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PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF THE ENTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS INTO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Over the past three decades globalization and liberalization became the defining tendencies in the development of the world trade. The role of the external economic sphere both at macroeconomic, and at microeconomic level has considerably increased because of globalization of the world economy. In this process the dominating role is played by the international organizations. One of such organizations is the World Trade Organization (WTO) — the only global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations [1]. The WTO has over 160 members representing 98 percent of the world trade. It predetermines the importance of the entry of the Republic of Belarus into the World Trade Organization. The Russian Federation being one of the leading members of the Customs Union became the member of the WTO in August, 2012 [2]. The entry of the Republic of Belarus into the WTO will have both positive and negative consequences for the economy of the country, its social sphere and the environment. First, modern world trade has assumed a global scale. The Republic of Belarus is the export-oriented country. If, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the average world level of an export quota (the export relation to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)) is about 30 %, then in the Republic of Belarus it is at the level of about 60 % [3]. Table 1. Trade dynamics of goods USD Millions (methodology of foreign trade statistics) [2].

	2000	2005	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017 compared to 2016, %
Overall trade	15 972	32 687	77 180	56 952	51 147	63 445	124.0
Export	7 326	15 979	36 392	26 660	23 573	29 212	124.1
Import	8 646	16 708	40 788	30 292	27 610	34 234	124.0
Balance	1 320	729	-4 396	-3 632	-4 073	5 023	

Secondly, diversification of the markets of trade, both export, and import is considered to be a relevant and most important task today for the Republic of Belarus. If the country becomes a member of the WTO it is supposed to be granted constant and unlimited conditions for its goods in the foreign markets as the country having most-favoured-nation treatment status. Thirdly, issues related to commercial operations conducted by the countries within regional trade agreements begin to fall within the scope

of regulation of the WTO, and the Republic of Belarus, by the way, is a member of a number of integration associations (the CIS, the Customs Union with the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan). Fourthly, the countries, adjoining the Republic of Belarus are members of the WTO (Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, the Russian Federation). Fifthly, the role of the Third World countries has considerably increased in the WTO. Having entered into the WTO, the Republic of Belarus can strengthen its position due to consolidation with other member countries and can start developing the most favourable for the economy of the country policy.

Problems of the entry of the Republic of Belarus into the WTO. First, becoming a member of this international organization has found to be of the politicized character. Secondly, one of the most painful conditions of becoming a member of the WTO for Belarus is the requirement to balance internal energy costs with the world ones. Thirdly, there is a risk of unevenness of territorial development of the state. Fourthly, the main risk for national business operation is determined by more liberal conditions of foreign goods access to the domestic market and, therefore, reducing competitiveness of domestic manufacturers. So nowadays, it is indispensable for the leading Belarusian negotiators to achieve the most favourable conditions that would speed up the process of the entry of the Republic of Belarus into the World Trade Organization. And in order to minimize the risks for the economy of the country it is significantly important to enhance competitiveness of the goods.

References

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2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus [Electronic resource]. — Mode of access: <http://mfa.gov.by/>. — Date of access: 10.02.2018.

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STAGES AND PECULIARITIES OF EVENT MANAGEMENT OF MASS SPORT EVENTS IN BELARUS: FIGURE SKATING

Effective management of mass sport events creates prerequisites for the development of domestic and inbound tourism of the Republic of Belarus and also shapes a positive image of our country. It requires a well-organized process of sports competitions in order to attract a wider audience. Event management of mass sport events provides for the accounting and operation of all planned, organized, and controlled actions, which are necessary for the successful organizing of an exceptional and unique sport event [1]. In this regard, the structure and peculiarities