

KAZAKHSTAN AND THE ISLAMIC WORLD: TRADE AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND INITIATIVES

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is the development of trade and economic relations of Kazakhstan with the countries of the Islamic world in the context of the transformation of socio-political life, analysis and reconstruction, disclosure of their manifestations in the new conditions. To identify the features of trade and economic relations and the most important patterns of development, the specifics of the manifestation of the process in question in Kazakhstan and other countries of the Muslim East, based on taking into account the changes that occurred during their transition to a new socio-economic and political system, as well as an analysis of a number of factors affecting to expand economic cooperation. Various methods of scientific knowledge were used in the work: comparative-analytical, analysis and synthesis, retrospective reconstruction, quantitative assessments. Development of conceptual recommendations and proposals for solving urgent problems in the field of improving the economic relations of Kazakhstan with the countries of the Muslim world. Based on statistical data, some characteristics of the role of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the development of trade and economic relations are presented.

Key words: Islamic World, Socio-Political System, Kazakhstan, Trade and Economic Relations, Interests, Economic Cooperation.

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Қазақстан және ислам әлемі: сауда-экономикалық мүдделер мен бастамалар

Аңдатпа. Осы зерттеудің мақсаты Қазақстанның Ислам әлемі елдерімен сауда-экономикалық қатынастарын қоғамдық-саяси трансформациялау жағдайында дамыту, талдау, реконструкциялау және олардың жаңа жағдайларда көріністерін ашу болып табылады. Жаңа әлеуметтік-экономикалық және саяси жүйеге көшу кезеңінде болған өзгерістерді есепке ала отырып, экономикалық ынтымақтастықтың кеңеюіне әсер ететін бірқатар факторларды талдау негізінде сауда-экономикалық байланыстардың ерекшеліктерін және дамудың аса маңызды заңдылықтарын, сондай-ақ Қазақстанда және мұсылман Шығысының басқа елдерінде қаралып отырған процесстің көріну ерекшеліктерін анықтау. Жұмыста ғылыми танымның әртүрлі әдістері: салыстырмалы-аналитикалық, талдау, синтез, ретроспективті қайта құру және сандық бағалау қолданылды.

Қазақстанның мұсылман әлемі елдерімен экономикалық байланыстарын жақсарту саласындағы өзекті міндеттерді шешу бойынша тұжырымдамалық ұсынымдар мен ұсыныстар әзірлеу. Статистикалық мәліметтер негізінде Ислам ынтымақтастығы Ұйымының Сауда-экономикалық қатынастарды дамытудағы рөлінің кейбір сипаттамалары келтірілген.

Түйін сөздер: Ислам әлемі, қоғамдық-саяси жүйе, Қазақстан, сауда-экономикалық қатынастар, мүдделер, экономикалық ынтымақтастық.

Казakhstan и исламский мир: торгово-экономические интересы и инициативы

Аннотация. Целью настоящего исследования является развитие торгово-экономических отношений Казахстана со странами исламского мира в условиях трансформации обще-

ственно-политической жизни, анализ и реконструкция, раскрытие их проявлений в новых условиях. Выявить особенности торгово-экономических связей и наиболее важные закономерности из развития, специфику проявления рассматриваемого процесса в Казахстане и других странах мусульманского Востока, на основе учета тех изменений, которые произошли в период их перехода к новой социально-экономической и политической системе, а также анализа ряда факторов, влияющих на расширение экономического сотрудничества. В работе использовались различные методы научного познания: сравнительно-аналитический, анализа и синтеза, ретроспективная реконструкция, количественные оценки.

Разработка концептуальных рекомендаций и предложений по решению актуальных задач в сфере улучшения экономических связей Казахстана со странами мусульманского мира. На основе статистических данных представлены некоторые характеристики роли Организации исламского сотрудничества в развитии торгово-экономических взаимоотношений.

Ключевые слова: исламский мир, общественно-политическая система, Казахстан, торгово-экономические отношения, интересы, экономическое сотрудничество

Introduction

The development of modern society, especially a society that carries out modernization, sets two goals for the political system - the modernization of foreign policy life and its stabilization [1, p. 20-24]. These two concepts contain interrelated and mutually repulsive factors, the coordination of which is connected with the choice of the main direction of the state's foreign policy.

A successful and large-scale solution to this problem of development will undoubtedly favor overcoming the military-political confrontation, one of the most important zones of which is precisely the area of the Muslim world [2, p. 241]. In connection with this problem, it seems useful to single out from the experience of trade and economic Kazakhstan's cooperation with the countries of the Muslim world is the next aspect. This refers to the fact that many researchers on international relations note that Kazakhstan, as well as a number of other countries following it, have radically changed their approach to trade and economic relations, for example, with Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and other countries of the Muslim East. In other words, they demonstrated a new understanding of the subordinate place of intersystem differences in another, and, moreover, extremely difficult for them area of international relations. It would be logical to expect that Muslim countries and the whole world, in turn, will be guided in their relations with Kazakhstan by their own economic interests, and not by the falsely understood

principle of solidarity within the so-called Islamic world.

