

SUMMARY

The problem of relations between Russia and Europe - one of the oldest problems of Russian social science. For several hundred domestic and foreign thinkers painfully trying to understand: whether Russia «special» Europe? or it is not Europe? Could it be Europe? The authors of the book offer a detailed explanation of how and why are converging and the repulsion of the Russian and European civilizations.

The key to understanding the relationship between Russia and Europe, the authors of the monograph find in institutional economic history - the history, understood as the science of the processes of emergence and development of «rules», defining relations between people. For the analysis of economic history in the proposed institutional model of stages development, according to which human development is allocated five progressive (relative to the primitive society), socio-economic systems - «Asia», ancient, feudal, capitalist and post-capitalist. This approach is based on the connection of D. North new institutionalism to the theory of socio-economic systems. Economic development is seen as a global competitive economic systems and institutions, in which the selection of the most effective models of development. In the history of mankind, there are two parallel ways of development. The first («east path») is based on the institutions of government-owned, the second («westernize») - in the institutions of private property. On the first path was most early state civilizations, but it generally has been less progressive. The transition from pre-industrial to an industrial social order of Western society can only path to development.

The book consists of three parts. The first part («How dispersed the development of Russia and of Europe» - Ch. 1-4) is devoted to pre-industrial societies. It is proved that in the middle of II thousands of Russian Civilization is qualitatively different from the West. The second part («European way of development: from capitalism to postindustrial society» - Ch. 5-9) examines the institutional characteristics of the genesis and development of the western industrial capitalist society. Finally, the third part («Russian way of development: between East and West» - Ch. 10-13) examines the experience of catching the Russian development of the XVIII century to our days, during which it was created is not an industrial-capitalist society.

In the 1st chapter examines the «state system of rural communities in the Asian mode of production» as the earliest stage of civilized development. This social structure is based on the institutions of power-property and government-owned exchange activities (including rent-a tax service) between the State class and subjects. Medieval Russia (Muscovia) in the framework of this concept is seen as a peripheral version of the Asian mode of production.

2nd chapter deals with the first experience of economic and political democracy in ancient societies. In ancient economic system for the first time the institutions are privately owned, allowing for the independence of the individual from state power. The flip side of democracy for the free development of a slave life. This experience proved to be fragile - in the era of Late Antiquity begins the dismantling of democratic institutions.

Feudal society of medieval Europe, which is in the 3rd chapter, it was compared with the antiquity and setbacks, and progress. Feudalization accompanies with ancient cities role falling and barter economy spreading, but she was able to restore the shattered unity of property and labor. Feudality Europe could provide a relatively high level of commodity-money relations (denying, however, the principles of free competition), and the further progress of private property.

Medieval Russia, as is proved in the 4th chapter, ranged between eastern and western ways of development. On the one hand, especially the working environment of Russian civilization and a strong institutional impact «oriental despotism» (Byzantium, the Golden Horde, Turkey) led to the dominance of government-owned, first in Moscovia, and then across Russia. On the other hand, the power-property rights in Russia met with competitive private property, which was dominant in the Russian state, the alternative Moskovia - in Novgorod and the Russian-Lithuanian state.

In the 5th chapter examines the genesis of capitalism in Western Europe, early new age. While the debate about the assumptions of capitalist market economy is not yet complete, it is clear that the most important institution specification of property rights to foster competition. Formation of capitalism has been both spontaneous and consciously controlled process, which is strongly influenced by shifts in ideology (the birth of the Protestant ethic, and political economy).

Capitalism finally won in Europe in the early XIX century in process of industrial revolution, as described in chapter 6. The authors consider the stage of development of capitalism in the industrial and socio-economic consequences of the Industrial Revolution - first of all, the subjection of labor capital and the transition to self-sustaining growth. The industrial revolution gave to Europe an opportunity to not only catch up and quickly overtake the East in all socio-economic indicators, but also politically subordinate to them, denying the right to self-selected options for further development.

In the 7th chapter examines a mature industrial society the second half of the XIX century. The second industrial revolution is not only technical but also organizational innovations (teylorizm, fordizm, meyoizm) related to scientific organization of labor. Already in this period began the sunset of free competition under pressure from large corporations, unions and the powerful who have oligopolistic regulation.

Analyzed in the 8th chapter systemic crisis of capitalism (1914-1945) was a turning event in the evolution of capitalism. The First World War and the Great Depression proved convincingly that the ideology of the spontaneous development of oligopolistic competition and lead to the political and economic failures that could lead society to the loss. Reforms of the 1930-1950, which had a strong influence of the Second World War, ended in victory for the ideology and practice of «controlled capitalism».

