

It is necessary to highlight strategic alliances in which industrial enterprises of the Republic of Belarus are strong competitors in the international market. In the automotive industry, the international strategic alliance ZAO MAZ-MAN has achieved high results in production efficiency. This association was formed through cooperation between the Belarusian industrial enterprise RUE Minsk Automobile Plant and the German industrial enterprise MAN Truck & Bus AG. CJSC MAZ-MAN produces innovative products of a wide automotive spectrum. The main products are trucks, dump trucks, snow and swamp trucks, assortment trucks. Thanks to cooperation, the joint venture produced more than 2,900 pieces of equipment in 2023. The company also successfully participates in exhibitions and fairs. In Moscow, at the CTT Expo/COMvex 2023 exhibition, the company showed its innovative product: the company developed a dump truck with an updated internal combustion engine produced in Belarus. The consumer of the goods is the market of northern Russia.

Thus, it should be concluded that innovative industrial enterprises of the Republic of Belarus have successfully established themselves on the international market by cooperation with Chinese enterprises. This cooperation successfully helps companies develop and becomes major competitors on the world stage. Joining a strategic alliance is an effective method to increase the competitiveness of an enterprises.

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## **POVERTY AND SOCIAL INEQUALITY**

### **Бедность и социальное неравенство**

The socio-economic problems of modern society include poverty and social inequality, which have a significant impact on people's living standards, social stability, and prospects for economic development. In the context of transformation of economic systems, increasing globalization and technological changes, these phenomena are particularly acute. Poverty, characterized by a severe deprivation of basic human needs, not only leads to a deterioration in the quality of life but also entrenches social disadvantage across generations. Social inequality, expressed in significant differences in income, wealth, and access to opportunities, exacerbates poverty, leads to a deterioration of the social climate, and prevents the formation of an inclusive economic model.

Social inequality is a persistent difference in people's access to material goods, power, education, and social opportunities. It manifests itself in economic, cultural, and political aspects, often creating a cycle where a lack in one area, such as education, perpetuates disadvantage in others, like employment and income.

Poverty is both a cause and a consequence of high social inequality. The concentration of wealth and limited access to resources for large segments of the population create a «poverty trap» that is difficult to escape. High levels of inequality can hamper sustained economic growth because they constrain consumer demand, increase social tensions, and underutilize human capital, leaving a significant part of society's potential untapped.

The loss of employment and persistent low-wage work are primary drivers of poverty. This results not only in lower incomes but also in the loss of social ties and limited access to quality services like healthcare and education, which further deepens social stratification and intergenerational poverty.

There may be an uneven distribution of wealth, economic activity, and social infrastructure in different regions. This territorial inequality leads to concentrated pockets of poverty, forces migration flows, and creates stark disparities in living standards and opportunities between territories.

The quality of education directly affects life chances. People from impoverished backgrounds often lack access to quality educational resources, limiting their future employment prospects and perpetuating a cycle of low-income jobs. Conversely, those with better educational opportunities secure higher-paid positions, widening the inequality gap.

Children and young people from low-income families are particularly vulnerable, as they are more likely to face difficulties in accessing quality education and entering the labor market. This creates risks of long-term, intergenerational poverty and solidifies social inequality from an early age.

Poverty and social inequality continue to be key challenges for modern society. Their interconnection requires a coherent approach that includes economic, social, and educational measures. Reducing poverty is not possible without directly addressing the structural inequalities that cause it. Creating conditions for equitable access to resources and opportunities not only alleviates poverty but also builds a more just and sustainable society. Solving these problems is an essential step toward the harmonious socio-economic development of the country and improving the quality of life for all citizens.

## References

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