

CONCEPTUAL APPROACHES TO SYSTEM ANALYSIS AND SOLVING MODERN ECONOMIC CONTRADICTIONS AND THREATS OF THE RUSSIAN CIVILIZATION

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Abstract: This article is a methodology of analyzing social and economic problems and ways to solve them within the civilization and system approach. The urgency to form and implement such methodology is stipulated by the fact that today along with own problems caused by the consequences related to the USSR breakup (Union of Soviet Socialistic Republics), integrating in the open economy, imperfection of own economic and financial models, Russia suffers unprecedented pressure, first of all, from G7 countries. Meanwhile, in spite of active searches for solutions of social and economic problems and certain success in their implementation, there are still many questions, in spite of acute need and attempts to integrate socio-philosophical approaches with economy, reform current financial and economic models and mechanisms, liberal theories of economy still prevail. Due to the above circumstances, there is a need to figure out what the modern Russia as a civilization that has undergone a number of financial transformations is (the essence, peculiarities, structure, etc.). Within the civilization approach that takes into account regional diversity, it is reasonable to analyze national problems, define their relations, hierarchy, sequence of solutions, and develop scenarios and forecasts. The scientific novelty of the research is related to developing the methodology to analyze social and economic contradictions and threats of the Russian Federation and to solve them in the context of the modern geo-politics on the basis of the civilization and system approaches.

Keywords: Russian civilization, economic contradictions and threats, geo-politics, system analysis, goals tree, modelling, scenarios, forecasts.

INTRODUCTION

During the whole period of its sovereignty formation and development Russia has undergone serious examinations related to external and internal contradictions. However, the national history did not suffer from such frank dislike and pressure from foreign states, and first of all the USA and other G7 countries: hundreds of the NATO military bases have moved closely to the country boundaries, rebellion and civil war has been initiated in the brotherhood Ukraine, economic sanctions have been introduced, and the informational war has started. Politics intervened even in such seemingly absolutely neutral area as sports. Russian sportsmen invidiously suffered from international officials' harassment (as dictated by the USA). Faction affected Orthodox.

It happens on the background of the migration and actually political crisis in Europe (Kravchenko, 2016), aggravation of the terroristic global threats, war in Syria with the Russian participation, and Russia's own problems mainly caused

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by the geopolitics. It becomes obvious that the modern economic crisis in Russia is extremely underestimated (Sergeev, 2016).

Generally speaking, these threats and challenges are related not only to Russia but the whole Russian civilization. It is evidenced by those circumstances that attempts to re-write the history are made, and everything related to Russia is openly fought against in the form of decolonization. It happens especially rabidly in Ukraine, Poland, and the Baltic states. It happens subject to the fact that this is Russia that contributed to the establishment of many countries (Putin, 2012).

In particular, in 1918 the Soviet Russia made Finland independent. The same happened to Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine, and Byelorussia that did not have their own sovereignty. Lithuania recovered its sovereignty in 1918 thanks to Russia.

Azerbaijan, Moldavia, Turkmenia, Kirghizia, and Kazakhstan obtained their sovereignty within the USSR. Armenia and Georgia were maintained and recovered (Why half of the World is Obligated to Russia).

Poland was reconstructed with the aid of Russia and the Soviet Union twice – in 1919 and 1944. Romania and Bulgaria obtained their sovereignty by the Russia's will as a result of Russian and Turkish wars in 1877-1878. Being "acknowledged", the latter participated in two world wars as a member of anti-Russian coalition. Now it is a NATO member. The US military bases are located on its territory. Serbia as a state appeared as a result of World War II.

Mongolia obtained its sovereignty with the aid of the USSR. The Stalin's position in the negotiations with the USA and England enabled Germany to maintain its sovereignty after the defeat of the Third Reich in 1945. If to date back centuries, we will have to state that the independence of Switzerland was regained by Suvorov from France more than 200 years ago. The position of Catherine the Great related to establishing the military neutrality contributed to the defeat of England and obtaining of the US independence.

Twice for the recent two centuries Russia and the Soviet Union have provided the majority European countries with independence by defeating armies of dictators Napoleon and Hitler. Without the assistance of the USSR Egypt would not be able to defend and strengthen its independence in its war with Israel, Britain, and France in 1956-1957. In 1967 the interference of the USSR stopped the war of Israel with Egypt and rescued Arabs from the defeat in two wars in 1967-1974.

In 1975 thanks to the USA Angola obtained its independence. The majority of colonies of the Western Europe obtained their independence due to the world decolonization movement after World War II. It is possible to mention about the role of Russia – the USSR in the appearance of such states as the PRC, Vietnam, DPRK, India, Greece, Algeria, Cuba, Israel, and Mozambique.

