

SLOW FOOD: HEALTH AND AESTHETICS

The movement of Slow Food originated in Italy. In this country people have always loved not only food, but also communication during eating. So, back in 1989 the movement of Slow Food was officially registered. It had many supporters. People united to press fast food from life and to create the institutions of public catering with tasty and healthy food.

The main objective of this movement is the desire to return respect for homemade food, a former culture of food and ... to change the rate of life. "It is necessary to cook slowly, with feeling, from the freshest organic products, and eat it with those who you love and at the one big table", – the founder of movement Carlo Petrini claimed.

Slow Food is active and vocal on a number of current issues affecting our food system. The most critical of them are:

1. Animal welfare. Slow Food claims that each year the welfare of billions of animals raised for their meat, milk and eggs for human consumption is seriously compromised. Animal farming throughout the world has become increasingly intensive, where maximum production and profits are prioritized, and animals are treated as commodities.

As the consumption of animal products continues to increase, it has become necessary to confront these problems in order to safeguard the health of citizens and the environment, and guarantee that small-scale farmers can thrive in their activities while ensuring that the welfare of animals is respected.

2. Food waste. Slow Food believes that in a world where millions of people are undernourished and resources are limited, reducing food waste is an essential step in achieving a stable food system.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, roughly one third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year — approximately 1.3

billion tons — gets lost or wasted. Meanwhile over 840 million people worldwide (12% of the world population) are undernourished.

In developing countries food waste and losses occur mainly at early stages of the food value chain and can often be traced back to financial or technical constraints in harvesting and storage. In medium- and high-income countries food is wasted and lost mainly at later stages in the supply chain, in supermarkets, restaurants and households.

3. GMOs. Slow Food is against the commercial planting of genetically modified (GM) crops and works to promote GM-free food and animal feed.

GMOs are unreliable from a scientific point of view, inefficient in economic terms and environmentally unstable. Little is known about them from a health perspective and from a technical standpoint they are obsolete. They have severe social impact, threatening traditional food cultures and the livelihoods of small-scale farmers.

In many countries labeling of GMO-containing food is not obligatory, and people cannot be sure that they are avoiding these foods. Slow Food supports mandatory labeling of all products containing GM ingredients, including meat and dairy products where animals have been fed with GM feed, thus giving consumers the freedom to make an educated choice about what they eat.

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CURRENT TRENDS OF DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD ECONOMY

The modern world economy is growing enormous pace. Rapid development is connected with the improvement of technology, the development of the processes of integration and globalization, with rapid and unlimited flow of information.

More and more significant role in the system of international economic relations is played by transnational corporations and banks, international financial and economic organizations. The system of the modern world economy is in process of infinite development and improvement, there are new organizational structures, old economic formations adapt to the current conditions of the economic environment and transform