


METES '2021 CONFERENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

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FOREWORD

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Protecting the environment and moving towards the development of society that will allow economic development, raising living standards while preserving nature and resources for others generation, requires knowledge of the current state. Knowing the causes that cause environmental problems and possibilities how to prevent them, resp. how to remedy environmental burdens can contribute to change the approach not only in the field of production but also in consumption, use of products and after their end use of their subsequent secondary use, resp. disposal. The result of such knowledge there should be a qualitatively more environmentally friendly approach to resource extraction, production and consumption, which would not arise on the basis of orders or prohibitions, but on the basis of natural human knowledge.

In recent years, a wide range of legal regulations have been introduced in the field of the environment and technical regulations, which together represent a set of modern standards in the world. This helped to solve some of the most serious environmental problems of citizens and businesses. The policy in the area of environment stimulates innovation and investment in green products and services, thereby create jobs and export opportunities. These activities have contributed to strengthening the international commitment to combating climate change and biodiversity loss and to a successful global removal of ozone-depleting substances and leaded fuels.

Growing global demand for products and services and resource extraction along with current uneconomic production and consumption systems in the world economy are raising basic prices of raw materials, minerals and energy, exacerbate pollution, generate more waste, increase global emissions of greenhouse gases and exacerbate soil degradation, deforestation and biodiversity loss. Almost two thirds of the world 's ecosystems are declining and there is evidence that the limits of our planet's potential for biodiversity, climate change and the nitrogen cycle have already been overcome.



The sustainable development of society is a great challenge to today's civilization. It represents a chance to create a more humane society, a more just economy, and a more civilized civilization. Mankind now has the opportunity to create the conditions for a society operating on principles of cooperation, creativity, justice, participation and humanism.

Therefore, ways of redirecting current human activities in the direction are increasingly being sought for abandoning the model of industrial development of society and the transition to a sustainable model. It is based on the fact that the current industrial model has exhausted its development potential and the late 20th and early 21st centuries are marked by the search for a functional alternative to the industrial development model. There is emerging a number of alternative economic and social theories of development of economies and societies aimed at redirecting society and civilization towards a sustainable development model. The new development paradigm is gradually gaining more and more concrete contours, and even today the basic characteristics of a possible future model of sustainable development can be identified.

For development to have a long-term positive effect, it must be sustainable. The sustainable development is about trying to ensure that the Earth's resources we use for economic growth were also available for future generations. The attention that is currently paid to global threats of climate change is an example of how human freedom and human development can be disrupted when they are interests of economic growth and development separated from the interests of the environment. Addressing the current environmental problems is not just a question of a technical solution that has been triggered until recently either in response to an environmental problem or in a more progressive approach such as preventive approach. It should be a change in the value orientation of a person, as an individual, but also society and all of humanity.

The concept of sustainable development speaks about the way of economic growth that covers needs of society by creating conditions of well-being in the short, medium term, but especially in the long term horizon. The concept is based on the premise that development must meet today's needs without jeopardizing the potential for continued growth for future generations (for example, depletion of non-renewable resources without finding alternatives, destroying the ecosystems necessary for life, launching changes in natural conditions, which significantly complicate the chances of human survival as biological species, etc.).

The aim of the international scientific conference "METES 2021" [Motivation - Education - Trust - Environment - Safety] was informing the professional and scientific public, representatives of self-government and state administration, exchange of experiences and presentation of new results in the issues of motivation, education, trust, environmental protection and safety.