

**Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution  
of Higher Education  
RUSSIAN ACADEMY  
OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Manuscript**

**SOKOLOVSKY Pavel Vladimirovich**

**IMPROVING THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE REGIONAL  
ECONOMIC SYSTEM CONSIDERING INDUSTRY SPECIALIZATION  
(THE EXAMPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA)**

Specialty – 5.2.3. Regional and Sectoral Economics

**DISSERTATION  
for the degree of Candidate of Economic Sciences**

**Scientific Supervisor:  
Doctor of Economic Sciences,  
Associate Professor  
POLOZKOV Mikhail Gennadievich**

Moscow – 2026

**Relevance of the research topic.** At the current stage of intensification of market relations in the Russian Federation, it is extremely important to accelerate the process of transformation of the national economic system in the framework of ensuring a high rate of its economic growth and sustainable development, adaptation in the international space to the conditions of strengthening the trend of multipolarity against the background of the spread of unfair competition, where, in the plane of regionalization of the world economy, the need to use the existing competitive potential and form on its basis a strategic competitive advantage of the country and individual regions within the state is becoming increasingly important.

Since Russia has a federal state structure with a republican form of government, the main task of government structures, in the context of maintaining a high level of national security, should be to ensure the integrated functioning of all sectors of the regional economic system. As a structural component of the process of expanded reproduction, which ensures sustainable socio-economic development of the country, the region thereby acts as a guarantor of the formation of social well-being. For this reason, one of the main priorities is to strengthen our own position in the market of goods and services, primarily through the specialization of economic activities, which is based on the concept of transforming the resource capabilities of the regional system into its competitive potential.

**The degree of development of the scientific problem.** To write of the dissertation research thesis, the author studied the works of both foreign and domestic researchers, whose works described not only the theoretical aspects of the functioning of business entities in the conditions of economic competition, but also clearly reflected the reality of the struggle for dominance in the national and international spaces.

Thus, the most ambitious research in the field of competition belongs to representatives of the classical direction of economic science: A. Smith, who singled out the conditions of «free» competition; D. Ricardo, who developed the theory of competitive advantages and the mechanism of price regulation of the market;

J.S. Mill, who identified non-competitive economic groups; K. Marx, who distinguished between intra-industry and inter-industry competition. An important role is played by the research of representatives of the neoclassical trend: A. Marshall, who proposed the theory of partial and long-term equilibrium; W. Jevons, who used mathematical methods in competition analysis; F. Edgeworth, who worked on the theory of oligopoly; A. Walras, who applied the general equilibrium mechanism. At the same time, A. Kurno determined the pattern between the degree of competition and the state of the market structure, P. Sraffa emphasized the use of economies of scale in influencing pricing, J. Robinson identified the socio-economic effect as a result of the establishment of an oligopol price, and E. Chamberlin proved the coexistence of perfect and imperfect competition.

The problem of state regulation in general and its features in ensuring the competition process, in particular, was first voiced by M. Keynes. While J. Schumpeter noted the influence of the factor of scientific and technological progress, his colleague F. Haek insisted on the dynamic manifestation of this phenomenon, regardless of the conditions of functioning. Nevertheless, representatives of institutionalism - G. Simon, J. Stigler, G. Gelbraith, R. Coase and D. North - still managed to prove the influence of micro and macro factors on the nature of the manifestation of perfect competition.

However, the most extensive research in the field of competition and competitiveness belongs to M. Porter, who in his writings focused on finding a competitive advantage for the formation of a promising development strategy in the system of international relations. The analysis of international competitiveness and issues of improving the structure of the national economy were dealt with by D. Grayson, R.V. Gordeev, and K.V. Shvandar. Meanwhile, N.S. Yashin, N.A. Saveliev and R.A. Fatkhutdinov all their efforts were directed to microlevel research, since it is enterprises that are the basis that forms the competitiveness of the whole state. At the same time, in their writings they often used strategic management methods, where positioning and promotion of products, according to P.S. Zavyalov, F. Kotler and V.E. Khrutsky, require knowledge of the basics of

marketing and possession of exceptional analytical predictive skills.