In this context, there are a lot of questions: why is there such a negative attitude to state? Why does its unprecedented marked aggravation take place now? What are the main Russian problems? What is the methodology to define their interrelations and ways to solve? This article makes an attempt to answer the above questions.

METHODS

Tools of this research include the system approach, logical and economic and statistical modeling, and monographic study.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The contour was revealed, and basic problems and threats of the social and economic development of Russia in terms of the modern geopolitics were preliminary grouped. The reasonability of the existing threats and challenges was stipulated within the civilized approach. The methodology of the system analysis of modern contradictions and threats of the Russian civilization was defined. It includes the establishment of the goals tree, development of scenarios and forecasts of GDP dynamics, demography, budget and energy balance, first of all.

RESULTS DISCUSSION

Let's see everything in order. At the present time the capitalistic world undergoes the processes forecasted by many thinkers from K. Marx to G. Soros, and Russian scientists D.S. Lvov, S.Yu. Glaziev, M.G. Deliagin, etc. Generally speaking, real distinct features of the failure of the current liberal model of the gigantic financial pyramid were defined. To confirm this statement, we will give the following facts (Glaziev, 2015; Glaziev, 2016a; Glaziev, 2016b; Senchagov, 2010; Starikov, 2010).

While until 2008 it was still possible to speak about the existing contradictions in the interrelations of the financial and real sectors of economy, today the global economy focused on the US dollar has passed the point of no return. The external debt of the USA has achieved USD 19 trl., i.e. it is equal to the GDP (Gross Domestic Product). The global bulb of derivatives that led the planet to the crisis continues pouting. It has increased by 20%. According to the data of the International Settlements Bank, the total amount of derivatives in the whole world has increased up to the colossal amount of USD 710 trillion. According to other calculations, this amount is quadrillions dollars.

There are other examples of the crisis phenomena increase. Over the recent years external displays of this crisis have been frozen by the astronomic emission and power expansion. Pyramids of derivatives, debts and inequalities become higher and threaten catastrophic collapse. The balance can be kept only by capturing new resources, initiating local wars, and armaments drive.

This is Russia that makes this collapse closer. In spite of its own problems, it undertook the leadership in the confrontation to the one-polar world order. Moreover, along with other states, above all BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and the South African Republic), our country entrenched the “inviolable sanctuary” – the US dollar - by more and more actively using its national currency in the external economic activity (Perspectives and Strategic Priorities of BRICS Ascension).

It is necessary to note that being of the leading global experts in petros, Russia started using the ruble financial tool at the Saint-Petersburg exchange to sell this product of the Urals trademark. There are perspectives to apply an analogous tool in selling sea products and cereals. Along with the BRICS, Russia participates in other economic and military and political blocks that confront G7 and NATO, the Customs Union, EuroAEU (Eurasian Economic Union), SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization), etc.

Weakness of Russia at the end of the 20th century did not allow it to confront the USA and NATO in the aggression in Serbia, Iran, and Libya. And today our country has not allowed to bomb Syria. More than that, on its territory it helps its legal government to efficiently fight against terrorists. Besides, Russia has historically reunited with the Crimea and did not allow Ukraine to wide up the South-East.

In addition, it is necessary to mention that recently the situation in the global GDP rating of countries has considerably changed. G7 countries are not leaders any more. China holds position 1, India holds position 3, and Russia holds position 5. Herewith, it is necessary to emphasize that Russia has risen to this position from position 14 it occupied after the fall of the Soviet Union.

By the way the latest unprecedented scandal elections of the US President also give evidence about serious problems in this country.

Let's turn to considering the main national problems. In order to regulate this analysis, we will focus these issues according to the following blocks: “Population”, “Social and Economic Development”, “Regional Policy”, and “Scientific and Technical Progress and Innovational Activity”. Of course, other groupings can be used, too. We will tell about it later.

Population. By now nobody has properly counted how much employees the country does need taking into account rapid development of automation. Herewith, there is release not only in the real sector of economy but also in other areas (banking sector, taxation, service, etc.).

Rather big reserve is focused in villages in the North-Caucasian region. Nevertheless, migration from central Asian countries has overwhelmed our country. Thus, according to the data of the UNO (United Nations Organization) regional bureau of the progressive development, in 2009 it was 4.6 mln. people. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, it is 10 mln. people. It

can be compared with the population of Portugal. That very year foreign migrants transferred USD 19 bln. or 2% of the Russian GDP to their states.

