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PAIRING THE EU AND THE SREB: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Abstract. Since 2014, many experts, politicians and diplomats have been discussing the possibility of politically and economically effectively linking the Eurasian Economic Union and the Chinese Silk Road Economic Belt initiative. The initiative to create the Silk Road Economic Belt implies the creation of a large international economic niche in Eurasia, where it will be possible to invest practically all projects planned in foreign policy and foreign economic spheres. In addition, the SREB initiative implies the construction of a symbiotic system in the Eurasian space, characterized by a free structure, high inclusivity, its main principle is «partnership without an alliance». There is a very active discussion of the possibilities of even wider integration and the construction of a «Greater Eurasia» or economic partnership based on a set of integration processes and various forms of trade and economic, as well as transport and energy co-operation between the EAEU, PRC, ASEAN, EU and other leading economic associations in the Eurasian space. At the same time, when Kazakhstan is at the stage of political transformation, today the republic is located between the two most economically powerful centers of the continent – the European Union and the People’s Republic of China. Each of them significantly exceeds the Eurasian Economic Union in terms of aggregate economic power. This situation prompts Russia to position the EAEU as an «effective link between Europe and the dynamic Asia-Pacific region». In this regard, this article sets the goal of disclosing the conjugations of two promising and economically ambitious «unions» that can fundamentally affect the further economic growth of the state. And also do an analysis of the problems and development prospects of both the EAEU and the SREB.

Key words: Kazakhstan, EU, Silk Road, economic conjugation, development prospects.

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ЕО мен ЖЖЭТ белдеуі: мәселелері мен даму болашағы

Аңдатпа. 2014 жылдан бастап көптеген сарапшылар, саясаткерлер мен дипломаттар Еуразиялық экономикалық одақ пен Қытайдың бастамасымен басталған Жібек жолы экономикалық белдеуінің саяси және экономикалық тұрғыдан тиімді байланыстыру мүмкіндігін талқылады. Жібек жолының экономикалық белдеуін құру бастамасы Еуразиядағы ірі халықаралық экономикалық орын құруды көздейді, онда сыртқы саясат пен сыртқы экономикалық салаларда жоспарланған барлық жобаларды іс жүзінде инвестициялауға болады. Сонымен қатар, ЖЖЭБ бастамасы еуразиялық кеңістіктегі еркін құрылымымен, жоғары инклюзивтілігімен сипатталатын симбиотикалық жүйені құруды білдіреді, оның негізгі қағидаты «альянсыз серіктестік». ЕАЭО, ҚХР, АСЕАН, ЕО және басқа да жетекші экономикалық бірлестіктер арасындағы интеграциялық үдерістердің және сауда-экономикалық, көліктік және энергетикалық ынтымақтастықтың әртүрлі нысандарына негізделген «Үлкен Еуразия» немесе экономикалық серіктестіктің құрылысын неғұрлым кең интеграциялау мүмкіндіктерін және өте белсенді талқылауға негізделген Еуразиялық кеңістікті белгілейді. Сонымен қатар, Қазақстан саяси трансформация кезеңінде болған кезде, бүгінгі таңда континенттің экономикалық қуатты орталықтарының – Еуропалық Одақтың және Қытай Халық Республикасының арасында орналасқан. Олардың әрқайсысы

Еуроазиялық экономикалық одақтың жиынтық экономикалық қуаттылығынан айтарлықтай асып түседі. Бұл жағдай Ресейді ЕАЭО-ға «Еуропа мен Азия-Тынық мұхиты аймағының қарқынды дамуы арасындағы тиімді байланыс» ретінде ұстануға шақырады. Осыған байланысты, бұл мақалада болашақта Қазақстанның экономикалық дамуына анағұрлым әсер ететін экономикалық мағынада екі перспективті және амбициозды «кеңестің» белдеуін ашуды көздейді. Сондай-ақ, ЕАЭО және ЖЖЭБ-нің проблемалары мен даму болашағы талданады.

Түйін сөздер: Қазақстан, ЕО, Жібек жолы, экономикалық белдеу, даму болашағы.

