

Belarus - Central Asia

In June 2026, Brest hosted the Economic Forum and Workshop “Belarus–Central Asia: Paths to Cooperation,” which served as a platform for exchanging experiences, discussing practical issues of trade and economic cooperation, and finding solutions to successfully promote Belarusian exports to the Central Asian region. Against the backdrop of a changing global economy, the global restructuring of technological and logistical supply chains, the importance of Belarus’s cooperation with the countries of Central Asia—which are demonstrating dynamic economic growth—is increasingly on the rise, creating new opportunities for domestic exports and market diversification. Currently, given the rapid growth of the region’s economies—which have a combined population of more than 80 million—key priorities for Belarus include increasing trade volumes with Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan, as well as increasing domestic exports in the fields of mechanical engineering, processed agricultural products, veterinary and pharmaceutical products, construction materials, furniture, and lumber. How are these objectives being met today? This study provides an overview.



Boris Zaleski

Fifty years of professional experience in journalism. For twenty years, he served as an associate professor in the Department of International Journalism at the Faculty of Journalism of Belarusian State University.

Areas of research: contemporary international relations; international journalism and media cooperation.



Belarus - Central Asia

Boris Zaleski



Belarus - Central Asia

Multifaceted economic cooperation with partner countries in the neighboring region

Boris Zaleski

Boris Zaleski

Belarus - Central Asia

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Boris Zaleski

Belarus - Central Asia

**Multifaceted economic cooperation with partner
countries in the neighboring region**

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

ScieniaScripts

Imprint

Any brand names and product names mentioned in this book are subject to trademark, brand or patent protection and are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders. The use of brand names, product names, common names, trade names, product descriptions etc. even without a particular marking in this work is in no way to be construed to mean that such names may be regarded as unrestricted in respect of trademark and brand protection legislation and could thus be used by anyone.

Cover image: www.ingimage.com

This book is a translation from the original published under ISBN 978-66-30-33261-2.

Publisher:

Scienia Scripts

is a trademark of

Dodo Books Indian Ocean Ltd. and OmniScriptum S.R.L publishing group

120 High Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9ED, United Kingdom

Str. Armeneasca 28/1, office 1, Chisinau MD-2012, Republic of Moldova, Europe

Managing Directors: Ieva Konstantinova, Victoria Ursu

info@omniscryptum.com

Printed at: see last page

ISBN: 978-66-30-51236-6

Copyright © Boris Zaleski

Copyright © 2026 Dodo Books Indian Ocean Ltd. and OmniScriptum S.R.L publishing group

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Contents

CHAPTER 1 2

CHAPTER 2 57

CHAPTER 3 144

CHAPTER 4 188

CHAPTER 5 202

Bibliography 211

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

CHAPTER 1

KAZAKHSTAN

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

The Ideology of Eurasian Partnership

The international community, having entered a period of global change, is today objectively faced with the problem of a reduction in the capacity of nation states to ensure their sustainable socio-economic development and security. Only powerful regional alliances can counteract the negative consequences of globalisation. An effective model of such an integration bloc, comprising the peoples of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, is already taking shape in the Eurasian space: 'By developing the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space, we are moving towards the creation of the Eurasian Economic Union with the aim of ensuring harmonious, mutually complementary cooperation with other countries, international economic organisations and the European Union, leading to the creation of a common economic space'¹.

As we can see, this model of Eurasian cooperation is geared towards a future of global integration, provides benefits for every participant in the integration processes, and involves harnessing the combined potential for the benefit of all participants. It is clear that success in achieving the stated objectives can only be attained through the pooling of joint efforts, where the guiding principle is the promotion of good-neighbourly relations and the ideology of intercivilisational dialogue. In the context of the current fragile balance of geopolitical forces, the processes of globalisation have turned virtually all the world's states into neighbouring countries, for which the issue of seeking and reaching consensus is particularly relevant, since 'consensus is not merely a matter of concessions and compromises; it is, first and foremost, joint action to create shared values and a unified socio-cultural space in which different civilisations can freely develop and interact'².

It is clear that, in the process of creating shared ideological values and a unified socio-cultural space within integration blocs, the role of the media simply cannot be overestimated, as 'the absence of a well-functioning system of information exchange is a significant obstacle to the establishment of not only humanitarian but also business contacts'³. This issue – the creation of a unified socio-cultural and information space within the nascent Eurasian Economic Union – is particularly relevant for Belarus today in the context of Minsk – Astana axis, as it has been far less explored by researchers in the

¹ On 9 December, a meeting of the EurAsEC Intergovernmental Council took place in Moscow [Online resource]. – 2010. – URL:

<http://president.gov.by/press102182.html#doc>

² Kolesnik, V.S. Conflict of Values in Inter-Civilisational Dialogue / V.S. Kolesnik // [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://dom-hors.ru/issue/fik/1-2011-1-2/kolesnik.pdf>

³ Zalesky, B.L. The Mass Media and the Formation of a Unified Information Space in the Commonwealth of Independent States / B.L. Zalesky // The Information Landscape of Contemporary Russia: Practices and Effects: Proceedings of the 8th International Scientific and Practical Conference, Kazan, 20–22 October 2011 / edited by V.Z. Garifulin, R.P. Bakanov. – Kazan: Kazan University, 2011. – p. 255.

field of international journalism than the issue of creating a unified information space within the Union State of Belarus and Russia. However, this does not make the topic of Belarusian–Kazakhstani information cooperation any less important. Moreover, in the long term, it is precisely the established system of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan in the media sphere that could serve as a kind of blueprint for creating a shared ideology for a multilateral Eurasian information partnership. This is why it is appropriate today to focus attention on the current state and future prospects of Belarusian-Kazakh media cooperation.

As far back as 2000, the governments of the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of the press and information, in which they agreed to ‘support and encourage mutually beneficial cooperation between the editorial offices of the mass media and the information services (agencies) of their respective states, the specific terms and forms of which will be determined by the participants themselves’⁴. The aim of this document is clear: the desire to create a unified or common information space and to strengthen friendly relations between the two brotherly nations – Belarus and Kazakhstan. Two years later, the governments of Belarus and Kazakhstan, together with the governments of Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan, set out in detail the forms of cooperation between their countries’ media in the Agreement on Cooperation in the Dissemination of Mass Media: ‘to promote the creation of favourable conditions for the wide and free mutual dissemination of mass media content with a view to further deepening knowledge about the lives of the peoples of their respective states’⁵. As we can see, ten years ago, in both Belarus and Kazakhstan, high hopes were pinned on the international segment of the two countries’ national journalism in terms of providing adequate and comprehensive coverage of bilateral relations. And real life itself suggested – and continues to suggest – an abundance of topics for journalistic analysis.

Suffice it to say that between 2005 and 2010, the volume of trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan ‘increased more than fourfold – from 215 to 870 million dollars’⁶. The main directions for the development of Belarusian-Kazakh bilateral relations were set out in the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation, signed in Minsk on 17 January 1996. The complementary nature of the two countries’ economies serves as a solid foundation for such

⁴ Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on cooperation in the field of the press and information [Electronic resource]. – 2000. – URL: kazakhstan.news-city.info/docs/sistemn/dok_oerajb.htm

⁵ Agreement on cooperation in the dissemination of mass media [Electronic resource]. – 2002. – URL: pravo.kulichki.com/zak/megd/meg00645.htm

⁶ 8th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: www.mfa.by/rus/12-1-m12-461094

cooperation, as Belarus and Kazakhstan have virtually no competing industries. The legal framework for cooperation between the two countries currently comprises more than 60 international treaties and documents. This indicates that cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan is characterised by active dialogue at all levels, both through bilateral contacts and through cooperation within international organisations, associations and forums, including the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Eurasian Economic Community, the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, the Customs Union, the Single Economic Space and the emerging Eurasian Economic Union.

A breakthrough in relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan has emerged over the last few years, following the agreements reached in 2009 on cooperation in the fields of industrial and scientific-technical collaboration, healthcare, civil defence, the prevention and management of emergencies, higher and postgraduate education, tourism, archiving, as well as in the fields of agricultural machinery manufacturing, the joint production of medicines, baby food and dairy products⁷. At the same time, the parties adopted the Programme of Economic Cooperation for 2009–2016 – the ‘Roadmap’ – which brought together a number of key areas for future development:

- 1) ensuring the stable development of economic cooperation aimed at boosting the economies of both states;
- 2) further development of trade and economic relations on an equal and mutually beneficial basis;
- 3) removing barriers to mutual trade;
- 4) cooperation in implementing institutional reforms, ensuring equal opportunities and guarantees for all economic operators, and creating conditions for fair competition;
- 5) creating incentives for growth in production, investment in its development, and the introduction of the latest scientific achievements and cutting-edge technologies;
- 6) improving the quality and competitiveness of manufactured goods;
- 7) establishing a system of state support for priority areas of development in inter-state and inter-regional cooperation;
- 8) the development of targeted intergovernmental projects and programmes for economic cooperation;

⁷ Trade and Economic Cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Belarus [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: www.bv.kazbelctm/torg-econom.html

9) preserving and developing labour and intellectual potential⁸.

An important detail: among the main areas of long-term economic cooperation is the organisation of events for the exchange of information, which includes the whole range of issues relating to cooperation between the media of the two countries.

The joint statement adopted back in 2011 following negotiations between the Presidents of Belarus and Kazakhstan contains instructions to the governments of both countries to 'focus their efforts on priority areas of economic, scientific, technical and humanitarian cooperation'⁹, which include: the development of an energy dialogue; an increase in the mutual trade in goods and services; creating favourable conditions for expanding productive contacts between business communities; deepening industrial cooperation; establishing competitive joint production facilities with export potential on the territory of both states; providing the necessary support measures for the implementation of joint projects, including by incorporating them into the state programmes of Belarus and Kazakhstan; expanding cooperation in the agro-industrial sector; developing military-technical cooperation; introducing new instruments and areas of economic partnership; deepening scientific and technical cooperation; intensifying interaction through the chambers of commerce and industry of the two countries; developing inter-regional ties; and expanding cooperation in the field of healthcare.

International journalists covering integration processes in the post-Soviet space should also bear in mind that, to ensure the successful implementation of the planned joint cooperation initiatives, the Belarusian and Kazakhstani sides have established a variety of mechanisms for bilateral interaction, including the Belarusian-Kazakhstani Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, the Belarus-Kazakhstan Commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation, and the Belarus-Kazakhstan Business Forum.

All these measures to boost bilateral cooperation have yielded significant results. In 2010, the volume of mutual trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan more than doubled. Moreover, this growth was evident both in Belarusian exports, which increased by almost half, and in Kazakh imports, which rose 5.4-fold. It is telling that in 2010 the range of Belarusian exports to Kazakhstan increased by 77 items at once, totalling 404 commodity lines. It

⁸ On the signing of the Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Belarus on long-term economic cooperation for 2009–2016 [Electronic resource]. – 2009. – URL: http://ru.government.kz/docs/u090000821_20090610. <http://president.gov.by/press114645.html#doc>

⁹ On 24 May, talks were held between the Presidents of Belarus and Kazakhstan in Astana [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press114645.html#doc>

is noteworthy that these trends and the positive dynamics of bilateral trade continued into 2011, during the first eight months of which trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan grew by a further five per cent, with a trade surplus for Belarus amounting to 325 million dollars. This was due to an increase in exports from Belarus of tractors and semi-trailer tractors, milk and cream, lorries and malt, timber construction products and furniture, frozen beef, and wires and cables. Among the new items in Belarus's export portfolio, mention should be made of vegetables, glassware, newsprint and recreational watercraft.

The issue of developing industrial cooperation between our countries could and should become a topical subject for journalistic investigations in the press of Belarus and Kazakhstan. After all, over the past two years, 12 assembly plants for Belarusian machinery have been set up in Kazakhstan, four of which were established in 2011. And now, our partners in the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space are already assembling Belarusian quarrying and mining machinery, tractors, combine harvesters, engines, balers, lifts, several types of trailed agricultural machinery, and a project to assemble cardan shafts has also been launched. 'The aim is to increase the production of high-power tractors in Kazakhstan to 1,500 units in 2012, as well as to implement new joint projects'¹⁰. Issues relating to the organisation of Belarusian assembly production of machine tools and grain drying complexes for the processing and storage of grain by Kazakhstani partners are currently under consideration and discussion. Plans include supplying Kazakhstani agricultural producers with Belarusian-made machinery and equipment through the joint venture 'KazBelLeasing', which is currently being established, as well as a promising project to open a Belarusian-Kazakhstani industrial and technical park for agricultural and municipal machinery, which will bring together manufacturers from both countries. On the other hand, discussions are currently under way regarding the supply of Kazakhstani oil and petroleum products, as well as electricity, to Belarus, and the establishment of Kazakhstani logistics centres on Belarusian territory.

The innovation and investment dimension of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan is also gaining prominence in the current five-year plan, which, by definition, should be the focus of attention for the trade press in both countries. In particular, the introduction of joint cutting-edge developments into production will be facilitated by the formation of a

¹⁰ Twelve assembly plants for Belarusian machinery were established in Kazakhstan in 2010–2011 [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: www.government.by/ru/content/4072/print

Science and Education Consortium between higher education institutions and research institutes of the two countries, an agreement to establish which was signed during the Belarusian President's visit to Astana in May 2011. The consortium comprises 17 universities and research institutes from Belarus and 13 universities from Kazakhstan. The L.N. Gumilev Eurasian National University has been designated as the lead organisation for coordinating the consortium's activities on the Kazakhstani side. In total, '52 direct agreements have been concluded between universities in Kazakhstan and Belarus'¹¹.

Inter-regional cooperation is an important component of bilateral relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan. This is because 'Belarus is attractive to virtually all regions of Kazakhstan, as the range of products manufactured here is very wide'¹². In particular, Kazakhstani regions are interested in both agricultural machinery and agricultural produce – ranging from seed stocks to agricultural machinery – as well as heavy-duty machinery. For example, in the Kostanay Region, the production of Belarusian combine harvesters, trailers and other agricultural machinery has been established. A platform for joint projects in the North Kazakhstan region is developing successfully. Since May 2009, the assembly of Belarusian tractors has been underway in Semey, where more than two thousand tractor kits were delivered in 2011, meaning that more than 2,000 tractors will have been produced. The mining industry, which is developing rapidly in Kazakhstan, is driving demand for Belarusian quarrying machinery. In this regard, a major project to assemble 'BelAZ' trucks is being implemented in the Karaganda Region. There is a site in Pavlodar for the assembly of Mogilev-made lifts. And from 2012, production of the same Belarusian products will also begin in Ust-Kamenogorsk. The issue of setting up joint ventures in Kazakhstan for the processing of fruit and vegetable produce is currently under consideration; in this connection, an agreement was signed in autumn 2011 between the Gomel and Almaty regions. All these facts suggest that 'as soon as businesspeople and entrepreneurs start visiting each other's enterprises to sign contracts and specific agreements, the venture will begin to gain momentum. To this end, three years ago we set ourselves the task of revitalising inter-regional and sectoral cooperation'¹³.

It seems that regional, district and city newspapers in both countries should play an important role in providing media coverage of these areas of

¹¹ 25 May marked the end of the Belarusian President's official visit to Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press/115738.html#doc>

¹² Smirnov, A. The future lies in joint forms of cooperation / A. Smirnov // Union of Entrepreneurs. – 2009. – 4 September.

¹³ Smirnov, A.V. Belarus – Kazakhstan: the state of play and prospects for cooperation / A.V. Smirnov // [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://forum.sevuz.by/main-news/detail.php?TID=12457>

cooperation. All the more so given that the 'Programme of Economic Cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Belarus for 2009–2019' includes, amongst the main areas of long-term economic cooperation, a reminder—and indeed a requirement—for the media in both countries to organise events for the exchange of information and the establishment of business contacts. It must be assumed that the time has now come to give concrete substance to these humanitarian and informational areas of cooperation, given the rapid integration processes taking place in the post-Soviet and Eurasian space. It is clear that the successful implementation of the creative tasks set for by international journalists from both countries depends solely on their professional expertise.

In this regard, it is worth drawing the attention of representatives of the international segment of Belarusian journalism to one of the practical resources for strengthening the information support for Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation. It is well known that a considerable number of Belarusians reside in Kazakhstan. To be entirely precise, the Belarusian diaspora in Kazakhstan is organised into twelve organisations operating in Almaty, Astana, Karaganda, Kostanay, Pavlodar, Petropavlovsk-Ust-Kamenogorsk, Aktau, Aktobe, and in the Akmola and East Kazakhstan regions. Furthermore, cooperation with compatriots in Kazakhstan is currently officially carried out by: the Stalinsky District Executive Committee and the 'Belarus Cultural Centre' in Pavlodar; the Dubrovensky District Executive Committee and the 'Belarus Cultural Centre' in Atbasar; the Vetkovsky District Executive Committee and the 'Belarus National Cultural Centre' in Almaty; the Gomel District Executive Committee and the 'Radzhma' North Kazakhstan Regional Belarusian Centre in Petropavlovsk; The Belynichi and Kirov District Executive Committees and the East Kazakhstan Belarusian Centre in Ust-Kamenogorsk¹⁴. But how much can we learn about this cooperation from the local newspapers of the aforementioned Belarusian regions? It would be no exaggeration to say that the potential for media coverage here resembles an as yet untouched 'information frontier'. This issue is also highly relevant for our Kazakhstani colleagues – journalists covering the international relations of Kazakhstan's regions.

All these facts and observations lead to the conclusion that the issue of providing information to support integration processes in the post-Soviet space will become even more pressing in the coming years, as 'the media and mass communications are playing an increasingly significant role in public, socio-economic and cultural processes. They are not only a channel of

¹⁴ Regional Cooperation [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: www.belarus21.by/ru/main_menu/compatriots/sotr

information, but also an effective tool for shaping and forming political realities'¹⁵. A particularly telling illustration of this argument is provided by the well-known articles by V. Putin, A. Lukashenko and N. Nazarbayev, recently published in the newspaper *Izvestia*. These media publications not only gave a powerful impetus to the debate on forms of advanced integration within the CIS and raised the very process of understanding the issues at stake to a qualitatively new level, but also effectively laid the foundations for the ideology of a Eurasian information partnership, setting the necessary journalistic tone for discussions on how to seek compromise and reach consensus within the framework of the emerging Eurasian Economic Union. International journalism will also have to play its responsible role in promoting and developing this ideology; it is called upon 'through analysis, the identification of hidden causes and motives, and the clarification of complex interrelationships, to foster understanding and mutual understanding, to tone down the grandiloquence of lofty phrases, and help people recognise the complex interweaving of various interests and the diversity of aspects of the issue <...> Today, this form of journalism must, to an ever-greater extent, set itself the task of connecting local and national publics, so as to link them, in turn, to the global public'¹⁶.

It is precisely the media – in this case, those of Belarus and Kazakhstan – that have a special role to play in shaping new shared Eurasian values and a common Eurasian identity, without which profound integration reforms in the post-Soviet space are simply doomed to failure. Therefore, international journalists from both countries still need to find their own joint professional approaches to tackling this crucial task, dictated by the logic of the ideology of Eurasian partnership in an era of innovative and integrative transformations in the post-Soviet space.

¹⁵ Proleskovsky, O.V. To the participants of the 13th International Scientific and Practical Conference 'Journalistics-2011: Current Status, Problems and Prospects' / O.V. Proleskovsky // Zhurnal'tika-2011: Status, Problems and Prospects: Proceedings of the 13th International Scientific and Practical Conference, dedicated to the 90th anniversary of BSU, 8–9 September 2011, MINSK / Edited by: S.V. Dubovps (ed.) [et al.]. – Issue 13. – MINSK: BSU, 2011. – p. 3.

¹⁶ Můnch, R. The Role of Journalism in a Communication Society / R. Můnch // [Electronic resource].

– 1991. – URL:

<http://www.academy-go.ru/Site/JournalPR/Publications/RMunch.shtml>

Twenty years of cooperation and partnership in the context of Eurasian communication

September 2012 marked the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan. During this time, both countries have travelled 'a difficult path of state-building and development, consolidating sovereignty and independence, and ensuring a decent life for their citizens <...> Today, Belarus and Kazakhstan are strategic partners and allies. Active bilateral cooperation is systematic in nature, and interaction is successfully expanding across all areas'¹⁷. These processes have become particularly evident in recent years, as the post-Soviet space has seen a move towards deeper integration and cooperation within the framework of the Customs Union and the Eurasian Economic Space.

As far back as 2009, Belarus and Kazakhstan adopted the Programme of Economic Cooperation for 2009–2016 – the 'Roadmap' – which became a foundational document for the practical development of bilateral relations. In the years that followed, the partner countries succeeded in increasing the volume of trade. In 2011, bilateral trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan reached almost 800 million dollars. The presidents of the two countries set the target of 'increasing trade turnover to \$3 billion in the long term, and then gradually to \$5 billion. Achieving this target is entirely feasible given the cooperation between the two states within the framework of the Single Economic Space'¹⁸.

