



Fig.172 Screenshot showing me walking in a Russian city trying to cover my nose for the amount of pollution generated by the old cars there. Oftentimes while not in western countries I have experienced such heavy traffic unlike the soft and smell free traffic of the electric cars sold in the west. Nonetheless in these non-western countries I experienced a higher level of humanity and it has always been heart-breaking for me to witness how these countries which could potentially turn back to more ecological ways of living are just following the example of western countries. Ironically the west has still the illusion to set the example for all the other non-western countries showing how not to pollute and turn sustainable in an industrial manner but by the time non-western countries will have baptized their whole population into a consumer society the level of pollution and global warming will be simply impossible to tame. In this respect I am firm in believing the whole industrialization process has to be completely reconsidered perhaps as Peter Kropotkin suggested thinking more in terms of workshops to serve communities rather than giant industries serving the pocket of a strict elite getting richer and richer as the environment gets more and more compromised. No reform will ever work and will always be in the long run jeopardized. Only substituting the capitalist system based on a fierce and destructive competition with a system of collaboration can be the way out of catastrophe. As history have shown however, this system of collaboration ought not to be controlled by any central authority, ought not to be compulsive but rather shaped into a voluntary type of confederation from the bottom to the top.

POLLUTION 04

While I have never really been able to afford to buy electric driven equipment, I kept using my old equipment also in the belief that some natural resources ought to be sacrificed at least for more spiritual kind of undertakings. Also these undertakings

not only bring others closer to nature; in the long run they come to preserve the surrounding nature but more importantly they can inspire others to live in accordance with nature and in this respect to be self-sufficient. This self-sufficiency is in my opinion what ought to be ultimately sought when considering a sustainable future. Some of the more anarchist theorists like the term self-reliance because it implies a more collaborative spirit with the surrounding community and environment and I also subscribe to that since really no human can live alone in the forest. All the attempts to be alone into the wild have pretty much come to Leo Tolstoy's conclusion that life is beautiful only when shared even though ultimately the very Russian author died in the attempt of escaping the very family-life he had idealized. Personally I think that we need one another and can live organically as an extended family open to welcome anyone and make it part of the circle.

Together we can make it work. It seems that all the new innovations to make life on earth more sustainable do not really take collaboration into account. They are just machines built for individuals and these machines create a stronger and stronger dependency to the industry since they are simply impossible to repair. If one component is faulty a new one has to be ordered from the other side of the world. Moreover I often perceived the switch to emission free technologies as just a way not only to generate a new wave of consumerism but also as a form of effortless technologies mostly addressed for richer people. Besides, I am aware that these new technologies will bring forward a new paradigm in the history of humanity. With this new paradigm unforeseen consequences will emerge along with new kinds of environmental and social issues. Meanwhile, an electric mower is automatically cutting the grass of one of my neighbors. He can keep in his super tight and water and weather proof house without ever needing to get out of it. He never needs anyone, all he needs the new technology provides.

In some sense this process of individualization set forth by technology highlights perhaps one of the greatest catastrophe humans will face complying to it and that is the destruction of the human fabric that has always characterized humanity up until the modern age, up until industrialization not only specialized humans but also again got them less and less in the need of one another. I am actually very uncomfortable with this idea and try as much as possible to display solidarity to others and give them a hand. Since I do not comply to the system and I have long ago

pulled out of any career path and since I have prioritized the growing of my children and the bringing them to nature and be as free as possible, I ended up having time not only to look after my nature but also to help when I need others. Already this text, what I am writing is yet another effort in this direction, an effort to promote not so much civil disobedience per se but the prioritizing of the taking care of our own ecologies, ourselves and our neighbors and the immediate surroundings. Now I do not play the fanatic environmentalist ringing the door of a neighbor and ask him or her if he or she needs my help nor I go around with a bag picking trash along the river. I just happen to be there, I happen to be present and ready.

Thanks to my life-project I have developed a way to be attentive of my surroundings and the effects it has on me and vice versa. Of course most of the time there is nothing to be done, there are issues but these issues are the competence of the authorities who are unlikely to intervene or if they intervene they are very categorical and create a whole new chain of issues. At the core I am convinced that many problems would be solved if humans would be allowed to take care of themselves and their communities. If I think of direct democracy I think it could not work simply because humans are too caught up in making the centralized machine to work. With the centralized machine still in place and no politicians to represent it, people could vote and the majority would choose the destiny of the whole nation, likely resulting in terrible and disastrous decisions such as more nuclear power and more war against the neighbors. Now remove or at least try to remove for a second the central apparatus than people would have to come to agreement on local matters, they would have to be fully responsible for them and take action to implement them, modifying their decisions along the way and keeping up a dialogue not only among themselves but with the environment and what it got to offer.

A decentralized democracy would in this respect also entail that relationships with other communities can be handled by creating voluntary types of confederations and not the highly structured and hierarchical set up that runs the many union of states all around the world. These unions are just amplification of centralization and in this respect their effect on the local environment is even more detrimental. On the other hand a union not of states but of confederations would always guarantee that whatever is implemented always comes as it should be from the

bottom. There is absolutely nothing naive about this since this is really how humanity has lived for the greatest part of its history while in the very brief part in which centralized political structures have been implemented genocides and social oppressions and environmental catastrophes have been repeatedly perpetrated. I am convinced that neither politicians nor their scientists buddies and certainly not the capitalist elite will ever bring the planet out of the self-destructive trend in which they have taken it. The key to me is to regain that sort of acephalous and horizontal social relationship that the power-drive has completely fragmented.

Interestingly I came to these conclusions conducting a project that many including scholars have labeled as selfish and individualistic. Yes I had many occasions to collaborate in my life but these collaborations were all based on getting subsidies from the state and the like, meaning get power, colonize and become authorities in this or that cultural genre. What the hell! Thanks to my project I always navigated away from these opportunities and have gone further and further down to the bottom unlike my artist friends who have gone higher and higher in the hierarchy ending up like robot-clerks of the system with their prestigious medal but no substance to share. I have now reached the bottom with substance, I am there to fertilize it. I might be alone with it but others may slowly join and others might attempt to do the same in other localities of the planet and we can become an invisible net, the rhizome of life. In reality then if philosophers have talked and talked about disappearance I see it more a matter fully merging back in nature and boasting a new life from there.