
EDITORIAL

Dear readers!

The digest 'Age of Globalization', whose third issue is in your hands, is a special English version of the international journal *Vek globalizatsii* (Век глобализации) published in Russian since 2008. Since that time eleven issues of the journal have come out, containing about 200 articles devoted to academic research and analysis of various aspects of globalization. In the present issue we bring some of them to your attention.

The transformations of this rapidly changing world are too fast for our perceptions to follow them and our institutions also lag behind. The changes are numerous and sometimes indicate considerable global progress. One of the major changes that have recently become evident due to the 2008 crisis is the shifting balance of world forces. Today most analysts forecast the diminishing influence of the United States and the West in the coming decades. At the same time we witness a growing economic power of a number of developing countries. Thus, first, some rearrangements are inevitable in the world ranking of countries; and second, there are signs of major changes in developing countries. The consequences of these changes will be extremely significant. For a better understanding of these changes we need to constantly exchange ideas and insights, observe the process of globalization in different regions and countries. In the present issue one can find the perceptions of globalization by a number of Russian scholars as well as by some scientists from other countries, whose articles were published in the journal *Vek globalizatsii*.

The journal *Vek globalizatsii* is a specialized interdisciplinary periodical on Global Studies that seeks to integrate innovative academic insights on important issues of development and globalization from across different fields. The journal has become increasingly popular not only with experts in the field of Global Studies, philosophy, anthropology, history, and other spheres of knowledge dealing with problems of globalization, but also with a wide audience interested in globalization theory, processes, and methods. The urgency and relevance of the themes of the journal are beyond any doubt. More and more well-known scientists, as well as political and public figures, are engaged in cooperation. The journal *Vek globalizatsii* publishes articles in a number of sections, presenting theoretical and empirical studies of globalization, as well as alternative perspectives on various aspects of globalization and Global Studies, global problems, causes and consequences of the World crisis, and Russia's position in the global world.

We hope that the present issue will be interesting to a wide audience since it provides non-Russian speaking readers with an idea of the thematic scope of the published issues of *Vek globalizatsii*.

Supervising Editor
Leonid E. Grinin

Editor-in-Chief
Alexander N. Chumakov