

monitoring, adaptive management, and increased public engagement are essential for improving biodiversity outcomes in Belarus. Biodiversity loss in Belarus poses a critical challenge that requires coordinated efforts from government, scientists, and society. Only through the protection of ecosystems, scientific monitoring, habitat restoration, and climate adaptation can Belarus preserve its natural wealth for future generations. This ongoing commitment is essential to balancing human progress with ecological sustainability.

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## **SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL TRANSFORMATIONS**

### **Социально-экономическое и политическое развитие стран Центральной Азии в контексте глобальных трансформаций**

The modern stage of development in Central Asian countries is characterized by dynamic socio-economic transformations, political reforms, and the formation of new models of interaction between the state, business, and society. Over the past three decades, the region has undergone a complex transformation aimed at building sustainable national models of governance and development. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, each state followed its own reform trajectory, yet all share common goals – sustainable growth, stronger national identity, and improved living standards.

Today, Central Asia is one of the key regions of Eurasia, where the interests of major global actors intersect. Under the challenges of globalization, energy transition, and digitalization, the region must rethink its development strategies and find a balance between economic growth, social justice, and political stability.

The purpose of the research is to identify the key trends and features of socio-political and socio-economic development in Central Asia during the post-Soviet period, and to determine the main factors influencing reform effectiveness and prospects for regional cooperation. To achieve this goal, the study applies methods of comparative and systemic analysis, as well as statistical data processing. The empirical base includes data from the World Bank, UNDP, national statistical agencies, and analytical centers covering 2010–2025.

The results show that Central Asian countries have achieved progress in stabilizing their macroeconomic systems, developing market institutions, and strengthening their global positions. Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are pursuing economic diversification and

industrialization, fostering manufacturing and small business growth. Kyrgyzstan focuses on integration within the EAEU, Tajikistan develops hydropower, while Turkmenistan maintains an export-oriented resource model. However, significant structural challenges remain. Economies are still dependent on natural resource exports and labor migration. Social development is uneven, with clear disparities between urban and rural areas. Low innovation activity, limited access to technology, and weak financial systems also constrain sustainable growth.

Political modernization proceeds gradually and unevenly. Some countries are reforming public administration and enhancing the rule of law, yet democratization and civic engagement remain limited. Nonetheless, gradual improvements in transparency and dialogue between state and society can be observed. Regional cooperation is becoming an important driver of development. Initiatives such as Central Asia – 2030, the Belt and Road Initiative, and participation in the EAEU and SCO promote interconnectivity, infrastructure expansion, and investment attractiveness. The region is gradually emerging as an independent center of economic and geopolitical importance.

The analysis concludes that sustainable development in Central Asia requires continued reforms to improve governance, develop human capital, support entrepreneurship, and encourage innovation. Equally vital is strengthening regional cooperation based on mutual respect, equality, and shared responsibility for collective stability and progress. In conclusion, the successful implementation of socio-economic and political transformations will enhance internal stability and elevate the region's role in global affairs.

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## **PROSPECTS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS AND BRICS**

### **Перспективы взаимодействия Беларуси с БРИКС**

The article is devoted to the cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and BRICS in the context of creating a new world order. Special attention is paid to the economic and political processes taking place in the first half of the 2020s and the role of the current Government of the Republic of Belarus. The author analyzes the reasons for the growth of BRICS on the world stage.

On November 5, 2024, the President of the Republic of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko signed a letter on the country's readiness for partnership with BRICS. Since that day, Belarus has received the status of a partner country in this association.