

Ecological problems



**Atmospheric
pollution
raises
problems of
several types.**

**First, there are local
problems due to the
production of smoke
and offensive gases
by factories.**




Secondly, there are regional problems created by industrial agglomerations



which may spread the same harmful effects over whole areas.

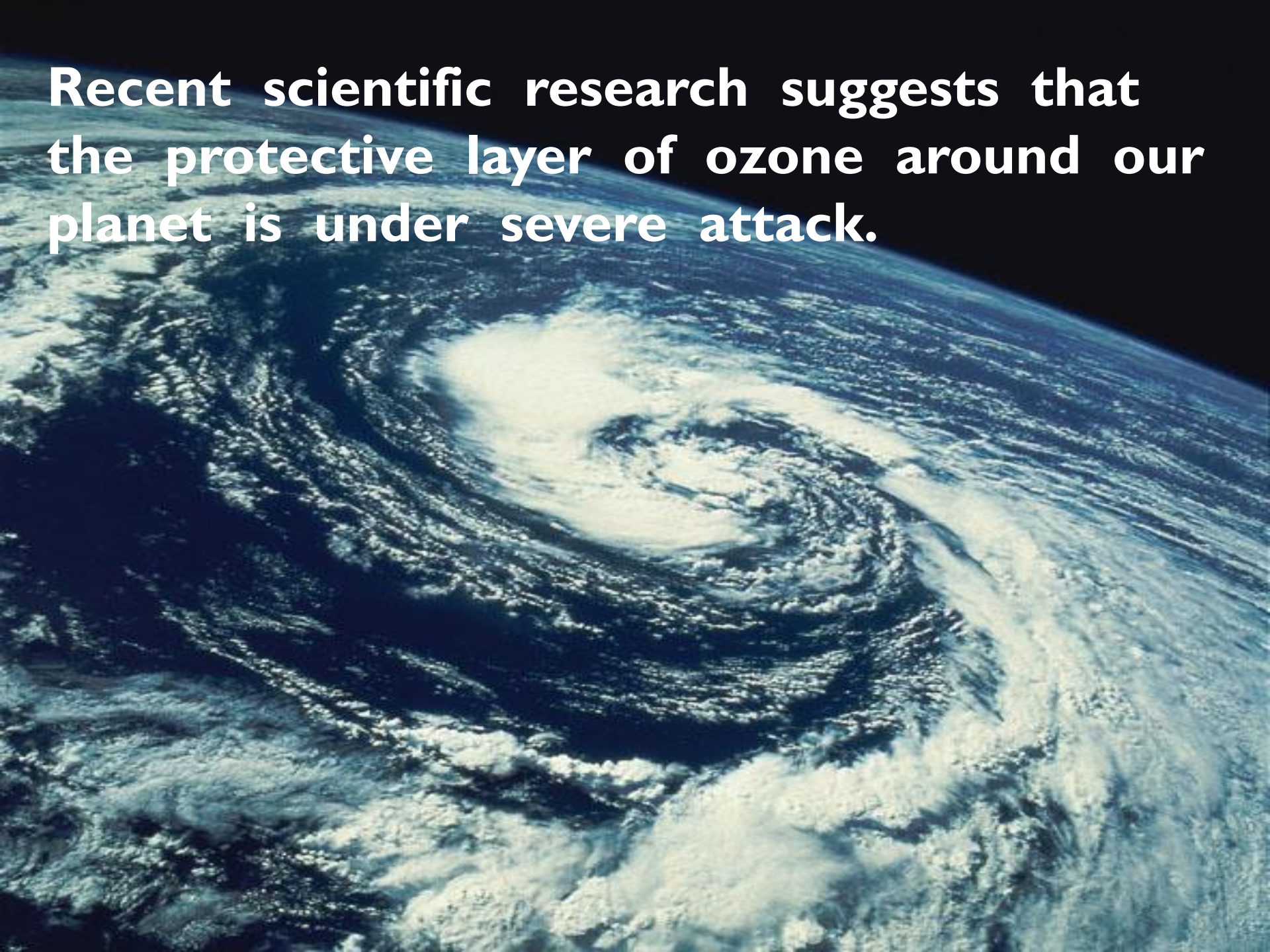
Thirdly, there are some types of pollution, such as those arising from nuclear explosives, which cover a considerable portion of the globe.

