

**BELARUSIAN NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
БЕЛОРУССКИЙ НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ**

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In the modern world, the state of the national economy of each country depends not only on its ability to organize economic activities within its borders, but also on proper interaction with other countries. Nowadays it has become much easier to cooperate, largely due to scientific and technological progress. International collaboration contributes to the facilitation, simplification and at the same time the modernization of many processes and operations. The advantages of mutually beneficial cooperation bring tangible benefits to states and encourage them to work together with other countries, and further to their commitment to integration trends.

International economic integration is a complex of economic relations of cooperation of countries in various fields of activity, which is characterized by deep interpenetration of economies and leads to long-term technical, technological and economic interdependence.¹

To date, there are several forms of economic integration, representing a certain degree of association:²

1. Free Trade Zone;
2. Customs Union;
3. Common Market;
4. Economic Union;
5. Full economic integration.

¹ Мисько, О. Н. Международная экономическая интеграция [Текст]: учебное пособие / О. Н. Мисько. – СПб: Университет ИТМО, 2015. – 174 с.

² Balassa, B. The Theory of Economic Integration (Routledge Revivals)/B. Balassa. – London, 1961. – 304 p.

Within the free trade zone, tariffs and quantitative restrictions between the participating countries are eliminated. However, tariffs in relation to third countries that have not joined the free trade zone are set by each participating state independently.

The creation of a Customs union implies the suppression of discrimination in the movement of goods within the union and the agreed setting of tariffs in trade in relation to third countries that are not members of this union.

Within the territory of the common market, all agreements reached under the free trade zone and the Customs union are maintained, as well as the free movement of production factors.

Within the framework of the economic union, an agreement on the socio-economic and monetary policies among the members of the union appears. It is designed to avoid inconsistencies and disagreements.

Full economic integration implies unification of monetary, fiscal and social policies. It includes the observance of all the above stages of integration and involves the creation of a supranational body. The decisions of this body are binding for all Member States.

One of the key integration associations in which the Republic of Belarus is a Member state is the Eurasian Economic Union. It is the next stage of the process of regional economic integration after the three countries established the Customs Union and the Common Economic Space.³

The Eurasian Economic Union is a common space where freedom of movement of goods, services, capital and labor is ensured, as well as the implementation by countries of a coordinated, coordinated or uniform policy in sectors of the economy such as energy, industry, agriculture and transport. The agreement also creates a legislative basis for further

³ Шумский Н.Н. Региональные экономические объединения постсоветских государств: организационно-правовое обеспечение процессов интеграции / Н.Н. Шумский. – Минск: Беларусь. Наука, 2010. – 323 с.

harmonization of macroeconomic, monetary, trade, investment and tax policies.⁴

The participants in the Eurasian Economic Union are the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation. Syria and Tunisia have announced their intention to join the Eurasian Economic Union, the proposal to accept Turkey into the Union was announced.

The management and coordination bodies of the Eurasian Economic Union are the Higher Eurasian Economic Council (a supranational body consisting of the heads of states of The Eurasian Economic Union members); Eurasian Economic Commission (permanent regulatory body of the Eurasian Economic Union). The competence of the Eurasian Economic Commission includes issues of international trade and Customs regulation.

The Eurasian Economic Union is one of the stages of the plan to strengthen economic ties between some states on the territory of the former USSR. In a sense, this can be viewed as the restoration of the once existing economic and technological chains, taking into account new, political and economic realities.

An important aspect of The Eurasian Economic Union activities has become the system of centralized distribution of Customs duties paid when crossing the borders of the Common Economic Space. Russia accounts for 85, 33% of the total; Kazakhstan receives 7.11%; Belarus - 4.55%; Kyrgyzstan - 1.9%; Armenia - 1.11%. In addition, The Eurasian Economic Union has a mechanism for coordinated collection and distribution of indirect taxes.

The Eurasian Economic Union has united states with a common past, including an economic one, but different present, first of all an economic one. Each of the former Soviet republics in the Soviet period had its own specialization, and during the years of independence there were many other changes associated

⁴ Точицкая, Кирхнер. Участие Беларуси в Евразийском Экономическом Союзе [Текст] // GET Belarus. – 2016.

with attempts to find their place in the world market and in the regional division of labor.

The main driving force of the Eurasian association in general and the Eurasian Economic Union in particular, has always remained the Russian Federation. The history of the integration processes of the last decades looks like a series of compromises between the influence of Russia and the interests of its neighbors. For example, Belarus has repeatedly stated that it is not the Eurasian Economic Union that is important in itself, but a single economic space with equal prices for oil and gas and the admission of enterprises of the Republic to Russian public procurement.

It should be noted that the agreements of the Eurasian Economic Union have many exceptions and clarifications, anti-dumping, protective and countervailing measures that do not allow talking about the general benefit and equal conditions for all participants in the organization. Practically each of the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union at certain times expressed its dissatisfaction with the contractual terms.

Despite the elimination of customs posts within the Eurasian Economic Union, border control between states remains. Also, at the internal borders, inspections by the sanitary control services continue. The practice of their work does not demonstrate any mutual trust or declared unity of approaches. An example of this is the “food wars” periodically arising between Russia and Belarus.

It is impossible to talk about achieving the goals declared at the conclusion of the Eurasian Economic Union, the internal trade turnover between the participants of the Eurasian Economic Union is falling. Special advantages for the economy compared with the period before the conclusion of agreements is also not observed. However, there is reason to believe that without an agreement on the Eurasian Economic Union, the situation would have looked even more depressing. Crisis in each individual economy could have a larger scale and depth. The presence in the Eurasian Economic Union gives many enterprises a comparative advantage in the intra-union market.