It is very encouraging for the process of improving the situation in the countries of the Muslim world that the normalization of trade and economic relations between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Islamic world is positively perceived by the Central Asian states. The experience of a phased solution of a complex tangle of contradictions that caused a prolonged aggravation of international relations, the disclosure and enrichment of the concept of good neighborliness as a fundamental category of international relations themselves, an example of the real contribution of countries to the formation of a new system of international relations in the system of a multipolar world order [3, p. 81].

The relevance of research. At present, in the Republic of Kazakhstan, in the conditions of independence, significant socio-economic and political changes continue, the need for which is dictated by life itself. Simultaneously with the implementation of reforms, a process of reassessment of both domestic and foreign policy is taking place, which is undoubtedly a natural phenomenon. And this requires a deep study based on various theories and concepts, an integrated and interdisciplinary approach. Taking into account the fact that the coronavirus pandemic has sharply negatively affected the foreign economic activity of many countries of the world. The protective measures taken could not prevent large human and material losses.

Justification of the choice of article goal and objectives. The purpose of this study

is to reveal in the new conditions the process of development of trade and economic relations between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Middle East. The tasks are defined in identifying the features of trade and economic relations, their development, the specifics of the manifestation of the process in question in Kazakhstan and other countries of the Muslim East. In addition, the task is to analyze and reveal the changes that occurred during their transition to a new socio-economic and political system.

Literature review. The dynamics of the economic development of Kazakhstan, its foreign policy initiatives, as well as the strengthening of security are of great interest in the countries of the Muslim East, changing ideas about the geopolitical situation around the world. They are reflected in scientific publications, especially since the current problems of international relations are making adjustments to economic cooperation with the countries of the Islamic world.

Intensive study of trade and economic cooperation with the countries of the Islamic world began mainly in the first half of the 2000s, which was associated with attempts to expand the field of research in the field of international relations. At the same time, this process was in many respects an echo of the international community's close attention to the global financial crisis, to the events in the Near and Middle East, South Asia and North Africa. This issue has not lost its relevance in our time. It is covered in the works of such Kazakh researchers as B.K. Sultanov, M.T. Laumulín, Zh.M. Medeubayeva, A.A. Amrebaev, B.A. Auelbaev, A.Kh. Arystanbekova, S.K. Kushkumbaev, R. Nesipbai and others.

In accordance with the logic of the scientific approach, the development of research by Kazakh authors went in the same direction as abroad. In foreign studies, the problem under consideration was analyzed in publications: W.M. Watt, L. Loboda, Abdal-Raziq Ali, Maududi, Sayyid Abu-l-'Ala, M.A. Muntyanu, Z. Brzezinski, V. Melyantsev, N.M. Kedban, L. Hovsepyan, O.A. Stolpovskaya, Yu.V. Shishkov.

The problems of socio-economic and socio-political development of Muslim

countries, as well as issues of relations between the Western and Islamic worlds, were studied from the angle of various concepts by DeWeese Devin, E. Hermassy, R. Humphres, A. Corbin, K. Girtz, A. Khalid, Abdal- Raziq, Ali.

Research Methodology

The theoretical and methodological basis of the study in studying the features of the development of cooperation between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Muslim East and security were chosen theoretical concepts that had a great influence on the study of trade and economic cooperation between the member countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as an integrated approach that allows to identify the common and special in the evolution of foreign policy Kazakhstan in different historical periods.

The work also used such methods of scientific knowledge as comparative historical, comparative and structural analysis, derived by us on the basis of the analysis, which made it possible to take a deeper look at trade and economic ties between Kazakhstan and various Muslim countries, as well as explore the functions of the state as a subject that systematizes and regulating foreign policy in the context of the globalization of the world economy and the transformation of the foreign economic strategy of the countries of the Muslim East.

Questions and hypotheses. In order to deeply understand the modern directions of trade and economic cooperation of Kazakhstan, various areas of its interaction with the countries of the Muslim world, meetings of the heads of state on various problems of international relations are of great importance. The question is that how does the wave of internal political crisis in the countries of the Muslim East capture other countries in this crisis? The hypothesis is to create a process out of the current situation, which is seen in the implementation of a large-scale program of a socio-economic and humanitarian nature, today Kazakhstan clearly declares its readiness to assist in its preparation, structuring and detailing.

