# Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation Economic Theory Department

УТВЕРЖДАЮ Заместитель руководителя Департамента экономической теории

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# **MICROECONOMICS**

#### **SYLLABUS**

Level of Study: Bachelor's Degree

Study Program: For the direction 38.03.01 - "ECONOMY"

**MOSCOW** 

## **Syllabus**

1. Name of a subject Microeconomics

# 2. Mapping of learning outcomes (list of competences), with the relevant indicators described and subject learning outcomes indicated

Table 1

			Table 1
Competence	Competence	Competence development	Learning outcomes (skills <sup>2</sup> , and
code		indicators <sup>1</sup>	knowledge) and indicators that
			show competence development
UC-11	Ability to set research goals and objectives,	1. Shows arguments and proceeds from the initial	<i>Know:</i> the arguments for formulating the problem and its
	select optimal ways	subjective description of the	holistic description
	and methods to	issue to an integrated	To be able to: reasonably move
	achieve them	structured description of the problematic situation.	from the initial subjective formulation of the problem to a
		problematic situation.	holistic structured description of
			the problem situation.
		2. Substantiates a systemic	Know: management goals and
		description of the goal and a	objectives
		managerial objective setting.	To be able to: justify the systemic
			formulation of the goal and
		3. Uses a balanced and	statement of the control <i>Know:</i> selection criteria and
		systemic approach to the	conditions when analyzing a
		situation analysis and	situation
		identification of choice	To be able: balanced and
		criteria and conditions.	systematic approach to the
			analysis of the situation, the
			formulation of criteria and selection conditions
		4. Critically assesses the	
		choice comparing it with	when choosing a solution, non-
		alternative approaches.	obvious chains of "consequences
		Assesses the consequences	of consequences" ("causes of
		of made decisions taking into	causes") and contour relationships
		account the non-obvious	To be able to: critically rethink
		consequences of	your choice, comparing with
		consequences(causes of causes) and contour	alternative approaches. Evaluate the consequences of decisions
		connections.	made, taking into account the non-
			obvious chains of "consequences
			of consequences" ("causes of
			causes") and contour relationships.
		5. Correctly uses the goal-	Know: procedures for goal setting,
		setting, decomposition and	decomposition and aggregation,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To be filled in when the updated Financial University educational standards and federal state educational standards of higher education "3++" are implemented.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Skills are described when the Financial University educational standards of the 1<sup>st</sup> generation and federal state educational standards of higher education "3+" are implemented.

		aggregation, analysis and synthesis procedures in solving practical managerial problems and preparing analytical reports.  6. Logically, consistently and convincingly sets out goals, objectives, theory and methodology of the research, results and conclusions in the report.	'
PC-1	Knows basic modern economic concepts and categories and the way they are used when applied problems are solved	1.Demonstrates knowledge of modern economic concepts, models, leading scientific schools and economic science development areas, uses categories and scientific concepts when examining economic phenomena and processes.	Know: modern economic concepts, models, schools and areas of economic science
		sources of research data and economic information consistently and efficiently, knows the main public economic policy	economic processes and their relationship with other processes taking place in society  Be able to: critically rethink current socio-economic processes  Know: the main directions of
PC-2	Ability to calculate financial and economic indicators, examine and explain the concept and the nature of economic	characteristics.  1. Uses the legal framework regulating the financial and economic indicator calculation procedure.	Know: regulatory framework, regulatory procedure for calculating financial and economic indicators  Be able to: apply the regulatory framework for calculating financial and economic indicators
	processes at the micro- and macro-level using existing methods and legal frameworks	<ul><li>2. Calculates financial and economic indicators at the macro-, meso- and micro-levels.</li><li>3. Examines and shows the nature of economic</li></ul>	Know: basic financial and economic indicators  To be able to: calculate financial and economic indicators at the macro, meso and micro levels.  Know: the nature of economic processes

