

ACCOUNTING IN MODERN ECONOMICS: INFLUENCE OF NEOCLASSICAL TRADITION

Kovalev Valery V.

St. Petersburg State University, 7/9 Universitetskaya nab., St. Petersburg, 199034 Russia

Kovalev Vitaly V.

St. Petersburg State University, 7/9 Universitetskaya nab., St. Petersburg, 199034 Russia

Abstract

Recently, the development trends of the world economy have a significant impact on the formats for reporting data and on the accounting procedure itself. Accounting, especially in developing economies, is faced with new challenges, to which it, in a certain sense, tries to adapt or transform them into an acceptable form. In this article the basic ideas related to rethinking the functional purpose, logic and principles of accounting are discussed in accordance with emerging trends that have developed in recent years both in advanced and developing economies. The central core of these arguments is the relation between accounting and neoclassical theory of finance at the present stage. Ideas explained in the paper are particularly useful for researchers trying to understand the complexities of transformation methodology and accounting practices in modern economic circumstances.

Keywords: accounting, challenges, emerging markets, neoclassical theory.

JEL code: M410, M480

Introduction

Neoclassical economics is a theory that focuses on how the perception of efficacy or usefulness of products affects market forces: supply and demand. Neoclassical theory considers pricing both from the position of the consumer (demand), and from the position of the producer (supply). In relation to the company, this implies, among other things, the maximization of profits with considering the limited demand for company's products.

Considering the firm's finances in this case we can talk about the neoclassical theory of finance. Neoclassical theory of finance is a set of theoretical and methodological constructions that describe the principles of financial management of the public sector of the economy, corporations and households. In the most general form, the neoclassical theory of finance can be defined as a system of theoretical constructs on the management of financial flows within four major interrelated spheres: (1) public finance, (2) corporate finance, (3) finance for non-profit organizations, and (4) household finance.

The special role of accounting in the context of financial decision making is explained by the obvious circumstance that such decisions can be made only if there is adequate information support of the proper degree of reliability. The problem of adaptation of accounting to new challenges in finance is especially relevant for emerging markets and Russia, in particular. Recently, in connection with new trends in the digital economy, some scientists and heads of several ministries and departments in Russia have begun to actively propagate the idea of the withering away of a number of professions, including the profession of an accountant. The authors of this article believe that in this case there is a substitution of concepts: the problems of the

inevitable improvement of the technological aspects of information support of business are unjustifiably transformed into a discussion about the need, usefulness and relevance of a particular profession. In fact, the situation is radically different – in the context of the ever-expanding internationalization of business and the strengthening of the role of financial markets, the significance of accounting as a specific area of human activity will only increase. The reason is obvious: it is the accounting department that prepares financial statements, which are the main means of communication in the business environment. Understanding of the basic ideas of accounting and, consequently, the ability to adequately perceive the mentioned means of communication is vital for all participants of business relations. The history of modern accounting has more than 500 years. Over the years, many changes have taken place in the accounting. At the end of the twentieth century, new trends and challenges began to take shape with regard to the place and role of accounting in the economy.

According to the classification of the IMF, all countries are divided into two categories: (a) advanced economies, and (b) emerging markets and developing economies. At present, the global community is to align and harmonize the growth rates of emerging economies, which has the aim of raising the standard of living in these countries. The solution to this problem is not possible without harmonization of the basic methodological, methodical and organizational parameters of the economy as a whole, including such an important component of it, as accounting.

At the same time, many innovations in accounting are tested and used exclusively in developed countries. It's not just the development and strength of the country's economy. Innovations are actively used only when the society has reached a certain understanding of the need for such changes. In other words, the introduction, for example, of environmental accounting can be imperative, by the strength of the state, but in this case it will be perceived as a kind of burden for doing business. Only when the society realizes the need for efforts in this direction, the business will respond to it with information on environmental activity. Unfortunately, to a certain extent this is inherent only in developed countries.

Existing country differentiation in accounting methodology and technique is supplemented by the emergence of problems related to the re-interpretation of the functional purpose of accounting as an essential component of any economic system. In particular, the accounting and the financial sector in recent years is undergoing significant changes related to the development and implementation of the ideas of conceptual framework of accounting, which implies a new understanding of how proper accounting and related fields, including analysis and financial analysis. This process has at least two distinctive features: (a) it is invariant with respect to any country; (b) it is far from being complete.