Competitiveness issues at various levels were also dealt with by L.V. Tselikova, M.N. Gelvanovsky, Zh. J. Lamben and A.N. Golomolzin, according to whom only an integrated approach to assessing the functioning of a business entity can guarantee its effective social and economic development. In turn, A.A. Thompson, A.G. Mokronosov and N. Govorova devoted their works to the study of aspects of strategic management to form a long-term competitive advantage. In particular, the methodology, assessment and regulation of the activities of economic entities to achieve a stable position in the market of goods and services were considered. Meanwhile, I.N. Sycheva, E.S. Permyakova, V.D. Usenko wrote about methodological approaches in determining the key factors in the formation of competitive advantages of the region's economy.

A new view in the functioning of economic entities is described in the work of T.G. Filosofova, where one of the possible options for achieving a competitive advantage is the creation of an innovative infrastructure, which, according to V.Ya. Feodoritov, is considered as a set of industries and their competent organization, providing conditions for expanded reproduction. The problems of the formation of entrepreneurship infrastructure are reflected in the scientific works of G.P. Solyus, M.V. Savchenko, S.A. Sukhova and I.A. Morozova, and the research of O.V. Gladkikh are aimed at studying the features of the infrastructure of the regional market. While the works of I.A. Nazarova, V.A. Rusanovsky and D.S. Tereshchenko emphasize the importance of state policy in the field of infrastructure transformations, V. Kondratyev insists on the organizational mechanism for the formation of the infrastructure complex in the key of sustainable development of all spheres of the national economy.

Particular attention should be paid to work in the field of research of the region's economy as the basis for the sustainable development of the state's economic system and the guarantor of its national security. Of great importance in this regard for the dissertation research are the works of A.G. Granberg, which reveal the features of the transformation of economic space through the prism of the

mechanisms of integration and disintegration, convergence and divergence. P.A. Minakir, who considered the region as an instrument of spatial segmentation and criticized the strategic planning of regional development due to the contradictions of the categorical apparatus of the object of the sustainable development strategy and due to its partial duplication with the economic policy of the state. In addition, the problems of socio-economic justification of regional policy and the peculiarities of the functioning of the regional economy in the system of sustainable development are described in the works of O.S. Pchelintseva, and A.N. Demyanenko. In turn, differences in theories of sustainable regional development and economic growth are presented in the work of E.I. Kulikova.

Since the service sector, which is based on the concept of usefulness, quality and greening, makes a significant contribution to ensuring expanded reproduction, it is advisable to consider the effect of creating a modern infrastructure complex of the territory and the priority development of the tourism industry. In this regard, it is necessary to note the importance of scientific works in this direction, where, in particular, the research of D.I. Olifira, V.A. Pershina and A.I. Kosheleva on the assessment of the degree of influence of the tourism industry as a branch of specialization of the region's economy, and, according to N.I. Panova, S.V. Stepanova and T.A. Adashova, the creation of a unique tourist brand. Quite sharply M. Tramova, N.A. Kravchenko and A.O. Ovcharov pose the problem of rational use of tourist recreational potential, modernization of the infrastructure complex and attracting investments, where, according to V.V. Dmitrenko and R.M. Melnikov, it is advisable to carry out venture financing of small and medium-sized businesses. Thus, such an organization of the tourism industry, according to V.A. Romanchenko, L.I. Kulakova and L.I. Chernikova, will ensure the formation of investment attractiveness of the regional economy, and the multiplier effect of the development of the tourism industry, according to O.I. Kuznetsova, Yu.V. Savelyev, L.I. Muratova, A.B. Krutik and L.N. Chaynikova, is able ensure that it is competitive.

**The object of the dissertation research** is the regional economic system in

the context of transformation of its competitive potential.

**The subject of the dissertation research** is the mechanism for transforming the competitive potential of priority sectors of the economy (on the example of the Republic of Crimea) into its competitive advantage.

