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**NATURAL RESOURCES: AN ECONOMY BLESSING OR A CURSE
 (TRANSFORMATION OF VIEWS ON ROLE OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN
 ECONOMIES)**

The article reveals and considers the evolution of views on the role of natural resource factor as one of the leading countries in economic development on the basis of application of key provisions of economic theories. On the basis of the set goal, the algorithm of the study, including the definition of the dominant role of natural resources in different spheres of economic activity of countries, the disclosure of the economic nature of the paradox of «abundance of resources», the identification on the basis of a critical statement of the signs of «resource curse» as a phenomenon of the development of a number of countries, in particular — Russia, is determined. The complex role of natural resources in economic processes and their transformation into production funds is determined from the positions of historical and systematic approaches. Taking into account the trend of increasing consumption of energy resources in the world, special attention is paid to the comparative assessment of «energy abundance» in the form of positioning of countries and groupings of reserves and the cost of hydrocarbons.

Subject to the revision of views on the redundancy of resources as the basis of self development, the necessity of more active participation of countries in global resource sharing based on the principles of sustainable development. Analyzed and critically compared alternative approaches in determining the structure and mechanism of the impact of natural resources on macroeconomic indicators, primarily — on economic growth.

The interdisciplinary synthesis carried out within the framework of the geographical resource approach, the authors' developments do not confirm the thesis put forward by R. M. Auty of excess resources in a number of countries as a «resource curse» for their economy. The study shows that a weaker version of the phenomenon under consideration is more acceptable: in resource-rich countries, their use with continued intensive exploitation is less effective than other channels of economic growth. The necessity of revision of the resource use policy towards the effective management of rental income from the exploitation of

natural resources is pointed out. The main tasks in the solution of problems of national resource use, including in Russia are formulated.

Keywords: natural resources, the economy of the excess resources, the resource abundance paradox, the resource excess and curses phenomenon.

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3.	136,2	29,6	32 208
4.	178,1	1,6	20 545
5.	15,2	25,3	16 368
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	206,1	10,7	28 887
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* [7].

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* Measuring capital for the 21st Century, Wash. WorldBank, 2006. — . 208.

190 — [2, . 118].

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[12, . 28].

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