



CONTROVERSIES IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSITION TO A NEW SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION – TOPICALITY OF THE SUBJECT

- ◆ Controversies in the process of transition to a new society are the subject of my interest and presentation.
- ◆ This subject fully corresponds with the title of this scientific conference defined by the organizer of CANU conference.
- ◆ The focus of our interest is on a new society, transition and controversies on the road to a new society.
- ◆ This subject is topical at all times, and especially nowadays.
- ◆ The terms themselves “new society”, “society of the future”, “a better and a more just society” concern each of us who want not just any future, but a better one.
- ◆ This better future – a better and a more just society has been so far sought within the frames of the world processes of globalization, transition and reforms.



STATE OF SOCIETY TODAY

- ◆ The state of society nowadays is very worrying, both at the global and local levels.
- ◆ The world in which we live abounds in paradoxes and controversies, is shaken by economic and political crises, its social cohesion is undermined by exploitation, discrimination, self-will and injustice.
- ◆ A fight for a new world order is well underway. That fight is dominated by prestige, power, force, transnational companies and new markets that acquire planetary features.
- ◆ In a race to reach the new world order, its advocates are losing democratic and humane character and turn into an authoritarian and imperialist force.
- ◆ There is a crisis of confidence. Therefore, an issue is raised whether today's global society is a healthy society. Whether a new one should be sought.



NECESSITY OF SOCIAL CHANGES

- A law of society is that nothing that exists is stagnant, but is on the move, which inevitably brings about changes in objective reality.
- It has been recorded that all significant movements in the history of mankind have originated with a goal to change the existing social order and create a better and a more just one.
- At the end of 20th and the beginning of 21st century, the whole world entered a stage of searching for a type of a new and better world.
- Every country and every nation has its own vision of a better future. However, the initiatives of small countries and small nations are reluctantly accepted.
- The great powers have imposed their model of a new society, of the new world order manifested in the form of globalization process.
- Time will show which type of society corresponds to the concept of a new and a better society of the future.



SEARCH FOR A NEW TYPE OF SOCIETY

- Every existing society bears in itself the roots and the vision of a new era – a new future society.
- There is a wide circle of subjects looking for a sort of a new, better and more just society, starting from the individual visionaries, scientists, institutions, countries, unions and particularly, in some individual cases, some powers.
- The great world powers have assumed the right for themselves to create a new way in which the world is organized. So today we have a unipolar concept of the world of the future that is imposed on us.
- A concept opposed to this one is a bipolar concept, while a multipolar concept that is generally acceptable has been fully neglected.
- We are not certain whether a generally desired type of a new society has been found until now, although some models are in use.
- The European type of new society seems to be the closest.



DRIVING FORCES BEHIND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Appropriate driving (dynamic) forces are necessary to change the existing social order and create a new one.
- Dynamics, logic and dialectic do not tolerate passivity, inertia or lethargy.
- There is a broad array of driving factors (forces) which can be designated as progressive while the regressive ones try to keep the existing order even it is generally known not to be adequate.
- Progressive driving forces for a new society include the following: democratic and constitutional state set-up, the rule of law and legal state, education and science, organized and efficient economy, political will and culture, peoples' awareness of a need to create new order as well as the culture of peace and cooperation.
- The most important driving forces include: adequate policy, education, science, the rule of law and economy.



MODELS OF A NEW SOCIETY (I)

- Searching for a new and more just social organization will never be finished, because, no matter how well a society is organized, it can still be organized better.
- A well organized, democratic and humane society is sought.
- For now, globalization has been the only concrete model of a new society, based on the idea of creation of unipolar world.
- Globalization has been defined by its creators as a planetary movement aimed at harmonization and approximation of civilizations on planet Earth.
- The globalization process has been marked as a road to a better future. This process is implemented by way of transition and reforms.
- Transition from the existing to a new society takes place slowly and with difficulties, because the change mechanisms are too inflexible (putting conditions, making pressure, etc.), so one may wonder whether this is really a road to a new society.



