

ПРОБЛЕМЫ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ РАЗВИТИЯ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА МЕЖДУ СТРАНАМИ ЮГО-ВОСТОЧНОЙ ЕВРОПЫ В РАМКАХ ЧЕРНОМОРСКОГО ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА И ГУАМ

внешнеполитическими мерами способствовать своим компаниям укрепляться на традиционных рынках и осваивать новые. Опыт показывает, что страны, не «впутавшиеся» в какие-либо союзы, более свободны в выборе вариантов внешнеэкономического поведения, не несут обременительных экономических и политических обязанностей по отношению к разного рода «наднациональным» органам (чем одновременно способствуют уменьшению процесса «размножения» мировой бюрократии), не загоняют себя в тупиковые ситуации. Когда не могут в полной мере воспользоваться своим национальным суверенитетом.

Идея «единой Европы» была эффективна до тех пор, пока использовались главным образом экономические формы интеграции. Но переход к «союзнчеству» перевёл отношения участников в политическую плоскость, когда ущемление суверенитета слабых стран лишь в какой-то мере компенсировалось реальной и обещанной экономической помощью со стороны сильных. Такая конструкция относительно устройства в периоды спокойного развития и при наличии внешних политических угроз (манией которых особенно страдают малые и слабые страны). Кризисные потрясения разрушают подобные «союзы», причём наиболее пострадавшими оказываются привыкшие к беззаботному образу жизни, утратившие иммунитет и способность самостоятельно бороться за выживание страны. Сильные же при этом либо остаются при своих интересах, либо даже выигрывают, потому что, будучи главными акционерами международных финансовых организаций (типа Международного валютного фонда, Всемирного Банка, Международного Банка реконструкции и развития и др.), всегда готовы «помочь» жертвам излишней доверчивости щедрыми кредитами. Но на таких условиях, которые на обозримое будущее сделают их положение вообще безвыходным. Однако во все времена, кроме общеизвестных видов «валюты» (золото, территории, в том числе плодородные земли), высоко ценилась политическая «валюта». В обмен на неё мировые финансовые магнаты могут и «скостить» долги. И к чему же в конце концов приходят такие страны? Круг несчастий, из которого они, якобы, вырвались, снова замыкается, долговая удавка превращается в капкан для многих будущих поколений.

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РЕЗЮМЕ

На основі аналізу системних проблем економічних (економіко-політичних) союзів минулого та сучасності сформульовано рекомендації для таких країн, що «не приєдналися».

Ключові слова: світова економіка, боротьба за ресурси і вплив, економічні (економіко-політичні) союзи, асоціації, співучасники; інтеграція як засіб, експансії, дійсні та уявні пріоритети, механізми саморуйнування; альтернативи для таких, хто «не приєднався».

РЕЗЮМЕ

На основе анализа системных проблем экономических (экономико-политических) союзов прошлого и современности сформулированы рекомендации для «неприсоединившихся» стран.

Ключевые слова: мировая экономика, борьба за ресурсы и влияние, экономические (экономико-политические) союзы, ассоциации, сообщества; интеграция как способ экспансии, подлинные и мнимые приоритеты, механизмы саморазрушения, альтернативы для «неприсоединившихся».

SUMMARY

Based on the analysis of systemic problems of economic (economic and political) union of past and present recommendations for the "non-aligned" countries.

Key words: global economy, competition for resources and influence, economic (economic policy), unions, associations, communities, integration as a way of expansion, the real and imaginary priorities, mechanisms of self-destruction, an alternative to "non-aligned".

THE BASIC OUTLINES OF THE INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS IN ARMENIA

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During the last decade theoretical and experimental results obtained in economics clearly indicate that the main components of the institutional environment (for example, judicial system, ensuring property rights, level of financial markets development, quality of human capital institutions, etc.) in the long-term have positive and significant impact on economic growth. Along with the improvement of the quality of state and legal institutions the level of per capita GDP also increases in appropriate amount. In long-term the quality of main institutions is a factor conditioning economic growth also in transition economies.

In recent years, progress in the sphere of institutional development assessment provides researchers with not only interesting materials for quantitative analysis of the countries' institutional dynamics, but also gives an opportunity to identify priorities for institutional reforms.

On the basis of large collection of comparisons between countries the level of Armenia's basic market institutions and their development trends are analyzed in this article. During 1999-2007 the feature of Armenia's development became the institutional environment deterioration in conditions of economic growth. The gap between Armenia's economic and institutional growth and its trend are revealed by the analysis of the institutional

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indices, such as State Government Effectiveness Index of the World Bank, Economic Freedom Index of the Heritage Foundation, Corruption Perception Index, and Country Risk Index of the Political Risk Services Group.

