## Sergey E. Metelev<sup>1</sup>, Igor S. Metelev<sup>2</sup> WAYS TO ENSURE THE ECONOMIC SECURITY IN RUSSIAN FEDERATION: FEDERAL AND REGIONAL ASPECTS

The article studies the contemporary issues focused on finding the ways to increase economic security of Russia at the federal and regional levels. Theoretical and methodological foundations of economic security have been investigated; Russia's national security indicators have been classified. Particular attention is paid to the specifics and measures to ensure economic security at the regional level. Based on the research findings recommendations aimed to improve the economic security of regions are offered.

Keywords: economic security; national security; Russia; region.

## Сергій Ю. Мєтєлєв, Ігор С. Мєтєлєв ШЛЯХИ ЗАБЕЗПЕЧЕННЯ ЕКОНОМІЧНОЇ БЕЗПЕКИ РОСІЙСЬКОЇ ФЕДЕРАЦІЇ: ФЕДЕРАЛЬНИЙ ТА РЕГІОНАЛЬНИЙ АСПЕКТИ

У статті досліджено актуальну проблему, пов'язану з пошуком напрямків підвищення економічної безпеки Росії на федеральному та регіональному рівнях. Проведено дослідження теоретико-методологічних засад економічної безпеки, систематизовано індикатори національної безпеки Росії. Особливу увагу приділено вивченню особливостей та заходів із забезпечення економічної безпеки на регіональному рівні. За результатами дослідження сформульовано рекомендації щодо підвищення рівня економічної безпеки регіону.

**Ключові слова:** економічна безпека; національна безпека; Росія; регіон. **Табл. 5. Рис. 1. Літ. 19.** 

## Сергей Е. Метелев, Игорь С. Метелев ПУТИ ОБЕСПЕЧЕНИЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОЙ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ: ФЕДЕРАЛЬНЫЙ И РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЙ АСПЕКТЫ

В статье исследована актуальная проблема, связанная с поиском направлений повышения экономической безопасности России на федеральном и региональном уровнях. Проведено исследование теоретико-методологических основ экономической безопасности, систематизированы индикаторы национальной безопасности России. Особое внимание уделено изучению особенностей и мер по обеспечению экономической безопасности на региональном уровне. По результатам исследования сформулированы рекомендации, направленные на повышение уровня экономической безопасности региона. Ключевые слова: экономическая безопасность; национальная безопасность; Россия; регион.

**Problem statement.** Economic security of a country is largely determined by the level of national economy development and its competitiveness at world markets. According to foreign practice, economic security is the basis for state economic independence, contributing to socioeconomic society wellbeing, weakening social contradictions and increasing welfare of citizens. In this regard, economic security protection in Russia is considered among the key national development priorities of Russian state. It is also possible to mention that economic security is traditionally positioned as a fundamentally important quality parameter of a country's economic

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system determined by its potential and the ability for normal functioning and development of national economy through sustainable regions.

However, the issues of regional economic security protection are insufficiently studied due to a number of reasons. The first one is the specifics of regional economic development individual characteristics of each constituent territory of Russian Federation leaving traces on the requirements to ensure economic security of each individual region and to transform the evaluation criteria system to this specificity. Secondly, there is no single universal methodological approach to studying economic security at the regional level. Finally, there are some difficulties in the process of the RF constituent territories economic security assessment due to the problem of the unification of statistics.

The abovementioned factors greatly complicate the formation of unified assessment standards of economic security in Russian Federation at the regional level and the development of strategic and operational plans for its protection, taking into account the peculiarities of regional economic development, which in turn have a significant impact on the target purposes, procedures and activities carried out by state and local authorities. Thus, the study topicality of the content and the ways to ensure Russia's economic security as a whole and its individual regions, as well as the development of specific practical recommendations to improve the latter in the framework of management mechanisms formation by ensuring and maintaining the objectively necessary economic security level is obvious.

**Literature review.** The work is based on the examination of statistical data, legal documents, electronic resources, works of such authors as A.V Vershinina (2013), V.V. Grebenik and A.P. Pavlov (2012), A.L. Edelev (2007), V.V. Efimov (2013), S.A. Ilaev (2013), N.M. Kalinina (2010), N.D. Kremlev (2007), E.I. Levina and E.V. Gamina (2013), E.N. Puzov et al. (2009), V.A. Titov (2012), N. Firyulina (2010) etc.

Appreciating the abovementioned scholars' contributions, it should be noted that the readiness level of the economic security problem solving at the regional level seems to be insufficient. The issue of an integrated approach to identifying the ways of Russia's economic development and economic security improvement in the context of development measures for regional economic security protection remains unresolved.

The research objective. The purpose of the following study is the definition and scope of economic security as a scientific category within the indicators system of the latter, determination of the concepts and assessment of regional economic security current state and identification of the ways to increase Russia's economic security at federal and regional levels.

