The role of Institutions of Indigenous Peoples in Arctic Region of Russia

The vast expanse of North of the Russian Federation inhabited by the indigenous peoples are exploiting by industrial companies which deeply influence on ecosystems. After Agenda 21 adopted by UN Conference development research the participation of indigenous problem of peoples in making decisions in the sphere became actual. Rights of aboriginal peoples are fixed in international conventions, declarations and the Russian Federation Constitution are developed in a number of federal laws and bylaws. International organizations which play significant role in development of public movement of indigenous peoples in Russia are studied by Russian scientists O. Murashko, Y. Yakel and A. Tishkov. Institutions of indigenous peoples are represented in the legislative branch of power, non-government organizations and communities can be observed as an object of regional policy of Russia. The main problem is absence of effective mechanisms of account for the interests of the small-numbered indigenous peoples in the planning and execution of projects on territories of their traditional settlement in Russia. One of the case studies is the situation in Bikin valley of Far East of Russia where indigenous peoples udege are settled. The place is included in the preliminary list of UNESCO. Udege had conflicts with timbermen who would like to deforest the territories of their traditional nature use. After protest actions of local community the company had to refuse to cut the forest. Indigenous peoples demanded to make to make the territory of traditional nature use of indigenous peoples of federal significance. The goal of research was to identify a role of institutions of Arctic indigenous peoples in Russian regional policy. Institutional analysis of relationship between indigenous peoples and government exist and identification of the organizations and communes which participate in making decisions in Russia in the regions. The research carried in the frames of the project "Tundra" which is managed by an international steering board from the Universities of Norway, Canada and Russia led by Dr. Vera Hausner from the University of Tromso from 2012 till 2013.