

FROM THE EDITOR

Currently, there is a tendency to translate Russian domestic science into English under the well-known slogans of overcoming the gap between Russian and foreign science. This trend manifests itself in different ways. It is a strict standardization of the structure of scientific articles based on English-language samples, a strict requirement to publish the results using Western databases, and even publications in domestic journals in English. Of course, science is international, and by and large it does not matter in what language an article is written if it presents a serious scientific result to the community of scientists. Nevertheless, the variety of approaches and styles that crystallize in different national cultures and languages is an extremely important resource for the development of thinking in general, and scientific thinking especially. The national language is also extremely important in the educational process where certain ideas about different spheres of reality are laid, and here it is important that it provides students both with a qualitative idea of different disciplines and with the possibility of reading popular scientific literature if they wish. In other words, it allows them to master near-scientific, and then scientific knowledge in their native language. There are only a few languages in the world that allow one to do science in any field of knowledge, and we can be proud that Russian is one of them. Its formation took almost two centuries of effort by philologists, poets, writers, and, of course, scientists in their fields.

It is natural to recall that for a long time Latin was the language of European science. Yet the situation with Latin is radically different from the situation with English because Latin was not the national language for any of the European culture of Modern times, whereas English is the native language of several modern nations. And these nations immediately have a serious advantage over others due to the fact that they begin to speak English from early childhood, then continue to learn it in school and vocational education, i. e. they have a rich and cultured language, which allows them to express scientific ideas better and more freely than others in this language. Secondly, native English speakers control most scientific journals and bibliographic and abstract databases, i. e. the main information resources.

Yes, from the point of view of entering the wide scientific world, the publication of articles and monographs in English in most scientific fields is both necessary and justified. However, this is neither necessary nor justified at the expense of the national scientific tradition, and a lot of work is needed to preserve it.