Russia is one of the most prominent representatives of emerging economies, where for many years of Soviet period accounting science and practice have evolved on the basis of principally other concepts than in advanced countries. The fundamental change of orientation in the political and economic development has led to the need of introducing a fundamentally new methodological basis in the field of accounting and reporting. The authors considered that it is advisable to structure the article on the main logically separate topics that reveal the most significant challenges and tasks facing accounting at the present stage.

1. Accounting and Finance. Traditionally, accounting was considered as an independent field of economic knowledge and practice. Since the market economy is an economy based on contracts (financial), the idea of close integration of accounting with finance and law is gaining increasing recognition. If the relationship with the law concerns mainly the regulatory aspects of accounting, the interpenetrating relationship with the finance belongs to the essential characteristic and methodological aspects of accounting. One explanation is obvious – users of the product of

accounting activities are primarily related to the financial aspects of the business. In other words, accounting and finance can be viewed as twin brothers. Since the financial side of business is strictly speaking the main thing, it is obvious that the role and importance of accounting will only increase. It also follows from this that the emphasis in accounting will shift from the procedural side of it to the essential, that is, the financial one.

Accounting now prepares information for the company's financial departments as well as for all stakeholders. In 2016 Moehrle et al. (2016) reviewed articles published in leading accounting journals in 2015¹. Most of the articles in these journals are directly or indirectly focused on the financial aspects of the company's activities. The research topics usually have an applied financial nature and we can argue that they are of interest to the financial departments of firms.

Researching the subject matter of articles in accounting journals is quite popular in any time. Based on the subject of research, we can recognize the trends in accounting science and practice. A detailed review of the main fields of research was given by Walker (2016). Regarding the subject of the study, it should be noted that the historical subject remains invariably popular in accounting journals. Indeed, 20% of the journal's pages from 1976 to 2005 were filled with historical content (Napier, 2006, p.506)

2. Purpose of accounting: control vs communication. An essential feature of any economy is the pursuit of growth. This growth, by definition, cannot be flat, stable and, moreover, is constantly accelerating. To a large extent and the pace of its parameters depend on how comfortable business environment feels in general, and its backbone element – the company, in particular. This, at first glance, fairly obvious truth had in common, clearly articulated the recognition, in general, not too long ago (by the standards of the society and economic development), and the manifestation of this recognition is taken by the international community in the recent joint efforts and actions to streamline and optimize the conditions for the functioning of economic entities. Among these actions – the improvement and standardization of specific information support business. Modern business cannot function successfully in the information vacuum that is obvious, but even in the conditions of information stochastics. Completely eliminate the stochastic component of information support is not possible in principle, but there is a certain segment of identifiable unification and standardization.

In the middle of the XX century the basic objectives of financial accounting were viewed more broadly to include stewardship and decision usefulness for multiple users, including public utility regulators and public policy makers, not just stockholders and creditors (Nürnberg, 2012, p.75).

The fact that a significant portion of the data, potentially carrying information, and (most importantly!) have the properties of reliability, relevance and verifiability, generated this particular system, and its main product (the public statements) is a universal information resource, which is of great interest for an extremely wide range of users. This resource has recently just become the object of attention not only accounting professionals, but, first of all, referred to potential users, which explains the significant changes in both the accounting and the principles of its interaction with the business environment. The essence of the changes – to change the functional accounting purposes: dominant control and analytical functions (assessment of resource allocation efficiency, controlled by economic subject) gave way to a dominant function of information and

¹ The list of journals analyzed by the authors is as follows.: The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Contemporary Accounting Research, Accounting Horizons, The Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance, Journal of Accounting and Public Policy, Journal of Business, Finance & Accounting, Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory, and Research in Accounting Regulation.

communication (provision of data, in the first place, potentially useful for making investment and financial decisions and, secondly, reducing the level of uncertainty in relations between independent economic entities). About the changes that have occurred is the fact that clearly shows a change in name of international accounting standards: if originally they were called as the International Accounting Standards (IAS), that since 2001 these standards began to be under the title of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). And it is not just a name change. The main thing in the account (and it should reflect the standards) – not accounting technique itself, not a procedure, but the output product focused on the different categories of users, i.e. public financial reporting.

When we talk about IFRS, we cannot fail to mention the problem of interpretation of standards when translating them into other languages by cutting English. Hellmann et al. (2010) provide several examples of translations errors which may cause problems concerning the consistent application of IFRS leading to different accounting practices across countries.

