

# INFRASTRUCTURE AS A FACTOR OF COUNTRIES' DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS UNDER GLOBALIZATION CONDITIONS

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Conditions and features of the present stage of the global infrastructure development are analysed and determined in the article. The author's approach to the understanding of the infrastructure's nature and infrastructure system's one are proposed, the specific features of the infrastructure system are defined. Basic directions and mechanisms of the infrastructure's influence on the socio-economic development, competitiveness of countries are defined. The degree and significance of infrastructure for economic development and growth, ability to compete effectively in the geo-economic and geopolitical arena depending on the current level of development of the country are defined.

So, it is found that: 1) today, the value of an existing global infrastructure is estimated according to different approaches, 20-50 trillion dollars; 2) 75% of infrastructure that will take place in 2050 does not exist today; 3) in the next 15 years to meet the growing needs

of the population of the world in the infrastructure it is necessary to invest in its development 89-93 trillion dollars; 4) the main drivers of infrastructure development and growth are: increased urbanization, population growth and economic growth; infrastructure is the totality of institutions that provide general terms and the normal functioning of the economic, social, environmental and other spheres of society, its reproduction and development; 5) infrastructure development contributes to the economic development and growth; improvement of competitiveness, productivity, and maximization of competitive advantage; increase in the level of social and territorial cohesion, integration and inclusion; reduce in the level of social tension; increase in the level and quality of life, etc.; 6) the highest value of infrastructure as a factor of socio-economic growth and development, competitiveness is typical for developing countries, transition economies and heavily indebted poor countries.