

C06-O06

SINGLE-INDUSTRY CITIES AND SETTLEMENTS OF MURMANSK REGION: CHALLENGES AND WAYS FORWARD

Yuliya Zaika (*The Faculty of Geography Lomonosov Moscow State University (Khibiny scientific station), Russian Federation*)

Elena Golubeva (*The Faculty of Geography Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russian Federation*)

yzaika@inbox.ru

Monocity is a structural leftover of soviet governmental policy oriented on extraction of natural resources at large scales. The monocity (one-field city, single enterprise city, single-industry city etc.) is the city or settlement with the main township-forming enterprise the development of which determines and influences all the aspects of economic and social activities within the city/settlement. This means that the life of local population of monocity highly depends on the main direction of development of the township-forming enterprise. The most part of those enterprises are extractive industries.

The Arctic is known as one of the wealthiest territories for natural resources on the one hand and is one of the most vulnerable regions to any changes on the other hand. Changes in climate may become a major factor in accelerating or influencing social and economic changes and they should be observed in order to understand how these changes impact the overall capacity of people in the Arctic to adapt to contemporary and possible climate changes.

Murmansk region with its numerous industries (metallurgical, nuclear power, hydroelectric power, mining, fisheries etc.) and as one of the biggest and heavily industrialized area of the Arctic is of special interest. Over 150000 people live in single-industry cities and settlements of Murmansk region which makes the local government to think of any possible sustainable ways of development of these cities.

We aim to examine the current status of these cities and settlements and suggest a list of most common challenges which may force to lead to the depressive or progressive way of development. For this reason, we are implementing structured interviews on quality of life with local resident of these cities, surveys, analytical and statistical periodical issues published by local government and variety of meetings and discussions with industry decision makers.

In this work we want to present preliminary results.