Moreover, the information orientation of financial statements sometimes leads to much unexpected results. In 2012 Fu et al. (2012) showed that higher reporting frequency reduces information asymmetry and the cost of equity. The authors made more than 3000 observations and found that the high information availability of the company contributes to the reduction of the company's own capital cost

3. Interpretation of Accounting. The vast majority of scientists and experts, educated in Soviet-style training of economists, is inherent in the traditional understanding of accounting as an absolutely mundane practice-oriented discipline, which is in the mechanical performance of some technical procedures prescribed by the accounting regulator (in fact, the higher authorities). Western researchers in describing the purpose of accounting focused on the political, economic and cultural environment in which the account is presented. The political economy of accounting is a term presented by Tinker (1980). The nature of accounting is constructed by the exercise of social and political power (Lehman & Tinker. 1987). And in our time, researchers still note the close relationship of accounting and socio-economic environment. Craig & Amernic (2006) have identified a relationship between the technical side of accounting and its social and ideological aspects. Accounting was influenced by the processes of change involving the State, political ideologies, organizational forms, customers, voters at the local and national level, markets and financiers (Hooks & Stewart. 2015, p.87).

Without denying the existence of a close relationship between accounting and culture, politics and religion, we still need to distinguish the main interpretation of accounting. An obvious consequence of a fundamental change in the target destination is the accounting change and its interpretation: in modern economics accounting is appropriate to treat as the science about financial model of the company.

4. The effects of changes in accounting treatment. Focusing on information and communication functions of accounting resulted in the following:

- development of a fundamentally different model of public reporting (financial supplement components of non-financial performance, reflecting the general economic and social importance of economic entities);
- unification of accounting standards in international and national contexts;
- idea of the conceptual foundations of accounting as a kind of alternative to focus on professional standards of technical purpose;
- introduction of accounting estimates, other than historical, in order to improve a predictive value of public reporting;

- number of potential users;
- harmonization of relations between accountants and users of accounting control;
- develop and implement educational programs to improve professional-term (financial) literacy custom housing with the aim of improving the culture and skills to work with public statements.

Greater attention to the information orientation of accounting has laid the foundations for strengthening research in the part of the predictive value of accounting information. Periodically, even in the leading accounting journals we can find studies in which not only the current methodology of accounting is criticized, but more global conclusions are given, for example, the uselessness of accounting information for prognostic purposes (see Drake et al. (2016)). Other authors are more loyal to modern accounting, but they indicate the need for sufficiently serious changes in the current methodology. It is, for example, the extensive use of fair value measurements. Fair value measurements may augment forecasting, providing more timely data than historical cost measurements. Of course, IFRS standards have long advocated the expansion of the use of fair value measurements, but historical measurements are still dominant in the information content of accounting data. Moreover, the use of fair value measurements is fully in line with the global scope of accounting and the strengthening of its information orientation. For instance, Ayres et al. (2017) have found a positive relationship between fair value asset holdings and forecast accuracy. The conclusion is again obvious - orientation of accounting for a wide range of stakeholders and strengthening the predictive value of accounting data.

5. Changes in accounting methodology and procedure. The essence of the changes is to implement the idea of a two-level system of professional standards, which include: a) a block of conceptual orientation standards (known as the conceptual framework of accounting) as the quintessence of the reliability concept and impartiality (true and fair view), based on the professional judgment of an accountant, his knowledge, skills, ethics; b) the unit of professional orientation standards defining principles of logic and reflection technique based on the types of situations and specific objects.

In addition to the organizational changes essential innovation in accounting procedure can be noted. In particular, we are talking about emerging accounting objects which did not exist previously. According to Zimmerman (2015, p. 487) traditional “nineteenth-” and “twentieth-century firms” relied on large amounts of physical capital. “Twenty-first century firms” are now more knowledge-based, requiring human capital to generate their intangible assets. He also predicted that the role and place of intangible assets will grow much more rapidly. The share of these assets in the balance sheet will increase. Moreover the basic principles of accounting can be modified in the future. In particular Srivastava (2014) argues that knowledge-based firms should have a lower correlation between their revenues and expenses than traditional firms because a larger fraction of their expenses are really investments in intangible intellectual property.