		processes using the financial and economic indicators obtained at the macro-, meso- and micro-levels.	To be able to: analyze and disclose the nature of economic processes based on the obtained financial and economic indicators at the macro, meso and micro levels
PC-4	Ability to assess economic entities' performance indicators	1. Examines the external and internal business environment, identifies the main economic growth factors, and assesses the economic entities' manufacturing potential efficiency.	Know: the basics of doing business, its external and internal environment, factors of economic growth  To be able to: analyze the external and internal business environment, identifies the main factors of economic growth, evaluates the effectiveness of the formation and use of the production potential of economic entities.
		2. Calculates and interprets economic entities' performance indicators.	Know: performance indicators of economic entities  Be able to: calculate and interpret the performance indicators of economic entities
PC-6	Ability to offer solutions to workplace problems in the changing financial and economic environment	Understands the content and logic of the economic entity examination procedure, methods used to substantiate operational, tactical and strategic managerial decisions.      Offers solutions to	Know: the logic of the analysis of the economic entity, methods of substantiation of operational, tactical and strategic management decisions  To be able to: apply an analysis of the activities of an economic entity to develop operational, tactical and strategic management decisions
		2. Offers solutions to workplace problems in the presence of uncertainty.	Know: basic options for solving professional problems  Be able to: offer various options for solving professional problems in the face of uncertainty
PC-7	Ability to use the knowledge in economic public awareness campaigns	1. Understands the Russian economy' main characteristics, its institutional structure, and public economic policy characteristics.  2. Demonstrates the ability to clearly, professionally, and correctly present information on the main economic objects, phenomena, processes that is easily understood, to back own economic judgments with arguments.	Know: the main features of the Russian economy, its institutional structure  To be able to: apply knowledge to analyze the economic policy of the state.  Know: the main features of the Russian economy, its institutional structure, areas of economic activity  To be able to: clearly, accessible and professionally correctly present information about the main economic objects, phenomena, processes, argue their own judgments and assessments in the field of economics

#### 3. Place of the subject in the curriculum

The discipline "Microeconomics" refers to the disciplines of the basic part of the module of general professional disciplines in the direction of preparing bachelors 38.03.01 "Economics".

The discipline is based on knowledge gained in the framework of the school course "Economics" or the relevant disciplines of secondary vocational education.

The discipline "Microeconomics" is the general theoretical and methodological basis for all economic disciplines that are part of the OOP bachelor in the direction of preparation 38.03.01 "Economics".

# 4. Workload in credits and academic hours, with class work (lectures and seminars) and self-study indicated

Table 2

Type of work	Total (in credits and hours)	Semester (Module)1 (in hours)	Semester (Module)2 (in hours)
Overall workload	6 з/е 216 ч.	108	108
Class work	100	50	50
Lectures	32	16	16
Seminars, practicals	68	34	34
Self study	116	58	58
Formative assessment			essay
Summative assessment		Pass /fail	exam

#### 5. Subject content (with the thematic components indicated).

#### 1. Introduction to Economics.

First principles. Individual choice: the core of economics. Resources are scarce. The real cost of something is what you must give Up to get it. "How much?" is a decision at the margin. People usually exploit opportunities to make themselves better off.

Interaction: how economies work. There are gains from trade. Markets move toward equilibrium. Resources should be used as efficiently as possible to achieve society's goals. Markets usually lead to efficiency. When markets don't achieve efficiency, government intervention can improve society's welfare.

Economic Models: Trade-offs and Trade. The Production Possibility Frontier. Comparative Advantage and International Trade. Positive versus Normative Economics.

# 2. Supply and Demand. Elasticity.

Supply and demand: a model of a competitive market. Supply, demand and equilibrium. Changes in supply and demand. Consumer and producer surplus. Consumer surplus, producer surplus, and the gains from trade.

Why governments control prices. Price ceilings. Price floors. Controlling quantities.

The economics of taxes: a preliminary view. The benefits and costs of taxation. Tax fairness and tax efficiency. Understanding the tax system.

Comparative advantage and international trade. Supply, Demand, and International Trade :the effects of imports the effects of exports. International trade and wages. The effects of trade protection. The effects of a tariff. The effects of an import quota . The political economy of trade protection.

Defining and measuring elasticity. Interpreting the price elasticity of demand.

#### 3. Consumer behavior.

The rational consumer. Utility: getting satisfaction. Budgets and optimal consumption. Spending the marginal dollar. From utility to the demand curve.

Consumer preferences and consumer choice. Mapping the utility function.

Indifference curves and consumer choice. Using indifference curves: substitutes and complements. Prices, income, and demand.

#### 4. The production decision

Opportunity Cost and Decisions. Explicit versus implicit costs. Accounting profit versus economic profit .

