



## THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS COOPERATION IN REGULATING EXPORT AND IMPORT FLOWS

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**Abstract.** This article focuses on the role of international customs cooperation in regulating export-import flows. It provides information on the essence of international customs cooperation and the significant importance of exports and imports for countries. Furthermore, the article discusses the World Trade Organization while also considering the direct impact of international customs cooperation on exports and imports.

**Keywords:** *International customs cooperation, World Trade Organization, import, export, customs, function, logistics*

## РОЛЬ МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО ТАМОЖЕННОГО СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА В РЕГУЛИРОВАНИИ ЭКСПОРТНО-ИМПОРТНЫХ ПОТОКОВ

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**Аннотация.** Эта статья посвящена роли международного таможенного сотрудничества в регулировании потоков экспорта и импорта. В ней представлена информация о сути международного таможенного сотрудничества и о значимой роли экспорта и импорта для стран. Кроме того,



в статье рассматривается Всемирная торговая организация, а также прямое влияние международного таможенного сотрудничества на экспорт и импорт.

**Ключевые слова:** *Международное таможенное сотрудничество, Всемирная торговая организация, импорт, экспорт, таможня, функция, логистика*

## XALQARO BOJXONA HAMKORLIGINING EKSPORT-IMPORT OQIMLARINI TARTIBGA SOLISHDAGI ROLI

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**Annotatsiya.** Ushbu maqola xalqaro bojxona hamkorligining eksport-import oqimlarini tartibga solishdagi roliga qaratilgan bo‘lib, xalqaro bojxona hamkorligining mohiyati va eksport va importning davlatlar uchun tutgan muhim ahamiyati haqida malumotlar berildi. Shuningdek, maqolada Jahon Savdo Tashkiloti haqida ham so‘z yuritilishi bilan bir paytda xalqaro bojxona hamkorligining eksport va importga bevosita ta’siri haqida ham fikr yuritildi.

**Kalit so‘zlar:** *Xalqaro bojxona hamkorligi, Jahon Savdo Tashkiloti, import, eksport, bojxona, funksiya, logistika*

As is known, globalization is a high level of interdependence of the economies of different countries, and also implies a rapid and high-quality exchange of goods and services, capital and information on a global scale, that is, the expansion of trade and various forms of foreign economic relations. The mid-1980s were an important stage in global economic liberalization and trade integration. Since the 1980s, trade



in patents, licenses, know-how, scientific technologies have become one of the fastest growing sectors of world foreign trade. Many countries have felt a great need to reduce their customs barriers, and therefore many barriers have been removed. They have also significantly increased the volume of exports and imports due to the reduction of barriers. According to world trade statistics, world trade - both exports and imports - has been growing steadily since the early 1980s, which is closely related to globalization processes. According to World Trade Organization statistics, export and import data are regularly updated, and there are growing trends in export and import volumes.

International customs cooperation refers to coordinated actions, information exchange, and harmonization of customs procedures among countries. Its main objective is to balance trade facilitation with control and security. Through cooperation, customs administrations are able to standardize documentation, apply unified risk management systems, and improve transparency in cross-border trade operations.

Organizations such as the World Customs Organization play a leading role in promoting international standards and best practices in customs administration. Instruments like the Revised Kyoto Convention and the SAFE Framework of Standards aim to simplify customs procedures while strengthening supply chain security.<sup>1</sup>

As a result of China's opening up and reform, which began in 1978, its exports and imports have grown dramatically. In 1978, total foreign trade was only \$20.6 billion, but in 2010 it reached \$2.974 trillion - a 144-fold increase over 1978. China began a profound economic transformation in the 1980s, and the growth in exports and imports has had a major impact on global trade flows.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Widdowson D. Border Management and International Customs Cooperation in the Digital Era // Customs Scientific Journal. – 2022. – Vol. 12, No. 2. – P. 25–40.

<sup>2</sup> [https://zw.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/zgjj/201209/t20120928\\_6408742.htm](https://zw.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/zgjj/201209/t20120928_6408742.htm)



Today, international trade has become an integral part of the global economy. Goods and services produced through exports and imports move from one country to another, thereby growing national economies, creating jobs, and expanding markets. However, the effectiveness of this process directly depends on the customs system and international customs cooperation. Customs cooperation has several functions in the global market:

- simplifying customs procedures
- regulating
- effectively managing export and import flows by ensuring security.

In this regard, customs cooperation is the main mechanism supporting global trade processes.

International customs cooperation is the exchange of information between customs authorities of different countries in international trade processes, harmonizing and standardizing customs procedures, and improving customs legislation on a cooperative basis. According to the official website of the customs authorities of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan became an active member of the World Customs Organization in 1992 and has been actively working to harmonize its customs legislation with international documents and conventions. This process involves the exchange of international experience, the introduction of standards, and the harmonization of legislation.