At the same time, there was a change in the interpretation of the peculiar significance of the financial reporting forms. The resources represented in the asset of the balance were considered as the main factors of the company's productive forces, and the money was perceived as an intermediate, temporary stage in the circulation of resources, which in future will be transformed into some property values (fixed assets, inventories, and so on.). Thus, the value of monetary resources was implied only in the ability of further transformation into assets that create the final product of the economic activity of the firm. That is why traditionally the balance was perceived as the main form of financial reporting, which fully contains a list of those material resources of the firm that embody its production power. However, the changing conditions of management have

left a peculiar imprint on the perception of the significance of reporting forms - the significance of the company's profit and loss account began to increase. The logic of this process is that it is important not only what resources the company has, but, above all, how effectively they manage them in the current financial and economic activity. This process is particularly noticeable in relation to firms whose securities are quoted on stock exchanges - investors are more likely to pay attention to the current performance of the company, rather than to the list of those resources that it has. Moreover, in recent years a fundamentally new stage in the transformation of the significance of the company's financial model, represented by its reporting forms, has begun to take shape. It can be expressed by the following thesis: the important thing is not even the size of the financial result of the company, it is important what kind of cash flows the company generates, and with what frequency and sufficient resistance to external shocks. Thus, the emphasis in a unique assessment of the value of the reporting forms smoothly shifted first from the balance sheet to the profit and loss account, and then to the cash flow statement.

Moreover, at present, information is considered to be the most valuable resource. The digital economy of the 21st century differs in fundamental respects from the industrial economy of the 20th. The most obvious difference is the dominant role of a single sector, information and communication technology, as the primary source of innovation. The role of accounting in the digital economy is currently one of the most promising topics for research. Situation in many ways is complicated by the fact that researchers on different interpretations of the self-completion of the digital economy. For some critical moments in the accounting system in this connection see Quiggin (2014) and Smith & Cordina (2014).

6. Accounting: the relationship between theory and practice. Deegan (2014) prepared a brief overview of theories of accounting and their correspondence with practice (Deegan, 2014, pp. 7 – 16). Moreover the history of the accounting indicates that its evolution basically repelled by the requests and wishes of practice¹. In part, this explains the rather common (especially in academic economics circles) interpretation of accounting as a purely practical technology, is hardly relevant to science. Researchers, and especially the representatives of the UK-USA school of accounting and finance applications, demonstrated the fallacy of such an interpretation. Understandable, and some of the obvious explanations put forward by accounting theorists: development of the concept of true and fair view, its informal implementation, forming a conceptual orientation of the standards, the adoption of the idea of having in account the uncertainty and variability, etc. are possible only with proper theoretical design of logic, methodology postulates and accounting principles as one of the most important components of the business environment.

One of the specific features of the discussions among Russian economists is the question of the validity of the treatment of accounting as a science. The reason is obvious: for many years accounting in the USSR was considered primarily from the standpoint of technical procedures. On the contrary, Western scholars have carried out numerous studies proving the validity of the treatment of accounting as a science in the context of the paradigm theory of Kuhn (see, for example, Cushing (1989), Peasnell (1978)). The authors of this article share the opinion of their Western colleagues (for more details, see: Kovalev, Kovalev (2013, 2015)).

Recently, in the scientific and professional environment, interest in the formation of various mathematical models in accounting and finance has increased significantly. Even in the field of accounting theory, the scientific community welcomed mathematical modeling. Moreover, this

¹ More information about this evolution in the USA can be found in (Zeff, 1999). This article served as the basis for the study of this trend on a global scale (Zeff, 2013).

trend has deeply penetrated into the sphere of accounting education. Apostolou et al. (2017) investigated 2023 articles published in 299 issues of the six accounting education journals for the 20-year period ended in 2016. In 695 articles (34%) they found mathematical models in which conclusions were derived from an analysis of data. Certainly, modern research in the economy is impossible without the use of mathematical methods of analysis. Nevertheless it is necessary to remember the words of the English scientist Thomas H. Huxley (1825-1895) that “mathematics may be compared to a mill of exquisite workmanship, which grinds you stuff of any degree of fineness; but, nevertheless, what you get out depends upon what you put in; and as the grandest mill in the world will not extract wheat-flour from peasecod, so pages of formulae will not get a definite result out of loose data” (see Gaither's Dictionary (p. 1305)).

7. Public reporting as the main accounting product. The accounting system has to deal with the huge volume of information data, that can in principle be focused on two important, but fundamentally different categories of users – internal and external (in relation to the company). Integration processes in the economy, its internationalization and the role of financial markets in the business environment significantly change the value of data, potentially useful for decision-making investment and financial nature. That is why public statements (its content, filling logic, analytical and forecasting capabilities, and so on.) get a high priority among the other possible products, potentially generated in the accounting system.

