

The Statement on the 53nd Session of
the UN Commission for Social Development.
New York, USA. 4 – 13 February 2015.

Subject of the Event
“Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world”.

CIVIL COMMUNITY and IMPROVEMENT of the WORLD ORDER

Alexander G. SAVOYSKY, RUSSIA

Doctor of Political Science (Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences), the Expert in Economic Diplomacy, International Relations and the World Economy.

Sail of Hope, Director of International Affairs Department, Representative to the United Nations.

E-mail: asavoysky@gmail.com

The global stability is determined by the balance of power, wishes of people and real opportunities for them. The socio-economic progress of each state depends on the balance between security and the protection of the rights of all members of the society without exception. All categories of people (children, disabled individuals, pensioners, as well as able-bodied part of the population, especially women and youths) need social justice.

The global crisis has severely affected Europe, America, and Russia along with other the nations of the world in terms of their permanent employment, real income, social benefits, prospects for the future, creation and expansion of families, and, therefore, maintenance of balance in the states' population.

The modern Europe, USA, and Russia share some trends in crisis development, such as:

- closure of enterprises;
- growth of mass unemployment;
- reduction in the purchasing capacity of the population;
- growth of tariffs for utilities' payment;
- increase in the number of socially unprotected families and individuals;
- reduction of social programs;
- the society's inability to supply certified young specialists with jobs that would correspond to their qualifications;
- the education system's unreadiness for training the specialists, especially engineers, needed by the society.

The following features can probably be pointed out as distinctive ones. In the U.S., the whole generations of immigrants live on social assistance from the government. In today's Russia the social benefits are much lower, which is why the Russians are driven to search any kind of job on the side. Also, the medical

services differ considerably. In Russia it is available absolutely to all citizens, whereas in the U.S. there is no general medical service for all. The healthcare reform being pursued by the Obama administration is far from complete, whilst medical insurance is available to the wealthier Americans. The pensions in the U.S. are higher than in Russia. But it should be born in mind that the U.S. living standard is altogether different. Many U.S. production facilities are removed to China and the states of Oceania, where the labor cost is the lowest in the world. Russia had taken a different way of development, i.e. privatization of enterprises. The U.S., Europe, and Russia face the problem of labor migrants aggravated, in Europe and the U.S., by the issue of citizens without residential registration or permanent addresses. Thrown by the society into the street, all of them vegetate below the poverty line.

The volatility in the Middle East (Israel, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria), in Asia (Afghanistan, Pakistan), and Northern Africa (Egypt, Libya, Tunisia) *is a matter universal anxiety*. The situation in the states of Eastern, Central and Western Africa present an extra risk. Those are Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, Northern and Southern Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, and the Central African Republic, the so called “axis” that geographically divides the Northern and Central Africa.

In the zones of military hostilities, civil and religious wars, disintegration of allied states, terrorist acts and global crises, the civil rest and social justice are only dreamed of and talked about. In actual fact, the human rights here are observed seldom, if at all, remaining only words on paper.

The task of the international civil community is to put across to leaders of their states and of world powers *the message that it is fatal to refer to the crisis as a pretext* for calling the citizens for endurance and belt-tightening. The crisis must be fought **by joint efforts**, using all the currently available means. *It is necessary to find new methods of resolving the crises in the states and establishing a new world order.*

The social justice for employable population manifests itself in respecting the mutual interests of the employees, employers and government agencies. The state’s top priority is not only the *providing of a permanent trilateral dialogue* between the state institutions, trade unions, and employers’ allies, should such exist. *The authorities must, in the first place, guarantee the rights* of the workers and bear full responsibility for providing an economic freedom to as many employable citizens as possible.

The tasks of the civil society are to control this process, to expand the people’s rights and opportunities for creativity, and to channel their efforts into elimination of poverty and improvement of living standard. Also, they include creation of conditions for social integration of the inadequately protected and needy citizens, insurance of a full employment and worthy life for all in accordance with their contributions and needs.