Making "how much" decisions: the role of marginal analysis.

The production function. Inputs and output. From the production function to cost curves. Two Key Concepts: Marginal Cost and Average Cost. Short-Run versus Long-Run Costs. Returns to Scale.

### 5. Perfect competition

Defining perfect competition. Necessary conditions for perfect competition. Using marginal analysis to choose the profit-maximizing quantity of output. The short-run production decision. Profitability and production conditions. The Industry Supply Curve. The Cost of Production and Efficiency in Long-Run Equilibrium.

# 6. Monopoly

The Meaning of Monopoly. How a Monopolist Maximizes Profit . The Monopolist's Profit-Maximizing Output and Price. Monopoly versus Perfect Competition.

Monopoly and Public Policy. Welfare Effects of Monopoly. Preventing Monopoly. Dealing with Natural Monopoly.

Price Discrimination.

### 7. Oligopoly

The prevalence of oligopoly. Understanding oligopoly. A duopoly example. Collusion and competition. Competing in prices versus competing in quantities.

Games oligopolists play. The Prisoners' dilemma. Overcoming the prisoners' dilemma: repeated interaction and tacit collusion. The kinked demand curve.

Oligopoly in practice. The legal framework. Tacit collusion and price wars.

# 8. Monopolistic competition

The meaning of monopolistic competition.

Product differentiation . Differentiation by style or type, by Location, by quality. Monopolistic Competition in the Short Run and in the Long Run.

Monopolistic Competition versus Perfect Competition. Controversies about product differentiation.

#### 9. Factor Markets

The economy's factors of production. Why factor prices matter: the allocation of resources. Marginal productivity and factor demand.

Labor market. Theory of income distribution. The supply of labor . Work versus leisure.

#### 10. Capital factor.

Capital as a factor of production. The capital of the enterprise and its structure. The concept of present value. Borrowing, lending, and interest

#### 11. Land market.

The factor is land in a broad and narrow sense. Natural conditions. Natural resources, their classification. Real and potential resources, renewable and non-renewable.

#### 12. Uncertainty, Risk, and Private Information

The economics of risk aversion. Expectations and uncertainty. The Logic of risk aversion. Buying, selling, and reducing risk. Trading risk. Making risk disappear: the power of diversification.

Private information: what you don't know can hurt you.

Adverse selection: the economics of lemons. Moral hazard.

#### 13. Externalities

The economics of pollution costs and benefits of pollution. Pollution: an external cost. The inefficiency of excess pollution. Private solutions to externalities. Policies toward pollution. Environmental standards. Emissions taxes. Tradable emissions permits.

Production, consumption, and externalities. Private versus social benefits. Private versus social costs. Network Externalities.

#### 14. Public goods and common resources

Private goods—and others. Characteristics of goods. Why markets can supply only private goods efficiently. Public goods. Providing public goods.

Cost-benefit analysis.

Common resources. The problem of overuse. The efficient use and maintenance of a common resource. Artificially Scarce Goods.

# 6. List of teaching and methodological materials needed for the students self-study

# 6.1. List of questions for student self-study and types of out-of-class activities

The section lists types of out-of-class activities that correspond to items in the subject content description.

There is a list of questions the students should answer while working independently.

		Table 3
Itemized subject	Questions the students should answer	Types of out-of-class activities
content	within the self-study process	
1. Introduction to Economics.	Economic schools	Work with educational, scientific and reference literature.  Selection and review of literature / domestic and foreign / on the topic of the problem situation.
2. Supply and Demand. Elasticity.	Types of market disequilibrium: a modern interpretation. The influence of the state on market equilibrium.	Solving problems and cases
3. Consumer behavior.	The impact of digital technology on consumer behavior	Work with educational, scientific and reference literature Writing an essay (report) on the topic of a seminar.
4. The production decision	The significance of costs in the modern economy	Preparation for work in small groups. Solving problems and cases
5. Perfect competition	The theoretical value of the model of perfect competition.	Solving problems and cases
6. Monopoly	Methods of regulation of natural monopolies (according to the level of marginal costs, the level of average costs, two-stage tariff)	Work with educational, scientific and reference literature.
7. Oligopoly		Work with educational, scientific and reference literature. Selection and review of literature / domestic and foreign / on the topic of the problem situation. Writing an essay (report) on the topic of a seminar.
8. Monopolistic competition	The economic impact of advertising, the impact of digital technology on advertising	Work with educational, scientific and reference literature. Selection and review of literature / domestic and foreign / on the topic of the problem situation. Writing an essay (report) on the topic of a seminar.
9. Factor Markets	Modern theories of wages. The role of trade unions in the economy.	Preparation for work in small groups. Solving problems and cases
10. Capital factor.	Theory of loan interest. Discounting.	Work with educational, scientific and reference literature. Selection and review of literature /

