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CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

**RURAL-URBAN RUSSIA: BETWEEN GLOBAL NORTH AND GLOBAL
SOUTH**

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The paper aims to show the general and specific features of rural development in Russia in comparison with global rural dynamics. From the Soviet period to the present day, Russia seems a huge, separate, and strange case. However, we can find similarities in Russia's everyday rural social structures with the countries of the wealthy North as well as the poor South, especially at various regional levels, where we can discover a surprisingly contradictory combination of highly developed and backward agriculture.

During the twentieth century, the initially great peasant country went through a risky experiment of total industrial collectivization. From the end of the 20th century to the present, the transformation of rural Russia has been carried out with the use of a strange mixture of liberal and state capitalism.

First, the paper considers the main structural characteristics of social and economic organization of rural Russia. Second, the paper underlines the most extreme regional differences of Russian rural-urban development. Finally, the paper analyzes the struggle between various ideologies of rural-urban development in Russia in comparison with the global agrarian and rural-urban agenda.

As a result, the paper highlights the coexistence of several parallel scenarios for Russia's rural development. First, the expansion of large agribusinesses. Second, the path of small agricultural enterprises and farms. Third, the path of subsistence farming of rural-urban households. The paper discusses the new course of rural-urban development of Russia and possible ways to integrate those polarizing rural social structures of Russia's internal 'global North' and 'global South'.

The description of rural social structure in Russia is based on various statistical indicators (governmental statistics as well as academic surveys). The ideological realm is analyzed on the basis of program documents of political parties, activists, influential academics, and media narratives.

Palavras-chave: russia; rural-urban development; differentiation; stratification; rural ideologies.