

MECHANISMS FOR SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC SECURITY OF THE RUSSIAN-BELARUSIAN BORDER AREA

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Abstract: The author explores the problems and prospects of socio-economic development of the border areas of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus. As mechanisms for sustainable development and economic security, the author suggests stepping up innovation and investment activity in the real sector of the economy, since economic growth, welfare and quality of life of the population determines the investment and innovation activity by creating favorable conditions and incentives in entrepreneurial development, improve the quality of the business environment and investment climate. As future objectives, the author poses efficient use of natural resources and labor potential, restructuring economies and improving the transport system, reduction of technogenic pollution of environment, formation and development of investment infrastructure. The author concludes that the totality of the impacts of mutual cooperation will lead to the formation of an integrated cross-border structure.

Keywords: the borderland, cross-border structure, socio-economic development, economic security, innovation, investments, real sector

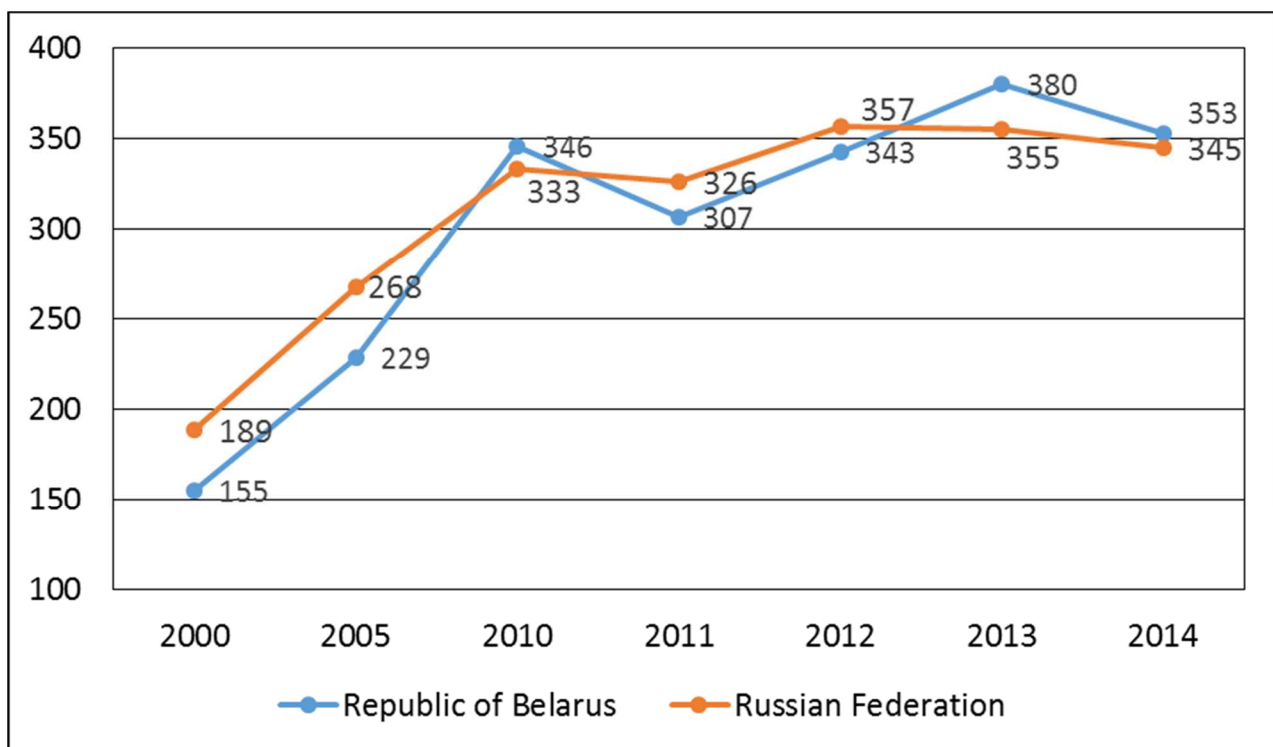
In modern conditions the study of problems and prospects of development of border areas is highly relevant both theoretical and practical importance. Relations between Russia and Belarus in the framework of the Union state, numerous agreements aimed at forming a common economic space, to minimize restrictive function of the state border. Cooperation of regions of Russia and Belarus promotes the development of mutually beneficial relations between government agencies, public, economic, scientific and cultural institutions, improve the well-being of the population. In accordance with article 2 of the European outline Convention on transfrontier cooperation between territorial communities or authorities [1], under cross-border cooperation means any concerted action aimed at strengthening and promoting neighborly relations between territorial communities or authorities under the jurisdiction of two or more Contracting Parties and the conclusion of any agreements and arrangements necessary to achieve these goals.