MODELS OF A NEW SOCIETY (II)

- Three variants or models of creation of a new society (better future) have emerged until now, all under the umbrella of globalism.
- The first variant is Atlantic (overseas) where the movement of globalization came into being. It is based on a rigid equalization of numerous types of state set-ups.
- Mechanisms for reaching this original variant of globalization are the following: ideological political activity, the use of capital and military force.
- The second variant is Afro-Asian which is insufficiently defined. They see a new society in their own affirmation, the influence of foreign capital and protection of energy sources.
- The third variant is European, which seems to be the best, as it is “softer”, more civilized compared to the others, placing the focus of its activity on the humane aspect of globalization, equality in difference, parallelism of regionalism and integration. Voluntary accession to the Union on certain conditions.



EUROPEAN SOCIETY – NEW SOCIETY

- Today, as the elements of globalism have entered the lives of the people, nations and states, many nations, especially of the Balkans countries are not given a choice whether they want to join transition or not.
- It has been confirmed that the European type of the society, embodied in the European Union, is the closest to a new and better society.
- The first – original variant – Atlantic, is inflexible, violent and non-tolerant. Instead of progress and creation of a more just, and a better social set-up, it has encouraged numerous conflicts, wars, migrations, dissolutions and poverty.
- The European society seems to be a healthy society, therefore, with appropriate corrections, it may present a good framework for realizing the principle of modern civil society.
- We hope that the European society will develop in the spirit of tolerance, non-discrimination and culture of peace and cooperation.



CONTROVERSIES ON THE ROAD TO A NEW SOCIETY (I)

- Many difficulties are encountered on the road to a new society, i.e. many controversies.
- To reach any goal one has to go through many hardships „*Per aspera ad astra*“.
- Controversies happen daily, especially in the social sphere of human activity.
- In the process of transition toward creating a new world order, many countries that had been stable that far have dissolved, especially the countries in the Balkans and in the Southeast Europe.
- There is a big discrepancy (many controversies) between the globalization goals and practical results. Instead of success and a better society, we are witnesses of conflicts and disharmony.
- The world in transition is full of controversies. Even in such circumstances and with such controversies, the world does not lose hope but keeps looking for optimum solutions that will mark the new society.



CONTROVERSIES ON THE ROAD TO A NEW SOCIETY (II)

- Of many controversies we will mention only some more visible and harder to solve.
- The first and the basic controversy is a lack of definition of the social category “new society”, “society of the future”, “better society”. When does that society begin, when and how does it end, who is it created by, etc.
- The second controversy is the weakness (inertia) of theoretical thought in social studies with regards to the task imposed for creating and developing a new society.
- The third controversy is a huge and ever increasing gap between the happy people on the one hand and unhappy and poor on the other. Will some new society be able to bridge this gap?
- The fourth strong controversy includes integrations and disintegrations running parallel to encouraging each other in today’s society. Actually, a strong integration tendency brings about even a stronger disintegration process.



CONTROVERSIES ON THE ROAD TO A NEW SOCIETY (III)

- ◆ The fifth controversy or disharmony is reflected in prescriptive (the set goals and the roadmap toward a new society) and real (results of implementation of reforms in the process of transition).
- ◆ The sixth controversy on the road to a new society is in the sphere of science and technology. Namely, the world's leading countries keep the new technologies and discoveries under their control and let the public use them only to a wanted degree approved by them. On the other hand, there is an abuse of scientific achievements, such as, for example atomic energy.
- ◆ The seventh controversy includes numerous controversies in the fields of law, economy, science, trade, science of atoms etc.
- ◆ During a thirty year period of application of some forms of globalization its results have proved to be bad, while the controversies, instead of being solved, were deepened.



CONCLUSIONS

- There is a law according to which any society changes and brings changes in objective reality.
- It is natural that men as thinking and acting beings permanently look for and aspire toward something new. Thus, one of the most important issues regarding development is whether there is a new and better society and how to reach it?
- People believe in a new, better and a more just society.
- Globalism has been imposed on the world as a concept of a new society realized by different methods and mechanisms.
- The European road toward a new society, as a globalization variant, has been the best so far and many countries aspire toward it.
- On the road toward a new society there are many controversies that should be decreased, while the new ones should not be created.
- A lot of effort must be put to make sure that the new society is not just a big illusion.



**Thank you for
attention!**