9th chapter gives an overview of major trends in Western society during the preparation and deployment of scientific and technological revolution. In today's world, a pluralistic system of centralized management, when the choice of development is happening on several levels (sectoral, national and international) as a result of the interaction of many actors (TNCs, national governments, civil society institutions, regional economic blocs, the international economic organizations, etc.). The purpose of this regulation is the formation of post-industrial society, which still is more desirable goal than a reality: not a new power base, no problem broadcasting institutions in the country's post «Third World».

As indicated in the 10th chapter, Russia began to pursue a policy of deliberate Europeanization from the time of Peter I, before any other country in the development of catching, but it was not too effective. On the one hand, in the XVIII century. institutions of private ownership of nobility were established, and in the early twentieth century - private ownership of farmers. These reforms have given a strong impetus to economic growth in Russia. On the other hand, however, not been able to achieve a merger of state reform «top» trends modernization «bottom». The development of commodity-money relations in the village, where lived the majority of Russians, were pre-capitalistic stage. Russian capitalism in the early twentieth century concentrated mainly in the urban economy and remained enclave, inorganic. This led to the relative ease of the new onslaught of government-owned institutions since 1917.

The Soviet command economy is seen in the 11th chapter, as one of the varieties of neo traditional economies: in Soviet Russia artificially recreated institutions, using the archaic («Asian») methods for the mobilization of labor resources and their exploitation for the development of modern industrial production. Basic institutions of the Soviet economy became total bureaucratic planning and state monopoly. Modernization in Russia has been able to solve the problem of primary industrialization (industrial revolution). However, to meet the challenges of the technological revolution it is fundamentally unable to, since it was based not on stimulation, while limiting initiatives «bottom». «Grave-digger» Soviet command economy began a systematic deficit (especially consumer goods) and the bureaucracy, gradually get rid of the «socialist» ideology.

The dismantling of the Soviet system, which can be found in the 12th chapter, became inevitable after the decline in the 1980s flow of revenues from energy exports. The reforms carried out under the slogan «return Russia to Europe», but a weak understanding of reformers of the institutional aspects of reform has led to very limited success Europeanization. In 1990s in Russia a «Latin America» model of capitalism, in which the possible integration of national economies in the capitalist system of economy, but not a breakthrough into a postindustrial society. Households demonstrated in many non-market adjustment to the market in business widespread paternalism and racketeering, the State has been the object of manipulation of the various lobby groups. In 2000 years under the influence of rising oil prices and the strengthening of the political regime of the Russian state has become less vulnerable to pressure of business groups. However, instead of the ideology of authoritarian modernization of the state ideology of stability and protects the interests of «bureaucratic bourgeoisie», which can be viewed as a partial regeneration of power-property.

The last, 13th chapter is devoted to finding ways to modernize the post soviet Russia. The authors point out that Russia has a large reserve of natural resources, which, however, when the existing institutional constraints are not so much motivation, but the development of the brake (the effect of «resource curse»). The existing government programs for long-term development of awareness of the need to include Russia in the STD, but did not indicate the actual institutional mechanisms of the process (with the exception of the high expectations on foreign investment).

Finally, the author sums up the book compares the development of Russia and Europe. In their view, if the early Middle Ages, Russia was still a «special Europe», then it became a «non-Europe». Attempts to reduce the institutional gap Russia from Europe were not successful because of the effect of track: after the victory of Russia in the medieval institutions of power-property «Westernization» was carried out with great difficulty, «fits and starts», but «east oriented» development was more «natural». As a result, modern Russia is very contradictory combines features of «special Europe» with the characteristics of «no-Europe». In the very long term (as in XXII) the way Europe and Russia will merge under the influence of the Unification of technical infrastructure, and advanced de-European the ethnic structure of the world's population. However, it is not yet clear how the decision will be the most pressing problems - energy and population. In coming years, the most urgent task the authors consider the construction of social market economy, Russia under the slogan «Russia is learning from the West and East in order to become a distinctive Eurasian Economic Power».

In almost every chapter of the book are included «Baltic History», which describes the brightest, but little-known episodes of social and economic history of the Baltic region (Kaliningrad region, Sweden and Novgorod, Finland and North Germany). This monograph is not only the original scientific papers. The authors tried to write a book in such a way that it can and read as a collection of popular scientific essays on economic history, and used as a sort of manual for the course of economic history and institutional economics.