

integration, where through the process of interaction of economies there is a convergence of economic mechanisms and areas of their development, coordinated supranational regulation of economic activity. World integration starts with economic regionalism — the process of formation of more favorable conditions for trade and movement of production factors in individual countries. Beyond regional integration, conditions for economic integration are gradually maturing: proximity of the level of economic development, proximity of historical cultural ties and unity of economic interests.

A characteristic feature of the modern stage of world economic development is the process of globalization, which manifests itself in all markets. Globalization to date has affected only a small group of industrialized countries, barely touching Africa and Asia. In deciding whether to plunge into the global world, it is necessary to carefully calculate what globalization will bring to this or that country and whether the losses will exceed the possible benefits. Direct investment by multinational corporations does not always lead to unambiguously positive results, which is why they are called "tools of backwardness," because they produce unnecessary products with unnecessary technology. "Side effects" of the global economy include pollution, the abolition of the 40-hour work week, the violation of consumer rights, and the elimination of all the gains of workers' centuries-long struggle for their rights.

Thus, after analyzing the current trends in the global economy, we can see that the future of the global community looks very dim.

**P. Masuragin**

**П.В. Масурагин**

БГЭУ (Минск)

*Научный руководитель Г.Е. Казючич*

## **WAR AS WAY TO RESOLVE CAPITALIST CONTRADICTIONS**

### **Война как способ разрешения капиталистических противоречий**

Which of the problems of the modern world worries humanity the most? Global inequality, famine, epidemics or environmental disasters? Common sense suggests that our collective efforts should be aimed at saving people from various hardships. But, judging by the dynamics and structure of global financial flows, the limit of human dreams is a rapid self-destruction.

While the planet was shaken by the covid pandemic, global GDP fell by 4 %, and the number of hungry people in the world exceeded 800 million people, governments continued to increase military expenses. In 2022, they broke another record and exceeded \$2 trillion.

The main world militarist is the United States, which defense budget exceeds \$800 billion a year. The top five also includes China, India, the UK and Russia. Together they account for 60 % of world military spending.

The growth in arms spending has an objective nature. The world economy has been in a state of deglobalization for almost a decade and a half, which is expressed in the widespread aggravation of the global political and economic confrontation. States with the help of various protectionist methods are closing from each other. Thus, they are trying to concentrate resources in prioritized sectors of the economy, which can become the basis of the next sixth economic order. The country that manages to master it before the rest will receive a significant advantage over its competitors. This means that the state needs to provide better economic conditions for the domestic capitalist and block the rest of the way to the national market.

These events take place against the backdrop of a general crisis in the American systemic cycle of capital accumulation. New giants are claiming the place of the new leader of the world economy and politics, in particular, China, which allows not only economic, but also forceful methods of promoting its interests in the world. The general growth of political tension is pushing smaller states to military aggression. Armenia and Azerbaijan, Israel and Palestine, Pakistan and India — dozens of frozen conflicts are again becoming hot spots.

War is an essential feature of capitalism. Through armed conflicts national capital, relying on the support of the state, clears its living space and enters the struggle for the redistribution of markets and resources. The real triumph today is experienced by the companies of the military-industrial complex. The MIC is a special kind of business. Here the ties between private capital and the state are strong as nowhere else. For example, in 2021 the US government signed contracts for the supply of goods and services worth \$665 billion. Two-thirds of this amount went to the suppliers of the Ministry of Defense. The first five are represented by the world leaders in the military-industrial complex. Every year they are included in the list of the most profitable companies. In 2021 alone, their total revenue exceeded \$200 billion. Along with this, over a four-year period US arms exports increased by 14 %. Companies like Raytheon receive contracts from the Pentagon, and both domestic and international sales must be approved by Congress. It is not surprising that MIC companies are actively promoting their interests in state authorities. To do this, such companies engage in lobbying activities. In exchange for the loyalty of an official, they finance his election campaign. For example, Lockheed Martin spent more than \$12 million on lobbying in 2020.

Thus, world capitalism has reached a dead end. The unresolved problems of the 2008 crisis are increasingly pushing humanity onto the path of discord. And, while thousands of people are giving their lives for the interests of the national bourgeoisie, the laws of capitalism leave every enterprising businessman the opportunity to profitably invest in the destruction of mankind.