

Abstracts

World Economy

Vladimir Pripisnov

World Economy – revival in the North and braking in the South

The article defines the global GDP dynamics, and the degree of post-crisis recovery of world industrial production. It estimates medium-term prospects of economic growth in developed and developing countries on the base of analysis of government anti-crisis measures in the leading countries of the world. It also traces structural changes in the system of international economic ties.

Key words: world economy, developed countries, developing countries, GDP, IMF, USA, EU, Japan, China, state budget.

Efim Chesin

Disbalances in the World Economy: sources, problems of correction

The article discusses the reasons for growing interest in the causes and evolution of global and internal imbalances in the world economy. The article attempts to show that imbalances are not a mere financial phenomenon but deeply rooted in the production sphere. It should be taken into account while elaborating policy responses to these imbalances and rebalancing economic relationship.

Key words: world economy, global and internal imbalances, financial sphere, production sphere, disbalances

Yuri Adno

The metallurgy: protracted recession

This article is concerned about peculiarities of the world steel industry developing in 2012. The world steel industry has been in recession in recent years. The European steel industry is in deep crisis with uncertain prospects to overcome it. But at the same time, according to some expert forecasts there are positive changes in this issue. China as the most important global manufacturer of steel products has implemented industry restructuring. Despite difficult situation in the World steel market, the leading companies of the Russian steel industry continued its operations to increasing capacity of existing enterprises, using major benefits: the own raw materials base and energy resources

Key words: world metallurgy, recession, revival, industry restructuring, China, Russia

Stanislav Zhukov, Oksana Resnikova, Iskander Seifmulukov

Tight oil of the USA: the catalyst of changes at the world oil market

The article focuses on the perspectives of unconventional oil production in the United States and globalization of American shale revolution. While potential of rapid increase in tight oil production outside the North America seems rather limited, the increasing supply of tight oil in the USA might cause a considerable reconfiguration of the world oil market.

Key words: tight oil, world oil market, shale revolution

Ludmila Khudyakova

The New Stage of Global Tax Co-operation

The article analyzes the Action Plan adopted at Saint-Petersburg G-20 Summit in 2013, which sets up a roadmap to fight against legal tax avoidance, including offshore tax evasion, by multinational companies. The domestic and international instruments provided by the Plan as well as its possible consequences for the multinationals are considered. It is stressed that the action Plan marks a turning point in the history of international tax co-operation.

World Politics and Security

Alexey Arbatov

Iranian Nuclear Problem: Prospects for Peace or War

The article is devoted to the analysis of the Iran's contemporary program of mastering nuclear energy which it implemented and which would give Iran possibility to come closer to the nuclear threshold. These developments may cause “chain reaction” of nuclear proliferation both on the regional as well as global scale or lead to air and missile strike against Iran by the USA or Israel. The author stresses that with the election of Iran's new President Hassan Rouhani who is a moderate liberal politician and a professional nuclear negotiator the opportunity is appeared to gain a certain compromise in the Iranian nuclear program's solution on negotiations. In case of negotiation's failure regional war could become inevitable even in the near future.

Key words: Iranian Nuclear Problem, non-proliferation of WMD, nuclear threshold, USA, Israel

Alexey Sarabyev

Syria: the future of ethno-confessional balance

A significant changes in the ethno-religious balance in Syria is directly related to the current civil war, the catastrophic socio-economic difficulties and political struggle, accessed to the international level. Russia's attempts to stop the destructive conflict target is not only to stop violent actions against religious minorities and to stop their outflow of Syria, but to help the country with its multi-religious and multi-ethnic population to come out from the civil war chaos and to prevent the threat of external military intervention.

Key words: ethno-religious relations, Syria, civil war, minorities

Andrei Zagorski

Demystifying the Arctic

The Article scrutinizes exaggerated expectations of a mounting conflict in the marine Arctic. Based on a comprehensive analysis, it concludes that there are no serious reasons for the emergence of inter-states conflicts in the region. Practically all maritime boundaries here have been delineated. Oil and gas resources on the Arctic shelf are concentrated within the exclusive economic zones of the coastal states. The relevant sovereign rights of the latter are not contested by any one. By establishing the outer limits of their continental shelf, all coastal states adhere to the criteria established by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, which minimizes any eventual conflict among them.

Key words: Russia; Arctic; Law of the Sea; continental shelf; heritage of the mankind.

Pavel Gudev

The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: genuine or illusory constitution of the seas?

The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is considered as the universal legal regulator towards maritime spaces and resources. However, large number of states directly violate it's basic Articles. This raises the question: has it become a genuine «Constitution» of the seas or would the regime, generated by it, remain unchanged in the new international conditions?