It should be noted that most countries are characterized by a positive connection between the levels of economic and institutional development. In this context, during 1999-2007 within the institutional environment deterioration in Armenia per capita GDP growth trend was an unprecedented phenomenon.

The main conclusion of the research is that such gap noticeably increases the risks of economic growth rate reduction for the future.

The long-term development goals of the Republic of Armenia, as we know, are directed to the living standards raising and per capita GDP level growth. Institutional backwardness cannot increase endlessly, and after a certain level of economic development appears a situation, where future growth is impossible without institutional changes.

In other words, subsequently high growth rates maintenance without institutional reforms is strictly doubtful: excessive economic dependence on the export of raw materials (especially copper and molybdenum) creates great risks for the stable dynamics of growth. Armenia's long-term socio-economic development is hardly possible without serious economic diversification. In spite of the growth of the economic activity not in the field of raw materials and in the number of government documents, which emphasize the necessity of diversification, we cannot talk about structural changes in this area yet. Meanwhile, creation of new enterprises and financing of new projects are directly conditioned by the quality and stability of institutional environment, as well as the competitive advantages over other countries.

In the result of institutional dynamics modeling during 1996-2006 the analysts came to a number of interesting conclusions, in particular:

- the obtained results indicate that the institutional progress of individual countries is mainly due to geographical factors,
- borrowing institutions from developed countries is partially realized through commercial interaction. The participation in the foreign trade puts serious demands on institutional development, promotes borrowing of institutions from more developed countries. In other equal conditions in case of appropriate level of trade liberalization institutional development trend is noticeable.

The results referring to Armenia can be grouped in the following way. First, Armenia is still under and right of the regression line, which expresses institutional development trends on the global scale. This means that Armenia's de facto institutional backwardness is significantly higher than the model calculated backwardness for the leaders. This means that at present there are sufficient resources for the improvement of the institutional environment in Armenia. Second, in Armenia (as in the most of the CIS countries) during 1996-2006 institutional progress was strictly limited. This reflects as the complexity of institutional reforms implementation, as the incomplete use of opportunities available for institutional reforms acceleration.

It is obvious that one of the factors reasoning "unnatural development" of Armenia is the income received from raw materials and remittances. According to the experience of the majority of countries the availability of raw materials complicates the institutional progress.

Among oil-exporting countries, Norway is an absolute special case. By the quality of institutional environment Norway exceed not only other oil-exporting countries but also the most of the countries of the world. Among them are countries with lower level of the institutional environment (Nigeria, Venezuela), as well as countries with high quality of institutions (Mexico, Kuwait), moreover, the second group of the countries is smaller than the first.

During the last decade a certain experience of rapid institutional development and improvement of basic institutions activities during a short period has formed in the world. According to the World Bank data (WB WGI) during the last ten years a large number of post-socialist countries were actively improving the quality of national institutions, including the countries that were going to join the EU. During 1996-2006 the institutional indices increased also in developing countries of Asia and Africa, where the growth was due to active reforms of the institutional environment. Table 1 presents the countries which managed to increase the value of basic indices by 0.8 points.

Studying the experience of institutional reforms, analysts came to the conclusion that a significant improvement of institutional indices in Armenia is possible within 10 years.

Institution quality improvement, 1996-2006

Table 1.

Anticorruption supervision		Effectiveness of government bodies		Quality of regulatory institutions		Quality of legal institutions	
Latvia	1.03	Malta	1.45	Armenia	1.59	Liberia	1.11
UAE	1.03	Latvia	1.19	Liberia	1.53	Malta	1.04
Bahamas	1.00	Lithuania	1.17	Iraq	1.53	Qatar	0.83
Qatar	0.95	Bulgaria	1.08	Tajikistan	1.28		
Estonia	0.89	Suriname	0.86	Gambia	1.28		
Liberia	0.88			Iceland	1.20		
Tajikistan	0.83			Democratic Republic of Congo	1.13		
Malta	0.82			Georgia	0.94		
				Ethiopia	0.92		
				Serbia	0.91		

In this respect, it is expedient to study at length the experience of individual European countries for the rapid implementation of institutional reforms, including considering the institution import experience.

The European countries' experience of reform implementation, which also includes the improvement of investment climate and the increase of competitiveness, grants governments with opportunities to increase the attractiveness of the investment climate within a tight timeframe.

