

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Since the 1990s, the Baltic region has been a territory of active international, political, economic, and cultural cooperation: both multilateral — through various international and regional organisations (most importantly the EU and CBSS), bilateral — between individual countries, and subnational — between regions, cities, and non-governmental organisations of different states. It is the cooperation that has helped the Baltic region overcome the schism that existed during the Cold War and turned it into one of the most important international regions in the modern world. The current issue of the *Baltic Region* journal analyses, first of all, different aspects of international cooperation.

The first section of the issue is dedicated to international relations. The articles presented in the section focus on such issues as historical memory in the age of globalization through the case of Russian-Estonian relations (D. A. Lanko), the formation of Lithuanian political elite at the turn of the 1980s (V. A. Smirnov), the current foreign policy of Lithuania (I. A. Batorshina, V. Volovoy), the role of the Kaliningrad region in the development of Russian-German relations (G. M. Fedorov, M. A. Gorodkov, I. I. Zhukovsky).

The second section entitled “International economic cooperation” presents the works on the impact of corruption on economic growth sustainability (T. Polajeva), the role of Euroregions in economic integration (A. V. Vovenda, V. A. Plotnikov), Russian accession to the WTO as an important factor of its integration in the world economy (A. F. Linetsky), the concept of normative evaluation of the economic efficiency of GLONASS application in coastal regions (V. V. Ivchenko, A. B. Boronilov), the features of EU energy strategy for the Baltic region (G. V. Kretinin), the perception of modern Russian innovations in the Danish mass media (A. V. Ryabichenko), and the protocol as a tool of international economic relations (V. V. Pshtyka).

The topic of the third section of the journal is historical aspects of international economic relations — the features of institutional choices of Muscovy and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in the 16th—17th centuries (M. S. Vdovin), the formation of the idea of European unity in Central Europe and Scandinavia as an instrument of collective security and intergovernmental cooperation (E. Yu. Chernyshev).

The issue concludes with the section entitled “Ethnocultural differentiation of territories”, which presents an article by A. G. Manakov and A. A. Andreev on the cultural and landscape zoning in the North-West Russia.

A number of articles published in the issue are of debatable nature, and the opinion of the authors does not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board and the editorial team.