

CROSS-BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE

Russian borderlands: socio-political and infrastructure problems / Ed. by V. A. Kolosov and A. B. Volodin. Moscow, 2016, 188 p.



ABSTRACT

The collection includes materials from All-Russian Scientific and Practical Conference «Cross-Border Infrastructure of Russia», organized in February 2016 at the initiative of the Institute of Geography of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Agency for Development of Cross-Border Infra-

structure and Moscow State Academy of Water Transport. The publication consists of two sections, which present the results of studies by geographers, economists, sociologists on economic, sociocultural, infrastructural problems of the borderland, as well as development and operation of cross-border infrastructure and transport.

Keywords: «Economic belt of the Silk Road», international logistics, state border, transport, cross-border infrastructure.

The implementation of a strategy for development of transport in Russia, the achievement of its main goals and indicators is largely due to development of transport infrastructure. The main instrument for implementing the strategy – the federal target program «Development of the Russian transport system» – provides for construction of large-scale transport projects that realize the economic and transit potential of Russia's regions.

Against uncertain relations with the EU countries, Russia is consistently developing ever closer trade and economic relations with the countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

The Russian Federation becomes a full-fledged and active participant in the Chinese initiative of the «Economic belt of the Silk Road». This initiative will allow in the future to increase the freight turnover of transport and to turn national transport communications into transit bridges for goods turnover between China, the countries of the Asia-Pacific region and Europe.

Of course, such large-scale strategies require a new approach to organization of international logistics. And first of all, with regard to crossing of national borders by cargoes and goods. After all, checkpoints across the state border are often a brake on international trade and transit, because they cannot cope with the increasing freight traffic.

It is noteworthy that a new interpretation of ways of solving highly applied transport problems becomes interdisciplinary. Studies in the field of cross-border communications are increasingly interesting for representatives of various scientific specialties and professions. In the collection under review, this trend is confirmed definitely enough. In the first section, the results of studies of geographers, economists, and sociologists are presented, which relate to the economic, socio-cultural, infrastructural problems of the borderland. In the second section the book contains scientific and practical problems of development and functioning of cross-border

infrastructure and transport, and here there are different types of it – sea, river, air, rail, and road.

Public discussion of the most significant issues of the strategy and tactics of development of checkpoints across the state border to promote economic development of enterprises, transport infrastructure and regions of the Russian Federation opens the veil over the once untouchable theme of the «sacredness» of borders. Thanks, among other things, to this, the topical issues of implementing cross-border communications and communications in all spheres of human life in the border regions become close and understandable even to a layman.

Cross-border infrastructure of Russia is a set of objects and technologies in the field of transport and related industries, security systems, communication and telecommunications systems that are located in the border area of our country and the neighboring state, which is reflected in the mode of its functioning. And, accordingly, it requires improvement of a whole range of relations, document circulation, technical equipment, which are primarily related to international transport corridors.

New demonstrated approaches to solving security problems through discussion of a number of economic, sociocultural, infrastructural and analytical problems of the borderland allow to find a new vector that determines a strategy for development of cross-border infrastructure. In addition, together with the results of research of objects of roads and railways, overpasses, airports, sea and river ports, which provide for crossing of a state border and, in general, international freight and passenger traffic, published scientific reports appear to be especially necessary and important. Because they help to understand future changes and directions of growth precisely from the point of view of integrity of perception of international transport communications and understanding of their readiness for new challenges. ●

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