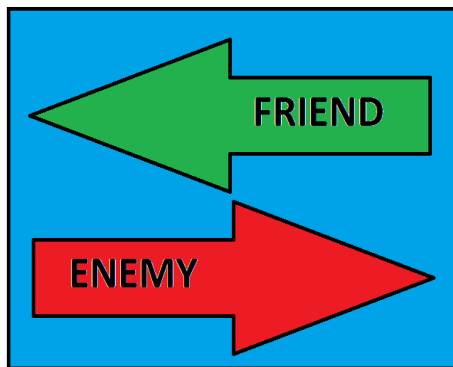




Plastic: Friend or Enemy

Plastic as we know it, has been our good friend for many years, so far it has allowed us:

- move faster (tires, cars, trains, planes, ...)
- eat healthier, (protective packaging, food hygiene, ready-made food, disposable cups),
- dress with warm, light and protective fabrics (replacement or integration of natural fibers)
- greater safety in hospitals and operating rooms (disposable syringes, blister packs for medicines, blood bags,

but we forgot to handle the end of life problem. Too often we have applied the concept of disposable, without asking ourselves where to really leave the objects after their use.

At this point, rationally, we just have to start managing the end of life rigorously:

- collection, recycling, recovery,, which means that we must start to use recycled plastic massively.
- reduce where possible the plastic used (in some cases it is really too far away (see amazon parcels cell phone packaging, etc ...),
- where possible use more "eco-friendly" materials: biodegradable compostable polymers and not enemies of the seas and rivers.

Research and development cannot stop but we must stop thinking of us as new God. Instead of thinking of creating:

- new materials that do not exist in nature, (indestructible polymers...)
- new weapons (nuclear bombs, hypersonic missile, bacteriological weapons ...)
- new living organisms (modifying DNA with CRISPR, ...)

we must begin to think of us as custodians of the world in which we live, to be transferred to the new generations, possibly in better conditions than how we received it.