

FROM EDITORIAL BOARD



The second issue of the journal “Baltic Region” of 2011 is devoted to international cooperation of Russia in the sphere of innovations.

The choice of this topic as the core of the present issue is due to the fact that international cooperation of the Russian Federation in the scientific, technical and innovation spheres is one of the most important conditions for the modernization of our state and improvement of its competitiveness in the world market. The Baltic countries are quite interesting in this respect. On one hand, they have competitive potential in a number of scientific and technical areas; on the other, geographically they are either quite close to Russia or have common borders, and to one degree or another participate in the scientific, technical and innovation cooperation with our country. At the same time, it is necessary to learn and analyze the specifics of scientific and technical development of the Baltic Sea countries and their national innovation systems in order to make this cooperation more active and of systematic character.

In the materials published in the journal, a comparative assessment of the innovation potential of the Baltic Sea region countries is given as a whole, as well as the status and perspectives of innovation cooperation between Russia and Lithuania are assessed. In particular, scientific and technical development of Lithuania and perspectives of scientific and technical cooperation between Lithuania and the Russian Federation are examined including the potential and areas of cooperation in the sphere of science and innovations in North-West Russia and Lithuania, perspectives of interrelation of Russian and Lithuanian innovation structures, modernization of education and science in Russia, Poland and Lithuania. In the following issues of the “Baltic Region” the articles devoted to scientific and technical cooperation of Russia with other countries of the Baltic Sea region are planned to be published.

Besides, the current issue covers such topics as economic and political development of the Baltic region including income differences in Latvia before and after its admission to the EU, the role of Russia in the context of the election campaigns of 2010—2011 in the Baltic countries etc. A special section is devoted to the Kaliningrad region.