

teachers. We have close relations with ethnic Ukrainians who live in the US. In the Soviet times it was forbidden to keep in touch with Ukrainian Diaspora.

Thus, influence of globalization on our society in general is good, but some people are fond of the West too much.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY AND RISK

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Using major natural resources as an indicator, Ukraine's national economy is characterized by large-scale, unsustainable resource use with serious negative environmental consequences. Ukraine has the highest rate of forest, surface fresh water and land use (for agricultural purposes) in Europe. Unfortunately, since Independence in 1990 resources are being used less efficiently in the economy (i.e., for each unit of GDP more resources are being dedicated). Indeed, one of the paradoxes of Ukraine's transition is that ambient levels of pollution have for the most part not declined despite significant drops in production.

Since Ukraine's independence lawmakers have created a new legislative framework for environmental issues. The Verkhovna Rada adopted the codes on land (1992), forests (1994), water (1995) and mineral resources (1994), laws on the environment (1991), on the nature sanctuary fund (1992), on air quality protection (1992), on animals (1993), examination of ecological experts (1995), on the use of nuclear energy and radiation safety, on handling radioactive waste (1995), on wastes (1998), on plants (1998) and others. Ukraine takes an active part in the world nuclear security system. It has signed and acceded to all the main UN International Agreements on guaranteeing non-proliferation and non-possession of nuclear weapons and has not violated their provisions.

Guaranteeing environmental safety requires a consistent and progressive national policy. For Ukrainian politicians it is important to draw from the varied experiences of such states as Russia, the USA, Germany and France. Our government must protect us from different natural and man-made threats.

ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY = PERMISSIBLE RISK + LACK OF DAMAGE;

ENVIRONMENTAL DANGER = INADMISSIBLE RISK + DAMAGE.

Risk is a probability of coming undesirable events and consequences. Carriers of probable danger are different substances of natural and man-made origin, which can cause serious danger for peoples' health and life, and for the environment. International treaties risk becoming ineffective in restraining the proliferation of nuclear arms materials and technology. International organizations and technical expertise must be focused on the fight against 'nuclear terrorism', to which Ukraine may make a significant contribution by assisting international criminal investigations and shutting down transportation routes for illegal shipments. Ukraine



is in a position to make lasting contributions to the development of nuclear technology, nuclear policy and world nuclear security.

Priorities for future legislation are the following:

- to draft and introduce a detailed regulatory frame work which facilitates the implementation of broadly-worded legislation;
- to draft and introduce new laws, specifically On Dangerous Waste, On the Control over the Trans-Border Transfer of Dangerous Waste and its Disposal, On Ecological Safety, On the National Ecological Fund, and a number of other laws; to harmonize national legislation with European laws.

## GLOBALIZATION PROGRESS OR THREAT

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On the topic of Globalization I have written my License Thesis entitled: 'Globalization: Progress or a Threat', as well as several course and conference papers that deal with the impact of Globalization on Higher Education, Culture, Economy, etc., I have attended numerous international conferences on issues related to this field and was part of the organizing team for the World Youth Summit on Globalization in Brussels.

My license thesis represents a research on the global aspects of Globalization, positive and negative aspects, actors involved and the impact that Globalization has on the development of democracies, on the global political, economical and social arena, on culture and nations.

Globalisation creates unprecedented new opportunities and risks. If the poorest countries can be drawn into the global economy and get increasing access to modern knowledge and technology, it could lead to a rapid reduction in global poverty – as well as bringing new trade and investment opportunities for all. But if this is not done, the poorest countries will become more marginalised, and suffering and division will grow. And we all are affected by the consequences.

The issue of Globalisation is a concern for the world leaders and there is an unprecedented consensus – across the UN system, the IMF and World Bank, most Regional Development Banks, leaders of developing countries, the G8 and the OECD – regarding the achievement of the International Development Targets.

The International Development Targets are:

- A reduction by one half in the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by 2015.
- Universal primary education in all countries by 2015.