Strict adherence to the 'Roadmap' has enabled the two countries to 'give a qualitatively new impetus to bilateral trade and economic cooperation'¹⁹, as a result of which Belarus has come to regard Kazakhstan "as a springboard for strengthening its economic presence in the Central Asian region and is prepared to become Kazakhstan's 'western gateway' on the route to Europe"²⁰. Such a prospect is entirely feasible, given the current development trends in these countries. As for Kazakhstan, over the last few years, "more than 440 new production facilities worth 12 billion dollars have been launched here. Overall, there are plans to implement more than 700

¹⁷ Alexander Lukashenko congratulated the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, on the 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press/139713.html#doc>

¹⁸ Belarus is interested in developing cooperation with Kazakhstan – M. Myasnikovich [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4242>

¹⁹ Alexander Lukashenko accepted the credentials of foreign ambassadors [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press/140154.html#doc>

²⁰ Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press/130425.html>

industrial innovation projects worth 77 billion dollars”²¹.

In fact, it was with this aim in mind – to ensure sustainable and balanced economic growth through diversification and increased competitiveness – that Kazakhstan adopted the State Programme for Accelerated Industrial and Innovative Development in 2010, the key objectives of which include areas such as ‘the development of priority sectors of the economy, ensuring its diversification and increased competitiveness; the creation of a favourable environment for industrialisation; the formation of centres of economic growth based on the rational territorial organisation of economic potential; and ensuring effective cooperation between the state and business in the development of priority economic sectors’²². The implementation of the planned industrial and innovation programmes is expected to result in a 15 per cent increase in gross domestic product by 2014, raise the share of non-commodity exports to 40 per cent of the total volume of exported goods, and ensure that labour productivity in the manufacturing sector increases by at least one and a half times.

For the coming decade, the state has identified ‘five key priorities’ for its activities in Kazakhstan: preparing for post-crisis development; ensuring sustainable economic growth by accelerating diversification through industrialisation and infrastructure development; investment in the future – enhancing the competitiveness of human capital to achieve sustainable economic growth, prosperity and the social well-being of the people of Kazakhstan; providing the population with high-quality social, housing and utility services; and strengthening inter-ethnic harmony, security and the stability of international relations’²³.

The implementation of these provisions by 2020 should place Kazakhstan amongst the fifty most competitive countries in the world with a favourable business climate.

In this regard, Astana intends to pursue its national interests in foreign policy on a strictly pragmatic basis. To this end, as the President of Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev, noted, ‘we must develop new industries with a focus on expanding non-raw material exports <...> We will strengthen the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space. Our immediate goal is to establish the

²¹ Address by Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, at the plenary session of the 9th Forum on Interregional Cooperation between Kazakhstan and Russia [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/page/page_speech-by-the-president-of-the-republic-of-kazakhstan-nursultan-nazarbaev-at-the-plenary-session-of-the-9th-international-forum-me-1348065813

²² State Programme for Accelerated Industrial and Innovative Development [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/category/gos_programmi_razvitiya

²³ Strategic Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2020 [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/category/gos_development_programme

Eurasian Economic Union”²⁴. The formation of this integration structure is viewed in Astana as “an important factor in regional stability, enhancing the competitiveness of our economies, and ensuring their technological breakthrough”²⁵. Based on these objectives, the priorities for modernising Kazakhstan’s current foreign policy are the active development of economic and trade diplomacy, as well as the intensification of international cooperation in cultural and humanitarian, scientific and educational, and other related spheres.

These provisions and principles are effectively put into practice in Kazakhstan’s cooperation with Belarus, the strategic nature of which was emphasised by the presidents of both countries in a joint statement in May 2012. In this context, attention was drawn to the fact that further

Deepening this strategic partnership “is a priority area of foreign policy for both states”²⁶. At the same time, with a view to deepening cooperation, the parties agreed to step up efforts to fully utilise the potential of both states and instructed their governments to focus their efforts in the near future on a number of priority areas, including investment, scientific and technical cooperation, and inter-regional cooperation. In line with these provisions, the following were signed at the same time: an Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Belarus and the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan on cooperation in the field of agriculture and food; a Memorandum of Cooperation between OJSC “AGAT – Management Systems” – the management company of the “Geoinformation Management Systems” holding – and JSC “National Company ‘Kazakhstan Engineering’”; Memorandum of Understanding and Strategic Cooperation between the Belarusian State Oil and Chemical Concern and OJSC “KazMunayGas”.

Given that trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan consists mainly of industrial, agricultural and manufacturing products, Minsk and Astana now agree that ‘we need to establish joint ventures in virtually all sectors of the economy and supply products, including

to third-country markets”²⁷. Consequently, the priority areas for Belarusian-Kazakh investment cooperation in the current climate are “petrochemicals,

²⁴ Address by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev, to the people of Kazakhstan. 14 December 2012. [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL:

http://www.akorda.kz/ru/page/page_noslanie-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-n-nazarbaeva-narodu-kazakhstana-14-dekabrya-2012-g-1357813742

²⁵ Address by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, N. A. Nazarbayev, at a meeting with the heads of foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www. /ru/ page/- prezidenta- respubliki- kazakhstan- a- nazarbaeva- na- vstreche- s- glavami- zarubezhnykh- diplomaticheskikh- predstavitelstv>

²⁶ Alexander Lukashenko met with Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press130425.html>

²⁷ Alexander Lukashenko met with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Serik Akhmetov [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL:

<http://president.gov.by/press143900.html#doc>

industry, pharmaceuticals, information and communication technologies, and banking”²⁸. Furthermore, there is significant potential for investment growth in agriculture, mechanical engineering and the housing and utilities sector.

The following facts also speak volumes. As of early 2013, 13 projects were already at an advanced stage of implementation in Kazakhstan, involving the assembly of Belarusian tractors, combine harvesters, automotive and specialised agricultural machinery. Seven of these joint projects are included in Kazakhstan’s state programmes, including five in the ‘Kazakhstan Industrialisation Map’. These projects relate to quarry and mining machinery from the Belarusian Automobile Plant, high-power machinery from the Minsk Tractor Plant, grain harvesters from the Gomselmash Production Association, and diesel engines from the Minsk Motor Plant. A further two joint projects – the assembly of multifunctional soil-tilling units by RUMP “Kuzlitmash” and balers by “Bobruiskagromash” – have been included, respectively, in the Programme for the Development of the Machine-Building Industry in Kazakhstan and in Kazakhstan’s “Business Roadmap – 2020”.

The parties placed particular emphasis on developing promising areas of cooperation during the 9th session of the Intergovernmental Belarusian-Kazakh Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, which took place in November 2012 in Astana. Among the most pressing of these were identified as: ‘intensifying investment cooperation; the establishment of a joint Belarusian-

Kazakh Industrial and Technological park for agricultural and municipal machinery in Kokshetau; the establishment of joint ventures for the assembly of tractors, combine harvesters, motor vehicles and lift equipment; the implementation of joint projects in the fields of agriculture, the food industry and light industry; the implementation of scientific and petrochemical projects; and the opening of new service centres’²⁹. It is precisely these areas of cooperation – inter-regional and scientific and technical – that are currently the most promising in terms of developing the bilateral partnership between Belarus and Kazakhstan. This conclusion can be illustrated by a number of specific regions.

Karaganda Region. Indeed, the Karaganda Region is currently showing great interest in developing cooperation with Belarusian partners, as confirmed by the statistics. In 2012, trade turnover between this Kazakhstani region and Belarus rose by almost 75 per cent in one go, reaching 122.9

²⁸ M. Myasnikov and K. Masimov discussed issues of trade and economic cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://www.government.bv/ru/content/4087>

²⁹ On the 9th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.mfa.gov.by/press/news/mfa/e00430e7bcd76cb1.html>

million dollars. At the same time, ‘the Brest Region is showing active interest in cooperation with the Karaganda Region’³⁰. During the visit to Belarus by the Akim of the Karaganda Region, B. Abishev, in April 2013, the focus was on issues of trade and economic cooperation, the development of industrial cooperation, and collaboration in the agricultural sector.

As for specific projects, a project is currently underway in Karaganda to assemble vehicles manufactured by the Belarusian Automobile Plant at the ‘KazBelAZ’ joint venture: “This will be a modern plant to which the Belarusian side will transfer the relevant technical documentation and all necessary regulatory documents, so that 45-tonne tipper lorries can be produced here with a high degree of localisation, going beyond mere industrial assembly and major repairs”³¹. The first 45-tonne-payload vehicle was assembled here back in 2012. And in 2013, the joint venture began selling these vehicles.

There, in Karaganda, plans are in place to establish a large-scale tractor manufacturing plant. The fact is that of the 9,000 tractors operating in this region of Kazakhstan, more than half – 5,000 – are manufactured by the Minsk Tractor Works; therefore, the time has come to address the issues of servicing, sales and the supply of spare parts for these tractors at a qualitatively new level. Also in Karaganda, the international research and production holding company ‘Fitohimiya’ is implementing a number of joint projects with Belarusian research organisations. In this regard, the Belarusian Ministry of Health and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus have been tasked with developing a programme of cooperation with this Kazakhstani holding company.

Kostanay Region. In 2012, trade turnover between Belarus and this region of Kazakhstan totalled just 46 million dollars – a figure that in no way reflects the full potential for cooperation between the parties. This is all the more so given that this Kazakhstani region is interested in purchasing Belarusian agricultural machinery and establishing assembly plants within its territory. After all, more than 8,000 tractors are in operation here, a third of which are machines from the Minsk Tractor Works of various classes: from the basic MTZ-80/82 models to the high-powered, high-performance MTZ 1221/1222 models. “We have vast territories and three climatic zones, so we need high-performance machinery and the service to support it,” says N. Saduakasov, Akim of the Kostanay Region. “We see all this in Belarus”³².

³⁰ Mikhail Rusy met with the akim of the Karaganda Region of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4960>

³¹ Mikhail Myasnikov visited the ‘KazBelAZ’ joint venture in Karaganda [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4685>

³² Mikhail Rusy met with the akim of the Kostanay Region [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/>

The Kostanay partners were also interested in Belarusian robotic equipment for dairy farms. For its part, Belarus offered the Kostanay Region the supply of agricultural machinery on a leasing basis, as well as soil cultivation technologies using wide-swath combined units for sowing cereal crops. Projects to establish storage facilities for Kazakhstani grain on Belarusian territory, for onward delivery to Europe, could prove highly promising. Belarusian specialists are also interested in their Kazakhstani colleagues' approaches to the breeding and production of hard wheat varieties. The Gomel Region will be the specific partner for the Kostanay Region in Belarus, as "an initiative to conclude a cooperation agreement with the Gomel Region has already been received from the leadership of the Kostanay Region"³³.

Akmola Region. Based on the understanding that the future of Belarusian-Kazakh business cooperation lies 'in joint ventures, which should already be transnational corporations'³⁴, in April 2013, on Belarus's initiative, the parties signed an Agreement on the establishment of a joint venture to implement the investment project "Belarusian-Kazakh Industrial and Technological Park for Agricultural and Municipal Machinery and Equipment" in the city of Kokshetau, Akmola Region. It is clear that participation in this project will enable Belarus to "strengthen its position in the Kazakh market, whilst allowing Kazakhstan to attract additional investment and create new jobs"³⁵. It is anticipated that five Belarusian enterprises will participate in this park, including the Minsk Tractor and Automobile Works, "Lidselmash", and "Bobruiskagromash". The key feature of this industrial and technological park is that it will not merely be a site for joint assembly, but will actually manufacture modern agricultural machinery and vehicles.

Furthermore, the Belarusian State Agrarian Technical University and the O. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University have already become involved in this work. There are plans to establish a training centre based at these higher education institutions, where students will be able to study and undertake work placements at the production facilities of the Industrial and Technological Park. In short, the creation of this park clearly demonstrates that the stage of direct sales of Belarusian goods and machinery to

[content/4876](#)

³³ Sidorchik, V. Gomel and Kostanay regions to sign a cooperation agreement / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Gomelskaja-i-Kostanaiskaja-oblasti-zakliuchat-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-1628956.html

³⁴ Mikhail Myasnikovich met with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Serik Akhmetov [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:

<http://www.government.by/ru/content/4982>

³⁵ Mikhail Myasnikovich met with the Ambassador of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4928>

Kazakhstan has already been completed, and the time has come to move on to setting up joint ventures: ‘This work involves the transfer of Belarusian technologies and a transition to a new stage of cooperation in the field of industrial collaboration – moving from assembly operations to the creation of joint ventures with a view to entering the markets of third countries’³⁶. Furthermore, this project should demonstrate that the business conditions existing within the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space not only enable effective trade but also facilitate the development of industrial and scientific-technological cooperation.

Mogilev Region. Investment totalling around 700 million dollars is expected to be channelled into the construction, at the site of OJSC “Mogilevkhimvolkno”, of two plants simultaneously – one for the production of terephthalic acid using Kazakhstani paraxylene, and the other for the manufacture of PET materials from terephthalic acid, which are in high demand on the global market. The cost of the first plant is around 450 million dollars, and that of the second around 250 million dollars. Both projects are still at the stage of finalising financing arrangements, including the use of Kazakhstani investment. But the very idea of establishing these enterprises in Mogilev is very appealing. The benefits for both sides are clear: ‘Kazakhstan has paraxylene and is keen to promote its export <...> Belarus has a favourable geographical location close to potential sales markets’³⁷. This project could therefore serve as yet another compelling argument in favour of the view that ‘cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan has reached a stage where it is in the parties’ interests to work on the principles of mutual technology exchange and deeper integration of production. Without this, it is difficult today to promote joint products on foreign markets’³⁸.

Among other projects in which representatives of Belarusian and Kazakhstani regions may become active participants, it is worth noting the intention of the Belarusian OJSC “Seismotekhnika” and the Kazakhstani company “Ankor” to establish a joint venture for the production of oilfield equipment in East Kazakhstan Region. A memorandum of cooperation on the establishment of a joint venture for the production of confectionery and bakery products was signed in November 2012 by the Regional Unitary Enterprise “Gomelkhlébprom” and the Limited Liability Partnership

³⁶ Belarus and Kazakhstan are establishing an industrial and technology park [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:

http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-i-Kazaxstan-sozda'ut-industrialno-technologicheskii-park_i641046.html

³⁷ Mikhail Rusy took part in a press conference on cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL:

<http://www.government.by/ru/content/4931>

³⁸ Belarus and Kazakhstan are investing around \$700 million in petrochemical production in Mogilev [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:

http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-and-Kazakhstan-are-investing-around-700-million-in-oil-and-chemical-production-in-Mogilev-and-628920.html

“Shannrak Management Company”. There are also great prospects for regional cooperation between the two countries in the field of dairy production, where ‘the agreements reached mark a new stage in bilateral cooperation’³⁹.

All these examples demonstrate a trend towards broader inter-regional cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan. And this is entirely natural, as ‘such interaction enables the parties to resolve many issues more efficiently. Whilst intergovernmental delegations negotiate major projects, smaller projects can be discussed precisely at the inter-regional level’⁴⁰. However, as E. Bulegenov, head of the Kazakh diplomatic mission in Belarus, believes, ‘the cooperation that currently exists is only a small percentage of what could be achieved’⁴¹. But large-scale positive changes in Belarusian-Kazakh inter-regional cooperation are inevitable. After all, ‘by uniting within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union, we have removed barriers for businesses. Now we need to build effective interregional industrial clusters’⁴². At the same time, we must not forget that, in the context of the global information society, the main focus of the Eurasian partnership must be the integration of regions across all three elements of the ‘knowledge triangle’ – education, research and innovation – with the most active and committed participation in these processes by the media and communications sectors of Belarus and Kazakhstan, since ‘communication on Eurasian integration shapes a new global public consciousness, united by humanistic, mutually beneficial interests between friendly nations and states’⁴³.

³⁹ Mikhail Myasnikovich pays an official visit to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4684>

⁴⁰ Grigorovich, T. Belarus and Kazakhstan intend to step up interregional cooperation / T. Grigorovich // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/ru/all-news/economics/Belarus-i-Kazakhstan-namereny-aktivizirovat-mezhregionalnoe-sotrudnichestvo-1628944.html>

⁴¹ Bulegenov, E. Economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and Belarus has great potential / E. Bulegenov // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.belarus.by/ru/press-center/speeches-and-interviews/ergali-bulegenov-n-ekonomicheskogo-sotrudnichestva-kazaxstana-i-belarusi-bolshoi-potentsial-10000005439.html>

⁴² Address by Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, at the plenary session of the 9th Forum on Interregional Cooperation between Kazakhstan and Russia [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.akorda.kz/ru/nage/nage-vystuplenie-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-nursultana-nazarbaeva-na-plenarnoi-sessii-ix-foruma-me-1348065813>

⁴³ Sluka, O. Communication in Eurasian Integration / O. Sluka // International Journalism 2013: Globalisation and Regionalisation of the Information Space: Proceedings of the Second International Scientific and Practical Conference, 20 February 2013, Minsk / edited by T.N. Dasayeva; compiled by B.L. Zaleski. - Minsk: BSU Publishing Centre, 2013. - p. 257.

Current media topics on bilateral cooperation

Belarus and Kazakhstan signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of the press and information as far back as 2000. In this document, the parties agreed to support and encourage partnerships between media organisations and news agencies in order to promote ‘the formation of a unified or common information space and the strengthening of friendly relations between the two fraternal peoples – the Belarusian and Kazakhstani peoples’⁴⁴. In April 2014, the legal framework governing Belarusian-Kazakhstani relations in the media sector was expanded with the addition of another document – an agreement between the Belarusian Telegraph Agency and the ‘Kazinform’ agency, which ‘envisages cooperation in the exchange of information, photographic material and other media content; furthermore, the parties agreed on journalist placements’⁴⁵. And in November 2017, a new version of the intergovernmental agreement was adopted, the preamble to which states that the parties attach “particular importance to expanding cooperation in the field of mass media between the two states”⁴⁶. This reflects the current stage of development of the information spheres in Belarus and Kazakhstan, and also lays a solid legal foundation for expanding cooperation between the authorities and organisations of the two countries with a view to establishing a mutual presence in each other’s media landscape.

The signing of this new agreement on cooperation in the field of mass media is significant in that it took place in the year marking the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan – in November 2017, when the Presidents of Belarus and Kazakhstan signed the Treaty on Socio-Economic Cooperation until 2026, accompanied by a programme of specific measures for its implementation over the same period. “This policy document is intended to consolidate the promising relations between the two countries and open up new opportunities for the development of comprehensive cooperation”⁴⁷, as the parties have concluded that the foundation of bilateral partnership established since 1992 now enables Minsk and Astana to move to a new technological level of cooperation, with an emphasis on innovation and high technology. This is all

⁴⁴ Zaleski, B.L. Belarusian International Journalism: Characteristics, Trends, Prospects / B.L. Zaleski. – Minsk, Belarusian State University, 2014. – p. 186.

⁴⁵ BelTA and Kazinform have agreed to cooperate [Online resource]. – 2014. – URL: <http://bsf.by/2014/04/belta-kazinform-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve/>

⁴⁶ Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on cooperation in the field of mass media [Electronic resource]. – 2017. – URL: http://egov.kz/wps/portal/hut/p/b0/04/S9CPvkssv0xPLMnMz0vMAflie7PvChKtdUvKT_S3NT80r0w_Wi9KNzPM8UcpAOzMDfEDAzMQBJ5STmpZcmqfgRxaV6hfk5lqUO_vogAgAahz7/G/#6

⁴⁷ Official talks with the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev [Online source]. – 2017. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news ru/view/ofitsialnye-peregovory-s-prezidentom-kazaxstana-nursultanom-nazarbaevym-17346/>

the more so given that, over the first three quarters of 2017, trade turnover between the countries increased by almost 65 per cent to around 500 million dollars. However, in the view of the heads of state, even this positive trend does not yet reflect the full potential of integration between Belarus and Kazakhstan. This is why the governments of both countries have been set the challenging task of bringing the volume of mutual trade to one billion dollars within the next two to three years through the implementation of promising projects in a wide range of sectors: petrochemicals, agriculture, energy, transport, logistics and new technologies. At the same time, industrial cooperation will remain the main driver of bilateral economic cooperation; within this framework, the Belarusian side has declared its readiness to increase the level of localisation of products jointly manufactured in Kazakhstan, which will help create additional jobs there. Incidentally, 'there are currently 260 Belarusian enterprises operating in Kazakhstan'⁴⁸. In fact, this document sets out the current focus of the Belarusian and Kazakhstani media's coverage of bilateral cooperation, which is set to develop significantly in the coming years.

Specific ways of achieving the set objective of increasing the volume of mutual trade between Belarus and Kazakhstan were thoroughly discussed by the parties at the largest-ever business forum in the history of Belarus-Kazakhstan cooperation, held in Minsk in November 2017, which was attended by around 400 representatives of the business communities of both countries, whilst at the exhibition held in parallel, 55 Belarusian enterprises presented over 100 cutting-edge innovations, each of which deserves the attention of media representatives.

