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# ECONOMIC ESSENCE AND ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROCESSES

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ABSTRACT: In this article, it presents two main manifestations of integration processes in international economic relations, manifested at the micro and macro levels. At the micro level, this process is explained by the fact that individual firms in neighboring countries establish various forms of economic relations, as well as by establishing their branches in foreign countries. The rapid development of relations between firms and production enterprises, the provision of services in the exchange of goods, the free movement of capital and labor between countries necessitates the need for interstate regulation aimed at ensuring a single policy of economic, social, scientific and technical, foreign economic and defense policies, and actions in the financial and monetary sphere. As a result, economic complexes with a single currency, infrastructure, financial funds, common interstate management bodies are formed, and a number of proposals and conclusions are given for the development of international economic integration processes.

**KEY WORDS:** Integration, export, import, capital, labor, financial funds, foreign trade, trade balance, balance.

## INTRODUCTION.

International economic integration is the economic, socio-political and cultural unification of countries, which arose on the basis of the development of stable relations between national economies and the division of labor, and reflects the interconnectedness of production structures to various degrees and in various forms.

The following goals are envisaged for the territorial integration of countries:

- 1. Reducing production costs by using the opportunities for expanding markets and increasing the scale of production;
- 2. Further developing cooperation between countries;
- 3. Increasing the position of countries participating in international economic integration processes in the world market.

The peak of international economic integration associations dates back to the achievements of the development of Western European economic integration. This trend has attracted the attention of developing regions of the world. As a result, several dozen free trade areas, customs or economic unions have emerged in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The achievements of the development of economic integration in Western Europe have attracted the attention of developing regions of the world. Several dozen free trade areas, customs or economic unions

have emerged in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The establishment and operation of the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA) have played a significant role in the significant development of integration processes. This integration area occupies a high place in terms of economic importance in the world economy and international economic relations. In 1992, an agreement was signed between the United States, Canada, and Mexico to establish the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA), which began operating on January 1, 1994. NAFTA unites the United States, Canada and Mexico. This integration association covers a vast territory with a population of 456.6 million and has strong economic potential. The annual production of goods and services in these countries is 7 trillion US dollars. Their share in world trade is about 20%. The agreement of the NAFTA countries mainly provides for the removal of restrictions on trade in goods and services, the development of mechanisms for resolving disputes, and the liberalization of the investment climate in relation to each other. A distinctive feature of NAFTA in relation to the EU is the asymmetric nature of the integration processes. Canada and Mexico seek to become closer to the United States in the process of integration, but are weakly connected to each other.

# LITERATURE REVIEW ON THE TOPIC.

M. Fujita, A. Niebuhr, and S. Stiller conducted scientific research on the characteristics of the development of international economic activity and its development trends, justifying the advantages of international economic integration and the directions of liberalization of foreign economic activity. Helpman, J. Tinbergen, A. Bernard and T. Mayer, A. Cusolito developed modern models of international trade, studying the trends and main features of the development of international trade, the relationship between the country's export competitiveness in international trade and intensive and extensive borders. E. Zvonova, A. Kuznetsov, L. Revenko conducted research on global imbalances in the development of foreign trade relations and their regulation, as well as on eliminating various obstacles affecting the development of foreign trade [1].

# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY.

This article uses the methods of analysis and synthesis, scientific abstraction, generalization, comparative theoretical interpretation. In addition, the scientific basis of the article is international data obtained from the research of scientists in local and foreign scientific publications.

## ANALYSIS AND RESULTS.

Given the sharp increase in exports in the first two years, NAFTA's performance in terms of creating additional jobs did not fully justify the hopes. In addition, the positive trade balance between the United States and Mexico disappeared, and in 1995 it was replaced by a deficit. In the end, according to the plan of the creators of NAFTA, it was considered possible to create a fully-fledged North American common market by 2010. Currently, American economists are developing a model for creating a sufficiently powerful American trading bloc. In the mid-90s, integration processes in Latin American countries intensified. Based on the agreement between Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, concluded in 1991 and entered into force on January 1, 1995, a large regional trade and economic union MERCOSUR (Mercado Comun de Cono del Sur – MERCOSUR) was created, bringing these countries closer together (since July 2006, Venezuela has also been admitted to membership). In this, all restrictive payments were removed in almost 90% of mutual trade relations and a single customs tariff was established in relations with third countries. The goal of MERCOSUR is to form a common market in the region.

