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Resource Dependency – Russia beyond a Resource curse?

**Vienna Anthropology Days
Workshop B: Arctic Life and Extractive Industries – A
multi-disciplinary approach**

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Outline

- 1) Theoretical thoughts on resource-extractivism
→ mode of development**
- 2) Russia and resource based development
→ Role model for resource-extractivism?
→ Conflicts around this mode of development**
- 3) Interdisciplinary framework for resource-extractivism?**



Resource-extractivism and Political Economy

Resource-extractivism

- Mode of development, not a mere technical-economic process**
- Shapes power and societal structures both on national and international level (Internalization of external interests)**

Cleavages national level:

- Commodification of nature**
- Appropriation of resource-rents: Unequal distribution**
- sustainability**



Resource-extractivism and Political Economy

Reproduction of power relations on international level:

- Focus on foreign trade, but: highly dependent on import of foreign technology (industrial goods) and foreign capital**

→ “passive extraversion” = form of conditioning of economic development through foreign capital (Becker 2008)

→ Resource-extractivism = specific form of capitalistic development: Peripheral societal development



Resource-extractivism and Political Economy

Tendency to expand to “unproductive” territory (Svampa 2012)

**→ crowding-out of other forms of production
(subsistence economy)**

**→ Enclave economies (directly linked to the world-
market) → Uneven development within a country**

Uneven development approach:

**Dialectic relation between territorial adjustment and
differentiation (Neumann/Wissen 2008)**

**→ World-market as a constitutive category: growth-
paradigm produces constant demand for resources**



Resource-extractivism and Political Economy

Resource-extractivism and Uneven development: Dialectic relation

- 1. Resource-extractivism = Product of uneven development**
 - Peripheral world-market integration: Raw-material supplier for industrial countries**
 - national development structurally limited**
- 2. Resource-extractivism = Reason for uneven development → structural limitation increases gap between (semi-)peripheral and core countries/regions₆**



Russian Case Study I

High dependency on natural resources:

(Share of non-renewable energy sources (oil, gas and coal) in total exports almost 70 %, Russland-Analysen 2014)

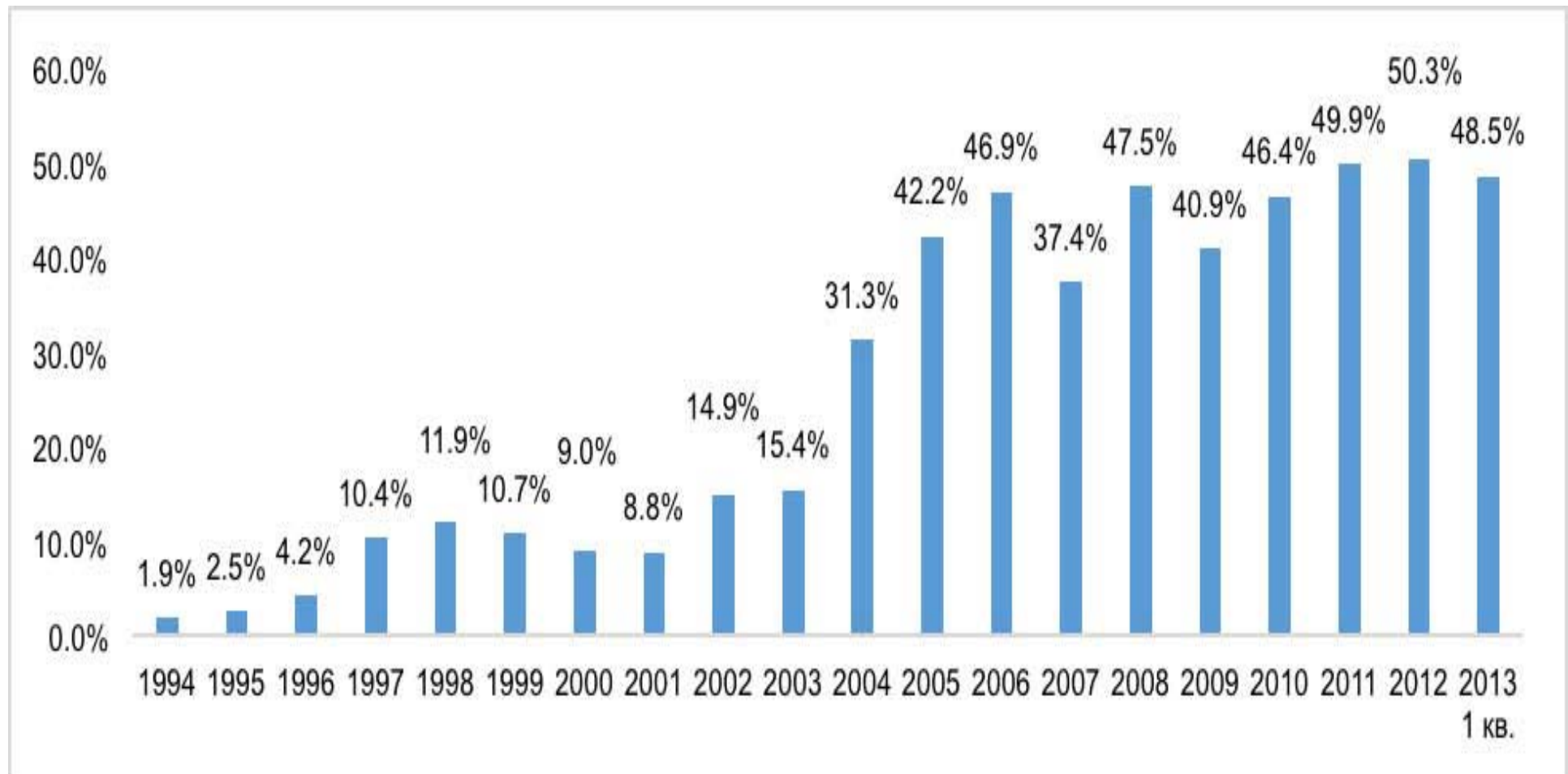
Increased since dissolution of Soviet Union

