

In Memory of the Great Economist Edmund Phelps: His Attention to the Russian Research School of Strategizing

In May of this year, the great economist of our time, the Nobel Prize-winning professor of Columbia University, Edmund Phelps, passed away. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his macroeconomic research and models that enhance the interdisciplinarity of economic analysis, developing links between economics and psychology, sociology and mathematics. Back in 1961, he ascended to the Olympus of economics by proposing his “Golden Rule of Capital Accumulation” — in fact, a mathematical formula that makes it possible to optimize the savings rate of the average citizen, contributing to the consumption of the maximum possible amount of goods and services throughout a person's life.

It is also important to emphasize that Edmund Phelps paid great attention to the research of economic strategy, which he considered as an effective mechanism for improving the quality of life of people, and not just achieving resource-based economic growth. It is this approach, which prioritizes the welfare of the population, that has brought our scientific interests closer together. Although this did not exclude heated discussions between us, including in a widely published and cited scientific article by E. Phelps's “A Good Economy for China”: “In his book “Mass Prosperity” I argue that the right model is a good economy, that is, an economy that offers a good life. Optimal resource allocation (of which efficiency is a part) is a necessary but insufficient property of a good economy. Indeed, a unilateral focus on boosting domestic consumption is likely to distract Chinese leaders from other measures necessary for a good economy. On this issue, I disagree with many economists, including my dear friends Joseph Stiglitz, Jean-Paul Fitoussi and Vladimir Kvint, who prefer to consider quality of life as the standard. By this, they mean mainly adequate consumption and sufficient leisure time, as well as public goods — for example, clean air, safe food and safe streets — and public amenities such as municipal parks and sports stadiums”².

E. Phelps also drew attention to some of my books. This includes the monograph “Strategy for the Global Market: Theory and Practical Applications”, about which E. Phelps wrote: “This groundbreaking book examines the concept of strategy, examines its development from ancient times to the present day and shows that it is the basis of economic growth and quality of life. Strategists, explains Quint, are working on finding new perspectives and designing new scenarios for the future. This original, deep and practical book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand modern economics.” Presenting my other book in October 2015 at Columbia University (USA), he said: “In his excellent book Strategic Management and Economics in the Global Emerging Market (The Global Emerging Market: Strategic Management and Economics) Vladimir Kvint appears to us as a thinker who has made an amazing career. This book is a treasure trove of the best strategic thoughts accumulated over the past century, which presents a wealth of past and present experiences that illustrate and confirm the author's vision of economic dynamism around the world. Vladimir Kvint outlines in concrete terms the role of creative thinking in shaping successful economies. The book will be a source of inspiration for economists studying emerging markets.” Of course, I am proud of this opinion of the great economist E. Phelps, with

² <https://www.interest.co.nz/business/82175/optimising-its-resource-allocation-far-all-china-must-do-boost-prosperity-it-time>

whom we have collaborated for many years and participated in a number of scientific conferences and forums in Russia, the USA, Sweden and China.

Among the numerous titles and scientific recognitions of E. Phelps, it can be noted that in 2011 he was elected a Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and in 2013, at the invitation of the Rector of Moscow State University, Academician V.A. Sadovnichy, he visited Moscow University and gave a public lecture in its main hall, and also took part in a discussion at the Moscow School of Economics and I talked with academician A.D. Nekipelov.

Blessed memory of the great economist Edmund Phelps, the 2006 Nobel Laureate in Economics...

Vladimir Kvint

纪念伟大的经济学家埃德蒙·费尔普斯： 他对俄罗斯战略化学派的关注

今年5月，当代伟大的经济学家、诺贝尔经济学奖获得者、哥伦比亚大学教授埃德蒙·费尔普斯（Edmund Phelps）离世。他因其宏观经济研究和模型而荣获诺贝尔奖，这些研究和模型增强了经济分析的跨学科性，发展了经济学同心理学、社会学和数学之间的联系。早在1961年，他便登上了经济科学的奥林匹克之巅，提出了自己的“资本积累黄金律”——本质上说，这是一个数学公式，能够优化普通公民的储蓄率，使其在一生中消费尽可能多的商品和服务。

还应强调的是，埃德蒙·费尔普斯十分重视经济战略研究，他将经济战略视为提高人民生活质量的有效机制，而不仅仅是实现有资源保障的经济增长的机制。正是这种关于人口福祉优先性的观点，使我们的科学兴趣更加接近。当然，这并不排除我们之间曾有尖锐的讨论，包括在埃·费尔普斯广泛发表并被引用的科学论文《A Good Economy for China》（《适合中国的好经济》）中，他写道：“在我的著作《大繁荣》中，我认为，正确的模式是良好经济，即一种提供良好生活的经济。资源的最优配置（效率是其中的一部分）是良好经济的必要条件，但并非其充分条件。事实上，单方面专注于提高国内消费，可能会使中国领导人偏离建设良好经济所需的其他措施。在这一问题上，我不同意许多经济学家的看法，包括我的亲爱的朋友约瑟夫·斯蒂格利茨、让-保罗·菲图西和弗拉基米尔·昆特，他们更愿意把生活质量视为标准。他们所谓的生活质量，主要是指充足的消费和闲暇时间，以及公共品——例如清洁空气、安全食品和安全街道——以及公共设施，如市政公园和体育场馆”³。

此外，埃·费尔普斯也关注过我的若干著作。其中包括专著《Strategy for the Global Market: Theory and Practical Applications》（《全球市场战略：理论及其实践应用》）。关于这本书，埃·费尔普斯写道：“在这部开创性的著作中，作者研究了战略概念，考察了它从古代到今天的发展，并表明战略是经济增长和生活质量的基础。昆特解释说，战略家致力于寻找新的前景并为未来设计新的情景。所有希望理解现代经济的人，都应当阅读这本原创、深刻而实用的著作”。2015年10月，他在美国哥伦比亚大学介绍我的另一本书《The Global Emerging Market: Strategic Management and Economics》（《全球新兴市场：战略管理与经济学》）时说：“在他的杰出著作《全球新兴市场：战略管理与经济学》中，弗拉基米尔·昆特作为一位拥有令人惊叹职业生涯的思想家呈现在我们面前。这本书是过去一个世纪积累的最佳战略思想的宝库，其中呈现了丰富的过去与现在的经验，用以阐释并印证作者对世界经济活力的理解。弗拉基米尔·昆特以具体的术语阐述了创造性思维在成功经济形成过程中的作用。这本书将成为研究新兴市场的经济学家的灵感源泉”。当然，我为伟大经济学家埃·费尔普斯给予的这种评价感到自豪；多年来，我们一直合作，并共同参加了在俄罗斯、美国、瑞典和中国举办的一系列科学会议和论坛。

在埃·费尔普斯众多头衔和学术荣誉中，值得一提的是：2011年，他当选为俄罗斯科学院外籍院士；2013年，应莫斯科国立大学校长、院士维克多·安东诺维奇·萨多夫尼奇的邀请，他访问了莫斯科大学，在主礼堂发表公开讲座，还参加了莫斯科经济学院的讨论，并与院士亚历山大·德米特里耶维奇·涅基佩洛夫进行了交谈。

永远缅怀伟大的经济学家、2006年诺贝尔经济学奖获得者埃德蒙·费尔普斯...

弗拉基米尔·昆特

³ <https://www.interest.co.nz/business/82175/optimising-its-resource-allocation-far-all-china-must-do-boost-prosperity-it-time>