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Methodology of foresight studies of the socio-economic system of rural areas as a problem of social philosophy

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Abstract

The aim of the work is to analyze the prerequisites for the formation of the methodology of the foresight of the social and economic system from the standpoint of social philosophy. The methodology includes the application of general and special methods of scientific knowledge, foresight in the development of the socio-economic system. Transformation of the role of rural areas as agrarian production, increasing unemployment, the gap between the standard of living in the city and the countryside, especially hard-to-reach rural settlements, leads to the need to rethink the role of the socio-economic system of rural areas. It is shown that when forming a long-term forecast for the transformation of social and economic life, it is necessary to proceed both from the concepts of sociology and economics, as well as the concept of humanism and the necessity and preservation of cultural landscapes. At present, approaches have been developed that allow introducing innovative approaches to the formation of social and political processes, tools for the formation and preservation of the cultural landscape of the territory. Long-term forecasting methods are needed to assess the long-term consequences of their implementation. All these issues need to be investigated in the formation of foresight opinions on the development of rural areas, and these forecasts should be carried out within the framework of a broader interpretation of the socio-economic system, while an objective assessment of the possibilities for finding a balance of interests between rural and urban residents should be carried out through the social methodology philosophy.

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Keywords

Rural life, socio-economic system, social philosophy, rural population, foresight.

Introduction

The dichotomy "city-village" is one of the most significant when considering the living conditions of the population. A considerable number of studies in all fields of the social sciences reveal fundamentally different living conditions, characteristics of the cultural and social environment, and even psychological features. However, profound transformations in this area, the correlation, interconnection and interdependence of rural and urban in the life of society in conditions remain an unexplored area. In a situation where a significant amount of research is devoted to the processes of urbanization and ways of life in urban conditions, the philosophical rethinking of living conditions in rural areas remains outside the field of research.

Meanwhile, the most rapid transformations and fundamentally new social processes take place in the life of the urban and rural population right now, such as ruralization, which means making decisions within the framework of a certain understanding of these processes. However, it is obvious that only philosophical basis can determine the direction, nature and depth of these processes, which are studied with varying degrees of detail in various social sciences. All this leads to the fact that in conditions when it is necessary to take a decision based on a long-term forecast, the most "influential" coordinate system of experts making such forecasts prevails in this methodology. In addition, the same problem also reveals the ethical component of such decisions. How is it possible to preserve the existing way of life, including indigenous peoples, cultural landscapes in conditions where the economic component is key in making any decisions of public administration?

The economic role of the rural population

According to international organizations, the share of the rural population is constantly decreasing, and this trend is typical for the population of all countries of the world. The reasons for this change

include both economic reasons, such as the development of technology and labor intensification in the agricultural sector and, as a consequence, a decrease in the number of employed people. Also, a significant trend is the enlargement of farms, the strengthening of the role of vertically integrated entities in agricultural markets in developed and developing countries. All this leads to the fact that the economic role of the rural population is changing. A smaller population is required to ensure food security [Atanov, Badmaeva, Egorov, 2013].

On the other hand, reducing the economic role of the social group to an economic function, even as important as the country's food security, is a significant restriction. Residents of a certain territory are carriers of the "cultural code", and in the countryside its preservation allows to preserve the identity of the population, including small ethnic groups.

Historically, the economic role of the rural population was to provide food for the population of the state. The decrease in the number of people employed in agriculture due to the increase in the efficiency of agricultural production has led to the fact that the economic contribution of the rural population to the development of the national economy and its structure is changing. In addition, a number of researchers predict a further decline in the rural population due to a significant decrease in its historically determined function. Thus, the decrease in the economic importance of the rural population also means an increase in the cost of providing it with socially important services and infrastructure per capita of such territories. Part of the problem is solved by resettlement of the able to work population in urban areas. Primarily, this process is carried out with the help of rural youth.

The humanitarian paradigm as a limitation of making decisions in the development of rural areas

With long-term forecasting, it is very significant that the social conditions of rural life both in developing and less developed and developed countries differ significantly from urban conditions in such indicators as the availability of quality education, medical institutions, transport infrastructure. According to the practice of the EU countries, the reduction in the lag in certain elements of the social and economic sphere, such as the possibility of providing emergency medical care, high-quality and affordable schooling, involves significant costs, the need for which is the subject of discussion. Therefore, the transformation of the population structure is the reason for the change in the focus of the study because of the changing role of the rural population.

However, on the other hand, the rural population is the main bearer of the cultural landscape of the territory. The questions of its value are not debatable, but the question arises of methods of their

preservation on the one hand and of the development on the other. Preservation of cultural values through the creation of regional museums does not imply the further production of cultural values in the traditional way. Also the issue of the rights of the individual to live on his/her historical territory, including indigenous peoples, is very significant. At the same time, there is a social process of resettlement from urbanized areas to rural areas with various socio-economic aims, including workers engaged in professional activities remotely.

Modern approaches to public administration are more based on scientific methods of decision-making, including those with long-term consequences. Such methods include foresight which means to get a long-term forecast based on a significant number of expert opinions [Ladykova, Vasilyeva, Zavisha, 2015]. Therefore, it is necessary to form a basis for attitudes in the formation of such forecasts, taking into account all possible consequences, imposing certain restrictions on the accounting of the humanitarian paradigm, as well as ethics in terms of maintaining the level of economic development of the territories.

Conclusion

At the same time, there are approaches which allow to introduce innovative ways to the formation of social and political processes, tools for the formation and preservation of the cultural landscape of the territory. To assess the long-term consequences of their implementation, long-term forecasting methods.

All these issues need to be investigated in the formation of foresight views on the development of rural areas, while these forecasts should be carried out within the framework of a broader interpretation of the socio-economic system, while an objective assessment of the possibilities for finding a balance of interests between rural and urban residents should be carried out through the methodology of social philosophy.

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Методология форсайт-исследований социально-экономической системы сельской местности как проблема социальной философии

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Аннотация

Цель. Целью работы является анализ предпосылок формирования методологии форсайта социально-экономической системы с позиции социальной философии. Методология. Методология включает в себя применение общих и специальных методов научного познания, форсайта в области развития социально-экономической системы. Результаты. Трансформация роли сельской местности как аграрного производства, увеличение безработицы, разрыв между уровнем жизни в городе и деревне, особенно труднодоступных

сельских поселениях приводит к необходимости переосмысления роли социальноэкономической системы сельской местности. Показано, что при формировании
долгосрочного прогноза трансформации социально-экономической жизни необходимо
исходить как из концепций социологи и экономики, а также понятия гуманизма и
необходимости и сохранения культурных ландшафтов. Заключение. В настоящее время
разработаны подходы, позволяющие внедрять инновационные подходы к формированию
социальных и политических процессов, инструменты формирования и сохранения
культурного ландшафта территории. Для оценки долгосрочных последствий их внедрения
необходимо применение методов долгосрочного прогнозирования. Все эти вопросы
необходимо исследовать при формировании форсайт-мнений относительно развития
сельской территории, при этом данные прогнозы должны осуществляться в рамках более
широкого трактования социально-экономической системы, при этом объективная оценка
возможностей нахождения баланса интересов между жителями сельской местности и
городскими должна осуществляться посредством методологии социальной философии.

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Ключевые слова

Сельская жизнь, социально-экономическая система, социальная философия, сельское население, форсайт.

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