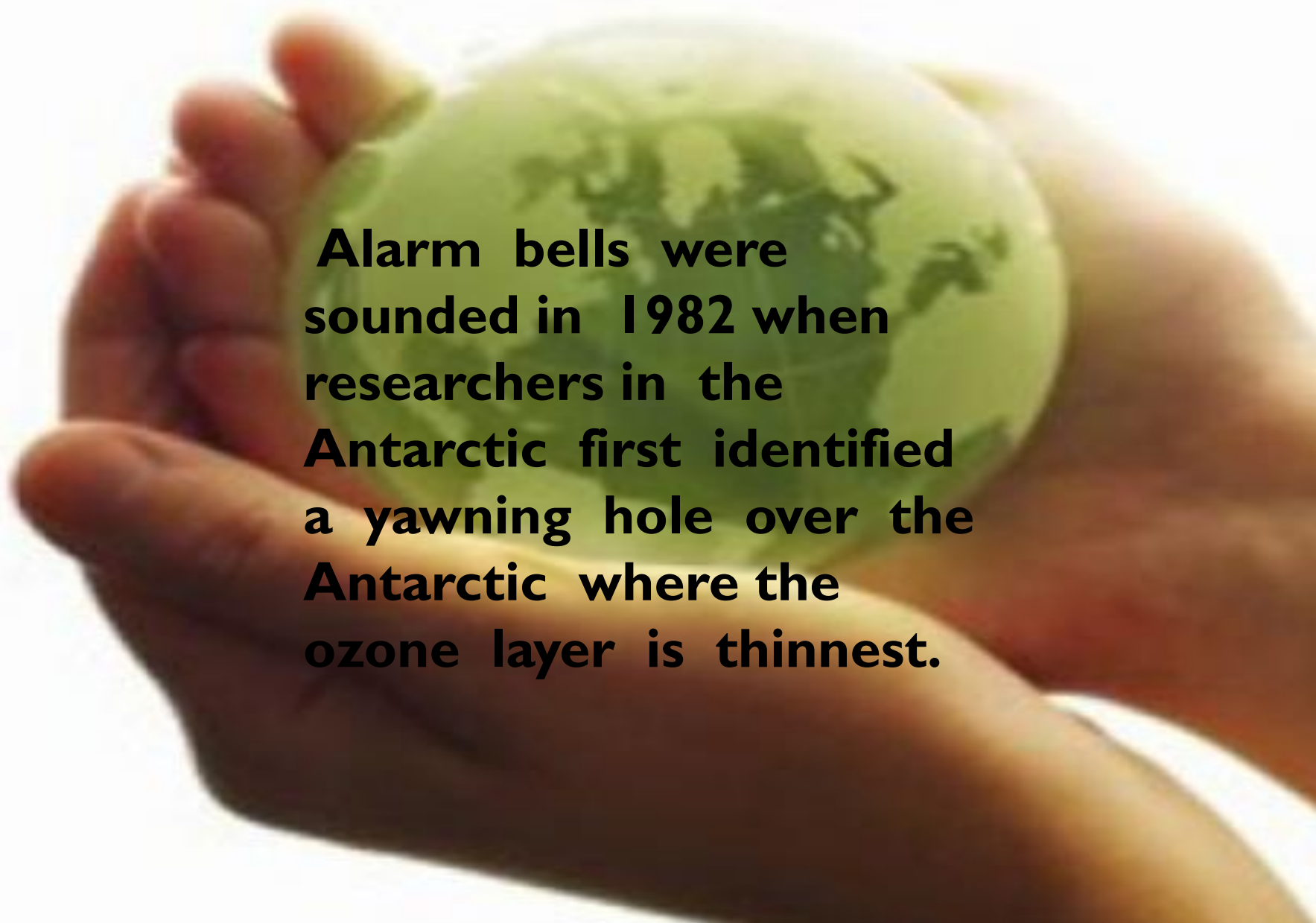


A photograph of a large industrial facility, likely a power plant or refinery, with several tall smokestacks. Thick, dark smoke is being emitted from the stacks, rising into the sky. The sky is a bright, hazy yellow-orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The smokestacks are silhouetted against the bright sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of industrial activity and environmental impact.

And lastly, there appeared one more type of pollution which is threatening the globe as a whole.