Results and Discussion

Today, the geo-economic, socio-political situation in the regions of the Muslim world has once again highlighted the problem associated with the quality of decisions made regarding the sphere of international relations, which served as the basis for conducting a study based on a new conceptual approach and new materials, and shows the dynamics of the development of trade and economic relations of Kazakhstan with the countries of the Muslim world [3, p. 85]. The issues of development of cooperation in the energy, humanitarian, food spheres, management of mineral and water resources have been studied, which will contribute to the activation of regional ties between the countries of the Muslim world. The results are important for creating a scientific and practical base that promotes integration and close cooperation within the framework of joint projects, the formation of friendly and interregional economic relations between the countries of the Muslim East and Kazakhstan, which, in general, will contribute to the development of the region as a single economic, historical and cultural complex, integrated into global processes. If we talk about its prospects, then it is impossible without appropriate adjustments to the legal policy, taking into account a full-fledged security system, and the national interests of the Republic of Kazakhstan [1, p. 23]. In our opinion, despite the fact that the Foreign Policy Concept has been developed and adopted, it is necessary to further improve and strengthen the provision of legal foundations in the field of trade and economic cooperation. The results of the work can form the basis of the «Conceptual Foundations of Foreign Policy» - a document that defines the mechanism for implementing state policy aimed at protecting the national interests of the state, its citizens and national security as a whole. The implementation of the Concept will contribute to:

- formation of a favorable external environment, strengthening of friendly, equal and mutually beneficial political and economic relations of Kazakhstan with all countries of the Muslim world;

- achieving a higher level of trade and economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and OIC member countries based on the diversification and digitalization of the national economy;

- increasing the level of information content of the general public of Kazakhstan and foreign countries about long-term priorities, practical steps and specific results of the state's foreign policy;

- receipt by the state, private entrepreneurship and the people of the Republic of Kazakhstan of specific benefits from foreign policy activities.

The experience of a phased solution of a complex tangle of contradictions that caused a prolonged aggravation of international relations, the disclosure and enrichment of the concept of good neighborliness as a fundamental category of international relations themselves, an example of the real contribution of the two countries to the formation of a new system of international relations [4, p. 5-7]. This experience is a vivid example of the search for constructive ways to resolve still remaining conflict situations, eliminate existing ones in various parts of the countries of the Muslim East.

Undoubtedly, overcoming these disagreements on the basis of a balance of interests of the parties involved in the conflict will be an additional constructive factor in the restoration of a normal international situation in the countries of the Near and Middle East, North Africa as a whole [5, p. 176].

However, apparently, one should not reduce the whole matter of improving the situation in these regions to the impact of improving relations between Kazakhstan and the Islamic world. Market-oriented economy, began to acutely feel the disadvantages of such a situation, in which Afghanistan, large and rich in resources, actually fell out of the general process of economic development of the OIC countries [6, p. 8]. Obviously, one cannot ignore the fact that over time the balance of pluses and minuses for other forces, previously very interested in warming up the military-political confrontation in the above regions, also began to acquire a mostly negative character. The

political dividends from the "hard line of conflict" have generally decreased significantly, but the prestige of positions and actions that help reduce local and global confrontation has sharply increased [5, p. 176].

It is extremely important that the development of trade and economic relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the countries of the Muslim East as a whole has opened up prospects for the development of multilateral economic cooperation in Central Asia, which can cover its respective republics. At the same time, measures to reduce their armed forces, the determination of the parties to develop their international relations on the basis of a balance of interests - all this cannot but have a positive impact on the socio-political situation in the Middle East and North Africa. There is reason to believe that this influence will spread in a number of ways:

- it will be easier to raise and resolve issues of confidence-building measures between the countries of the region, understood in the broadest sense, and not only in the military sense;

- Normalized international relations will undoubtedly increase the craving of Muslim and non-Muslim countries for all-round cooperation with Kazakhstan and other republics of Central Asia, which are now widely open to the outside world [5, p. 176]. And this, ultimately, will help to weaken the influence of political confrontation on economic and humanitarian cooperation between East and West within the region, and will give a universal character to economic integration processes here.

Finally, economic and political normalization will create favorable conditions for the settlement of local conflicts in Asia, which are an extremely dangerous manifestation of the confrontational nature of international relations.

As we can see, against the backdrop of the existence of traditional security threats, new threats have risen sharply. The main one, of course, is the armed conflicts in the countries of the Islamic world, for example, Afghanistan [7, p. 17-18]. Rapidly expanding their range, using a variety of methods of struggle, they pose a real threat of destabilization in the world community, the

Central Asian region. Therefore, Kazakhstan is among the most interested participants in the process of eliminating conflicts and confrontations. However, how to achieve the goal, if the wave of internal political crisis in the countries of the Muslim East is increasingly catching other countries in its maelstrom of systemic crisis and the specter of destabilization is hovers more and more clearly over some post-Soviet republics? The way out of this situation is seen in the implementation of a large-scale program of a socio-economic and humanitarian nature. Today, Kazakhstan clearly declares its readiness to assist in its preparation, structuring and detailing.

