

Kazyuka Diana Vladimirovna

Belarusian State University of Transport, Republic of Belarus

Supervisor: Putyato Olga Vasilyevna M.T.S, senior lecturer; Makutonina Elena Yurievna, lecturer.

«Impact of the pandemic covid-19 on customs regulation»

The direction of the study:

Customs activities in the context of the spread of COVID-19

The emergence of the coronavirus infection has brought many changes into all areas of human life. The field of customs is not an exception: in order to limit the spread of the disease. The Eurasian Economic Union has adopted a number of measures, both tariff and non-tariff, to stimulate the import of necessary goods and limit their export. This article defers to changes that have been introduced in the customs regulations of the EAEU members.

Non-tariff regulation measures – concerning the prohibition of the export of goods from the customs territory of the EAEU.

Introduction of non-tariff regulation measures for the export of certain categories of goods outside the territory of the Eurasian Economic Union designed to combat an unfavorable epidemiological situation, as well as to avoid shortages in the domestic markets of member states. To this end, amendments were made to Decision №30 of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission «On Non-tariff Regulation Measures»:

Decision №41 of 24.03.2020 of the Collegium of the EEC banned the export of personal protective equipment, protective and disinfection agents and medical products from the territory of the Union¹.

Decision №43 of 31.03.2020 of the Collegium of the EEC imposed a ban on the export of foodstuffs: onions, buckwheat, millet, rice and medical products from the customs territory of the Union².

The prohibition of the export of these categories of goods didn't apply when:

Goods are intended for international humanitarian aid to foreign countries on the basis of the EEC;

Goods were exported by individuals as goods for personal use;

¹ Prohibitions and restrictions related to COVID-19 [Electronic resource] / Official website of the Customs Service of the Republic of Belarus. – Access mode: <https://www.customs.gov.by/>. – Date of access: 15.05.2021

² Decision №43 of 31.03.2020 of the Collegium of the EEC «On Amendments to Decision of the Board of the Eurasian Economic Commission №30 «On Non-tariff Regulation Measures»» [Electronic resource] / Customs Portal of Alta-Soft Company. – Access mode: <https://www.alt.ru> – Date of access: 15.05.2021

Goods were moved in international transit traffic starting and ending outside the territory of the EAEU.

In addition, non-tariff regulatory measures have been established at the national level of the EAEU member states. For example, the Russian Federation imposed its own ban on the export of such goods as medical gowns, disposable coveralls for chemical protection and medical masks. And the government of the Kyrgyz Republic imposed an export restriction on goods such as wipe, disinfectants, pasta, feed and others.

Tariff regulation measures – norms of exemption from import customs duties.

At the level of the EAEU such features have been established by the following statements:

Decision of the EEC Council №33 of 03.04.2020 «On Amendments to Certain Decision of the Customs Union Commission and Approval of the List of Critical Import Goods» approved the application of import duty exemption for critical import goods: certain types of food products (potatoes, cabbage, carrots), certain types of medicines and medical devices¹.

Decision of the EEC Council №21 of 03.04.2020 «On amendments to some decision of the Customs Union Commission and on approval of a list of goods imported into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union in order to implement measures by member states of the Eurasian Economic Union aimed at preventing the spread of coronavirus infection 2019-nCoV» approved application of import customs duty exemption for certain types of goods for medical and laboratory purposes used for the implementation of measures aimed at preventing the spread of COVID-19².

Exemption from import customs duty was applied under the conditions:

Placing goods under the customs procedure for home use;

Confirmation of the intended use of the imported goods.

Features of customs regulation in transit of goods and vehicles.

A peculiarity of transit traffic is that countries aim to reduce contact between carriers and customs authorities as much as possible during the pandemic. Thus, some EAEU countries have adopted a number of special features for the movement of goods. For example, the Republic of Belarus Council of Ministers Decree №171 of 25.03.2020 “On measures to prevent the entry and

¹ Decision of the EEC Council №33 of 03.04.2020 «On Amendments to Certain Decision of the Customs Union Commission and Approval of the List of Critical Import Goods» [Electronic resource] / Customs Portal of Alta-Soft Company. – Access mode: <https://www.alta.ru> – Date of access: 16.05.2021

