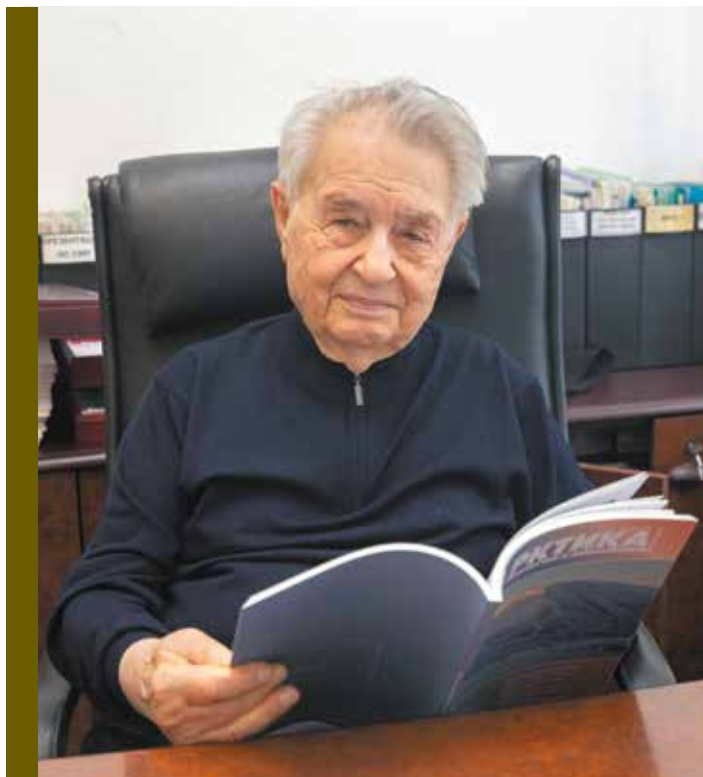


## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR- IN-CHIEF



### Dear readers, authors and reviewers of the Journal!

Exactly ten years ago, we published the first issue of our Journal, and now the 41st issue has already been prepared.

The idea we conceived - to highlight the results of scientific research in the study and socio-economic development of the Arctic region in connection with the increasing development of its natural resources and the general interest in the Arctic not only in Russia, but also in many other countries – we have been implemented for 10 years on the pages of our Journal.

The tasks that we set for the Journal (and these are: providing scientists with the opportunity to publish research results on Arctic issues and achieving international level of scientific publications of the Journal, attracting the attention of the scientific and business community to the most relevant and promising areas of scientific research on the Journal subject, as well as attracting authoritative domestic authors who are specialists of the highest level) we do successfully carry out.

The main topics of articles relate to such areas of knowledge as Earth sciences, environmental sciences, social and economic sciences. The Journal aims at highlighting the current state and development trends of the ecosystem of the Arctic region, discussing a wide range of problems related to the protection and preservation of nature, flora and fauna, with scientific justification of economic activity and environmentally

friendly technologies for the development of natural resources in the Arctic. The Journal publishes original works of scientists and specialists of research organizations, higher educational institutions, industrial enterprises and administrative structures of Russia on current problems of the Arctic, but so far we have very few foreign authors. We do hope to improve the situation. We invited well-known highly professional scientists from countries such as Norway, Finland, the United States of America, Azerbaijan and China to the Journal Editorial Board.

The Journal has 540 articles published by a little over 900 authors, two thirds of whom are Doctors and Candidates of Science. According to the reviews of a number of authors, materials from articles published in the Journal have already found their place in documents aimed at the socio-economic development of individual Arctic regions, worked out by the leadership of these regions and the country.

For a considerable period of 10 years, the formation of the Editorial Board, Editorial Staff and Editorial Office of the Journal took place, and strengthened the relations with many scientific, educational and industrial organizations, scientists and specialists in various fields of knowledge.

The growing attention to our publication expressed itself primarily in the increasing number of articles submitted for publication every year, as well as in

inviting us to participate as an information partner in various forums, conferences, seminars of both a general Arctic orientation and those related to those specialized scientific fields, covered in the Journal.

