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## **GLOBAL WARMING EFFECTS ON THE WORLD ECONOMY**

### **ВЛИЯНИЕ ГЛОБАЛЬНОГО ПОТЕПЛЕНИЯ НА МИРОВУЮ ЭКОНОМИКУ**

Global warming is a gradual increase in world temperatures caused by gases such as carbon dioxide that are collecting in the air around the earth and stop the heat escaping into space [1]. Apart from the tangible effects of global warming on farming and other industries, it is expected to bring new challenges to human beings. The issue of migration will be the largest driver of economic change as global warming will significantly alter the geographic location of goods and services [2].

The authorities of the Republic of Belarus fully acknowledge the problem. Due to the favourable legislature the IAEA selected our country for a pilot study for the Clean Energy Technology Assessment Methodology (CETAM). It is developed with the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and aims at providing transparent information about clean energy technology markets [3].

It is also essential to add that Belarusian legislation contains a number of regulations that are related to climate change in one way or another. The basic provisions are laid down in our National Constitution, e.g. Art. 34: “Citizens of the Republic of Belarus shall be guaranteed the right to receive, store and disseminate complete, reliable and timely information on the activities of state bodies and public associations, on political, economic, cultural and international life, and on the state of the *environment*”. This theme is also reflected in the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On the Environmental Protection”; the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus “On the Use of Renewable Energy Resources”; the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On Renewable Energy Resources” and some others. In accordance with these documents, the information on climate change is expected to be accessible to people through any kind of media.

The purpose of our research was to identify the level of awareness related to the problem of global warming effects among our target group – international law and international relations students – as they are expected to occupy important positions in civil service and management in future. We canvassed 60 respondents aged 19 – 22 in order to reveal the attitude of the young generation to the subject in question. According to the survey, 52 persons (86.7%) believe that the problem of global warming exists. Noteworthy is the fact that 35 persons out of 60 participants (58.3%) confirmed that they do not get the full information about the climate situation in Belarus and in the world. And only 25 persons (41.6%) out of the canvassed group take some measures against global warming in everyday lives.

The conclusion is self-evident: if the educational elite complains about insufficient information regarding global warming effects and barely does anything to cope with them, we reckon that ordinary people in our Republic tend to underestimate the detrimental impact of climate change on the global and local economies. So, in view of inclusion of the Republic of Belarus into important environmental projects by respectable international organizations like the IAEA we believe that raising awareness of the problem among the population is urgent.

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