

Foreign Economic Activity as a Factor of Ensuring Economic Security

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Abstract: The article deals with the issues of ensuring the foreign economic security of Uzbekistan as an integral element of security. Foreign economic security is the main condition for ensuring the stable development of the national economy. Particular attention is paid to the analysis of foreign trade turnover, as well as measures to prevent threats to economic security.

Key words: economic security, threats to economic security, security of foreign economic activity, security threats. internal threats.

The strategy for the development of the economy of Uzbekistan aims to create a diversified and competitive economy, maximize the use of national resources with the involvement of innovative technologies and new methods of market management. An important role in this process is played by the development of foreign economic activity as the end result of the policy implemented in the country, which directly affects the standard of living of the population.

Foreign economic activity is understood as a set of practical actions of state bodies, legal entities and individuals of the Republic of Uzbekistan, aimed at establishing and developing mutually beneficial cooperation with foreign states, their legal entities and individuals, international organizations. The Republic of Uzbekistan carries out foreign economic activity, guided by the principles:

- ✓ mutually beneficial cooperation with all states, foreign legal entities and individuals, international organizations;
- ✓ equality of the parties;
- ✓ non-interference in the internal affairs of partners in foreign economic relations;
- ✓ fulfillment of mutual obligations assumed under agreements with foreign states and international organizations;
- ✓ Other generally recognized international norms, rules and conditions. [1]

In order to implement the goals, principles and forms of state regulation of foreign economic activity, it is necessary to check out the state of protection of the economy from external and internal threats. Since, each state wants to sovereignly, without interference and pressure from outside, determine the ways and forms of its economic development. Consequently, the state of the economy and institutions of power, which ensures the guaranteed protection of national interests, the harmonious, socially oriented development of the country as a whole, sufficient economic and defense potential, even with the most unfavorable options for the development of internal and external processes, is considered to be national economic security.

Thus, economic security is not only the protection of national interests, but also the willingness and ability of governmental institutions to create mechanisms for the implementation and protection of national interests of economic development, maintaining the socio-political stability of society.[2]

Foreign economic security is one of the spheres of economic security. The system of foreign economic security sets the following goals: minimizing the effectiveness of threats (both external and internal) to the economic condition of the state and its resources; ensuring the sustainable functioning of the subject of security (enterprises, industries, states); maintaining a stable pace of development of the state, foreign economic relations and efficient use of resources; ensuring the stability of social conditions in society; legal protection of all participants in foreign economic activity. That's why; much attention is paid to the use of new technologies and modern data, the state and development of the subject's finances, and its management activities. [3]

All branches of state power are engaged in ensuring foreign economic security: legislative, judicial and executive. In this regard, it is necessary to delineate their powers to ensure the foreign economic security of the country and its regions. To achieve the planned goals, the system of foreign economic security sets the following tasks: analysis of the situation and forecasting the emergence of possible threats; development of measures for preventing threats; analysis and assessment of the reality of the occurrence of threats and possible damage; response to emerging threats and analysis of the effectiveness of the measures taken; further improvement of the system of foreign economic security, by taking the gained experience into consideration; protection of the rights and interests of security subjects. An analysis of the socio-economic state of Uzbekistan in 2021 showed that the foreign trade turnover of Uzbekistan at the end of the year increased by 16% compared to last year (5.8 billion US dollars) and amounted to 42.1 billion US dollars.

Exports amounted to 16,610.6 million US dollars. US dollars (increased by 10.0%), and the volume of imports amounted to 25,461.0 million US dollars. US dollars (growth by 20.4%). During the reporting period, a passive foreign trade balance of 8850.4 million US dollars was revealed.

Uzbekistan has trade relations with 182 countries. A relatively significant share of foreign trade turnover falls on the Russian Federation (17.9%), the People's Republic of China (17.7%), Kazakhstan (9.3%), Turkey (8.1%), the Republic of Korea (4.5%), the Kyrgyz Republic (2.3%) and the Republic of Turkmenistan (2.1%).

Of the 20 largest foreign economic partners, four countries have an active foreign trade balance, including Afghanistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. With the remaining 17 countries, a passive foreign trade balance is maintained.

The city of Tashkent has the largest share in the foreign trade turnover of the country - \$16,431.6 million with a share of 39.1 percent, and the Surkhandarya region received the smallest share - \$443.1 million with a share of 1.1%.

In January-December 2021, a third of the foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan, precisely 37.7 percent was accounted for the CIS countries. The foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the CIS countries in January-December 2021 amounted to 15,867.8 million US dollars. Of these, exports amounted to 5,407.6 million dollars, imports amounted to 10,460.2 million US dollars. The largest volumes of foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the CIS countries were recorded in the Russian Federation (47.4%), Kazakhstan (24.6%) and the Kyrgyz Republic (6.0%).

In 2021, the number of exporters in the country amounted to 6,547 million, they ensured the export of goods and services in the amount of 12,500.8 million US dollars (excluding gold).

The share of goods in exports was 84.7%, including manufactured goods (26.1%), food and live animals (8.3%), chemicals and similar goods not included in other categories (6.8%). As of the end of 2021, the main export partners were the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan. The share of these seven largest countries in total exports amounted to 56.5 percent.

Indicators	2019	2020	2021
million US dollars:			
Foreign trade turnover	41 751,0	36 256,1	42 071,6
export	17 458,7	15 102,3	16 610,6
import	24 292,3	21 153,8	25 461,0
<i>trade balance</i>	-6 833,6	-6 051,5	-8 850,4
including:			
with CIS countries	14 461,8	11 826,4	15 867,8
export	6 234,0	4 106,4	5 407,6
import	8 227,8	7 720,0	10 460,2
<i>trade balance</i>	-1 993,8	-3 613,6	-5 052,6
with other countries	27 289,2	24 429,6	26 203,7
export	11 224,7	10 995,8	11 203,0
import	16 064,5	13 433,8	15 000,8
<i>trade balance</i>	-4 839,9	-2 437,9	-3 797,8
As a percentage of the previous year:			
Foreign trade turnover	124,9	86,8	116,0
export	124,8	86,5	110,0
import	125,0	87,1	120,4
including:			
with CIS countries	119,1	81,8	134,2
export	124,6	65,9	131,7
import	115,2	93,8	135,5
with other countries	128,2	89,5	107,3
export	124,9	98,0	101,9
import	130,6	83,6	111,7

Last year, the volume of imports amounted to 25,461.0 million US dollars. and increased by 20.4 percent compared to 2020. The largest share in the structure of imports falls on machinery and transport equipment (32.4%), manufactured goods (18.5%), chemical and similar products (14.3%). In 2021, goods and services from 157 countries of the world were imported into the Republic of Uzbekistan. The seven largest trading partners - the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, Germany and Turkmenistan - account for one third of all imports. [4]

Threats in the sphere of foreign economic activity of the country may arise under the influence of both external and internal factors. To prevent threats, it is necessary to take measures aimed at:

- ensuring effective cooperation and interaction between the states of the region in the implementation of economic reforms;
- further decrease in the level of raw material orientation;
- formation of a unified and regional innovation policy;
- preventing capital outflow from the region and increasing the attraction of foreign direct investment in the region's economy;
- creation of favorable conditions for the formation of a single regional market.

By summarizing, we can conclude that the concept of "security of foreign economic activity" is complex, it characterizes the state of protection from external and internal threats of foreign economic relations and regional entities, and the country as a whole guarantees economic independence, stable effective functioning of the general and regional socio-economic system and its sustainable growth.

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