**Key research findings.** Market economy development in Russia today highlights the national security priorities protection including the economic security at federal and regional levels as an independent state activity direction. From the theoretical and methodological perspectives, economic security is a scientific economic category providing national economy possession of abilities, capabilities and readiness to ensure social stability and economic development in the context of societal needs maximum gratification and national interests protection from internal and external threats in various fields. Disclosure of economic security nature is implemented in the

system of criteria and indicators, particularly in the calculation of their thresholds, which are the quantitative parameters forming a deviations margin between safe and dangerous areas in various economic sectors.

Thresholds indicators value of economic security are determined by national interests of a country in the economic sphere (Table 1).

Table 1. Economic security indicators (Dementiev, 2011; Prohozhev and Kornilov, 2009)

Field	Indicators
Field Economic security	Indicators  - gross domestic product (GDP); - average annual growth rate of GDP; - the volume of industrial production; - foreign exchange reserves; - trade balance; - inflation rate; - the proportion of cash component in money supply; - surplus (deficit) of the federal budget; - investment in fixed assets; - budget expenditures on science; - share in GDP surplus (or deficit) of the federal budget; - the proportion of costs of the public debt servicing in the amount of federal budget; - share in the total industrial output of machine-building and metalworking
	innovative products;
	- share in production volume accounts payable;
	- the degree of wear of the active part of fixed assets; shares of fully depreciated fixed assets.

At present when Russia's economy is functioning in the context of globalization and increased competition at global markets, according to the experts it is necessary to focus attention on improving competitiveness of domestic enterprises in the framework of the following areas in order to ensure economic security of Russian Federation (Efimov, 2013; Kostin and Kostina, 2013; Kuznetsova, 2012; Radyukova, 2011):

- development of state science policy linked with innovative industrial policy, new stage of privatization policy and small business policy;
- acceleration of scientific and technological progress and increase of competitiveness, the key to success is in free business, market-based mechanisms;
- consistent implementation of policies to strengthen the Russian science based on the reinforcement of Russia's real sector, especially agriculture and sectors producing consumer goods;
  - domestic industrial production, innovative way of development, namely:
- formation of a strong innovational and industrial complex functioning within developed market infrastructure;
- consistent application of the constant support policy and expansion of new competitive advantages of the enterprises focused on new technology products output and their own brands creation, while getting rid of non-competitive bankrupt enterprises;
- antimonopoly policy prohibiting any artificial support and lobbying the interests of individual, especially inefficient producers;

- completion of natural monopolies reformation aimed at the formation of domestic producers competitive units;
- development of a national program to improve labor productivity and competitiveness in order to stimulate domestic innovative business, strengthen the links between academic institutions, universities, research institutes and industry laboratories at plants;
  - tax regime amendments for innovative companies and divisions;
  - development of legislation to protect intellectual property;
- investment activity rise up to 30% of GDP, favorable investment climate formation.

All of the above mentioned shows the importance of Russia's economic security strengthening by solving a number of problems. First, the task of science reformation, otherwise the increase of its funding will not give the desired effect. Second, Russian industrial production transfer to innovative way of development basing on knowledge economy, finally, the expansion of scientific and technical relations and partnerships with global scientific and technological leaders. Besides, innovative ability is the most important factor of competitiveness. If a country possesses this ability, it has a strategic advantage. Consequently, it is necessary to form new communication mechanisms between science and business, to provide the specific choice of priorities and "growth points" on the basis of innovation.

Economic security of a region as an integral part of economic security of Russian Federation and as an independent research object attracts attention of specialists in various areas of activity which is caused by paramount importance and role of economic sphere in state and society's life. In contemporary special literature economic security of regions determines the resource capabilities and the ability of regional economy to consistently raise citizens' welfare level in terms of Russian and international standards of life quality, to counteract the emergence of external and internal threats and their consequences, to ensure socioeconomic and political stability of regions. According to most experts, analyzing and estimating the level of economic security in regions it is necessary to be guided by a system of indicators based on economic specifics of a region, allowing the identification potential and actual threats and to develop a comprehensive targeted at risks protection program against threats impeding effective economic development (Vershinin, 2013; Ilaev, 2013). The consolidated check list of external and internal threats to economic security of regions is presented in Tables 2 and 3.

Important indicators of economic security in regions are expanded reproduction of socioeconomic regional infrastructure; rated values of region dependency on imported important types of essential commodities; protected necessary level of public services to create decent living conditions for people in the regions (Edeley, 2007; Chimitova and Mikulchinova, 2010).