Actively interacting with the Islamic world, which occupies a vast area on the southern and southwestern borders of the republic with a population of more than a billion people, and having its own more than 70 percent Muslim population, Kazakhstan naturally cannot but take into account the importance of the «Muslim aspect» of its foreign policy and rational use of membership in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation [8, p. 67].

One of the weaknesses of this organization is that its member countries have different socio-economic and cultural levels of development. According to the Center for Statistical, Economic and Social Research at the OIC, only 10 countries of the Islamic world produce 80% of products. "This state of affairs, I think, is unacceptable. It is necessary to increase the competitiveness of each member state of our organization individually and the Ummah as a whole", said the First President of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbaev [9].

In most Arab countries, there was a decrease in the inflow of foreign investment. Particularly noticeable for the states of the region was the decline in the inflow of foreign investment from the GCC member countries. The volume of international trade decreased, according to preliminary calculations, by 9.7% [10, p. 5].

According to the World Bank estimates, the recovery of growth rates for the economies of the Middle East region should have begun as early as 2011. Experts predicted growth at the level of 4%. However, due to

the complications of the socio-political situation in the countries of the Middle East and North Africa, these forecasts were not destined to come true [11, p. 98].

If we proceed from the presence of a geo-economic factor, then the cooperation of Kazakhstan with the countries of the Islamic world, as it is very important, is determined by the modern structure of the world economy, the content of the processes of globalization and regionalization, competition between international economic centers, increased struggle for the market, including for financial, scientific-technical and natural resources.

Specialists in the world economy substantiate the changes in the political and economic situations in the world over the past 20 years by the interdependence of population growth on the planet with an increase in consumption and a growing shortage (mainly in industrialized countries) of natural, including mineral resources [12, p. 147].

According to foreign and domestic statistics, over the past 20 years, the consumption on the planet per year of all types of mineral raw materials has increased significantly: oil - 1.8 times; gas - 2.7; coal - 2; iron ore - 3; aluminum - 3; copper - 2.3; nickel - 2.4; tin - 1.8; gold - 2.5; phosphates - 8.4 times, etc. [13, p. 321].

The mineral resources of the OIC states are different in many natural indicators and features, since they have some geological and historical relationships and are divided simultaneously with the continents. Consequently, they differ not only in geological parameters and the degree of scientific study of their territories, but also in geographical remoteness. The reduction of explored reserves is observed in many minerals: oil, gas, coal, uranium, iron, aluminum, nickel, lead, potassium salts, etc [14]. In Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, a significant increase in hydrocarbon production is seen, mainly to increase their export volumes.

The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources announced the forecast volumes of mineral reserves in Kazakhstan, Tengrinews.kz reports. The estimated resources of gold are 2.3 thousand tons,

copper - 33 million tons, polymetals - 35.6 million tons, 500 thousand tons of rare metals: tin, tungsten, as well as resources of lithium and rare earth elements [15, p. 89]. In Kazakhstan, there is a high potential for discovering new deposits.

In addition to Kazakhstan, only a few OIC countries, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan - gas, etc., have large deposits of some minerals), the rest do not have the necessary mineral resources that are profitable for exploitation, or have reserves of only some types of minerals [16]. In this regard, at present, the problems of developing the mineral resource base of the countries included in the OIC and its use are traditionally - the development of partnerships between mining, metallurgical, industrial enterprises of the OIC countries, providing access to scarce types of mineral raw materials: manganese ores of unique deposits; nickel, chromium, iron, phosphorite ores of Kazakhstan deposits; copper, polymetallic, uranium and other deposits of the OIC countries [17, p. 82].

At the beginning of the third millennium, the world community and especially the countries of the Muslim world felt the need to revise the world mineral resource policy. The beginning of this process was laid on the Eurasian continent as a result of the contradictions that have arisen in the use of mineral resources in the context of globalization. Among the largest OIC countries, there is an opposite trend in the consumption of natural resources, including mineral resources [18, p. 50-51]. Every year, Kazakhstan increases the export of energy types of mineral raw materials, ferrous, non-ferrous metals, etc. increases their imports. But today it has become obvious that a competitive mineral resource base cannot be formed independently. It is necessary to defend our state interests in the competitive struggle of international trade and form economically beneficial international cooperation.

