“CONSENT OF DISSENTERS”: THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN PROVIDING SUSTAINABILITY OF THE GEOPOLITICAL SYSTEM

The transfer from the bipolar structure of the political world map to a more complex and sustainable configuration can be viewed as the main trend in the social dynamics of the 21st century[1]. We’re reviewing the issues of the new geopolitical world structure’s formation from the point of view of the system socioeconomic theory (SET)[2] in this paper and come to the conclusion that the configuration of international relations should be based on the so-called “systemic landscape” of the world, i.e. the complex of coutries and relations between them as relatively independent socioeconomic as well as administrative and political systems.

The suggested approach allows to take into account such immanent and important for the geopolitical analysis systemic special features of countries as feeling the limitedness/ infiniteness of the country’s territory (space) or life cycle by its population; the country’s being “charged” with energy required for protection and development of its territory, prolongation of the period of its vital activities. Replenishment of respective space, time and energy resources deficit is carried out by countries in the process of their exchange within the framework of interaction between countries. In this context, international trade, exchange of cultural values and international aggression can be reviewed as attempts to achieve an interstate balance in the field of space, time and energy resources. We demonstrate that the nucleus of the configuration, providing potential sustainability of interstate relations, is a four-element complex of the countries representing four sectors of the global space. Such a role could be played by Russia (environmental

[1] Attali, J. Demain, qui gouvernera le monde? Paris: Fayard, 2011. 418 p.; Perskaya V.V., Eskindarov M.A. Integration in the Multipolar Environment. Moscow: Economics, 2016; Volkonsky V.A. The 21st Century. The Multipolar World. The History’s Trends and Tasks. (The Izborsk Club Collection). Moscow: Book World, 2017. 320 p.; Zapesotsky A.S. Culture: A View from Russia. St. Petersburg: SPbUHSS; Moscow: Science, 2014. 848 p.

[2] Kleiner G. Sustainability of the Russian Economy in the Mirror of the Systemic Economic Theory (Part 2) //*Voprosy Ekonomiki,* 2016, No. 1. P. 117–138; Kleiner G. Sustainability of the Russian Economy in the Mirror of the Systemic Economic Theory (Part 1) // *Voprosy Ekonomiki*, 2015, No. 12. P. 107–123; Kleiner G.B. System Shifts and Benchmarks of World Development // Global World: Systemic Changes, Challenges and Profiles of the Future: The XVII International Likhachov Scientific Conference, May 18–20, 2017. St. Petersburg: SPbUHSS, 2017. 592 p. P. 102–105.

sector); China (process sector), the USA (project sector); the European Union (object sector).

This configuration's sustainability is based on arrangement of special relations between the parties, providing the flow of basic resources required for vital activities from the countries that have enough of them to the countries with respective resources deficit.

Taking into account the basic special features, typical for each of the said countries – parties to the nucleus, will provide sustainability of this configuration, even in case of principal disagreements between the parties on these or that socioeconomic or political issues. At the same time, exchange of cultural values and cultural development trends plays the role of the factor blurring out interstate contradictions originating because the countries satisfy their territorial or other geopolitical claims and interests.

The global world's systemic landscape

The systemic landscape of global geopolitics is made from two components: 1) the aggregate of independent countries (or sustainable consolidated communities of countries, e.g. the European Union; below we'll also call the European Union a country to simplify the presentation), viewed as autonomous socioeconomic as well as administrative and political systems; 2) the complex of sustainable ties between these systems.

According to the system socioeconomic theory concept, the key role among numerous characteristics, differentiating some countries-systems from the others, is played by two groups of features. The first group characterizes the spatial and temporal localization of the system. At the same time, the physical size of the controlled territory and the adopted in this country horizon of the strategic vision of the future are not as important as the feeling of limitedness/infiniteness of the territory (spatial borders) and clear prospects for the country's future development for a long period of time (temporal borders) in the public conscience of this

country's population. The second group describes possibilities of effective use of available for this system space and time resources by it.

Thus, each country can be characterized from the point of view of owning space and time resources (we'll call them existential as today a country can exist as a subject of the global geopolitics only in case of a fixed to it space and acknowledged by other countries prospects for continuation of its vital activities) and potential abilities to use the said resources (we'll call such resources energy resources as they, like physical energy, determine possibilities of carrying out activities in mastering the space and time habitat). Note that when understanding the existential resources as binary (space and time), the energy resources or abilities can also be interpreted as binary: intensity resources required for effective use of space, and activity resources required for effective use of time. Consequently, various kinds of socioeconomic, political, cultural, scientific, educational and other interactions of countries, including various kinds of aggression, can be interpreted as exchange (transfer, takeover, etc.) by existential and energy resources.

The global world's systemic landscape appears before us from this perspective as an aggregate of countries – systems endowed with space, time and energy resources, while the acts of interaction between countries can be viewed as a kind of spatial, temporal or energetic transaction.

Systemic typology of countries – parties to the world community

According to the systemic socioeconomic theory, the basic typology of socioeconomic systems is based on singling out four principally different types of systems, depending on configuration of existential resources.

Object type systems, the vital activities of which are perceptibly affected by existing well-known spatial borders of the system, and not affected perceptibly by temporal limitations (or they are non-existent). Such systems are characterized by continued development of the forward or cyclic type. These systems generate spatial variety and temporal stabilization in the area of their influence. The

problems, which such a system has to deal with, are solved by organizational solutions (organizational approach).

Environmental type systems, where the borders of available space and time don't perceptibly affect the system's functioning, or don't exist at all. Such systems increase entropy and decrease organizational variety of space-time. The arising problems are solved by absorption of problematic situations by the practically unlimited internal space of the system. The system functions in space and time without jumps and jerks, as a rule, cyclically.