Key words: 1982 Law of the Sea Convention, International Custom, Legal System, Ocean Governance, High Seas Regime, Marine Protected Areas, Biodiversity Protection, Ecologization.

Dina Malysheva

Foreign policy dilemmas of the South Caucasus states

The article embraces the main directions of foreign policy activity of South Caucasus states. Their interaction with major regional states – Turkey and Iran, as well as the EU and the U.S.' engagement into geopolitical rivalry in South Caucasus, have been studied. Particular attention

has been placed on relations between Russia and South Caucasus states and Russia's interests and priorities in the region.

Key words: South Caucasus, foreign policy, national interest, Russia, USA, Turkey, Iran

Russia in the World

Irina Kobrinskaya

Russia and new trends in a world politics

The chapter analyzes main international trends – 2013, which influence Russian foreign policy-making and the perception of the country in the world. Among them: growing impact of domestic factors on national foreign policies, their ideologization along with degradation of normative democratic values; bigger role of non-predictable non-systemic factors and actors; de-westernization and regionalization of globalization. Also regional aspects of world politics are analyzed. The author comes to the conclusion, that in a new world order under formation Russia finds itself in a space in-between east and west, thus facing new challenges.

Key words: Russia, foreign policy, world politics

Eduard Solovyev

Russian-American relations: trajectory choice at the beginning of a new electoral cycle

The end of election campaigns in the USA and Russia gave chance for search of ways and means to improve bilateral relations by both states political elites and political leaders. However the new "Reset" version did not happen. The article is devoted to research of the reasons why re-election of B.Obama (pragmatic, with political intuition and not suffering the anti-Russian phobias political leader) has not led to breakthrough in the Russian-American relations.

Key words: Russian-American relations, the end of reset, elections in the USA, values, national interests, foreign policy

Nodari Simonia

New stage of Russian-Japanese energy partnership

Economic cooperation between Russia and Japan has increased dramatically for the last years. And first of all – in the realm of energy projects. This trend is closely connected with a turn of Russian political elite to region of Eastern Siberia and the Far East. Actually the evidence to this fact is successful finish of a Great project – great oil pipeline "Eastern Siberia – Pacific ocean", that stimulated revival of an economic in six Russian regions, and organization of the Ministry of the Far East development. And if all plans be realized, period of 2013-2015 would become a great path on the way of radical and all-round modernization of Eastern Siberia region and the Russian Far East. A widespread cooperation and energy partnership between Russia and Japan will be important prerequisite for successful modernization.

Key words: the Russian-Japanese relations, energy partnership, the Far East, Eastern Siberia, modernization.

Sergey Afontsev

Russian economy: the second crisis for the five years at the door?

As five years passed since the beginning of the global crisis, Russian economy is once again on the edge of recession. Having failed to deliver a sustainable growth, economic policy becomes reactive to crisis challenges rather than proactive in reaching development targets. This calls for decisive corrections of recent approaches to budget spending and policies to improve investment climate.

Keywords: Russia, Economic growth, Budget, Investment climate, Economic policy.

Irina Dezhina

Technology Platforms as Instrument to Strengthen Linkages in Russian Innovation System

The article describes a new instrument of Russian innovation policy – technology platforms. The reasons for their establishment are analyzed, as well as the issues with adopting the European experience. Three case studies demonstrate that technology platforms still remain to be transformed into effective communication instruments. However, the first steps have been already undertaken to create expert communities in important economic areas. The article suggests directions for further development of technology platforms, including possible instruments of government regulations.

Key words: technology platforms, innovation policy, instruments, motivation, Russia, European Union

Sergey Peregudov

The “Russian Question” in the Context of Ethno-National and Federal Relations in the Russian Federation

The article focuses on the factors that have brought about a considerable diminishment of the role of the Russian nation in the social and political life of contemporary Russia, this resulting in the emergence of the “Russian question”. This problem is analyzed in close correlation with the phenomena of nationalism, and the risks this creates for State and society are evaluated. The author sees possible ways of harmonizing ethnonational relations in the country in the promotion, first and foremost, of a more modern model of “new federalism”.

Key words: new federalism, nationalism, state, Russian question, ethnopolitics

States of the World

Elina Kirichenko

The Barak Obama Administration: Between Scylla and Charybdis

The article reviews economic situation in the USA, FRS monetary policy. The chief concern of the author in the article is to analyze the issues of budget deficit and national debt, as well as the economic trends of Obama’s second administration domestic policy.

