

takes a lot of electricity to make. Its day may come when cheap electricity is available from *solar power*. It's been around a long time, but it's taken a while to develop an effective way of harnessing the Sun's energy.

Wind power: turbines can provide useful amounts of energy in countries with vigorous winds. However, they will not produce a round-the-clock supply, and often arouse local opposition because of their noise, appearance, and threat to birds.

Geothermal energy uses the heat in the Earth's core, either from rocks and water near the surface or through drilling deep wells. It heats most buildings in Iceland, and is widely used in several other countries.

Nuclear power can deliver energy without adding to greenhouse emissions in the process, but it has several severe handicaps. Many people oppose it because they believe it is dangerous, and there is so far no way to dispose safely of nuclear waste.

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BRAIN DRAIN

УТЕЧКА МОЗГОВ

Throughout history people often tended to abandon their homeland in search of better conditions and stimulus for work elsewhere. According to estimates, about 125 million people work abroad nowadays. Brain drain is a movement of highly skilled individuals from home countries to those which offer them greater opportunities in their speciality, appealing living conditions and lifestyle.

Belarus has faced the brain drain for more than fifteen years. On average 15 doctors and 35—50 candidates of science leave the country per annum, let alone hundreds of student non-returnees (each year one fourth of students leaving for work in the USA do not return home). During the last decade the number of scientists in our country fell drastically from 110,300 to 53,300. According to the polls, 42,7 % of Belarusians would prefer to leave the country if given such an opportunity.

The majority of immigrants from Belarus are promising researchers, graduates and highly skilled professionals. Western enterprises, universities and research centres particularly value Belarusian physicists, mathematicians, programmers and engineers. The USA is believed to gain \$ 20,000 annually on each skilled migrant, while it costs Belarus \$ 600,000 to prepare a doctor of science. Moreover, enormous numbers of young specialists on arrival to the new country fail to find jobs adequate for their skills and education, and thus have to pursue low-skilled occupations.

In order to reduce the brain drain the project of establishing an analogue of the Silicon Valley in the Republic is being considered. It aims at creating a special high-technology area with tax preferences, stimulating investment and providing decent salaries for the researchers. Belarusian software companies earn around \$ 70—75 mln per year, and their revenues could double in a few years. The example of India, the world leader in offshore programming, proves that hi-tech production may be successfully implemented in our country. The project is sure to reduce the outflow of specialists from the state and help it occupy a competitive position on international markets.

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INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT AS THE INSTRUMENT FOR SOLVING INTERNATIONAL CONFLICTS

МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ УГОЛОВНЫЙ СУД КАК ИНСТРУМЕНТ БОРЬБЫ С МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫМИ ПРЕСТУПЛЕНИЯМИ

В наше время проблема сохранения мира на Земле стала важнейшей глобальной проблемой XX в. Международное сообщество уже много раз предпринимало попытки предотвратить все новые конфликты на земле. Именно поэтому в 1998 г. создан Международный уголовный суд. После его создания было много споров по поводу его эффективности, но, несмотря на это, его создание — серьезный шаг на пути к установлению международной безопасности и предотвращению безнаказанности.

The twentieth century, with its unprecedented civil and technological progress, will also be remembered for its shocking and tragic record of crimes and atrocities committed on human beings by their fellow human beings.

The international community made many attempts in order to maintain peace in the world and punish those responsible for brutal crimes of international importance. But none of them provided international security. The establishment of International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda has revived efforts to create a permanent international court to deal with war crimes and other human rights violations. At UN conference, held in Rome in July 1998, there was adopted a convention on the establishment of an International Criminal Court (ICC) based on the Rome Statute.

After the creation of the court the hot debates about its effectiveness have broken out. The proposed International Criminal Court is a perma-