Serbia, Belgrad

Abstract: At the present stage of interrelation between the human and the nature the objective necessity of change of paradigm of society development is appeared, we are talking about the substitution of technological imperative to ecological. In fact, the question is in relevancy of qualitative changes in motivational, axiological, gnostical, ethical spheres of personality. It is obvious that this task can not be solved without adequate efforts from the educational system. In its turn, the contemporary system of education has to be principally changed and the main direction of this reorganization is considered to be the instutualisation of ecological component of education. Ecologisation of education must be referred to accomplishment of axiological and emotional relation to the nature and society, assimilation of specific knowledge and skills, training of creative action and creative thinking which has to provide the willingness of experts to analysis of real socio-ecological problems and adoption of optimal balanced decisions in sphere of social management, economics and natural resources management. The concrete index of successful ecologisation of education could be seen first of all, in significant changes in cognitive, interactive and specialized competency of the students. In this case the process of ecologisation of education may be logically consistent and tightly linked to the ideas of sustainable development by using socio-ecological approach which has to pay the attention to real anthropogenic ecological reasons of appearing ecological problems.

II) Title of Selected Paper: Formation of socio-ecological dimension of societies in transition

Name/s of Author/s: Olga N. Mamonova; Konstantin M. Manolache

University/Organization incl. City: Moscow Institute of Socio-Cultural Programs, Moscow; Academy of Science, Rep.of Moldova, Chisinau

Abstract: The present study explored the phenomena of social-ecological tension in a Post-Soviet area. The issue of formation of socio-ecological dimension is developed. The purpose of this study was to investigate the sense of values, identity, perceptions, experiences and feelings rather to collect quantitative data, to explore the process of establishing the sense of moral and ecological values of population and to present their system of values, comparing respondents from Russia and Moldova. In 2006-2008 the comparative sociological research devoted to these issues was undertaken in both countries (expert survey and mass sociological survey). Undoubtedly, many of the phenomena in spiritual life that define the system of values are relatively inaccessible for direct observation and measuring. However, the authors have aimed to gain a fresh perspective and to explore the socio-ecological dimension seen as the sense of moral and ecological values by using of content-analysis of mass-media devoted to ecological problems. The conception of reflection of ecological environment to social behavior, orientations and system of values of different groups of population was developed and the reflection of these factors to people was analysed.

III) Title of Selected Paper: People with limited capacities and the environment of contemporary socium: example of researches of social construction of positive deviation

Name/s of Author/s: Irina V. Mkrtumova

University/Organization incl. City: International Independent University of Environmental and Political Sciences, Moscow

Abstract: Deviant behavior contradicts concrete social standards of concrete society in definite period of its development. As such type of behavior in other time and in another socium can no have the deviation character; moreover it can become the social norm. The analysis of announced problem was founded on the database of several scaled sociological researches of positive and negative models of deviant behavior in total institutions in 2000-2004 (tax sphere, Army, insurance sphere) and of professional education as liberal institution in 2006-2008.

Within the scope of mutual project of the Ministry of Social Protection of Population of Moscow Region and MNEPU, which has started in 2005, the author has created regional wide area network of distance learning of invalids on the basis of Internet-classes in Rehabilitation centers of Moscow Region. During the investigation of positive deviation in example of including of invalids into the process of getting them high professional education is clearly seen output of invalid-students from traditional social role of sick, changing of their behavioral repertoire to designing social role of healthy man.

For the analysis of getting the professional education by invalids the conception of “the role of diseased” by T. Parsons is important, who suggested to see the special kind of deviant behavior of individual. Parson’s “role of diseased” is characterizing modern archetype of health, to which the man would come with his energies, his free personal

action. On this way he must destroy behavior stereotypes imposed on him and must build his own model of health.

IV) Title of Selected Paper: The Interrelation between Science, Technology and Environment in the Modern Society

Name/s of Author/s: Galina V. Gorokhova; Vitaly G. Gorokhov

University/Organization incl. City: Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow

Abstract: Technology as a premise and a result of scientific research in combination with the maintaining economic and state structures has developed into a world power based on the principle of “creatability” of all things by creating possibilities for scientific application. Modern technology formed by the achievements of technoscience, penetrate deeply into natural processes and structures and manipulate not only with directly perceived phenomena but also with the very “secondary” scientific reality, making up new combinations of the materials, elements and organisms which are alien to the “primary” reality. In this case the consequences of such artificial penetration into Nature turn to be absolutely unpredictable and often irreversible. It is not enough to question Nature in a tactful manner, to pump its secrets more carefully, to utilize the obtained at any expense knowledge for the scientist’s ends, not to torture it severely, driven into the torture-chamber of a scientific laboratory. It is need to elaborate of a new paradigm of scientific and technological development. He should carry out constant reflection of his scientific and technological activity, corresponds his actions with object-under-investigation which can have „its own opinion“.

V) Title of Selected Paper: Contemporary Ecological Problems of the Rock Creek Park in Washington, DC, USA

Name/s of Author/s: Svetlana Orekhova-Tibbits

University/Organization incl. City: Tibbits Historical Foundations, Washington DC

Abstract: There are 4 contemporary ecological problems of the Rock Creek Park which covers 1,754 acres and is the largest natural area in the American capital: 1. Deers; 2. Infected insects; 3. Fallen old trees; 4. Ivy.

1. Deers feel free in Washington, DC. They come from the forest to people and feel free on the streets. There are following problems from their free behavior: - they come to people to find something to eat including flowers in the gardens, damage private properties, dangerous for traffic/drivers and people’s security;
2. Infected insects are dangerous for people and dogs who like to walk in the Rock Creek Park;
3. Fallen old trees are not removed from the Rock Creek Park and create CO₂ – it is dangerous for breathing and people have allergy;
4. Ivy is dangerous by its Poison and everybody in Washington, DC knows that it is dangerous to walk in the American forests including the Rock Creek Park.

The Rock Creek Park as a national park is under patronage of the national park system and can not be under control of the capital authority that is why is difficult to find the

solution to solve these 4 problems. It costs a lot of money to clean the Rock Creek Park which needs new contemporary regulations for its contemporary care to protect Washingtonians from concrete troubles which are mentioned in this abstract.

VI) Title of Selected Paper: Ecological Values and Quality of Life in a Transforming Society (case of Belarus)

Name/s of Author/s: Larissa Titarenko

University/Organization incl. City: Belarusian State University, Minsk

Abstract: The Post-soviet world experiences a huge number of serious social problems, including the following: lack of social-political stability, low level of consumption of material goods, financial crisis, etc. All together, existing problems influence the quality of life of its population. The deterioration of the environment is in the same list of problems, but not a main priority of any government in a post-communist state. Although the state priority in a social policy in Belarus is generally declared as the improvement of the level of material well-being of the population, the main concerns of the citizens of Belarus – according to the public opinion polls - are their health and environment. The paper will analyze the roots of this inconsistency between the real priority and its reflection in the government, and the ecological situation in Minsk.