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IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE WAREHOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS AS ONE OF THE ASPECTS OF THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The relevance of the study is due to the fact that at the current stage of economic development of the Republic of Belarus the modernization of warehouse infrastructure is of particular importance. The geopolitical position of the country, located at the crossroads of transport corridors between the EU and the EAEU, creates unique opportunities for Belarus to become an important link in international logistics chains. However, the realization of this potential requires significant modernization of the warehousing sector [1].

The economic importance of warehousing infrastructure, the modern economic system considers warehousing logistics as the most important element of the value chain. In the context of globalization, it is the efficiency of warehouse operations that determines:

- the speed of commodity turnover;
- the level of logistics costs;
- competitiveness of national producers.

Current state of the industry, according to the data for 2024, the warehousing infrastructure of Belarus is represented by 69 logistics centers of different classes. It is characteristic that:

- 26% of the facilities are state-owned;
- 74% are owned by private investors;
- Among investors there are both national companies ("Eurotorg", "A-100") and foreign companies (from China, Turkey, EU) [2].

Key problems of development, the analysis of the current state revealed a number of system limitations:

- 1. Unbalanced location (of warehouses) (80% of modern warehouses are concentrated in Minsk region);
- 2. Insufficient level of technological development (only 15% of facilities meet Industry 4.0 standards);
 - 3. Infrastructure deficiencies (lack of multimodal terminals).

Perspective directions of modernization, in order to overcome the existing challenges it is necessary to:

- 1. Creation of a network of regional distribution centers;
- 2. Introduction of digital platforms for warehouse operations management;
- 3. Development of "green" technologies in logistics;
- 4. Improvement of the regulatory framework [2].

Thus, optimization of the warehouse infrastructure is a strategic priority for the Belarusian economy. The implementation of a comprehensive modernization program will make it possible to:

- increase transit potential by 25-30%;
- reduce logistics costs by 15-20%;
- increase the investment attractiveness of the country.

These measures will contribute to the formation of a modern logistics system that meets the requirements of the digital economy and global commodity markets [3].

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THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON BUSINESS PRACTICES

Economic sanctions serve as an effective tool utilized by states and international organizations to influence governments, corporations, or individuals. These measures can take various forms, including trade embargoes, asset freezes, and restrictions on financial transactions. Their primary objective is to bring about changes in policy or behavior while avoiding direct military intervention. By destabilizing the target's economy, sanctions exert pressure on authorities to adhere to international norms or humanitarian standards.

Historically, sanctions have played a role in various conflicts and crises. UN sanctions on Iraq (1990–2003) weakened its economy following the invasion of Kuwait. Restrictions on Russia since 2014 have impacted its financial and energy sectors. Sanctions on Iran led to a temporary nuclear agreement, while economic pressure on South Africa contributed to the end of apartheid. The effectiveness of sanctions depends on their scale, international support, and the ability of targeted entities to find alternative business strategies.

Economic sanctions impact global business practices, affecting trade, finance, and compliance. The immediate consequences include the disruption of supply chains. Companies face difficulties importing essential goods or raw materials, forcing them to