Consequences of this process for Russia are sadder for the following reasons. Firstly, very poor people with nothing to keep them at home go to our country. We cannot be sure that they will earn money and come back home. Secondly, the basic share of immigrants from the Central Asia is rural youth from poor and undeveloped countries. They were born during last years before the USSR breakup or after it. They grew up under conditions of rapid impoverishment, degradation of the education and culture, in the non-feudal society. They do not understand goals of multi-culture and tolerance. Thirdly, as a rule, these migrants are illiterate or hardly literate young people without professional skills who do not know the Russian language and grew up in the environment with entirely different socio-cultural values. These facts say about a serious threat of the Russian identity dilution (Modgerova, 2013).

Internal migration is as serious problem. Today we can state with certainty that "Russia is leaving Caucasus, and Caucasus is going to Russia". We will mention social and economic consequences of this phenomenon below.

Today our country has great hopes for the development of Siberia and Far East. Meanwhile, for 20 years after the USSR breakup the population of this macro-region has decreased by 3.57 mln. people. At the present time less than one fourth of the country population lives in Siberia (Aleksandrova, Glebova and Drobysheva, 2011). Herewith, it is necessary to pay attention to the growth of the Moscow population. In 2016 above 12 mln. people live here. According to the data of the "Research and Project Institute of the Moscow General Plan" State Unitary Enterprise, the population of the capital will have reached 35 mln. people by 2035. And one more point. Now a little bit more than 30% of Russians live in Moscow.

According to the provided figures and facts there is a serious conclusion that the researches on defining the future of our state must use the civilized approach.

Considering social and economic problems, we find it necessary to focus attention on the following aspects: poverty and stratification of the society, capital and assets expert, financial policy, structural policy.

One of the major social problems is poverty of the population. Above 15% of population of our country is absolutely poor. The incomes of 10% of the rich population exceed 10% of poor population 15 times. This is official statistics. In fact, this coefficient is much higher. At least in cities it achieves 40-50. And this is despite the fact that if its level is above 7, social fallouts are possible.

In the modern Russia there is almost no middle class as it is understood globally.

The creation of the open economy caused the following negative phenomena in our country: dollarization, offshoring, capital and assets export, hewing to Western bankrupted financial models.

We are alarmed by the fact that at the present time according to the expert estimations about 92% of the Russian property is registered abroad. Centers that take financial decisions also moved there.

Centuries-long history of financing and development of the Russian civilization confirmed that its peculiarities stipulate the need in bigger centralization than in the West (more severe climate, large territory, and need to protect from foreign invasions, etc.). Thus, in financial and political models program and target models must prevail. These methods but not the liberal market can help Russia to get rid of the raw materials dependence. Today above 50% of incomes of the country budget accounts for hydrocarbons.

It is necessary to structurally transform the economic complex. New industrialization based on the 6th technological mode (nano-, bio-technologies, etc.) is needed.

We suppose that in the regional policy one of the main problems is social and economic asymmetry. On its background Moscow indicators are not only annoying but obnoxious, and make their contribution to the social break.

In particular, on May 28, 2016 at the meeting of the budgetary committee of the State Duma they specified that in 14 regions out of 85 subjects of the Russian Federation the state debt exceeded their own revenues. Strictly speaking, this is a direct violation of the budgetary code (Glaziev, 2016b).

The main reason is the May orders and current standards of the inter-budgetary relations.

The North-Caucasian macro-region is especially problematic. Attempts to improve the social and economic position, system of management in this macro-region have been made during the centuries-long history from the conquest until now. There was Governorate General and councils of national economy. Over the recent years the North-Caucasian Federal District, Ministry of North-Caucasian Affairs have been formed, the “Russian South” Federal Target Program, strategies and programs of the social and economic development of this district as a whole and its subject have been developed (Akinin, Akinina, Alimova, Viderker and Ter-Akopov, n.d.). However, the miracle did not happen. At least, attempts to eliminate negative tendencies and transfer the North Caucasus to the innovational and superior trend failed.

Many today’s problems of the North Caucasus have their historical roots that were not taken into account when developing strategies and programs.

At the present time it is necessary to position this macro-region with the certainty as a periphery where modernization processes of the Soviet model were performed in the form of the “rebuilding” fragments of the industrial economy to the current, half-natural, homemade economy (machine building, chemical industry,

production of building materials, production of the defense complex). They did not considerably change the basic type of the regional economy as agrarian and small-scale. Consequently, they did not change the tempo of the population employment.

In other words, there is under-modernization of the regional economy. Besides, it was interrupted by the war and strategies of peoples' transfer related to it (we will note that their return in the 1960s was related to the recovering and return to traditional modes of economy).