The potential of the Islamic world, its significance in assessing the modern world order and the prospects for its development. In our opinion, it would be more convenient for the Islamic world to use the following definition based on demo-

graphic criteria: the Islamic world is a set of states in which the majority of the population is Muslim. It should be noted that in order to simplify the study, this definition in this article does not cover, in particular, large Muslim diasporas in Western countries, which, nevertheless, are mentioned by us as part of the Islamic world.

Thus, the Islamic world has more than 2/3 of all world oil reserves and more than 1/2 of all proven reserves of natural gas, which, in the short term of human development, and also taking into account the extreme dependence of the West on these energy resources, gives this subject of international relations a special role and importance [19, p. 74]. The development of alternative energy sources could not lead to a significant change in the current situation, which is confirmed, among other things, by the current global financial and economic crisis, largely due to the preceding avalanche-like increase in energy prices [20, p. 5]. Impressive natural resources can only be compared with the demographic potential of the countries of the Muslim world.

When analyzing the economic situation of the Islamic world, it is necessary to pay attention to their geostrategic multidirectionality. As an example, the activation of trade and economic activity of Iran in Kazakhstan in the Central Asian direction can serve. By the way, this is one of the reasons for the low probability of implementing major economic programs that are so important for the development of the real sector of the economy.

Now there are 160 joint Kazakh-Iranian enterprises operating in Kazakhstan, operating in various sectors of the economy. The demand in the country is large and imports account for about 75% of the entire market, more than 1.5 million tons of oilseeds and their derivatives. At the moment, the company is negotiating the supply of oils [20, p. 8-9].

In 2020, the trade turnover between Kazakhstan and Iran amounted to \$237 million, which is 37.2% lower than the previous year's figure (\$377.4 million) [15, p. 94]. This was reported by the press service of the Ministry of Trade and Integration of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Export from

Kazakhstan to Iran in 2020 amounted to \$129 million, which is 56.4% lower than the previous year - \$295.9 million [15, p. 90]. Imports to Kazakhstan from Iran in 2020 increased by 32.5% and amounted to \$108.1 million. In 2019, this figure was at the level of \$81.5 million [13, p. 287].

Iran has reduced duties on such goods as beef and mutton meat (duty reduction from 26% to 5-10%), legumes (from 55% to 5-10%), vegetable oils (from 20% to 10%), pasta and confectionery (from 55% to 14-20%), rolled steel (from 20% to 15%), rails (from 5% to 4%), batteries (from 32-55% to 10%), fittings, pipes (from 32% to 4%), etc [13, p. 292]. In general, for agricultural goods, Iran's import duties for the EAEU countries, including Kazakhstan, decreased from 32.2% to 13.2%, and for industrial goods, the average level of import duty rates decreased from 22.4% to 15.4% [15, p. 90].

Undoubtedly, overcoming these differences on the basis of a balance of interests of the parties involved in the conflict will be an additional constructive factor in recreating a normal international situation in the countries of the Middle East and North Africa as a whole. However, apparently, the whole matter of improving the situation in these areas should not be reduced to the impact of improving relations between Kazakhstan and the Islamic world. These changes have become particularly effective in no small measure because the countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which have successfully developed their export-oriented economies in recent decades, have begun to acutely feel the disadvantages of such a situation, in which Afghanistan, large and rich in resources, has actually fallen out of the general process [21, p. 7].

Obviously, one cannot ignore the fact that over time the balance of pluses and minuses for other forces, previously very interested in warming up the military-political confrontation in the above regions, also began to acquire a mostly negative character [22, 73p.]. The political dividends from the "hard line of conflict" have generally decreased significantly, but the prestige of positions and actions that contribute to the

reduction of local and global confrontation has sharply increased [23, p. 145].

It is extremely important that the development of trade and economic relations between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Muslim East as a whole opened up prospects for the development of multilateral economic cooperation in Central Asia. There is reason to believe that this influence will spread in a number of directions.

Trade and Economic Relations: Causes of Stagnation in the 1990s

The transition to stagnation - this is how one can briefly characterize the changes in economic relations in the mid-1990s. The deterioration of the international situation, primarily the aggravated confrontation between the countries of the West and the East, to a large extent hindered the progressive development of economic relations between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Muslim world [24, p. 87]. In other words, they were carried out in an unstable environment, and the political factor had a significant psychological influence on its development [24, p. 5].

In addition, the problems associated with the difficulties of conducting a political dialogue due to differences in the positions of the parties have aggravated. Kazakhstan sought to build foreign trade with an emphasis on the economy, being extremely interested in using the economic, industrial and technical potential of the countries of the Muslim East. The leading countries, for their part, proceeded from the principle of "non-separation of politics, religion and economics", with the priority task of strengthening national economies [25, p. 35]. The development of trade was also hindered by economic and commercial factors. This is, first of all, a significant decrease in the interest of foreign business circles in cooperation with Kazakhstan in the development of new deposits of raw materials, which was caused by a change in the structure of Kazakhstan's industry, which experienced two energy crises, as well as an equalization of supply and demand in the world markets for raw materials and fuel in the 90s. e years.

