

Секция «Россия в геополитических и геоэкономических процессах на пространстве
Большой Евразии»

Russia: times for changing patterns of thinking

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Ancient Chinese were sure that the most difficult, the toughest times are times of change; but, on the other hand, we may treat them as time full of opportunities as well as challenges. The more flexible we are the more advantages we are able to acquire. Currently we are going through difficult times, in different senses, the whole world is facing hardships in a number of spheres – from cultural one to economy and politics. Thus, tendency toward flexibility and the ability to adapt to new and fast changing conditions are crucial to be able to survive and moreover to evolve and, as a result, to gain under such circumstances.

The key point of current paper is to regard Russia as a country of great and wide opportunities and also to uncover importance of thought patterns in different realms and in society as a whole.

In Russia, for the time being, we can observe that way of thinking is changing quite rapidly, as well as our society is changing. These are changes in lots of realms - from patriotic spirit and prioritization of values in cultural sphere, first of all, to reorientation and significant shift in social and economic systems.

On a world scale we can obviously see repolarization or new polarization of the world forces. While development of western countries is slowing down, Asian countries are gaining more and more speed in their development.

Before, we could talk about so called Asian Tigers, such as Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong. However today Asia as whole proves its economic potential, even regarding the fact that each country of the region found its own unique way of development.

For example, China is, in some sense, unprecedented way of well-matched combination of market-oriented economy and communist system resulting in such type of economy as socialist market economy. As a result, currently we see the country with one of the most powerful economic system in the world.

Regarding our country - Russia – which, in turn, has its own path – from cultural aspects to its resource and economic potential. Moreover, its geographical location enables our country to be a kind of mediator between Western world (our friendly countries) and the Eastern part of the world.

In addition to that, we should not neglect the human potential of the country - our country.

According to statistics provided by HSE Institute for Statistical Studies and Economics of Knowledge, Russia spends 3.5 per cent of its GDP for education system (year 2021), while Italy, for example, uses 3.8 per cent of its GDP for education (year 2019), Germany – 4.7 per cent

(year 2019), South Korea does 4.0 per cent (year 2019) [1], China - 3.3 per cent (year 2021) [2]; Singapore – 2.4 per cent (year 2022), Japan - 3.3 per cent (year 2021) [4].

Regarding human capital of our country, according to the Education Index provided by The United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Russia enters the top 30 of the countries with quite high Education Index, along with Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea etc. (year 2021) [3].

An Education Index (EI) is an important component of a Human Development Index (HDI) which is quite complex one and covers lots of aspects, such as literacy rate, life expectancy, rural population's access to electricity, exports, imports, GDP per capita, homicide rate, income inequality, multidimensional poverty index, internet availability and so on [5].

Thus, according to The United Nations Development Program, Russia is among countries with very high HDI, as well as Singapore, South Korea, Japan, European countries etc., while China is a country with just high HDI. The analysis was made based on the data from The World Population Review, calculations provided by The UNDP [5].

Thus, we obviously observe, that currently Russia is a kind of platform for potentially productive development as for entrepreneurship and business formations, as for individuals, i.e. economic agents; and that is high time for old ways and patterns of thinking to be broken down and new vision of Russia to be formed, as well as new perception of the country to be shaped.

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