There is great potential for increasing Belarusian exports to Kazakhstan, for example, in the woodworking industry. Suffice it to say that between January and September 2017, companies belonging to the Belarusian 'Bellesbumprom' group increased their exports to the Kazakh market by 42.3 per cent, or to 18.3 million dollars. It is noteworthy that "the group's enterprises supply virtually all types of woodworking products to Kazakhstan, primarily furniture, which accounts for over 60 per cent of total exports. In second place in terms of sales volume are chipboard panels"⁴⁹. These are followed by fibreboard, plywood, sawn timber, doors, windows, wallpaper, paper, cardboard and matches. And virtually every one of these

⁴⁸ Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have reached a high strategic level – Nazarbayev [Online source]. - 2017. - URL:

<http://www.belta.by/politics/view/otnosheniia-belarusi-i-kazakhstana-vvshli-na-vysokii-strategicheskii-uroven-nazarbaev-278130-2017/>

⁴⁹ In January–September, 'Bellesbumprom' enterprises increased exports to Kazakhstan by 42.3 per cent [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatia-bellesbumproma-v-ianvare-sentjabre-uvlechili-eksport-v-kazakhstan-na-423-278065-2017/>

export categories in the Kazakh market is showing steady growth in volume. Another significant export category from Belarus to Kazakhstan is lorries and agricultural machinery. For instance, as part of the aforementioned Belarusian-Kazakh business forum, the Belarusian Automobile Plant and AstanaBelAZService LLP signed a contract to supply 25 mining dump lorries to this Central Asian country, worth almost 25 million dollars. Furthermore, in accordance with a memorandum signed between the Minsk Automobile Plant and Hyundai Trans Auto, 100 complete sets of dump lorries and municipal vehicles are scheduled for delivery to Kazakhstan in 2018. Finally, in the same year, 2018, the Minsk Tractor Works will ship 2,000 of its machines to 'Belarusian Tractor Trading House' LLP, whilst Gomselmash OJSC will supply 500 complete sets of combine harvester components to the Kazakhstani company Agromash Holding JSC.

It is also worth noting that the Gomel-based company has granted its partner, "Agromashholding" JSC, exclusive dealership rights to sell its entire product range in Kazakhstan, which will enable them to significantly expand the range of combine harvesters they export. Specifically, the plan is to "supply rice harvesting machinery to the southern part of Kazakhstan"⁵⁰. Gomselmash already has such a machine, which is currently being prepared for mass production.

Belarus and Kazakhstan are also drawing up ambitious plans for cooperation in the development of digital transport corridors to Western and Northern Europe, which is highly significant given the geographical location of both countries, situated along the economic belt of the Silk Road. The strategic objective here is as follows: to double container transit volumes, with the aim of transporting '1 million containers a year by 2020 and 2 million by 2025'⁵¹. It is also important that, on average, a container travelling from Central Asia reaches Western Europe within two weeks. The parties intend to achieve this goal through coordinated efforts with their Chinese and Russian counterparts. This means that the topic of creating digital transport corridors will remain relevant for many years to come, not only for international affairs journalists in Belarus and Kazakhstan, but also for their colleagues in Russia and China. The Agreement on Socio-Economic Cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan, signed in November 2017 and valid until 2026, aims 'to realise a qualitatively new stage in bilateral relations, involving the mutual flow of

⁵⁰ Dylenok, Yu. 'Agromashholding' JSC has become the exclusive dealer for 'Gomselmash' in Kazakhstan / Yu. Dylenok // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/ekskluzivnyy-dilerom-gomselmasha-v-kazahstane-stalo-ao-agromashholding-278165-2017/>

⁵¹ Dylenok, Yu. Belarus and Kazakhstan step up cooperation in the development of digital transport corridors / Yu. Dylenok // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazahstan-aktiviziruiut-sotrudnichestvo-v-razviti-tsifrovyyh-transportnyh-koridorov-278213-2017/>

capital with an emphasis on innovation and high technology⁵², as noted above, implies that projects enabling the creation of joint products with high added value and the provision of employment will continue to be the driving force behind the strategic Belarusian-Kazakh partnership. It should be recalled that, as at the end of 2017, there were eight joint assembly plants operating in Kazakhstan, where ‘the assembly of quarrying, mining, specialised municipal and fire-fighting equipment, tractors, combine harvesters, engines, balers and medical equipment has been established’⁵³. It should be noted straight away that the specific experience of each of these facilities can and should remain a constant focus of attention for the media in both countries, at both central and regional levels. Unfortunately, however, this is not yet the case. Yet there is certainly plenty to tell their readers, viewers and listeners about.

For instance, one of the clear Belarusian leaders in the Kazakhstani market is the Minsk Automobile Plant, which opened the ‘MAZ - Kazakhstan’ in Astana and has since established a distribution network in the country comprising nine dealers, as well as a network of 12 authorised service centres for Belarusian vehicles. A logical continuation of this cooperation was the launch in June 2017 at the Hyundai Trans Auto vehicle assembly plant in Almaty – part of the ‘Astana Motore’ group – the production of MAZ 5516X5 and MAZ 6501N9 heavy-duty tippers ‘with a load capacity of 20 tonnes. The full cycle of welding, assembly and painting is carried out there’⁵⁴.

Here is another example. Even earlier – in 2007 – a partnership began between the Belarusian company OJSC “Gomselmash” and the Kazakhstani company JSC “AgromashHolding”. Over the course of ten years, the Belarusian-Kazakh joint assembly plant, located in the city of Kostanay on the premises of JSC “Agshormash Holding”, has managed to assemble more than three thousand combine harvesters. This is despite the fact that the capacity of the Kazakh market for this type of machinery stands at one thousand new machines per year. In 2018, the joint venture will commence production of two further new models of agricultural machinery. These are the KZS-575 and KZS-10 models. “These machines will expand the range of combine harvesters produced in Kostanay, enabling a more flexible response

⁵² Overview of the Republic of Belarus’s foreign policy achievements and the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2017 [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://mfa.gov.by/publication/8a516964873b.html>

⁵³ Matveeva, N. Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have taken on an allied and strategic character – Bulegenov / N. Matveeva // [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/politics/view/otnosheniya-belarusi-i-kazahstana-priobreli-soznimicheskii-i-strategicheskii-harakter-bulegenov-266564-2017/>

⁵⁴ Production of MAZ vehicles has commenced in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/v-kazahstane-zapuscheno-proizvodstvo-avtotekhniki-maz-256106-2017/>

to the needs of the local market”^{55 56} .

Another fine example of the development of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan was the commissioning in 2016 of the first phase of the project to establish the Kazakhstan-Belarus Industrial and Technological Park for Agricultural and Municipal Machinery. Work on this major investment project began back in 2012, with the aim of establishing, in the city of Kokshetau in the Akmola Region, under licences from a number of Belarusian factories, ‘a full-cycle production line for the assembly of trailers, balers, mounted equipment, bale and forage harvesting implements, excavators, and loaders of various sizes and models’ under licences from a number of Belarusian factories.⁵⁷ The first phase of the project covers an area of almost 10,000 square metres. ‘Following the commissioning of the second phase and the plant reaching full capacity , around 230 new jobs will be created’⁵⁸ . The parties are confident that the successful implementation of this project will enable the creation of a powerful Belarusian-Kazakhstani engineering cluster in Kokshetau, and will also serve as a good example for extending this positive experience of industrial cooperation to other areas of collaboration. In particular, “there are plans to establish similar industrial parks for the production of passenger buses, quarry and mining machinery, and road-construction machinery”⁵⁹ . The implementation of these plans is yet another topic covered in the Belarusian and Kazakhstani press.

In total, several dozen joint scientific and technical projects are planned for the coming years, making extensive use of Belarusian technologies, innovations and scientific developments. In particular, a project is planned “to establish joint production of unmanned aerial systems”⁶⁰ , with production to be organised in Kazakhstan. Joint cooperation projects in the oil sector, including geological exploration, well operation, and the implementation of various methods to intensify production and enhance oil recovery, which were discussed at the meeting between the heads of

⁵⁵ Sidorchik, V. Two new models of grain harvesters to be produced at the Belarusian-Kazakh joint venture in 2018 / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/newscompany/view/dve-novye-modeli-grain-harvesters-to-be-developed-under-belarus-kazakhstan-joint-venture-in-2018-278818-2017/>

⁵⁶ How Kazakhstan's economy is being boosted in the field [Online resource]. - 2016. - URL: <https://forbes.kz/process/economy/kak-v-polevnykh-usloviyakh-podnimayut-ekonomiku-kazakhstana/>

⁵⁷ Akashin, V. Minsk – Kokshetau: a mutually beneficial project / V. Akashin // [Electronic resource]. - 2016. - URL: <http://apazeta.kz/2016/10/01/minsk-kokshetau-vzaimovыgodnyi-proekt/>

⁵⁹ Interview with Anatoly Nishkasov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of Kazakhstan, given to the Kazakh news agency “Khabar” (11 June 2014) [Online resource]. - URL: http://mfa.by/press/8_d30fc5ced468be

⁶⁰ Belarus and Kazakhstan are planning a project to set up a joint drone manufacturing facility [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazakhstan-namechait-proekt-po-sozdaniyu-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva-hesnilotnikov-278212-2017/>

government of the two countries, A. Kobayakov and B. Sagintayev, in August 2017 in Astana. In total, there are currently 'six joint assembly plants in the active development phase' in Kazakhstan⁶¹, which demonstrates the parties' strong commitment to continuing the active search for new forms of industrial cooperation. At the same time, much will depend on the ability of the regions in both countries to realise their inherent potential for cooperation. Consequently, the role of the regional press in both countries in providing media coverage of the implementation of these cooperative prospects is growing significantly.

It is worth recalling that in 2016, trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan amounted to around 420 million dollars. That is why, at the start of 2017, both Minsk and Astana set themselves an ambitious target: to return, within the next years, to the record level of Belarusian-Kazakh trade seen in 2014, when the volume stood at 966.8 million dollars. At the same time, one of the effective tools for achieving this goal was identified: strengthening cooperation between the regions of the two countries, which is an important prerequisite for their dynamic socio-economic development and a factor ensuring the advancement of trade and economic relations within the framework of the free movement of goods, services, capital, technology, labour and the establishment of joint ventures. The conclusion that 'the regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan have many promising areas for mutually beneficial economic cooperation'⁶² was also reached by the participants at the inter-regional meeting held in April 2017 in Gomel, attended by representatives of the Pavlodar Region of Kazakhstan and the Gomel Region of Belarus.

It should be noted that the Pavlodar Region is one of those Kazakhstani regions where business interests "are developing within the framework of one of the main priorities in the economic policies of Kazakhstan, Russia and Belarus – the Single Economic Space. For our region, this cooperation is a priority area in our foreign economic activity"⁶³. The seriousness of its intentions to give concrete economic substance to its partnership ties with Belarusian regions is evidenced by this fact alone. The Pavlodar Regional Administration signed a cooperation agreement with the Gomel Regional Executive Committee in November 2016. And whilst the total volume of

⁶¹ Bilateral trade and economic cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: http://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral_relations/trade-economic/

⁶² Sidorchik, V. The regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan have many promising areas for cooperation – Vladimir Dvornik / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/u-regionov-belarusi--kazahstana--mnogo-perspektivnyh-difa-sotrudnichestva-vladimir-243748-2017/>

⁶³ Bozumbaev, K. Interregional cooperation plays an important role in the development and strengthening of integration / K. Bozumbaev // The Eurasian Economic Union: a regional perspective: an information and integration project / compiled and interviewed by: B. Zaleski, M. Vaikovski, A. Mostovoi. - Minsk: Biznesofset, 2014. - pp. 177–178.

trade between Gomel and Pavlodar for the whole of 2016 stood at two and a half million dollars, in 'January–February 2017 alone, trade turnover between the regions amounted to \$1.4 million (a growth rate of 393.8 per cent), of which exports accounted for \$0.9 million (256.1 per cent). The main export items were: condensed milk and cream, railway track equipment, metal fittings, and porcelain tableware and kitchenware. Ferrosilicon was imported from the Pavlodar Region⁶⁴ for the needs of the Belarusian Metallurgical Plant.

An interregional meeting in Gomel showed that the parties intend to significantly expand the scope of interregional cooperation. For example, the Pavlodar delegation showed great interest in Belarus's experience in the urban regeneration of settlements, including small towns. In this regard, the Kazakhstani side even proposed inviting architects and housing and utilities workers from Gomel to Pavlodar so that they could work there for a while, sharing their expertise. Another promising area of cooperation is the procurement of agricultural machinery from 'Gomselmash': 'This refers to the KZS-5 combine harvester, designed for use on small fields, primarily on family farms'⁶⁵. These promising areas of cooperation between the Belarusian and Kazakhstani regions may be complemented by planned purchases in the Gomel region of young cattle for the development of dairy farming in Kazakhstan and the expansion of supplies of Belarusian furniture to that country. In the same vein is the cooperation between free economic zones located within the regions; an agreement on this was signed in Gomel as part of an inter-regional meeting and could prove to be highly productive. The fact is that the Free Economic Zone in Pavlodar Region is inviting interested partners to participate in projects involving the joint use of mineral resources within its territory. In particular, an 'aluminium cluster is currently being established in this Kazakhstani region, involving major companies from Germany, Poland and Turkey'⁶⁶, in which Belarusian representatives from this market segment could also participate.

It is important to note that the Pavlodar Region's interests in developing partnerships in Belarus are not limited to the Gomel Region alone. For instance, in the Minsk Region, the Kazakhstani side has shown great interest in cooperation on the construction of dairy production complexes. In handing

⁶⁴ Sidorchik, V. A delegation from the Pavlodar Region of Kazakhstan will visit the Gomel Region on 19–20 April / V. Sidorchik // [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/---gomelskii-region-19-20-aprel'a-243412-2017/>

⁶⁵ Sidorchik, V. The head of the Pavlodar region took an interest in Belarus's experience of urban regeneration / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/glavu-pavlodarskoj-oblasti-zainteresoval-belorusskii-opyt-blagoustrojstva-gorodov-243790-2017/>

⁶⁶ The Pavlodar and Minsk regions are showing mutual interest in developing cooperation in agriculture [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/pavlodarskai-a-i-minskai-a-oblasti-proiavili-ut-vzaimnyi-interes-k-razvitiu-sotrudnichestva-v-selskom-243719-2017/>

over a package of standard designs for agricultural facilities to the Pavlodar delegation, representatives of the Belarusian capital region expressed their readiness not only to advise them on this matter, but also to build dairy production complexes for them on mutually beneficial terms. The city of Ekibastuz, located in the Pavlodar Region, and the Partizansky District of Minsk, , which signed an agreement in April 2017 providing for “the expansion of trade and economic cooperation, assistance in establishing contacts between business entities, the organisation of exhibitions, fairs and business forums, as well as the development of cooperation in the fields of education, culture, sport and tourism”⁶⁷ .

The issue of strengthening cooperation with Kazakhstani regions is also a priority for the Mogilev Region, which has concluded “cooperation agreements with the East Kazakhstan (2009) and South Kazakhstan (2003) regions”⁶⁸ . Since then, a number of enterprises in the Mogilev Region have begun exporting their products to the Kazakhstani market: OJSC “Belshina”, OJSC “Mogotex”, OJSC “Bobruisk Machine-Building Plant”, RPUP “Mogilev Plant ‘Strommashina’”, OJSC “Osipovich Dairy Plant”, OJSC “Bykhovmoloko”, Municipal Unitary Enterprise “Legpromrazvitie”, SOOOO “Jockey-Plastic”, SOOOO “Stl-Extrusion”, and the company “Babushkina Krynka”. Virtually all of them are keen to increase their supplies to regions across Kazakhstan. Representatives of the international media sector in the Mogilev Region, who have creative links with their Kazakhstani counterparts, could well assist them in the advertising and media promotion of their export products.

As far back as 2014, the Akmola and Grodno regions intended to establish close partnerships; they signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of agriculture at that time and noted significant potential for collaboration “in terms of investment, trade in goods and services”⁶⁹ . There are many more examples of such intentions. The issue is that these are by no means always adequately reflected in the media. This, in turn, leads to a decline in the partners’ interest in continuing their cooperation as a whole. Presumably to prevent this from happening, Minsk and Astana have renewed the agreement on cooperation in the field of mass media, which was originally adopted back in 2000.

⁶⁷ The Partizansk District of Minsk has signed a cooperation agreement with the Kazakh city of Ekibastuz [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/-raion-...-sotrudnichestve--kazahstanskim--ekibastuzom-243437-2017/>

⁶⁸ Tkacheva, O. Kazakhstan is keen to strengthen inter-regional cooperation with the Mogilev Region / O. Tkacheva // [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/-zainteresovan-v-aktivizatsii--s-mogilevskoi--31160-2013>

⁶⁹ Stasyukevich, E. The Akmola Region of Kazakhstan is interested in adopting the agricultural experience of the Grodno Region / E. Stasyukevich // [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/akmoltinskaja-oblast-kazahstana-zainteresovana-nereni-at-selskhozaiat-stvennyy-opyt-grodnenskoj-oblasti-38047-2014>

Plans for the future – in the roadmap

In May 2021, the 16th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation took place, following which the parties adopted a ‘roadmap’ or programme of measures for 2021–2022. The results of cooperation between the two countries in the first quarter of 2021 served as a kind of barometer for this meeting. “Trade turnover amounted to \$215 million, an increase of 12 per cent compared with the corresponding period in 2020”⁷⁰. Meanwhile, the trade surplus for Belarus stood at \$133.5 million. Among the key measures set out in the adopted roadmap, particular mention should be made of the development of Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation in industrial collaboration and the supply of machinery, in the fields of agriculture and construction, as well as in inter-regional cooperation between the two countries.

Another significant event in Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation took place at the end of June 2021, when a Belarusian government delegation led by Prime Minister R. Golovchenko visited Kazakhstan; during this visit, the parties made significant progress in developing bilateral **trade and economic relations**. This visit took place, once again, against the backdrop of very positive trends in mutual trade between the two countries. Suffice it to say that ‘in 2020, trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan amounted to \$847.9 million. The main items of Belarusian exports were tractors, combine harvesters, beef, milk, cream, sugar, cheese, cottage cheese, furniture and medicines’⁷¹. These figures also speak volumes. There are currently 54 enterprises with Kazakhstani capital operating in Belarus, including 13 joint ventures and 36 foreign-owned companies. Meanwhile, 366 companies with Belarusian participation are operating in Kazakhstan. Furthermore, enterprises utilising Belarusian technologies are in operation at ten production sites across various regions of that country. The parties are now focusing on increasing the localisation of the machinery produced there – such as tractors and cars – so that, as early as 2021, they can ‘achieve new targets in mutual trade – totalling more than \$1 billion a year in goods and services’⁷².

The contracts signed at the end of June 2021 between businesses in the two countries are intended to help achieve this objective. In particular, the Minsk

⁷⁰ Industrial Co-operation and Culture Days – Belarus and Kazakhstan held a meeting of the intergovernmental commission [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/nromkooperatsiia-i-dni-kultury-belarus-i-kazahstan-proveli-zasedanie-mezhnaravkomissii-443204-2021/>

⁷¹ Ruslan Golovchenko visited major enterprises in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/roman-golovchenko-posetil-krupnye-predpriatia-kazahstana-447818-2021/>

⁷² Belarus has reached an agreement with Kazakhstan on oil supplies [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-dogovorilas-s-kazahstanom-o-postavkah-nefti-447959-2021/>

Tractor Works will supply 590 units of machinery to Kazakhstan, worth ten million dollars. “Another contract has been concluded between OJSC ‘MAZ’ and Hyundai Trans Auto LLP for the supply of MAZ trailer kits worth \$1.3 million. Furthermore, OJSC ‘BELAZ’ and ‘ASTANABELAZSERVICE’ LLP have signed a contract for the supply of BELAZ machinery worth \$1.2 million”⁷³. Also featured on this list of Belarusian exporters is the company “Bobruiskagromash”, which has been actively operating in the Kazakhstani market for the past five years, where it has an assembly plant producing trailers, balers and mowers. In 2020, it increased its exports of agricultural machinery to that country by one and a half times. The results for 2021 look set to be just as good. At the very least, this is the aim of the contract signed for the supply of products worth one million dollars with entities in Bobruiskagromash’s distribution network in Kazakhstan. An agreement on the development of cooperation for 2021–2022 was also signed by OJSC ‘Gomselmash’ and JSC ‘AgromashHolding KZ’ — the only industrial enterprise in the country that manufactures a wide range of combine harvesters, tractors and ancillary products, and which acts as the exclusive distributor of Gomel-based products within Kazakhstan.