In the process of interaction and mutual influence of border areas formed a coherent cross-border structure. The similarity of the transport-geographical situation of the Russian-Belarusian border area, the history of their formation and the dynamics of socio-economic development allow us to consider Russian-Belarusian borderland as a socio-territorial complex - cross-border region.

The Trans boundary region of Russia and Belarus include Bryansk, Smolensk, Pskov region of the Russian Federation and the Vitebsk, Gomel, Mogilev region of the Republic of Belarus. This cross-border region has the potential to implement the most important both for Russia and for Belarus functions: ensuring national security (in the economic, environmental and health context); transit (transit logistics in freight and passenger transportation), compensation (use of differences in industry structure, levels of development, natural resources, employment potential of border territories).

Particular scientific and practical importance for Russia is the issue of sustainable socio-economic development and border security. Modern theoretical and methodological approaches to national security based on system principles of economic development. Economic security comes to the fore in the system of elements of national security with the adoption of certain managerial decisions at both the micro, meso and macro.

However, currently in the border territories of the Russian Federation a whole complex of interrelated and intractable problems. For the regional Russian-Belarusian borderland characteristic downward trend in the level of socio-economic development (Scheme 1). Thus, potentially favorable economic and geographical position in the context of borderline does not contribute to its increase.



Scheme 1. The ratio of per capita monetary income and subsistence minimum (in percentage) [2, p. 212]

The value of GRP of the Russian neighboring regions (Bryansk oblast, Smolensk oblast, Pskov oblast) for the period from 2010 to 2014 increased by 38.5%, Belarusian contiguous regions (Vitebsk oblast, Gomel oblast, Mogilev oblast) - 26.5% [5, p.53].

Significant differences between the regions of the Russian-Belarusian border area is observed in the volume of industrial production. Thus, the share of neighboring regions of Belarus in the total volume of industrial production of the Russian-Belarusian border in 2010 was 72.9 percentage, in 2013 – 71.8 percentage. The greatest volume of industrial production in 2013 was in the Gomel and Vitebsk regions. In 2014 in comparison with 2013, the volume of industrial production of the neighboring areas of the Russian-Belarusian border area has decreased to 90.4 percentage, with a larger decline occurred in the neighboring regions of Russia. Among the Russian border regions is the most industrialized region of Smolensk (52.6 percentage of industrial production of the three regions of the Russian borderland), agricultural production is the leader of the Bryansk region (51.6 percentage of agricultural production in three regions of the Russian border). All border regions of Russia belong to the insufficiently attractive investment regions, and a decline in agricultural production in all areas is combined with de-industrialization.

Growing disparities in the economic processes between the regions of the Russian-Belarusian border can be explained, including regionalization of the economy and loss of cooperation, and liberalization of foreign economic activity and globalization. Stratification of the space of the Russian-Belarusian border area to economic centers and the periphery leads to a localization of the socio-economic, environmental, demographic problems.

Currently, in fact, is de-industrialization of the Russian-Belarusian border area. The task of aligning the structure of the economy and industry are not resolved. Economic security is an important quality characteristic of the economic system, defining its ability to ensure normal living conditions of the population, sustainable resources, and consistent and purposeful implementation of the national-state interests. The problem of economic security is, above all, competent investment and innovation policies since economic security is largely determined by scientific and technological potential, investment and innovation activity. Between investment and development dynamics of the economy are the direct and inverse system: the growth of investment in the real sector of the economy contributes to economic growth and, conversely, the decline in investment may lead to economic decline. Investment plays the role of a push to increase demand, resulting in growth of production and consumption, employment and income. In this case, the orientation of the economy in Russian-Belarusian border area to the innovative type of development is directly dependent on the decision of tasks of development of innovation and investment potential of the real sector on the basis of attraction of investments into updating of scientific and technical and material base of production in accordance with modern requirements. Rapid development strategy is essentially a search for

"efficient" balance between the stimulation of innovation and the re-establishment of production [6, p. 27], which in itself will create additional demand for new technologies.

