

Problems and Prospects of Joining The Eurasian Economic Union of The Republic of Uzbekistan

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Abstract: *The article explores the problems of joining the Eurasian Economic Union of the Republic of Uzbekistan, measures taken by the government on the path to joining the economic integration, other alternative ways for Uzbekistan rather than entering the Eurasian Economic Union membership, developed scientifically based proposals and recommendations of practical importance on the issue of entering the Eurasian Economic Union of our country.*

Keywords: *Eurasian Economic Union, political and economic prestige, foreign customs policy, free agreements, Union standards, protectionist procedures, institutionalized-legal norms, free trade agreements.*

Аннотация. *В статье исследуются проблемы вступления Республики Узбекистан в Евразийский экономический союз, меры, принимаемые правительством на пути присоединения к экономической интеграции, другие альтернативные пути для Узбекистана вместо вступления в члены Евразийского экономического союза, разработаны научно обоснованные предложения и рекомендации, имеющие практическое значение по вопросу вступления в Евразийский экономический союз нашей страны.*

Ключевые слова. *Евразийский экономический союз, политический и экономический престиж, внешняя таможенная политика, свободные соглашения, стандарты союза, протекционистские процедуры, институционально-правовые нормы, соглашения о свободной торговле.*

Introduction

It is known that in our country there is a wide discussion among representatives of the general public, scientists and practitioners of the issue of joining the Eurasian Economic Union lately. The opinions of representatives of different industries are certainly different. At this time, it will not be a mistake to say that this topic has become a trend. This can also be observed from speeches made by representatives of social networks and media.

Currently, each state, with certain political and economic power, tries to increase its international position, carries out measures aimed at increasing its political and economic prestige. This should be viewed as a natural case. There is no doubt that such goals were pursued even at the time of the formation of the Eurasian Economic Union. The most powerful state of the region, the Russian Federation, is pursuing its goals based on its interests in the countries of the region, in particular in the Central Asian region. The Eurasian Economic Union is actively involved in the integration processes taking place in the Central Asian region. The Eurasian Economic Union is an international organization that officially began operations on January 1, 2015 on the initiative of Russia. Until

now, together with Russia, Belarus, Armenia, our close neighbors – Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan have entered the Union as full members. The countries of Central Asia, having been unable to form a single regional organization for years, were forced to join the Eurasian Economic Union, formed under the leadership of Russia, which requires deep economic cooperation, in particular, based on the free movement of goods, services, capital and labor. In recent times, there has also been a growing controversy over Uzbekistan's accession to the Union. As long as Uzbekistan enters the Eurasian Economic Union, taking into account the fact that a big change in our foreign trade policy will occur, affecting both domestic and foreign producers, the Ministry of investments and foreign trade should provide entrepreneurs and, in general, the population with sufficient information about the pros and cons of entering the Eurasian Economic Union, ensuring that the topic At the same time, it is advisable for Uzbekistan to answer the question of which trajectory foreign trade relations will develop as quickly and accurately as possible, and the choice will be rational, rational, free from emotionality.

Review of scientific literature

G.Nazarova, H.Khalilov, A.Azimov, I.Khanovas from our scientists, who carried out the first serious research on the development of integration and globalization processes in all aspects of world economy conducted scientific research in the study of the pros and cons of the development of large integration centers of the world, in their 2010 textbook "International economic integration" [1], published by "Tafakkur", the Republic of Uzbekistan also conducted scientific research in a time when the symptoms of the development of integrational processes in the world economy were changing, deeply integrated into the world community and steadily expanding its relations with these countries in the social economic, political and cultural spheres. In addition, young scientists are also contributing to the development of the process of integralization of the country to the world community by selectively carrying out their research on different topics on integration.

Our research is of practical importance, on the basis of comparative analysis, historicism, logic, methods of generalization, the current state of the process of integration and globalization of our country is analyzed, and on the basis of analyzes, directions for the development of this process are determined [2].

Analysis and results

Currently, the share of countries belonging to the Eurasian Economic Union in the foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan is 25-30 percent. In other words, before our country has yet to become a member, the Eurasian Economic Union is the largest foreign trade partner for us.

First of all, membership in the Eurasian Economic Union will allow us to enter a market with a population of more than 182 million people, and a value of US \$ 1 trillion 587 billion. Uzbekistan can profit on a large scale by exporting its relatively inexpensive products to this market. Entry into the Eurasian Economic Union will undoubtedly increase this figure. In addition, the penetration of azo countries ' products into our market into the Eurasian Economic Union serves to increase competition. And such competition is good for the consumer.

Secondly, the Eurasian Economic Union is a free Economic Area and coordinates the foreign customs policy of the member countries. Therefore, the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union can conclude free agreements with third countries or with such alliances. Uzbekistan coordinates its rules with the standards of the Union and creates great opportunities for our entrepreneurs. As a result of this, an influx of foreign investments may occur, which are aimed at the market of the Eurasian Economic Union. But if so far it has been developed for a market of 33 million, then the entry into the Eurasian Economic Union will result in the entry into the market of 200 million people without any duties [3]. This increases Uzbekistan's attractiveness for investments. By combining standards with 5 member states if admitted to the Eurasian Economic Union, excessive scrutiny on the borders and the waste of time arising from them can be avoided. Our exporters will be able to release their products much more freely on the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union. Uzbekistan opens to the world, strives to develop industrial areas specializing in

exports, abandoning protectionist procedures. We need new markets for our products for the time of these efforts. By joining the Eurasian Economic Union, large markets open up to our producer. In addition, the Eurasian Economic Union forms a common energy market, a common excise product market (alcohol and tobacco), a general audit services market, a common monetary unit market.

