

## ***NO RESPONSIBILITY, NO CHANCE***

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One of the most interesting regions concerning education for sustainable development and environment is Eastern Europe. Because of the years under the communist regime, people are used to ignore the nature and to neglect resources as well as the relationships between the members of society. This could be explained by the special approach of the Soviet Regime regarding consumption and resources. There were no restrictions or rules which limited authorities or people to use the natural resources. This is why the majority of the population living in the post Soviet countries does not want or maybe is not able to use the means (resources) reasonably. The majority of the people from this region is affected by the communist ideals that made them uncertain about the future and contributed to a decrease in humanistic values. They were addicted to common thinking, or, in other words, a little group decided for the rest of population. This meant that nobody was allowed to take an initiative or to have a critical point of view. The population was not involved in the decision making process and so the authorities decided without the people's agreement.

For better understanding the subject, we can give an example which is specific for the countries from this region. The former Soviet leaders practiced unreasonable hunting, fishing etc. In the same time, they demonstrated their attitude towards nature. Through these actions they emphasized their supremacy over the other invited leaders from dependent little countries (e.g. Hrushchiov, Brejnev). It was a kind of hobby for them not to think about the environment.

In our days (2005), the region goes through an economic crisis which continues to influence the people's mentality and actions in a negative way. The negative effect is that after the collapse of the Soviet Union, a lot of plants were closed because they did not have enough resources anymore. Because of that, the number of unemployed people increased. Another negative effect was the strong interdependence of the markets

between the different Soviet Republics. As a consequence of that, former Soviet Republics lost their markets after the collapse of the USSR.

Up to now, there are no concrete actions in order to implement the educational programs which would change the people's abilities of global thinking and their attitude on the natural world. This can be explained by the transition period. It is very difficult to change the people's mentality and to modify their lifestyle.

One of the main methods in order to promote education for sustainable development is the simulation method. It allows to bring up a new generation that feels more responsible for the common future. This method consists of several activities as:

- the tendency to create special class-rooms with a similar medium as in reality where students can have similar feelings like people from there (for example different countries, pictures etc.)
- make pupils and young people think about the consumption of limited resources; Example: create a situation where a group of young people is offered an amount of money and they have to use these resources reasonably in order to live from them for one month.
- create a class-council where young people would have the opportunity to debate different problems; this would also be an opportunity for them to learn to express their opinion as well as to criticise one or another decision.
- plant some trees which will make young people act more responsible and treat the environment more respectful just by having to take care of them.

Achieving all the purposes, we are looking for the cultivation of certain abilities and the encouragement of the responsibility of everybody for a common future as well as for the sensitisation of our children's attitudes towards the environment and nature in general.

Another method could be the interconnection between a natural process and the studied subjects. For better understanding, we can propose the following process: to approach a natural phenomenon from the various sides of different subjects (physics, maths, chemistry, biology etc.). It means to examine a river or soil, for example, using all the studied subjects according to the curricula.

Taking into account the negative evolution, there are no chances to enjoy a life full of insurances and happiness in the future (2025). Everything is caused by the difficult economical situations which make people aggressive. The latest evolution shows us that people destroy forests, illegally kill wild animals, practice illegal ways of fishing just to satisfy their needs. These acts could lead to the disappearance of several species which could also provoke damage to the whole eco-system.

People are fighting each other in order to obtain basic needs like food, pure water or wood for fire. During that time, the region enjoyed democratic values and the transformation of its economical system towards market economy. Nevertheless, the mentality remained the same. Every person creates his/her own world and is not able to think about global problems.

Another dangerous tendency is the excessive use of toxic materials in a lot of fields, from agriculture to the army. This influences the environment in a negative way and leads to mutations of flora and fauna – plus the man being part of it. As a result of this, many new-born children do have different disabilities. It concerns humanity to refer to genetic technologies in order to create a new being which could resist all changes in nature. So, genetic engineers managed to find out a special technology which allowed them to create human beings in the laboratory. Another tendency which emerges from this, is that babies are born in the laboratory without a personal identity. In other words: They did not receive names but only numbers like in concentration camps.

It is also necessary to mention the big concentration of nuclear wastage in this part of the Europe which has a negative influence on the health of new generations. We have already begun to feel the consequences caused by Chernobyl. After that, the number of people with oncological diseases increased immediately. As a result, a part of the new generation is not able to have healthy babies.