

VARSTVO PRED NESREČAMI IN MEDNARODNO SODELOVANJE

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K naravnim in drugim podobnim nesrečam prištevamo tiste hude in razsežne neizgibe, ki jih ne moremo obladati z rednimi organizacijami in potrebujejo širšo družbeno pomoč. Ta opredelitev že sama po sebi vključuje v pojem tudi pomoč širše družbe.

Slovenija, ki meri 20256 km², ima 1207 km dolgo državno mejo na kopnem. Na 15 km širok obmejni pas odpade dobra polovica državnega ozemlja in noben kraj v zračni črti ni oddaljen od meje več kot 47 km. Največje katastrofe zato segajo prek državnih meja ali iz zamejstva v Slovenijo. Tak je bil beljaški potres l. 1382, idrijski l. 1511, zagrebški l. 1880, ljubljanski l. 1885, furlanski l. 1976. Priprava na takó razsežne katastrofe zahteva veliko blagovnih rezerv in obilo specializiranih ekip za reševanje, ki pa bi jih bilo treba za en polni poseg ohranjati v pripravljenosti nekaj sto let, kolikor znaša njihova povratna doba. Ob tem se nujno zastavi ekonomsko vprašanje: ali ni pametneje organizirati za take primere skupno solidarnostno pomoč s sosednjimi državami?

Taka razmišljanja nujno vodijo k mednarodnemu sodelovanju na področju preprečevanja nesreč, reševanja in lajšanja posledic. Iz takega prepričanja potekajo vsakoletni sejmi opreme za varstvo in reševanje ob naravnih nesrečah v Kranju, kjer sodeluje vedno več strokovnjakov iz sosednjih držav.

Priča smo vedno širšemu in poglobljenemu sodelovanju med evropskimi državami. Tak dogovor za primere naravnih nesreč je bil podpisan med Italijo, Avstrijo, Hrvaško, Madžarsko, Poljsko in Slovenijo. Še širše in globlje sodelovanje je dogovorjeno za primere tehnoloških nesreč. V navodilih posebne komisije Evropske skupnosti iz leta 1990 so podrobna navodila o obveščanju o nevarnih snoveh, ki lahko pri skladiščenju, prevozu in uporabi povzročijo hudo nesrečo in o katerih je treba obveščati sosednje države. L. 1992 so evropske vlade v Helsinkih podpisale konvencijo Združenih narodov o tehnoloških nesrečah, katerih učinki segajo prek državnih meja. Med sopodpisniki je tudi Jugoslavija v imenu tedanjih njenih republik. Bližamo se sredini desetletja 1990-2000, ki so ga Združeni narodi razglasili za desetletje naravnih nesreč z motom "za varnejši svet 21. stoletja".

Dokumenti, ki jih je podpisala samostojna Slovenija, so na razpolago pri Republiški upravi za zaščito in reševanje v Ljubljani. O teh in drugih dogovorih – tudi o tistih, sklenjenih med strokovnjaki, ki proučujejo naravne in antropogene nesreče – pa so podrobneje poročale dosedanje številke Ujme.

Skratka, potreba po mednarodnem sodelovanju je našla svoj odraz v številnih mednarodnih dogovorih in je postala obenem tudi obveza. Prek mednarodnih ustanov se vsako leto prelivajo milijarde dolarjev pomoči deželam, ki so jih prizadele hude nesreče, zlasti potresi, poplave, orkani in vojne. Del pomoči odobrijo vlade same. Poznajo ljudsko modrost, da človeka spoznaš v stiski. Narode tudi. Zato pametni ljudje priskočijo na

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pomoč sočloveku, ki je tedaj pomoči najbolj potreben in zanj tudi najbolj hvaležen. Tako je tudi s sosednjimi in drugimi narodi. Vsi si s solidarnostno pomočjo kupujemo dobro ime. Velik del pomoči pa zberejo človekoljubna združenja na pobudo ljudi, ki se zavedajo usodne povezanosti vseh ljudi, ljudstev in držav na tem našem in edinem planetu. Prav ta osebnostna plat dajanja pomoči kot odraz sočutja s prizadetimi, ki za nesrečo niso krivi, daje uradni pomoči pravi lesk.

Ali zmoremo s takim leskom pozlatiti mednarodno sodelovanje tudi mi Slovenci, ki nas pri tem bremeni zgodovina? Nekoč pod fevdalci tujega porekla, nato v kapitalizmu pod tujimi delodajalci in orožniki, v prvi in drugi Jugoslaviji obubožani med revnimi smo vzgojili skupni občutek izkoriščenosti, ki napeljuje k povečanemu etnocentrizmu in zapiranju vrat v svet.

Da ne bo nesporazuma: v drugi Jugoslaviji smo imeli regulirano zakonodajo za avtomatsko delitev solidarnostnih sredstev znotraj republik in v vsej državi. Tako smo, med drugim, pomagali pri obnovi Debra, Skopja, Banjaluke, in drugi so pomagali obnavljati popotresno Posočje in Kozjansko. Država ni hotela zaostajati za tujino in tako so naše ekipe iskale žrtve in jih identificirale po zlomu jezu v Vajontu, v Agadirju in drugod. Toda to pomoč je delila država in ljudstvo je svojo solidarnost plačalo z obveznimi prispevki za proračun.