Key words: economic situation in the USA, budget deficit, national debt, monetary policy, Obama’s second administration domestic policy

Sergey Lukonin

China: The New Leaders First Steps

The article analyzes current socio-political situation in China after Xi Jinping coming to power. The author emphasizes the most serious problems in the ideological sphere, domestic policy, social and foreign policies, which were formed in previous periods. New features of the emerging new Chinese foreign policy are stressed. The article also shows China’s “New concernment” in the development of Sino-Russian relations balancing Sino-US relations.

Key words: global economy, foreign policy, China, Chinese dream, Likonomics, Sino-Russian relations.

Elena Leontyeva

Japan: the New Economic Policy

S.Abe, taking the post of Prime Minister of Japan in the late 2013, declared a program of renewal of economic policies and offered a number of new guidelines for the nation. The program presented by S.Abe, named “abonomics”, sets goals and gives guidelines for overcoming deflation. It is a pledge to create new fields for domestic capital investment and to return the economy to the course of economic growth. The roadmap offered by the Abe Cabinet includes a tax reform, revision of labor laws and alteration of agricultural policy.

Key words: Japan, reforms, abonomics, economic growth

Marina Strezhneva

Territorial Cohesion Policy in the European Union

The article is devoted to the analysis of the conceptual and practical aspects of the territorial cohesion (TC) in the European Union. The TC is meant to couple territorial and industry-specific policies at the European level (transport, energy, agricultural, ecological and other policies). The Treaty of Lisbon (2007) present it as one of the key goals of regional integration. Territorial cohesion is to be promoted with the help of EU legal mechanisms and financial instruments.

Key words: territorial cohesion, regional policy, macroregional strategies, multilevel governance

Irina Prohorenko

Change in system of governance in the EU and problem of separatism in the member-states

The article explores the causes of particularistic sentiment revival in certain member-states in the European Union in the end of 2012 and in the beginning of 2013. The example of Belgium, Great Britain, and Spain indicates most clearly that the determining factors of separatist movements rising are economic governance reforms in the EU. The activated reforms make a new emphasis on relations between EU institutions, national governments, and subnational authorities.

Key words: European Union, European integration, separatism, system of governance in the EU, European federalism, regions in the EU, Scotland, Catalonia, Wallonia, Flanders.

Alexey Kuznetsov

Germany: Under the Sign of Bundestag Elections

The article deals with key events of economic, social and political life of Germany in 2013. Results of the 18th Bundestag elections are presented. The failure of FDP and AfD is explained. Four maps show regional contrasts in support of various political parties. The German economic development is analyzed. Main social and political discussions of Bundestag campaign are investigated.

Key words: German economy, Bundestag elections, German political parties, German social problems, employment in Germany, contrasts between German regions (Länder), European integration

Efim Chesin

United Kingdom: breakthrough to the trajectory of economic growth

British economy has emerged from recession. The local election was a bad showing for the Conservatives and especially the Liberal- Democrats. The U.K. voted against military strikes in Syria. In recent decades, the U.K. has rarely if ever parted ways with the U.S. on such a significant strategic issue.

Key words: Britain, economic growth, economical modernization, home policy, foreign policy

Arina Preobrazhenskaya

France: the first year of the socialist's government

The article is devoted to the analysis of social-economical reforms and internal and foreign policy of socialist's government. Key problems of Holland's first year at power are in the focus of the article. The author comes to the conclusion that Holland couldn't find effective tools for growth stimulation in economy. More then economical debates in EU didn't successful to the team of socialists. Much attention is paid to the dynamic of the executive power and Holland's personal popularity.

Key words: France, economy, reforms, foreign policy

Agnessa Avilova

Italy: a delicate balance

The year is passing under the sign of the February pre-term parliamentary elections. The party system of Italy is changing in the course of the political and institutional crisis caused by its results. One of the consequences of this process is the perspective of S. Berlusconi's withdrawal from the political scene.

Key words: Italy, home policy, party system, elections, reforms

Yuri Kvashnin

Bank crisis in Cyprus Republic

The financial crisis in Cyprus, which broke out in early 2013, was one of the most remarkable economic events of the year. The article discusses its causes, investigates the processes that took place in the national economy and propelled the country into crisis. The paper contains detailed overview of events around the ready-to-collapse Cyprus banking system, analyzes the government's program of economic reforms. Particular attention is paid to the impact of the crisis on Cypriot, Russian and EU economies.

Key words: Cyprus, banking crisis, the tax on deposits

Ludmila Nemova

Canada: economic growth slows

In the year 2013, Canada's internal political situation and its main economic indicators looked better than those of most other major advanced economies. However, the real GDP growth of about 1.7 per cent was lagging far behind the expected 2.3-2.5 per cent. This happened due to both unfavorable developments in the global economy and the weakening of internal drivers of the business activity. Domestic economic policy was focused on eliminating the federal budget deficit by the year 2015 while trying to avoid stagnation. Crucially important for the country's positions in the world economy and politics were negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union.