Despite all sorts of criticism of accounting data this information is still the basis for making management decisions. Moreover, in the most dynamic business environment, in particular, activity in the stock market, investors still made decisions based on public financial reporting. Of course, the importance of this information is a matter of discussion in the scientific and professional communities. At the same time, it cannot be denied that accounting data is currently the only information that is structured, processed and presented according to uniform rules. And, most importantly, it is verifiable. We can formulate a fairly wide range of claims to reporting forms, but we cannot do something better than these indicated forms. Moreover, Tahat & Alhadab (2017) showed that even in the circumstances of the financial crisis, in the situation of absolute unpredictability, the accounting data does not lose its significance when making managerial decisions. Of course, this is also due to the fact that all other sources of information are even more unpredictable. We can cite such an abstract example; all analysts somehow recognize the weaknesses of the US dollar (the huge debt of the US, the insecurity of the national currency, etc.). However, in crisis conditions, an absolute majority of investors prefer dollar assets to others.

8. Public reporting and the user. Accountants make statements, not for a demonstration of its own, in a sense of endless possibilities with regard to the volume of potentially disclosed data. They have to not only take into account the constraints on the part of top management, but also focus on the users' requests. In addition, it is understood that reporting would be useful in making financial decisions. And this, in turn, presupposes the existence of a sufficiently broad class of intelligent and qualified users. In other words, under the present conditions dramatically increases the importance of training programs, not only accountants' and financiers', but also all participants' in the business environment.

New technologies bring to the accounting and audit professions new challenges. While the practice of Internet financial reporting has evolved rapidly, research has questioned the corresponding responsiveness of the auditing profession. In 2016 Fisher & Naylor (2016) study the existence and nature of an expectations gap that may have arisen in relation to the auditor's role and responsibilities with respect to IFR.

In developed countries (advanced economies), great importance in accounting has been given to various environmental reports. Initially, these studies only focused on representation in

the accounting of environmental aspects of business activities. Nowadays, objectives of the study significantly increased and expanded. For example, we are talking about how accounting can affect climate change (see Linnenluecke et al. (2015)).

Recently, users of financial statements began to pay much attention to the veracity and value of accounting data collection. The information world was faced with such a term as «Big Data». Volume and velocity have been around since the 1990s when enterprise systems (and even some legacy systems) were created to handle high volumes of transactions and flow of information between companies (e.g. Grabski et al. (2011)). The significance of these challenges was so high that in both 2015 The American Accounting Association (AAA) hosted First Accounting Big Data (AiBD) conferences with a fast track one-and-a-half day seminar for academics to interact with accounting/industry practitioners and software vendors (see: Janvrin & Watson. (2017)).

9. Statements in the context of the analytical study financial decisions. Public reporting is done not for its own sake, but in order to be a strong argument in making decisions on investment projects (the answer to the question: “Where to invest?”) and financing (the answer to the question: “How to get the money?”). To this argument can be used properly, it is necessary not only and not so much to possess the skills of a primitive based on its basis of certain indicators and ratios, how to understand the logic of statements, the economic meaning of its articles, the principles of valuation reflected in her objects, and so on. Also another aspect is important: the statements can be demanded in fact, not formally only in the case if the user has sufficient culture with similar sources of information, owns the basics of reading and analyzing reports, understand its strengths and weaknesses, conventions and restrictions.

The processes of investment and financing have traditionally been considered in the framework of a rational economy. Thus, the accounting and analytical aspects of these processes were also guided by the rational choice of investors. Recently, behavioral finance has become quite a popular topic in scientific research. However, with the development of the theoretical foundations of behavioral finance, the accounting component in this direction until recently was virtually absent. A number of publications in the field of behavioral accounting are in fact some descriptive directions in which the accounting component is simply present. Very often in such publications, the problem is diagnosed, but not solved. However, the accounting literature provides clear evidence that this line of research in accounting is becoming more popular every year (e.g. Hellmann (2016)).

