

# Consciology in the global fight with dementia

Igor Kondrashin

President, World Philosophical Forum. Moscow Lomonosov State University. A former diplomat of USSR.

*"Education is the greatest problem and the hardest task for a person, because consciousness depends on education, and education, in its turn, depends on consciousness".*

Immanuel Kant

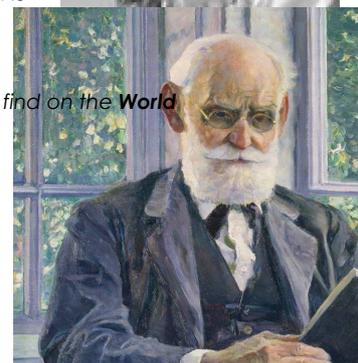
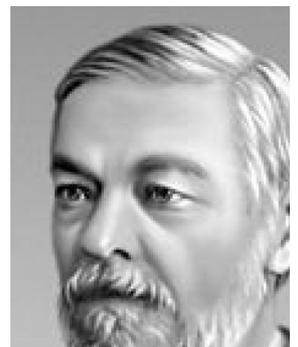
## Excerpt

### **A scientific approach in the cognition of consciousness<sup>1</sup>**

... in the end by now it is generally accepted that *consciousness* is the highest stage of *mind* having evolved over millions of years in all living on the planet Earth and which have achieved the highest degree of development only in the most perfect organism, resulting from the long evolution of the biosphere on the Earth - in **human being**, and precisely in the most important organ he has – in his **brain**, to be more exact, in its neuron-neuropile layer that contains about 100 billion nerve cells called **neurons**. The highest realms of neuro-psychical and intellectual-mental activity of the most advanced subsections of the brain in the process of its functioning reveal actually something what the people because of their ignorance still name the *heart*, the theologians – the *soul*, the medics – *psyche*, and only scientific philosophers rightly title it as *consciousness*. Thus, according to its etymology the *consciousness* in fact is not not at all a medical, nor clerical, but strictly scientific-philosophical term and notion.

It is authentically known that every individual has *consciousness*, but the trouble is, that the majority of people know nothing about *consciousness* as such, and especially about their own *consciousness*, though their whole life, as the lives of the people around them, of their natural environment depend on the condition of their *consciousness*. Maximum, what people have achieved from the scientific point of view in this direction at the moment, it is the summing up of the medical knowledge about the *psyche*, establishing **neurology** and **psychology**, on the basis of which appropriate medical specialists – *neurologists*, *psychologists*, *psychiatrists*, *psychotherapists* are being trained.

Here it is impossible not to mention the ideas of the famous Russian physiologist and psychologist **Ivan Sechenov**, who in the second half of the 19th century developed the natural-scientific theory of the psychical regulation of behavior. In his book "**Reflexes of the Brain**", he described how any psychical activity of humans is just a response of their brain to irritations coming from the outside world. At the



<sup>1</sup> A more detailed information about all these knowledge-concepts, their changes and updates one can find on the **World Philosophical Forum** website - <http://wfpf-unesco.org/>

end of any psychic action, there is always a contraction of certain muscles. In this work Sechenov began to consider the **psyche** not from the spiritual, but from the medical point of view. When excited, human receptors transmit the necessary information to the brain and spinal cord, where it is processed, after that the brain transmits response orders to perform this or other action to effectors. In other words, Sechenov was the first man, who discovered the reflex character of the psychical activity of people.

Sechenov's ideas further were developed in the scientific works of another Russian scientist **Ivan Pavlov**, who made a significant contribution to the development of psychology and physiology. It is he, who is considered the founder of such a scientific direction as **higher nervous activity**. In 1904, for his work, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Medicine.

In Europe, the successor of Ivan Sechenov was Sir **Charles Sherrington**, an English neurophysiologist, who received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1932 for describing the functions of neurons. He affirmed that the nervous system, including the brain, can be understood as a single interlinking network. His alternative explanation of synaptic communication between neurons helped shape our understanding of the **central nervous system**.

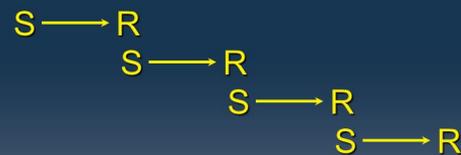
With all of this, it was proved for the first time that to the phenomenon of *consciousness* the **psyche** has a distinct relation, and the scientific, mainly medical knowledge used for its description and regulation, used by medical specialists, has only a collateral relation to *consciousness*, since for diagnosis and correction of *consciousness* in addition to specific medical knowledge about the structure and functions of the brain, nutrition of brain cells, it is also needed other, first of all, the scientific-philosophical knowledge about the specifics of the informational filling of the *content aspect* of *consciousness*.

