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*Manuscript*

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**THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AND ITS IMPACT  
ON DEMOGRAPHIC PROCESSES IN THE REGION**

5.2.3. Regional and Sectoral Economics

**ABSTRACT**

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

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**Relevance of the research topic.** Against the background of the demographic crisis observed in Russia and the search for effective instruments to overcome it, analysing the impact of the economic situation on demographic processes acquires particular scholarly significance. Demographic development, which determines the parameters of human capital reproduction and accumulation within a territory in the long term, is embedded in a complex, non-linear interrelation with economic conditions, acting simultaneously as their consequence, a feedback factor, and a structural constraint on socio-economic growth. This interrelation manifests itself most acutely and in the most contradictory way in regions with specific geo-economic and social characteristics, where nationwide trends are modified under the influence of local development factors.

Conducting an in-depth study of this issue at the level of a specific macro-region makes it possible to overcome the limitations of aggregated macroeconomic approaches and to reveal the real mechanisms through which investment activity, labour market parameters and household income levels are transformed into the demographic behaviour of the population, which shapes migration flows, fertility rates and, ultimately, the prospects for the socio-economic development of the territory.

In this context, the Far Eastern Federal District (hereinafter — the FEFD) represents an illustrative and, at the same time, problematic macro-region. Despite its considerable natural resource potential and advantageous geo-economic position, the FEFD has long been confronted with persistent processes of depopulation and migration outflow of the population, which runs counter to the national priorities aimed at retaining and reproducing the population on the country's eastern borders. The observed imbalance between the dynamic growth of key economic indicators, such as gross regional product and investment volumes, and the continuing decline in the population size points to the existence of deep-seated systemic contradictions in the socio-economic development of the macro-region. Overcoming these contradictions requires not fragmented but comprehensive managerial decisions based on identifying and analysing the cause-and-effect relationships between the economic conjuncture and demographic development under the specific conditions of the FEFD. The above circumstances determine the high scholarly and practical relevance of this dissertation research.

Given the growing importance of a comprehensive analysis of the interrelations between economic and demographic parameters in the context of sustainable territorial development, the study of the impact of the economic situation on demographic dynamics at the macro-regional level acquires particular scholarly and practical significance. Amid the transformation of socio-economic mechanisms, increasing spatial differentiation, and growing demographic imbalances, the identification of stable patterns and cause-and-effect relationships between economic conditions and demographic processes constitutes a necessary prerequisite for the formation of an effective regional policy geared towards achieving long-term strategic development goals.

**Degree of scholarly elaboration of the research topic.** Issues of the interrelation between the economic situation and demographic processes have traditionally been at the centre of attention of researchers and practitioners. General issues and approaches to assessing the impact of the economic situation on demographic processes have been elaborated in considerable detail, whereas studies devoted to analysing these interrelations in specific regions of Russia are substantially fewer.

The theoretical basis of the study was formed by the fundamental works of Russian and foreign scholars in the field of population economics, demography and regional economics. Issues of the mutual influence of economic and demographic processes are reflected in the works of D.I. Valentey, O.V. Larmin, as well as A.G. Vishnevsky, A.Ya. Kvasha, S.V. Ryazantsev, L.L. Rybakovsky and A.V. Kashepov. The concepts of demographic transition were developed by F. Notestein, D. Coleman, as well as K. Davis and R. Easterlin. A significant contribution to the study of the economic determinants of fertility and migration was made by the foreign researchers G. Becker, C. Comolli, G. Neyer, G. Andersson and E. Lee. The problems of the socio-economic development of the Far East have been thoroughly investigated in the works of P.A. Minakir, V.I. Ishaev and M.K. Bandman.