Economic growth, welfare and quality of life of the population largely determines the capitalization of innovative-investment potential of the real sector of economy, investment and innovation activity by creating favorable conditions and incentives in entrepreneurial development, improve the quality of the business environment and investment climate. The development of infrastructure, improvement of investment environment, increasing the efficiency of private investment are essential for sustainable socio-economic development.

Innovative and investment potential of the real sector of the economy represents a category of special content, including innovative resources, the mechanism of their use in organizational and economic system, and the activity of innovation and investment processes in economy of the Russian-Belarusian border.

Factors impeding innovation in the real sector of the economy are lack of financial support from the state; high cost of innovation; lack of innovation potential of industrial enterprises, including a lack of funds and trained personnel [3, p. 73].

Innovative capacity is the ability and readiness of companies to innovate effectively. Thus, under the capacity refers to the availability and balance of resources necessary for innovative activities, that is, the structure of the innovative capacity; the readiness refers to the level of development of innovative potential, that is, the adequacy of available resources for implementing innovation activities. Since the innovative potential of the enterprise includes the collection of independent categories that interact and produce a synergistic effect, it is necessary to form efficient investment and production system to ensure that:

- 1) The high competitiveness of innovative products on domestic and foreign markets;
- 2) High rate of renewal of innovative products and technologies;
- 3) High technological level of production;
- 4) Optimal use of resources;
- 5) Environmental and economic security.

In General, the reproduction process of capital directly affect investment attractiveness of the enterprise, sector, region and country as a whole. It is the modernization of the real sector is a key factor contributing to more sustainable development of the economy of the borderland.

Innovative potential of the region represents a category of special content, including innovative resources, the mechanism of their use in organizational and economic system, and the activity of innovation processes in the economy of neighboring regions.

Orientation to the innovative type of economic growth requires increased innovation through the integration of research and innovation system with the sectorial and regional research and innovation

subsystems. It is worth to pay attention to the system of training and retraining of personnel for innovative activities, the preservation and development of available scientific personnel potential.

Thus, the transition to innovative type of economic development requires structural economic modernization the Russian-Belarusian border, the integrated development of industries and territories, make adjustments to the legislation in the sphere of innovative and investment activity.

Thus, in the socio-economic development of the Russian-Belarusian borderland possible to allocate the following future tasks:

- 1) Efficient use of natural resources and labor potential;
- 2) Restructuring the economies of neighboring regions in accordance with the target setting and transition to innovative type of development in the context of the development of cross-border cooperation;
- 3) Improvement of the transport system to ensure efficient movement of goods and people (the creation of a modern multifunctional logistics centers introduction of modern technologies of management of logistics processes is a very attractive investment projects);
- 4) Reduction of technogenic pollution of the environment with the purpose of prevention of the Trans boundary transfer of harmful emissions;
- 5) Formation and development of investment infrastructure, including the possibilities of forming cross-border clusters. In the cluster approach, the industry chain is divided between the participants belonging to the cluster and focused on the specific activities, resulting in achieved increase of efficiency of their operations.

The effect of the implementation of perspective directions of development of the Russian-Belarusian border will be expressed in the totality of the effects of mutual cooperation, namely: the concentration of resources in the development of production and technological complexes; use of the competitive advantages of border areas and, consequently, increase the competitiveness of adjacent regions; encourage and support export system control common transport, information, innovation and socio-cultural space, i.e. the creation of an integrated cross-border structure.

Implementation of the strategy of sustainable development is the main challenge facing the world today, aimed at efficient use of resources of the territories and comprehensive solution to the problems of their development.

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