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**«International commercial customs services»***Research Field:**Customs and Business: Cooperation Challenges*

Due to the constantly growing passenger traffic, due to the international migration of labor, as well as international tourism, the burden on the customs authorities is constantly increasing. The implementation of customs declaration in the Eurasian Economic Union according to a simplified scheme using a two-channel system of «green» and «red» channels complicates customs control. Therefore, we should consider foreign experience in providing commercial customs services for their citizens. In this regard, a web application was also developed on the topic «Commercial customs services of the United States, Canada and Mexico». The purpose of the site was to provide information about commercial customs services in the US, Canada and Mexico.

A number of border management programs have been developed in the North American region, but a specific named concept cannot be singled out. Cooperation between the USA, Mexico and Canada is carried out within the framework of bilateral agreements and joint programs. A characteristic feature of the programs of the region under consideration is the desire to ensure maximum security of the supply chain of goods and the process of moving passengers across state borders. Joint projects include special simplifications provided to reliable traders and law-abiding passengers<sup>1</sup>.

The events of September 11, 2001 in the United States stimulated the development of a number of security programs in various areas, including the cross-border movement of goods and passengers. There are both national and joint programs in the USA, Canada and Mexico. So, for example, NEXUS is referred to the joint program of the USA and Canada, and FAST is referred to the joint program of the USA, Canada and Mexico. The national program in Canada was the former CANPASS program.

NEXUS is a joint Trusted Traveler and Expedited Border Program of Canada Border Services Agency and US Customs and Border Protection designed for low-risk, pre-approved travelers. The NEXUS Membership Card is a valid document under the Western Hemisphere

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<sup>1</sup> Bobrova, A. U. Coordinated border management: international standards and law enforcement practice: monograph / O.G. Bobrova, A. Yu. Kozhankov, D. G. Korovyakovsky and others. - M.: Prometey, 2017. - 192 p.

Travel Initiative (WHTI), so it can be used in place of a passport, including by air when traveling between the US and Canada<sup>1</sup>.

The benefit of using these NEXUS Cards is that program members can avoid waits at border entry points by using reserved lanes at land crossings into Canada and the United States including from Mexico, by using self-serve kiosks at airports in Canada, the US and some international locations, or by phoning border officials for a marine entry.

NEXUS applications can be submitted either online, via the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website or via fax within Canada. The application fee is \$50 USD if applying by online application<sup>2</sup>. Applicants are screened for citizenship and immigration status, and checked for criminal history. Applicants who pass the initial screening are granted «conditional approval» and then must be interviewed in person by agents of both the Canada Border Services Agency and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. An interview does not guarantee final acceptance even if the applicant was granted conditional approval. After final approval, members are mailed an RFID-enabled NEXUS card, valid for five years.

NEXUS cardholders are generally screened more quickly than non-NEXUS cardholders at Canadian and United States border crossings offering NEXUS, Ready and SENTRI lanes. However, such trusted travelers are still subject to standard immigration and customs checks, and may be selected for secondary screening.

Along the Mexican border, NEXUS members may utilize Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) lanes when entering the US by land, but must be traveling in an approved, registered vehicle<sup>3</sup>. The second way of using NEXUS is to use it at sea crossings. The boat captain must call the NEXUS reporting center at least 30 minutes before the boat arrives and provide the personal details of all NEXUS members on board, as well as travel details. The border guard at the reporting center issues a report number to be given to customs officers at the designated pick-up point. US and Canadian citizens can fly between the US and Canada using their NEXUS card without a passport.

The Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program is a commercial clearance program for known low-risk shipments entering the United States from Canada and Mexico. This innovative trusted traveler, shipper program allows expedited processing for commercial carriers who have completed background checks and fulfill certain eligibility requirements. Shipments for

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia // URL: <https://ru.wikipedia.org>, 03.18.2022.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Trusted Traveler Programs // URL: <https://ttp.dhs.gov>, 03.26.2022.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Customs and Border Protection // URL: <https://www.cbp.gov>, 26.03.2022.

approved companies transported by approved carriers using registered drivers clear customs to any country with greater speed, reliability and lower compliance costs.