It is important to note the increased publication activity of the Journal. In this regard, we try to select for publications the articles that are most interesting for the reader's audience, deeply covering the topical problems of studying and developing the Arctic. We have adopted a double anonymous review to evaluate more objectively the material presented by the authors. Invaluable assistance in this work provided the members of the Editorial Board and the Editorial Staff, as well as scientists and specialists involved as reviewers. At the same time, the reviewers have always been highly professional specialists in their fields of knowledge and overwhelmingly responded to our appeals, thoroughly considering the articles, offering valuable and useful recommendations to authors regarding improving the quality of articles. Note that, at the same time, the share of articles rejected by the Editorial Board annually makes up a third of those received.

Every year we tried to improve our Journal, striving to make it interesting not only in Russia, but also abroad. Since 2017, we have done a lot to change the design of articles; they now have an English-language part with metadata of published articles. In the first quarter of 2019, we modernized considerably the Journal website taking into account the requirements of international scientometric databases (Scopus, WoS). The new functionality of the site implements a wide range of the user services and provides the ability to integrate into surfing systems both in the Russian and English-speaking segments of the Internet.

Without a doubt, the reach of a readership using articles posted on the site is significantly higher than familiarization with the printed version of the Journal. This became very noticeable after updating the site. It is appropriate to cite the following data here. According to statistics obtained using the Yandex-metric service, the number of visits to the Journal website from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021 increased by 87% compared to the same period in 2019 and amounted to 29,306 visits; the number of new visitors made 19,346 in 2020, i.e. an increase of 87.5% compared to 2019. The total number of views of the site active pages from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021 reached 65,337, with sufficient high average viewing depth of 2.23 pages per visit.

In 2019, we signed an agreement with the international bibliographic and abstract database EBSCO, our Journal is included in its Academic Search Ultimate database, which contains academic and news journals, periodicals, books, reports and videos that meet the needs of scientists in key scientific areas. This gives Russian scientists - our authors the opportunity to reach the international level of publications and make their research available to the world scientific community.

On the eve of the new year 2021, the Editorial Board of the Journal "Arctic: Ecology and Economics" received a decision of the Advisory Council on the selection of content to include the Journal in the international scientometric database Scopus. At the same time, the comments of the reviewer were given, in which it was noted that the Journal constantly includes scientifically based articles that are relevant to an international academic or professional audience in their fields, and also has scientific significance, which is confirmed by citing other journals that are currently included in Scopus. This is a worthy assessment of our common work. Cannot help noting that in Scopus we already have 87 citations of our articles for 2018-2020, while from 2011 to 2017 there were only 26.

Since July 2018, the Journal has been included in the Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI) database on the Web of Science platform. Although the Journal has been in this database relatively recently, there is also a decent growth in scientometric indicators, which at the end of 2020 were as follows: Hirsch index - 6, average number of citations of articles - 0.95.

It is also necessary to dwell on how the Journal positions itself in the Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI), which indexes 5000 journal titles. Our Journal indicators in the RSCI are growing every year. Over the past five years, it has consistently been in the third or fourth hundreds of the rating of Russian scientific journals with a two-year impact factor of at least 1.5. On the subject "Comprehensive study of individual countries and regions", which included 433 publications over the past five years, the Journal constantly takes the first or second place in the ranking of these publications.

Indeed, our editorial team does not intend to dwell on the achievements, we perfectly understand that the Journal must develop; the material of the articles published in it must be even more interesting and useful to the readership.

Taking into account the positive experience gained in preparing the Journal for filing an application with Scopus, this year we plan to submit an application to the Web of Science Core Collection. We will also try (perhaps, for now, selectively) to translate the published articles into English, involving the authors themselves, and post them in full on the English-language part of the Journal website.

I do sincerely hope that the joint efforts and enthusiasm of the Editorial Staff and authors will contribute to an influx of interesting articles, an increase in new knowledge about the Arctic and will be marked by a further improvement of the Journal authority in covering the problems of the study, exploration and socio-economic development of the Arctic and the preservation of its ecology.

**Ashot A. Sarkisov,  
Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences**