



Contribution from BYSTRE



Water during the ages

Already at the beginning of the project when I had found place called Paxos on the map, I understood that water is pivotal theme for you. When there was Youth camp in Bystré in 2001, your representatives told us that the main theme of Youth camp in Paxos would be swimming, swimming and swimming. So it was probable that the theme of the conference would be connected with water and I think that there is a lot of to say because it is problem which all of us must solve every day.

On the earth surface water forms the area of 361 455 000 km². It means two thirds of the surface but it is also more than 50% of human body so it is certain that water is essential part of our lives. Water also gives birth to new lives. It has many strange appearances e.g. water strokes, sparkles, cools, tastes, murmurs. So the same water that grabs us with its beauty, threatens us with its power.

It is unbelievable that the same water which gives us the lives, can be destructive element from day to day. How we could find out for many times in many places in Europe. The same water which helps to keep the lives, can damage the crops, take us our houses and even lives.

When I think about the history of water what I keep in my mind I remember quiet sparkling surfaces of the ponds which I can not imagine the picture of our countryside without. I remember my grandfather's well in the garden where we went for water that had always the same temperature and was literally delicious. Then I think about new houses in which there are water taps or water supply from which there flows just regulated water that is not so delicious but it is more expensive. Then I think about days when the water doesn't flow from these taps and when all citizens of Bystré call me and ask me for explanation. And I go with professionals to water reservoir compartment and we can see the bottom of the reservoir and I feel like the king in the fairy-tale who changed the kingdom for grain of salt - drop of water. I project also all stupid advertisements on TV that promote water in pet-bottles and try to convert our nature wealth into money. I think about pharmaceutical water that gives power and health to our body and that can cure our illnesses. I can not forget the water that forms our countryside that rises from depth of the earth, shapes the stones, forms the waterfalls in front of which everybody holds the breath. I do not forget the fascinating beauty of oceans and seas that you can enjoy here every day and that always grab us - landlubbers.

A man is creature that doesn't need to conquer the things he contracts them and considers them to be common. During the years people underestimated both needs of water and power of water.

Since 50. till 90. of last century in my country the government believed that ordered to wind and rain and according to this the government behaved. We raped the water courses, cut down the forests and trees on the banks and we didn't think of naturally earth absorbing of the rainwater. The professionals now say that this is the reason why floods damage our county time after time.

Like the planet, climate and people have been changing so has been the quality and use of water. But water still remains the most important need of our lives and in this way we must handle with it. It is essential part of every country. It is necessary to proceed to water, its power and beauty with submission and we must try to make possible to water to demonstrate in the most hospitable and useful appearance.