However, the Minsk Tractor Works stands out perhaps more than any other in terms of developing **production cooperation** with Kazakhstani partners; it already operates three assembly plants here, its own trading house, and which plans to develop yet another assembly plant in this Central Asian country – with an investment of 50 million dollars – based at the ‘Composite Group Kazakhstan’ facility in Kostanay. Currently, the assembly line there is designed to produce 1,200 ‘Belarus’ tractors. However, plans have already been drawn up to develop the site, create new jobs and increase the number of manufacturing operations carried out, with a view to increasing the localisation of production. In particular, “in the first phase, a cab production workshop will be built in collaboration with our Kazakhstani partners. The next stage will involve the construction of a further building, covering 25,000 square metres, for the assembly of engines and radiators of all types. There are also plans to produce a new product range

– diesel pumps”⁷⁴. It is quite possible that this enterprise will become a key component of the Belarusian industrial centre being established in the Kostanay industrial zone. “It will be a multi-disciplinary organisation that will combine not only production facilities but also scientific and technical

⁷³ Belarus is increasing its supplies of machinery to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-narashchivaet-tehniki-v-kazahstan-447970-2021/>

⁷⁴ Industrial firms in Belarus and Kazakhstan intend to sign major contracts [Online source]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/prompredpriiatia-belarusi-i-kazahstana-namereny-podpisat-krupnye-kontrakty-447828-2021/>

activities and the training of specialists”⁷⁵. And there is every reason to believe that such a centre could become the core of innovative development. Among other areas of Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation set to see accelerated development in the very near future, **agriculture** is worth mentioning. For Belarusian farmers, the market of this Central Asian country is significant because it ranks second only to Russia in terms of food supplies from Belarus. By the end of 2021, the Belarusian side plans to “achieve a 120 per cent increase in exports of our produce to Kazakhstan compared to last year’s level: in 2020, this figure exceeded \$300 million”⁷⁶.

In this regard, it is important to recall the results for 2020, which showed that even amidst the restrictions associated with the spread of the coronavirus, growth trends persisted in the agricultural sectors of both countries in 2020. In particular, data from the Eurasian Economic Commission indicate that ‘agricultural production across the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) grew by 2.3 per cent in 2020, totalling US\$114.3 billion. The highest growth in production among the EAEU countries was recorded in Kazakhstan (up 5.6 per cent) and Belarus (up 4.9 per cent)’⁷⁷.

Positive trends in the growth of cooperation between the two countries in the agro-industrial sector were also noted at the second meeting of the joint Belarusian-Kazakh working group on developing promising areas of bilateral cooperation in agriculture, held in Minsk in February 2021. At the meeting, the parties focused on issues relating to trade in foodstuffs, crop and livestock farming, veterinary medicine, and breeding and selection programmes, bearing in mind that ‘in 2020, trade in agricultural produce and foodstuffs between Belarus and Kazakhstan increased by a factor of 1.2 compared with 2019, reaching \$307.2 million. Exports totalled \$289.9 million (an increase of more than 20 per cent)’⁷⁸. The parties also noted the significant potential for further stable growth in trade turnover and for consolidating positive trends in bilateral trade.

From the Belarusian side, these prospects lie in the supply of equipment for the construction of commercial dairy farms, the introduction of new

⁷⁵ Golovchenko: Trade and economic relations form the foundation of Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-fundament-belorussko-kazahstanskogo-sotrudnichestva-torgovo-ekonomicheskieto-sheniya-447956-2021/>.

⁷⁶ Brylo: Belarusian food exports to Kazakhstan are increasing every year [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/brylo-eksport-belorusskogo-prodovolstva-v-kazakhstan-kazhdyi-god-uvlechivaetsia-447921-2021/>.

⁷⁷ On the meeting between the Ambassador of Belarus and the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <http://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/c66dcb28873a0b75.html>.

⁷⁸ Exports of Belarusian agricultural produce to Kazakhstan rose by more than 20 per cent in 2020 [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-belorusskoi-selhozproduktii-v-kazakhstan-v-2020-godu-vvros-bolee-chem-na-20-430100-2021>.

technologies, the expansion of purchases of agricultural machinery, and the retraining of personnel for the agro-industrial complex. The Kazakh side is particularly interested in Belarus's experience in developing the dairy and sugar sectors, as well as in other areas of agricultural production. The reason for this interest lies in the fact that 'the coronavirus has shown just how much demand there is currently for all agricultural produce. New market niches are opening up'⁷⁹.

In particular, the parties have high hopes for 2021 regarding the continued cooperation between the Belarusian company OJSC "Gomselmash" and Kazakhstan's largest agricultural machinery manufacturer, "AgromashHolding KZ", which increased its production volumes by a factor of 1.7 in 2020. Joint assembly of combine harvesters by these companies on Kazakh soil began back in 2007. "In 2019, the organisation produced 429 combine harvesters and tractors, and in 2020 – 730 units of machinery"⁸⁰. These included the first ESSIL KZS-790 combine harvester, which has already undergone testing in the Karaganda Region and delivered good results. The new machine features increased engine power and a larger grain cleaning area, whilst threshing is carried out using a combination of a drum and a rotor. Series production of this model is scheduled to begin in 2021. In addition, production of self-propelled mowers will also increase, driven by growing demand for these machines amongst Kazakhstani farmers. It is also worth noting that back in the summer of 2020, more than 70 KZS-10 MAX machine kits were shipped to Kazakhstan from Gomel. "The innovations introduced on this combine harvester model, which mainly relate to a more comfortable working environment for operators, were well received by Kazakhstani farmers. This prompted them to order a further 30 such combine harvesters"⁸¹. And in the second half of December 2020, this additional consignment of 30 machine sets was dispatched to our Kazakhstani partners. Among the initiatives expected to have a positive impact on the development of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan in the agricultural sector in 2021, we would like to highlight a few more. Firstly, an idea discussed in November 2020 at a meeting of the Belarus-Kazakhstan Business Council –

⁷⁹ Kazakhstan is interested in Belarus's experience in developing the dairy and sugar sectors [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kazakhstan-zainteresovan-v-belorusskom-ovtve-razvitiia-molochnoi-i-saharnoi-otraslei-430102-2021>

⁸⁰ "Gomselmash" and "AgromashHolding KZ" to expand their range of agricultural machinery in 2021 [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-i-agromashholding-kz-rasshiriat--fine-of-agricultural-machinery-in-2021-424825-2021/>

⁸¹ "Gomselmash" has shipped a further 30 KZS-10 MAX machine sets to Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-dopolnitelno-otvezil-v-kazakhstan-30-mashinokomplektov-kzs-10-max-421382-2020/>

attended by representatives of over 160 enterprises from both countries – could yield interesting results. Given that one of the most important aspects of developing relations between the two former Soviet republics is the organisation of exhibitions, ‘Belarus and Kazakhstan are considering the possibility of holding a travelling agricultural exhibition, “Belagro”, in Kazakhstan’⁸². This could be another concrete step towards revitalising bilateral cooperation and increasing mutual trade. Secondly, as far back as November 2020, the Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUCE) offered Kazakhstani companies the opportunity to purchase Belarusian meat and dairy products and sugar through exchange trading. At the same time, the BUTB could assist Kazakhstani enterprises in selling their products on the Belarusian market. Following on from this proposal, in January 2021 the BUTB agreed to step up cooperation in the field of e-commerce with the Astana Universal Commodity Exchange, which “will enable the creation of a single database containing commercial offers from Belarusian and Kazakhstani companies and will contribute to the growth of mutual trade volumes”⁸³.

Another of the most important areas of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan, which is set to develop rapidly in the very near future, is **the construction sector**, as both sides have a strong interest in this collaboration. This is because ‘today, multifunctional construction complexes are operating in Belarus and Kazakhstan, carrying out their activities continuously and increasing their output year on year’⁸⁴. Among the priorities for cooperation in this sector, the parties identify areas such as the construction of industrial enterprises, housing and dairy complexes, the production and supply of building materials, as well as the establishment of a trading house for Belarusian building materials in Kazakhstan and the expansion of supplies to this Central Asian country of sanitary ware, thermal insulation and roofing materials, and floor coverings.

As regards industrial construction, it was noted as early as the 16th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, it was noted that ‘an important step in cooperative collaboration will be the construction by OJSC “MTZ” of a plant in Kazakhstan for the production of tractor cabs and front axles’⁸⁵. We

⁸² Utyupin: the possibility of holding the “Belagro” exhibition in Kazakhstan is being considered [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/utyupin-rassmatrivaetsia-vozmozhnost--the-organisation-of-the-belagro-exhibition-in-kazakhstan-417045-2020/>

⁸³ BUTB and the Kazakhstani ‘Astana’ Stock Exchange intend to develop cooperation in the field of e-commerce [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-i-kazhastanskaia-birzha--namereny--sotrudnichestvo-v-sfere-elektromoi--425206-2021>

⁸⁴ Belarus and Kazakhstan are interested in expanding cooperation in the construction sector [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kazakhstan-zainteresovany-v-rasshirenii--sotrudnichestva-v-stroitelnoi-sfere-452678-2021/>

⁸⁵ On the holding of the 16th meeting of the Belarusian–Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission [Online resource]. -

would add that work on the aforementioned production facilities in the Kazakh city of Kostanay has already begun. “Around 7 million dollars will be invested in the project. In total, it is planned to invest around 50 million dollars in the development of these production facilities”⁸⁶.

Furthermore, the parties are currently exploring the possibility of establishing and constructing a joint venture on Kazakhstani soil to manufacture ceramic tiles. This project will go ahead if there are sufficient raw materials in the country’s subsoil to produce these goods. This is why “Kazakhstan’s geological and environmental protection services are currently assessing the volume of available resources”⁸⁷.

Another interesting construction project currently being developed by the parties concerns the construction of a ‘Belarusian Quarter’ in Nur-Sultan. Through this project, the Belarusian side could demonstrate its capabilities in the design and construction of residential complexes. A distinctive feature of this project is that it does not rule out “the possibility of furnishing the completed homes with Belarusian furniture and household appliances, as some construction firms in Kazakhstan follow the practice of selling fully fitted homes”⁸⁸.

In this context, the following project currently under discussion between the parties also appears logical: the opening of a trading house in Kazakhstan, which will bring together such Belarusian construction industry enterprises as “Keramin”,

“Berezastroymaterialy” and “Belarusian Glass Company”. It is possible that, according to the Belarusian Ministry of Architecture and Construction, the “Bellesbumprom” group may also join their ranks at a later date. The fact is that in the first four months of 2021 alone, its enterprises increased exports of their products to the Kazakh market by almost 30 per cent – to more than seven million dollars. “This is primarily furniture: more than \$2 million’s worth has been supplied. Belarusian upholstered furniture and solid wood cabinetry are particularly popular in Kazakhstan. Particleboard, fibreboard, plywood, wooden windows and doors, wallpaper, paper, cardboard and sawn timber are also exported to this country...”⁸⁹. There is every reason to believe

2021. - URL:

<https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/dda48a09c28d30da.html>

⁸⁶ Multi-million contracts and agreements on oil supplies: a summary of the Prime Minister’s three-day visit to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9894>

⁸⁷ A joint ceramic tile factory and the ‘Belarusian Quarter’ may be established in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2021. -

URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/sovmetstv-zavod-keramicheskoi-plitki-i-belorusskii-kvartal-mogut-poiavitsia-v-kazahstane-452553-2021/>

⁸⁸ Belarus is interested in building a ‘Belarusian Quarter’ in Kazakhstan – Utyupin [Online resource]. -

2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-zainteresovana-v-stroitelstve-belorusskogo-kvartala-v-kazahstane-utyupin-451644-2021/>

⁸⁹ “Bellesbumprom” enterprises increased exports to Kazakhstan by 28.7 per cent in January–April [Online source]. -

2021.

- URL:

that sales of Belarusian wood products on the Kazakhstani market will continue to grow steadily. In this regard, utilising the potential of a specialised trading house can only open up new, additional opportunities for their sale.

Finally, as regards the construction agricultural facilities, the Kazakhstani side is showing a particularly strong interest in this matter. At the end of June 2021, an agreement was even reached to hold a meeting with partners from Kazakhstan on Belarusian territory, where ‘we will demonstrate to them our capabilities in constructing fairly large farms with a capacity of 2,400 head’⁹⁰. If this Belarusian experience is well received by the Kazakhstani side, there may be scope in the future for the implementation of a similar ‘turnkey’ Belarusian farm project in Kazakhstan, with further expansion across the whole country. In this context, the term ‘turnkey’ encompasses design, construction by Belarusian companies, and the supply of equipment and breeding stock.

Inter-regional cooperation also plays a significant role in the development of Belarusian-Kazakh partnership ties. Suffice it to say that there are around 30 cooperation agreements in force between the regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan. In particular, the relevant documents have been signed by the executive committees of the Minsk, Brest, Gomel, Vitebsk and Mogilev regions and the akimat of the Karaganda region. The Gomel and Vitebsk regions have a cooperation agreement with the North Kazakhstan Region, whilst the Brest Region has one with the East Kazakhstan Region. The Grodno Region cooperates with the Aktobe, Kostanay and Mangistau regions, and the Gomel Region with the Almaty and Atyrau regions. These partnership ties between the regions of the two countries are complemented by cooperation agreements between cities such as Minsk and Nur-Sultan, Brest and Semey, Bobruisk and Ust-Kamenogorsk, and Mogilev and Shymkent. However, given that ‘in 2020, the development of regional cooperation was hampered to a certain extent by the introduction of quarantine restrictions linked to the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus’⁹¹, the aim for 2021 is not only to revitalise existing partnerships but also to work towards establishing new ones.

In particular, the Gomel Region is currently demonstrating serious intentions

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatia-belleshumnroma-v-ianvare-anrele-narastili-eksport-v-kazakhstan-na-287-448021-2021/>

⁹⁰ Belarus plans to double exports of building materials to Kazakhstan – Parkhamovich [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-planiruet-udvoit-eksport-stroimaterialov-v-kazakhstan-parhamovich-447920-2021/>

⁹¹ On interregional cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

[https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral relations/trade economic/region/](https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral%20relations/trade%20economic/region/)

in this regard, proposing to its Kazakhstani partners that they expand cooperation, including through joint ventures, small businesses, transport infrastructure and the tourism sector. In 2020, the region's foreign trade with Kazakhstan exceeded 115 million dollars. 'The growth rate of trade turnover in January–April [2021] reached 161 per cent compared with the same four months last year'⁹², and among the main suppliers, 'Gomselmash' and a meat and dairy company are worth noting. In June 2021, Gomselmash signed a cooperation agreement for 2021–2022 with the Kazakhstani company Agromashholding JSC. The crux of the matter is that "the Kazakhstani side has requested 570 units [of combine harvesters] this year – worth 60 million dollars. Over the next three years, has been tasked with producing up to 1,000 combine harvesters per year"⁹³. The parties are also discussing other areas of cooperation. In particular, there are prospects for a mutually beneficial partnership in the chemical and glass industries. Also worthy of note is the proposal made in Gomel by A. Beisenbaev, head of the Kazakh diplomatic mission in Belarus, regarding the need to hold a forum for the regions of the two countries.

The Brest Region also intends to actively develop cooperation with Kazakhstan; its trade turnover with Kazakhstan exceeded 130 million dollars in 2020. There are currently nine enterprises with Kazakhstani capital registered in the Brest Region. However, there is undoubtedly scope and potential for further cooperation. And today, the focus is on "the supply of value-added products, primarily in sectors such as wood processing and the food industry"⁹⁴.

The establishment of the Belarusian Industrial Centre in the Kostanay Region, which the parties agreed upon in June 2021, could mark a real breakthrough in the development of cooperation between the regions of the two countries. "This will be a multi-sectoral organisation that will bring together not only production facilities but also scientific and technical activities and the training of specialists"⁹⁵. The centre will be located in the 'Kostanay' industrial zone, which opened in 2017 and comprises a 400-hectare industrial site equipped with utilities, where enterprises in the engineering, food and light industries, as well as manufacturers of building materials and structures and agricultural machinery, are already based.

⁹² Joint ventures, small businesses, tourism – Gomel Region intends to expand cooperation with Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. – 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/sp-malvi-biznes-turizm-gomelskai-oblast-namerena-rasshiat-sotrudnichestvo-s-kazakhstanom-446559-2021/>

⁹³ Multi-million contracts and agreements on oil supplies: a summary of the Prime Minister's three-day visit to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9894>

⁹⁴ The Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission plans to meet in Brest [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www./regions/view/belorusko-kazhanskaiska-mezhravkomissia-planiruet-sobratsia-v-breste-434510-2021/>

⁹⁵ A Belarusian industrial centre is to be established in the Kostanay industrial zone [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.sb/articles/-/tsentr-novavitsva-v-industrialnov-.-html>

Interestingly, the first ‘pioneer’ in this zone was the ‘Belarus’ tractor manufacturing plant belonging to the ‘Composite Group Kazakhstan’ holding company. It was opened in 2018 and is now developing successfully⁹⁶. So the foundations for the establishment of the Belarusian Industrial Centre here are already in place.

As we can see, Belarus and Kazakhstan have great prospects for cooperation in various fields, and a solid foundation has already been laid for long-term collaboration between the industrial, agro-industrial, and construction sectors, as well as at the regional level in both countries. Let us hope that all the plans mentioned above will be successfully implemented.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

⁹⁶ Goray, O. The ‘Kostanay’ industrial zone is gradually filling up with new production facilities / O. Goray // [Electronic resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://top-news.kz/industrialnai-a-zona-posterenno-zapolniaetsi-a-novymi-proizvodstvami/>

The Path of Friendship and Cooperation

Belarus and Kazakhstan signed an agreement on socio-economic cooperation, valid until 2026, in November 2017. In this document, the parties set out plans to embark on a qualitatively new stage in bilateral relations. At the end of June 2021, during a visit by a Belarusian government delegation to this Central Asian country, a target was announced in line with this new phase: by the end of the year, to ‘achieve new figures in mutual trade – totalling more than \$1 billion annually for goods and services combined’⁹⁷.

In February 2022, whilst reviewing the results of the previous year, high-level representatives from both sides noted that trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan had exceeded one billion dollars for the first time in history. To be precise, it “amounted to \$1.0925 billion and, compared with the corresponding period of the previous [2020] year, increased by 31.9 per cent, with exports totalling \$911.8 million (a 25 per cent increase). The trade surplus stood at \$731.1 million”⁹⁸. The bulk of Belarusian exports consisted of a variety of food products – fresh or chilled beef, condensed and powdered milk and cream, cheeses and cottage cheese, sausages and similar meat products, sugar, as well as rolling stock components, combine harvesters, furniture and furniture components. The distribution network of Belarusian enterprises in Kazakhstan comprises more than 40 companies, as well as over 170 dealers. A number of joint assembly plants for Belarusian machinery and equipment are also operating there.

In October 2022, high-level working meetings between representatives of the governments of Belarus and Kazakhstan took place in Astana, at which the parties outlined priorities in the fields of industrial cooperation, the agro-industrial complex and construction.

In the field of industrial cooperation, it is worth noting that seven Belarusian enterprises are operating in Kazakhstan, including ‘Tomselmash’, the Minsk Tractor Works and ‘Bobruiskagromash’. They are steadily increasing their supplies of machine kits to this country for the production of machinery. As part of one of the largest projects to establish tractor production in the industrial zone in Kostanay, construction has been completed on a workshop for the manufacture of standardised cabs with a production capacity of up to 10,000 units per year. “The parties are exploring the possibility of organising

⁹⁷ Zaleski, B. L. With a focus on trade and industrial cooperation / B. L. Zaleski // Proceedings of the 17th International Scientific and Practical Conference “Dynamics of Scientific Research – 2021”, Volume 6. Przemysł: Nauka i studia. – p. 21.

⁹⁸ Golovnenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan exceeded \$1 billion for the first time in 2021 [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-tovarooborot-belarusi-i-kazakhstana-v-2021-godu-vpervye-prevysil-1-mlrd-486829-2022/>

the production not only of tractor components and assemblies, but also of machine tools, tractor engines, diesel generator sets, pumping units and optical products”⁹⁹.

As for new prospects for cooperation, discussions are under way regarding the production of fire engines based on chassis from the Minsk Automobile Plant and the ‘Pozhsnab’ enterprise. This is a new and promising niche that needs to be filled with Belarusian equipment. Overall, “we can increase mutual trade with Kazakhstan by \$200 million”¹⁰⁰. In this regard, the experience of the Minsk Motor Plant (MM3) is of particular interest; its trading house was opened in Kazakhstan in early 2022 and has been successfully selling Belarusian engines, specialised machinery and spare parts, with sales figures on the rise. In this context, in October 2022, MM3 took part in the KazAgro-2022 international exhibition, which is the largest and most well-attended event of its kind in Central Asia. The Belarusian company’s aim at the event was to ‘expand business and commercial prospects, promote its products and raise brand awareness’¹⁰¹. With the same aim in mind, in September 2022, more than 30 Belarusian businesses took part in international specialised exhibitions in Astana on mechanical engineering and metalworking, as well as on the manufacturing industry. Joint stands ‘featured enterprises from the Ministry of Industry of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Education, whilst the Minsk Tractor Works and machine-tool manufacturers were represented at separate stands’¹⁰². This suggests that new projects in Belarusian-Kazakh industrial cooperation are, as they say, already on the horizon.