That is why in the North Caucasus the second wave of Russian modernization in the 1960s related to reforms of A.N. Kostygin and occurrence of petrodollars due to high prices for this product faced changeable tasks and economic orders, social institutes and structures that were maintained under conditions of the under-modernization of the first wave. They turned into a low-level process, slowing down and activating depending on the macro-economic environment.

The introduction of the market regulations in the macro-region in the 1990s, opening its economy for global markets of raw materials, products of the labor force actually destroyed this small industrial "addition" and revealed the real nature of social and economic transformations, namely their non-systematic nature and the fact that the economic tissue, type of the economic order and its institutes of the latest modernization contradict to the modern forms of organizing the production and economy, and their innovational trends.

As a consequence of the agrarian overpopulation, the most educated and qualified part of the population leaves the republic (as a rule, Russians).

And it happens under conditions when it is impossible to repeat the Soviet experience related to attracting specialists and employees from other regions of the country.

Globalization increases this process even more (Kolesnikov, 2010).

Today the North Caucasus merely requires large-scale projects like the "Power of Siberia" gas line, and the Vostocnyh Spaceport. All strategies will turn into sticking plaster solutions without them.

As can be seen, the majority of our problems are stipulated by disproportions in the development of the scientific and technical progress. We missed a number of the world scientific and technical revolutions: informational, "green", "energy" and other. We tried to catch up. True, serious breakthroughs have been recently defined within the military and industrial complex, but their impact on the social and economic development of the country is still not so considerable.

The development of the scientific and technical progress and the innovational activity in Russia must be implemented in the structure of the most major global world problems: science and education, food, biology and medicine, energy, computer science, ecology, demography, economy and finances.

We think it is reasonable to pay special attention to energy problems. At the present time our energy future is doubtful. The shale revolution becomes more and more popular, and refutes arguments about its inefficiency and ecological harm as compared to traditional hydrocarbons. Besides, alternative energetics develops extremely quickly. Traditional combustion engines are more and more often expelled by hybrid, electric, and hydrogenic ones.

It is necessary to pay attention to the external side of supporting the Russian civilization. Of course, it does not go about that “brotherhood help”. After it since 2000 Russia has had to write off above USD 140 bln. Nevertheless, it is necessary to do it.

Specifying the above contradictions and threats, it is necessary to say that our country focuses its attention on it. However, we think that there are specific methodological problems. Firstly, we aimed at catching up Portugal. Then we wanted to double GDP. There was G. Gref’s plans, 2020 strategy, recommendations of the 21st expert group, etc. Today there are disputes between the groups of S.Yu. Glaziev, A.L. Kudrin, A.V. Uliukaev, B.Yu. Titov, etc.

Moreover, centers of economic studies were moved to the higher school of and the Russian University of Economy and State Management where liberal purely pragmatic views prevail.

At the same time it is necessary to emphasize that although slowly but steadily Russia is solving its problems: machine building (aircraft and shipbuilding, military equipment, electronics) is recovering, the efficiency of the agro-industrial complex increases.

However, this tempo is not enough, and what is the main, the level of the people’s life does not increase.

These arguments persuade that it is necessary to continue studies in this area.

CONCLUSION

Summarizing the above, it is possible to make the following conclusions:

1. It is reasonable to efficiently solve national problems within the civilized approach. The modern Russia does not have a monolith of moral values, there serious contradictions between traditional and liberal and modernistic values. The ethic beginning has seriously transformed.

Due to it, it is necessary to clarify what kind of civilization the modern Russia is (essence, peculiarities of the contour, structure).

2. It is necessary to make the system analysis of the national problems that reveal their interrelations and hierarchy within the civilized approach that takes into account the regional diversity in terms of historical, cultural,

moral, and national aspects. It will allow to define the rational succession of these problems in the future. “The goals tree” is an efficient tool in this area. When creating it, the general goal of the modern Russia’s development will be formed, and divided into numerous hierarchical sub-goals (decomposition).

3. Having the comprehensive picture of the interrelated problems and succession of their solutions, it will be possible to start developing scenarios and forecasts on the basis of modeling (logical, economic and statistical, economic and mathematical). First of all, it is related to the GDP dynamics, demography, budget and energy balance.

Besides, the civilized approach assumes a little bit different ideas about the traditional institutes and factors. In particular, within the Russian realities the army can be also considered as an institute to maintain genofund, farming as an institute to maintain territories, military and industrial complex as a locomotive of the scientific and technical progress, the current transport problems and logistics as a sort of a competitively promising bridge between Europe and the Eastern Asia.

The implementation of the above set of works will allow to bring the methodology of planning and its practical results to a new higher quality level.

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