MERCOSUR has an indispensable system for coordinating and managing integration processes. It includes the Common Market Council under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Common Market Group – the executive body, and 10 technical commissions subordinate to it.

MERKOSURning faoliyati unga kiruvchi mamlakatlar igtisodiyoti rivoilanishini inflyatsiyani jilovlashga barqarorlashtirishga, shu jumladan va ishlab chiqarishni ragʻbatlantirishga yordam beradi. Shu bilan birgalikda valyutani tartibga solish, soliqqa tortishni unifikatsiya qilish hamda mehnat qonunchiligida bir qator hal qilinmagan muammolar The activities of MERCOSUR contribute to the stabilization of the economic development of its member countries, including curbing inflation and stimulating production. At the same time, there are a number of unresolved issues in currency regulation, unification of taxation, and labor legislation. As another example, we can cite our country's foreign trade for the period 2018-2022. (Table 1) As can be seen from the table, our country's foreign trade turnover is growing year by year. As another example, we can cite our country's foreign trade for the period 2018-2022. (Table 1) As can be seen from the table, our country's foreign trade turnover is growing year by year. However, the issue that concerns us to this day is how to bring the trade balance from a negative level to a positive level. If we look at the period 2018-2022, the volume of exports is significantly higher than imports. The trade balance is also becoming negative. Our research scientists are working on this issue and are making their suggestions and recommendations, but this issue still remains open.

1-Jadval Foreign trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan[2].

Indicators	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Mln.\$. Foreign trade balance	33 429,9	41 751,0	36 256,1	42 170,5	50 061,5
Export	13 990,7	17 458,7	15 102,3	16 662,8	19 293,7
Import	19 439,2	24 292,3	21 153,8	25 507,7	30 767,8
Trade balance	-5 448,5	-6 833,6	-6 051,5	-8 844,9	-11 474,0
including: with CIS countries.	12 144,4	14 461,8	11 826,4	15 920,4	19 954,8
Export	5 003,1	6 234,0	4 106,4	5 433,8	7 867,0
Import	7 141,3	8 227,8	7 720,0	10 486,6	12 087,7
	-2 138,2	-1 993,8	-3 613,6	-5 052,8	-4 220,7
With other countries	21 285,5	27 289,2	24 429,6	26 250,1	30 106,7
Export	8 987,6	11 224,7	10 995,8	11 229,0	11 426,7
Import	12 297,9	16 064,5	13 433,8	15 021,1	18 680,0
Trade balance	-3 310,3	-4 839,9	-2 437,9	-3 792,1	-7 253,4
Compared to the previous year, in%: Foreign trade turnover	125,8	124,9	86,8	116,3	118,7
Export	111,4	124,8	86,5	110,3	115,8
Import	138,7	125,0	87,1	120,6	120,6
including:With CIS countries	133,7	119,1	81,8	134,6	125,3
Export	122,6	124,6	65,9	132,3	144,8
Import	142,7	115,2	93,8	135,8	115,3

With other countries	121,8	128,2	89,5	107,5	114,7
Export	106,1	124,9	98,0	102,1	101,8
Import	136,5	130,6	83,6	111,8	124,4

The establishment of MERCOSUR led to a sharp increase in mutual trade and the expansion of trade and economic cooperation with other regional trading groups. Mutual investment activity also increased significantly, resulting in an acceleration of foreign investment flows. The positive activity of MERCOSUR was reflected in its significant impact on political stability in the region. Unlike Western European integration, the South American Union was not only a single organization of countries of different levels, but also effective cooperation. This required diligent preparation for all stages of the union, highly qualified management of its activities, as well as high skills for each country to find its place in this process and mitigate conflicts. At the end of the 20th century, integration processes in East Asia intensified. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes Singapore, one of the four Asian "dragons", as well as the "new wave" NIS countries - Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and the Philippines, has been successfully operating. The successful cooperation within these groups is closely linked to the strong economic growth of most ASEAN member countries, as well as the well-established trade relations between these countries and the functioning of a regulated form of cooperation. ASEAN was established in 1967 with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration in Bangkok.