		domestic and foreign / on the topic of the problem situation. Writing an essay (report) on the topic of a seminar.
11. Land market.	The role of non-renewable	Work with educational, scientific
	resources in the modern economy.	and reference literature.
	Differential and absolute rent.	
12. Uncertainty, Risk,	Decision tree. Risk reduction	Work with educational, scientific
and Private Information	methods. Information Economics.	and reference literature.
		Selection and review of literature /
		domestic and foreign / on the topic
		of the problem situation.
		Writing an essay (report) on the
		topic of a seminar.
13. Externalities	Current trends in negative	Writing an essay (report) on the
	externalities in the global economy	topic of a seminar.
14. Public goods and	The role of the state in providing	Preparation for work in small
common resources	public goods. Welfare state	groups.

# 6.2. List of questions/assignments/topics for students' preparation to formative assessment

#### **Test examples**

- 1. With which one of the following statements would economists be most likely to disagree?
- a. People respond to incentives.
- b. Making a choice involves an opportunity cost.
- c. Markets move towards equilibrium.
- d. Resources and inputs used in production are unlimited.
- 2. Economists generally agree that people are most likely to change their behavior when they:
- a. are asked to do so voluntarily.
- b. are given incentives to do so.
- c. live in a world without scarcity.
- d. live in a world without opportunity costs.
- 3. In his book The Wealth of Nations, Adam Smith used the example of pin-making to illustrate the advantages of:
- a. equity.
- b. specialization.
- c. marginal analysis.
- d. interaction of choices.
- 4. Assume that we have a PPF. Point A lies inside (to the left) of the frontier. Point B and C are located along the frontier and Point D is located outside (to the right) the frontier. Which of the following points represent feasible (attainable) production points?
- a. All points (A, B, C and D) are feasible.
- b. Points A, B and C are feasible.
- c. Points B and C are feasible.

- d. None of the points are feasible.
- 5. Consider the market for smartphones. What happens when the process of manufacturing smartphones becomes less costly through the use of new technology?
- a. The demand curve for smartphones will shift inward.
- b. The demand curve for smartphones will shift outward.
- c. The supply curve for smartphones will shift inward.
- d. The supply curve for smartphones will shift outward.
- 6. A binding minimum wage is a type of:
- a. quota.
- b. price floor.
- c. price ceiling.
- d. tax incidence.
- 7. A binding minimum wage is a type of:
- a. quota.
- b. price floor.
- c. price ceiling.
- d. tax incidence.
- 8. A regressive tax is one in which:
- a. high-income taxpayers pay a larger percentage of their income as tax than do those with lower incomes.
- b. high-income taxpayers pay a smaller percentage of their income as tax than do those with lower incomes.
- c. everyone pays the same percentage of the tax base, regardless of income level.
- d. everyone pays the same amount, regardless of income level.
- 9. In order to maximize net gains from an activity, a person should choose the quantity at which marginal:
- a. benefit exceeds marginal cost by the greatest amount.
- b. benefit is zero.
- c. benefit is equal to marginal cost.
- d. cost is lowest.
- 10. Which of the following statements is true?
- a. The consumer is equally happy with all consumption bundles lying along the budget line.
- b. An increase in income expands the set of consumption choices.
- c. The slope of the budget line is determined by the consumer's income.
- d. The income effect of a price change refers to the fact that, when the price of a good increases, those consumers who can still afford to buy it derive added utility from the prestige of having a luxury good.
- 11. A firm produces 200 units of output at an average total cost of \$27 and an average variable cost of \$24. What is the firm's level of total fixed cost?
- a. \$3
- b. \$200
- c. \$600
- d. \$4800

