



ИНСТИТУТ ЭКОНОМИКИ РОССИЙСКОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК

**Основания и ограничения междисциплинарного синтеза в  
экономической теории**  
**Foundations and Limitations of Interdisciplinary Synthesis in  
Economic Theory**

**XI Европейско-Азиатский Симпозиум по Экономической Теории  
«Экономическая теория: поиск альтернатив развития»  
26-28 июня 2024 г., г. Екатеринбург**

**Кирдина-Чэндлер Светлана Георгиевна, д.с.н., к.э.н.**  
*Институт экономики РАН, г Москва*



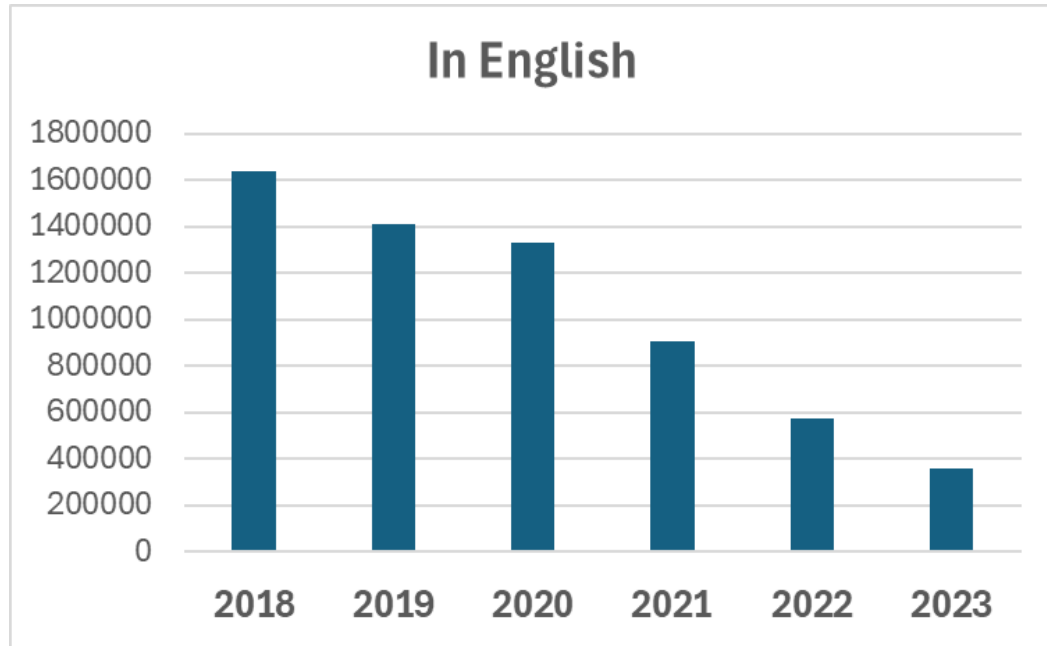
## Motivation

- What are the trends in synthesis and interdisciplinarity in economic theory?



- The main focus in this paper is the comparison between Russian-language and English-language discourses in economic theory on this topic.

# Total Number of **Economic Theory** Publications in English and Russian Languages, Google Scholar, 2018–2023, %





## Percentage of Publications on **Synthesis in Economic Theory** in the Total Number of Economic Theory Publications in English and Russian Languages, Google Scholar, 2018–2023, %

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Synthesis in Economic Theory* (in English)	8.2	10.7	14.1	17.4	28.8	28.1
Synthesis in Economic Theory (in Russian)	35.6	39.0	42.2	44.7	50.7	44.3



**Percentage of Publications on **Interdisciplinarity (Intradisciplinary)** in **Economic Theory** in the Total Number of Economic Theory Publications in English and Russian Languages, Google Scholar, 2018–2023, %**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Interdisciplinarity in Economic Theory <b>(in English)</b>	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.3	2.1	3.6
Interdisciplinarity in Economic Theory <b>(in Russian)</b>	25.2	27.1	30.0	31.2	32.3	30.9



## What is the reason for the identified differences?

- Features of Russian-language publications can be explained by the characteristics of Russian thinking, which are reflected in the discourse of Russian economics and social science. The “hard core” of Russian thinking includes “a holistic panorama of society, the comprehensiveness of the tasks of social development and the vision of the object of research, holism, universalism, synthesis of theories, social synthesis” (Karamova, 2013).
- In English-language literature there is a more pronounced tendency towards pluralism and diversification of economic theory than towards synthesis.



# Percentage of Publications on Synthesis in Economic Theory and **Pluralism + Diversity in Economic Theory** in the Total Number of Economic Theory Publications in English Language, Google Scholar, 2018–2023, %

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Synthesis in Economic Theory	8.2	10.7	14.1	17.4	28.8	28.1
Pluralism + Diversity in Economic Theory (in Russian 5-10%)	19.2	19.5	23.6	31.8	50.1	42.9



## Conclusion

- In the decreasing number of publications on economic theory, the number and share of works devoted to synthesis and interdisciplinarity in economic theory is growing. This is a worldwide trend.
- This is due, in our opinion, to the complication of economy as a subject of economic theory, which requires more complex approaches to its study.
- At the same time, Russian-speaking scientists, compared to English-speaking ones, are much more committed to the idea of synthesis in economic theory.
- English-speaking economists are more inclined to interdisciplinary interactions of economics with other disciplines and pluralism in economics than to synthesis.





**Kirdina-Chandler, S. G.** (2023). On Synthesis and Interdisciplinarity in Economics: Comparison of Russian and English Discourses. *AlterEconomics*, 20(1), 59–78 (In Russian).

<https://doi.org/10.31063/AlterEconomics/2023.20-1.4>



## Some literature

- Gräbner, C., Strunk, B. (2020). Pluralism in economics: its critiques and their lessons. *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 27(4), 311-329.
- Ross, D. (2022). Economics is converging with sociology but not with psychology. *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 1-22.
- Karamova O.V. (2013). Features of the development of Russian economic science: questions of methodology. Abstract of the Ph.D. thesis on the Higher Attestation Commission of the Russian Federation 08.00.01 (In Russ.)
- Khubiev K. A., Rassadina A. K. (2020) [Interdisciplinary method in economic theory: historical experience and prospects] *Vestnik Moskovskogo universiteta. Seriya 6. Ekonomika*, (2), 198–214 (in Russ.)
- Kirdina S.G. (2016). On some problems of contemporary Russian sociological discourse]. *Sociological Studies*, 3, 148-153 (in Russ)
- Orekhov A.M. (2018). Interdisciplinary synthesis and social-humanitarian sciences: on the question of clearing some concepts and vectors of research. *Socium and Power*], 3 (71), 91–97 (in Russ.).
- Truc, A., Santerre, O., Gingras, Y., Claveau, F. (2020). The Interdisciplinarity of Economics //Cambridge Journal of Economics. URL: <https://francoisclaveau.openum.ca/files/sites/69/2020/12/SSRN-id3669335.pdf>



**Спасибо за внимание!**

Светлана Георгиевна Кирдина-Чэндлер

**Thank you for your attention!**

Svetlana Kirdina-Chandler

[kirdina@inecon.ru](mailto:kirdina@inecon.ru)

[www.kirdina.ru](http://www.kirdina.ru)