
Abstract. The monograph scrutinizes the emanation of network social order in the 21st century, showing how rigid hierarchic organizations are replaced by flexible horizontal networks, while the world economy and all its sub-systems are assuming a dynamic cluster-based structure. Clusters are seen as localized nodes of global value chains and as a contemporary format to produce innovations on a continual basis. While describing innovation-type clusters in three analytical dimensions (as agglomerations, innovation ecosystems and economic projects, all three of a special class), the author highlights their capacity to generate unique collaboration synergy effects through triple-helix partnerships. From this angle the book reviews the cluster pivot in Porter's theory of competitiveness and analyses institutional barriers that prevent today’s Russia to diversify its economy, develop innovations and achieve economic sustainability. A special attention is given to the advanced Scandinavian model of growth and the advantages of cluster approach in the new industrial policy, as now implemented worldwide. The book contains numerous images to illustrate the complexity of network-based, non-linear world.

Keywords: innovation ecosystems, collaborative governance, network economics, Porter’s diamond, regional innovation clusters, triple helix model, new industrial policy