Along with this, there were no major contracts deserving special attention for the supply of complete equipment to the countries of the Near and Middle East, North and South Asia. In other words, almost all the factors that contributed to the expansion of Kazakh exports to the countries of the Islamic world in the second half of the 1990s disappeared, and trade could not but stagnate [26, p. 78]. The reduction of Kazakhstan's ability to secure the inflow of hard currency through the export of oil, the prices for which on the world market have fallen significantly, also had a negative impact. The trend that emerged in the 2000s in the structure of Kazakh imports from Kazakhstan was an increase in the share of oil, rare metals, and also wheat. which is still in place today.

East-West: the Revival of Detente and the Strengthening of Economic Ties

In the 2000s both sides began to be affected by factors contributing to the revival of the course towards detente of international tension in relations between the East and the West. And if you look at it from the point of view of the development of trade between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Muslim East and, in particular, from the point of view of the Kazakh-Iranian trade, then the political confrontation between the two systems, which was a strong deterrent to trade in the first half and in the middle of 2000- th years, although it did not disappear completely, but significantly weakened [27, p. 23].

However, in the long term, there was a tendency to soften. In Kazakhstan, it was believed that, subject to the principled line, it is necessary to cancel numerous obsolete restrictions, when every day, every month new achievements of technical progress appear [28, p. 43-44]. Gradually, with the revival of detente in relations between the East and the West, the mood for dialogue also strengthened in trade and economic relations.

Kazakhstan took the position of «non-separation of politics and economics», but it needed to reconsider the fact that partners from the Muslim world are paying close attention to Kazakhstan's economic potential [27, p. 23].

One of the reasons for the increased attention on the part of Kazakhstan to the development of trade and economic cooperation with the countries of the Muslim East was the full realization that the center of the world economy will gradually shift to the countries of the East and that in the future this trend will gain more and more strength. With this in mind, Kazakhstan declared that it is also one of the Muslim countries, and began to take practical steps for a real entry into the membership of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [29, p. 29]. On the other hand, many OIC countries are beginning to expand economic and foreign trade contacts with Kazakhstan. In this regard, trade and economic relations between Kazakhstan and Turkey are of great interest. Türkiye is among the top ten trade partners of Kazakhstan. The trade turnover between our countries in 2017 increased by 27% and amounted to almost 2 billion US dollars [15, p. 92]. Turkey has invested more than 3 billion US dollars in Kazakhstan since its independence, today there are about 2,000 enterprises with Turkish capital operating in the country.

In 2012, Kazakhstan and Turkey adopted the New Synergy joint economic program aimed at supporting entrepreneurs, which made a significant contribution to the development of relations between the countries. As the Head of State emphasized, 23 projects worth \$800 million were launched under this program [24, p. 78].

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These changes in the situation should be welcomed at least from the point of view of ensuring security in the Middle East, North Africa, and Kazakhstan should have treated

them positively. It seems that he could, taking on the role of the initiator, contribute to the expansion of trade and economic cooperation in these regions. The countries of these regions attached the greatest importance to the economic, industrial, technical and financial potential of Kazakhstan, and they wanted to attract its resources in any way to develop their economies.

Opportunities were expanded for the concrete implementation, first of all, of projects for the development and development of natural resources, for establishing not only bilateral, but also trilateral and multilateral cooperation in the creation of joint ventures, the conclusion of compensation agreements, etc [30, p. 87].

The realism of such cooperation stems from Kazakhstan's experience accumulated in the course of the implementation of previous interstate projects, from the course towards intensifying trade and economic relations.

It is expected that in the near future the issue of putting into practice the concept of creating special economic zones and developing resort areas put forward by the leadership of Kazakhstan will be put on the agenda. If these plans are put into practice, then most likely they will be associated with large-scale projects of multilateral cooperation, and, of course, bilateral cooperation with the countries of the Muslim East.

Importance of Mini-Projects and Cross-Border Trade

We would like to emphasize that one should not throw all efforts into large-scale cooperation projects. It is necessary to undertake the implementation of a large number of small-scale projects that can be implemented in a short time. In the past, there has been a tendency for Kazakhstan and other countries of the East to aim for the successful implementation of large-scale projects and promote this as evidence of strengthening bilateral cooperation. However, that era is over.

Currently, they are discussing cooperation projects for the development of such natural resources as oil, natural gas, coal, timber, iron ore, asbestos and others, proj-

ects for the construction of metallurgical enterprises using continuous processes, ports, timber processing plants and other objects. The implementation of those projects where the interests of both parties coincide, for example, the development of coal deposits, has already begun.

