
SUMMARY

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ACHIEVING AN ECONOMIC BREAKTHROUGH (A CLOSER LOOK AT RUSSIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES' EXPERIENCE)

According to the Order of the President of the Russian Federation № 204 of 7 March 2018, the nation's strategic goal is to ensure the growth rates of Russian economy above the worldwide average and thus to achieve an economic breakthrough. The Institute of strategic analysis of FBK Grant Thornton has analyzed the IMF economic growth rates data in 193 countries and has found out that having growth rates above the world level is not sufficient for making a breakthrough. Other criteria for achieving a breakthrough were worked out: 1) the GDP growth rates should be at least twice of the group's average (two groups of countries are meant – developed and developing); 2) such growth level should be observed at least for 3 years in a row. The application of these criteria showed that in recent years 11 developed countries, headed by Ireland and Luxemburg, have achieved an economic breakthrough, as well as 43 developing countries, especially China. The analysis of economic factors, which led all these countries to breakthrough, shows that Russia lacks many of them, namely: low tax burden, attractiveness for foreign investments, potential for the wide import of progressive technologies. Also it is necessary to take into account sanctions confrontation, general geopolitical stress growth, the probability of upcoming world economic crisis. Thus, Russia's chance to make a fast breakthrough seems to be slim.

Key words: economic breakthrough, criteria of economic breakthrough, tax burden, foreign investments, technology import.

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SKILLS GAP AND CULTURAL REPRODUCTION

The article states that the relocation of some industrial branches from Europe and the USA to developing countries in the 70s-80s of the 20th century, as well as the increasing number of jobs in the service sector, were accompanied by educational reforms and a change of life attitudes among young people. All this led, among other things, to a shortage of engineering and technical personnel which is observed today in many developed countries, including Russia. The author suggests a number of measures aimed at eliminating this shortcoming.

Key words: skills gap, high-skilled labour force, deindustrialization, cultural background, narcissism, STEM education, popular science programs.

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PROSPECTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EAEU AS A NEW FORMAT OF INTERACTION WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD

The article shows the advantages of the EAEU as a collective actor in creating new economic partnerships with third countries or integration unions. At the same time, there are serious challenges for Russia in the development of the EAEU, including increased competition within the economic union and emerging disintegration trends. Alternative development paths are proposed for the EAEU, which should not repeat the negative experience of the bureaucratic European Union. It is also necessary to stimulate the development of informal integration, which should bring obvious benefits to the population of the EAEU states.

Key words: EAEU, collective actor, economic partnership, jurisdictional competition, informal integration.

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ON THE NEW PHENOMENA IN CAPITALIST ECONOMIES

The author challenges the view that any new phenomena observed in the modern capitalist economy are strictly formal in nature and do not change its qualitative aspects. The author shows that capitalism is changing due to the development of productive forces, and network organizational forms of production and cooperation are the true evidence of qualitative changes, although so far they do not change the essential properties of capitalism. The author also notes that the increased competition does not eliminate the possibility of cooperation.

Key words: the evolution of the capitalist economy, rivalry, cooperation, competition, business partnership.

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THE CHINESE-BELARUSIAN "INDUSTRIAL PARK" "GREAT STONE" AS A SPECIAL ZONE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR BELARUS AND THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

The article discusses the innovative project "Chinese-Belarusian" Industrial Park "Great Stone", which consists primarily in working out the Concept for the development of this park on an integrated basis complying with the Chinese strategy "One economic belt – One way". At the same time, the main idea behind the Chinese strategy is to create financial, information, and infrastructure networks and innovation zones, allowing to integrate the economies and markets of Europe and Asia. The participation of Belarus in this project and the growth of transit through its territory will make it possible to increase the efficiency of the country's economy, in particular by increasing the return on investment in the transport infrastructure.

Key words: Chinese-Belarusian cooperation; Industrial park; Trans-Eurasian transport and logistics corridor; information Technology; digital economy.

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF PENSION SYSTEMS: RUSSIAN AND FOREIGN EXPERIENCE

In the article the concept of modern pension system is considered, which includes five components; the goals and criteria of pension reform are analyzed, the features of parametric reforms are presented, as well as the grounds for raising the retirement age; the experience of pension systems development in Russia and some other countries is evaluated.

The author argues that multi-component structure of the pension system is more flexible, and focused on providing better financial and other support for the elderly.

The most important tasks of the pension system, he says, are to reduce poverty among senior citizens, to reduce economic, demographic and political risks, to ensure the financial stability of the pension system.

Key words: modern concept of pension system, financial stability, parametric pension reform, retirement age, insurance experience.