The analysis of the Omsk region economic security indicators demonstrated that the region economy state is estimated basically at the same macroindicators used to analyze the national economy as a whole (Table 4). In 2009–2012 we saw an increase in indicators of socioeconomic development of the Omsk region. The main advantage contributing to economic growth in the region is the presence on its territory of chemical, petrochemical and refining enterprises, mechanical engineering with a

focus on transport and agricultural machinery, agricultural complex with significant agricultural resources and the availability of facilities for agricultural products processing that have no analogues in Russia. These economic sectors have a fairly strong competitive position in the interregional division of labor in Siberia; some notable niches of relevant markets may be a center of the regional socioeconomic development.

Table 2. Internal threats to regional economic security (Kalinina, 2010; Safonov, 2010)

Threat	Threat display			
	1. Low competitiveness at regional and federal levels. 2. Impossibility of effective conjunctural diversification of production, equipment 3. High cost of products due to high costs of equipment depreciation.			
enterprises (except monopoly giants,	2. Increase in unemployment and social tensions in			
3. Low degree of regional economic development fiscal support (both from federal and regional budgets).	Inability to implement state-financed projects of production development and regional infrastructure.     High degree budget embezzlement at various administrative levels.			

Table 3. External threats to regional economic security (Kalinina, 2010; Firyulina, 2010)

(Ramma, 2010, 1 il yama, 2010)				
Threat	Threat display			
1. Growing dependence of regional economic systems on foreign capital, food and equipment imports.	1. Reduction of regional production. 2. Growth of services is hypertrophied and inadequate for population incomes, especially it is true for entertainment industry companies surrounded by criminal activity. 3. Harm to people's health due to low-quality and genetically modified foodstuff.			
2. Reduction of regional production due to unprofitability and the inability to compete at consumer markets.	1. Increase in unemployment, population			
3. The development of regional economic and socio-political separatism.	<ol> <li>Possible disintegration of Russian Federation within the next 20–30 years.</li> <li>Growth of ethnic, confessional and interethnic tensions leading to major conflicts.</li> </ol>			

However, the region has relatively unfavorable environmental conditions; there are potential sources of emergencies, the renewal of fixed capital is going slowly. The Omsk region is characterized by high costs of the economy caused by considerable costs of heating, high transportation costs of finished products, raw materials source dependence is significant. In addition, the region is a zone of risky agriculture, therefore it is necessary to carry out selection work to create and use breeding varieties of grain and fodder crops adapted to local climate.

The indicators of population well-being and life quality are below the threshold values, also there is a trend of further population stratification by the level of income. Health and culture expenditures are low, and there is worsening of criminal situation.

Bisedes, there is no significant improvement in the structure of population nutrition in the region, it is corroborated by the facts of animal protein, vitamins, macro- and microelements and biologically active substances underconsumption. Energetic value of the food basket insignificantly exceeds the threshold value.

Table 4. Indicators of regional economic security (Levina and Gatina, 2013)

		Omsk re	ogion
Indicator	Criteria	Indicator's value	Threat
The ratio of investment volume in the economy of the territory to the GRP of the territory during the analyzed period in current prices, %	> 12	18.5	no
The ratio of the investment volume in the economy of the territory to the value of the territory fixed assets during the analyzed period, %	> 4.5	10.3	no
The actual change (fall) of the territory industrial production during the analyzed period compared to 1991, %	< 40	9.3	no
Depreciation degree of industrial production fixed assets of the territory at the end of the period under review, %	< 50	37.5	no
The share of science and scientific services expenditure in the territory GRP during the analyzed period, %	> 0.6	0.8	no
The share of innovative products in the total volume of industrial production of the territory, $\%$	> 4	4.6	no
The ratio of the total exports volume to GRP in the territory during the analyzed period, $\%$	> 10	57.5	yes
The ratio of exports and imports in the territory during the analyzed period, %	> 60	1629	no
The ratio of budget expense to the GRP in the territory during the analyzed period, %	> 30	16.4	yes
The ratio of enterprises and organizations' accounts payable to the GRP of the territory, $\%$	< 40	25	no
The ratio of enterprises and organizations net profit of the territory to its GRP, %	> 4	6.0	no
Proportion of population areas with incomes below the cost of living, %	< 20	15.1	no
The ratio of average wage to the cost of living in the territory, rel. units	> 2.4	3.0	no
Level of total unemployment in the territory, %	< 9.5	8.1	no
Level of underemployment in the territory, %	< 11	0.52	no
Natural decline in population in the territory during the analyzed period, people/1000 people population		0.66	no
Number of reported crimes per 1000 people population in the territory during the analyzed period		16.6	yes
Per capita degree of needs satisfaction with agricultural products in accordance with medical standards in the territory, %	> 80	90	no
The degree of basic food provision with foodstuff of local manufacture in the territory, %	> 55	187.9	no
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Now it is possible to identify the following threats to regional economic security (Titov, 2012):

- intermittent dynamics of the indicators;
- decrease in the share of engineering products, deindustrialization of depressed industries;
  - reduction of the closed cycle production;
  - inertia to overcome stagnation in the economy;

- little financial and material resource support for the actions in terms of structural changes in industrial manufacturing complex in the region;
  - relatively low level of science, culture, public health expenditures;
- absence of preconditions for innovative investment under current legal and economic conditions for the integration of financial and industrial capital, contributing to the efficient use of borrowed funds in the real economy;
  - relatively low level of real wages.