FAST applications are completed and submitted to the Trusted Traveler Programs website. The cost to apply for FAST membership is \$50. FAST registration is open to US citizens, US lawful permanent residents, Canadian citizens, Canadian lawful permanent residents, and Mexican citizens. FAST applicants must be over 18 years old and have a valid driver's license.

FAST vehicle lanes process cargo at land border ports of entry that serve commercial cargo. The majority of dedicated FAST lanes are located in northern border ports in Michigan, New York and Washington and at southern border ports from California to Texas. There is a separation of FAST into FAST North and FAST South. FAST North provides all the benefits at both borders. Fast North provides full benefits at both borders. If an applicant is approved for FAST North, he may not need to apply for FAST South. However, if an applicant is approved for FAST South, he should apply for FAST North for FAST processing on the northern border.

The Canadian Passenger Accelerated Service System (CANPASS) is a Canada Border Services Agency program in place to streamline customs and immigration clearance for travellers flying on corporate and private aircraft. The CANPASS Corporate Aircraft program and the CANPASS Private Aircraft program allow company and private aircraft that frequently fly directly into Canada from the United States to access more airports and provide expedited clearance<sup>1</sup>. From April 3, 2018 the CANPASS Air program for commercial airline passengers as well as the CANPASS Private Boats program for watercraft passengers were discontinued. Members were encouraged to join NEXUS, which has the same benefits of the former CANPASS programs in addition to the benefits of the United States' Global Entry program. Members maintained their privileges until their membership expired<sup>2</sup>.

The CANPASS Corporate Aircraft program was required if the company owns or operates a corporate aircraft that flies frequently to Canada from the United States. This program allowed access to a large number of airports and provided expedited clearance for pre-screened low-risk travelers. Corporate aircraft could carry no more than 15 pre-approved low-risk passengers including crew. Corporate aircraft must report the Canadian Border Services Agency by telephone before arriving in Canada.

Summing up, it should be noted that in most of the considered programs, the fight against terrorism, ensuring national security and the security of the supply chain come to the fore,

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<sup>1</sup> Canada Border Services Agency // URL: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>, 30.03.2022.

<sup>2</sup> Boating Industry Canada // URL: <https://boatingindustry.ca>, 03.04.2022.

optimizing customs control is not a primary goal, but a way to achieve the main goal - the safety of life and health of the country's citizens.

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**«The ethical side of the activities of customs officials»**

*Research Field:*

*Morality in international trade: ethics in Business and Customs*

Currently, service in customs authorities is inseparable from such concepts as morality, ethics, integrity. Issues related to ethics and behavior are considered one of the dominant areas of activity of public servants, which has received great attention in recent years. The ethics of public servants refers to a system of values and rules governing the relationship that arises during the implementation of public service. This can be a relationship between leaders and subordinates, colleagues in the process of their joint activities, between public servants and citizens contacting them.

The activity of the customs authorities is one of those that is directly related to the observance of moral and ethical norms, since it involves direct daily communication with a large number of individuals crossing the customs border, as well as with participants of foreign economic activity. The interaction of these persons is carried out on various issues related, for example, to the procedure for filling out customs declarations, to the procedure for moving different categories of goods across the customs border, to the classification of goods, to clarify customs legislation, as well as on many other aspects that require the direct participation of customs authorities. In any communication, there is often a disagreement between customs officials and those who are unwilling to accept the law and who are often quite aggressive in asserting their position.

Thus, the business communication skills aimed at explaining and complying with the rules of the current legislation, in the activities of customs officers, especially in such difficult situations, is inherent for employees who come into direct contact as colleagues, and with other faces. Also important is the principled, legitimate conduct of employees, their compliance with ethical norms and rules in the performance of their duties.

It is important that the employees of state institutions meet the requirements of society, since their main task is to serve the public interest of citizens.