In the agri-industrial sector, the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan has confirmed its interest in building a commercial dairy farm with a capacity of 1,200 head on Kazakhstani soil, where “Belarusian technologies, materials and equipment will be used, and dairy cattle will be supplied. Work will begin this year and continue into 2023”¹⁰³. Plans are being finalised for the establishment of a veterinary medicines production facility in Kazakhstan,

⁹⁹ Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan need to take industrial cooperation a step further [Online source]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarusi-i-kazahstanu-nuzhno-dvigatsia-dalshe-v-oblasti-nromkooperatsii-531879-2022/>

¹⁰⁰ Snopkov: Production cooperation forms the basis of collaboration between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/snopkov-bazoi-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-kazahstana-i-avli-aetsia-proizvodstvennai-kooperatsii-a-506651-2022/>

¹⁰¹ The Minsk Motor Plant showcased its products at an exhibition in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/minskii-motornyi-zavod-predstavil-produktsii-na-vystavke-v-kazahstane-528774-2022/>

¹⁰² More than 30 Belarusian companies are taking part in industrial exhibitions in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-30-beloruskikh-predpriatii-uchastvuiut-v-vystavkah-promyshlennosti-v-kazahstane-525159-2022/>

¹⁰³ Production of veterinary medicines and construction of livestock farms. How Belarus and Kazakhstan will cooperate in the agri-food sector [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/proizvodstvo-vetpreparatov-i-stroitelstvo-mf-kak-budut-sotrudnicat-i-kazahstan-v-apk-531987-2022/>

both to meet the needs of the domestic market and with a view to future exports to third countries. On the Belarusian side, the company ‘BelVitunifarm’ will participate in this project. In addition, the Kazakhstani side has expressed an interest in the supply of Belarusian compound feed, premixes and amino acids, as well as in switching to potato seeds bred in Belarus.

Belarusian and Kazakhstani partners are also planning several projects in the construction sector in the near future. “Among these are reciprocal projects – the construction of a Belarusian quarter in Astana and a Kazakhstani quarter in Minsk. <...> At this stage, the plans are to identify suitable plots of land and develop a concept, as well as to engage state-owned developers”¹⁰⁴. Another project involves the joint production of ceramic tiles. Kazakhstan has abundant mineral resources, so the plan is to set up production facilities utilising Belarusian specialists and technologies.

Another interesting fact: Belarus and Kazakhstan also plan to develop rail freight transport. In October 2022, a Belarusian–Kazakh round table was held in Astana, attended by over 80 participants, including around 40 Kazakhstani companies from the mining,

oil production, chemical, gas, metallurgical and agricultural sectors, as well as the country’s hauliers and transport and logistics companies, and representatives of Belarusian enterprises in the forestry, wood processing and food sectors, transport and freight forwarding companies, discussed the prospects for the development of existing projects and current transport and logistics solutions for the further development of freight transport between Belarus and Kazakhstan. In this context, “considerable attention was paid to issues concerning the unimpeded transit of goods from Belarus to Kazakhstan, as well as to China via Kazakhstan, including by container trains”¹⁰⁵.

Inter-regional cooperation is another important component of Belarusian-Kazakh bilateral relations. It should be noted that “there are around 30 agreements in force between the regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan”¹⁰⁶. Among the Belarusian participants in this fruitful cooperation is **the Minsk Region**, whose trade turnover with Kazakhstan increased by a further 7.5 per cent in 2021 to reach \$190 million. Exports accounted for almost \$180 million of this, with a growth rate of 107.2 per cent. A trade surplus of nearly

¹⁰⁴ A Belarusian quarter in Astana, a Kazakhstani one in Minsk. What new construction projects are being discussed [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.economics.kz/kvartal-astane-kazahstanski-v-minske-kakie-novye-proekty-obsuzhdajut-v-stroitelstve-531980-2022/>

¹⁰⁵ Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to develop rail freight transport [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-i-kazakhstan-planiruiut-razvivat-gruzoperevozki-po-zheleznoi-doroge-530740-2022/>

¹⁰⁶ Zaleski, B. The Goal: Stable Growth. Collection of articles / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2021. – p. 52.

\$170 million was recorded. The volume of foreign direct investment from Kazakhstan amounted to over \$1.2 million, representing a 137.2 per cent increase on the 2020 level”¹⁰⁷. Among the active Kazakhstani partners of the Belarusian capital region, the Karaganda and Pavlodar regions are particularly noteworthy.

For instance, a cooperation agreement between the Minsk Region and **the Karaganda Region** was signed as far back as 1996 and included measures for cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, healthcare and education. In June 2013, the limited liability company “Joint Venture ‘KazBelAZ’” commenced operations in this Kazakhstani region – a joint venture specialising in the overhaul of components and assemblies, the production of spare parts and the manufacture of machinery for the Belarusian Automobile Plant. “Production is based at the Karaganda Foundry and Machine-Building Plant (KLMZ) – a subsidiary of ‘Kazakhmys Corporation’ LLP”¹⁰⁸. This joint venture became one of the largest under the State Programme for Accelerated Industrial and Innovative Development and was included in Kazakhstan’s Industrialisation Roadmap for 2010–2014. The first Belarusian dump truck was assembled in Karaganda in August 2013 by “Karaganda-based mechanics who had undergone training at the Belarusian plant”¹⁰⁹. And in October 2021, the parties had already discussed the establishment of a joint venture for the production of fire-fighting equipment in the Karaganda Region. At that time, there were already ‘21 joint ventures’ operating in the Kazakhstani region. Among them was a company specialising in the assembly of quarry dump lorries and the repair and maintenance of

¹¹⁰. It appears that this cooperation may be further expanded, as the region is keen to attract Belarusian companies and is prepared to create favourable conditions for them so that they can ‘take part in agricultural projects and the construction of schools. Cooperation in the IT sector is also possible’¹¹¹.

As for **the Pavlodar Region**, the Minsk Region signed an agreement with it on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation in 2009. In 2017, the parties agreed to cooperate in the field of agriculture. At that time, the Kazakhstani side showed great interest in Belarus’s experience in the

¹⁰⁷ Turchin discussed with Beisenbaev the development of cooperation between the Minsk Region and Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/-/obsudil-s--razvitiye-sotrudnichestva-mezhdu-minskoj-oblasti-i-486296-2022/>

¹⁰⁸ Potylitsyn, S. The Process of Lawful Evolution / S. Potylitsyn // [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: <https://kazpravda.kz/n/protsess-zakononemov-evolyutsii/>

¹⁰⁹ Akhmetova, A. Karaganda residents have assembled the first Belarusian dump lorry / A. Akhmetova // [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: <https://www.altyn-orda.karagandincv--nervy-belorusski-samosval/>

¹¹⁰ Belarus and Kazakhstan may launch joint production of firefighting equipment in the Karaganda Region [Online resource]. – 2021. – <https://primepress.by/news/kompanti/belarus-i-kazakhstan-mogut-zapustit-sovmestno-e-proizvodstvo-pozharnov-tehniky-na-territorii-karagan-38483/>

¹¹¹ On the visit of the Belarusian Ambassador to the Karaganda Region [Electronic resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/c2580259079cad.html>

construction of commercial dairy complexes. “In handing over a package of standard designs for agricultural facilities to the people of Pavlodar, representatives of the Minsk Region expressed their readiness not only to advise them on this subject, but also to build dairy complexes for them on mutually beneficial terms”¹¹². In addition, the free economic zones of the Pavlodar Region invited interested companies from the Minsk Region to participate in projects involving the joint use of the region’s mineral resources. One such project is an aluminium cluster involving major companies from Germany, Poland and Turkey. It should be noted that machinery from the Belarusian Automobile Plant is already being used very extensively in this region of Kazakhstan. In particular, in February 2021, at the assembly site of the ‘Vostochny’ opencast mine technology park operated by EEK JSC of the Eurasian Group (ERG), the assembly of three 130-metric-tonne BelAZ dump trucks, which have joined the fleet of this coal mining enterprise, was completed. They joined “seven of their counterparts, which have already been in operation for two years on the cyclical-flow stripping sections of the open-cast mine, earning a reputation among the Ekibastuz miners as reliable and high-performance mining machines”¹¹³. As we can see, the scope for developing ties between the Minsk and Pavlodar regions could still be very broad.

In particular, cooperation with Kazakhstan is among the priority areas for the development of foreign economic relations in **the Gomel region**. Enterprises in the south-eastern region of Belarus are seriously committed to developing cooperative ties with Kazakhstani partners in the areas of import substitution and logistics. A good example is the joint production facility of OJSC “Gomselmash” and JSC “AgromashHolding KZ”, which has been operating in Kazakhstan since 2007. Today, it is not merely an assembly workshop, but a fully-fledged production facility. “Since the start of the collaboration, the plant has supplied products worth more than \$320 million to the Kazakhstani market, with a total of over 3,700 units of jointly manufactured machinery sold”¹¹⁴. Products from other enterprises in the Gomel Region are also in demand in Kazakhstan, including those from the Belarusian Metallurgical Plant and the open joint-stock company “Milkavita”.

¹¹² Zaleski, B. Current media topics in Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation / B. Zaleski // International Journalism 2018: Global Challenges, Regional Partnership and the Media: Proceedings of the 7th International Scientific and Practical Conference, Minsk, 15 February 2018 / compiled by B. L. Zaleski; edited by T. N. Dasayeva. – Minsk: BSU Publishing Centre, 2018. – p. 98.

¹¹³ BELAZ has delivered 130-tonne dump lorries to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belaz-postavil-130-tonnove-dum-trucks-to-kazakhstan-428544-2021/>

¹¹⁴ Enterprises in the Gomel Region intend to develop cooperative ties with Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/predpriiatiia-gomelskoi-oblasti-namereny-razvivat-kooperatsionnye-svizi-s-kazakhstanom-512360-2022>

The **Mogilev Region** is also cooperating closely with this Central Asian country and is beginning to step up its efforts in trade and economic cooperation. “Over the first seven months of this year [2022], the foreign trade turnover between the Mogilev Region and Kazakhstan amounted to around \$40 million”¹¹⁵. However, there is still ample scope for further cooperation between the two sides. Kazakhstan is one of the most important trade and economic partners for the Belarusian region, ranking second in terms of foreign trade turnover among the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union, both for 2021 as a whole and for the first seven months of 2022. The main export items are motor vehicles and spare parts, dairy products, poultry meat, lifts and railway carriages. In turn, the Mogilev Region purchases equipment, chemical products and various raw materials from Kazakhstan. It is worth noting that almost 45 per cent of the region’s total imports consist of paraxylene, which is used by ‘Mogilevkhimvolokno’. Other enterprises in the Belarusian region, including those in the ‘Mogilev’ Free Economic Zone, also have a number of proposals for cooperation with Kazakhstani partners.

The Grodno Region is also stepping up its cooperation with Kazakhstan, having already concluded five agreements with Kazakhstani regions. The Grodno Region actively supplies agricultural, processed goods and wood products to its partners. However, “the time has come to step up our efforts, to flesh out these agreements with real projects and contracts that will enable us to strengthen relations between the two countries”¹¹⁶.

As for cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan in the field of education, in 2022 the collaboration between the two sides also took on a new dimension. In particular, in October, Baranovichi State University proposed a partnership with Shakarm University, which is located in the city of Semey in the Abai Region. This educational and research centre in the north-eastern region of Kazakhstan has over seven thousand students studying across its five faculties. The two universities are interested in “jointly implementing educational programmes for students and lecturers, organising academic exchanges, and running summer and winter schools. There are ideas for research and innovation projects”¹¹⁷.

Furthermore, in September 2022, a round-table discussion entitled

¹¹⁵ Isachenko at a meeting with the Ambassador of Kazakhstan: the time has come to step up efforts in the trade and economic sphere [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www./regions/view/--vstreche---rabotu-torgovo-ekonomicheskoi-sfere-525098-2022/>

¹¹⁶ Kazakhstan’s Ambassador at a meeting with Karanik: our task is to help businesspeople from both countries find one another [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www./regions/view/--vstreche--karanikom-nasha-zadacha--dvih-stran-naiti-druza-514826-2022/>

¹¹⁷ BarSU aims to work closely with a university in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta./regions/view/-tesno-sotrudnicat-s-universitetom--kazakhstana-530948-2022/>

‘Kazakhstan and Belarus: The Path of Friendship and Cooperation’ was held in Minsk, where it was noted that ‘in 2021, trade turnover between Kazakhstan and Belarus exceeded \$1 billion’¹¹⁸, but there is still considerable scope for increasing trade turnover: this includes not only industrial cooperation, the agro-industrial sector, transport, the deepening of inter-regional cooperation and joint ventures, but also collaboration in the cultural and humanitarian spheres.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

¹¹⁸ Ambassador of Kazakhstan: Belarus is a country one always wants to return to [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/societyv/posol-kazahstana---kotoruiu-vsegda-hochetsia-vozvrashchatsia-526048-2022/>

We should embark on new projects to achieve mutual benefit

Belarus and Kazakhstan today demonstrate great potential for mutually beneficial cooperation across various sectors – from agriculture to high technology and innovative developments. Joint investment projects in mechanical engineering, the chemical and petrochemical industries are being successfully implemented. During the 18th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, which took place in Minsk in May 2024, it was also noted that ‘it is necessary to continue and expand the practice of holding interregional business and investment forums, exhibitions and trade fairs...’¹¹⁹. In this context, it should be noted that our republic actively participates in numerous international exhibition events in this Central Asian country. For example, “Belarus’s total exhibition space at events in Kazakhstan in 2023 amounted to almost 1,000 square metres, with around 50 Belarusian enterprises taking part”¹²⁰. This made a significant contribution to bilateral economic cooperation.

The most high-profile international event in Kazakhstan in 2023 in the exhibition sector was **the first international industrial forum “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan”**, held in September at the ‘Expo’ in the Kazakh capital, attended by enterprises and companies from 20 countries, including Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Myanmar, Vietnam, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, China and Russia, represented in such thematic sections of the exhibition as mechanical engineering, metallurgy and materials, energy solutions, chemical industry technologies, information and telecommunications technologies, machine tool manufacturing and infrastructure development. Thirty-two Belarusian enterprises and institutions from the Ministry of Industry and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of Belarus, the State Committee for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Education. “The Belarusian national exhibition occupied an area of 742 square metres (210 square metres in the pavilion and 532 square metres in the outdoor area”¹²¹.

This exhibition was characterised by its innovative nature. For this reason, the products presented by the Belarusian participants at the forum featured

¹¹⁹ Agriculture, culture and education. In which areas will Belarus and Kazakhstan strengthen their mutual cooperation [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by//apk--obrazovanie-v-kakih-sferah--kazakhstana--nkrepili--sotrudnichestvo-638164-2024/>

¹²⁰ From the agri-food sector to high technology. Myatlikov identified promising areas for cooperation with Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/-apk-do-vysokih-...-s-kazakhstanom-637976-2024/>

¹²¹ The “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” International Industrial Forum has opened in Astana [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-astane-otkrylsia-mezhdunarodnyi-promyshlennyy-forum-innoprom-kazakhstan-590049-2023/>

interesting technical and scientific innovations. In particular, 20 enterprises from the Belarusian Ministry of Industry displayed samples of export-grade equipment, and ‘the total value of commercial documents (agreements, protocols, contracts) <...> amounted to approximately \$64 million’¹²². For example, OJSC “Horizon Holding Management Company” showcased two product lines – consumer electronics and equipment, as well as professional equipment intended for the transport sector, namely automotive and aviation electronics. In the first area, “Horizon” specialists “signed contracts worth \$25 million over two days. “This involves the supply of consumer electronics to eight retail chains in Kazakhstan”¹²³. In the second area, the Belarusian company received an order to manufacture automotive electronics. This indicates that interest in Belarusian products on the Kazakhstani market remains consistently high.

At this exhibition, Gomselmash also showcased machinery that is already being assembled on Kazakh soil. The fact is that, with a view to developing industrial cooperation in this Central Asian country, joint assembly of combine harvesters under the Essil brand is already underway. “This is a highly successful project; we are assembling 4,300 units. <...> The level of localisation has now reached 40 per cent. The reapers, inclined chambers and hoppers are fully localised”¹²⁴. In future, there are plans to supply upgraded Class 4 combine harvesters.

Expanding its presence in Kazakhstan is also a priority for OJSC “Mogilevliftmash”, whose specialists took part in this exhibition. The Mogilev-based company already has “assembly facilities, dealers and a distribution network, but this is still not enough...”¹²⁵. Cooperation must be developed further. All the more so, as the Kazakh market is very large. There is a great deal of construction taking place there, and many lifts are in need of replacement. For this reason, “Mogilevliftmash” has set itself the potential target of selling up to 700 lifts annually.

Another Belarusian exporter, CJSC “Atlant”, also intends to strengthen its cooperation with Kazakhstan. At the “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” forum, the company presented its household appliances. An important fact: “Atlant” has established “contacts with all major retail chains. In particular, over an 8-

¹²² Ministry of Industry enterprises signed contracts worth \$64 million at “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/predpriatia-minprom-na-innoprom-kazakhstan-zaklyuchili-kontrakty-na-64-mln-591102-2023/>

¹²³ Predko: “Horizont” products will be sold through retail chains in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/predko-produktsiya-gorizonta-budet-realizovyvatsia-torgovni-setiami-kazakhstana-590599-2023/>

¹²⁴ “Gomselmash” to supply upgraded combine harvesters to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-postavit-v-kazakhstan-obnovlennye-zernouborochnye-kombai-ny-590179-2023/>

¹²⁵ “Mogilevliftmash” plans to sell up to 700 lifts a year to Kazakhstan [Online source]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/mogilevliftmash-planiruet-prodat-v-kazhastane-do-700-liftoy-v-god-590005-2023/>

month period [in 2023], 20,000 fridges and 3,000 washing machines were shipped to this country”¹²⁶. The Belarusian supplier intends to further strengthen this cooperation. Meanwhile, the Minsk Tractor Works showcased a wide range of its new machinery and “signed a commercial contract to supply 1,500 cab assemblies worth \$3 million to ‘MTZ Machine-Building Plant – Kazakhstan’ LLP”¹²⁷.

As for the enterprises of the “Bellegprom” group, following the “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” forum, agreements were reached on increasing supplies of Belarusian fabrics for various purposes to the Kazakh market, as well as “on setting up a ‘dispensary’ with Belarusian light industrial goods in the ‘Magnum’ hypermarket”. It is planned that products from the Orsha Flax Mill, “Vitebsk Carpets”, the Dobrush Porcelain Factory and OJSC “BPHO” will be showcased there¹²⁸. Furthermore, following the talks, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between the “Bellegprom” group and “Global-Spetsodezhda” LLP and the “Union of Kazakhstani Manufacturers of Personal Protective Equipment” sole proprietorship. It is worth noting that, over the first three quarters of 2023, the group’s enterprises shipped goods worth nine million dollars to Kazakhstan. Exports grew by 131 per cent.

Speaking of the joint stand of Belarusian scientific organisations and educational institutions at the “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” exhibition, it should be noted that six organisations under the jurisdiction of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus were represented there: the “Optron” plant, the State Scientific and Production Association “Optics, Optoelectronics and Laser Technology”, the Joint Institute for Problems of Informatics of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, the Minsk Research Institute of Radio Materials, Aviation Technologies and Systems CJSC, the Centre for Systems Analysis and Strategic Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, as well as three universities – Belarusian State University, Belarusian State Technological University, and Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics – plus the High-Tech Park residents ‘Igry Razuma Soft’ Ltd and ‘Mogotex’ JSC. They showcased “several thematic areas: unmanned aerial vehicles, electric transport and component manufacturing, industrial technologies, microelectronics, laser technology, artificial intelligence and IT technologies, biotechnology and pharmacology,

¹²⁶ “Atlant” intends to expand its cooperation with Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/atlant-nameren-naraschivat-sotrudnichestvo-s-kazakhstanom-590085-2023/>

¹²⁷ MTZ to supply 1,500 cab assemblies worth \$3 million to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-postavit-v-kazakhstan-15-tys-edimits-kabinokomplektov-na-3-mln-590218-2023/>

¹²⁸ Since the start of the year, ‘Bellegprom’ enterprises have increased their supplies to Kazakhstan by more than a third [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatia-bellegprom-a-s-nachala-goda-uvlechili-postavki-v-kazakhstan-bolee-chem-na-tret-590675-2023/>

and space exploration technologies”¹²⁹.

In particular, an ultra-light aircraft – the “Yastreb” gyroplane – was demonstrated; it is designed for border patrols, cargo transport, aerial photography, forestry monitoring and fire protection. ‘In the near future, it will be used as an air taxi’¹³⁰. Compared with aeroplanes and helicopters, this gyroplane has a number of advantages: ease of control across all operating ranges, the absence of vibrations and ‘wing-tip dive’, and a wide range of horizontal flight speeds. Furthermore, there is no need for a specially prepared take-off site; the craft can land on an unpaved country lane, on the ground, on water or on snow.

Among other developments presented by Aviation Technologies and Systems CJSC was the A60-X agricultural drone – a system for spraying fields using ultra-low-volume technology, which offers a number of advantages over traditional methods of applying plant protection products. In total, the Belarusian national exhibition featured over 70 innovations from organisations of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus and institutions of the Ministry of Education.

