

THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERDEPENDENCE

[Valerij Gryshin](#)

Head of the Information Department
Council of Ministers
Russia

The participation of Russia in various integrational programs directed toward the essential improvement of the ecological situation and the protection of the inhabitants from accident, is truly very important. A strong impression about the importance of biopolicy was made during our previous presentations. We hope that Turkey, as a result of its geographical position, will join in the effort to protect the flora, fauna, water, and animals of the Black Sea region. It is also commonly believed that the time is right for actual Russian participation in such a plan.

The Earth is a closed ecological system. Even one small factor from the whole matrix of existing negative factors, such as the problem in the use of energy resources, can negatively influence the ecological situation in any part of the world.

The recent problems in the Persian Gulf struck a serious blow to the ecological balance not only in that region, but also in many others. In this context, one may distinguish the possibilities for practicing biopolicy. Problems in that region are complex, integrational and international in character.

Despite the victory of the coalition forces, the ecological balance remains virtually destroyed. The enormous amounts of hydrogen sulphide spewed into the air affect the atmosphere. In such cases, the international community is unable to intervene in order to control the source of the problem, even though the pollution crosses borders. The responsibility lies in the hands of the local government.

However, the continued use of ecologically dangerous technology, such as polluting fuel and technological materials, is an unmerciful attitude toward nature. As a result, humanity will finally be led to biological death. This is a concern of all peoples on the planet.

Russia is a big country with vast territory and natural resources. Yet, at the same time it carries a cartridge with a huge, destructive force. The time has come to solve our internal problems. As has been stated, if one area suffers, the whole planet or nation suffers.

The land of the Russian North is rich with fossil fuels, precious metals and diamonds. For decades, the area and its people were exploited by the industrially developed areas of the Soviet Union. A short-sighted policy toward the indigenous population led to the slow destruction of the culture, handicrafts, language, and traditions of the Northern peoples as well as the indigenous wildlife. Representatives from the North called for a coalition to defend the rights of whatever was being destroyed.

The difficulties in achieving coordination and balance are illustrated in the complexity of the adopted solutions. First, the contours of the problem must be defined. Although drilling and mining in this area are very important activities for industry, proper housing, food, and the need of the Northern people to develop their own culture is equally essential.

The proposed program would enlist obligatory financial deductions from the industrial factories. These funds would go toward improving and maintaining ecological safety. The plan also includes the assessment of the general ecological impact of newly imposed production capacities. The above example proves that the Russian government puts a high priority on multilateral protection programs related to the interdependence of people and the environment.

Denial due to the national and trans-national egoism in approaching different environmental problems, results in an unreasonable and unnecessary exploitation of humanity and the surrounding environment. Cooperation is the only effective option to lead us away from the brink of the precipice which humanity is quickly approaching.

Humanity must not become the cause of its own destruction. Individuals must express their opinions through their mediators, the local governments; these, in turn, must be represented in the decisions taken by the leaders of the countries, especially the more industrialized ones. Accordingly, the worldwide growth of human values and the international actions of protest may lead to uniting people.

This process will develop into a new type of diplomacy leading to a positive attitude for cleaning the planet, a civilized approach to solving technological problems, and a mutual understanding between people. Hence, a feeling will be created that human beings, as a collective force, are in a position to interact effectively with our mutually dependent world.

In the last years of the 20th century, it is necessary to lay solid foundations for the welfare of our environment. The lives of children and the civilization as a whole depend upon this action.

Since the formation of the Russian Federation, **Valerij Gryshin** has been one of the closest persons to the President B. Yeltzin, heading the information department of the Council of Ministers of Russia.