Transbaikal territory as a vector of contemporary Russian-Chinese foreign trade relations

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Abstract. In the light of improvement and constant deepening of the Russian-Chinese foreign trade relations, the study of the foreign economic attractiveness of the border regions as the territories of greatest conjugation is of particular relevance. The article shows demand for the transit potential of the Trans-Baikal territory – one of the regions of the Russian Federation, which is a border area; examines the dynamics of the region's foreign trade. Based on the analysis of statistical data of the Federal Customs Service of Russia on the volume of exports and imports, as well as the range of goods transported across the border, the local features of foreign trade of Transbaikalye are identified. The article is also devoted to the economic attractiveness of the region for the People's Republic of China. Regional trends in foreign trade are identified and compared with the national ones.

The article also pays attention to the contradictions inherent in the foreign economic activity of the Trans-Baikal region and the problems that require attention of the local authorities and other stakeholders. The article highlights the economic advantages that can become «growth points» of the region, suggests the ways to solve problems, considers strategic prospect of the region as a potential contender for the role of «bridge» between the European part of Russia and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region.