At the same time, it became clear that cooperation should be extended to a wider range of industries than before and carried out within the framework of mini-projects.

A careful consideration of the course towards intensifying measures for the development of oil and gas fields in Kazakhstan shows that this development is largely associated with the development of economic ties between the countries of the Muslim East, and this inspires hope. However, the current course for the priority development of industry put forward by the Kazakh leadership aims to promote the development of various sectors of the economy and tourism with full consideration of the specifics of economic conditions. Such industries include agriculture, fisheries, fuel and energy complex, non-ferrous metallurgy, the creation of infrastructure, including railways and roads, ports and other facilities, maritime transport, machine tool building (to expand the industrial capacity of the region), food industry, fertilizer production and others [31, p. 18]. In this regard, there is a search for approaches that allow developing new forms of foreign economic relations with the inclusion in them, joint ventures. to create export bases.

There were also hopes for the expansion of coastal trade. The turnover of coastal and border trade, which is mainly the exchange of excess commodity resources between Kazakhstan and other countries of the Muslim world. And to be honest, in recent years, border and coastal trade between them has been sluggish, and the prospects for its development in the future could not be called favorable for various reasons, for example, because of the ossified commodity structure and competition from other participants in trade relations.

Coastal and border trade, by its nature, from the very beginning, pursued the goal of raising the standard of living of the in-

habitants of Kazakhstan. And so it is natural that more attention should be paid to it.

Promising Areas and Conditions for Joint Ventures

Industries that have good prospects in terms of project implementation are, first of all, the oil refining and gas industries. The development of forest resources and fishing with subsequent processing of marine products are the most important sectors of the economy of the Far Eastern regions, besides, they are also export industries. The Kazakh leadership, in its policy of stimulating the economic development of the country, gives the highest priority to strengthening these two industries, and it is natural that they are promising in terms of organizing joint ventures here.

If we compare the tourism industry in Kazakhstan and in developed Western countries, we can see that in Kazakhstan the development of this industry has significantly lagged behind in many respects - both in terms of the number of recreation facilities (hotels, etc.), and in the organization of transport, and in terms of serving tourists, and organizing entertainment [32, p. 5].

Against the backdrop of a real increase in people's living standards, spending free time is becoming an increasingly important problem from a socio-economic point of view, and tourism is becoming widespread. In this regard, the country's leadership is trying to urgently take measures to meet the rapidly growing demand for tourism services.

Along with this, it is necessary to fulfill the task of expanding the inflow of foreign exchange earnings from tourists from Western countries. That is why tourism in a broad sense and related industries are considered as a promising area of activity for joint ventures.

The conditions for agriculture in Muslim countries are very harsh, and at present the degree of self-sufficiency of some of these countries with food is less than 50%. The remaining 50% come from other countries, overcoming long distances by rail, sea and air [33, p. 78]. Naturally, under these conditions, improving the food situation is an important task. Therefore,

Kazakhstan proposes to cooperate in rice growing and other areas of agriculture, proposes to create appropriate joint ventures, pay attention to food security.

The Kazakh government has relaxed conditions governing joint ventures, economic and industrial zones in response to repeated requests from foreign companies. Nevertheless, despite the measures taken, if we are to seriously think about future economic cooperation and the creation of joint ventures, we need even more easing of regulation.

Specialists in the world economy substantiate the changes in the political and economic situations in the world over the past 20 years by the interdependence of population growth on the planet with an increase in consumption and a growing shortage (mainly in industrialized countries) of natural, including mineral resources [34, p. 445].

The mineral resources of the states of the Muslim world are different in many natural indicators and features, since they have some geological and historical relationships and are divided simultaneously with the continents. Consequently, they differ not only in geological parameters and the degree of scientific study of their territories, but also in geographical remoteness.

For the CIS, a comparison of only some indicators for minerals as of 1997 and 2011 indicates an increase in proven reserves only for oil in Kazakhstan, gas in Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan. The reduction of explored reserves is observed in many minerals: oil, gas, coal, uranium, iron, aluminum, nickel, lead, potassium salts, etc. In Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, a significant increase in hydrocarbon production is seen, mainly to increase their export volumes [35, p. 7].

The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources announced the forecast volumes of mineral reserves in Kazakhstan, according to its data, as a result of geological research in almost all regions of the republic, promising objects have been identified for the identification of minerals. Estimated estimated resources of gold - 2.3 thousand tons, copper - 33 million tons, polymetals - 35.6 million tons, 500 thousand tons of rare metals: tin, tungsten, as well as resources of

lithium and rare earth elements [36, p. 15]. In Kazakhstan, there is a high potential for discovering new deposits.

