

Abstract

Colonialism as a world phenomenon, as we know it, appeared with the advent of modern times. Its prosperity was made possible by technological advances. Colonialism in its original form almost does not exist, however it is still "alive" in its reference. The post-colonial lands still bear a variety of heritage from that time. The main objective of this work is to find out whether investments in colonies from the times of colonial rule in Great Britain can influence the state of their economies after independence, and whether this influence may last until the present. The thesis answers the following research questions: (i) Do colonial investments have an impact on the postcolonial economies of the former British colonies, represented by GDP per capita and GDP per area? (ii) Do colonial investments have an impact on the development of postcolonial economies of the former British colonies, represented by GDP growth per capita? (iii) And what criteria were distributed by British colonial investments?

The method used to determine the dependence between the above variables is the calculation of the Spearman correlation coefficient. For its calculation, unique historical data on colonial investments was used.

The analysis shows that the amount of investment relative to the population of the colonies affects the GDP per capita per purchasing power parity in the newly created countries. This dependence is moderate for the period after decolonization and for the present period. On the contrary, there is no dependence between the amount of investment related to the area and the GDP per capita in either of the monitored periods. GDP growth per capita GDP per purchasing power parity has shown a moderate dependence on the size of colonial investment per capita in the older period, while currently only a low degree of dependence. And the conclusion about the relationship between the size of the investment and the number of inhabitants and the size of the colonies shows that the amount of investment was dependent both on the number of inhabitants of the colonies and on their extent.

In summary, investing in British colonies in Africa in the colonial era has an impact on the state of the economies of these countries immediately after gaining independence and still present.

