

**EDITORIAL 3(2013)3****DAMIR HRŠAK**

Faculty of Metallurgy, University of Zagreb, Croatia  
e-mail: [editor\\_HAE@mail.inet.hr](mailto:editor_HAE@mail.inet.hr)

Every day around the world the violation of human rights takes place, every day around the world the torture of animals takes place. Injustice and greed are collecting tribute. There is no mechanism to force rich and powerful people to become good. There is no way to convince the rich and powerful people to become good. The future is not so bright. But every one of us who has awareness that the environment should be preserved just as well as the society should be fair for all, must fight for these higher ideals.

Holistic approach to environment or holistic environmentalism perceives unity of the environment in its twofold nature: the environment as a material and spiritual environment. Material environment is tangible reality (soil, water, air), and spiritual environment makes spiritual reality (relationships between humans and human relationship to non-human beings and to nature as a whole).

As I have asserted in earlier editorials the level of purity of the material environment is determined by the level of purity of the spiritual environment and the purity of the spiritual environment crucially affects the purity of the material environment. But it also applies to the fact that cleaning of material environment catalyzes cleaning of spiritual environment. Therefore without the catalyzing of spiritual purification process, material environmental cleaning will need a long time period.

In contrast to the reductionistic environmentalism dealing with rehabilitation of consequence, holistic environmentalism removes the causes of the destruction of the material and spiritual

environment. For reductionists foundation and measure of all are the benefits, while the holists believe in amicability.

Reductionists want stability within sustainable injustice. They defend their own positions of privileged group. It is useful for them to disable larger parts of the population to get high quality education and medical health care safety. Of course, those two social benefits create independent people who are able to challenge them and disturb established order of injustice. They will never say that injustice, humiliation and ultimately violence are good, quite opposite they will strongly condemn deviations (even some of them admit the guilt for causing deviations). At the same time they will proclaim that injustice, humiliation and ultimately violence can not be eradicated, so they should be mitigated. Word mitigate - usually has extremely sarcastic and deeply disgusting character in their language.

Holists want unity, freedom, justice, brotherhood / sisterhood and equality. Holistic environmentalism proclaims that the world should be a pleasant place to live for all breathing creatures. It is not utopian fantasy as well as the abolition of slavery or for example allowing women the right to vote or to fly were considered to be utopian fantasy in past. Holists want to use natural resources with gratitude and appropriate measure for the common good, not to rape the nature in the madness of greed.

Scientists in natural and technical sciences should indicate how playful human mind can be, and how to create the comfort of humanity in cooperation and

harmony with nature that gives itself to us selflessly. Humanistic and social scientists should indicate that the permeation of rationality and benevolence are possible. They also should answer the question how to organize human society in prosperity.

Coherence and happiness of mankind can only reach an intense and devoted cooperation of all who are willing

to share this planet mutually. By combining resources, incorporating the knowledge and skills it is possible to stop the threatening cataclysm.

Better to be amicable and peaceful than powerful and restless.  
*Melius bonus et pacificus esse quam potens et iniquus.*