Let us now take a look at what other interesting international exhibitions have been held in Kazakhstan over the past two years with Belarusian participation. For example, an exhibition by Belarusian producers under the brand ‘Belarus – The Taste of Nature’ was presented at the end of May 2023 at the **Kazakhstan International Exhibition ‘Food, Beverages, Ingredients, Packaging and Equipment for the Food Industry’ – InterFood Astana** in Astana. This forum is a traditional meeting place for specialists from various countries in the food, processing and packaging industries. In 2023, more than 70 companies from Armenia, Belarus, Vietnam, Germany, Kazakhstan, China, Malaysia, Russia and Uzbekistan showcased new additions to their product ranges, innovations in the food industry, beverages, ingredients and modern packaging technologies at their stands. The Belarusian exhibition showcased “a diverse range of products from the Volkovysk, Grodno and Slonim meat processing plants and the joint venture OJSC ‘Spartak’: sausages, semi-prepared meat products and confectionery”¹³¹. A business programme was organised as part of the exhibition, including conferences, presentations, masterclasses and tastings of

¹²⁹ Shakhonovich, A. A first for Kazakhstan. What Belarus will present at the ‘INNOPROM. Kazakhstan’ exhibition in Astana / A. Shakhonovich // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/comments/view/-v-kazhastane-chto-belarus-predstavit-na-vystavke-innoprom-v-astane-8893/>

¹³⁰ Gavrilova, V. Belarus’s scientific and technical developments to be presented at the “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” exhibition / V. Gavrilova // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/nauchno-tehnicheskie-razrabotki-belarusi-predstavlat-na-vystavke-innoprom-kazhastan-589784-2023/>

¹³¹ The ‘Belarus – The Taste of Nature’ exhibition at InterFood Astana [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.cci.by/0-nalate/novosti/ekspozitsiya-belarus-the-taste-of-nature-na-vystavke-interfood-astana/#>

product ranges.

A year later – at the end of May 2024 – at the same international exhibition, **InterFood Astana**, leaders from the food industry across 15 countries showcased the products and services of more than 80 food manufacturers and brands. The ‘European Union’ was the guest of honour at the exhibition, presenting European products from 30 manufacturers from the member states of the Union¹³². Meanwhile, at the ‘Belarus. The Taste of Nature, a wide range of products was presented by Belarusian enterprises from the meat and dairy sector: OJSC “Slutsk Cheese Factory” and OJSC “Slonim Meat Processing Plant”.

One of the most well-attended and widely covered agricultural events in Kazakhstan – **the International Exhibition of Agriculture and the Food Industry ‘KazFarm/KazAgro-2023’** — took place in October in Astana, where 250 companies from 20 countries took part and the best innovations were showcased, ranging from seeds and embryos to finished products from crop production, livestock farming and the processing sector. From our country, the following organisations took part: ‘Agropolykhim’ LLC, ‘RTiflex’ LLC, ‘Tekhmash’ PO, and the Minsk Motor Plant. Meanwhile, the Belarusian State Association for Breeding Livestock ‘Belplemzhivob’edinenie’ and the State Unitary Enterprise ‘Gomelgosplempredpriyatiye’ organised an exhibition stand featuring video presentations, which introduced guests and visitors to the exhibition to the field of breeding livestock in the Republic of Belarus¹³³. Talks were held with the heads of Kazakhstani breeding organisations, during which issues of mutually beneficial cooperation were discussed.

Finally, in early November 2023, Belarusian enterprises from the meat-processing and dairy sectors took part in Kazakhstan’s largest specialised exhibition event in Kazakhstan – **the 25th Central Asian International Exhibition ‘Food Industry’ – FoodExpo Qazaqstan-2023**, which took place in Almaty and brought together over 300 companies from 33 countries under one roof. In addition to Belarus, collective national pavilions were presented by Hungary, Indonesia, Poland, Russia, North Macedonia, the United States of America, Sri Lanka and the Republic of Korea. In the ‘Meat and Meat Products’ section, the ‘Veles-Mit’ enterprise was represented, along with the Volkovysk, Grodno, Pinsk and Slonim meat processing plants.

¹³² Belarusian companies are represented at the InterFood Astana international exhibition in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belorusskie-predpriyatia-predstavleny-na-mezhdunarodnoi-vystavke-interfood-astana-v-kazahstane-637677-2024/>

¹³³ The ‘KazFarm/KazAgro-2023’ exhibition took place in Astana on 19–21 October [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.mshp.gov.by/printv/ru/news-ru/view/19-21-oktiabria-v-astana-proshla-vystavka-kazfarm-kazagro-2023-9164-2023/>

Belarusian producers introduced Kazakhstani consumers to a wide range of sausages, delicacies, smoked meats and tinned goods. The Volkovysk Meat Processing Plant showcased its already popular meat products, including beef steaks and new varieties of semi-smoked sausages. The Grodno Meat Processing Plant offered beef sausage with prunes. The Pinsk Meat Processing Plant surprised visitors with its game meat products. ‘Among the new products were meat paste and an Italian range of sausages from “Veles-Mit”. A cooked sausage with pistachios, made to an Italian recipe, attracted particular interest from visitors to the exhibition. Companies from the dairy sector – “Bellakt”, “Molochnye Gorke”, and the Lida Dairy and Canning Plant – brought milk, cheeses, butter, dried baby food and powdered milk.’¹³⁴ . Bellakt presented its new products to the Kazakhstani market: frozen cheese cakes, a dessert spread with cocoa and hazelnuts, and a new range of glazed cheese cakes.

The Goretsky Food Factory brought its legendary Exponenta range of products – rich in protein and with functional properties – to Kazakhstan for the first time. The company “Molochnye Gorki” presented not only its traditional range of whole-milk products but also a new series of lactose-free products, including cottage cheese, sour cream and butter. Among the new products, we would highlight clarified butter, presented in glass packaging. Incidentally, at the ‘Best Product of FoodExpo Qazaqstan-2023’ professional tasting competition, which took place on the opening day of the exhibition, ‘Molochnye Gorke’ was awarded a diploma in the ‘Dairy Products’ category, whilst the Goretsky Food Processing Plant received an award in the ‘Best Fermented Milk Drinks’ category. As is traditional, this exhibition was accompanied by a packed business programme, participation in which gave representatives of the Belarusian business community the opportunity to exchange experiences and visions for the further development of the food industry. In particular, a business session entitled “Sustainable Development of Food Industry Enterprises” took place, and direct negotiations between retail chains and distributors were held at the retail centre.

A year later – in mid-November – **the 26th “Food Industry” exhibition, FoodExpo Qazaqstan-2024**, took place, at which Belarusian enterprises from the meat processing, dairy and confectionery sectors took part in the “Belarus. The Taste of Nature. They were represented by eight companies, including industry leaders and well-known brands such as the Volkovysk, Grodno, Oshmyany, Pinsk and Slonim meat processing plants. The Turov

¹³⁴ Belarus presented an exhibition at a food fair in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavila-ekspozitsiiu-na-prodovolstvemoj-vystavke-v-kazahstane-597496-2023/>

Dairy Plant presented a range of cheeses at the exhibition aimed at the professional market and retail chains. Under the company's auspices, a themed 'ShowKitchen' area was organised, where demonstrations of pizza-making using these cheeses were held. Minsk Dairy Plant No. 1 OJSC presented its new products for 2024 – Edelweiss cheese in various spice blends, "Imeruli" cheeses and cheeses made with added goat's milk. The company showcased a lactose-free product range, including milk, cottage cheese, sour cream and butter. "Also on display were unique sugar-free cheese curds, with the range expanded to include two new varieties: sugar-free glazed cottage cheese curds with 'mango-orange-ginger' and 'blueberry-blackberry' fillings, with a fat content of 20 per cent"¹³⁵. SP OJSC "Spartak" has launched a range of sugar-free products: dark chocolate with collagen, with strawberries and hazelnuts, an assorted range of mini muesli bars, waffle bars, 'No Sugar' biscuits with linseeds and bran, as well as 'Truffles' sweets with no added sugar.

Let's summarise. All these exhibitions held in Kazakhstan in 2023–2024 have demonstrated that the participation of Belarusian enterprises in these business forums not only provides an opportunity to exchange experiences with Kazakhstani partners and share visions for further development in the most relevant sectors of the economy, but also paves the way for specific bilateral cooperation projects. This is all the more so as the parties recognise the great potential for cooperation, thanks to these trade fairs, which offer significant potential and unique opportunities for mutual benefit.

¹³⁵ Belarusian enterprises took part in a major food industry exhibition in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belorusskie-predpriiatia-stali-uchastnikami-krimnoi-vystavki-pischevoi-v-kazahstane-675060-2024/>

To ensure strong momentum in trade and industrial cooperation

Belarus and Kazakhstan are strategic partners and allies. Relations between Minsk and Astana are progressing steadily, developing cooperation and taking it to a new level of interaction. In June 2024, during a working meeting between the heads of government of the two countries, R. Golovchenko and O. Bektanova, the parties agreed to make every effort to further boost the momentum of the bilateral partnership and stated that ‘Belarus and Kazakhstan are capable of increasing trade turnover to \$1.5 billion’¹³⁶. As early as November 2024, a new working visit by a Kazakhstani government delegation took place in Minsk, where the parties agreed to ensure positive growth in bilateral trade. After all, the economies of Belarus and Kazakhstan possess significant potential for increasing and diversifying trade flows and expanding the range of goods supplied. Suffice it to say that Minsk and Astana “crossed the \$1 billion mark in mutual trade several years ago. <...> In fact, as things stand today, there are no areas left that are not covered by our cooperation”¹³⁷.

One of the concrete outcomes of this visit was the signing **of a roadmap between the governments of the two countries on the development of trade and economic cooperation for 2025–2029**, which provides for the intensification of cooperation in the fields of industrial cooperation, agriculture, transport and communications, and will help to expand the pool of joint projects and forge even closer ties between the business communities of the two countries, including in the construction industry, the high-tech sector and the transit sector. This programme, which has been drawn up not for a two-year period as before, but for the entire five-year period, was discussed back in late May 2024 in Minsk at the 18th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

It should be noted that, by the end of 2023, trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan had declined slightly due to a number of factors. For this reason, the parties at a high level have set out the main objective for the coming period: ‘to ensure the restoration of positive momentum in bilateral trade and to take measures to replenish mutual supplies in commodity categories where volumes have fallen. One of the key drivers for revitalising

¹³⁶ Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan are capable of increasing trade turnover to \$1.5 billion [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarusi-i-kazahstanu-po-silam-narastit-tovarooborot-do-15-mlrd-638669-2024/>

¹³⁷ Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan need to ensure positive momentum in bilateral trade [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-belarusi--kazahstanu---dinamiku-dvustoronnei-torgovli-675371-2024/>

trade and economic cooperation is collaboration in the industrial sector¹³⁸. An important detail: to date, Belarusian-Kazakh industrial cooperation already comprises 14 projects totalling 275 million dollars. But, as they say, the day is not yet over.

For reference, it is worth noting that ‘trade turnover between the two countries at the end of 2023 stood at \$1.1 billion, including Belarusian exports of \$867 million. Our country mainly supplies tractors, machinery and equipment for harvesting and threshing crops, cheese and quark, milk and cream, sausages and meat products, furniture, and semi-finished products made from non-alloy steel’¹³⁹. In addition, 55 enterprises with Kazakhstani capital are registered in Belarus, including 17 joint ventures and 38 foreign-owned companies, whilst more than 170 entities in the distribution network of domestic enterprises operate in Kazakhstan. Co-operation projects are being implemented for the joint production of tractors, agricultural machinery, motor vehicles and trailers, fire-fighting and emergency rescue equipment, as well as lift equipment.

In this context, it is worth noting that agriculture is one of the most important areas of cooperation between the two countries. First and foremost, this concerns the supply of food products from Belarus to the Kazakhstani market. The figures show that ‘exports of Belarusian agricultural and food products to Kazakhstan in 2023 amounted to almost a quarter of a billion dollars’^{140 141}. The sales network for Belarusian products is developing rapidly, with an increasing number of specialist shops and dedicated sections in supermarkets. ‘In total, there are 270 branded retail outlets operating in Kazakhstan, selling products under Belarusian brands...’¹¹⁰.

Furthermore, Belarus is ready to cooperate actively with Kazakhstan on the localisation of agricultural machinery production. It should be noted that “existing joint production facilities already enable the manufacture in Kazakhstan of up to 10,000 tractors and 1,000 combine harvesters per year”¹⁴². One positive example is the establishment of a full-cycle cab

¹³⁸ Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have always been based on friendship, mutual trust and respect – Roman Golovchenko [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/11054>

¹³⁹ Belarus and Kazakhstan to discuss the possibility of establishing an industrial cooperation fund [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazakhstan-obsudiat-vozmozhnost-sozdaniia-fonda-promyshlennoi-koperatsii-619287-2024/>

¹⁴⁰ Golovchenko: We are counting on a transition to deeper cooperation with Kazakhstan in the agri-food sector [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-rasschitvvaem-na-perehod-k-bolee-glubokomu-sotrudnichestvu-s-kazahstanom-v-apk-638683-2024/>

¹⁴¹ Dairy products, clothing, confectionery. Which Belarusian products are popular in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/molochka-odezhda-konditerskie-izdeliia-kakaia-belorusskaia-produktsiia-populiarna-v-kazahstane-640064-2024/>

¹⁴² Snopkov: Belarus is ready to actively cooperate with Kazakhstan on the localisation of agricultural machinery production [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/snopkov-belarus-gotova-sotrudniczat-s-kazahstan-in-the-localisation-of-agricultural-machinery-production-638115-2024/>

production facility for tractors in the city of Kostanay. Back in March 2024, the Minsk Tractor Works opened a cab workshop and a new machine assembly line in this Kazakhstani city “based at the MTZ-Kazakhstan Machine-Building Plant”. There are currently three BELARUS tractor assembly plants operating in Kazakhstan¹⁴³. The Machine-Building Plant MTZ-Kazakhstan plans to use the cabs to be manufactured in Kostanay both in its own production and to supply them to other joint ventures – the companies ‘Kazakhstan Agro Innovation Corporation’ and ‘SemAZ’. Furthermore, in Kostanay itself, “there are plans in the near future <.. > to set up a project to manufacture engines from the Minsk Motor Plant”¹⁴⁴. The Belarusian side, taking into account the large market for passenger transport vehicles and developments in this area in Kazakhstan, proposes to further develop a project with Kazakhstani partners “with ‘Belkommunmash’ – on trolleybuses, trams and electric buses, which they manufacture”¹⁴⁵. This naturally leads to the next topic: a network of charging stations. After all, Belarus also possesses the necessary expertise in this area.

In November 2024, during a visit by a Kazakhstani government delegation to Minsk, the Belarusian side also proposed setting up joint production facilities for fire-fighting and rescue equipment, as well as agricultural loaders. “A well-known manufacturer, the company ‘PozhSnab’, whose equipment has already proven itself in Kazakhstan, is ready to act as a partner on the Belarusian side. Furthermore, OJSC ‘AMKODOR’, together with a number of Kazakhstani enterprises, is exploring the possibility of setting up a new production facility for agricultural loaders in Kazakhstan”¹⁴⁶. Belarusian manufacturers also have other proposals for developing industrial cooperation, including the production of components for vehicles and tractors. As regards the supply of finished products, Belarusian enterprises are ready to meet Kazakhstan’s needs for municipal, forestry and road-construction machinery, as well as grain-drying complexes. They are prepared to provide support for the commissioning of the machinery, operator training, warranty and after-sales service.

An important area of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan, as

¹⁴³ A new BELARUS tractor assembly line is to be opened in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/v-kazakhstan-otkrojut-novyy-fabryki-tractorov-belarus-620534-2024/>

¹⁴⁴ Golovenko: Production of MM3 engines is planned to be organised in Kostanay, Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/-proizvodstvo-dvigatelei-mm3-planiruet-sia-organizovat-v-kazhastanskoy-kostanay-638677-2024/>

¹⁴⁵ Construction of machinery, housing and farms. What are the prospects for cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/stroitelstvo-mashin-zhiliya-farm-kakie-perspektivy-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-kazhastana-640062-2024/>

¹⁴⁶ Golovenko proposed that Kazakhstan set up joint ventures to manufacture fire-fighting equipment and agricultural loaders [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/golovenko-nredlozhil-kazhastani-sozdat-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-nozharnoi-tehniki-i-selhozognymzhikov-675373-2024/>

noted above, is the agricultural sector. In addition to the now traditional supplies of agricultural machinery and foodstuffs, during the November talks the parties agreed to explore the possibility of cooperation in supplying Kazakhstan with essential amino acids and premixes produced by the Belarusian National Biotechnology Corporation. Cooperation in the fields of municipal waste sorting and processing, water treatment and water purification also holds great promise. This is all the more so given that “the Belarusian company ‘Sifania-Ekotechnika’ has already implemented projects in a number of cities in Kazakhstan to process solid household waste and produce in-demand goods from it – ranging from plastic bags to paving slabs”¹⁴⁷. Meanwhile, the Belarusian company ‘Polimerkonstruktsiya’, which operates successfully in various parts of the world, is ready to offer water treatment equipment and technologies for various industrial sectors and the housing and utilities sector.

As part of this visit, the distinguished guests from Kazakhstan also familiarised themselves with the capabilities of the Belarusian High-Tech Park (HTP) and the developments of its residents. Among them is ‘Igry Razuma Soft’ LLC, which specialises in the production of professional digital simulators utilising virtual reality technologies for industry, education and safety

life. Its products include digital simulators for agricultural, forestry, mining and emergency rescue equipment used by enterprises such as ‘Gomselmash’, the Minsk Tractor and Automobile Works, ‘AMKODOR’ and ‘Belaruskali’. Meanwhile, the developers and operators of the ‘Oplati’ LLC ecosystem of new financial instruments demonstrated the operation of the payment service via mobile and web solutions designed to facilitate the use of electronic money in Belarus. “This unique payment system allows users to pay for utilities, transport costs and other purchases via a mobile app without the need for physical cards”¹⁴⁸ and has brought together all the necessary banking services in a single app. Another HTP resident – KometaRad LLC – presented the 3D MeD software suite for the processing, 3D reconstruction, transmission and storage of medical diagnostic images, featuring 3D modelling technology based on artificial intelligence. In addition, developers from R-NOKS LLC demonstrated innovative solutions for monitoring ambient air quality using machine learning, Big Data and the Internet of

¹⁴⁷ Golovchenko: Belarus is ready to supply amino acids to Kazakhstan and implement projects in the housing and utilities sector [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/---kazakhstan--realizovvat-proekt-v-zhkh-675377-2024/>

¹⁴⁸ A high-level visit to the world of high technology. The heads of government of Belarus and Kazakhstan visited the High-Tech Park [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.park.press/news/vizit-v-mir-vysokikh-tehnologiy-pri-poset-ili-glavv-pravitelstv-belarusi-i-kazakhstana/>

Things.

Returning to the decisions taken in November in Minsk between Belarus and Kazakhstan, we should note two further documents: **an action plan for cooperation in the field of cultural and humanitarian collaboration for 2025–2026**, and **a cooperation agreement between the Belarusian National Tourism Agency and the Kazakh National Company Kazakh Tourism**. Furthermore, “following the working visit of the Kazakhstani government delegation to Belarus, contracts worth over \$90 million were signed”¹⁴⁹. In total, the parties signed 20 documents.

And one more detail regarding the visit of the Kazakhstani government delegation to Minsk. The parties agreed to hold **the first Kazakhstan–Belarus Forum of Regions** in the near future, as this is “a highly effective format that allows for a significant advancement of cooperation in various fields”¹⁵⁰. At the aforementioned 18th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, it was noted that the parties possess all the necessary prerequisites and opportunities to significantly expand bilateral cooperation, aimed at intensifying joint work in various areas of partnership. At the same time, the parties also agreed to strengthen inter-regional ties, the potential of which has not yet been fully utilised. For reference, it should be noted that to date, around 25 cooperation agreements have already been signed between the regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan. Let us see how the Belarusian regions will approach this upcoming important event.

Let us begin with **the Belarusian capital**. A number of important and landmark economic projects are already being implemented in Kazakhstan, operating within the framework of industrial cooperation with the active participation of Minsk-based enterprises such as the tractor and car factories, and ‘AMKODOR’. In particular, in May 2024, a new workshop for the production of cabs for BELARUS tractors opened in the city of Kostanay on the premises of MTZ-Kazakhstan Machine-Building Plant LLP. This marks the second phase of the project. The collaboration began back in 2018. In total, four phases will be implemented by 2027. The opening of the new workshop for the production of cabs for BELARUS tractors marks the emergence of yet another high-tech production facility and the creation of additional jobs in Kazakhstan. Thus, “to date, 150 jobs have already been created. Upon completion of the fourth phase of the project, more than 500

¹⁴⁹ Contracts worth over \$90 million signed following the visit of the Kazakh delegation to Belarus [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kontraktv-na-bolee-chem-90-mln-podpisany-po-itogam-vizita-delegatsii-kazakhstana-v-belarus-675470-2024/>

¹⁵⁰ Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to hold a Forum of Regions [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/golovchenko-belarus-i-kazakhstan-planiruyut-provesti-forum-regionov-675354-2024/>

are expected”¹⁵¹ .