**The purpose of the dissertation research** is the development of theoretical methodological tools and practical recommendations for increasing the competitiveness of the regional economic system, considering the sectoral specialization of the economy of the Republic of Crimea.

**The main tasks of the dissertation research** thesis should include:

- 1) disclosure of the concept and main stages of the formation of competitiveness of the regional economic system;
- 2) determination of factors ensuring the competitiveness of the region's economy;
- 3) development of a methodological approach to assessing the competitiveness factors of the regional economic system;
- 4) analysis of the dynamics of indicators of social and economic development of the Republic of Crimea;
- 5) assessment of factors ensuring competitiveness and potential for sustainable development of the economy of the Republic of Crimea;
- 6) monitoring the problems of socio-economic development of the Republic of Crimea;
- 7) assessment of the investment attractiveness of the specialization industry of the Republic of Crimea in the context of sustainable development of the region's economy;
- 8) determination of directions for improving the strategy of social and economic development of the Republic of Crimea;
- 9) development of proposals for the formation of the spatial organization of the economy of the Republic of Crimea.

**The theoretical methodological basis of the dissertation research** is scientific schools, strategies, forecasts and programs for the socio-economic

development of the Republic of Crimea in general and the tourism industry in particular. An important role is played by the statistical data of the Federal State Statistics Service and the Office of the Federal State Statistics Service for the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which make it possible to carry out a comprehensive assessment of the functioning of the regional management system.

In addition, a wide range of scientific research methods were used in writing the work. Thus, the «analysis» allowed the author, firstly, to decompose the process of developing competitive relations and the formation of competitive advantages into its components and to distinguish on its basis the levels of competitiveness; Secondly, to study many theories and approaches to such basic categories as «competitiveness», «regional economy», «economic growth», «sustainable development», etc., and propose a conceptual approach in the formation of a strategy to increase the competitiveness of the region's economy; thirdly, to conduct a comprehensive study of the regional economic system in order to identify patterns and trends in socio-economic development. Thanks to the «classification» of basic macroeconomic indicators, it was possible to comprehensively consider the problem of the functioning of the region in a competitive environment. With the help of «synthesis», it became possible to group indicators into competitiveness factors, and factors into the potential of the institutional environment for further «measurement» («assessment», including expert) within the framework of the proposed methodology for calculating the level of competitiveness of the regional economic system. Through «modeling», the process of increasing the competitiveness of the region's economy in the context of the managerial (political) and economic (economic) components of its sustainable development was considered. In turn, to reflect the author's point of view in the dissertation research thesis in the conclusions, the methods of «induction», «deduction» and «generalization» were applied to each section and chapter, as well as the conclusion of the work. For clarity, the author used drawings, diagrams, graphs, diagrams and tables.

**The hypothesis of the dissertation research** lies in the priority development of the tourism industry as a branch of specialization of the economy of the Republic

of Crimea, which will ensure a multiplier effect in the functioning of related areas of economic activity and, thereby, strengthen the competitive position of the region in the structure of national reproduction and act as a guarantor of improving the well-being of its population.

**Scientific novelty of the dissertation research.** A thorough review of the scientific literature and normative legal documentation allowed the author of the dissertation research thesis to form his own reasoned view of solving the problems of the socio-economic development of the peninsula.

1) A conceptual approach was proposed in the formation of a strategy to increase the competitiveness of the region's economy (clause 1.5 of the Specialty Passports), the phased implementation of which is carried out within the boundaries of the key elements of the sustainable development system: «resources» «factors» «potential», where, first, the author established a system of indicators of the region's social and economic development, analyzed the dynamics of its structure and determined the branch of specialization of its economy; secondly, factors for ensuring regional competitiveness were identified, their assessment was carried out and the directions for improving the sustainable development strategy were outlined; thirdly, a mechanism for assessing the competitive potential of the regional economic system was presented, the problems of its socio-economic development were monitored and tools for increasing its competitiveness were proposed.