Z osamosvojitvijo se Slovenci želimo vključiti v razvitejši svet, kjer se že desetletja krepi solidarnost s prizadetimi ob naravnih in drugih nesrečah. To ni le odraz vsakodnevne politike, temveč moralna potreba pomagati prizadetim kot državljani tega sveta. Z večjo vključitvijo v mednarodno skupnost pri načrtovanju nesreč, reševanju in lajšanju njihovih posledic bomo po svoje prispevali k promociji Slovenije v tujini, o kateri toliko govorimo. Odraz take orientacije je tudi organizacija mednarodne konference o industrijskih nesrečah oktobra 1994. leta v Ljubljani.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

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Among natural and other disasters we classify those disasters with severe consequences affecting a large area, such that they cannot be controlled by regular organisations and demand wide social help. Such a definition in itself embodies the concept of the help of the broader society.

The Slovene territory occupies an area of 20,256 km², and has a 1,207 km-long inland borderline. The 15 km-wide border zone covers around a half of the Slovene territory, and there is no place within Slovenia which is more than 47 km as the crow flies from the border. The most severe disasters may therefore reach the area beyond the Slovene border or affect Slovene territory from beyond its borders. The Villach earthquake in 1382 was one of such disasters, other instances being the Idrija earthquake in 1511, the Zagreb earthquake in 1880, the Ljubljana earthquake in 1895, and the Friuli earthquake in 1976. The preparations for protection against such extensive disasters demand large-scale reserves of supplies and a great number of specialised rescue units that for one proper intervention would have to be maintained on the alert for a couple of hundred years, which is the duration of their return period. In this context, an economic question arises: is it not more reasonable to organise common solidarity help with the neighbouring countries?

Such opinions lead inevitably to international cooperation in the fields of prevention of disasters, rescue, and mitigation of consequences. Based on such a conviction, an annual fair in Kranj was established where protection and rescue equipment has been presented, and where the participation of more and more experts from the neighbouring countries has been seen.

We can observe broader and deeper cooperation between the European countries. A multilateral agreement on cooperation in the event of natural disasters was signed by Italy, Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, and Slovenia. In the event of technologically generated accidents, the countries agreed on even broader and deeper cooperation. The instructions of the special European Union committee from 1990 include detailed instructions on reporting about dangerous substances that may cause a severe accident during storage, transport and use, and about which the neighbouring countries must be informed. In 1992, in Helsinki, the European governments signed the United Nations convention on technologically generated accidents which affect the area beyond their state borders. One of the signatories to the convention was Yugoslavia, which signed the convention on behalf of all of its republics. We are approaching the middle of the 1990's, which was proclaimed to be the decade of natural disasters by the United Nations, and which has been given the motto: "For a safer world in the 21st century".

The documents signed by independent Slovenia are accessible in the Republic Office for Protection and Rescue in Ljubljana. The issues of the magazine *Ujma* that have been published to date have reported on these and other agreements, including the agreements signed by experts who

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carry out research into natural and anthropogenous disasters.

In short, the need for international cooperation has resulted in numerous international agreements, and simultaneously it has become an obligation. Through international institutions billions of dollars of financial aid are channeled every year to countries that have been affected by disasters, particularly by earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and wars. A part of this aid is approved by governments themselves. They are familiar with the folk wisdom whereby a friend in need is a friend indeed. And a friend can be a nation. This is why wise people offer help to a fellow human being when he is in greatest need, and is therefore most grateful. The same goes for the neighbouring and other nations. We all buy a good name at the expense of solidarity help. A great part of the aid is gathered by humanitarian associations on the initiative of people who are aware of the inevitable connection between all the people, peoples, and countries of this one and only planet of ours. It is this very personal aspect of offering help to the affected people – who cannot be blamed for the occurrence of the disaster – as a gesture of compassion that adds a special lustre to the official help.

Can we, the Slovenes who on this question are burdened by history, also add a lustre to the international cooperation? Once under feudal lords of foreign origin, then, in capitalism, under foreign employers and foreign militias, then in the first and second Yugoslavia reduced to poverty, classified into the group of the poorest countries, we cultivated a common feeling of being exploited, which leads to increased ethnocentrism and to closing doors to the world.

To avoid any sort of misunderstanding: in the second Yugoslavia we had regulated legislation for the automatic distribution of solidarity funds among the republics and among all the parts of the country. Thus, among other things, we helped other republics to reconstruct Debar, Skopje and Banja luka, whereas others helped us to reconstruct Posočje and Kozjansko when they were affected by earthquakes. The country wanted to keep up with the rest of the world, so our rescue units helped to search for and identify victims in Vayont on the collapse of the dam, in Agadir, and elsewhere. However, this help was distributed by the state, and the people paid their solidarity through obligatory contributions to the budget.

On achieving independence the Slovene people want to join the more developed world, which has for decades been strengthening solidarity towards those affected by natural and other disasters. This is not only a reflection of regular policy, but a moral obligation of the citizens of the world to help those affected. By increased involvement in the international community in planning for protection against disasters, rescuing, and mitigating their consequences we might contribute to the promotion of Slovenia abroad, something which is much talked about. Another reflection of such an orientation is the organisation of the international conference on industrial disasters which is to take place in October, 1994, in Ljubljana.