

INTRODUCTION



This issue of the *Baltic region* is dedicated to the problems of the demographic development in the Baltic Sea region, which are topical not only in Russia, but also in other countries of the Baltic macroregion. The significance of this problem cannot be underestimated since the vector of demographic development, to a great extent, determines the social stability and economic growth potential. Our authors tackled various aspects of this issue.

In the first section, Yu. V. Kosov, N. M. Mikheyeva (Saint-Petersburg), and N. A. Sluka (Moscow) analyse the features of contemporary demographic development of cities.

The second section entitled *Regional demographic development* contains research works by M. Yu. Yelsukov, M. A. Kashina, and A. V. Klyuyeva on the specific features of the demographic situation in the Pskov region and an article by F. Swiaczny (Germany) about the new territorial structure of population ageing in Germany.

In the third section of the journal, the works of T. Yu. Kuznetsova and L. L. Yemelyanova (Kaliningrad) analyse the migration tendencies in the Baltic region, while the article of Ye. Kirillova (Moscow) assesses the efficiency of repatriation programme.

In the *Ethnic aspects of demographic development* section, S. A. Khru-schyov and Yu. A. Stupin (Saint Petersburg) analyse the title theme in the historical perspective and at the current stage. The articles of G. M. Fyodorov and V. S. Korneyevets (Kaliningrad) and N. M. Mezhevich and Ye. G. Bolotnikova (Saint-Petersburg) are dedicated to the problems of international cooperation in the region. The research work by W. Żebrowski on the forms of parliamentarism in Poland completes the issue.

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