**Major infrastructural projects: Pipeline construction
(North Stream, Sibirian Strength)**

**Dominant economic sectors: Resource-extraction,
Finance & Banking, Construction, Commerce, Nuclear
& Arms industries**



Share of Oil and Gas in Federal Budget Revenues





Russia's 10 largest enterprises by sales

Rank	Company	Sector	Sales 2007 USD	Sales 2006 USD
1	Gazprom	Oil and Gas	93 450,6	84 132,5
2	Lukoil	Oil and Gas	67 205,0	57 971,7
3	Russian Railways	Transport	38 138,8	33 187,9
4	Rosneft	Oil and Gas	35 323,0	22 991,4
5	RAO UES Russia	Electricity	32 122,5	27 271,0
6	TNK-BP Holding	Oil and Gas	24 940,0	23 561,1
7	Surgutneftegaz	Oil and Gas	24 131,3	20 587,7
8	Sberbank	Banking	20 555,2	15 018,6
9	Norilsk Nickel	Non-ferrous Metals	16 475,0	12 159,0
10	Severstal	Ferrous Metals	15 244,9	13 232,6



Russia's top-10 exporters

Rank	Company	Branch	Exports 2001 USD	Exports 2007 USD
1	Gazprom	Oil and Gas	16 400,0	40 800,0
2	Lukoil	Oil and Gas	6 624,5	66 358,0
3	Yukos	Oil and Gas	5 682,2	n.a.
4	TNK	Oil and Gas	5 597,3	17 800,0
5	Surgutneftegaz	Oil and Gas	2 356,0	13 600,0
6	RusAl	Non-ferrous Metals	2 231,6	12 235,0
7	Tatneft	Oil and Gas	2 136,0	7 600,0
8	Slavneft	Oil and Gas	1 762,7	n.a.
9	Norilsk Nickel	Non-ferrous Metals	1 754,5	14 600,0
10	Sibneft	Oil and Gas	1 650,7	12 900,0



Russia's top-10 foreign investors 2007

Rank	Company	Foreign assets, USD bln	Principal host countries
1	Lukoil	23 512	Baltic States, CIS, Finland, Iraq, USA, Venezuela
2	Gazprom	12 132	EU and CIS countries, Turkey
3	Norilsk Nickel	8 965	Botswana, South Africa, USA
4	Severstal	4 546	Italy, USA
5	Evrast Holding	4 450	USA
6	RusAl	3 925	Armenia, Australia, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Nigeria
7	Altimo	3 825	Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
8	Mobile TeleSystems	2 000	Belarus, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
9	VimpelCom	1 350	Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
10	Novolipetsk Metal	1 050	Belgium, France, Italy, USA



Russian Case Study II

Official goal to overcome one-sided mode of development:

- **Modernisation-discourse (Importsubstitution, Re-industrialisation, economic growth)**
- **High-tech-clusters (Skolkovo, Nanotechnology)**
- **„National-industrial champions“ (Aircraft, arms industry, nuclear industry)**



Conclusion

Resource-extractivism = mode of development

- needs to be contextualized within the capitalist mode of production**
- complex relation between world-market and local level is reproduced on all levels of societal interaction**
- category for (interdisciplinary) analysis?**



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