
by

John Pickles

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John Pickles
Department of Geography
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

A COLLABORATIVE US-BULGARIAN RESEARCH PROJECT

Funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

**ABSTRACT**: This report contains details of all products of the MacArthur Foundation funded project on "The Effects of Economic and Political Restructuring in Bulgaria on Environmental Quality: A Case Study of the Impact in the Bourgas Region." The report includes details of books, chapters in books, published papers, technical and research reports, conference presentations, conference sessions organized, related products of the research project, and details of the personnel associated with the research project.
The Effect of Economic and Political Restructuring in Bulgaria on Environmental Quality: A Case Study of the Impact in the Burgas Region

Bulgaria, like other Eastern European countries, is experiencing major political, economic and social changes. At the same time, the country faces severe environmental problems resulting from policies and practices carried out under the old government. Decades of relying on heavy industry without pollution controls have created major ecological catastrophes, including dying forests, extensive air and water pollution, eroded and polluted soils, and contamination of the food supply. Major environmental problems have also been caused by practices in agriculture, energy production, and urban development.

Recent reforms in Bulgaria are promoting a transition from a centrally-planned economy to a decentralized, democratic, market-oriented economy. These ongoing changes in the political and economic structure of the country provide unique opportunities for examining issues of environmental quality. The question of how political and economic shifts will affect environmental quality in Bulgaria is the central focus of the research being carried out under this project.

The project has five related objectives:

To determine the legislative framework for environmental regulation. Existing, pre-restructuring Bulgarian legislation will be examined to identify whatever statutory standards currently control ambient air, water, and soil conditions, as well as those that limit site-specific pollution. The nature of the regulatory process and the manner of enforcement will be clarified.

To identify the political and economic structures and mechanisms implemented between 1989 and 1993. New structures and mechanisms relevant to issues of environmental pollution, toxic waste production and disposal, and environmental conditions in the work place will be determined.

To appraise environmental quality. An environmental baseline will be constructed to evaluate the impact that political and economic restructuring will have on the environment.

To assess the impact of restructuring on environmental conditions. The environmental impacts of restructuring will be assessed or, when the time-frame is too short for a full assessment, estimated.

To unite economic development and environmental policy making. Within the emerging constitutional, legislative and administrative framework, methods will be suggested to develop standards and policies that prevent environmental degradation and allow economic growth.
The project is a collaborative US-Bulgarian effort which builds on the previous ties between the American and Bulgarian scholars. These connections were strengthened by international seminars on regional development and resource management held in Morgantown, West Virginia in 1987, and in Sofia, Veliko-Turnovo, and Varna, Bulgaria in 1989. The current research springs directly from the 1989 international seminar, funded by the National Science Foundation and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and responds to the protocols and research plans agreed upon and signed jointly by the American and Bulgarian delegations in Varna in October 1989. Other projects associated with the group include a collaborative study (in proposal) co-directed by Dr. Yarnal to develop a GIS database of environmental information in Bulgaria and a study (funded by the National Science Foundation) directed by Drs. Begg, Pickles, Koulov and Paskaleva to examine spatial and economic changes in Bulgaria as it undergoes restructuring.

Funding for the project has been provided by the Program on Peace and International Cooperation of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The project is administered through the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University. Associated contracting institutions include the Georgia Tech Research Institute and the Institute of Geography of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.
RESEARCHERS AND AFFILIATION

Principal Investigators
Professor John Pickles, University of Kentucky
Professor Brent Yarnal, The Pennsylvania State University
Professor Boian Koulov, American University and Sofia University
Dr. Krassimira Paskaleva, Georgia Tech Research Institute
& the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Co-Principal Investigators
Professor Robert Begg, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Professor James Friedberg, West Virginia University
Professor Philip Shapira, Georgia Institute of Technology

Bulgarian Researchers
Dr. Stefan Velev, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Dr. Dimitrina Mikhova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Mr. Branimir Zaimov, Foreign Ministry of Bulgaria
Dr. Marina Andreeva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Dr. Zoya Mateeva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Dr. Mariana Nikolova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Dr. Poli Roukova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Mr. Vasil Vasilov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Ms. Roumiha Dobrinova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Ms. Mariana Asanova, Sofia University

U.S. Research Assistants
Mr. Chet Askey, Georgia Institute of Technology
Mr. George Bowles, The Pennsylvania State University
Mr. Richard Chamberlain, The Pennsylvania State University
Mr. Stephen Hanna, The University of Kentucky
Ms. Rita Hedrick, West Virginia University
Mr. A.U. Khan, West Virginia University
Ms. Marjorie Orin, The Pennsylvania State University
Mr. Petr Pavlinek, The University of Kentucky
Mr. Jeffrey Popke, The University of Kentucky
Ms. Jennifer Serafin, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Mr. Caedmon Staddon, The University of Kentucky
Mr. Aristotelis Tymas, Georgia Institute of Technology
Mr. Michael Urbanas, The Pennsylvania State University