Solving the problems of regions economic security protection provides for the regional policy formation in this area as an integral part of general economic policy of Russian Federation. Thus, the policy of economic security at the regional level is the concentration of socioeconomic interests of the region (Grebenik, 2012). From the standpoint of internal content the above named policy should include the collection of conceptual positions, revealing prospects of rational consumption of local resources in the context of combining the interests of national security priorities and socioeconomic development of the region. A major step in the implementation of this policy may be the development of economic and regional security programs and first of all the factors (threats) entailing a violation of stability and translational motion in socioeconomic development of the region in the short and long term should be found out by monitoring.

Monitoring of economic security in the regions is seen as a relevant practice and a methodological basis for the improvement of economic mechanism of territorial entities management for the purpose of operational control of economic security indicators, timely detection of threats emerging in the socioeconomic system of the region. Economic security monitoring should be focused on (Puzov et al., 2009):

- analysis and evaluation of current state and prospects of regional economic development:
- determination of destructive tendencies in the development of region's socioeconomic potential, identification of reasons, sources, nature and intensity of risks;
- forecasting risks' and threats' possible impact not only on economic potential of a region, but on all activities providing products and services;
- holistic systemic analytical study of the current situation and its development dynamics as well as risks planning program-target activities on the basis of the information received.

The procedure for regional economic security monitoring is given in Table 5.

Table 5. The procedure of regional economic security monitoring (Puzov et al., 2009)

Stage	Contents and sequence of monitoring
1	Identification of a monitoring object
2	Formation of technical and economic indicators of economic security assessments tailored
	to its functioning specifics
3	Collection and processing of information describing the monitored object
4	Identification (definition) of the factors characterizing promising directions of region
	development
5	Simulation the scenarios or development strategies in the region
6	Calculation of technical and economic indicators in the forecasted period
7	Analysis of economic security indicators. Development of proposals to prevent and
	neutralize economic security threats

A conceptual model for regional economic security monitoring is presented in Figure 1.

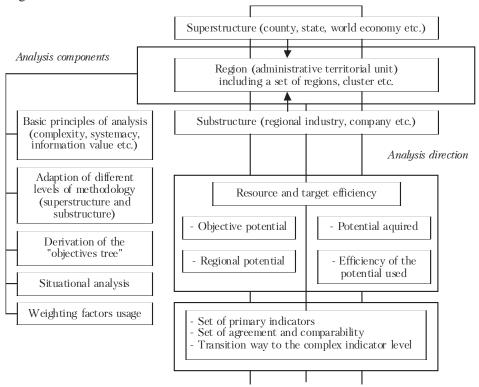


Figure 1. Areas of region economic security monitoring (Filetkin, 2013)

The outlined methodical approach is intended to promote a rather detailed study of factors and threats to region's economic security, as well as to organize and carry out a continuous monitoring of economic security on the scientific basis, to analyze the changing socioeconomic system of the region according to the approach results.

Basic principles of analysis (complexity, systemacy, information value etc.).

Summarizing, we set the priorities in reducing threats to economic security in the Omsk region:

- development of high-tech industries;
- development of foreign economic activities and realization of the existing potential in the field of interterritorial cooperation taking into account the strategic directions of the Omsk region and neighboring regions;
- development of the building materials production due to the expansion and modernization of existing local building materials production, components and structures production in the volumes that meet the needs of the region building complex in order to attract investments;
  - optimization of the commodity structure of exports and imports;
- state support for foreign economic activity participants promoting goods and services produced in the region to expand foreign trade potential;

- migration flows regulation mechanism improvement for the purpose of natural population loss substitution;
- reduction of environmental stress due to negative anthropogenic impact on the environment;
  - organization and implementation of state environmental monitoring.

**Conclusions.** Under current market conditions, the main factor of Russia economic security protection is the increase of Russia's economy competitiveness, while enhancing the investment process and science preservation and its transition on priority funding.

In turn, the essence of regional government economic policy in the mid-term prospect is to promote cost-effective production, strengthen the industrial potential of the region in order to provide a framework for social programs and performance of state duties in the social sphere. Region's economic growth and its social stability depend directly on improving the competitive recovery of regional subjects of market relations, population's social security and welfare, funding of priority directions of scientific, technological and production capacity development, and as a result it will help to ensure the economic security of the Omsk region and Russia as a whole.

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