

Conference Paper

Possibilities of Further Expansion of EEU Through a Prism of Interaction of City Agglomerations in Modern Eurasia

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Abstract

This article considers the problems and prospects of further integration of the countries of EEU and a possibility of further expansion through a prism of interaction of city agglomerations. The authors note the increased level of the foreign economic and international relations of certain subjects of the member countries –of the union. The attention is focused on integration opportunities of transformation of agglomerations into incubators of innovations, formation of the uniform urbanized zone, transport and logistic messages and migration processes.

Keywords: Eurasian Economic Union, migrations, agglomeration, foreign economic relations, economy, integration

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1. Introduction

Modern conditions of development of the states in the former Soviet Union have resulted in need of development of new formats of interaction. The Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) became one of such formats, the contract on his creation has begun to work since January 1, 2015. The same year, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan joined three countries to have foundresses. As stated already, such integration in all its manifestations was the first stage in the formation of a broad economic union aimed at protecting the economic interests of its member countries in the context of ongoing transformational processes and the formation of a new economic order in the world [3].

From the first days of existence within EEU formation and effective development of uniform customs space, development of energy resources, formation of the Eurasian transport union, creation of the common agrarian market, migration policy, strengthening of ties between certain subjects of member countries of the union,

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including large and small city agglomerations such as Moscow, St. Petersburg, Minsk, Astana, Almaty, Bishkek, Yerevan was among the priority directions of cooperation.

Integration cooperation has allowed to increase the level of interregional development and intensify the communications of city agglomerations between the participant countries. First of all, Russia, Kazakhstan and Minsk. Relations in the scientific, technical and production sphere of member countries of the union were strengthened. Positive changes in the customs legislation have led to liberalization of mutual trade, creation of the common market of goods of all participants of foreign economic activity.

Sintering effect in EAEU, the Integration project EAEU supposes the different format of interregional communications. The special role in the construction of integration relations is taken to the municipal agglomerations [2]. Forming of municipal agglomerations and their further activity in EAEU is directed, as well as in the whole world on the decision of tasks of economic development, territorial accordance, building of new motor-car highways and improvement of infrastructure (Moscow, Astana, Almaty to the agglomeration). Including providing, ecological making healthy of settlements, providing of employment of population (Bishkek, Yerevan to the agglomeration) gas, electricity, water. To most developed and withstand from above-stated it is possible to take Moscow and Almaty.

They plug in itself practically all basic signs of forming of municipal agglomeration, including common space of moving of commodities, resources, single labor-market, pendulum migration both into countries and for their limits, cultural and educational connections. For Russia and Kazakhstan intergovernmental agglomerations are important on all perimeter of the Russian–Kazakhstan border. As A. V. Bredikhin points out, “Within the framework of border-line agglomerations general economic clusters, social sphere and system of self-government of EAEU, are formed the use of investments, labor, natural resources, migratory streams” is optimized [1].

At the same time, according to Kazakh experts [4], agglomerations and urbanized areas should be created not on the basis of territorial-production principle, but on the basis of technological unity of the urbanized zone. The first attempts are already there: Aktobe agglomeration – Orenburg, Almaty agglomeration – Bishkek.

As is generally known, the Moscow Municipal Agglomeration (MMA) is the largest in Russia and on post-soviet space by a territorial-production node and socioeconomic center, attracting a population not only from other regions of Russian Federation but also from countries of near abroad. Along with a positive effect from such attraction as a height of amount of industrial enterprises, it has also broadened possibilities

of service types of activity, converting of MMA into the large center of concentration of scientific, cultural, financial resources. There are negative effects of such rapid development of MMA. In particular, requirements in additional labor resources resulted in the inflow of low-skilled labor force from the member countries, accordingly to the increase of the social and economic loading on her territory. The problems of socio-cultural adaptation of labor migrants, related to medical service, housing, by the overload of a transport and socio-cultural infrastructure, were escalation.

Thus, it should be noted that in other countries of EEU similar problems are less shown. In particular, questions of adaptation of labor migrants, Astana, Almaty and Minsk municipal agglomerations affected in less degree. It is explained first of all that in Kazakhstan and Belorussia hardly any law operates in regard to persons arriving on work.

Integration priorities of development of agglomerations are expressed in possible expansion of EEU. Territorial-agglomeration connections allow strengthening the local collaboration of countries, they become a nourishing environment for the development of creative innovative clusters. Collaboration of MMA with Astana, Almaty and the supranational effect of cooperation strengthens the Minsk agglomerations in economic, political, social and ecological areas. But to a great extent agglomerations are the original migratory point of attraction.

2. Municipal Agglomerations are in the Context of Labor Migration

EEU member countries, namely Russia and Kazakhstan, in less degree, Belorussia, accept labor migrants. Comparatively high salaries, location, community of language and culture is what attracts the powerful streams of labor force in these countries. It should be noted that the integration within the framework of EEU puts in order the legal position of the labor migrants on these territories of the union. The questions of employment of citizens of Kazakhstan, Armenia, Kirghizia, Russia and Belorussia are regulated by the Agreement on the Eurasian economic union dated May 29, 2014, entered by virtue of January 1, 2015 [7].

Legal, institutional executed labor migration promotes: to the increase the flexibility of labor market and more effective satisfaction of demand on labor force, that are, investigation of forming of common market of labor, maintenance by countries by the donors of political and cultural influence.

For example, for the citizens of Kirghizia, entry in EAEU facilitated labor migration to Russia, Kazakhstan and Belorussia. On different estimations, there are more than 1 million Kirghizs working abroad, that makes to the fifth of the population of country. The data of the Ministry of labor of Russian Federation show: «that the more than 500 thousand citizens of republic work in Russia, on the prognoses of this department their amount can increase yet on 60-80 thousand persons» [6].

From one side, it results in the decision of problems of shortage of labor force appearing as a result of demographic failure and intensive development of economy. On the other hand, illegal status of workers and complications of their sociocultural adaptation reduce an integration effect, in spite of toughening of control and acceptance of repressive measures to labor migrants, their greater part is in the shadow.

3. Conclusion

External economic connections of municipal agglomerations of the Eurasian economic union develop on two directions. Into a union and between the member states – union and by other countries. But in the context of collaboration in EAEU, in more effectively the collaboration of border-line agglomerations comes true. Possible expansion of EAEU supposes deepening of external economic connections and forming of agglomerations of world level. Modern agglomerations must become the centers of innovative technologies. Municipal agglomerations must transform from the one-sided zones of concentration of low-skilled labor to the interregional centers of hi-tech and intellectual labor.

Integration priorities of agglomerations must assist development of collaboration after the giving of quality medical, educational and sociocultural services. Free moving of labor migrants between countries, on condition of the normatively legislative adjusting renders positive influence on convergence of economies.

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