

СЕКЦИЯ «ИНОСТРАННЫЕ ЯЗЫКИ»

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CUSTOMS UNION: NEW APPROACHES IN MANAGING THE INTEGRATION PROCESS

ТАМОЖЕННЫЙ СОЮЗ: НОВЫЕ ПОДХОДЫ В УПРАВЛЕНИИ ПРОЦЕССОМ ИНТЕГРАЦИИ

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Economic shocks arising in recent years, the lack of any tangible results in overcoming the crises are forcing policy makers increasingly turn to the experience of a joint economic management in the managed integration. Even the wealthy in economic terms countries have chosen the way of a multi-stage integration, leading eventually to a plan of its initiators, in a political rapprochement.

The process of eliminating restrictions on international trade, payments and factor mobility, is known as economic integration. The most important stage of economic integration is formation of a customs union. Purposes for establishing a customs union normally include increasing economic efficiency and establishing closer political and cultural ties between the member countries.

A Customs Union involves a coherent national abolition of customs tariffs, the introduction of a common customs tariff and the unified system of tariff regulation in relation to third countries, common customs legislation based on international conventions, free circulation and identical origin rules for free trade between Member States, maintenance or abolition of border controls between members. Functioning of the customs union requires changes in approaches to managing the integration processes. There is a need in the negotiations on the harmonization of customs tariff policy, as well as coordination and adaptation of domestic markets to the general interest; raises the question of creation of supranational bodies that will develop.

The level of economic integration between various groups of nations is also deepening. The most obvious example of this is the European Union, which has become a fully integrated economic unit. The European Union has reached a high level of economic and political integration is based on a customs union. The Customs Union is a

foundation of the European Union and an essential element in the functioning of the single market. The single market can only function properly when there is a common application of common rules at its external borders. This implies that the 27 Customs administrations of the EU must act as though they were one. Currently, Belarus is a member of the Customs Union, together with countries such as Russia and Kazakhstan. We need to use the experience and achievements of existing associations, primarily the EU.

Today, customs are facing new challenges: they must ensure the smooth flow of trade applying necessary controls on the one hand, guaranteeing protecting the health and safety of citizens on the other hand. To achieve the correct balance between these demands, customs set up some priorities such as a Single Window and e-Customs. It is practised in our Customs Union. There are some programs to achieve the goals which are executing as far as Customs Union is becoming full-fledged. It simplifies cross-border control for traders, improves cross-border control efficiency, minimizes corruption risks, improves transit attractiveness etc.

Significance of a Single Window:

- Easy Access for all to information portal
- Integration Services
- Identity and Security Services
- Business Intelligence Services
- Performance and Availability

Single Window Benefits for Government more effective and efficient deployment of resources, correct revenue yield, improved trader compliance, enhanced security, increased integrity & transparency; for Private Sector: cutting costs through, reducing delays and informal payments, faster clearance and release, predictable application & explanation of rules, more effective & efficient deployment of resources, increased transparency and less Processing Steps.

Electronic customs is a major development for the Customs Union. Current legislation on customs procedures and processes is rather complex and is still based on paper declarations, and although all Member States have electronic customs systems, they are not inter-connected. Current legislation on customs procedures and processes should be based on electronic declarations. It creates a more efficient and modern customs environment and facilitates trade.