² Decision of the EEC Council №21 of 03.04.2020 «On amendments to some decision of the Customs Union Commission and on approval of a list of goods imported into the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union in order to implement measures by member states of the Eurasian Economic Union aimed at preventing the spread of coronavirus infection 2019-nCoV» [Electronic resource] / Customs Portal of Alta-Soft Company. – Access mode: <https://www.alta.ru> – Date of access: 16.05.2021

spread of infection caused by coronavirus COVID-19” established that the carrier performing transit transportation must leave the territory of Belarus by the shortest route, no later than the day following the day of entry into its territory, except for certain cases, defined by the Council of Ministers №171¹. Another EAEU member country, Kazakhstan established a ban on transit of foreign citizens and trucks through its territory to third countries with a ban on entry, and established a permit time slot from 10.00 to 19.00 for vehicles by Order № 410 of the Minister in Industry and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Amendments to Order № 384 of the Minister of Investment and Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 31.03.2015 “On Approval of the Rules of Granting Permits for Transit of Products” dated 22.07.2020.

Change in the procedure for providing a certificate of origin.

Previously, in order to grant tariff preferences for goods originating from developing and least developed countries, it was necessary to provide proof of origin in the form of an original certificate of origin. But by EEC Council Decision № 36 of 03.04.2020 «On Amendments to the Rules for Determining Origin of Goods from Developing and Least Developed Countries and on Peculiarities of Submission of Certificate of Origin in Conditions of Coronavirus Infection 2019-nCov» established that a copy of the certificate of origin is allowed in electronic or paper form to confirm the country of origin of goods². The original of such a document must be submitted to the customs authorities no later than 6 months after the date of registration of the goods declaration.

Based on the experience of the European Union, where it is planned to introduce covid passports for all people crossing the customs border of the European Union, a similar practice could be introduced in the Eurasian Economic Union. Such passports could be provided not only on entry to the EAEU, but also on their exit by people registered on the territory of the union, which would help to prevent spread of the virus and encourage vaccination of the population³. Such passports could be issued in the form of a document or a plastic card containing the following information:

Data on date and place of vaccination from COVID-19.

¹ About the approaches applied by customs authorities of Belarus in establishing the term of customs transit in the pandemic period [Electronic resource] / Customs Portal of Alta-Soft Company. – Access mode: <https://www.alta.ru> – Date of access: 16.05.2021

² EEC Council Decision № 36 of 03.04.2020 «On Amendments to the Rules for Determining Origin of Goods from Developing and Least Developed Countries and on Peculiarities of Submission of Certificate of Origin in Conditions of Coronavirus Infection 2019-nCov» [Electronic resource] / Customs Portal of Alta-Soft Company. – Access mode: <https://www.alta.ru> – Date of access: 17.05.2021

³ The EU will issue «covid passport» for intra-regional travelers [Electronic resource] – Access mode: <https://immigrantivnest.com> – Date of access: 17.05.2021

Results of tests for coronavirus and presence of antibodies against it.

Such innovations would be practical for both carriers and individuals transiting or arriving in the country to contain the spread of the virus and to open borders.

Thus, the Decisions of the EEC Board and Council at the supranational level adopted a number of measures to reduce the spread of the virus , as well as to ensure that the internal markets of the EAEU member states are saturated with everything necessary to combat the pandemic. It is worth noting that appropriate conditions have been created for participants in foreign economic activities to continue their activities in the context of the pandemic, and customs authorities have been tasked with minimizing physical contact with persons moving across the EAEU customs border.

Kartysheva Yulia Arturovna

Polotsk State University, The Republic of Belarus

The research advisor: Grikis Vasil Petrovich, senior lecturer at the department of Constitutional Law and Public Administration

«Digital Customs Services and Its Efficiency»

The main points for assessing the work of customs authorities are the speed of customs operations, the reduction of costs for customs procedures, the timeliness of customs payments, the effectiveness of crime investigations and administrative offense reduction.

Though, the work of customs service is efficient, there is always a way to make it better. For example, it is necessary to introduce more advanced computer data processing systems into the organizational process of customs control procedures. That will allow to receive and to process information about goods and vehicles even before the cargo enters customs offices and border control stations, including conducting a comprehensive analysis of electronic preliminary information (EPI) for the risks. The introduction of effective technologies into customs control procedures will undoubtedly enhance the integration into world economic, legal, and political systems which will allow to increase the efficiency of customs control, to optimally allocate time and labor resources of customs authorities during customs control procedures, to optimize analytical activities of customs authorities, to PR customs administration image for business communities.

It is important to note that new ways to simplify customs formalities by creating electronic (digital) informational systems should be introduced into all countries. They should contain the functionality and compatibility similar to other systems around the world, as well as they should be accessible, secure, integrated, and most importantly controllable. The