The adoption of progressive legal regulations on a national and international scale in order to insure and expand of the rights and opportunities for the working population, the rigorous monitoring by trade unions of observance of the

established rules and standards, creation of high quality jobs with high and fair payment, provision of work safety, bolstering of social security, promotion of international work patterns, enhancement of the social dialogue, and other measures can, in many respects, gradually raise the world population's living standard. However, to reduce poverty, defuse social tension, and cut the massive long-term unemployment, it is necessary *to assure the growth of real economy, newest engineering technologies, industrial revolution, financial investments, and universal creation of work places*. Only such an approach will eliminate emotional irritants in the society and create the favorable environment in the state and on the international arena. It is necessary for social integration and cooperation, for observance of guarantees and conditions of the worthy work, and essential provisions for maximum and possible employment rate of able-bodied population of our planet, including the handicapped citizens.

“The wellbeing of people, progress, and development”¹, such is the official standing of the Russian Federation chairing the “Group of Eight” in 2014. Russia's top priorities are achievement of the maximum socio-economic effect from initiatives and resolutions adopted at the international forums of the UN, the G8, the G20, and the BRICS and insurance of steady development, social harmony, and ecological balance.

2014 was declared the world's Economic Year.² Such is today the universal geopolitical goal. The end of the old era and the beginning of the new one drive all the realistic Humanity to search new ways to the domestic and planetary progress and to the development of mankind in general. Today, Russia's new civil initiative is the appeal for converting all the countries' domestic and foreign policy into an economic orientated activity and transforming international relations into economic diplomacy.

The Russian civil society's proposals for creating the mechanism of resolving the issues of employment, social integration, and poverty eradication at home and abroad could well include the following:

1) opening of the countries' political borders for economic purposes to bankers, businessmen, and entrepreneurs. Their free movement will inevitably help to move the capital of whole enterprises, improving the investment climate and specialists exchange in different industries;

2) declaration of the 21st century as the century of universal armistice and social oriented economy which implies a considerable reduction of military expenses and rechanneling of funds to social programs, such as the building of residential facilities, social objects and infrastructure, healthcare, education, culture, sports, and environment protection;

3) revision of all the international legal documents, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), updating them by modern sense and

¹ The address by President Vladimir Putin on Russia assuming the G8 Presidency // Official website of Russia's G8 Presidency – <http://g8russia.ru/news/20140101/983174461.html>. Publication date – 5 January 2014.

² Les Echos. L'Année de l'économie. 2013/2014: Les 10 ruptures qui changent le monde. Hors-Série. № 11H. Janvier 2014. – 164 pages.

imposing greater responsibility on all the government structure for implementation of their basic provisions;

4) completion of the information technology revolution and restructuring of investment flows in the industrial and technological development of the continents' infrastructure, using the accumulated scientific and technical potential;

5) development of technological patenting, protection of intellectual property, premium awarding for industrial innovations, propagation, and introduction of industrial technologies across the globe;

6) direction of the financial means not in a banking system, but into real segments of economy and creation of a new work places in demanded branches of production and social life;

7) elimination of off-shore structures and creation the adequate, social oriented modalities for the functioning of taxation system across the globe (for example, taxes are paid only enterprises, but the citizens, as co-founders of the State, are not taxed on the territory of their own State);

8) introduction of the single international currency unit "geosagas";

9) creation of a new infrastructure for a modern system of international relations.

In order to fulfill the tasks and achieve the goals both in specific states and their alliances, it is necessary to realize the seriousness of the existing problems, to reveal their causes, to track the cause-and-effect links, and to develop and launch new mechanisms of their interaction. It doing so, it is necessary to note different levels of such interaction. Inside the state this is the "citizen – civil society – State" and the "worker – employer – state agencies" as a pattern. On the international arena this is the case of bilateral and multilateral relations, fostering *an equitable dialogue* between the states and international civil community.

The modern world order is known to consist of many elements. The principal ones are the state's institutes, civil societies, international organizations, the UN in the first place, which still brings together practically all the countries of the world.

However, the lingering and still deepening world crisis shows that the system of world order has started to seriously malfunction and needs a cardinal change. The correction and internal upgrade of the world order are no longer effective and do not bring the desired effect. The numerous unresolved problems of today's international life testify to this. In the current situation it is necessary to provide an active interaction the civil society with those of the state institutes inside the country (at the micro level), and the permanent cooperation within the international civil community (at the macro level), creation and the further introduction into the daily life of the principles of respect for citizens' rights and the guarantees of social justice by States jointly with the civil community (at globe-mankind level).