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Сопряжение ЕС и ЭПШП: проблемы и перспективы развития

Аннотация. Начиная с 2014 года многие эксперты, политики и дипломаты обсуждают возможность эффективного в политическом и экономическом отношении сопряжения Евразийского экономического союза и китайской инициативы Экономического пояса Шелкового пути. Инициатива создания Экономического пояса Шелкового пути предполагает создание в Евразии большой международно-экономической ниши, куда можно будет вкладывать практически все проекты, планируемые во внешнеполитической и внешнеэкономической сферах. Кроме того, инициатива ЭПШП подразумевает построение на евразийском пространстве симбиотической системы, характеризующейся свободной структурой, высокой инклюзивностью, ее основным принципом является «партнерство без образования союза». Очень активно идет обсуждение возможностей еще более широкой интеграции и построения «Большой Евразии» или экономического партнерства на основе совокупности интеграционных процессов и различных форм торгово-экономического, а также транспортно-энергетического сотрудничества между ЕАЭС, КНР, АСЕАН, ЕС и иными ведущими экономическими объединениями на евразийском пространстве. При этом, сегодня, когда Казахстан стоит на ступени политических преобразований, он находится между двумя наиболее мощными в экономическом отношении центрами континента – Европейским союзом и Китайской Народной Республикой. Каждый из них по показателям совокупной экономической мощи значительно превосходит Евразийский экономический союз. Подобное положение побуждает Россию позиционировать ЕАЭС в качестве «эффективной «связки» между Европой и динамичным Азиатско-Тихоокеанским регионом». В связи с этим в данной статье поставлена цель – раскрыть сопряжение двух перспективных и амбициозных в экономическом плане «союзов», которые коренным образом могут повлиять на дальнейший экономический рост государства. А также проделать анализ проблем и перспектив развития как ЕАЭС, так и ЭПШП.

Ключевые слова: Казахстан, ЕС, Шелковый путь, экономическое сопряжение, перспективы развития.

Introduction

From our point of view, it is advisable to consider this topic from the point of view of possible, though undesirable for Kazakhstan, competition from one side of Kazakhstan, on the other hand, of the Russian and Chinese Eurasian projects. A brief excursion into the history of the creation of these projects, and their conceptual content, will help to verify the validity of this approach. So, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is an association of countries of the Union of Independent States, initiated in 2014 by the leaders of Kazakhstan, Russia and Belarus. At the end of 2014, Armenia joined the Treaty, and in 2015 – Kyrgyzstan. The EAEU is based on various cooperation insti-

tutions and integration formats, such as the Customs Union established in 2010 and the Eurasian Economic Space that existed from 2001 to 2014 (Nuryshv, 2018: 107-108). At the EurAsEC summit in 2011, Vladimir Putin announced that Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus are planning to create the EAEU. At the same time, in the fall of 2011, within the Union of Independent States, there was a shift towards the consolidation of economic interests, as a result of which the members of the Customs Union and Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan that were not included in it signed an agreement on a free trade zone within the framework of the Union of Independent States that promised an increase in the participants of the EAEU in the coming years.

On the other hand, for further interaction of the Eurasian continent at Nazarbayev University on September 7, 2013, Chairman of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping launched the initiative to build the Silk Road Economic Belt, identified five areas of interaction of the countries participating in this initiative: «mutual familiarity with political attitudes», the development of «road traffic»; ensuring «uninterrupted trade», strengthening the «sphere of money circulation», promoting «mutual learning of the aspirations of the peoples» (Xi Jinping, 2014: 391-392). Thus, the conjugation of two major projects, the China Silk Road Economic Belt Initiative and the EAEU Integration Association, is at the center of attention of modern political and economic science. In the XXI century, in the context of globalization, special attention is paid to the fragmentation of the world and the development of cooperation at the regional level. Regional economic integration is considered an important initiative to achieve economic growth and development, and the formation of the EAEU is seen as a way to accelerate economic growth and the success of post-Soviet states (Mostafa, 2018: 163-172). The Eurasian continent is a space that is the engine of scientific, technological and economic growth, contributing to the development of the world at the regional and global levels. Cooperation on the conjunction of the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt also creates a market the size of a whole continent of Eurasia.

