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LOGISTICS ROUTES OF BELARUS IN THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE

Abstract. *The article explores the features and significance of Belarus's logistics routes in the global supply chain within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. The role of the country as a key transit hub at the crossroads of transport corridors between Europe and Asia is analyzed. Issues related to infrastructure modernization, capacity enhancement, and the integration of Belarusian routes into international logistics chains are discussed. Special attention is given to the prospects of utilizing multimodal transportation and digital technologies to improve the efficiency of transport services.*

Keywords: Belarus, logistics routes, global supply chain, Belt and Road Initiative, transport infrastructure, transit, multimodal transportation, digitalization.

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ЛОГИСТИЧЕСКИЕ МАРШРУТЫ РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ В ГЛОБАЛЬНОЙ ЦЕПОЧКЕ ПОСТАВОК В РАМКАХ ИНИЦИАТИВЫ «ОДИН ПОЯС – ОДИН ПУТЬ»

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются особенности и значимость логистических маршрутов Беларуси в глобальной цепочке поставок в рамках инициативы «Один пояс – один путь». Анализируется роль страны как ключевого транзитного узла на пересечении транспортных коридоров между Европой и Азией. Рассмотрены вопросы модернизации инфраструктуры, увеличения пропускной способности и интеграции белорусских маршрутов в международные логистические цепочки. Особое внимание уделено перспективам использования мультимодальных перевозок и цифровых технологий для повышения эффективности транспортных услуг.

Ключевые слова: логистические маршруты, глобальная цепочка поставок, инициатива «Один пояс – один путь», транспортная инфраструктура, транзит, мультимодальные перевозки, цифровизация.

The development of transport and logistics services plays an important role not only in expanding the services sector of the national economy, but also in stimulating economic growth in general. This is due to the fact that this area includes the interaction of various types of economic activity. The importance of international transport corridors goes beyond commercial benefits, acquiring strategic importance in terms of ensuring national security in such areas as the economy, industry, food security, demography and social development of states.

The Belt and Road Initiative, launched by China in 2013, is a large-scale project aimed at developing international transport corridors and deepening economic cooperation between the countries of Eurasia. Belarus, due to its

advantageous geographical location, plays a key role in the implementation of this strategy, acting as a bridge between East Asia and Europe [1].

The main routes of the global supply chain pass through the territory of Belarus, which is due to the presence of developed transport infrastructure and its integration into international logistics systems. Railways and roads connecting China and the EU countries form the basis of transit flows, and large projects such as the Great Stone Industrial Park help strengthen Belarus' position as an important logistics hub.

The introduction of digital technologies, the development of multimodal transportation and participation in global initiatives give Belarus the opportunity to strengthen its role in the international supply chain, while simultaneously facing the challenges of competition and infrastructure constraints.

The development of export-oriented transport services is significantly influenced by the containerization of transit flows along the China – Europe – China route. The growth in this sector is driven by the implementation of advanced information technologies, centralized management systems, and the high technical capacity of logistics terminals. In 2022, the Belarusian Railway facilitated the export of 988 container trains carrying products from Belarusian enterprises to China. The volume of export shipments in these container trains amounted to approximately 120,000 loaded twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), which is 6.5 times higher than in 2021 [2].

Belarus occupies a strategic geographical position at the intersection of important transport corridors connecting Europe and Asia. This factor determines its key role in the global supply chain, especially in the context of the growing integration of economies within the framework of the One Belt, One Road initiative and other international projects. Let's consider the main aspects that highlight the importance of Belarus on the world logistics map.

Belarus is a link between Eastern Europe and Asia. The country's territory is located on the route of major railway and road routes, such as the transcontinental corridor China – Europe. This makes it an important transit hub for cargo flows from China to the European Union and back. An example is the China – Europe railway route, which passes through Belarus and ensures fast delivery of goods, reducing transportation costs and delivery times.

Henan Province in China is actively leveraging the potential of the consolidation center for the China – Europe express, while simultaneously expanding its capabilities in establishing international logistics corridors to enhance global connectivity. In China, rolling stock and railway infrastructure are state-owned. The government independently selects platform companies in each province and provides them with subsidies for organizing rail shipments. Train assembly for dispatch is carried out at stations designated by state authorities [3].

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), proposed by China in 2013, has become a driving force for transforming global logistics and transport infrastructure. Through this initiative, new transportation corridors are being established, existing infrastructure is being modernized, and innovative solutions are being implemented to optimize global supply chains. Belarus, with its strategic geographical position, plays a vital role in the BRI, serving as a crucial link between Europe and Asia.

Key Directions in Logistics Development under BRI:

I. Establishing New Transport Corridors.

Under the BRI, significant progress has been made in developing routes connecting China and Europe, many of which pass through Belarus. The flagship route is the China – Europe rail corridor, which enables freight delivery within 12–15 days, significantly faster than sea transportation [4].

II. Infrastructure Modernization.

Belarus is actively upgrading its transport infrastructure to accommodate growing freight volumes:

- a. Railways are being optimized to enhance speed and capacity.
- b. Transport terminals are equipped with advanced technologies for handling containerized freight.
- c. The Great Stone Industrial Park serves as a hub integrating logistics, manufacturing, and commercial functions within the BRI framework.

III. Digitalization of Logistics.

To enhance transit efficiency, Belarus is implementing digital technologies, including:

- a. Automated freight flow management systems.
- b. Digital platforms for real-time cargo tracking.
- c. Electronic customs procedures to streamline border crossings.
- d. Multimodal Transportation.

Combining different modes of transportation (rail, road, and sea) helps optimize supply chains, reducing delivery time and costs.

IV. Challenges and Prospects.

Despite significant achievements, Belarus faces several challenges, including:

- a. Political instability and sanctions that may restrict international logistics operations.
- b. Infrastructure limitations, requiring modernization to increase capacity and efficiency.
- c. Competition from neighboring countries, such as Lithuania and Poland, which are also expanding their logistics capabilities [5].

Belarus plays a vital role in the global supply chain due to its strategic location, developed infrastructure, and participation in international projects.

Despite existing challenges, the country has significant potential to strengthen its position as a key transit hub between East and West. Further development of the logistics sector and the integration of innovations will contribute to economic growth and enhanced international cooperation.

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МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВО РЕСПУБЛИКИ БЕЛАРУСЬ И КИТАЯ В КОНТЕКСТЕ ПРЕОДОЛЕНИЯ ГЛОБАЛЬНЫХ ВЫЗОВОВ

Аннотация. В данной статье анализируется взаимодействие Беларуси и Китая в условиях глобальных вызовов с акцентом на экономику, культуру и науку, исследуются проекты, укрепляющие двусторонние связи и способствующие устойчивому развитию и глобальной стабильности. Рассматриваются изменения в лингвистическом образовании, где цифровые технологии и применение технологии сценирования в образовательном процессе улучшают практическое владение языком и межкультурное общение.

Ключевые слова: стратегическое партнерство, трансформация образовательного процесса, технология сценирования.