The main elements of those reforms can be presented in the following way:

- tax burden reduction and measures directed to the labor cost reduction (reduction of salary deductions, reduction of income tax rates),
- public sector reduction including the share of public spending in GDP and the number of public servants,
- labor market liberalization, reduction of unemployment and social benefits, reduction of employment guarantees, promotion of women's employment,
- deregulation of product markets, which will create favorable conditions for new companies entering the market, the maximum liberalization of the telecommunications market,
- fundamental changes in industrial policy: infrastructure development, liberalization of tariffs and quotas, subsidizing major investors, creating new jobs,
- reforms in the areas of education and technical training: a provision system of demand for qualified personnel in the main sectors of the economy, strengthen communication between educational institutions and businesses,
- social cooperation: effective mechanism for consultation with the private sector, participation of trade unions in economic policy-making process, annual agreements on wage growth observance signed with the trade unions,

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- the factor of foreign direct investment attractiveness, incentives for domestic market and foreign trade liberalization, incentives for realization of state finance reforms,
- the competitiveness continues to be the center of the Government policy: annual assessment of national competitiveness, the Government's willingness to take measures in order to abolish the backwardness,
- long-term economic growth stability.

In general, the success of the European countries is directly related to policies in the fields of taxation, education and infrastructure. Moreover, the competitive advantages are conditioned not by the availability of natural resources, but by workforce qualification, social solidarity of society, favorable investment environment and the Government ability for responding quickly and effectively to the changes taking place in the economy.

The above-mentioned mechanisms give basis to propose the following for the institutional environment improvement in Armenia:

- measures aimed at overcoming the administrative barriers: acceleration of firm registration processes, controls reductions, technical standards and requirements simplification and, in general, elimination of opportunity for direct communication between officials and businesses,
- measures directed to the customs procedures efficiency: financing of customs procedures automation parallel to the customs procedures modernization on the basis of EU legislation, which will simultaneously increase the efficiency and transparency in customs procedures, implementation of customs procedures in non-electronic form and etc.
- measures realized in tax administration: electronic submission of tax declarations and data collection, regulation of tax audits, salary increases for tax employees,
- corruption control activities in state machinery: for example, in Romania operates a compulsory declaration program for the assets amassed by officials, within the frameworks of it these declarations are published and posted on the websites,
- reforms in the political environment: experience shows that on the long-term and middle-term basis the deepening of political and economic competitiveness contributes to greater transparency and accountability of government activities, and this in turn reduces the level of corruption and improve the other institutional indicators,
- reforms management: significant attention must be paid to monitoring of the reforms implementation, comparison of effectiveness of the existing system with the European standards and publicity of the obtained results analysis,
- reforms in the judicial system: independence of the courts should be accompanied by measures aimed at strengthening the accountability of judges, publishing the court judgments. Among the most important measures aimed at increasing the efficiency of judicial activities are the creation of specialized courts, development of such procedures, which will not grant the parties with opportunity to extend the judicial process and will set free the judges from non-judicial duties, trial computerization, which will ease the information access and will make its use more effective.

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РЕЗЮМЕ

Основні елементи інституційного середовища в довгостроковому плані роблять позитивний і значущий вплив на економічне зростання. Успіхи європейських країн безпосередньо пов'язані з успішною реалізацією урядової політики в сферах регулювання, інфраструктури, освіти та податкової політики. Зберігаються конкурентні переваги, які базуються не на наявності природних ресурсів, а на кваліфікації її робочої сили, соціальної згуртованості суспільства, сприятливому інвестиційному кліматі і здатності уряду швидко і ефективно реагувати на зміни в економічній ситуації.

РЕЗЮМЕ

Основные элементы институциональной среды в долгосрочном плане оказывают положительное и значимое влияние на экономический рост. Успехи европейских стран напрямую связаны с успешной реализацией правительственной политики в сферах регулирования, инфраструктуры, образования и налоговой политики. Сохраняющиеся конкурентные преимущества базируются не на наличии природных ресурсов, а на квалификации ее рабочей силы, социальной сплоченности общества, благоприятном инвестиционном климате и способности правительства быстро и эффективно реагировать на изменения в экономической ситуации.

SUMMARY

The main components of the institutional environment have positive and significant impact on economic growth in the long-term. The success of the European countries is directly linked to the successful implementation of government policies in the areas of taxation, education and infrastructure. Meanwhile, competitive advantages are not based on the availability of natural resources, but they are conditioned with the skilled workforce, social cohesion, favorable investment climate and the Government's ability to respond quickly and effectively to the changes of economic conditions.

ЕКОНОМІЧЕСКАЯ БЕЗОПАСНОСТЬ РАЗВИТИЯ РЕГИОНОВ

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Постановка проблемы. Развитие экономики под воздействием рыночных механизмов выделило в качестве самостоятельной функцию государства по защите экономической безопасности. Оценивая существование субъекта безопасности (человечества в целом, государства, региона, промышленной группы, компании, личности), теория вычленяет три группы жизненно важных интересов (по временной протяженности и значимости) такие, как выживание в настоящий момент, существование и развитие. Эти интересы являются