Despite the existence of studies devoted to analysing the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes, the question of a quantitative assessment of the magnitude and direction of the impact of individual economic factors, such as investment activity, the sectoral structure of the regional economy, and the level of real incomes of

the population, on key demographic indicators, including fertility and migration processes in the constituent entities of the FEFD, remains insufficiently elaborated. The lack of comprehensive empirical models that take into account the specific features of the macro-region hinders the formulation of effective managerial decisions aimed at stabilising the demographic situation and ensuring sustainable economic growth. In this regard, the need to develop integrated strategic approaches combining demographic policy measures with economic diversification mechanisms becomes increasingly urgent, which determines the aim of the present study.

**The aim of the study** is to develop theoretical and methodological foundations, mechanisms and practical recommendations for improving the demographic situation in the region through targeted influence on the economic factors that exert a key impact on demographic processes. The empirical basis of the study was the FEFD.

**Research objectives:**

- developing a theoretical and methodological apparatus of the study, including original definitions of the basic concepts and a systematisation of approaches to analysing the interrelationship between the economic and demographic subsystems of a region;
- identifying and characterising the patterns and forms of manifestation of demographic processes that are specific to the FEFD and are determined by a unique combination of economic, geographical and institutional factors;
- conducting a comprehensive analysis and diagnostics of the state of the economic and demographic situation in the FEFD, revealing the key trends, structural disproportions and systemic contradictions in their development;
- determining the magnitude, direction and nature of the impact of the key economic parameters on demographic processes in the FEFD by employing the tools of econometric analysis;
- identifying the systemic constraints that impede the attainment of the strategic development goals of the FEFD under the conditions of demographic challenges;
- formulating and theoretically substantiating the strategic directions and concrete mechanisms for ensuring the demographic sustainability of the FEFD, aimed at breaking the identified negative feedback loops;

- developing a practical mechanism for integrating demographic priorities into economic policy, ensuring synergy between the structural transformation of the economy and demographic development.

**The object of the study** – the economic and demographic processes occurring in the FEFD, examined in the context of their mutual influence and interdependence.

**The subject of the study** – the mechanisms and patterns of the impact of key economic factors on demographic processes in the FEFD, as well as integrative strategies for their joint regulation under the conditions of the transformation of the national economy.

**The research area** of the dissertation corresponds to sub-item 8.2 "Economic Demography: Concepts, Theories, Trends, Indicators. The Influence of Demographic Factors on Economic Development" and sub-item 8.9. "Demographic Forecasts. Historical and Prospective Population Studies. Modelling of Demographic and Economic-Demographic Processes" of item 8. "Population Economics and Labour Economics" of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.2.3. "Regional and Sectoral Economics".

**Methodology and methods of the research.** The methodological basis of the study was formed by the works of Russian and foreign scholars in the field of studying the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes, as well as by the theories of demographic transition, population economics, regional economics, human capital and migration. In the course of the research, methods of analysis, synthesis and generalisation were applied to identify the characteristic features of the influence of the economic situation on demographic processes, together with the generally accepted scientific methods of induction and deduction, statistical methods, the method of comparative analysis, and special econometric methods, including correlation and regression analysis.

**Information and empirical base of the research.** The information base of the research comprises: legislative and regulatory documents of the Russian Federation that determine the development of the economic and demographic situations in the country; works of scholars published as monographs and articles in specialised journals; proceedings of scientific and practical conferences and seminars; data of the Federal State

Statistics Service for the period 2000–2023; materials of the Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic; information posted on the Internet electronic resources on the state of the economic and demographic spheres.

The empirical base of the research is represented by monographs and scholarly articles in the field of studying the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes, as well as by statistical and analytical information obtained from periodicals and Internet resources.

**The scholarly novelty of the study** consists in developing methodological and practical instruments for improving the demographic situation in the region through targeted influence on the economic factors that exert a key impact on demographic processes.