Among international processes, an important place is given to the formation of mechanisms for linking the Chinese Silk Road Initiative of the 21st Century and the EAEU. Both projects arose almost in parallel, acquired importance and importance at the geopolitical and economic level. The EAEU is an integration association that represents a full-fledged economic union that promotes the development of all countries participating in the Union, and the Silk Road Economic Belt is not an integration mechanism, but represents a large-scale development strategy for China. At the same time, we note that, in fact, Russia took the initiative to create the Union and, of course, has a leading position in the organization.

The beginning of close cooperation between the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt started after the signing of a joint statement by the heads of Kazakhstan and China in May 2015, under which the parties agreed to cooperate in linking the two projects. In the future, in order to deepen the pairing, the heads of Kazakhstan and China in June 2018 signed the second joint statement and a package of regulatory documents on the implementation of the interaction.

The purpose of this study is to identify the interface mechanism and the prospects for interaction between the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt. The effectiveness of this cooperation mechanism is enhanced by strengthening relations at the bilateral level, expanding and deepening the regulatory framework created, including by the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC). Intensification of bilateral relations between Kazakhstan and China in the best way contributes to improving the efficiency of the interface mechanism. The supranational mechanism of the EEC does not allow the development of a political and legal base of relations in a number of areas, which can be done through diplomatic and legal relations.

Materials and Research Methods

The use of the method of analysis of official documents in the form of textual information allows us to explore the process of formation and prospects for further cooperation on the interface of the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt. In the course of this analysis, the primary sources are the regulatory framework for cooperation on the interface of the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt, the regulatory framework between the EAEU and China, the regulatory framework of bilateral relations between Kazakhstan and the People's Republic of China, including joint statements, agreements, agreements, framework contracts, declarations, memorandums, protocols, drafts, and also texts of official speeches of the heads of state. The time period for collecting materials for analysis in this study is limited from 2015 to 2018. Kazakhstan's sustainable development path is not a policy of survival, but a policy of strategic development based on forecasting the future and taking measures to implement more favorable options. This strategy is presented in the «Kazakhstan 2050 Strategy». Associated with it is the State Program, proposed for the anti-crisis goals of accelerated industrial-innovative development, the second five-year plan of which is implemented in the period 2015–2019. Fundamental to the implementation of these programs is the fact that in 2015 the country launched the Plan of the Nation «100 concrete steps to implement five institutional reforms». It is about creating a strong state, a developed economy and a society of universal labor. The listed official documents record and testify to official events that allow analyzing the process of interaction between the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt.

The Political and Diplomatic Aspect of the Conjunction of the Eurasian Union and the Silk Road Economic Belt

The world economy today is in a precarious situation. The financial turmoil in European countries is also affecting the economies of developing countries. The growth and deepening of the crisis has led to an increase in the cost of borrowing in many regions of the world, which has led to a sharp reduction in capital inflows and a drop in indices in stock markets. The growth rates of the economic development of a number of countries, such as South Africa, India, Turkey, Brazil, Russia, decreased significantly, as a result, even despite the increased economic Japanese and American activity, the growth of world trade, and, consequently, of the economy, slowed down sharply. The forecast of the global economy for 2016-2017, made by experts of Morgan Stanly, indicates that in the near future this situation will only worsen. In their report, they predict a decrease in the growth rate of the global intra-product in the next two years from 3.9% to 3.4%. But at the same time, according to forecasts of Morgan Stanly, China's economy should grow by almost 7% (International Forum..., 2015).

