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SOCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR SOLVING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

Abstract: *The article examines the social foundations for solving global environmental problems.*

Key words: *ecology, ecological problems, human factor, health, ecological and man-made disasters*

СОЦИАЛЬНЫЕ ОСНОВЫ РЕШЕНИЯ ГЛОБАЛЬНЫХ ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ПРОБЛЕМ

Аннотация: *В статье рассматриваются социальные основы решения глобальных экологических проблем.*

Ключевые слова: *экология, экологические проблемы, человеческий фактор, здоровье, экологические и техногенные катастрофы*

It is not the first generation in a row that humanity has lived with constant and obsessive fear of environmental disasters. Deforestation, ocean pollution, ozone layer depletion - we have heard these phrases in our lives hundreds, if not thousands of times. But where is the real threat, and where is sheer speculation. Let's figure out what environmental problems pose a threat to us and our descendants.

Man interacted and influenced his environment from the very moment of his appearance. However, this influence reached a truly tangible scale only in the eighteenth century, with the beginning of the industrial revolution. At this moment, a person left the natural circulation of living nature and began to dictate his own rules to the planet.

The planet began to change, but we noticed it far away at once - our civilization was busy with other things: the extraction of fuel (coal, gas, shale, oil), metal and other minerals. All these substances, excreted naturally by nature and withdrawn by man, returned to nature, but in a different form. This turned into global pollution of soil, water and air and caused an environmental crisis. And the intensity of this process continues to grow at a catastrophic pace, and mankind will have to eliminate the serious consequences of the ecological crisis in the near future.

The difficult political background of the twentieth century (the split of the world community and world wars) did not help humanity very much to focus on environmental problems. Add to this the arms race (Cold War), social inequality within countries and the incredible speed of technological progress. All these factors led to the fact that at the end of the twentieth century, mankind had to settle down, look around and realize what harm it did to its home.

1. Global warming is, in fact, a by-product of the existence of a huge human population. Simply put, this is a general increase in the temperature of our planet due to human actions (burning fossil fuels, for example). As a result, glaciers melt, sea level rise, anomalous precipitation falls, ocean acidification.

All these processes do not seem particularly scary out of context. However, it must be remembered that the Earth is a very thin and fragile system in which all links are interconnected. Such large-scale interventions destroy this system and lead to unpleasant consequences - to seismic activity and the disappearance of entire species of animals.

2. Pollution of the World Ocean. More than half of our planet (to be more precise, 70%) is water. The ocean is the main factor shaping the climate on Earth: currents cause heat or coolness, and evaporated water forms clouds and provokes precipitation.

Approximately one hundred million people live by the ocean, that is, their life is directly related to water bodies. But in fact, the world's oceans in one way

or another affect the life of each of us: rains and other precipitation; delivery of goods between continents; fish and other seafood that we eat every day. However, now the world's oceans are in danger due to constant man-made disasters (tanker crashes and others), sewage and industrial waste discharges into the ocean.

3. Destruction of the ozone layer. Ozone is one of the constituents of the stratosphere (the layer of the atmosphere at an altitude of 12-50 kilometers), which is one of the types of oxygen. For humans, the value of ozone lies in the fact that it blocks some of the ultraviolet rays, protecting all living things from direct sunlight.

Our science only recently learned about the existence of ozone, although humanity has been detrimental to the ozone layer for centuries. As a result, there are holes in the ozone layer due to a deficiency of the substance. Among the reasons for this phenomenon:

International Space Program. Launch of rockets and satellites;

Air flights at an altitude of twelve kilometers and above;

Industrial and domestic emissions of freon.

In the eighties, humanity began to take the first steps to protect and restore the ozone layer. Environmental programs began to be adopted at the state level, and global non-profit companies began to develop projects to protect the ozone layer. Unfortunately, these events tend to be very expensive and rarely find full funding.

4. Air pollution. The most obvious danger of atmospheric pollution is the shortage of clean air, but no less serious problem is the planet's climate change and the further consequences of this process. The main elements that pollute the atmosphere are:

Emissions from industrial activities;

Exhaust from cars and other vehicles with an internal combustion engine;

Radioactive objects;

Waste (household and industrial).

In addition, these factors lead to the destruction of the ozone layer - a problem already mentioned by us, which is fraught with global warming and other climatic changes on our planet.

5. Soil pollution. Soil is a resource that belongs to the category of non-renewable, in case of its loss or degradation, we will not be able to restore it in any way. Soil conditions have a direct impact on the food we eat, the water we drink, and our health - our internal organs and our lifespan. More than 90 percent of everything we eat comes from the soil, directly or indirectly.

Among the causes of soil pollution:

Localized landfills that are used for the disposal of food waste, building materials, materials left after repair work;

Heavy industry - metallurgical and machine-building, the activity of which involves the release of salts of heavy metals: beryllium, arsenic, cyanides, cadmium, mercury and lead;

Transport emitting lead, nitrogen, hydrocarbon oxides into the environment;

Agriculture using pesticides and mineral fertilizers.

6. Deforestation and desertification. Like the ocean, a forest is a complex fragile ecosystem that operates according to its own laws and combines plants, fungi, animals and microorganisms that collectively affect the climate of our planet, the quality of drinking water and the air we breathe. Just a few millennia ago (a ridiculous term for our planet), a significant part of the Earth's surface was covered with forests. But when people began to develop the land for their own needs, the problem of deforestation arose.

Yes, forest is a renewable resource, but the intensity of deforestation in the modern world is not comparable to the rate of its renewal. To this day, after deforestation or forest fires, significant territories become deserts, which leads

not only to biological disasters (destruction of species), but also to social ones, including the disappearance of entire ethnic groups.

7. Under the term "acid rain" science means any meteorological precipitation (including snow and hail), during which a strongly acidic reaction occurs. Among the sources of this phenomenon are the activities of heavy industry enterprises (especially metallurgical), which emit into the atmosphere a serious amount of nitrogen oxide and sulfur. In addition, the activities of thermal power plants and the exhaust gas of cars lead to acid rain.

The formation of such rains is simple: when hydrogen chloride and oxides of nitrogen or sulfur enter the air, they react with solar radiation and water droplets in the air. As a result, acid is formed - sulfuric, sulfurous, nitric or nitrogenous. After that, the acid falls to the ground in the form of precipitation. The acid can take the form of rain, snow, hail, fog and cause serious damage to the fauna and flora of the region.

8. Reduction of biodiversity. On our planet, there is a huge number of species of flora and fauna that live in different regions and natural zones. This huge variety of living things, represented at the current point in history, has been formed over several billion years. However, all of the above environmental disasters provoke one more, large-scale and serious, - the reduction of biodiversity. According to WWF, we are losing three species every hour. If we do nothing about it, soon we will forever lose the world that we know.

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