Key words: Political situation, Canadian economy, economic policy of the Canadian government, Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union.

Elena Bragina

India: attempts to boost growth

The article deals with the growing difficulties in Indian economy. There is noted the possibility of their negative impact on the results of the general parliamentary election in May 2014.

Key words: India, economy, economic growth, policy, foreign trade

Alexander Fedorovskiy

The Republic of Korea: towards the New Era of Hope

In the Republic of Korea new Park Geun-hye's administration domestic priorities are characterized by creative economic policy focused on active structural and regional modernization as well as by support of development of small-medium business and by upgrading national culture. The main foreign policy priority is improvement of inter-Korean relationship by realization of trustpolitik towards DPRK and regional powers.

Key words: the Republic of Korea, DPRK, Park Geun-hye, Kim Jong-un, creative economy, inter-Korean relationship, trustpolitik.

Ludmila Simonova

New priorities of economic policy in Brazil

The article contains the analysis of modernization policy results in the context of socio-economic development of Brazil in 2003-2010. The progress and problems of economic modernization in Brazil are shown, reasons for the decline in the competitiveness of Brazilian economy are

analyzed, objective preconditions of a turn to innovative model of development as well as obstacles in this way are estimated.

Keywords: Social-economic development, modernization, competitiveness, innovation policy.

Viktor Semenov

“Bolivarian Project”: results and prospects

Article contains the analysis of results of Venezuela’s social and economic development from 1999 to 2013. Periodisation of governmental economic policy is offered. It is stressed that radicalization of a governmental policy for the purpose of construction «socialism of the XXI century» takes place. The author also analyzes political changes connected with coming to power in the country of the new president and makes an assessment of prospects for stabilization of economic and socio-political situation in the country.

Key words: Venezuela, elections, reforms, “bolivarianism”, socialism of the XXI century, Chaves

Nina Mamedova

Iran: new president and new hopes

The article analyzes the political and economic situation in Iran before the 11 presidential elections on 14 June 2013, the influence of the sanction regime on the country. The author made an attempt to forecast changes in Iranian politics after the election of the new president.

Key words: Iran, elections, political struggle, economy, sanctions

Victor Nadein-Rayevskiy

Turkey: is Western orientation going into the past?

The domestic and foreign policy of Turkey was influenced by radical changes. Under new laws, the army lost the constitutional instrument of influence on the political life and the right to interfere in internal political struggle. According to the decisions of Turkish courts in 2013 hundreds of high ranked military received severe sentences. In the regional policy Turkey continued its interference in Syria against the ruling regime.

But the increasing Islamization of Turkey’s public life based on the popularity of the ruling AKP received serious blow from oppositional forces. Mass demonstrations all over the country marked a serious problem for the ruling party: a large part of Turkish population is not ready to move back to the medieval past.

Key words: Turkey, islamization, home policy, Ergenekon, kurds

Georgiy Mirskiy

Egypt in Epoch of Changes

The article deals with the dramatic developments that took place in the last couple of years in the most important country of the Arab world. A brief but comprehensive analysis is made of roots and causes of the "Arab spring" as well as of events that have resulted in the upsurge and the subsequent downfall of the Muslim Brotherhood. An attempt is made to explain why the Egyptian revolution has been hijacked and what are the chances of either advancing to some kind of a democratic rule or a return to a semi-military regime.

Key words: Egypt, arabian spring, Islamism, role of army

Sergey Kostelyanets

Sudan after the division with South Sudan: economic decline and growing political instability

The current situation in the Republic of the Sudan can be characterized by political instability and attempts to find a way out of economic crisis against the backdrop of falling oil revenues and unceasing conflicts between the center and the periphery. The article discusses the reasons for

the economic downturn and political turmoil in the Republic of the Sudan after the separation of its southern region and the proclamation of the Republic of South Sudan on 9 July 2011.

Key words: Republic of the Sudan, Republic of South Sudan, economic development, political instability, border conflicts

Vassiliy Filippov

Mali crisis 2012-2013

The paper focuses on the aftermath of the 2012 Malian military coup. It aims to investigate discordances between government bodies, Malian army and tuareg rebels, as well as the role of Islamic fundamentalism in the events 2013. There is also question of France's military intervention in Northern Mali, its implicit reasons and possible effects.

Key words: Mali, crisis, military coup, tuaregs, Islamic fundamentalism, France's military intervention