Kazakhstan's strategy proceeds from the fact that at the present stage the center of world economic development is shifting to the countries of the Asian region. Favorable opportunities are being created to strengthen the cooperation of Kazakhstan with the growing economies of the world. It is very important that Kazakhstan as an important transport hub will play a key role in the development of many other countries (Cox, 2016: 317-334). At the stage of aggravating the economic crisis, Nursultan Nazarbayev advanced the «NurlyZhol» Program as a state task and an important mechanism for ensuring the sustainable development of the country's economy for the next five years, taking into account the exacerbation of external risks and the destabilization of the macroeconomic situation in the country. An extensive program of infrastructure arrangement of the country embraces a qualitatively new organization of transport links and new approaches to meeting energy needs and other needs of the economy and population. Thus, a new level of the integrated development of the republic's economy will be achieved (PoslaniyeGlaviGosudarstva, 2014).

Fundamentally new and defining in the «NurlyZhol» Program, in our opinion, is its organic fusion with the core program of industrialization. Infrastructure as an important area of reproduction for bringing goods to the final consumer has always

been a bottleneck of peripheral economies. A new organization of infrastructure sectors will have a multichannel multiplicative effect for the emerging new national economic system of Kazakhstan. Considering the special significance of the EAEU in the field of intercontinental cooperation and the new «NurlyZhol» Program, China came up with the initiative to create an international Silk Road Economic Belt. In November 2014, China created an investment fund of \$ 40 billion, the funds of which will be invested in land and sea Silk Road projects. Existing sea port routes cannot meet the growing needs of international trade. Today, its volume between China and the EU reaches 600 billion dollars, and by 2020 it will exceed 800 billion dollars. Therefore, the initiative of the China leader is especially important. The concept of Chairman Xing Jiping «One Belt, One Road» opens up the possibility of consistent integration of the EAEU and the New Silk Road project. This re-creation of a historical transport corridor corresponds to global trends of globalization (Miheev..., 2016: 5-16).

China is actively cooperating with the EAEU. According to the results of the joint meeting of the parties dated May 8, 2015, a document was prepared entitled «On cooperation in conjunction with the construction of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Economic Belt of the Silk Road project.» It provides for the creation of an extensive free trade zone and mutual settlements in national currencies, which at the initial stage will include 20 states and whose share in global GDP and gold and foreign exchange reserves will exceed 25 and 30%, respectively. «Linking the projects of the EAEU and the Silk Road means reaching a new level of partnership and, in fact, implies a common economic space on the continent. The projects of the EAEU and the «Silk Road» 14 can harmoniously complement each other», the document says. The project envisages the creation of a wide and accessible financial and economic space with the participation of China, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Transcaucasia, Vietnam, Mongolia, and in the future – Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkey, Moldova and Ukraine. The loan and investment basis of the complex project «Silk Road – EAEU» will be the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, initiated by China, whose active co-founder was Kazakhstan (Sharyshev, 2016: 112-117).

«Silk Road Economic Belt» means not so much the free transit of goods and services, but also large-scale economic cooperation and the organization of new enterprises on the basis of joint ventures. In particular, there will be a major agreement with China

on the organization and construction of diversified production facilities based on Chinese investments in Kazakhstan. This is the real content of the Silk Road Economic Belt in Kazakhstan. The Intercontinental Silk Road Economic Belt project as a new Asian strategy includes Kazakhstan as a key participant in the project. The world-class translogistic infrastructure created in Kazakhstan includes both sea and land routes with a length of 11 thousand km. The Silk Road project, a gigantic part of which passes through Kazakhstan, will give the republic stability both in the economy and in the upcoming geopolitical alignments (Malle, 2017: 136-150). But the crux of the matter is not only the laying of the overland Silk Road, in order to ensure the transportation of Chinese goods without any special delays to European markets. In our opinion, there would be a one-sided interpretation of the economic benefits of the land Silk Road from the point of view of «pure transit». The development of this route on the basis of public-private partnership will mean the «settling» in Kazakhstan of capital together with the labor force and the organization of modern enterprises in the country. In this regard, the Central Asian states need to build their policies in such a way as to obtain significant economic dividends from such cooperation and at the same time preserve national sovereignty. When opening transport and energy corridors on the Unified Silk Road, Kazakhstan should play a key role in infrastructure and production facilities throughout their length.

