

Opening remarks

Dear readers!

We are proud to bring to your attention a special issue of the Electronic Journal of the Faculty of Economics of Lomonosov Moscow State University.

This issue contains three articles following the conference dedicated to the 150th anniversary of A.A. Bogdanov, which took place on October 18, 2023, at the Faculty of Economics of Lomonosov Moscow State University. In addition, this issue includes articles on the institutional aspects of economic growth, problems of antimonopoly regulation in the digital platform market and the impact of network neutrality on the functioning of the Internet provider market and public welfare. The articles also touch upon problems of reflecting sustainable development in the system of national accounts, consider scientific awards as a tool for the development of applied research, show the influence of the G20 on employment and the development of labor markets, and calculate and identify the determinants of the time of demographic recovery of Russian regions from the coronavirus pandemic.

In the article "A.A. Bogdanov and Modern Economic Theory: Movement to Systematization" author formulates the task of systematizing the space of modern economic theory using the methods and principles of A. Bogdanov's general organizational science. Reliance on A. Bogdanov's teachings in combination with the provisions of economic theory system and spatio-temporal analysis allows to outline the path to cataloguing the variants of economic theory. Of particular importance is the choice of the spatio-temporal universe within which the specified variants should be placed. A. Bogdanov's universal approach, based on the concept of ingression as a universal connection of material, social and spiritual components, opens the way to integrating research in all four spheres of existence – ontological, ideological, epistemological and praxeological, which, in turn, allows to systematize the variants of economic theory in the future in accordance with their features.

The article "A.A. Bogdanov as an Encyclopedic Scientist" reveals the versatility of the scientific heritage of A.A. Bogdanov-Malinovsky, the creator of the first universal systemic concept in the history of science - tectology. The author analyzes extensive contribution of A.A. Bogdanov to the development of problems of political economy in a broad sense, the theory of economic crises, planning methodology, sociology, characterology, and the organization of the world's first Institute of Blood Transfusion. Particular attention is paid to the influence of prominent scientists of Moscow University on Bogdanov's worldview and the reflection of socialist discourse, achievements of natural science at the beginning of the twentieth century, and global problems of humanity in Bogdanov's fiction. The intersection of Bogdanov's intellectual and practical activities with the research of the Keynes brothers - a macroeconomist and a surgeon-transfusionist – is also noted.

The article "The Socialist Utopia by Alexander Bogdanov" describes the life path of the original thinker of the early 20th century A.A. Bogdanov and the various directions of his work, which included general organizational science, the theory of proletarian culture, economic theories, etc. All of them were components of his theory of socialism, which to a certain extent differed from the theory of Russian Marxists, for which Bogdanov was expelled from the RSDLP in 1911. However, after this, Bogdanov continued to develop his ideas of socialism both in theory and in practice.

The article "Institutional Constructor Concept" is devoted to the analysis of two basic types of socio-economic systems - traditional society and society of modern economic growth - from the point of view of the institutions that form and prevail in these systems. For a traditional society, the institutions of stability are considered to be determinative. Their main purpose is to maintain a certain standard of living of members of society and especially their social status, that is, the existing social order. For a society of modern economic growth, the institutions of development are considered to be determinative. Their main purpose is to create motivation in society to increase labor productivity, efficiency, success in economic and social terms. Particular attention in the work is paid to the concept of society as an institutional constructor/puzzle. Societies are stable if institutions correspond to each

other, the level of technology, geographical location and, conversely, become unstable and can collapse if such correspondence is violated.

The article "Market Power and Bargaining Power: Definition and Digital Platforms Perspective" examines the relationship between the concepts of market power, bargaining power and related concepts – monopoly/monopsony power and countervailing power, in the context of digital platforms. Based on the analysis of scientific works, the author forms modern ideas about the concepts of market power and bargaining power and highlights the key differences between them. To illustrate the interaction and differences between the concepts of market power and bargaining power on digital platforms, a game-theoretic model based on the negotiation process on reducing commission fees between platform owners and sellers who plan to enter it is developed.