- 12. A perfectly competitive firm is charging the market price of \$18 to sell its product. The firm is producing and selling the profit-maximizing quantity of 50 units at this price. Its average total cost is \$17 and its average variable cost is \$15. Which of the following statements is then true?
- a. This firm should shut down now.
- b. At this current level of production, the firm's marginal cost is \$17.
- c. At this current level of production, the firm's marginal cost is \$15.
- d. The firm is earning an economic profit of \$50
- 13. Suppose an industry initially had been perfectly competitive and then became a monopoly. Which of the following would occur?
- a. consumer surplus would decrease
- b. consumer surplus would increase.
- c. producer surplus would decrease
- d. the deadweight loss eliminated
- 14. A price war is evidence of a:
- a. perfectly competitive market.
- b. successful tacit collusion.
- c. successful nonprice competition.
- d. collapse of tacit collusion
- 15. Tradable emissions permits:
- a. provide polluters with an incentive to take the marginal social cost of pollution into account.
- b. are a form of subsidy.
- c. give consumers an incentive to buy from environmental-friendly firms.
- d. are a type of transaction cost

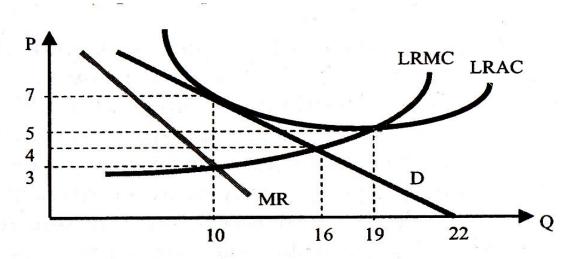
### Task examples

- 1.In the production of 40 parts, the average variable costs (AVC) amounted to 20 rubles. In the production of 20 parts, the average fixed costs (AFC) amounted to 10 rubles. With the release of 50 parts, the average total cost (ATC) is 60 rubles. Define:
- 1. The value of ATC in the production of 40 parts.
- 2. The value of AVC in the production of 50 parts.
- 2. In the market of perfect competition, there are firms with the same costs TC=0.2Q<sup>3</sup>-8Q<sup>2</sup>+120Q. Demand in the industry Qd= 1360- 10P. What number of firms will remain in the industry in the long run?
- 3. Given the price of pretzels is \$1,50 a bag and the price of potato chips is \$2.00 a bag, if pretzels was measured on the vertical axis, the slope of the budget constraint would be (plot and determine the slope of the curve)?
- 4. Fill the table

Q	AFC	AVC	VC	ATC	VC	TC
1					20	

2				79	
3			54		
4		17			
5	24				200

- 5. Calculate the coefficient of elasticity at a price and make a conclusion about the nature of the product
- The price of goods increased from 12 to 18 monetary units. The output of demand for goods decreased from 160 to 144 thousand kg per month.
- The price of goods fell from 50 to 38 monetary units, the output of demand increased from 14 to 20 kg per month.
- The price of goods increased from 30 to 60 monetary units, the output of demand decreased from 16 to 8 units per month.
- 6. Using the data in the figure, determine the amount of excess production capacity of the company operating in conditions of monopolistic competition.



# Sample topics of essays, homework, reports and essays

- 1. Intellectual property: its essence and role in the modern economy.
- 2. The interaction of large and small businesses in the Russian economy.
- 3. Money: the essence and role in economic development.
- 4. Bankruptcy of enterprises: problems of theory and practice.
- 5. Social responsibility of business (Russian practice)
- 6. Information technology and their role in the modern economy.
- 7. Cartels and their roles in the modern economy
- 8. Lobbying and corruption: institutional analysis.
- 9. Entrepreneurial risk: the nature, types and characteristics in Russia.
- 10. Privatization of state property in Russia: results, features and problems.
- 11. Price and non-price competition in the economic strategies of Russian business.
- 12. E-commerce and Internet business.
- 13. Post-industrial economy: its features and development prospects.

