

**Секция «Глобалистика и геополитика»**

**Kazakhstan's accession to the WTO as the next step towards globalization:  
pros and cons.**

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Kazakhstan's Accession to the WTO – is an additional instrument of economic modernization and strengthening of Kazakhstan's competitiveness in international markets, which will open many opportunities for our country. When we are making important decisions about joining the WTO we need to be assessed all of the positive and negative consequences that may have an impact on the economic development of Kazakhstan. Will accession to the WTO develop our economy or consolidate our position in world market as the raw material country, finally reducing the industrial and agricultural sector of our country?[n1]

Kazakhstan as a member of the international community is still at the stage of entry into the world trade market. Since the founding of the Republic Kazakhstan we can see the trend of sustainable growth in foreign trade with countries as distant as well as from neighboring countries and the expansion of the geography of foreign trade. So, if in 1993 Kazakhstan carried out the export-import operations with 62 countries around the world, and in 1999 – already with more than 100 countries, by 2004 Kazakhstan had nearly 175 partner countries. Now the number of trading partners is closer to 207. On dynamics of exports and imports of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the 1995-2012 (Figure 1.), we can see exports had a steady growth. Overall, from 1995 to 2011, together with an increase in exports was a gradual increase in imports, which in 2012 reached the amount of 46358,4 million U.S. dollars.[n2]

In 2009 the decrease in exports was characterized by a general deterioration of the situation on world markets of raw materials, internal imbalances in the economy and the impact of the global economic crisis. As we can see below there was a sharp jump in the direction of increasing exports in 2010, and in 2012 it exceeded pre-crisis mark and amounted to 86 448,80 million U.S. dollars. In Fig. 1 are presented the export and import of Kazakhstan and CIS countries, given that you can draw the following conclusion: the volume of trade as a percentage of those countries are reduced each year, but the fall is not the real volume of trade, on the contrary, they are growing every year, because it reduces the volume of trade increases the percentage of foreign countries. However, these countries still remain the main our partners especially the Russian Federation, the share of which in 2013 accounted for 8,5% of exports and 42,8% of imports. The data in Fig. 2 show the growth of Kazakhstan's foreign trade with foreign countries. If the CIS countries in 1995 accounted for almost 52,3% of exports and 69.7% of total imports, whereas in 2013 these percentages were 13,1% and 46,4%, respectively. Overall, Kazakhstan's trade policy has tended to the narrowing of the external economic relations with CIS countries and the expansion of trade with the rest of the world.[n3]

The main positive aspects of Kazakhstan's accession to the WTO will be in the following: the prospects of the investment environment, advantages in the field of export licensing, standards, antidumping and countervailing duties, more effective competition in the market

range and quality of goods and services, the establishment of civilized conditions of competition and transparent legal environment. The main negative impacts of Kazakhstan's accession to the WTO for the country is the current structure of Kazakhstan's export flows dominate oil, ferrous and nonferrous metals and other raw materials. Problems are expected in the manufacturing sector. Main of them - is the low competitiveness of the most of industries and enterprises in Kazakhstan and negative consequences for the environment in Kazakhstan.

The process of accession to the WTO - is irreversible, but in order to pros to join this international organization was greater than the cons, it is necessary first of all, take effective measures to speed up modernization and diversification of Kazakhstan's economy.

### Литература

1. Krugman P., Obstfeld M., Melitz M. (2012). International Economics: Theory and Policy. New York: Addison Wesley (Pearson)
2. Press releases of the "TACIS" PROJECT (Support to WTO Accession in Kazakhstan: Approximation of Technical Regulations and Standards) from <http://tacis.awc.kz/>
3. Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Statistics from: <http://www.stat.kz/>

### Иллюстрации

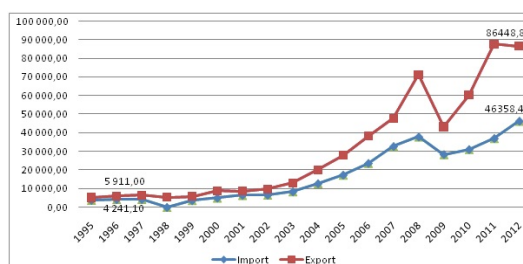


Рис. 1: Dynamics of foreign trade of Kazakhstan, in millions of dollars USA (Source: Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Statistics, [www.stat.kz](http://www.stat.kz) )

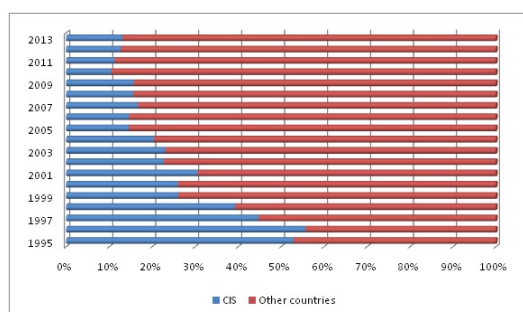


Рис. 2: Dynamics of export of Kazakhstan with the CIS countries and rest of world, % of export (Source: Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Statistic <http://www.stat.kz/>)