**Propositions submitted for defence and possessing scholarly novelty:**

1.A theoretical and methodological apparatus for studying the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes at the regional level has been developed and substantiated, incorporating the author's definitions of the categories "economic situation" and "demographic processes", as well as an integrative approach to analysing demographic processes. The author's definitions of the concepts "economic situation" and "demographic processes" have been formulated as complex systems, which made it possible to take into account not only macroeconomic but also institutional, social and geographical factors specific to the FEFD. The integrative approach ensured the adaptation and synthesis of theoretical concepts as applied to the analysis of the macro-region, thereby forming a methodological framework for empirical research that takes into account the resource-based orientation, extreme conditions and migration specificity of the FEFD.

2.A systemic contradiction in the socio-economic development of the FEFD has been identified and proven, consisting in the persistent growth of macroeconomic indicators against the background of declining real incomes of the population, an increase in the consumer price index and the persistence of depopulation, which testifies to the inefficiency of the existing resource-based economic model for the purposes of state demographic policy. Based on a retrospective analysis of statistical data, it has been

revealed that the increase in gross regional product and fixed capital investment was accompanied by a decline in real incomes, inflation outpacing income growth and the persistence of depopulation. The distinctive feature lies in the empirical verification and conceptual explanation of the formal macroeconomic growth concentrated in the capital-intensive resource sector of the FEFD, which is incapable of translating economic achievements into improvements in the demographic situation and the standard of living of the population.

3. The non-linear nature of the mutual influence of economic and demographic indicators has been identified and quantitatively assessed, establishing, in particular, the multidirectional influence of economic factors on fertility and migration in the FEFD. The application of econometric analysis methods for hypothesis verification made it possible to reveal the interrelations between the economic situation and demographic processes. The results obtained refute simplistic linear determinisms, demonstrating that economic factors exert a multidirectional impact on multiple components of the demographic system, thereby proving the necessity of developing a differentiated and balanced toolkit for social policy research.

4. A systemic structure of constraints on the development of the FEFD has been identified and substantiated, represented by three self-sustaining negative feedback loops (demographic-investment, inflationary-infrastructural, and institutional-personnel). The results obtained consist in applying the system dynamics methodology to model and verify the internal mechanism blocking the development of the macro-region. It has been proved that the key problems, such as migration outflow, a deficit of non-resource investment, infrastructural deterioration, and institutional inefficiency, are interconnected through closed cause-and-effect chains, forming a holistic system with a synergistic effect that explains the persistence of negative trends. The distinctive feature consists in the transition from the analysis of isolated factors to the proof of the existence of a holistic system of reproduction of structural constraints, which requires a fundamentally new approach to managing the development of the macro-region — the synchronous influencing of the key elements of all three loops.

5.A demographic design model for the tasks of regional governance, as well as a set of strategic measures aimed at overcoming the identified negative feedback loops, have been developed and theoretically substantiated. The proposed model interprets demographic behaviour as a purposeful functional system, which makes it possible to structure the process of developing and evaluating regional demographic policy. On its basis, a synchronised set of strategic measures aimed at breaking the identified negative feedback loops has been formed.

6.A mechanism of resource investment obligations has been developed, aimed at ensuring the structural transformation of the economy of the FEFD and linking the granting of the right to use natural resources with the obligations of users to carry out deep processing of the respective resources, develop infrastructure and localise production, which contributes to the creation of a highly skilled labour market and the integration of demographic factors into the macro-region's development model. The practical application of the mechanism produces a comprehensive multiplier effect: it transforms resource rent into a source of economic diversification, the creation of high-technology jobs and the generation of budget revenues to finance demographic policy, thereby breaking the identified negative feedback loops.

**Theoretical significance of the research** consists in developing a methodology for studying the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes at the regional level, as well as in supplementing economic theory with the author's definitions of the categories "economic situation" and "demographic processes". A scientifically grounded approach has been formed that ensures a comprehensive analysis and management of demographic processes, making it possible to identify the specific features of the interrelationship between the economic situation and demographic processes, as well as the relative nature of these interrelationships under the conditions of economic transformation.