Export and import are the lifeblood of the economies of countries, through which goods are exchanged. One of the main tools regulating this process is the customs system. The level of effective regulation, proper registration and transparent procedures for goods moving through customs guarantees the stability of trade between countries. It should be remembered that customs service play an important role in establishing foreign economic activity - they ensure the competitiveness of the national economy by simplifying and regulating import and export processes, as well as creating favourable conditions for business. In her article, Shoira



Ismatullayeva provides detailed information about the economic importance of customs services and emphasizes the efficiency of registration and the need to introduce digital solutions. In addition, simplifying the export-import process through customs service allows national entrepreneurs to make digital declarations, increase transparency and manage risks, which serves to support domestic manufacturers. Through exports and imports, markets expand, goods are delivered quickly, and manufacturers are integrated with the global market. The effective functioning of the customs system gradually supports this process. In scientific articles, the economic significance of these processes is described as follows:

- Customs service ensure the stability of the national economy, create effective export-import conditions for business entities, and improve the investment climate.
- Fast and transparent customs clearance reduces logistics costs, which increases the competitiveness of exporting and importing companies.
- Simplified customs procedures - increase economic efficiency and expand the scope of export-import operations.

The analyses in these sources show that customs cooperation and efficient technical infrastructure directly affect the growth of exports and imports, integrating national producers into global trade.

Uzbekistan is currently improving export-import and transit links along transport corridors. By simplifying transport and logistics, customs procedures are also being accelerated, which will contribute to the development of international trade. In addition, Uzbek customs authorities are introducing new mechanisms to improve customs surveillance by implementing AI and digital systems. Risk identification and control through artificial intelligence will increase speed and transparency in export-import processes.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement is one of the main international instruments aimed at regulating global trade and facilitating



customs procedures. The agreement establishes rules for customs clearance, information exchange, and the rapid, safe and efficient movement of goods across borders. The WTO has noted that the full implementation of the agreement could reduce international trade costs by an estimated 14.3% and increase annual global trade growth by an estimated \$1 trillion.<sup>3</sup> This means that as countries simplify customs procedures, export and import flows will become easier, which will increase the competitiveness of the national economy and create an amazing conditions for investors. The WTO and the World Customs Organization (WCO) also cooperate on customs technical assistance, information exchange and improving market access conditions. This cooperation plays an important role in implementing uniform standards on customs valuation, commodity classification and rules of origin. Under the new Memorandum of Understanding signed between the WTO and the WCO in 2025, cooperation on customs issues will be further deepened and more technical expertise and security integration will be introduced into customs decisions. This will facilitate the regulation of export-import processes and increase their security.

In Uzbekistan's practice, the customs system is not only improving the national legal framework, but also implementing international requirements. In the process of joining the WTO (World Trade Organization), concrete measures are being developed to bring Uzbekistan's customs duties and procedures into line with WTO standards. For example, decisions were made to bring customs duties into line with the requirements of GATT 1994 in 2024-2025. This will help reduce export and import costs and simplify trade. Also, Uzbekistan's export-import and transit relations are carried out through 9 international transport corridors, which expand trade flows through simplified customs procedures. Expanding transport and logistics cooperation will make export-import flows more efficient.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/tradfa\\_e/tradfa\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tradfa_e/tradfa_e.htm)

<sup>4</sup> <https://uz24.uz/uz/articles/jst-6-5>



The direct impact of international customs cooperation on exports and imports is realized in the following areas:

**Information exchange and the example of the USA:** Modern customs systems receive rapid information about goods and identify risks through information exchange. This process significantly reduces border clearance times and strengthens export-import flows. Automatic information exchange between systems strengthens cooperation between customs authorities.

**Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA):** These agreements simplify export and import processes through customs inspections and recognition of documents. For example, certificates for classification and valuation of goods obtained in one country are recognized by the customs authorities of another country. This significantly speeds up export and import processes and reduces transit costs.

**Risk management and prevention of illicit trade:** International customs cooperation also helps to detect and prevent smuggling, fraud, and the flow of illegal goods. Joint analysis of data creates automated risk systems and effectively deploys customs resources.

**Modern technologies and Smart Customs:** Customs cooperation is also being strengthened through digital technologies. The concept of smart customs includes the automation of customs processes, the introduction of technologies such as IoT, blockchain, and artificial intelligence. This eliminates delays in export-import processes, increases security, and ensures the transparency of customs data.

International customs cooperation directly influences the regulation of export–import flows in several ways. First, harmonized customs procedures reduce delays at borders and lower transaction costs for exporters and importers. This increases trade efficiency and competitiveness in global markets.

Second, cooperation enables effective information sharing between customs authorities, which is vital for combating smuggling, fraud, and illicit trade. Joint risk



assessment and mutual administrative assistance help identify high-risk consignments and ensure compliance with trade regulations.

Third, customs cooperation supports the implementation of international trade agreements under the framework of the World Trade Organization. Trade facilitation measures, such as advance rulings, authorized economic operator (AEO) programs, and electronic data interchange, are largely dependent on coordinated customs policies.

**Economic and Security Implications.** From an economic perspective, efficient regulation of export - import flows through customs cooperation stimulates foreign trade, attracts investment, and promotes sustainable economic growth. Simplified customs procedures improve the business environment and enhance the integration of national economies into global value chains.

From a security standpoint, international cooperation strengthens border control and protects societies from threats such as terrorism, counterfeit goods, and unsafe products. The application of unified security standards ensures that trade growth does not compromise national and international security interests.<sup>5</sup>

In conclusion, we can say that international customs cooperation creates many opportunities for each country. For example, stable customs payments for them protect entrepreneurs in the countries from high risks to a certain extent and allow them to achieve entrepreneurial skills and accurate forecasting and high profits. It also stabilizes the volume of exports and imports between countries and achieves high rates of economic and social growth. It occupies a leading position in solving trade and currency problems.

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