

2016), however, over 15 years, this country has achieved the largest reduction in emissions per unit of added value in the manufacturing industry compared with three other countries due to the transition from coal to gas. Germany's leadership is due to energy production from wind farms and low generation due to brown coal, as well as the prohibition of the disposal of organic waste since 2005. China accounts for the largest amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions among the five countries, but the country is characterized by stable dynamics of a significant reduction in the specific indicator of emissions over the ten-year period since 2006, which is associated with the growth of the economy and added value, as well as the direction of investments in clean technologies. Russia occupies an intermediate position between China and the leading countries to minimize CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In contrast to these countries, Russia has a contradictory dynamics of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per unit of value added. A significant reduction in specific emissions for the period 2000-2006 occurs as a result of growth in value added in the manufacturing industry. The growth rate in 2007-2010 is associated with the development of manufacturing industries, which consistently account for significant amounts of emissions. In 2012, emissions in metallurgy are reduced, and in the future they are approximately at the same level [2]. The following conclusions can be drawn: 1. Russia is characterized by lagging behind the largest economies in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. 2. The dynamics of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Russia are contradictory and depend on changes in the number of manufacturing industries and investments in clean technologies.

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### SHOPPING BAGS, PLASTIC OR PAPER: IS THERE A GENERATION GAP IN ATTITUDES?

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The topic of using plastic and shopping paper bags has existed long enough, but still there are misconceptions concerning the disposable potential of these items. In this paper, we are trying to reveal the opinions of younger and older generations of Belarusians concerning this controversial matter.

*Keywords:* environmentally-friendly practices, plastic and paper shopping bags, waste disposal, re-usage.

The overall damaging influence of plastic is well known to humanity with devastating news about growing landfills and pollution in the ocean. Still, about one trillion single-use plastic bags are used annually across the globe [1]. As an alternative to plastic, paper bags were developed, which are considered to be more environmentally-friendly. However, the question of choice still bothers people as there are a lot of factors to take into consideration.

The objective of this work is to study the attitudes of younger and older generations of Belarusians towards different types of shopping bags with the purpose of identifying the degree of awareness about environmental damage and assessing the prospects of their use in the future. The topic is of a great significance as Belarusian stores are now required to offer customers paper bags, as per the resolution of the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade of the Republic of Belarus [2]. Therefore, consumers actually need to make a choice which will later have a big impact on ecology. Research methods used in this work include the analysis of literature, the empirical collection of data, the surveys on the use of various types of bags and the statistic interpretation of the results. The empirical data collection has been done by developing questionnaires, using Google Forms, for SB BSU students (60 respondents) and people of older generations (30 respondents). The questions were catego-

rized into several topics including shopping frequency, preferences to use different types of bags, personal attitudes, awareness of impacts, willingness to stop using plastic bags, and other.

The main findings are as follows: (1) Older generation always reuses disposable bags (100%) unlike the younger one (78,9%); (2) respondents from both generations who reuse disposable bags do it mostly for shopping, garbage, storing; (3) both generations believe that cotton bags have a less damaging impact on the environment; (4) younger generation tends to be more aware of the ecological damage the disposable bags cause; (5) younger generation is more willing to give up using disposable shopping bags for the sake of environmental protection.

To conclude, there is no striking difference between shopping behaviors of generations, but rather a bigger difference in attitudes towards the ecological problems associated with the use of shopping bags. Even though young people are more aware of the negative consequences shopping bags cause, only half of the respondents effectively reuses them. With the increasing overall awareness of the environmental concerns related to the usage and re-usage of disposable bags as well as the new regulations which will call for action, there is a big possibility of conscious ecological consumption growing in Belarus. Most people, however, are still unaware of hidden controversies in the use of bags of any type: a paper bag needs to be reused at least 3 times in order to mitigate its environmental impacts, the cotton bag – 131 times. Paper bags do not decompose faster than plastic, take up more space at land-fills and their disposal needs almost twice more energy [3]. In fact, it is hard to say if one type is preferable over another, which makes re-usage one of the major factors to consider if the bag is damaging the environment or not.

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## IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY IN POLAND

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*Keywords:* Public Policy, Food Security, Economic Strategy, EU Food Policy, FAO.

The paper will analyze food security in Poland, its determinants and effectiveness. The work will try to answer the questions about what is food security and why it is important? How does food security policy look like in Poland and what creates it? The main research problem of work is determining the effectiveness of Poland's food policy on the basis of the methods of "cost-benefit analysis" and "the cost-effectiveness" The article consists of two sections.

The first section, will be divided on few paragraphs: food security as a public policy, Polish national food strategy, The European Union influence on Poland's food security and organizations activities on food security in Poland. It will define basic concepts related to politics, public policy and food security. This section will also describe the role of various organizations in developing food security. Individual activities created by the organization and the government to increase food security will be also described.

The paper in second section will be divided on sections: applied research methods of food security policy in Poland, analysis of the agricultural sector in Poland and general food security policy analysis in Poland. It will contain the methodology and characteristics of public policy, agricultural and general analysis based on described methodology.