10. Traditional financial statements and new models. In recent years in the international business environment, there is an obvious increase in the interest and attention to the quality of information and analytical support of activity of economic entities, and finding ways to improve it. This process was initiated in 1992 by Kaplan and Norton, who presented the so-called balanced scorecard (e.g. Kaplan, Norton, 1992). Certain efforts are being made as the accounting community, and users of financial information. Accountants, together with financiers emphasize on the content, quality of the reporting (improving professional standards) and it is believed that any additional information can be presented in the relevant sections of the annual report. Other users advocate for the publication of an integrated report, understanding it as a systematic collection of data, allowing the user to get a detailed understanding of the company in the context of its relations with the partners and the public. Accounting data in this report may be present, but are only of secondary importance. In this regard, we note that the formation of any information base is a very expensive process. That is why, despite the constant criticism of the ongoing accounting, public financial reporting is likely to remain the backbone core of information flows that characterize the company in the coming decades. In other words, the first version of the development of information and analytical support for the business environment is quite

acceptable. Therefore, not only outdated, but also more and more actualized the problem of harmonizing the interests of suppliers and users of public statements, which implies, inter alia, the improvement of a proper accountability (in composition, structure and quality characteristics), and the culture, skills and techniques of analytical work with it.

In recent decades accounting models, affecting the environmental and social aspects of the firm's activities, are becoming increasingly popular. This information about company efforts becomes a kind of competitive advantage. It is paid much attention in annual reports, often even more than financial information. For example, we are talking about the direction in the accounting, which to some extent face with the environmental and social aspects of economic activity. Previously, these costs were perceived as a kind of restriction of the firm (the need to implement them reduced the company's profits). Currently, they are interpreted as an additional competitive advantage. Recently, there are a lot of publications on this subject (Gray et al. (2014) made a detailed review of these articles). However, it should be recognized that this direction is more focused on visualization of certain popular economic activities in developed countries rather than on the methodology of accounting. If the popularity of environmental and social issues decreases in the provision of economic activities of economic entities, user interest in ecological or social accounting will also decrease. We can argue that the model of a kind is inherent in the more developed and successful economies, especially among the economies of developing countries (a new review of this kind is made by Pavlopoulos et al. (2017)).

Conclusion

The theoretical analysis in the field of accounting and finance applications tendencies that was presented in the paper gives rise to the following main conclusions:

(a) in recent years, the dominant role of controlling function of accounting was replaced by the dominant role of its information and communication functions;

(b) the set of accounting standards (which actually can be named as function-oriented ones) is not enough to order and harmonize the methodological principles of accounting. This explains the need to adapt the ideas of conceptual framework of accounting to national accounting systems. In fact, it means that the conceptual framework of accounting should be regarded as the methodological foundation for constructing a set of national accounting; the last ones must be regarded as having a primarily functional, but not the methodological destination;

(c) appearance of various directions in the accounting, focused mainly on the visualization of reporting data. Moreover, there is an increasing emphasis on non-professional reporting users. In some way, the final product of accounting should be simplified for understanding by this category of users.

References

Apostolou B., Dorminey J., Hassell J., Rebele J. (2017). "Analysis of trends in the accounting education literature (1997–2016)". *Journal of Accounting Education*, 41, pp. 1-14.

Ayres D., Huang S., Myring M. (2017). "Fair value accounting and analyst forecast accuracy", *Advances in Accounting*, 37, pp. 58-70.

Gaither's Dictionary of Scientific Quotations. Edited by C.C. Gaither, A. E. Cavazos-Gaither. 2-nd ed. New York: Springer Science + Business Media LLC, 2012.

Craig, R., Amernic, J. (2006). "The mobilization of accounting in preening for privatization". *Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal*, 19, pp. 82–95.

Cushing B. E. A Kuhnian Interpretation of the Historical Evolution of Accounting // *The Accounting Historians Journal*. Vol. 16. № 2. December 1989. P. 1-41.

Deegan C. (2014). *Financial Accounting Theory*. 4-th ed. McGraw-Hill Education (Australia) Pty Ltd.

Drake M., Roulstone D., Thornock J. (2016). “The usefulness of historical accounting reports”, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, 61 (2–3), pp. 448-464.

Fisher R. T., Naylor S. T. (2016). “Corporate reporting on the Internet and the expectations gap: new face of an old problem”. *Accounting and Business Research*, 46 (2), pp. 196–220.

Fu R., Kraft A., Zhang H. (2012). “Financial reporting frequency, information asymmetry, and the cost of equity”. *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, 54 (2–3), pp. 132-149.

Grabski S., Leech S., Schmidt P. (2011). “A review of ERP research: A future agenda for accounting information systems”. *Journal of Information Systems*, 25(1), pp. 39–78.

