

Deindustrialization and socio-environmental degradation

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With the new global economic redevelopment, the environmental issue is gaining a role of increasing relevance. It represents an additional factor in the balance of costs and benefits of global market strategies. Since the end of the World War Two, the global tendency is breaking away from the classical theory of Economics and determinism.

For two centuries, the historical pattern established a division of labour between few countries able to industrialize and a larger number of countries producers of primary goods (minerals or agriculture). Nevertheless, industrial hubs came to light in some of the peripheral countries, thanks to national strategies. World's distribution of manufacturing production has been redesigned with the introduction of cheaper workforce, attractive internal markets and access to natural resources and power supply.

In some countries, the process of industrialization had a leading role in domestic economy and in the balance of international trade. Thanks to the economic valuation of natural resources, a door of disruption with the inherited pattern of the colonial system had been opened. In Latin America and especially in Brazil, Mexico and Argentina there was a growing participation of the industrial sector in their respective GDP.

Fifty years later, those same countries are going through processes of relative deindustrialization. Which is, the industry is growing less (and some sectors decrease) than service and primary sectors (agriculture and mineral extraction).

This could be seen, from a geopolitical standpoint, as the return to a trade regime similar to the one of the colonial period, since commodity prices are regulated by rules that comply more with global markets movements than with locally effective production costs.

From a political and institutional perspective, this represents an opening for the elite – usually conservative – associated with agri-business and mining, to the detriment of more modern sectors of society. Their lobbies inevitably obtain a buyer power for political decisions and norms of interest. Politically, we can say this is an allegiance to the global market. Environmentally, it is about bringing back the times where the rising environmentalism was simply an ingenuous and unnecessary barrier to nation's growth and open enrichment of its economic agents.

From an environmental point of view, this trend brings alarming consequences. With the formation of prices dictated by forces that are external to the process (and costs) of production, two categories of factors suffer a pressure and risk to be over-exploited. The first factor refers to labour that tends not to enjoy the monetary benefits from production and, sometimes, does not even benefit from labour or social security legislation rights. The second one is the natural habitat, since there is an intensification in the extraction of renewable and non-renewable resources. Besides, the degradation costs (land, forests, water resources, contamination as a whole) are not considered in the final production cost.

In the first case, it's social dumping and, in the second, environmental dumping. The concept of dumping must be understood as a situation in which a product is sold for a lower price than its real cost of production.

Facing this, the Journal *Sustainability in Debate* invited Professor Pierre Salama, an economist specialized in Latin America at the University Paris 13, to analyse the economic fundamentals of this process and its social and environmental implications. Since the 1960's, Salama is developing researches around major movements in capital and employment relations. Among other works published in Brazil, he published *Economia em decomposição e dolarização: ensaio sobre a moeda, industrialização*.

As stated in the past Editorial, *SeD*, with the support of FAP-DF, is implementing its internationalization process. In the section *Varia* of this number, there is an article in French, three articles in English and two articles in Spanish, along with the articles in Portuguese. Under the rules of the journal that came into effect on the 1st of January of this year, for new submissions it is necessary to pay a submission tax and a translation fee for the translation from Portuguese to English, when accepted for publication.

The first article, written by Professor Pierre Salama, is entitled *Latin America: Good bye industry, hello stagnation (Amérique Latine: Good bye industrie, hello stagnation)*, it aims to highlight the effects of industrialization on employment and income distribution in Latin America. Besides, it analyses the conditions for these countries to seize the ongoing industrial revolution.

The article *Facing food security and climate change adaptation in semi-arid regions: lessons from the Brazilian Food Acquisition Program (Enfrentando a segurança alimentar e a adaptação às mudanças climáticas em regiões semiáridas: lições do Programa Brasileiro de Aquisição de Alimentos)*, written by Patrícia Mesquita and Carolina Milhorange, analyses the Brazilian Food Acquisition Program in a context of extreme drought in the region of Cariri, State of Ceará, Brazil. This study assesses the limitations that inhibit all the potential benefits from this program and the possible measures to improve positive impacts for beneficiaries, thanks to the perceptions of institutional actors involved in the program.

Ana Paula Martins do Amaral Cunha *et al.* are the authors of the article *The challenges of Consolidation of a Drought-Related Disaster Risk Warning System to Brazil (Desafios para a Consolidação de um Sistema de Alerta de Risco de Desastre Associado às Secas no Brasil)*. They study the challenges for the consolidation of a warning system for disaster risks linked to droughts in Brazil. They suggest an initial allocation of responsibilities among national institutions involved with the issue, that would guide risk mitigation actions.

The article *Subnational Climate Policies: a proposal for monitoring in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (Políticas Climáticas Subnacionais: uma proposta de monitoramento no Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil)* is another publication around the climate change issue. The author, Markus Erwin Brose, puts forward the adoption of an instrument for monitoring climate initiatives, developed within the Open Climate Network, for assessing politics on climate change in the State of Rio Grande do Sul. He considers the main climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives in the state, from 2011 to 2017.

The article *Redd safeguards: protection for Caatinga communities in Pernambuco state, Brazil (Salvaguardas da Redd: proteção para as comunidades da Caatinga em Pernambuco, Brasil)*, written by Afonso Feitosa Reis Neto, Maria do Socorro de Araújo and Everardo Sampaio, is an analysis of the safeguards proposed for the implementation of the Redd, in Caatinga, Pernambuco. They use the Redd Safeguard Spectrum Framework (RSS Framework) methodology.

The next article, *What role do social actors play in the context of ecosystem services? A review in areas of ecology and conservation biology (Qué lugar ocupan actores sociales en el contexto de servicios ecosistémicos? Una revisión en áreas de ecología y biología de la conservación)*, was written by Daniela del Castillo *et al.* They deliver a review of scientific articles that focus on ecosystem services, published between 2005 and 2017. It investigates the way in which these publications retrieve voices from different social actors.

Erika Saccucci is the author of the article entitled *Study of the significance of environmental insecurity in two cases in Córdoba, Argentina (Estudio de la significación de la inseguridad ambiental en dos casos en Córdoba, Argentina)*. She considers discursive contexts and power relations in order to study the importance of pollution in two conflicts around the environmental issue: Pueblos Unidos and VUDAS - Vizinhos Unidos who are defending a safer environment in Córdoba, Argentina.

In the article *Sustainability and food choices: towards environmental biography of food (Sustentabilidade e escolhas alimentares: por um biografia ambiental dos alimentos)*, the authors Ana Luísa Araujo de Oliveira, Fabiana Thomé da Cruz and Sergio Schneider discuss the characteristics of the modern agri-food system. They consider the use of a biographic approach as a theoretical background for analysing the relationship between food and environment.

Finally, the article *Sunglasses frame recyclability analysis: polycarbonate vs wood (Análise de reciclabilidade de armações de óculos solares: policarbonato vs madeira)* is proposed by Manuela Kanan *et al.* The authors analyse the last phase in the life cycle of sunglasses. For this purpose, they elaborated a virtual questionnaire and obtained 765 responses. Besides, they realized interviews in eyewear stores, specialized stores and repair shops in the city of Porto Alegre, in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue,

The Editors