

West experience of economic integration processes

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Nowadays the number of integrations is increasing as consequence of globalization. Many countries seek to the integration in order to expand its participation in the international division of labor, to promote trade and attract investment for sustainable development solutions to economic, social and environmental problems. Integration is determined by the scale of problems which are being solved. World experience shows that isolated economy has never been developed.

Modern world economy differentiates by deepening and widening of integration processes. Virtually all states with few exceptions consist of one or several regional integration. As of 1 January 2013 the World Trade Organization (WTO) Secretariat was registered 379 regional trade agreements and 200 more agreements are in the process of registration while at the end of 1994, there were 49 agreements.

The overwhelming majority of integration agreements in force in the global economy are free trade areas which take 84% of all agreements. Among these integrations the most attractive one is European Union (EU) with more than sixty year history that has the most profound forms of integration and interaction.

Considering the above, the purpose of this article: to examine the prospects of Eurasian integration based on the experience of the European Union.

The Eurasian Economic Community (EEC) is the most serious approach to integration association, established on the initiative of President of Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev. Signed in 2000 by the Presidents of the five countries (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan) Treaty Establishing the Eurasian Economic Community has appeared is more successful than the previous integration experience.

Eurasian Economic Union comes in place of the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC) which will officially go into effect on 1 January 2015. According to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev it is a purely economic integration.

Development of integration stimulates natural result of the growth of economic modernization through social development, which, in turn, is not only the welfare of the population, but also increase the level education and culture among the citizens of our countries. I would like to emphasize that improving the quality of life and welfare of the population is the main goal of the implementation of the Eurasian project.

According to the estimation of scientists the total integration effect measured by the additional production measured in gross domestic product 2015 is approximately 400 billion USD. Consequently each country will have a significant integration effect. Russia due to the integration factor will receive additional increase of 16.8% from the current level of GDP, Belarus - 16%, Kazakhstan - 14.7%.

Thus the creation of the Eurasian Union could be the beginning of a new era for the post-Soviet states. In this regard, a significant event is the beginning of the formation of the Eurasian elite. The first step in this direction has already become the first creation of a supranational structure - Eurasian commission.

However noting the progress achieved, we must not forget about the possible risks of Eurasian integration overcoming of which should be one of the main tasks for the near future.

Coming into integration group will require serious changes in approaches to the social sphere. The purpose of the country's entry into this alliance is to create conditions for high growth rates for a long time, overcoming the negative forcing from financial and commodity factors and other forces, closing force and power of all members of the community.

Therefore, cannot be mixed the two concepts and to talk about the good-neighborliness, friendship and cooperation as the successful integration. Integration is not only friendship and cooperation. It suggests a number of conditions which on the quality goes far beyond diplomatic, military and economic practices of XX century. Hence Eurasian integration must take into account the lessons of the EU.

Having considered practice of the European Union, I suggest paying attention to the following factors:

1. The integration is made possible only when the long independent development of nations and there is a high political, economic and legal culture, not only the leaders, but also the whole society. Countries should be harmonized all their internal development opportunities and to conclude on the need to coordinate efforts with other entities. This is not a simple problem. It was decided in the EU for half a century, but until the end so was not solved.

2. Integration showed that the starting positions for the participating countries were different. It requires the coordination of efforts and a lot of money on the "pulling up" stragglers. For this, developed special programs funded mainly by Germany.

3. Integration is consistent only in the case of demonstrating the effectiveness of solutions to specific problems where every citizen feels positive result. But even the abolition of national currencies and the euro has caused some discomfort.

4. Integration begins not with political declarations and signing some loud-sounding instruments. European integration started at the level of enterprises and industries. This gave the opportunity to solve many problems of price, customs nature. In Europe, only after resolution of "chicken", "wine", "meat", "grain" wars between 1950-1960 one addressing the educational, medical, pension space, finding mechanisms to overcome the contradictions, entering to a new stage.

5. Integration is not a panacea for all problems. As the experience of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, the Baltic countries shows, each country should apply a maximum effort by its own and do not expect others to solve its problems. Apparently, some limit of integration exists.

Thus, it must be concluded that integration is a long term and complex process, during which it is possible to both positive and negative effects. In this regard, it is important to note that the Eurasian project is implemented with all the advantages and disadvantages of European integration. At one time, Europeans took forty years to go from the European Coal and Steel Community to the full EU while Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan established a customs union in just eight years. Formation of the Customs Union and the Common Economic Space is much more dynamic, as considers the experience of the EU and other regional organizations. We see their strengths and weaknesses. And this is our obvious advantage that helps avoid errors, prevent the reproduction of all sorts of bureaucratic canopies.

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