Gray R., Brennan A., Malpas J. (2014). “New accounts: Towards a reframing of social accounting”, *Accounting Forum*, 38 (4), pp. 258-273.

Hellmann A. (2016). “The role of accounting in behavioral finance”, *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, 9, pp.39-42

Hellmann A., Perera H., Patel C., (2010). “Contextual issues of the convergence of International Financial Reporting Standards: The case of Germany”. *Adv. Account.* 26 (1), 108–116. *Incorporating Advances in International Accounting*.

Hooks J., Stewart R. (2015). “The changing role of accounting: From consumers to shareholders”. *Critical Perspectives on Accounting*, 29, pp. 86-101.

Janvrin D., Watson M. (2017). “Big Data”: A new twist to accounting”, *Journal of Accounting Education*, 38, pp. 3-8.

Kaplan R. S., Norton D. P. (1992). “The Balanced Scorecard: Measures that Drive Performance”, *Harvard Business Review*, January-February, pp. 71–79.

Kovalev V. V. (2013) Is accounting a science or not: a retrospective of looks and trends // *St Petersburg University Journal of Economic Studies*. Issue 1. Pp. 91-113 (*in Russian*: Ковалев В. В. Является ли бухгалтерский учет наукой: ретроспектива взглядов и тенденции // *Вестн. С.-Петербур. ун-та. Сер. 5. Экономика*. 2013. Вып. 2. С. 91-112).

Kovalev V. V., Kovalev Vit. V. (2015) Conceptual framework of accounting: logic of evolution // *St Petersburg University Journal of Economic Studies*. Issue. 4. Pp. 117-152 (*in Russian*: Ковалев В. В., Ковалев Вит. В. Концептуальные основы бухгалтерского учета: логика эволюции // *Вестн. С.-Петербур. ун-та. Сер. 5. Экономика*. 2015. Вып. 4. С. 117-152).

Lehman, C., & Tinker, T. (1987). “The ‘real’ cultural significance of accounts”. *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 12, 503–522.

Linnenluecke M., Birt J., Griffiths A. (2015). “The role of accounting in supporting adaptation to climate change”. *Accounting & Finance*, 55(3), pp.607-625.

Moehrle S., Franzen L., Meckfessel M., Reynolds-Moehrle J. (2016). “Developments in accounting regulation: A synthesis and annotated References of evidence and commentary in the 2015 academic literature”. *Research in Accounting Regulation*, 28 (2), pp 96-108.

Napier C. (2006). “Accounts of change: 30 years of historical accounting research”. *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 31(4/5), pp. 445-507.

Nürnberg H. (2012). “Objectives of financial reporting, aboriginal cost, and pooling of interests accounting”. *Accounting Historians Journal*, 39 (2), pp. 45–80.

Pavlopoulos A., Magnis C., Iatridis G. (2017). “Integrated reporting: Is it the last piece of the accounting disclosure puzzle?”, *Journal of Multinational Financial Management*, 41, pp. 23-46.

Peasnell K. V. *Statement of Accounting Theory and Theory Acceptance: a Review Article* // *Accounting and Business Research*. 1978. Vol. 8. Issue 31. P. 217-225.

Quiggin J. (2014). “National accounting and the digital economy”, *Economic Analysis and Policy*, 44 (2), pp. 136-142.

Smith J., Cordina R. (2014). “The role of accounting in high-technology investments”, *British Accounting Review*, 46 (3), pp. 309-322.

Srivastava A. (2014). “Why have the measures of earnings quality changed over time?”, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, 57 (2–3), 196–217.

Tahat Y., Alhadab M. (2017). “Have accounting numbers lost their value relevance during the recent financial credit crisis?”, *Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance*, 66, pp. 182-191.

Tinker A. (1980). “Towards a political economy of accounting: An empirical illustration of the Cambridge controversies”. *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 5, 147–160.

Walker S. (2016). “Revisiting the roles of accounting in society”. *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 49, pp. 41-50.

Zeff S. A. (2013). “The objectives of financial reporting: a historical survey and analysis”. *Accounting and Business Research*, 43 (4), pp. 262–327.

Zeff S. A. (1999). “The Evolution of the conceptual framework for business enterprises in the United States”. *Accounting Historians Journal*, 26 (2), pp. 89–131.

Zimmerman J. L. (2015). “The role of accounting in the twenty-first century firm”. *Accounting and Business Research*, 45 (4), pp. 485–509.