**2) A classification of factors ensuring the competitiveness of the regional economic system has been developed** (paragraphs 1.3 and 1.7 of the specialty passport) based on the institutionalization of indicators of social and economic development: four blocks of factors were identified, grouped according to institutionally economic and institutionally political characteristics, where the «Institute of Regional Economic», which reflects the parity of state regulation and market conditions in the context of the rational use of available resources, and the «Institute of Economic Resilience », which discloses the problems of specialization of sectors of the national economy in the integrated development of the regional economic system; in the group of institutionally political factors, the « Institute of

Governmental Authorities » is considered, the essence of which is the effective implementation of economic policy as a modern mechanism in the public administration system, and the «Institute of Civil Society», where the central aspect is the formation of a highly effective organizational culture through the transformation of human capital and strengthening social responsibility.

**3) A methodological approach has been developed to assess the factors of ensuring competitiveness and the potential for sustainable development of the regional economic system** (paragraph 1.5 of the specialty passport), which, firstly, reflects the accumulation of indicators of the region's social and economic development into blocks of institutional factors of competitiveness; secondly, the degree of influence of institutional factors on the formation of competitive potential is distributed so that the total value of their weight coefficients does not exceed the value of the share of the entire group; thirdly, a comparison was made between the institutionally economic and institutionally political group of competitiveness factors.

**4) An algorithm for assessing the investment attractiveness of the specialization industry** (clause 1.16 of the Specialty Passport) is proposed, within the framework of which, firstly, the factors for generating a favorable investment environment, grouped by PEST (LE) analysis blocks, are disclosed, and using the expert assessment method, quantitative values of the degree of their impact on the sustainable functioning of priority sectors of the regional economic system are determined; second, factor evaluation parameters corresponding to the SWOT analysis are selected so that their sum does not exceed 1.0; thirdly, a weighted assessment of investment attractiveness factors was carried out, reflecting the value of investment potential and investment risk, and an integral indicator of the investment environment of the specialization industry of the region's economy was calculated.

**5) A qualitatively new approach to the spatial organization of the process of expanded reproduction of the regional economic system is proposed** (clause 1.2 of the Specialty Passport) - a "biophilic" tourist cluster, which, being a

technological mechanism for optimizing the strategy of socio-economic development of the Republic of Crimea within the boundaries of the "Institute of Economic Security," is designed to increase the competitiveness of the region's economy due to the multiplier effect of the functioning of its specialization industry, which ensures the accumulation, multiplication and transfer of existing regional potential into a long-term competitive advantage.

**Theoretical significance of the study results.** The theoretical significance of the dissertation research thesis expands and concretizes the conceptual approach in the formation of a strategy for the competitiveness of the region's economy; contains a classification and grouping of factors ensuring the competitiveness of the regional economic system into the potential for sustainable development; describes the methodology for their assessment; reflects the algorithm for increasing the competitiveness of the regional management system through the priority development of the specialization industry. In addition, the work identified areas for improving the strategy of social and economic development and proposed a qualitatively new view of the spatial organization of ensuring the process of expanded reproduction.

The results obtained can be applied in the educational process when mastering higher education programs (bachelor's, specialty, master's) in the areas of training «Economics», «Management», «State and Municipal Administration» as part of the study of the disciplines «Macroeconomics» (including «Macroeconomics (advanced level)», «Institutional Economics», «State regulation of the economy», «Management of the competitiveness of economic systems»).

**Practical significance of the study results.** In turn, practical significance determines the methodological approach to assessing the factors of ensuring the competitiveness of the regional economic system and the potential for its sustainable development:

- study of indicators of social and economic development on the example of the economy of the Republic of Crimea;
- comprehensive assessment of competitiveness factors and potential for

sustainable development on the example of the institutional environment of the Republic of Crimea;

- monitoring the problems of socio-economic development of the regional economic system on the example of the economy of the Republic of Crimea.

The materials of the dissertation can be applied by state authorities when drawing up and adjusting regional economic policy on the formation of a favorable investment climate in the territory. The recommendatory part of scientific research can be reflected in the practice of implementing concepts and strategies for sustainable (advanced) socio-economic development of regions.