As a result, Kazakhstan will play the role of «wide open doors» to promote Chinese goods to the global consumer. Based on this material interest, Kazakhstan was invited to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. He becomes a participant in the new project «Silk Road», in which Chinese goods will go not only to Europe, but will partly remain on the territory of both Kazakhstan and Russia. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank is an analogue of the World Bank (for Asia and developing countries) with an initial capital of 100 billion dollars (Falling import demand...). The bank will provide loans of 10-15 billion dollars annually. The president of the AIIB is the deputy minister of finance of China, and the founding countries are 60 states, including the leading European countries. The United States does not participate in it.

Prospects for Eurasian integration since the establishment of the Customs Union have aroused the well-founded interest and wariness of China, which in recent years has become one of the key actors in Central Asia. The creation of the EAEU

changes the format and structure of relations within the region, so it is obvious that China's attitude – both officials, businessmen, and experts – to this association is ambiguous. In the Chinese expert environment, the thesis that the big minus of the EAEU is its closeness to China is often discussed. At the local level, the question is still put as follows: the Eurasian Economic Union is open to everyone, even for far-away Vietnam, but completely closed for China, which does not correspond to plans for harmonious development. The creation of the EAEU, in fact, limited the capabilities of China, and also expanded Russia's competitive position (Aleksandrova, 2015).

On December 21, 2015, a meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council was held in Moscow. The report on the conjunction of the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt was discussed. Earlier, on October 6, 2015, at the initiative of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, with the participation of members of the EAEU and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Astana, the International Forum addressed issues of the relationship between the EAEU and the China project «The Silk Road Economic Belt» (Zhakeev, 2015). We are talking about the harmonization of macroeconomic policies in the field of foreign economic activities of the participating countries throughout the Silk Road Economic Belt and the EAEU.

It is assumed that the two regions will develop on the basis of similar economic mechanisms, customs and tariff standards, mutually beneficial for their associated development. This is how the fundamental foundations are laid for the formation of a common customs space, as was first stated by President Nursultan Nazarbayev at the 8'th Astana International Economic Forum. In this connection, the example of the first Agreement on the creation of a free trade zone between the EAEU and Vietnam is indicative, when customs duties for 60% of commodity items for trade between countries were zero. This precedent of mutual coordination and favor will undoubtedly be used in the coordination of trading positions between the countries – members of the EAEU and the «Common Belt of the Great Silk Road» as the basis of a new ideology of economic growth for everyone in the Silk Road zone. In 2016, Kazakhstan as the Chairman of the EAEU will actively work to deepen comprehensive cooperation with China as the initiator of the real revival of the Silk Road and deepening contacts with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the BRICS countries, which will undoubtedly strengthen the position of the EAEU (International Forum).

Prospects for the Development of Interfaces of the Eurasian Union and the Silk Road Economic Field

Throughout the entire Silk Road Economic Belt, a number of countries in Central Asia, the Middle East, the EU, and even the West European countries will cooperate. Therefore, the forms, measures, and mechanisms of economic cooperation will most likely differ significantly throughout this route. After the lifting of sanctions from Iran, the President of the People's Republic of China, Xing Jiping, arrived there and an agreement was signed on the creation of a free trade zone with the Gulf countries on January 21, 2016. Without a doubt, the forms and measures of cooperation on the Silk Road will take into account not only the interests of China, but also other countries, including Kazakhstan, Russia, Central Asia, Iran, Pakistan, etc. In 2013, around 16,000 Chinese companies and more than 5 million Chinese citizens worked throughout the world. Only in North Africa, more than 200,000 Chinese workers set off to build the infrastructure. And as a real step of economic integration, China proposes to transfer part of its own production, for example, to Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan and China in this connection will implement 52 investment projects worth \$ 22 billion in the medium term (China in the International).