That is why, in addition to knowledge about *cellular metabolism*, experts in the field of *consciousness* should necessarily possess also clear knowledge about the *informational metabolism*, occurring throughout all human's life along with the *cellular metabolism*. Thus, the **content aspect of consciousness** comes out to the fore in knowledge about *consciousness* as it is, in its formation, diagnosis and correction.

For this reason, at present a quite new science was established – the science of *consciousness* – **consciology** (from *Eng.* - *consciousness* – awareness, *anc.-Gr.* - *logos* – knowledge), which can become the basis for educating and training of specialists with medical-philosophical knowledge - **consciologists, consciotherapists, consciatrists** – specialized on formation, diagnosis and correction of *consciousness* (individual, group, regional, national, and even universal, global). It is they, but not family *psychologists*, should be available to every person, every family, every community at the local, regional, national, and now, global levels.

However, it should be noted at once that philosophical knowledge for informational filling of the *content aspect of consciousness* should be not *scholastic*, i.e. far from real life, i.e. not those, which are now being studied in most nowadays universities, but teachings of strictly scientific, scientifically-practical Philosophy, which was created and being practiced in Ancient Greece and which was banned in 529 by the Byzantine Emperor Justinian I, forgotten since then, and only now is being revived under the opposition of *scholastics* by the thinkers of the **World Philosophical Forum** - <http://wpcf-unesco.org/>

Sherrington understood that the brain made all necessary computations, but ultimately it was the reflexes that make up the spinal cord system that will be called upon to activate target muscles. He believed no matter how complex the motoric behavior, it was really nothing more than a series of unit reflexes chained together. CNS modulates the series.



Note: Sherrington was Ivan Sechenov's contemporary.

It is well known that in the existing at the present day *reality* the living of people on the Earth is globalized increasingly. Similarly, the process of globalization should be reflected increasingly in the *consciousness* of each human, as more and more also should be globalized the *public consciousness*, eventually becoming the basis of the **global public consciousness**. Therefore, *consciology* should clearly describe, and *consciologists* and *consciotherapists* should clearly imagine, correctly regulate and explain all those processes and phenomena.

All people, and specialists-*consciologists* in the first place, should know firmly that on the basis of initially filled through the informational metabolism *the content component of consciousness*, later on through mechanisms of the *psyche* all the practical actions of all the living beings, including humans, are being realized, resulting in their everyday conduct, the way and style of their life; i.e., the composition and completeness of its *content component* directly impact on the specific and character of each formed *consciousness*, thereby on the entire current living activity of a certain human, and with him, and of a social formation (socium), where he is a member if he is.

It is not a secret that as a rule with age the *consciousness* of any human fades due to the fading of his brain activity. This can be observed looking at the elderly, each of us over time would feel so. In this regard, one should be very careful in correct use of relevant terminology. For example, when we hear: "A man has lost consciousness", i.e. "passed out", it only means that he does not show signs of life, the signal subsystem of his *psyche* in his brain was cut out for some reason from his *consciousness*, nothing more. It is more correctly to name this like *anesthesia of consciousness*, *disconnection of consciousness*.

"To lose *consciousness*" actually means to lose gradually (if they were present) conscience, the ability of self-analysis and self-control, to change the range of interests, motivation of settings, morality. This doesn't happen accidentally, it happens gradually and can be connected with the most widespread in the world disease – **dementia**, i.e. *imbecility*, which due to this has become the indicator of completeness, perfection and development of *consciousness*. Therefore, *dementia* can come, occur at any moment of life of a living being, including humans, for very different reasons. In essence, it is a disease, but the disease of non medical nature, but because of a wrong informational metabolism. It is as if during cellular metabolism to eat inappropriate food (stones, wood, arsenic, etc.), then you will get any disease until fatal outcome. The same thing is during the informational metabolism, a deficiency of necessary knowledge or receipt of inappropriate knowledge and information inevitably leads to the disease of *consciousness* – **consciopathy**, up to an **atrophy** of brain, which ultimately can cause lethal outcome.

**Athens, June 12, 2017**