

“A MAN OF FOUR” — MR. KOMISARENKO IN MY EYES

HUANMING YANG
BGI-China

It is difficult for a man to be both a good professor and a good diplomat.

It is very difficult for a man to be both a good researcher and a good politician.

It is very very difficult to be a man of all the four, a good professor and a good researcher, a good politician and a good diplomat.

Even it is very rare, I have found such one, a man of the four, the only man I have ever met in my life until now in this world, Mr. Serhiy Komisarenko, in Ukraine.

I have just met Serhiy a few times, in Beijing and in Seville, in my institute and at an international meeting. I quickly recognized him comprehensive and could not but admit his great. I was not only impressed by his professional knowledge and visions, but also by his professional manner or style, a style of a general professor or a researcher.

It is well known that he has been one of the most versatile researchers in the field of immunology at the international level, and has contributed to the field extensively. Also, it is all known to us that he is prolific researcher and has multiple research directions, mainly in immunological analysis of proteins and peptides, in molecular mechanisms of lymphocyte activation and in interrelation between protein immunological structure and their biological function. His contribution to biosafety is widely acknowledged that, under his guidance, it was found for the first time that low doses of radiation depressing the natural immunity in human, when Chernobyl Nuclear Plant exploded in 1986. His books, his hundreds of scientific papers in international journals and hundreds of lectures at international meetings, as well as his numerous awards including the most prestigious one for non-Chinese by the Chinese Central Government, have enhanced his global reputation in the international scientific community as somebody like me (even far worse), so called a researcher, or a scientist.

It is also all known that he has been teaching for decades in Kyiv State University and many other universities, on many subjects in the wide fields of life science and biotechnology. His students, of bachelor, master, and Ph. D.s, now «at every corner under the heaven» in Ukraine and many other countries, would all acknowledge that he has shaped, at least helped shape, their life and careers as somebody like me, a professor or a «teacher» as it is called in Chinese.

It is usual for a researcher and/or a scientist to hold some administrative positions, like Serhiy's numerous titles as secretary, head, or director of a department, institute, or a university. It is also not that unusual for some of them to be at high leveler, as a secretary of an academy who is responsible for many divisions or Institutes, like some of my friends. However, it was a really nice surprise to me when I was told that he is one of the most important statesmen in Ukraine. He is the former Deputy Chairman of Council of Ministers, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for humanitarian sector including health care, culture, education, science, social security, etc. almost everything I know and am interested in. He was even elected as a candidate to the post of the President of Ukraine. I can promise now that I had had voted for him if I had been a voter.

It is the general impression of scientists to the public that they are always thinking, or pretending to be thinking, in other words, not so social. It is known that not every politician is a qualified diplomat. Again, Serhiy is both. I was more surprised that he is a professional diplomat, the former Ambassador of Ukraine to several important countries such as UK and Ireland.

If you are also one of his friends, after listening to his stories about his deeply loved nation, after reading his articles on Ukrainian culture and politics, you would understand why he is the right person to be born in the right country and live in the right time in its history, and has chosen the right professions to have made the right contribution to his great nation, as well as to the whole world, and why only he can be such “a man of four”.

It is indeed a privilege to be a friend and a colleague of Mr. Komisarenko, a real «man of four».