ASEAN was formally formalized in 1976 on the basis of the ASEAN Declaration of Understanding and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, signed in Bali. The ASEAN plan provided for the member countries to reduce customs duties on 38,000 types of goods by an average of 5% by 2000. At the end of 1995, a decision was made to establish a full free trade area from 2003, which was expected to come into force in 2000 if the positive development of events continued. ASEAN is a political, economic and cultural regional intergovernmental organization of countries located in Southeast Asia. The highest body of ASEAN is the annual summit of the leaders of the member states, which has been held since 2001. The summit usually lasts three days, during which meetings are held with the organization's partners in the region. The Permanent Secretariat is based in Jakarta and is headed by a Secretary-General. It also has 29 committees and 122 working groups that help organize more than 300 ASEAN events each year.

The Asia Pacific Economic Corporation (APEC) was founded in Canberra in 1989 at the initiative of the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand. APEC was established as a free consultative forum, devoid of rigid organizational structures or large bureaucratic apparatus, and is therefore often referred to as the "APEC Forum". The APEC Secretariat is based in Singapore and consists of 23 diplomats representing only APEC member countries, as well as 20 local staff. The prospects for the development of economic integration in East Asia are significantly linked to the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an intergovernmental organization that brings together 21 countries from the region. APEC was established in 1989 at the initiative of Australia to develop economic cooperation in the Pacific Rim. Initially, it included 12 countries: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the United States. Over the years, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Mexico, Chile, Papua New Guinea joined it, and since 1998, Vietnam, Peru and Russia. APEC has the right to formally advise on investment and financial activities, but within its working bodies, a procedure for conducting regional trade is established, during which meetings of sectoral ministers and experts are held on issues of cooperation between one or another region.

APEC is a large economic association, which, according to 2007 data, accounts for 57% of world GDP and more than 48% of world trade. The main goal of the organization is to ensure a free and open economic order and strengthen regional cooperation. In 1994, the establishment of free

and open trade systems and a liberal investment regime in the Asia-Pacific region by 2020 was officially announced as a strategic goal. Somewhat developed countries should implement liberalization from 2010. Each country independently determines the timing of the introduction of new procedures and its own rights based on individual plans for its activities. Assessing the processes of economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region, many experts emphasize the uniqueness of its development and the presence of special conditions. The main features of the integration processes in the Asia-Pacific region include the following:

Firstly, the integration processes in APEC are carried out through the leadership of TNCs that create the basis for interstate cooperation. In particular, the emergence of non-governmental regional economic organizations - the Pacific Economic Cooperation (PES) in 1967 and the Pacific Economic Cooperation (PECC) in 1980 - created a very favorable environment for the creation of APEC. At the same time, PES and PECC were formed on the basis of national committees that had strong ties with their governments and received comprehensive support from them.

Secondly, the integration processes covered countries with different levels of economic development. The unique role of APEC was that it included the two largest economic powers of the 20th century, the USA and Japan, and at the same time, the economically powerful state of the 21st century, China.

Third, integration within the Asia-Pacific region includes subregional economic alliances (ASEAN, NAFTA, South Pacific Forum, etc.).

## CONCLUSION.

World economic integration is a process of economic and political unification of countries based on the development of deep stable relations between national economies and the division of labor, the interaction of economies at various levels and forms. International economic integration reflects the interconnectedness of production and reproduction processes at various levels. World economic integration is the interconnection of national economies and is an objective process of conducting economic policy between countries that have agreed to form this integration unit. Countries participating in world economic integration have a number of advantages in the process of conducting foreign economic relations, and the desire to form integration units in order to achieve these interests is the driving force of integration.

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