

Our Plastic Life

I have to go to the local supermarket. What should I buy? Milk, water, soda, some fruits, especially peach, because this is the favorite of my family, some vegetables and bread. I rip off the plastic bag routinely, one for the peaches, another for the vegetables, and another one to put all plastic bags in one. After that, I take the artificial soda full of sugar, which is in a plastic bottle, couple of milk, which is full of hormones and also in plastic bottle. I stop for a moment in the ocean of plastic, what else do I need? Of course, bread, which is in a plastic bag too.

In the same time, on the other side of the Earth the same story certainly is not told in this way. The original story is the same, I need fruits and vegetables, bread and water. But instead I go to the shop, I go to my little garden, where I grow some fruit and vegetables, it is not much, but will be enough for us. We could grow more, but our land is too small, because the big lands are property of the multinational companies. These fruits and vegetables are not grow for us, only for the rich people in the developed countries. I can bake bread in my kitchen, I am not used to go to the shop, because these products are expensive. After that I go to the nearest well with my jug, but it is dried up. Out of water.

It is interesting to think of how we use the resources of our planet. How disproportionately and incontinently. While on the one side of the Earth there are destitution and famine, on the other side there are superabundance and luxury. Yet, we all have the right to the resources of our Earth, the right to clean air, clean water and clean environment. But in vain we have the right, and in vain our grandchildren should have the right, we took it. We could say, that we exchanged to comfort. For the fast and simple food, detergents, transport and we could continue this listing. All which is not ours, we only received for use, and we should pass on healthy to the next generation, as they have as much right for the clean environment as ours.

This have been stated by a lot of people, most of the humanity do not contest it, Countries declare this. But the change is not coming. Our oceans and seas are polluted, our forests are destroyed, more and more species are endangered. And if we do this in the same way we are going to run out of drinking water and food. Because we used all resources for produce plastic. We used them for pack everything in plastic.

There is climate crisis¹! Lot of people are saying it is too late, while other people still believe in hope. But most of us simply do not care. They love the comfort, the simple solutions. We can buy everything in semi-finished status, and we can enjoy as these products are serving us. Most of us think that we have right for this. We have right for the comfort and the good life. But there is an axiom, which was declared among the first in each legal system. I have the right to do something as long as I do not restrict others. And now we are restricting others. Because we are living up the yearly recourses in June, we are living up natural recourses, and we are destroying everything around us. We are moving away from the Nature, and we are creating a plastic World.

As early as 1941², it was declared every human being has the right for health and well-being of themselves and their families, including food, clothes, housing and medical care. The right for food is connected to the right for drinking water, which is more and more important, because this planet could not serve our needs anymore.

¹ More information: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/>

² Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 28.

And for the last nearly 80 years more and more international and regional conventions were declared, which is highlighted the environmental law including the right for life, clear environment, drinking water and food. These documents say these rights are fundamental human rights. The European Union is voting in favor, which organization fight with the EU members for the Noble goal. Recently the EU decided, all EU member has to ban the single-use plastic products³. But what about the garbage produced so far, the litter islands, which is floating in the oceans? In order to solve this issue, it is not enough States or international and regional organizations are against of the pollution and wasting. This is the obligation of each and every people on the Earth. And that's why this environmental issue is an important question in the international law.

Every human being has the right for life, clean and healthy environment. This is a fundamental human right. But every human being has the responsibility to protect our Planet, and the natural recourses for the future generations. Our responsibility to reserve the ecosystem of the Earth, every creature on it, and protect them from extinction. Because there are not Planet B.

³ More information: <https://www.bereadytochange.eu/en/>