Another interesting project in the development of inter-regional cooperation between **Minsk** and its partners from this Central Asian country could be the construction of the so-called ‘Kazakhstan Quarter’ in the Belarusian capital. A site for this has already been identified in Minsk, bounded by Zheleznodorozhnaya, Dubravinskaya, Grushevskaya and Pryamaya streets. ‘The Committee for Architecture and Urban Planning has approved the architectural and planning concept for the project, envisaging the construction of over 39,200 square metres of multi-family housing with an open-air car park providing 300 parking spaces’¹⁵² . We would add that the Kazakhstani side has already approved the preliminary design. It is planned to complete the design work by the end of 2024.

Kazakhstan is one of the most important economic partners of the **Mogilev Region** and ranks second among the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union in terms of foreign trade turnover and exports from the Belarusian region. The main items exported from Mogilev to this country are tyres, dairy products, poultry meat, lifts, spare parts for cars and tractors, pumps and chipboard. Fruitful cooperation has also been established at the level of major manufacturing enterprises. In particular, “for OJSC ‘Mogilevliftmash’, Kazakhstan is one of the main sales markets; the company operates two assembly plants there – in the cities of Aktobe and Almaty”¹⁵³ . In 2023, around 350 lifts were supplied there. However, the Mogilev-based company has much greater potential: it is ready to participate more actively in the lift equipment replacement programme, as well as to supply its products for new construction projects. Bobruisk-based ‘Belshina’ is also ready for further cooperation. In 2023, despite export prices falling by more than half, the company sold 51,000 more tyres to Kazakhstan than in 2022. Furthermore, to date, the Mogilev Region has signed cooperation agreements with only two regions of Kazakhstan – Turkestan and East Kazakhstan. And there is confidence that at the first Forum of the Regions of the two countries, these agreements will be further enriched.

The Gomel Region also intends to expand its cooperation with partners from Kazakhstan. In this regard, it is worth recalling that in September 2024, the 18th annual Gomel Economic Forum took place, with Kazakhstan being one

¹⁵¹ A new workshop for the production of cabs for BELARUS tractors has opened in Kostanay [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/novyi-tselh-po-proizvodstvu-kabin-k-tractoram-belarus-pojavilsja-v-kazhanskom-kostanae-637069-2024/>

¹⁵² Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to expand political and cultural cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kazhastan-planiruiut-rasshirit-politicheskoe-i-kulturnoe-vzaimodeistvie-663284-2024>

¹⁵³ Integration and joint production. Isachenko on cooperation between the Mogilev Region and Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/integratsiia-i-sovmestnye-isachenko-o-sotrudnichestve-mogilevskoi-oblasti-s-kazhastanom-607349-2023/>

of the active participants from the Commonwealth of Independent States, 'whose potential for cooperation with the south-eastern region of Belarus is simply enormous. This primarily concerns issues of industrial cooperation and agriculture'¹⁵⁴. In particular, as part of this cooperation, a machinery assembly plant has been established in Kazakhstan in partnership with 'Gomselmash', which is developing successfully. During the economic forum, the parties agreed that the number of joint projects would increase. It appears that this dialogue between the interested parties will continue at the first Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan.

The Brest Region is also interested in closer cooperation with Kazakhstan across various areas. In particular, this involves expanding investment cooperation between Kazakhstan and the Brest Region in the fields of agricultural production and the processing of agricultural produce, with a view to 'investing in the dairy sector, given the considerable expertise, and high potential that the Belarusian side possesses in this area. Another interesting sector is the production of building materials, floor coverings, ceramic tiles and sanitary ware'¹⁵⁵. The parties also have great potential in the areas of transit, tourism, travel and health and wellness. In short, there are still plenty of areas where cooperation can be strengthened. So

The Brest Region appears set to bring new and interesting projects and promising proposals to the first Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Let us take stock. The working visit by a Kazakhstani government delegation to Belarus in November 2024 demonstrated that the two post-Soviet countries have long since established strong, friendly and cooperative ties. And today, they are continuing to implement promising areas of cooperation included in the Roadmap of the two countries' governments for the development of trade and economic cooperation for 2025–2029, with a view to reaching a qualitatively new level of interaction.

¹⁵⁴ Zaleski, B. From programmes to specific projects. Features of positive trends in the Belarusian economy / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – p. 49.

¹⁵⁵ Investment, technology, tourism. The Brest Region and Kazakhstan are aiming for closer cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/investitsii-tehnologii-turizm-brejskaia--kazakhstan-natseleny-na-bolee-tesnoe-680343-2024/>

CHAPTER 2

UZBEKISTAN

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

The target: one billion dollars

In June 2019, the seventh meeting of the Belarusian-Uzbek Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation took place in Minsk, during which the parties discussed priority areas of cooperation, including the agro-industrial complex, mechanical engineering, the food and pharmaceutical sectors, and light industry, with particular emphasis on **industrial cooperation**. The fact is that as far back as September 2018, during talks between the heads of state, A. Lukashenko and Sh. Merzиеev, it was noted that ‘the countries have the potential to increase trade turnover to \$1 billion’¹⁵⁶. It is envisaged that this objective will be achieved within three to four years by exploring all possible areas of cooperation. However, the priority area of cooperation ‘should be the expansion of production cooperation in mechanical engineering, the agro-industrial complex, the transport and pharmaceutical sectors, and the information technology sector’¹⁵⁷. Shortly afterwards, in November 2018, the heads of government of the two countries announced that the parties would “explore the establishment of joint ventures for the production of milk, medicines, medical equipment, mini-tractors and attachments, as well as bicycles, and a joint transport and logistics enterprise”¹⁵⁸.

It should be noted that by the time the roadmap for the development of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan was signed, three assembly plants for Belarusian machinery were already in operation in Uzbekistan. In particular, the “Amkodor-Agrotechmash” joint venture manufactures road-construction machinery. “The ‘Bobruiskagromash’ range of machinery is produced by ‘UzBelAgromash’: this includes tractor trailers, feed mixers and mowers. In addition, MTZ tractors are assembled at the Tashkent Agricultural Machinery Plant. Cooperation between the companies began in 2016”¹⁵⁹. As for the Minsk Tractor Works, in September 2018, at the Belarusian-Uzbek business forum in Tashkent, the company’s management announced plans to open another assembly plant in Uzbekistan – this time for tracked and horticultural machinery. “The new plant, which it has been agreed will be located in Karakalpakstan, will produce around 200

¹⁵⁶ Matievisky, M. Lukashenko and Merzиеev believe it is possible to increase trade turnover to \$1 billion / M. Matievisky // [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/president/view/lukashenko-i-merzиеev-schitalut-it-is-possible-to-increase-trade-turnover-to-1-billion-317697-2018/?utm-source=belta&utm-medium=news&utm-campaign=accent>

¹⁵⁷ Talks with the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirzиеev [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/newsru/view/neregovory-s-prezidentom-uzbekistana-shavkatom-mirzieevym-19489>

¹⁵⁸ Signing of the roadmap for the development of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<http://www.government.by/ru/content/8364>

¹⁵⁹ Matievisky, M. Belarus and Uzbekistan plan to set up joint ventures in the pharmaceutical, engineering and agri-food sectors / M. Matievisky // [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/special/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-planiruyut-sozdat-sovmestnye-predpriyatiya-v-farmatsevtike-mashinostroyeni-i-apk-317534-2018/>

agricultural machines a year”¹⁶⁰ .

The ‘Gomselmash’ holding company is also exploring opportunities to set up joint machinery assembly plants in Uzbekistan; in February 2019, its specialists held talks “with representatives of the Tashkent Region administration, the management of JSC ‘Uzagrotechsanoatholding’, ‘Technolog’ JSC, and visited the ‘SN INVEST’ LLC dealership”¹⁶¹ . Interesting prospects for developing industrial cooperation with Uzbek partners are now also opening up for other businesses in the Gomel Region. These include the Gomel Regional Agricultural Experimental Station, the ‘Spartak’ confectionery factory, and SvetlogorskKhimvolokno OJSC, whose products are in high demand in this Central Asian country. For this reason, “Uzbek investors are ready to invest their capital in the development of the enterprise”¹⁶² .

The Grodno Region also plans to contribute to the development of Belarusian-Uzbek industrial cooperation. For instance, during the international business forum ‘Euroregion “Neman-2018”’, held in September 2018 in Grodno, it was announced that construction was to begin on a cotton-processing plant in Smorgon with Uzbek capital. “The investment will amount to around 30 million euros. <...> The plant will employ around 1,200 workers”¹⁶³ . The new plant is expected to be commissioned within two years. An important detail: the plant will be built by a resident of the “Grodnoinvest” Free Economic Zone – the Uzbek limited liability company “Europlastics Invest”. The plant’s products are planned to be exported to markets in the European Union – to Poland, France and Germany. At the same time, in September 2018, the Baranovich Cotton Production Association joined the Uzbek cluster of cotton producers. The essence of this collaboration is to grow cotton on Uzbek soil, process it and “take the material to produce yarn and threads, which are needed <...> at the mill. This works out cheaper and is more practical”¹⁶⁴ .

In addition, Motovelo Plant LLC plans to become an active participant in production cooperation with Uzbek partners, having signed a memorandum

¹⁶⁰ MTZ to open an assembly plant for tracked and gardening machinery in Uzbekistan [Electronic source]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-otkroet-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-gusenichnoi-i-sadovoi-tehniki-v-uzbekistane-318069-2018/>

¹⁶¹ “Gomselmash” plans to set up joint assembly plants in Uzbekistan [Electronic source]. - 2019. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/gomelmash-planiruet-sozdat-sovmestnye-sborochnye-proizvodstva-v-uzbekistane-338356-2019/>

¹⁶² Uzbekistan is interested in industrial cooperation with the Gomel Region [Electronic resource]. -

2018. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/uzbekistan-zainteresovan-v-promyshlennoi-kooperatsii-s-gomelskoi-oblasti-327270-2018/>

¹⁶³ A cotton processing plant is to be built in Smorgon [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/zavod-po-pererabotke-hlopka-postroiat-v-smorgoni-317921-2018/>

¹⁶⁴ Matievsky, M. Baranovich Plant Joins Uzbek Cotton Producers’ Cluster / M. Matievsky // [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.economics/view/-kombinat-voshel--uzbekskii--proizvoditelei-hlopka-317839-2018/>

of understanding in August 2018 with the Andijan Regional Administration to establish a bicycle manufacturing facility in the region. The parties agreed “to establish long-term and mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as to grant the joint venture the preferences and incentives established for other joint ventures with foreign investment in Uzbekistan”¹⁶⁵. Since 2018, the footwear manufacturing company “UzShoes”, founded by the Belarusian holding company “Marko”, has been operating in Uzbekistan. It should also be noted that ‘in September 2018, the presidents of Belarus and Uzbekistan opened a new “Amkodor” machinery assembly plant in Tashkent’¹⁶⁶. Finally, Belarus and Uzbekistan intend to develop mutually beneficial cooperation in the confectionery industry, where “the focus is on establishing licensed production. On the Belarusian side, the ‘Kommunarka’ confectionery factory is participating in the project”¹⁶⁷.

At the seventh meeting of the intergovernmental commission, the Belarusian side proposed implementing new large-scale projects in the **engineering** sector to establish production facilities for goods vehicles, specialised vehicles, trailers and gas-powered buses. This is all the more so given that the Minsk Automobile Plant is already “ready to take part in setting up such production facilities with a high degree of localisation”¹⁶⁸. As regards cooperation in the **agricultural sector**, the parties have reached an agreement on the establishment of dairy complexes in Uzbekistan “funded by the Uzbek side, with the involvement of Belarusian design and construction organisations, fitted out with Belarusian equipment, and supplied with cattle of Belarusian breeding”¹⁶⁹. Concrete steps have already been taken in this direction. In particular, back in April 2019, the joint venture “Zdravushka Tashkent” was established in the Tashkent Region, which will undertake the construction of a milk processing plant and a dairy complex for 1,000 head of cattle.

Speaking of the prospects for cooperation in the **light industry** sector, it is worth noting that in the first quarter of 2019, the trade turnover between the enterprises of the “Bellegprom” with Uzbekistan exceeded four and a half million dollars. Fabrics from OJSC “Mogotex” and OJSC “Kamvol”, pile

¹⁶⁵ Motovelo zavod to set up a joint venture in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/photovelo zavod- sozda st- sp- - uzbekistane-314017-2018/>

¹⁶⁶ Belarus – Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <http://mfa.gov.by/bilateral/cis/uzbekistan/>

¹⁶⁷ Belarus and Uzbekistan plan to set up a joint confectionery production facility [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-planirui t-sozda t- sovmestnoe-proizvodstvo-konditerskih-izdellii -306531-2018/>

¹⁶⁸ Vladimir Dvornik took part in a meeting of the intergovernmental commission on bilateral cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <http://government.gov.by/ru/content/8847>

¹⁶⁹ The Belarusian Government proposes large-scale projects to Uzbekistan for the production of machinery [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/pravitelstvo-belarusi-predlagaet-uzbekistanu- large-scale-projects-for-the-manufacture-of-equipment-113-2019/>

fabrics from OJSC “Belfa”, and corsetry products from the joint venture CJSC “Milavitsa” were supplied from Belarus to the Uzbek market. Imports were mainly comprised of cotton yarn, knitted fabrics and cotton fibre. Nevertheless, the “Bellegprom” group is exploring further opportunities for cooperation and the development of collaborative ties with Uzbek partners. This involves joint work “on the supply of products in demand – synthetic fibre yarn, fabrics, pile fabrics, corsetry and hosiery products, and cotton yarn”¹⁷⁰.

New opportunities for Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation in **the pharmaceutical sector** have been opened up by the agreement on cooperation in the investment and information spheres, signed in June 2019 by the administrations of the ‘Vitebsk’ and ‘Kosonsoy-Farm’ free economic zones, the latter located in the Namangan Region of Uzbekistan. The fact is that the “Kosonsoy-Farm” FEZ, established in May 2017, specialises in the development of enterprises in the pharmaceutical sector, an area in which several residents of the “Vitebsk” FEZ are also active. This is why “attracting investment into projects to establish production facilities for medicines and medical devices is one of the most promising areas of cooperation between the administrations of the two SEZs”¹⁷¹.

In autumn 2018, Belarus and Uzbekistan also signed an intergovernmental agreement on socio-economic cooperation for 2019–2023, which reflected key high-level agreements on the development of Belarusian-Uzbek relations and taking them to a qualitatively new level, including in **the scientific and technological sectors**. At the same time, an agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology was reached between the State Committee for Science and Technology of Belarus and the Ministry of Innovative Development of Uzbekistan; this agreement provides for the development and strengthening of long-term scientific and technical cooperation in priority areas such as energy, medicine, nano- and biotechnology, information and communication technologies, robotics, and agro-industrial technologies; it also included an agreement to ‘implement joint scientific and technical projects and programmes, and organise events in the scientific and scientific-technical spheres’¹⁷². To coordinate this cooperation, the parties established

¹⁷⁰ “Bellegprom” plans to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan [Online source]. - 2019. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bellegprom-planiruet-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-uzbekistanom-333-2019/>

¹⁷¹ The “Vitebsk” Free Economic Zone and the Uzbek company “Kosonsoy-Farm” will develop investment cooperation [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/sez-vitebsk-i-uzbekskaja-kosonsoi-farm-budut-razvivat-investitsionnoe-sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/>

¹⁷² Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-podpisali-soqlashenie-o-sotrudnichestve-v-oblasti-nauki-i-tehnologii-317747-2018/>

a joint commission on cooperation in science and technology, the first meeting of which took place in April 2019 in Minsk, during which an implementation programme for scientific, technical and innovation cooperation for 2019–2020 was signed.

In accordance with this document, the two former Soviet republics agreed to develop scientific and technical cooperation on cutting-edge technologies, carry out joint scientific and technical projects, collaborate on the exchange of scientific and technical information, and conduct research and development of mutual interest. This includes projects in the fields of mechanical engineering, agriculture and agro-industrial technologies, medicine and pharmacy, new materials, information and communication technologies, genetics and biotechnology, selected ‘following the results of the competition for joint scientific and technical projects for 2019–2021, which was held in the priority areas of bilateral cooperation <...>. Furthermore, the parties plan to establish at least two joint research laboratories in Belarus and Uzbekistan’¹⁷³. In total, a list of 15 joint projects in various fields has been agreed upon for co-financing. And a number of concrete steps to develop this area of cooperation have already been taken.

For instance, in February 2019, the Belarusian National Technical University and the Islam Karimov Tashkent State Technical University agreed to establish a joint science and technology park, which will become the first university-based innovation infrastructure entity in Uzbekistan. The BITU ‘Polytechnic’ Science and Technology Park will participate as a co-founder in this project, which ‘will enable the integration of the scientific and innovative potential of BITU and Tashkent State University, scale up the Belarusian university’s expertise in business incubation for high-tech projects, and jointly develop knowledge-intensive, world-class production facilities involving undergraduates, master’s students and PhD candidates from both universities’¹⁷⁴. The first priority joint innovation project at the technology park will be the development and manufacture of medical devices.

In April 2019, it was announced that the same universities – the Belarusian National Technical University and the Tashkent State Technical University – would act as founders of the Belarusian-Uzbek inter-sectoral institute of applied technical qualifications, where the main focus of work will be “training, retraining, work placements and professional development of

¹⁷³ Belarus and Uzbekistan are implementing 15 joint scientific and technical projects [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-realizuiut-15-sovmestnyh-nauchno-tehnicheskikh-proektov-343295-2019/>

¹⁷⁴ The first university technology park is being established in Uzbekistan with the participation of BITU [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/special/society/view/v-uzbekistane-pri-uchastii-bntu-sozdaetsia-pervyi-universitetskii-tehnopark-335511-2019/>

personnel in fields of strategic importance to Uzbekistan, based on joint educational programmes, as well as the implementation of scientific and innovative activities and their commercialisation¹⁷⁵. Teaching at the new institute will be conducted in Russian in fields such as smart devices, machinery and manufacturing, computer mechatronics, biotechnological and medical equipment and systems, and the management of innovative projects at industrial enterprises. An important detail: graduates will be awarded a degree from a Belarusian higher education institution, which is recognised as a higher education qualification in this Central Asian country.

The Belarusian State University is also keen to collaborate with Uzbek partners. The range of potential collaboration in the field of innovation was clearly demonstrated by the university's exhibition stand at the 'Made in Belarus' exhibition of Belarusian manufacturers, held in September 2018 in Tashkent, where over 30 scientific and technical developments were presented in the fields of agriculture, medicine and pharmaceuticals, the food industry, as well as measuring instruments, equipment for the production of polyurethane foam products, technologies for applying functional coatings, and the creation of heat-resistant water treatment materials. The BSU stand also attracted considerable interest from participants and visitors to the exhibition with the anti-tumour drugs 'Temodex', 'Prospidelong' and 'Cisplacel'. These drugs induce the death of cancer cells, prevent metastasis and help reduce the toxic burden on the body¹⁷⁶. It should be noted that this topic is also important for Belarus and Uzbekistan in terms of industrial cooperation. Indeed, 'the parties plan to establish two pharmaceutical enterprises. One will specialise in the production of anti-cancer drugs, the other in the manufacture of medicines developed on the basis of medicinal herbs grown in Uzbekistan'¹⁷⁷. In total, over a hundred scientific and technical developments from organisations under the Ministry of Education and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus were presented at this exhibition in Tashkent.

The Belarusian State Pedagogical University named after M. Tanka, which in September 2018 facilitated the opening of the Belarusian-Uzbek Educational

¹⁷⁵ Belarusian-Uzbek Institute of Applied Technical Qualifications to be established in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/belorusko-uzbekskii-institut-nrfladnhv-tehmicheskikh-kvalifikatsii-sozadnut-v-tashkente-345862-2019/>

¹⁷⁶ BSU to present over 30 scientific and technical developments at an exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/bolee-30-nauchno-tehmicheskikh-razrabotok-presenting-bsu-at-the-exhibition-in-Tashkent-317246-2018/>

¹⁷⁷ Matievsky, M. Belarus and Uzbekistan plan to set up joint ventures in the pharmaceutical, engineering and agri-food sectors / M. Matievsky // [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/special/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-nlaniruiut-sozdat-sovmestnye-predprii-ati-a-v-farmatsevtike-mashinostroenii-i-apk-317534-2018/>

Centre at the Nizami Tashkent State Pedagogical University; this centre is regarded by both parties 'as a platform for the development and strengthening of Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation in the fields of education and culture',¹⁷⁸. Furthermore, these universities are currently jointly implementing an educational programme in 'speech therapy' and a project within the framework of the second cycle of higher education, delivered through online collaboration, in the specialisms of 'inclusive education' and 'special needs education'.