In addition to Kazakhstan, only a few countries of the Muslim world (Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan - gas, etc.) have large deposits of some minerals, the rest do not have the necessary mineral resources that are profitable for exploitation, or they have reserves of only some types of minerals [31, p. 289]. In this regard, at present, the problems of developing the mineral resource base of the countries included in the OIC and its use are traditionally - the development of partnerships between mining, metallurgical, industrial enterprises of the OIC countries, providing access to scarce types of mineral raw materials: manganese ores of unique deposits; nickel, chromium, iron, phosphorite ores of Kazakhstan deposits; copper, polymetallic, uranium and other deposits of OIC countries [38, p. 85].

At the beginning of the third millennium, the world community and especially the countries of the Muslim world felt the need to revise the world mineral resource policy. The beginning of this process was laid on the Eurasian continent as a result of the contradictions that arose in the use of mineral resources in the context of globalization [35, p.10]. Among the largest OIC countries, there is an opposite trend in the consumption of natural resources, including mineral resources. Every year, Kazakhstan increases the export of energy types of mineral raw materials, ferrous, non-ferrous metals, etc. increases their imports. But today it has become obvious that a competitive mineral resource base cannot be formed independently. It is necessary to defend our state interests in the competitive struggle of international trade and form economically beneficial international cooperation [36, p. 157]. Currently, domestic and foreign experts are considering invariably the prospects for the development of the mineral resource complex of the countries of the Muslim East. The state policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of study and use of subsoil is formulated from the general to the particular, i.e. from global to regional levels, on the basis of balance and compromises of interests.

The active construction of railways in Iran, the emergence of a new branch in Afghanistan, the expansion of ports will undoubtedly contribute to a more intensive entry into distant markets. Thus, the construction of a railway from Aktau to Turkmenistan and further to the Iranian border will allow it to connect with new trans-Iranian highways leading to the Persian Gulf, Pakistan, Iraq and further to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and the African continent. For Kazakhstan, as a country that does not have direct access to large sea areas, the issues of transporting goods to foreign markets occupy a special place. This was discussed, in particular, at the meeting of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ibrahim Raisi. It noted that Iran is our close neighbor in the Caspian region and a close partner in the Islamic world. Both sides stated that the parties would continue to build up ties in the areas of transport, logistics, agriculture, and investment.

Conclusion

With the current integration of Kazakhstan into the world economy, the importance for the republic of Muslim countries is significantly increasing, which in the future may constitute, together with Kazakhstan, a common economic space, a common market for goods and services, as well as a common transport communication. The realities of today and the prospects for the development of the global and regional division of labor will certainly require the coordination of economic ties with these countries [38, p. 87]. The development of comprehensive ties with the countries of the Islamic world and their institutions is fully aligned with the tasks of developing additional trade and economic space and the goals of financial and economic support for innovative breakthrough projects in Kazakhstan [39, p. 91]. An analysis of the potential, resources, initiatives and interests for the development of cooperation between Kazakhstan and the countries of the Islamic world allows us to make the following proposals for the implementation of recommendations:

- in order to integrate Kazakhstan into international transport and communication flows, to study the prospects for creating a multimodal transport corridor, the formation of logistics supply chains and the creation of consolidation points for transit and export cargo flows in ports and rail transport.

- the responsibility of national budgets for conducting advanced economic research on forecasting, identifying and evaluating natural and human resources, creating a search reserve for their future reproduction of reserves;

- creation of a united trade and economic, and in the future, economic and political space.

- entry of Kazakhstan into the structure of economic and political relations. In such work, the development of the economy provides for the introduction into practice of the results of scientific achievements, especially those related to national interests and benefits from interaction with the countries of the Islamic world;

- following the recently developed foreign policy line, supported by serious economic levers, and at the same time strive to gain confidence not only at the level of the leadership of Islamic states.

- strengthening economic cooperation through the launch of joint projects in the Arab countries, Kazakhstan will be able to contribute to solving the pressing socio-economic problems of the region, which, as was repeatedly rightly noted during meetings of heads of state, are one of the main sources of poverty and, as a result, the emergence dangerous extremist movements.

Some of the benefits of interacting with the Islamic world:

1. Access to new markets An increase in trade in itself has an impact on economic growth. According to some experts, a 10% increase in trade increases the economic growth of individual states by an average of 0.5%.

2. Additional investment opportunities, for example, in the field of industry and environmental protection, directly improving the quality of life, as well as increasing the role of Kazakhstan in international politics.

3. The modernization taking place in Muslim countries increases the need for imports, primarily in relation to investment goods, the revaluation of national currencies increases the purchasing power of the population, therefore, there is an additional increase in demand.

4. Active interaction with the OIC countries increases both the weight and influence of Kazakhstan in the international arena.

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