Thirdly, the Member Countries of the Eurasian Economic Union mutually seriously reduced the requirements for obtaining licenses and permits for labor migrants and extended the period of stay in the country of work. If a migrant worker is officially hired, then his children will have the opportunity to attend kindergartens and schools in that country, as well as all his family members will be covered by compulsory medical insurance. All (except the fields of Pharmacy, Medicine, Law and pedagogy) diplomas are mutually recognized. If Uzbekistan is a member of the Eurasian Economic Union, a citizen of Uzbekistan who graduated from a university in the field of Engineering will get the right to go to Russia or Kazakhstan and work on equal terms with citizens there. On the other hand, as a result of the increase in investment flow to our country, the flow of investment in areas requiring active manual labor is increased (labor-intensive sectors), as a result of which the number of jobs increases, and as a result, external migration decreases.

Fourth, it will be able to re-regulate our relations through not bilateral, but institutionalized-legal norms with the economically powerful countries of the region, such as Russia and Kazakhstan. It will be useful for countries where access to an organization with an equal, open and transparent, conflict resolution mechanism for everyone is relatively small and economically not yet powerful. In the interests of such a state as Russia, even if sometimes in violation of the rules of the Eurasian Economic Union, when the states of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan join the Union, the weight of the Central Asian states within the organization increases, and it becomes possible to reduce the violation of member states.

In addition to its positive sides, the Republic of Uzbekistan also has negative sides in its entry into the Eurasian Economic Union.

First, the Union is in practice a unilateral free market area that embodies Russia's foreign customs policy, and when we enter the World Trade Organization We are forced to raise protectionist duties such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Armenia. This causes the cost of machinery and technology coming to our country to become more expensive.

Table 1.

The rise in foreign duties of Armenia and Kyrgyzstan as a result of joining the Eurasian Economic Union [4]

Armenia	2015	2023	Kyrgyzstan	2015	2023
Car	10%	23-25%	Car	10%	23-25%
Inorganic chemical products	0%	5%	Inorganic chemical products	0%	3-5%
Meat products	0%	5-10%	Meat products	0%	2-5%

Scientific analysis suggests that Armenia and Kazakhstan's entry into the Eurasian Economic Union had a negative impact on their economy.

Secondly, the fact that the states of the Eurasian Economic Union do not have sufficient coordination capacity for foreign trade policy indicates the weakness of the Union as an organizational structure. For example, member states have not provided the Eurasian Commission with such an extremely important authority as, in particular, the transfer of a state that violates the rules of the Union to the Union court. As a result of this, the disputes that arise between the Eurasian Economic Union member countries in cases of violation of competition cannot be eliminated. The Eurasian Commission notifies member states on violations of the rule while exercising general control over how the provisions of the Eurasian Economic Union agreement are enforced, with no legal effect.

Thirdly, the Eurasian Economic Union has not been able to be an organization governed by pre-established rules such as the European Union and where disputes are resolved according to agreed rules. This is because it is observed that political power unilaterally violates the rules of the Union in the face of significant state interests [5], as it is seen above the agreed rules.

Fourth, the Eurasian Economic Union limits its sovereign right to form a foreign duty policy of every member of us. As a result, the two states cannot form a direct bilateral trade agreement. Instead, the Eurasian Economic Union Commission will hold talks. As a result, it has been negotiated for many years, for example, Uzbekistan rises from the middle in practice of a free trade agreement with South Korea. At all times, when concluding an agreement with a third state, the consent of the states of the Eurasian Economic Union will be needed. This means that a large part of freedom in foreign economic policy [6] is taken out of hand.

Conclusions and suggestions

In conclusion, Uzbekistan should accelerate negotiations with the Eurasian Economic Union and the World Trade Organization. The World Trade Organization needs to research how membership affects our market and industry, and then, if necessary, raise the issue of membership in the Eurasian Economic Union. But, the tariffs that will be reduced for entry into the World Trade Organization will certainly be lower than the tariffs of the Eurasian Economic Union, which has already measured Russian tariffs. Entry into the Eurasian Economic Union after the World Trade Organization means that tariffs will be increased again. Producers may go bankrupt as a result of entering the Union. But domestic manufacturers need to learn to work in a strong competitive environment. In addition, it is also true that at the same time, an immigrant to our country of domestic production does not bring the same benefits as our compatriots. So, when we enter the Eurasian Economic Union, many state-owned enterprises with low efficiency are forced to strive to survive in a competitive environment.

In addition, there are several other alternative ways for Uzbekistan to enter into membership in the Eurasian Economic Union:

- Conclusion of a free trade agreement, such as the Free Trade Agreement of the Eurasian Economic Union with Vietnam;
- Further deepening existing free trade agreements with member states of the Eurasian Economic Union;
- Strengthening economic cooperation within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;
- Focus on free trade cooperation between Central Asian countries.

Strengthening bilateral relations with the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union, especially with Northern neighbors such as Russia and Kazakhstan, which play an important role in our foreign trade relations, is the most optimal option for our country.

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