**Approbation of study results.** The materials of the dissertation research were reflected on:

- Scientific conference session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: New Horizons and the Image of the Future" (Moscow, 2024);

- International Scientific Practical Conference "Strategic Planning in Public Administration, Economics and Social Sphere: Modern Challenges" (Moscow, 2023);

- International conference session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Global Trends and National Prospects" (Moscow, 2022);

- II All-Russian scientific practical conference "The current state of the Russian economy: tasks and prospects" (Moscow, 2020) with the topic of the report "Anti-crisis regulation of the tourism industry in the Russian Federation";

- International Scientific Conference "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Global Threats and Structural Changes" (Moscow, 2020) with the topic of the report "Investment attractiveness of the tourism industry of the Republic of Crimea";

- International scientific conference "70 years of the PRC: history, modernity and development prospects" (Moscow, 2019) with the topic of the report "Experience of the PRC in the formation and development of the resource potential of the tourism industry";

- International scientific practical conference "The current state of the Russian

economy: tasks and prospects" (Moscow, 2019) with the topic of the report "Modern trends in the development of world tourism";

- International conference session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Challenges and Opportunities" (Moscow, 2018) with the topic of the report "The multiplier impact of tourism in the development of the economy of the Republic of Crimea";

- International scientific conference "Achievements and problems of modernization of modern China" (Moscow, 2018) with the topic of the report "Strategy for the development of the regional economy: Chinese experience";

- V International Forum of the Financial University "How to get into the top five" (Moscow, 2018), the round table "Green" economy as a necessary condition for Russia's economic growth;

- III International Congress of Young Scientists on Sustainable Development (Moscow, 2017) with the topic of the report "Increasing the competitiveness of the region's economy";

- International conference session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Choosing Priorities" (Moscow, 2017) with the topic of the report "Increasing the Competitiveness of the Economy of the Republic of Crimea."

**Publications on the topic of the dissertation research.** On the topic of dissertation research, 9 scientific papers were published with a total volume of 3,2 pp, including 3 articles in scientific publications recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission under the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, with a total volume of 1.0 pp, 1 article in the scientific and political journal «State Service», included in the list of publications approved by the Academic Council of the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education «Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration».

**Structure of the dissertation research.** The total research work amounted to 290 pages (including 65 pages of appendices). The dissertation research thesis consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a bibliographic list and 15 appendices; contains 74 figures, 30 tables, 23 formulas.

The introduction reflects the relevance of the chosen problem and the degree of its study, formulated a hypothesis, determined the object and subject, purpose and objectives of the study, presented the methodological basis of the dissertation, scientific novelty, its theoretical and practical significance, contains approbation of the results of work and publications on the topic.

In the first chapter – «Theoretical methodological foundations for the formation and assessment of the competitiveness of the regional economy» - the concepts and main stages of the formation of the competitiveness of the regional economic system are considered, the institutional conditions for its provision are highlighted, a methodological approach to assessing the factors of competitiveness and the potential for sustainable development of the regional economic system is proposed.

In the second chapter – «Competitiveness of the regional economic system under the conditions of sanctions and threats (on the example of the economy of the Republic of Crimea)» - the indicators of the socio-economic development of the peninsula were studied, the factors of ensuring the competitiveness of the Republic of Crimea and the potential for sustainable development of its economy were assessed, the problems of the socio-economic development of the peninsula were monitored.

In the third chapter – «Increasing the competitiveness of the regional economic system in the context of transforming the competitive potential of the branch of specialization of economic activity» - the author focused on the investment attractiveness of the branch of specialization of the Republic of Crimea as a factor in the sustainable development of the region's economy, identified the main directions for improving the strategy of social economic development of the peninsula, proposed a qualitatively new spatial organization of the economy of the Republic of Crimea as a factor in increasing the competitiveness of the regional economic system.

In conclusion, according to the tasks set, the main results are presented, a conclusion is made considering the hypothesis of dissertation research.