**1st homework for the course “Russian economy: Opportunities and challenges for doing business”, 2021, Fall. Deadline – 18th of November 2021, 23:55.**

1. What are the weaknesses of the present Russian economy in your view? What are the factors (history, physical geography, policy (current and/or in the past), etc.) behind these weaknesses?
2. What are the strengths of the present Russian economy in your view? What are the factors (history, physical geography, policy (current or in the past), etc.) behind these strengths?

The homework is to be in the form of essay. It should be around 2 pages (font size 12, space 1.5). The answers to the above questions are to be largely based on the lectures 1-4 of this course. However, you are strongly advised to use, in addition, other sources (academic articles, data/statistics, reports, etc.). It is recommended to use similar citations strategy as for term paper (see instructions for term paper).

The essay is to be submitted as Turnitin assignment and, hence, it will be checked for plagiarism. The threshold plagiarism percentage is 10% (i.e. when it does not affect the grade). If the plagiarism percentage is higher, the essay will be checked for plagiarism issues more closely and it can affect the grade if real plagiarism is found. In some cases with high plagiarism percentage, there is no real plagiarism (this happens when the automatic plagiarism system does not ”notice” references, etc.). Then, there will not be any penalty. Please, contact me (Svetlana Ledyaeva; email: svetlana.ledyaeva@aalto.fi) if your plagiarism percentage is high but you are sure that there is no plagiarism in your essay. I will check it and tell you my opinion.