SUMMARY

**Research topic:** Current status and prospects of further development of the processes of economic integration between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

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**Relevance of the research issue:** The integration of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan is of a particular interest because there are no cases in international practice when the independent states, that in the past were a part of one country, tried to integrate their own economies based on new market principles, after a short period since gaining independence.

**The purpose of the study** is to identify the main directions of economic and financial cooperation between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan in the context of the Customs Union and common economic space.

**Research objectives:**

- To identify key factors of development of regional integration;
- To show modern views on integration in terms of a globalizing world economy;
- To identify the stages of integration cooperation between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan;
- To describe changes in foreign economic policy of the three countries after the formation of the Customs Union and common economic space;
- To assess the status and prospects of integrative cooperation between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan in foreign trade, investment and financial sectors and to identify the factors contributing to and preventing this cooperation.
The scientific novelty is to identify the key benefits of the functioning of the Customs Union, such as, despite the crisis in the global economy, positive dynamics of trade cooperation among the three countries and a positive influence on the development of trade diversification between the three countries. Show the role of Russia as a leading partner in the Customs Union and common economic space.

The structure of the work consists of an introduction, three chapters, 6 paragraphs, conclusion, a 91 reference bibliography (24 of them are in foreign languages). The total volume is 70 pages.

Summary: Independent States continue to create regional integration groupings and their development process is a key part of globalization.

However, the Customs Union among the other integration groupings is the youngest one. Formal cooperation between new independent States of the former Soviet Union began in 1991. Real steps towards regional integration within the EAEU are associated with forming between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan the Customs Union and common economic space.

Positive developments in the transition from formal to real integration within the Customs Union, as well as the positive results of the major integration groupings activities (EU, NAFTA, MERCOSUR) presage the further strengthening of economic relations between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.