- 14. Monopoly in the Russian economy: historical roots, the process of overcoming.
- 15. Theory and practice of antitrust regulation.
- 16. The theory of property rights and its role in economic development.
- 17. Land market: its features.
- 18. The structure of the total costs of society. Share of transaction costs in developed countries.
  - 19. The problem of external effects and methods for its solution.
  - 20. Mergers and acquisitions: theory and practical problems.
  - 21. Marginalism and the theory of consumer behavior.
  - 22. Natural monopolies and their role in the Russian economy.
  - 23. Modern functions of money and their manifestation in the Russian economy.
  - 24. Electronic money in a modern market economy.
  - 25. Franchising: world experience and Russian practice.
  - 26. New technologies and their role in the modern economy.
  - 27. Outsourcing and its role in the modern economy
  - 28. Brands as a factor in minimizing transaction costs.
  - 29. Advertising: its economic role and features in Russia.
  - 30. The specifics of the Russian model of a market economy.
  - 31. The system of state support and regulation of entrepreneurship in Russia.
  - 32. Economic risks of the company: the nature, types, methods of minimization
  - 33. New forms of competition in the modern economy.
- 34. The economic nature of the securities market and the problems of its formation in the Russian economy.
  - 35. The role of oligopoly in the Russian economy.
  - 36. The evolution of capital: its content and scientific concepts.
  - 37. Intellectual capital, its forms and development.
- 38. The essence of the theorem of R. Coase and its significance for economic science.
- 39. The role of contracts in the modern economy, their relationship with property rights.
  - 40. Neoclassical approach to the company and its shortcomings.
  - 41. The essence of the contract theory of the company.
  - 42. Distinctive features of the evolutionary theory of the company.
  - 43. Non-standard theories of the company.
  - 44. Institutional analysis of the main types of firms in a market economy.
  - 45. Institutional analysis of the legal forms of enterprises in the Russian Federation.
- 46. The essence of the theorem of R. Coase and its significance for economic science.
- 47. The role of contracts in the modern economy, their relationship with property rights.
  - 48. Neoclassical approach to the company and its shortcomings.
  - 49. The essence of the contract theory of the company.
  - 50. Distinctive features of the evolutionary theory of the company.
  - 51. Non-standard theories of the company.

- 52. Institutional analysis of the main types of firms in a market economy.
- 53. Institutional analysis of the legal forms of enterprises in the Russian Federation.

# Methodological recommendations for writing an essay

An essay is an independent reasoned essay-reflection of a student on a problem or question, expressing the individual point of view of the author.

The purpose of writing an essay is to develop the independence of creative thinking and the written presentation of one's own thoughts.

An essay should contain:

- a description of the problem (question) to which the student answers in the course of his research;
- theoretical justification of the relevance of the selected problem (question) and the presentation of the individual point of view of the author regarding the selected problem using literature;
  - conclusions summarizing the author's position on the problem posed.

**Essay Writing Requirements:** 

- the validity and originality of the formulation and solution of a problem or question;
  - the reasoning of the main provisions and conclusions;
  - the clarity and conciseness of the presentation of one's own thoughts.

The essay is 3-5 pages long.

Writing an essay is an important task for the student. The purpose of writing an essay is to build the student's ability to develop and correctly argue his point of view on new (and often objectively controversial) problems for the author. That is, to do exactly what constitutes a significant part of the practical work of any economist.

The student should choose one topic of the essay from the options offered for each lesson and write the corresponding work.

### 7. Mandatory and optional reading list

- 1 Krugman P. Wells R. Microeconomics, 3-d edition
- 2. Microeconomics. Theory and Russian practice: Textbook / O.V. Karamova [et al.]; Financial university; under the editorship of A.G. Gryaznova, A.Yu. Yudanova M.: KnoRus, 2015 640 s. / ELS BOOK.RU
- 3. Nureyev R.M. The course of microeconomics: Textbook / R.M. Nureyev M : Norma, 2014, 2015 624 p. / ZNANIUM EBS
  - 1. Mankiw G. Principles of Economics. 2017
- 8. List of IT resources, incl. the list of software, information and reference systems (as appropriate).

#### 8. 1. Software:

- 1. Windows, Microsoft Office software;
- 2. ESET Endpoint Security antivirus software; etc.

# **8.2.** Databases and information and reference systems E.g.

- 1. http://www.worldbank.org/data/
- 2. http://www.unctad.org/
- 3. http://hdr.undp.org/default.cfm
- 4. http://www.oecd.org/statsportal
- 5. http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm
- 6. http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/dsbbhome/
- 7. http://www.cbr.ru

8.

# 8.3. Certified software/hardware used for information protection

not used