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METHODS OF PROGNOSTICATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN CAPITALISM

Integration processes are always placed in history and their future — to varying degrees depending on time horizons — is defined by the present. The perspectives of these processes in capitalism are mainly defined on the basis of extrapolation methods. Integration processes, both in their "depthways" and "lengthways" development meet with all kinds of limitations (thresholds), which creates possibilities of using for the prognosticating of their development the threshold analysis method. However the forecasting of the qualitative aspects of integration requires the so-called national thinking; namely the reflexive-intuitive method. The usefulness of the taxonomic methods in prognosticating the integration processes in capitalism seems to be evident.

The choice of the right prognostication methods constitutes an important element of the prognostication technology. Not all methods have the same cognitive and practical advantage of the prognosticating of the economic integration development. It would also be inappropriate to limit oneself to just one of the many existing methods. The final evaluation of their utility should be preceded by a verification of each individual method.

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WEST EUROPEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION; PROSPECT AND PROGNOSTICATION OF ITS DEVELOPMENT

Against the background of some restraints and difficulties accompanying the European Common Market going on to higher maturity levels of economic integration there appear to be two variants of prospects of this organisation: a) the difficulties will strengthen the disintegration tendencies together with all the consequences for creating an economic union, b) the continuation of the initiated processes and their going on to higher levels of integration maturity is possible; the difficulties will slow down the speed of the development of these processes.

The prospect of the West European integration becomes more and more often a subject of interest for the Common Market itself. There also exist fragments of prognoses concerning the European Common Market prepared by various institutions, in which the Common Market's prognosis is part of a bigger whole and includes the period of time expected for the achievement of total integration. Among the conclusions resulting from comparing these prognoses, especially interesting are those which result from the confrontation of synthetic prognoses of the integration development ratios with the programme of the achievement of total integration. They point to the need for a new outlook on the principle and characteristics of the advancing economic integration.