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## A NEW TREND IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: THE TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

## Новая тенденция в мировой экономике: переход на возобновляемые источники энергии

At the turn of the tenth and twentieth years of the new century, we witnessed the beginning of a radical reformatting of the world economy under the influence of a number of very significant events: a series of trade conflicts between the United States and other countries, the UK Brexit, the unexpected coronavirus pandemic and the rapid intensification of international efforts to transition the whole world to the rails of decarbonization. It would seem that they are not related to each other. However, these events, if not broke, then significantly slowed down the quite objective trend towards the globalization of the world economy, and also showed the vulnerability of the established system of the international division of labor and logistics.

The situation is aggravated by the excessively hasty attempt of the transition of developed countries to renewable energy sources, which implies the rejection of hydrocarbons as the main energy carrier. Oil has long and deservedly been called the «blood of the economy». Continuing this analogy, it can be argued that we are witnessing a global attempt at blood transfusion with simultaneous transplantation of a number of important organs of the world economy.

The UK can be an example of such a global trend. The current shortage of carbon dioxide in Britain is due to the shutdown of large fertilizer plants due to a strong rise in natural gas prices. Returning to the topic of the decline in industrial production in the UK, the current acute problems of major global automakers should be noted. In fact, all of them are forced to reduce production volumes in one way or another due to the shortage of electronic components produced in Asia. This has a negative impact on such industrialized countries as the United States, Germany, Japan and South Korea.

The outright fiasco of Britain with a hasty fundamental transition to renewable sources of electricity can become a global problem in the coming months. Admittedly, forcing the «green agenda» and the need for an energy transition during the coronavirus pandemic and economic downturn will be a painful tactical mistake for the united Europe, as well as for some other countries and regions.

We can't but pay attention to the fact that energy prices in Europe soared long before the cold weather began. This clearly indicates the expected scale of problems with heating and electricity in the coming winter. Against this background, the European Union is forced to «slacken» in its peremptory attitude towards the transition to electricity generation based on renewable energy sources.

Is this global trend suitable for Belarus? Having analysed a number of different sources, we came to the conclusion that Belarus will not be able to switch completely to renewable energy sources. Even though the reserves for wind and solar energy for Belarus are limitless and we can cover all current electricity consumption by wind turbines and solar panels. But there will be an imbalance, since the wind does not blow all the time, and the sun does not shine around the clock, and these energy sources need to be combined with something. However, on October 12, 2021, the Energy Expo 2021 forum began, where such topics as the prospects of a green economy, the development of electric transport, economic and environmental aspects of nuclear energy will be discussed.

Thus, it is difficult to talk about a complete transition and abandonment of the usual energy sources. The events that are taking place in the world now are nothing but the threat of the collapse of the real sector of the economy. And it is unclear how far this trend will go.

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## THE WORLD ECONOMY AT THE PRESENT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

## Мировая экономика на современном этапе развития

The purpose of research is to consider the main trends in the development of the modern world economy.

The world economy is in constant motion. As it develops, it discards elements that have lost their relevance and obtain new ones that help it continue to develop in the right way. The world economy can now be called a comprehensive economic system, the elements of which are becoming more and more interconnected.

The feature of the modern economy is that its development is significantly influenced by the processes of globalization, which cover various aspects and spheres of the economy and not only it. One of the trends can be called the process of freeing