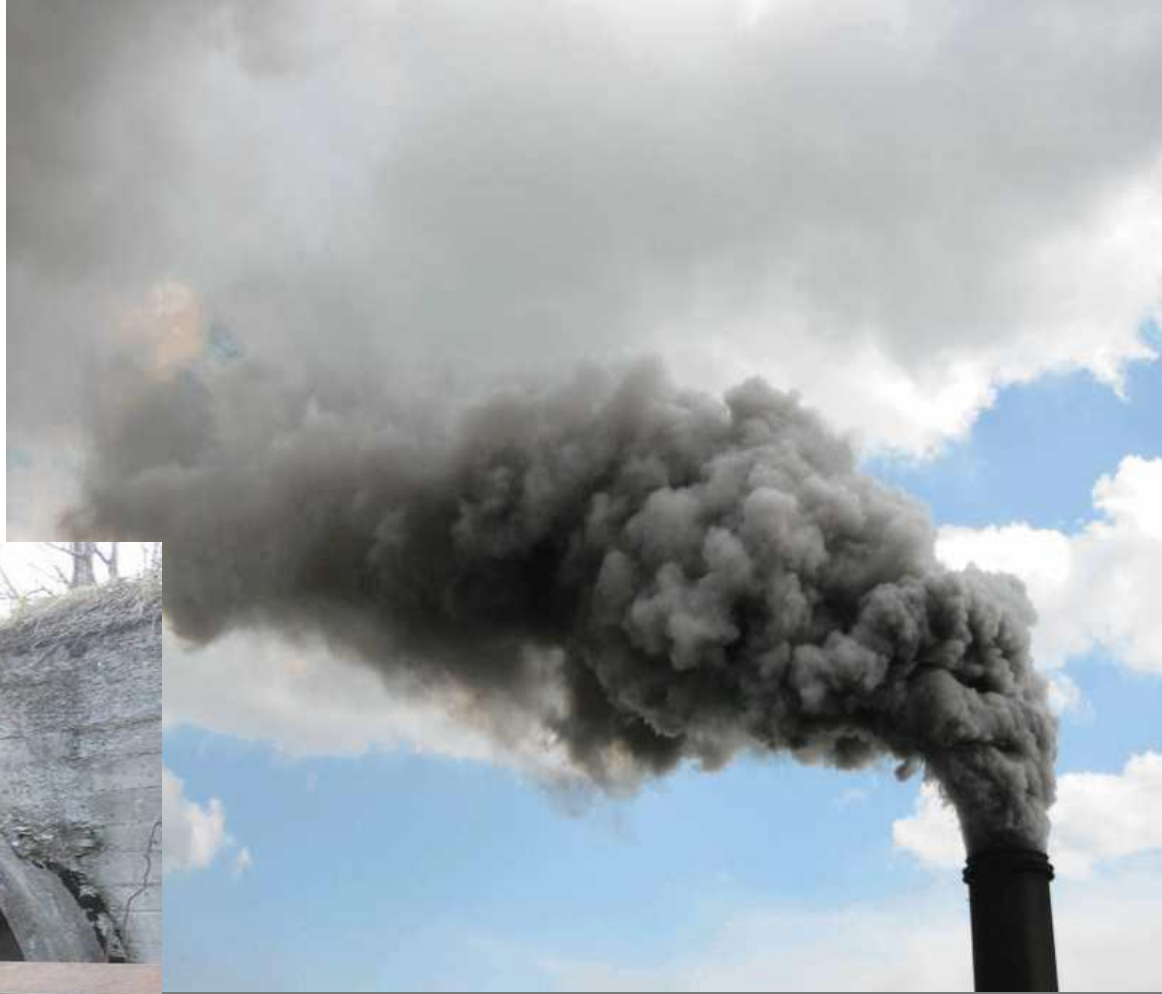
Recent scientific research suggests that the protective layer of ozone around our planet is under severe attack.



A pair of hands, one from the left and one from the right, are gently cupping a small, translucent globe of the Earth. The globe is light green with darker green landmasses. The hands are positioned as if protecting or presenting the globe. The background is a plain, light color.

**Alarm bells were
sounded in 1982 when
researchers in the
Antarctic first identified
a yawning hole over the
Antarctic where the
ozone layer is thinnest.**

The major cause of this weakening of the ozone layer is believed to be the increasing



amount of harmful chemicals that are being released into the atmosphere by humankind.

Environmentalists and scientists point out that a further one per cent drop in the overall ozone layer can cause an increase of skin cancer.





The appearance of the Antarctic hole has intensified the search for a cause. Strong evidence now suggests that it is the growing industrial use of chlorine compounds called chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) which is responsible. CFC is a propellant gas commonly used in aerosol sprays, air cooling systems in fridges and air-conditioning.



Researchers suggest that the level of CFCs in the atmosphere

is actually increasing by 5 per cent each year.



Since 1969 the ozone level has fallen by 3 per cent over the densely populated cities of the US,

Canada and Europe and by 4 per cent over Australia and New Zealand.



A group of people, mostly women, are gathered outdoors for a protest or demonstration. They are holding a large white banner with Russian text. The people are dressed in casual clothing like sweaters and jackets. The background shows a cloudy sky and some distant structures.

**Защита природы -
главная задача каждого из нас!**