"The Consequences of Net Neutrality" demonstrates the impact of net neutrality on the functioning of the ISP market and public welfare. Based on the analysis of the papers, the author concludes that the zero-price rule stimulates new content but reduces consumer surplus, affects ISP and content provider investment, and can either increase or decrease total public welfare. Prohibitions on degrading competitors' content are only required when these Internet services are of greater value to consumers and ISPs' own services can serve as a high-quality substitute. Net neutrality reduces the likelihood of Internet fragmentation, which can weaken competition among ISPs and positively or negatively affect their investment. It is found that competition among ISPs makes the prohibition on selling premium quality content delivery unnecessary, but does not eliminate the need for other prohibitions imposed by net neutrality.

The article "Thematic and Extended Accounts and Sustainable Development" provides an idea of modern methodological approaches to the development of macroeconomic accounts and indicators that reflect social and environmental factors. The first part of the article examines the requests of information users from different special areas, united by the framework of the ideology of sustainable development, and analyzes the interrelations of different methodologies. The second part of the article discusses the practice of constructing satellite accounts and the possibilities of classifying the corresponding methodologies.

The article "The Establishment of Scientific Awards as a State-Business Cooperation Instrument for the Applied Research Development" examines scientific prizes as a tool for popularizing the scientific profession and stimulating applied and fundamental research. Authors highlight the relationship between the TRL concept and research funding and emphasize the special role of the business community in establishing scientific prizes to increase the activity of domestic researchers. The structure of domestic scientific prizes is described, taking into account their goals, field of science, source of funding, and age restrictions for nominees. The place of the National Prize in the Field of Future Technologies "Challenge" established in 2023 in the existing landscape of scientific prizes as a tool for developing technological potential is determined. The indicators of the first "Challenge" Prize ceremony are analyzed in terms of attracting public attention to the achievements of domestic scientists and scientific developments. It is determined that, through public and private investment, modern scientific prizes are aimed not only at covering current technological needs with scientists' developments, but also create a technological reserve for future years to achieve an advantage in the international space.

Article "G20 Impact on Employment and Labor Market Development: Retrospective and Forecast (Part 2)" is the second part of the article published in the 3rd issue of the Journal in 2024. It presents a discussion of the impact of G20 decision-making on selected employment and labor market indicators. Attention is drawn to the characteristics of the gender gap. The author notes that G20 decisions on labor and employment issues stimulate countries to implement various sets of measures in labor markets aimed at expanding employment opportunities, reducing unemployment, improving the quality of employment, promoting skills development and lifelong learning, encouraging labor market inclusiveness, addressing informal employment issues and other areas, which in turn is reflected in the dynamics of the relevant indicators.

The purpose of the article "Determinants of the Duration of Demographic Recovery of Russian Regions from the COVID-19 Pandemic" is to calculate and identify the determinants of the time of demographic recovery of Russian regions from the coronavirus pandemic. The study assessed excess mortality in Russian regions during the coronavirus pandemic and post-pandemic as the difference between the monthly standardized death rates observed in 2020, 2021 and 2022 and the expected monthly standardized death rates adjusted for the time trend. For the first time, the time of post-COVID demographic recovery was calculated using Russian data. The results indicate that the recovery process is incomplete in some regions of Russia and that the gap in its duration is high — the lag behind the leading regions was at least one year. Using the "lifetime" model, the determinants of the time of demographic recovery of Russian regions from the coronavirus crisis were identified. It was found that the regions hardest hit by the pandemic required more time to recover. The process of recovery from the epidemiological shock of the pandemic was faster in those regions that took more active steps to mobilize mid-level medical personnel; provide additional incentive payments to doctors providing medical care to patients with the new coronavirus infection; and vaccinate the population.

We are looking forward to your feedback on the articles published in this issue and welcome possible future cooperation and contributions.

Editor-in-Chief,
Head of the Department of
Philosophy and Methodology of Economics of the
Faculty of Economics of
Lomonosov Moscow State University
Professor Leonid A. Tutov