

SYSTEM ECONOMICS, MESOECONOMICS AND COMPLEXITY ECONOMICS: ANSWERING MODERN CHALLENGES

KIRDINA-CHANDLER SVETLANA (ORCID 0000-0002-9234-8308)¹

¹Institute of Economics of Russian Academy of Sciences

Abstract. The insufficient depth of mainstream neoclassical theory to explore the multifarious economic reality requires the development of new theoretical approaches. These approaches are considered in the paper, including system economics, mesoeconomics and complexity economics.

The methods used in our research, which was carried out in 2014-2018, included the survey and analysis of contemporary Russian-language and foreign literature.

The results identify common and distinctive features of the three theories considered in the research, both between themselves and in relation to mainstream neoclassical economic theory.

Future research will further analyze the initial premises, methods and results of these three theoretical approaches.

Keywords: system economics, meso level of economic analysis, complexity economics, heterodox economics, economic orthodoxy, increasing returns.

The main goal of the article is to show how such new approaches as System Economics (SE) [1, 2, 3, 4, 5], Meso-economics (ME) [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12] and Complexity Economics (CE) [13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18] in economic meet the challenges facing modern economic science. It is shown that the development of these approaches has been brought about by both practical needs and shifts in the system of paradigmatic scientific knowledge. The differences between the initial assumptions of SE, CE and ME, and the set of initial postulates of neoclassical mainstream economics are also shown. It is emphasized that SE, CE and ME are based on modern ideas of self-organization of complex systems. At the same time, they restore the traditions of classical Political Economy,

since they also consider the organic nature of the economy, evolutionism and historical conditioning. All three approaches explore the logic of the formation of economic mechanisms that create patterns of economic life and the spread of change. Along with the commonality of the approach from the SE methodology, ME perspective and the approach from the point of view of CE, their distinctive characteristics are identified, which allows them to complement each other. Comparison of SE, ME and CE makes it possible to carry out a more in-depth analysis of the methodological features of mesoeconomic analysis, in comparison with the author's earlier works on this subject [9, 10].

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