Given that the state of the world economy today is in a danger zone, China's economy is entering a stage of serious structural adjustment. Having taken the position of a global supplier of finished products, the Chinese economy is now reoriented to the domestic market. At the same time, there is a process of strengthening the national currency, the yuan, with its depreciation against the dollar, which is obviously connected with the decision of the IMF board to include the yuan in the basket of reserve currencies of the world. This decision may lead to an increase in demand for Chinese currency and a subsequent marked increase in its rate. The Chinese economy at the macro level is seriously preparing for the stage of the fourth industrial revolution with an emphasis on creating domestic industries and areas of the sixth technological order with the priority of information nanotechnology, a cognitive economy. As a result, the economy is focused on expanding the country's export potential in the field of IT services instead of exporting consumer goods. In China, a serious reorientation of the industry and the agro-industrial complex is in this direction. And the previous opportunities of the economy are aimed at the domestic market, at meeting the needs of the population, its immediate needs. And the relative

slowdown in GDP growth from the previous annual 7.5–8% to 7% in 2016 and 6.5% for the medium term, the leadership of the PRC, leading analysts of the country explain it with a radical change in the economic trend and structural adjustment (Jayakumar, 2018).

It should be borne in mind that with the mutual integration of the Unified Silk Road, the EAEU and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization on the path of phased formation of zones of their own bodice trade, and subsequently the Customs Union, China's economic potential will play a leading role in the investment arrangement of this transcontinental union. At the same time, in the context of falling commodity prices, a floating exchange rate of the national currency, a systemic economic crisis, large-scale cooperation with the second economy of the world is a serious chance for Kazakhstan and other developing countries to overcome the decline in economic growth and the destruction of national economies.

The policy of creating free trade super zones is a global trend even within the framework of the World Trade Organization. Thus, the Euro-Atlantic trade and economic cooperation between the US and the EU is being created, which will operate on the principles of a free trade zone. At the same time, there are active negotiations on the formation of allied relations between the main world powers. For example, negotiations on the creation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership zone have been completed. The US partnership with Japan and other countries of Southeast Asia (Southeast Asia) at the level of free trade zones pursues political goals of curbing the growth of China's influence in the region and strengthening the defense of new blocs while strengthening the US military presence in the region (Iskakova, 2018).

The Chinese project «The Silk Road Economic Belt» with its consistent integration with the EAEU actually lays the foundations of the Greater United Eurasian Economic Space, initiated by Nursultan Nazarbayev. It is necessary to consider it natural that political, military, interblock competition in the new conditions is moving to the level of inter-country economic. In particular, it is not difficult to foresee the competitive plans to accelerate the conclusion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership and it is especially impossible to ignore the statement of B. Obama: «The United States cannot allow countries like China to write the rules of the global economy». Cross-country competition at the stage of state-monopoly capitalism acquires a transcontinental character at the levels of the «Silk Road Economic Belt» and the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Consolidation of

the «Silk Road Economic Belt» and the interstate union of the SCO and the BRICS countries on the basis of common economic interests (YuJane Chen, 2016: 141-171). The economies of the United States and China are so large that these countries cannot confine themselves to a single integration union. In order to ensure their transnational interests and economic expansion, they objectively need participation and leadership in a number of integration associations. In equal measure, Russia, together with members of the EEU, including Kazakhstan, on the basis of its geopolitical and vital economic interests, can become active members of the Greater Eurasian Economic Community. The active global processes of economic, political and social changes of the 21st century will accelerate geopolitical integration and objectively change the existing integration unions and associations and accelerate their evolution. So, in particular, objectively, the EAEU and the Silk Road Common Belt will converge on the basis of interstate interests and consistently transform into a new transcontinental Eurasian Customs Union.

As a country close to Central Asia, China should consistently adhere to the following principles in its relations with the states of Central Asia:

Principle 1. Based on good neighborliness and mutual benefit, China has to play a more constructive role in regional governance and boldly take responsibility for key issues related to regional economic development. On the one hand, using its own economic advantage, China should strive to promote a project to create an economic belt along the Great Silk Road in order to contribute to the socio-economic development of countries in this region. On the other hand, by borrowing the experience of developing relations with ASEAN in the «10 + 1» format, China may well, together with the Customs Union, develop cooperation in the «3 + 1» format in order to maintain regular dialogue between the two economies and simultaneously stimulate economic integration in the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for the creation of a free trade zone (Yu Hong, 2018).