Institutional Support
Professor Andrew Isserman (Director), Regional Research Institute, WVU
Professor Brian Cushing (Budget Director), Regional Research Institute, WVU
Ms. Carla Uphold (Budget Manager), Regional Research Institute, WVU
Ms. Mary-Lou Meyer (Staff Manager), Regional Research Institute, WVU

Professor Petar Popov (Director), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Professor Doncho Donchev (Acting Director), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Professor Christo Ganev (Dean of Social Sciences), Sofia University
Angel Sharenkov (driver), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Dancho Danchev (driver), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Books

Free and Clean? The Environmental Consequences of Economic and Political Restructuring in Bulgaria. Edited by B. Yarnal.

Chapter 1. Introduction to Bulgaria's Socioeconomic Crisis: The Transition from Communism to Capitalism. B. Yarnal.


Chapter 4. Law and Environment: The Road from Word to Deed in Bulgaria. J. Friedberg and B. Zaimov.


Chapter 7. Agriculture and Land Use: The Effects of Bulgarian Decollectivization. B. Yarnal.

Chapter 8. Agriculture and The Environment: Patterns and Paths During the Bulgarian Transition. R. Begg.


Published Papers and Chapters


Begg, R. Forthcoming. Patterns and Paths: Agriculture and The Environment During the Bulgarian Transition. In Free and Clean? The Environmental Consequences of Economic and Political Restructuring in Bulgaria. Edited by B. Yarnal.


Joint Publications Between US. and Eastern European Scholars


Technical Reports and Discussion Papers


**Book Reviews**


**Field Reports**

*Field Interview Notes*, Bulgaria June 16-July 8 1991.


**Popular Press Reports on Research**


Conference Presentations and Invited Talks


Koulov, B. 1993. "Bulgarian Ecology in the Shade of Politics." Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, April, Atlanta, GA.


Pickles, J. 1992. "Environmental Struggles and Local Politics." Invited talk, Department of Geography, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.


Conferences and Conference Sessions Organized


The Third Symposium on the Impact of Political and Economic Restructuring on the Bulgarian Environment, Morgantown, West Virginia, April 1994


Yarnal, B. 1992. Invited Organizer and Chair of the U.S. Delegation, Global Environmental Problems Commission, Europe-America Emerging Leaders Conference, Baltimore, MD. (co-sponsored by the American Center for International Leadership, the State of Maryland, the European Community, and the U.S. Information Agency), November 30-December 5.
Related grants and spinoff research projects


Graduate and undergraduate student involvement

Georgia Tech (Paskaleva and Shapira)

Assisted in compiling and updating project bibliography.

Chet Askey, MSPP '93, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology
Graduate Research Assistant, 1992 and 1993
   Assisted in analysis of industrial survey data

J. Siegler, MSPP Candidate, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology
Graduate Research Assistant, 1993-1994
   Conducting follow-up analysis on 1992 industrial survey.

Indiana University, Pennsylvania (Begg)


The Pennsylvania State University (Yarnal)


Chamberlain, R. Preparation of tabulated environmental and agricultural data; construction of land-use GIS; and field work on land use and environmental hazards. Undergraduate research assistant. May 1992-July 1993.

Scholarships and Awards

Pavlinek, P. 1994. Graduate School Fellowship, University of Kentucky.


Publications


Research Reports


Conference Presentations


Data and Related Products


Begg, R. Regional: Similar data for Kameno, Bourgas, Dolno Ezerovo.


Koulov, B. Bibliography: Environmental and Bourgas region issues on file in Bulgarian libraries.

Paskaleva, K. Bibliography of the MacArthur Project.
(Includes publications, documents, reports, and related materials).
Available in dBase format on 3.5" MS-DOS disk from: Krassimira Paskaleva,
Georgia Tech Research Institute, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332-0800.

Pickles, J. and Staddon, C. Results of the 1992 Social Survey of Attitudes to Environment and Transition in the Bourgas Region of Bulgaria.
Report of Survey available from: John Pickles, Department of Geography, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. 40506-0027.

Report of Survey available from: John Pickles, Department of Geography, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. 40506-0027.

Report of Survey available from: Philip Shapira, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332-0345.
Data available in dBase format on 3.5" MS-DOS disk. Contact: Philip Shapira, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332-0345.

Yarnal, B., R. Chamberlain and M. Urbanas, 1993: Photo survey of land use on two Bulgarian cooperative farms. (Over 200 photos keyed to the land-use GIS and undergoing continued revision.)

Yarnal, B., R. Chamberlain and M. Urbanas, 1993: A GIS of land use on two Bulgarian cooperative farms. (Compiled in Atlas GIS, ground truthed and undergoing continued revision.)