Process type systems, where there are temporal limitations and they have a perceptible affect, while spatial limitations don't have a perceptible effect or don't exist. Such systems increase the homogeneity of space but introduce variety into periods following one after the other. Such systems develop discretely, and strategic problems are as a rule solved by some change of social development stages.

Project type systems are perceptibly affected by limitations of the system's functioning space and the length of the life cycle. Such systems develop practically within the framework of specifiedlimitations, and their functioning leads to increase of variety in the area of the system's activities. The arising problems are solved by initiation and implementation of new projects.

From the point of view of this construction's application to the problems of global geopolitics, it's important to emphasize that the presented systemic typology also determines approaches to formation of the reviewed systems' politics, focused on solution of significant development problems. The following is singled out here:

Organizational approach in case of which an organization is entrusted to solve problems – a system under centralized management, acting in accordance with the continuity principle on the time scale;

Environmental approach in case of which the solution of problems is distributed in space and time, it is decentralized and sometimes put off for an indefinite period;

Process approach in case of which development problems are solved by launching mechanisms, automatically leading to overcoming the arising problems;

Project approach in case of which a clear sequence of actions with an unambiguous ultimate target, time-limits and criteria for its achievement, is planned and realized to solve a problem.

Definite referral of certain countries – parties to the world community to this or that class of systems required collection and processing of considerable amounts of data regarding the impact of spatial and temporal limitationson public conscience of various social groups in the country as well as conditions and results of working out the policy of this country. In order to simplify the solution, we'll use one of characteristics, differentiating countries' belonging to object, environmental, process or project type.

The analysis of politics of certain countries based on this typologization of approaches allows to determine to which type this or that country is referred. Let's use this method to determine the type of several leading players on the global geopolitical arena.

The most outstanding representatives of the four classes of systems among the most authoritative members of world community are: the European Union – organizational approach; Russia – environmental approach; the People's Republic of China – process approach; the USA – project approach. These four countries form the nucleus of the contemporary world order framework. Exactly these countries should be entrusted with the mission to maintain the world community's sustainability. In this context, relations between them, smoothing out arising contradictions, acquire especial importance. Let's review the issue of typology of ties between systems applied to interaction between countries to analyze opportunities in this field – the second component of the global world's systemic landscape description.

Typology of systemic ties between countries

As it was established above, each system is characterized by an amount of existential (space and time) and energy (intensity and activity) resources. The processes of these resources transfer from one country to another make the contents of relations between systems. To put it definitely, the following kinds (channels) of ties between two systems are possible:

Spatial connection (one system's affecting the volume and configuration of space, controlled by the other);

Temporal connection (one system's affecting the length of the other's life cycle);

Intensity connection (one system's affecting the efficiency of use of the other's space);

Activity connection (one system's affecting the efficiency of use of the other's time).

Distribution of these types of ties per all systems is determined by special features of systems of each type, included in the reviewed aggregate as well as three common principles.

1. The equality principle. Each system has all four kinds of resources (space, time, intensity, activity), and it is the donor in case of two of them and recipient in case of the others.

2. "One addressee" principle. Each system transfers this kind of resource to only one system.

3. Cohesion principle. The aggregate of researched systems can't disintegrate into two or more non-connected aggregates.

When these principles are realized, the world community's systemic landscape, as it can be shown3, makes a two-dimensional grid with partly overlapping four-element complexes of countries, referred to different types. Such complexes – tetrads – are relatively sustainable and can maintain stability of the

[3] Kleiner G.B. The Resource Theory of the Economy's Systemic Organization // *Russian Journal of Management*, 2011. V. 9, No. 3. P. 3–28.

whole world community. In our case the key tetrad is a ring-like structure “European Union – Russia – China – USA – European Union”, in which the European Union represents the object system class, Russia – environmental, China – process, USA – project.

Consent of dissenters: cultural ties

As it was established above, the relations between the countries of the “key quartet” are divided into two groups. The first is related to transfer of existential resources, the second to transfer of energy resources. The analysis of the history of inter-relations allows to affirm that relations of the first type, connected with distribution of territories, lead to numerous contradictions, conflicts, including diplomatic and with using armed forces. Relations of the second type, on the contrary, help rapprochement of interests, smoothing out institutional differences, harmonization of development trends. There are two kinds of mechanical energy differentiated in physics: potential energy, connected with interaction of objects, and kinetic energy, connected with movement of objects. The energy of socioeconomic as well as administrative and political systems is also made from two components in a similar way: intensity, directed to mastering space (an analogue of potential energy) and activity focused on mastering time, development (an analogue of kinetic energy). Transfer of cultural values, including exchange of works of art, technologies, achievements of science, is in the basis of interstate exchange of the energy of intensity. The exchange of the forming trends and courses of culture, technologies, science and education development is in the basis of interstate exchange of the energy of activity. In strategic perspective, the growth of volumes of such exchanges restrains states (at least states included in the world community nucleus) from expanding and deepening contradictions arising in economic, environmental and territorial relations. The interstate balance of existential and energy resources distribution should be maintained both by efforts of states-parties to the key configuration and supranational bodies and organizations.

The four-polar world, the structure of which was outlined above, opposes the unipolar, bipolar and multipolar or polycentric world. The world order built on the basis of the established systemic geopolitical landscape, taking into account the role of cultural interactions, puts in order and adjusts relations between countries and allows to reduce a little both costs of “frictions” between certain countries and risks of uncontrolled expansion of the “area of dissent”, recently taking over lion shares of countries – parties to the world community. The carried out analysis shows that development of national cultures, intensification of interstate exchange of cultural achievements and development of culture’s trends is not “one of” but actually the only factor to provide sustainable and safe functioning of the world community.