

Review

of the member of the dissertation council for the dissertation of Galustov Kirill Artemovich on the topic:  
**«SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION OF CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN CITY UNDER THE IMPACT OF THE URBAN REGIMES»**, submitted for the degree of candidate/doctor of geographical sciences (candidate/doctor of sciences in Geography) in scientific speciality 1.6.13. Economical, social, political and recreational geography

This thesis examines divergent actions and interests of actors in cities, along with Stone's theory of urban regimes. It is argued that urban regime refers to a set of agreements and relationships between actors forming a coalition. Through the case study of such cities as Saint Petersburg, other large Russian cities (Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Vologda), it contributes to the literature on the understanding of the modality of urban spatial transformation in general and that of Russia in particular. The research methods are marked by a mixed method covering both quantitative studies and qualitative studies. It is found Russian cities is mainly featured by a gradual transition from a growth regime to a progressive middle-class regime, along with the growing role of social activism and the emergence of a new balance of interests of actors, plus there is a process of transformation of the functional purpose of urban space from commercial and business to social and recreational. The study is largely based on a comprehensive literature review of recent studies. The research design is basically appropriate. And the major findings are also solid. All the thesis indicates that this applicant has mastered needed academic trainings to conduct independent research, especially from the field of geography, sociology, and spatial analysis.

A critical comment for this thesis is about strengthen the policy implications section, discussing how the research findings can inform urban governance and planning policies in Russia. So, I suggest it to provide more specific recommendations for government, businesses, and civil society based on the research findings.

Considering the above, I believe that Galustov Kirill Artemovich's dissertation on the topic: **«SPATIAL TRANSFORMATION OF CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN CITY UNDER THE IMPACT OF THE URBAN REGIMES »** meets the requirements of speciality 1.6.13. Economical, social, political and recreational geography;

The dissertation is a scientific qualification work that resolves a scientific problem important for the development of the relevant field of science and provides new science-based technical, technological or other solutions and developments vital for the national development.

No violations of paragraphs 9 and 11 of the Order No.11181/1 as of November 19, 2021 "On the Procedure for Awarding Academic Degrees at St. Petersburg State University" have been detected.

The dissertation meets the criteria of dissertations for the academic degree of candidate/doctor of sciences, established by the specified Order. The dissertation is recommended for the defense at St. Petersburg State University.

Member of the dissertation council

Doctor, Professor, Dean of the School of Urban Design, Wuhan University

 (signature)

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