

dination Council for Tourism has started to work out a comprehensive national strategy (concept) for tourism development in Belarus. The strategy will be aimed at harnessing the potential and purposeful consolidation of resources and capabilities of a wide range of partners around the tourist advantages and charms of Belarus that can not only increase awareness of the country in the world but also promote the development of small and medium business, economic, transport and social infrastructure, create new jobs and attract investment.

Thus, the most recent developments including the decision to waive a visa requirement for citizens from some countries together with understanding of modern trends in tourism and the impact of globalization on the international and domestic tourist markets encourage certain optimism with respect to the future of the tourist industry of Belarus.

### References

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## THE COOPERATION WITHIN THE EEU AS THE FACTOR FOR EXTERNAL-ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS ENHANCEMENT

The Eurasian Economic Union at the present stage of development is one of the largest integration groupings in the world and due to the depth of linkages and the level of integration is the second after EU. The EEU keeps strengthening its positions in the World's economic system by the implementation of the prospective programs in order to intensify the integration, such as:

- the transformation of some sectors (tourism; scientific research; severely hazardous types of construction) into the single market of services;
- the creation of the unified market of electric energy;
- the foundation of the unified informative system of the EEU industrial sector;
- the formation of single excise output market (alcohol and tobacco products) and some others.

It is important to note, that the Republic of Belarus is a country with an open economy (the share of goods and services export in the country's GDP is rather high — more than 70 %) and has rather significant external economic potential. In 2017 Belarusian GDP reached 97,2 blrd. BYN (50,4 blrd. dollars), including per capita GDP — 10,2 thousand BYN (5,3 thousand dollars); the export volume of goods and services was 25,4 blrd. dollars. In comparison with 2016 GDP at comparable prices increased by 2,4 %, as well as per capita GDP which grew by 2,3 % and export of goods and services which rose by 22,6 % [1].

There exists a tight connection between the above-mentioned figures which characterize the external economic potential of our country and the integration processes which Belarus is involved into and which are taking place right now. From January to September of 2017 the change of goods and services export from Belarus by 55,8 % resulted from the increase in export volumes to EEU member states. This fact proves the importance of foreign trade relationships within the Union for the external economic potential of the Republic of Belarus.

Despite the significant common progress, gained in this direction, there are some particular difficulties and problems of cooperation within the EEU. As the example we think it is possible to mention the following: the non-compliance of the activities to harmonize national legislation of member states and the technical regulations of the Union; the limitation of free access to the electronic procurement for the prospective suppliers due to the absence of mutual recognition of the electronic digital signature; the unresolved question of taking export duties; the lack of single oil, gas and electric power markets and a number of other barriers, limitations and exemptions.

To overcome the above-mentioned difficulties all member states should demonstrate the willingness to strengthen the partnership and to some extent the readiness to make compromises. The stimulus to more effective cooperation can become for example the prospect of getting the additional growth of the GDP up to 13 % by 2030 for some members of the Union, subject to efficient collaboration [2]. Furthermore to enhance the foreign economic potential of our Republic it is necessary to pay special attention to the questions of export diversification; the implementation of new developments and technologies in industry and trade and most effective usage of our economic resources.

## References

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