
THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE CUSTOM AFFAIR

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ABSTRACT

The article considers the problems of semantic organization of the theories of customs economics, which hold back the pace of their development. The features inherent in the theories of customs economics and the basis for ensuring their semantic unity are shown.

Keywords: international economic integration processes, meaning, theme, purpose, object, subject, tasks, productivity of theoretical developments.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of economies after World War II gave a powerful impetus to global economic integration processes in the form of the expansion of the industrialized countries of the world. On the one hand, they helped accelerate the development of the economic potential of countries participating in such economic relations, on the other hand, they caused an increase in the dependence of national economies, especially developing and backward countries, on the uncontrollability of their scale, the suppression of domestic industries, the decline in the competitiveness of national productions.

Integration processes are based on the need to apply supranational mechanisms of foreign economic activity. The threat of increasing dependence of economies required the use of mechanisms protecting the economic sovereignty of countries involved in uncontrolled global economic integration processes. The International Trade Organization (GATT, 1947), which was transformed into the World Trade Organization (WTO, 1995), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD, 1948) of industrially developed countries, and the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC, 1952), renamed into the World Customs Organization in 1994, became the main means of resolving the contradiction between the uncontrolled processes of economic integration and protection of national economic sovereignty. They are supranational instruments to overcome the contradiction between integration and economic sovereignty. With a certain degree of analogy the tasks they solve are similar to those solved by In a certain analogy, the tasks they solve are similar to those solved by the medieval trade union of the Hanseatic League.

These international processes were accompanied by the improvement of established in the pre-war period mechanisms of customs business in general and customs economics (hereinafter - ETD) in particular.

The construction of such mechanisms was based on empirical (phenomenological) theories of practical experience: trial and error and consensus. At the same time, the contradictions accumulated in them were mostly not eliminated by scientific methods of establishing the meaning of truth through representations, categorizations, interpretations, and toolings, but were resolved intuitively, consensually, and conventionally. Against this background, there was a disproportionately slow abstract-logical generalization that did not keep pace with the transformations in ETD practice. As a result, a gap emerged in the understanding of meaning between empirical and abstract-logical theories

of ETD. This gap led to the restraining of the growth rate of productivity of both practical (operational) and abstract-intellectual activity.

In 2000-2010, scientific understanding of the need to bridge this gap began to take shape. A significant contribution to comprehension of the organization of building theories of the whole customs business was made by A. Y. Chernysh and E. G. Anisimov [1].

The need to increase the productivity of theoretical developments and to accelerate the reduction of the gap between empirical and abstract-logical theories on ETD problems requires compliance with the systematically violated semantic organization of theories [2].

The semantic organization of theories is carried out within the epistemic construct "theme" [3]. It is composed of the semantic forming elements (object, subject, task, and goal), as well as axiological and methodological attributes of the theme itself: relevance, novelty, theoretical and practical significance, degree of approbation, elaborateness, theoretical, methodological and information base, the area of existence of the object.

According to M. Heidegger, meaning is revealed only through purpose [4]. The form in which meaning appears in reality is significance (value, need), i.e. an attribute of axiology. The goal unites the object, the subject and the task, giving unity to all sides of the theme of the developed ETD theories. The task of discovering meaning is to identify the goal, correlated with the specific conditions of ETD activities.

Methods and Research

The research shows that a typical difficulty in the development of ETD theories is the unformed understanding of thematic goal orientation of the methodology in their construction: not from obvious ontological reasons to ontological consequences, but from elusive axiological consequences to the ontological reasons of ETD processes and phenomena. In this connection, the actual orientation of the stages of the methodology of theories of ETD has the following order: value (utility) \Rightarrow need \Rightarrow needs actualization \Rightarrow means of needs attainment. Following it helps to increase not only the productivity of the process of theory building, but also the implementation of the objective laws of ETD in practical activities.

The next component of the semantic organization - the object of ETD theories - represents the focus of the study of phenomena, processes, mechanisms of state (institutional) regulation of the conditions of economic relations in the movement of goods (including currency) and vehicles, arising in connection with the customs delimitation of countries involved in international trade, their states, trends, patterns, properties, characteristics and laws. It serves as an onto- and genetic source of empirical filling of phenomenological theories and theoretical constructs in abstract-logical theories. The central phenomena of ETD theories are the diverse processes of international economic integration and their state regulation.

ETD theories should explain (bring under the law) the content of the object of customs economy, contribute to the disclosure of its semantic essence through the relations of institutional actors and participants in FEA, those states that act as targets in the mechanisms of regulation of economic relations arising in international trade: effective formation of the state budget, balanced and sustainable development of the national economy, the state of competition in the domestic market and placement of domestic enterprises, h causes of violations.

In general, during the evolution of research on the objects of ETD theories three directions of problem-semantic rows were formed: theories of free-trade, protectionism, preferences.

The subject of research of ETD theories as a component of their semantic organization has empirical and abstract bases, providing activity of state power institutions on regulation of goods movement through customs border in order to maintain national security of separate state or coalition of states, having common customs border.

Empirical foundations (methods of organization of observation, measurement, collection, recording and processing of information; identification of the object of influences; systematic change, variation, combination of conditions to obtain target results; rationalization, improvement of influences and dissemination of accumulated experience; mechanisms and factors that predetermine direction of regulatory influences of ETD processes, prescriptions, organizational and administrative and regulatory documents, instructions, methods etc.) serve as a means of establishing laws related to customs control.

Abstract bases are formed by methods and principles of construction and research of an idealized idea of ETD, study of operations of construction and justification of theoretical knowledge of ETD.

Conclusion

Thus, in the course of the post-World War II development of customs economics, a gap emerged between empirical and abstract-logical theories on ETD problems. It restrains the rate of growth in the productivity of both practical (operational) as well as theoretical activities. Therefore, it is necessary to overcome the systematic violation of the semantic organization of ETD theories that occurs within the epistemic construct "theme" between meaning-forming elements: goal, object, subject, task.

Observance of the semantic organization of theories will ensure the acceleration of obtaining of new theoretical generalizations, adequate forecasting of the main tendencies of ETD development, anticipating the possibility of new economic phenomena, processes, objects, their features; development of general methodological approaches to the research of the phenomenon and processes of ETD; generalization of the organizational experience gained in the practice of the economy of customs affairs with the purpose of its improvement on rational bases.

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