Principle 2. Today, with increasing interdependence between China and Central Asian countries in the economic sphere, Central Asia is still facing threats from the «threefold evil» (terrorism, separatism, extremism), destabilization in Afghanistan, etc. In this regard, China prefers applying a fairly flexible approach to resolving regional problems. In other words, if the solution of this or that problem needs a bilateral approach, then China regulates it within bilateral relations; if a multilateral approach is needed, then this issue

is resolved within the framework of multilateral relations.

Principle 3. Along with advancing the development of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and creating a dialogue platform with the EAEC, China also needs to deepen its strategic partnership with Kazakhstan and implement a strategic partnership with Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. In short, the creation of a highly stable, multi-level and networked diplomatic structure, according to the model of «bilateral relations within multilateral, multilateral relations on the basis of bilateral relations», is in China's foreign policy orientation to its Western environment (Goh, 2017: 57, 113).

The creation of an economic belt along the Great Silk Road does not contradict the Customs Union and the Eurasian Economic Belt of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. The proposed idea of the economic belt along the Great Silk Road is a mutually beneficial platform for cooperation between China and Russia and the countries of Central Asia. Most of the countries participating in the Eurasian integration are also countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and countries located in the economic zone along the Great Silk Road. It can be said that together with the Customs Union, the Eurasian Economic Zone and the EEC, the economic belt along the Great Silk Road also serves as one of the projects of the Eurasian integration processes (Zhang Xiaoming, 2018).

Compared to European integration on the effects of «spill-over», Eurasian integration is reduced to a network model in combination with cross-regional, inter-civilizational and cross-border characteristics. In this regard, China and Kazakhstan in Central Eurasia should avoid such stereotypes as the «Kazakhstan Eurasian Union», «China Shanghai Cooperation Organization», «the Chinese economic belt along the Great Silk Road», conduct flexible network relations and include the topic Eurasian integration into bilateral strategic interaction. We need to turn good political relations into good economic relations and close humanitarian ties between China and Kazakhstan. In other words, it is necessary to implement three «D»: dialogue, trust, action (Acharya, 2019).

Research Results

The analysis revealed the formation of a mechanism for cooperation on the interface between the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt. The analyzed official legal documents prove the dynamic

search for effective mechanisms for connecting the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt. According to the legal framework, it is necessary to note the dynamic implementation of the interface mechanism. The number of signed legal documents and the areas of their interaction expand and deepen the interface mechanism. The contractual basis considers the long-term period of interfacing. All these factors indicate positive prospects for further cooperation in various fields.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the formation of cooperation on the interface of the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt is developing dynamically. The first results of conjugation can be assessed as positive. Commodity turnover between the EAEU member states and China is increasing, the implementation of joint projects is actively carried out in accordance with the adopted regulatory documents. It is necessary to emphasize the high effectiveness of the negotiations on conjugation, which are held regularly at intergovernmental, intergovernmental and interdepartmental levels.

In this context, it is necessary to emphasize the important role of bilateral Kazakh-Chinese relations, political and diplomatic channels, the regulatory framework, the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as the main role of decision-making of member states for interfacing and building bilateral political and diplomatic relations with China. EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt. Increasing the level of interaction through enhancing joint projects and deepening the legal framework between the EAEU member states and China is an important factor for the further formation and effectiveness of the interface between the EAEU and the Silk Economic Belt. In this regard, it is important to emphasize the signed package of bilateral agreements on negotiations between Kazakhstan and China on interfacing and the very high level of political and diplomatic relations between Kazakhstan and China, which is a positive factor for the economic development of all participating countries of interfacing. So, the intensification of bilateral relations and the regulatory framework between Kazakhstan and China contribute to the effectiveness of the interface between the EAEU and the Silk Road Economic Belt.

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