It is worthwhile for the civil community to put over, through representatives of the international community, the following messages to the heads of states and governments:

- the need for progress of the civil community;

- the responsibility of the authoritative and financial structures for development of the civil society inside the state;

- the involvement of scientists, experts, politicians, youths, and professionals in the development of the civil society;
- public and government interests in the structural formation of the opposition;
- the wider access of the civil society representatives to mass media, especially to the Central and Public TV channels;
- the promoting annual official addresses of the civil society to the Head of state;
- the involvement of the civil society in the preparation of strategies and concepts for improving both domestic and foreign policies of their own State, and the modern world order on the planet;
- the need for gradual eventual disappearance of the opposition through a dialogue, diplomatic leverage and joint settlement of the state's social problems;
- **the joint movement** towards a new planetary civilization.

As early as the ancient times our remote ancestors compared the society's life to Space. It was believed that all the real things in life must be explained by and built similarly to the image and likeness of the existing phenomena and notions. So, if Space exists for billions of years not losing touch with the evolution, then it is worthwhile to look into more attentively, how it works out. Developing cyclically, each at its own rate, Space, Nature, and Society are closely interlinked. Taking the Solar System's structure as a model, mankind cannot but succeed in improving the civil society and building a system of the stable international relations.

According to the new Chronology, March 21st, 2017, after the Day of the Equinox in the Eastern and Western hemispheres, the Humanity will usher in the first Century of Modern Era (1 CME). This is supposed to be a Century of Creation, Peace, and Cooperation on the basis of economic diplomacy, national and public security, international law, returning to the system of classical values, sovereignty, and wishes of the states.

Space-based military installations and systems must receive exclusively peaceful and constructive roles. Given the disturbed balance of power in Europe in the 1990s, many of the NATO components must be dissolved or their personnel retrained to perform peace missions, and engaged in constructive purposes.

The system of international relations cannot remain unchanged for ever, either. It must evolve and permanently renovate, at least once in half a century.

In retaining the General Assembly and reforming the UN Security Council, it may be necessary to create a modern architecture of international relations. The new international organizations must be unfailingly inclined to economic activities and promote the progress of modern civilization. Nowadays, for instance, there are no international organizations for addressing in case of emergency situations, for industrial and technological development, for supporting agriculture, for handling issues of migration and population employment and others. It is thought that today's Russia could well provide accommodation to such international organizations on its territory, positioning itself not as a centre of force, but as *a*

Centre of Peace and Economic Diplomacy, something it has repeatedly proved in practice in its longer than millenarian history of the Russian State.

In 2015 the UN marks its 70th anniversary. It's a long time for one organization considering the scale of unresolved problems. Over the 69 years of its functioning, the post of the UN Secretary-General has been held by representatives of different continents: Western Europe (26 years), Asia (18 years), Africa (15 years), and South America (10 years). In the history of international relations this post has never been held by a representative from Russia, a major global and Eurasian power. Perhaps, Russia's time has come.

The planet Earth needs an impulse for renovation and attuning to active peace and constructive life. Now is the time when *competence* and *ability to reach an agreement over the negotiation table* between different countries, state institutes, and representatives of various structures of the civil society *will be appreciated just as highly as gold, oil, and gas throughout the entire geo-economic space*.

*The international community has a **choice between the Centre of Force and the Centre of Peace***. The U.S. and NATO propose a forcible method of settling the international conflicts, which leaves many problems, crises, and predicaments unresolved. The democratic way to the nuclear-free world in the American style lies in insuring security by whipping up the arms race and building up tension in Europe and generally in the world. The aggression, however, is known to lead to still fiercer aggression.

Russia proposes a different solution, i.e. STOPPING the use of any military force, any kind of aggression, terrorist acts, revolutions, and wars, including information warfare. Its goal is Peace and creative work, a New Age of planetary armistice, and economic collaboration by means of diplomacy, without use of force, the economic diplomacy with reliance on economic maneuvering between states that observe international law, evolve the socio-economic mentality and create a new level of the global civilization.