

Task 1

Study the amended piece of translation. Specify the linguistic rules breached by the translator (based on the editor's amendments).

Apart from advantages of using a more environmentally friendly fuel some negative consequences should be taken into account as well. In particular, large-scale biomass production could adversely affect agriculture. This issue is raised within the discussion "food vs. fuel". Experts are concerned that agricultural firms would rather plant low-maintenance industrial crops for biofuel production, which could lead to food shortage on the food markets and contribute to high agricultural prices. To avoid this, Directive 2009/28/EC introduces the concept of sustainable development, which sets a minimum threshold for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions at 35% compared to emissions caused by to-be-replaced fossil fuels (as of 2017 – 50%, as of 2018 – 50%). According to the Directive, biofuels shall not be made from plants grown in national parks or on land with high biodiversity value (unique ecosystems), wooded lands and swamps as this would violate the principle of sustainable development. Therefore special certificates shall be used to confirm compliance with the principle of sustainable development. The Ukrainian law instructs the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to endorse the standards of the best ratio of crops and stability criteria for biofuel production, as well as the procedure for compliance checks by the central executive body for agricultural policy and foodstuffs. Therefore, until the Cabinet of Ministers develops such norms and criteria there is a risk of soil exhaustion by canola.

It should also be noted that the discussion on the potential threat to the "food-fuel" balance is not relevant to Ukraine, mostly because the country has vast areas of unused farmland. Thus, conditions in a specific country rather than in the world in general shall be taken into account. Doing research in Ukraine and Brazil, Francis X. Johnson, Senior Research Fellow, Energy and Climate, Stockholm Environment Institute, noted: "There is no universal solution in the field of bioenergy and biofuel. Social, economic and environmental consequences shall be assessed for each considered territory in the context of specific environmental, cultural, agricultural conditions and land use systems that exist or previously existed". Another important factor is the low efficiency of land use in Ukraine. In particular, yield per hectare can be doubled.

Another important concern is that stimulation of biofuel production may adversely affect the agricultural biodiversity as farmers may switch to monocultures, which would reduce the traditional variety.

A positive aspect is that the "food vs. fuel" dilemma fades into insignificance because first generation biofuels (produced from food crops such as, e.g. corn and canola) are being replaced by second generation biofuels (any cellulose substance – non-edible biomass). This means that biofuel can be produced not from food crops but from waste such as timber or straw. On average, the efficiency of second generation biofuels production is 30-40% higher than in the case of the first generation. Besides, second generation biofuels release 90% less CO₂ compared to traditional diesel fuels. Currently, the only problem is a high cost of such biofuel, being times higher than that of first generation biofuels. Still, scientists are working on technologies to reduce the cost of such production.

It is important not to forget that the state providing economic incentives for biofuel production shall also ensure proper market management to balance supply and demand and avoid overproduction. In the pursuit of easy money savvy Ukrainians may start to import biofuel from Brazil because, despite fertile land and good climate in Ukraine, the cost of biofuel production in Brazil is the lowest.