**Practical significance of the research** consists in developing practical instruments for improving the demographic situation in the FEFD through targeted influence on the economic factors that exert an impact on demographic processes. The results obtained

can be used by federal and regional authorities in developing and adjusting strategic documents for the socio-economic and demographic development of the FEFD.

**Approbation and implementation of the research results.** The main results of the research have been published and tested in accordance with the established procedure, delivered and received approval at scientific conferences at various levels: at the International Conference Session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Global Trends and National Perspectives" (Moscow, Presidential Academy, 16 May 2022); at the International Conference Session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Civilised Challenges and National Interests" (Moscow, Presidential Academy, 15 May 2023); at the Scientific Conference Session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: New Horizons and a Vision of the Future" (Moscow, Presidential Academy, 20 May 2024); at the International Scientific Conference Session "Public Administration and Development of Russia: Challenges, Strategies and Prospects" (Moscow, Presidential Academy, 19 May 2025).

The scholarly and practical recommendations proposed by the author, including the identified systemic constraints on the development of the FEFD, the results of econometric modelling of the interrelationship between economic and demographic processes, as well as the mechanisms for overcoming them developed by the author, are used by the Department of Budget Policy in the Sphere of Industry, Agro-Industrial Complex, Digital Economy and Communications of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation in preparing analytical materials, substantiating budget allocations and improving approaches to assessing the effectiveness of investment projects implemented with state support.

The conclusions and main propositions of the research are used in the practical activities of the Centre for Social Sphere Finance of the Financial Research Institute of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation when implementing research projects on demographic and labour market issues, as well as in preparing recommendations for state authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, including those on adaptation to regional specificities.

The approbation and implementation of the research results have been confirmed by the relevant documents.

**The degree of reliability of the research results** is ensured by the use of Russian regulatory documents in the field of population economics, the application of generally recognised methods of scientific cognition, the consistency of the results obtained with the data of similar studies, the reliability of the empirical and statistical data, and the use of statistical data that are publicly available.

**Publication of the research results.** The results of the research and the main propositions of the dissertation have been published in 6 publications by the author, with a total volume of 4.6 pp.:

1. Nalgiev, I.M. The Interrelationship between Migration Policy and Sustainable Development of the Far Eastern Federal District / I.M. Nalgiev // *Finansovaya ekonomika*. – 2023. – No. 9. – Pp. 61–65;

2. Nalgiev, I.M. Ways of Solving the Economic Problems of the Regions of the Far Eastern Federal District / I.M. Nalgiev // *Ekonomika i upravlenie: problemy, resheniya*. – 2024. – Vol. 5, No. 3 (144). – Pp. 104–109;

3. Nalgiev, I.M. Digital Economy: Analysis of Trends and Development Prospects in a Rapidly Changing World / I.M. Nalgiev // *Ekonomika i upravlenie: problemy, resheniya*. – 2024. – Vol. 5, No. 3 (144). – Pp. 151–156;

4. Nalgiev, I.M. Contemporary Demographic Challenges / I.M. Nalgiev // *Gosudarstvennaya sluzhba*. – 2024. – Vol. 26, No. 3 (149). – Pp. 93–101;

5. Nalgiev, I.M. The Demographic Situation in the Far Eastern Federal District and Its Impact on the Economic Situation of the Regions / I.M. Nalgiev // *Public Administration and Development of Russia: Civilisational Challenges and National Interests. Collection of articles of the Conference Session of IPACS RANEPА*. – Moscow, 2024. – Pp. 57–63;

6. Nalgiev, I.M. The Influence of Quality-of-Life Indicators on the Demographic Situation in Russia / I.M. Nalgiev // *Public Administration and Development of Russia: Global Trends and National Perspectives: collection of articles of the international conference session*. – Moscow, 2023. – Pp. 299–304.

**The structure and scope of the research** are determined by the aim, objectives and logic of the study. The work consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, and a list of references and sources comprising 122 titles. The text of the dissertation is presented on 199 pages, includes 33 tables and 34 figures.