“WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, BETTER TECHNOLOGIES AND ECOLOGICALLY SAFER ENVIRONMENT”

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The tenth all Ukrainian scientific practical student`s, postgraduate`s and teacher`s conference
LET’S CLEAN THE OCEAN!

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The ocean remains one of the most expansive, mysterious and diverse places on Earth. Unfortunately, it is being threatened by pollution from people on land and from natural causes. Marine life is dying, and as a result the whole oceanic ecosystem is threatened simply by various sources of pollution. If we are to preserve ocean and its natural beauty, drastic measures have to be taken to combat this pollution and keep what we hold most dear. Could a teenager save the world's oceans?

Student, 19, claims his invention could clean up the seas in just five years. Boyan Slat came up with the idea of a series of floating booms and processing platforms designed to 'suck' in floating plastic rubbish. Device could remove 20 billion tonnes of plastic from the world's oceans. His invention could even make money by selling the plastic collected from the oceans, which kills millions of animals every year. The device consists of an anchored network of floating booms and processing platforms that could be dispatched to garbage patches around the world. Instead of moving through the ocean, the array would span the radius of a garbage patch, acting as a giant funnel. The angle of the booms would force plastic in the direction of the platforms, where it would be separated from plankton, filtered and stored for recycling.

It is estimated that the clean-up process would take about five years, and it could greatly increase awareness about the world’s plastic garbage patches. On his site Slat says, “One of the problems with preventive work is that there isn’t any imagery of these ‘garbage patches’, because the debris is dispersed over millions of square kilometres. By placing our arrays however, it will accumulate along the booms, making it suddenly possible to actually visualize the oceanic garbage patches. We need to stress the importance of recycling, and reducing our consumption of plastic packaging.”