As we can see, the documents adopted in autumn 2018 at the level of the heads of state and government of Belarus and Uzbekistan have quite quickly begun to yield tangible results. Suffice it to say that, by the end of 2018, 'bilateral trade had increased 2.5-fold',¹⁷⁹. And there is every reason to believe that, provided the current momentum in the expansion of Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation is maintained, the target set by the presidents of the two countries to achieve a bilateral trade turnover of one billion dollars in the coming years will be successfully met.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

¹⁷⁸ Grishkevich, A. Belarusian-Uzbek educational centre opens at Tashkent Pedagogical University / A. Grishkevich // [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belorusko-uzbekskaia-obrazovatelnyi-tsentr-otkrylsia-v-tashkentskom-neduniuersitete-318451-2018/>

¹⁷⁹ Growth in trade turnover and new projects – Uzbekistan's ambassador on the dynamics of relations with Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://by/economics/view/rost-i-novye-pos--dinamike-otnosheni---333099-2019/>

Priorities for cooperation outlined by the commission

The eighth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan took place in early March 2021 in Tashkent. During the meeting, issues relating to the development of trade, economic, investment and cooperative ties were discussed, as well as the strengthening of relations in the scientific, educational, social and humanitarian spheres, in the field of interregional cooperation, information technology and tourism.

It should be recalled that diplomatic relations between the two former Soviet republics were established in January 1993. In 2020, trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan grew by a further 17 per cent, exceeding \$280 million, with exports from Belarus accounting for over \$237 million. “The main items of Belarusian exports last [2020] year were lorries, tractors and articulated lorries, meat and meat products, sugar and dairy products, medicines, vaccines and blood serums”¹⁸⁰. Whilst noting these positive trends, the parties at the meeting of the intergovernmental commission nevertheless focused their attention on those issues whose resolution would help take bilateral relations to a qualitatively new level. One such pressing priority was the expansion of the legal and treaty framework for Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation, which by March 2021 comprised more than 70 agreements. The eighth meeting of the intergovernmental commission contributed to its further expansion.

In particular, a cooperation agreement setting out the main areas of collaboration for the next five years was signed in Tashkent by the national metrology institutes of Belarus and Uzbekistan. The document refers to close partnership between the parties in the development and implementation of programmes to establish national and working standards. “Another area of focus is participation in the drafting of intergovernmental documents on ensuring the uniformity of measurements, with a view to harmonising national legislation and establishing common principles for activities in this field”¹⁸¹. In addition, the State Committee for Standardisation of Belarus and the ‘Uzstandard’ agency have adopted a cooperation programme for 2021–2023, which outlines plans to carry out comparisons of state standards, the calibration of standards and working measuring instruments, as well as the

¹⁸⁰ Belarus aims to further develop bilateral relations with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9736>

¹⁸¹ Metrology institutes in Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed a cooperation agreement [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/instituty-metrologii-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-podpisali-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-431178-2021/>

participation of laboratories in proficiency testing programmes. All this, together with the planned establishment of a permanent working group, should help to resolve issues relating to technical barriers to trade between the two countries. Another important aspect of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan in this area, from a long-term perspective, is that a draft agreement within the Eurasian Economic Union on the procedure and conditions for removing technical barriers to mutual trade with third countries is currently at an advanced stage of preparation. In this regard, the Belarusian State Standardisation Committee “is exploring the possibility and has put forward a proposal that the first pilot project under this agreement, following its entry into force, should be implemented with Uzbekistan”¹⁸².

A further ten cooperation documents were signed in early March 2021 by higher education institutions of the two countries. These supplemented the already extensive legal framework for cooperation between educational and scientific organisations, which already comprised around two hundred direct agreements. Thanks to these agreements, joint faculties are now operating successfully and Belarusian-Uzbek educational programmes are being implemented, including those leading to the award of two diplomas. Furthermore, a joint Belarusian-Uzbek Interdisciplinary Institute of Applied Technical Qualifications has been opened in Tashkent. The proposal to establish an Uzbek-Belarusian University of Materials Science is currently under consideration. The following figures are also quite telling: ‘In the 2020–2021 academic year, educational institutions in Belarus admitted around 2,000 Uzbek students. Exports of educational services to Uzbekistan over the past [2020] year amounted to \$1.7 million, an increase of almost 14 per cent compared with the previous year’¹⁸³. It is reasonable to assume that the signing of a further ten cooperation agreements between higher education institutions of the two countries will only serve to further expand Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation in the field of education.

It is worth noting that a number of Belarusian higher education institutions are showing considerable interest in developing cooperation with Uzbek partners. These include the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, the Belarusian National Technical University, the Belarusian State Technological University, Vitebsk State University named after P.M. Masherov, Grodno State University named after Yanka Kupala, and Gomel State University named after Francis Skaryna. The Belarusian

¹⁸² The Belarusian State Standardisation Committee and the ‘Uzstandard’ agency have signed a cooperation programme for 2021–2023 [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-belarusi- - - - -programmu-sotrudnichestva-2021-2023- -godv-431298-2021/>

¹⁸³ Higher education institutions in Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed 10 cooperation agreements [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/-belarusi--uzbekistana--10-dokumentov-o-sotrudnichestve-431140-2021>

State University (BSU) is also working on ambitious plans to expand its presence in the Uzbek educational market, with plans to significantly expand its range of joint educational programmes there.

In particular, the agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation signed in April 2021 between BSU and the Mirzo Ulugbek National University of Uzbekistan – the first and leading higher education institution in Central Asia – opens up significant opportunities in this regard. Founded in 1918, it now comprises 12 faculties: Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Social Sciences, History, Geology and Geoinformation Systems, Geography and Natural Resources, Foreign Languages, Journalism, and Taekwondo and Sports. Until recently, cooperation between the two universities centred on the joint training of Uzbek students in the specialisms of ‘medical biology’ and ‘medical ecology’ at the A.D. Sakharov International State Institute of Ecology at BSU. The document, signed in April, not only covers cooperation on student and academic staff exchanges, the preparation of degree theses, dissertations and publications, the joint conduct of scientific research and events, and the exchange of literature and academic periodicals, but also expands the scope of inter-university relations into new areas, including “an increase in joint educational programmes in the humanities and natural sciences, the organisation of reciprocal summer schools, collaboration in the field of medicinal chemistry and young scientists’ councils, and the implementation of joint student projects”¹⁸⁴. Furthermore, the Uzbek side expressed interest in BSU’s experience in organising a system of continuing education for lawyers, which is delivered through the law college and faculty, as well as the Institute for the Retraining and Further Training of Judges, Prosecutors, Court Staff and Justice System Officials. It is also quite possible that Belarusian academics with relevant experience will participate in the development of a satellite for an Uzbek higher education institution.

Another topical issue is the expansion of the range of educational programmes and cooperation between BSU and Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, with which joint training of Uzbek students in the specialism of ‘Oriental (Chinese) Philology’ has been underway since 2019. Among the new areas under discussion are the use of BSU’s expertise in training specialists for the IT sector, as well as the development of interdisciplinary specialisations. In particular, in April 2021, ‘an initiative for

¹⁸⁴ Bashkir State University and the National University of Uzbekistan are taking their cooperation to a new level [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-4-natsionalnvi-universitet-uzbekistana-vyhodiat-na-novvi-uroven-sotrudnichestva-436206-2021/>

the joint training of students in the field of computational linguistics was supported¹⁸⁵, as well as the implementation of youth start-up projects.

A concrete outcome of the roadmap signed in April 2021 between BSU and the Alisher Navoi Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature will be the opening in December 2021 in Minsk of a department of Uzbek language and literature, whose activities “will be aimed at strengthening educational and cultural ties between the two countries and creating conditions for the study of the language, history and ethnic characteristics of Uzbekistan”¹⁸⁶.

The cooperation agreement between BSU and Tashkent State Law University has been in force since 2020. This year, this collaboration will be expanded through joint training programmes for Uzbek students at the law college of the Belarusian university, with the prospect of subsequent admission to the Faculty of Law at BSU, as well as the launch of joint programmes with the Faculty of International Relations at BSU. It is worth noting here that the Uzbek partners were particularly ‘interested in BSU’s performance in international rankings, according to which the Belarusian university has come close to being among the top 1 per cent of universities in the world’¹⁸⁷. In April 2021, the parties agreed to set up a working group to swiftly draft documents for the implementation of the proposed initiatives, as well as to organise a joint educational programme in September to train legal professionals. Finally, in collaboration with the University of Journalism and Mass Communications of Uzbekistan, discussions are currently underway regarding internships for Uzbek lecturers at BSU, their participation in professional development programmes there, and the invitation of staff from the Belarusian university to deliver lectures in Tashkent.

Another important outcome of the intergovernmental commission’s work was the holding in Tashkent of the first meeting of the Belarusian-Uzbek Business Council, which brought together more than 170 representatives of the business communities of both countries, who were able to discuss ‘specific cooperation projects in the fields of agriculture, mechanical engineering, logistics, the food industry, chemical and pharmaceutical production, science and education, and information technology’¹⁸⁸. The potential for implementing these projects is clearly demonstrated by the

¹⁸⁵ BSU plans to expand joint educational programmes with Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bon-nlanirnet-rasshirit-s-uzbekistanom-sovmestnye-obrazovatelnye-programmy-435893-2021/>

¹⁸⁶ A Department of Uzbek Language and Culture is to be established at BSU [Electronic resource]. –

2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/kabinet-uzbekskogo-jazyka-i-kultury-otkroint-v-bgu-435914-2021/>

¹⁸⁷ BSU to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in the field of education [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-uzbekistanom-v-oblasti-obrazovaniya-436565-2021/>

¹⁸⁸ More than 170 business representatives from Belarus and Uzbekistan took part in a meeting of the business council [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-170-predstavitelei-biznesa-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-priniali-uchastie-v-zasedanii-delovogo-soveta-431374-2021>

example of the Minsk Motor Plant, whose representatives brought contracts worth more than four million dollars to the Uzbek capital. This is largely due to the fact that “MM3’s distribution network in Tashkent is represented by the companies BURAN-SAVDO, SIGMA, INDUSTRIAL MARKETING and FUTURE GENERATION MARKETING. In 2019–2020, MM3 sold over 1,000 engines to the primary and secondary markets in Uzbekistan”¹⁸⁹.

A logical follow-up to the first meeting of the Business Council was the participation, in April 2021, of no fewer than 23 Belarusian enterprises in the international exhibition “INNOPROM. Big Industrial Week in Uzbekistan” in April 2021, where exporters from Belarus showcased products from the engineering, metallurgy, chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, as well as medical equipment, scientific developments and consumer goods. One of the concrete outcomes of the Belarusian manufacturers’ participation in this exhibition was the signing by the Minsk Automobile Plant’s subsidiary in Uzbekistan – MAZ-Tashkent LLC – — signed a memorandum of understanding “for the supply of chassis and vehicle kits for the assembly of vehicles for the Uzbek market, worth \$10 million. A contract was also concluded with a private Uzbek company for the supply of 50 ‘MAZ’ vehicles, totalling \$3 million”¹⁹⁰. Thus, there are significant prospects for the development of economic ties between the two countries.

It should be recalled that the key document governing trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan is the roadmap for cooperation between the two countries, adopted in November 2018 and comprising 158 measures. By May 2020, more than a third of these had already been implemented. This immediately had an impact on the state of Belarusian-Uzbek partnerships: “By the end of 2019, the volume of trade between the countries had reached \$239 million, a 1.5-fold increase compared with 2018”¹⁹¹. This means that the parties intend to achieve as quickly as possible the target set in 2018 by the heads of the two states – to increase the volume of bilateral trade to one billion dollars. “It is anticipated that this target will be achieved within three to four years by developing all possible areas of cooperation”¹⁹², among which agriculture is one of the most promising.

The fact is that the main trend in the development of Uzbekistan’s agro-

¹⁸⁹ MM3 plans to sign contracts worth more than \$4 million during the intergovernmental commission meeting in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mmz-yo-vremia-mezhpravkomissii-v-uzbekistan-plans-to-sign-contracts-worth-more-than-4-million-431277-2021/>

¹⁹⁰ More than 20 Belarusian enterprises took part in a major industrial exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-20-belorusskikh-predpriyati-priniali-uchastie-v-krupnoi-promyshlennoi-vystavke-v-uzbekistane-436286-2021/>

¹⁹¹ Vladimir Dvornik held talks with Sardor Umurzakov, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9423>

¹⁹² Zaleski, B. The Vector of Post-Soviet Integration: A View from Belarus / Boris Zaleski. – Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2019. – p. 223.

industrial complex today lies in the formation of a cluster-based production system. In other words, clusters are intended to bring together producers of agricultural raw materials and their processors into industrial enterprises. Uzbek partners view Belarus's experience in this regard as highly positive; consequently, they are showing a keen interest in establishing direct business contacts and partnerships with Belarusian producers and processors, the effectiveness of which is also borne out by the figures.

In 2019, agricultural produce and foodstuffs worth 35 million dollars were supplied to the Uzbek market from Belarus, more than double the 2018 figure. The positive trend in bilateral trade in this sector continued into the following year, despite the restrictions caused by the spread of the coronavirus. "Exports of Belarusian foodstuffs more than doubled in 2020, reaching \$73 million. Supplies of Belarusian beef to Uzbekistan increased more than twofold, sugar by 3.5 times, milk powder by twofold, and fish and fish products by 1.5 times"¹⁹³.

That said, cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan is, of course, not limited solely to mutual supplies of food products, but also encompasses a wide range of collaboration, including the development of joint scientific approaches and modern technologies. In particular, "promising areas of cooperation in the agri-industrial sector include Belarus's participation in the construction of commercial dairy complexes, the organisation of milk processing, the establishment of a joint venture for the production of veterinary medicines, cooperation in the field of plant breeding, and the organisation of training and retraining for Uzbek specialists at Belarusian agricultural educational institutions"¹⁹⁴.

This diversity of effective partnerships was clearly demonstrated by the first Belarusian-Uzbek Agricultural Forum, held in 2020, which was attended by over 700 people. The business delegation from Belarus alone comprised around 150 representatives from companies exporting agricultural and food products, as well as from the country's scientific and educational institutions. In particular, OJSC "Gomselmash" played an active role in the forum, having signed an agreement with the Tashkent Agricultural Machinery Plant in autumn 2019.

"The document provides for the establishment of a combine harvester assembly plant in the capital of Uzbekistan"¹⁹⁵. The Uzbek side was

¹⁹³ Belarusian food exports to Uzbekistan more than doubled in 2020 [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-belorusskogo-prodovolstva-v-uzbekistan-in-2020-grew-by-more-than-twice-as-much-431838-2021/>

¹⁹⁴ On the results of Vladimir Dvornik's visit to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9301>

¹⁹⁵ "Gomselmash" to showcase its capabilities at an agricultural forum in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. -

represented by delegations from all regions of the country, as well as from relevant ministries and organisations within the agro-industrial sector. As a result, on the sidelines of the forum, “Belarusian exporting enterprises signed more than 30 agreements and contracts with Uzbek partners”¹⁹⁶. In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation was signed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Belarus and the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan.

Alongside the agricultural forum in Tashkent, an exhibition was organised at which the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus alone presented over 60 innovative developments and technologies for Uzbekistan’s agriculture. Among the new products from Belarusian scientists at the Scientific and Practical Centre for Food of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, vegetable marmalade attracted considerable interest. “The range includes marmalade made from sweetcorn, red carrots, ripe pumpkin, juicy tomatoes and tangy celery. The marmalade contains prebiotics and no artificial colourings”¹⁹⁷. The Institute of Soil Science and Agrochemistry showcased a range of complex mineral fertilisers with a balanced ratio of nutrients for cultivated crops. The S.N. Vyshesky Institute of Experimental Veterinary Medicine showcased vaccines for the prevention and treatment of viral and bacterial diseases in farm animals. Scientists from the Centre for Identification Systems and Electronic Business Operations presented technologies for the digital identification and traceability of animals and animal products. The Scientific and Practical Centre for Potato Growing attracted the attention of exhibition visitors with new potato varieties – ‘Manifest’, ‘Uladar’ and ‘Palats’ – which are resistant to a range of diseases. As we can see, even this brief list of innovations presented in Tashkent clearly demonstrates the promising prospects for the development of Belarusian-Uzbek partnerships in the field of agriculture in the very near future.

URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselfmash-predstavit-svoj-potentsial-na-agromom-forume-v-uzbekistane-380486-2020>

¹⁹⁶ Over 30 agreements and contracts signed following the Belarus-Uzbekistan Agricultural Forum [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bole-30-soglashenii-i-kontraktov-podpisano-po-itogam-belorusko-uzbekskogo-agrarnogo-foruma-381350-2020/>

¹⁹⁷ The National Academy of Sciences of Belarus presented more than 60 innovative developments for agriculture in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/nan-belarusi-predstavila-v-uzbekistane-bole-60-innovatsionnyh-razrabotok-dlia-selskogo-hoziaistva-381057-2020/>

The aim is to take cooperation to a qualitatively new level of cooperation

In April 2022, a Belarusian government delegation visited Uzbekistan, following which the parties signed contracts worth over 25 million dollars. Equally important was the acknowledgement by Minsk and Tashkent that new areas for growth in their cooperation had been identified. And “the task now is to give it new substance”¹⁹⁸, with a view to increasing the annual volume of bilateral trade to half a billion dollars.

The start of 2022 has shown that the parties are steadily moving towards their target. Whilst in 2021, trade between Belarus and Uzbekistan grew by almost 8 per cent and exceeded \$300 million, with a trade surplus for Belarus of almost \$190 million, ‘in January–February 2022, trade turnover amounted to \$53.5 million, an increase of 9.9 per cent compared with the corresponding period in 2021’¹⁹⁹. Further increases in trade and investment volumes are expected, primarily through the implementation of joint cooperation projects. It should be noted that 103 organisations with Belarusian investment have already been registered in Uzbekistan, and representative offices of “Avtopromsnabspedishn” LLC, “Softclub” LLC, “AmantisMed” LLC and “Belvitunifarm” LLC are currently operating there. An assembly plant for Belarusian machinery, involving Belarusian capital, has also been established there – the joint venture AMKODOR-AGROTEXMASH LLC. In particular, ‘the production of loaders has been set up at the Tashkent Tractor Plant, which demonstrates the demand for these products in the local and regional markets’²⁰⁰. Furthermore, cooperative partnerships continue between OJSC “MAZ” and LLC “KRANTAS GROUP”, as well as between OJSC “MTZ” and JSC “Uzavtosanoat”, in the field of motor vehicle and tractor production. Meanwhile, “the company ‘Marco’ is carrying out a joint project in Uzbekistan to manufacture footwear. Svetlogorsk Welding Electrode Plant LLC is implementing an investment project in that country to produce welding electrodes. To this end, , a sole trader operating as MONOLITH ASIA LLC, has been established in Tashkent”²⁰¹. And these ties continue to be actively strengthened.

Thus, in April 2022, the official distributor of the Minsk Automobile Plant in

¹⁹⁸ Roman Golovchenko: Belarus and Uzbekistan can increase trade and investment volumes; areas for growth have been identified [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10260>

¹⁹⁹ Belarus and Uzbekistan step up the implementation of production and cooperation projects [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-aktiviziruut-realizatsiiu-proizvodstvenno-kooperatsionnyh-proektov-495026-2022/>

²⁰⁰ Machinery, equipment, scientific and technical developments. What Belarus is presenting at the exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/comments/view/-oborudovanie--tehnicheskie--razrabotki-cto-belarus-prezentuet-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-8158/>

²⁰¹ Roman Golovchenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan needs to be increased to at least \$500 million [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10257>

this Central Asian country – MAZ-TASHKENT LLC – commenced the industrial assembly of MAZ vehicles from CKD kits. “The first model was the MA3-5337 chassis. Localising assembly production in Uzbekistan will enable the Minsk Automobile Plant to expand its presence in the markets of Central Asian countries and, in the long term, in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan”²⁰². Furthermore, as part of the Uzbek-Belarusian business forum held in Tashkent in April, a MAZ distributor “signed a contract with OLIY TEXNIK Private Enterprise for the purchase of 41 MAZ vehicles. <...> The contract value exceeded \$3 million”²⁰³.

The Minsk Tractor Works is also actively expanding its presence in the Uzbek market, having increased the volume of its vehicle deliveries by almost a quarter in the first quarter of 2022. “In total, machinery worth over \$10 million was shipped”²⁰⁴. Interestingly, throughout 2021, Belarusian tractors worth \$31 million were shipped to Uzbek partners. And in late April–early May, a sales and service centre for Belarusian agricultural machinery opened in Tashkent, combining “a showroom and sales centre, a service centre and production facilities”²⁰⁵. A bank branch is also located here, specialising in providing loans and arranging machinery leasing. It is worth noting that the Belarusian side plans to open similar centres in other regions of Uzbekistan as well.

Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan on joint projects in the medical sector also holds great promise. One such project is the ‘Belpharm’ joint venture for the production of medicines, which will manufacture antibiotics and in which more than 8 million dollars has already been invested. In addition, the Belarusian side, represented by the “”, has proposed to its partners the establishment of a joint venture for blood processing. An important detail: “To date, organisations within the “Belfarmprom” holding company hold 166 registration certificates for medicines in Uzbekistan. The holding’s members have concluded 12 contracts with Uzbek partners for the supply of pharmaceutical products. By the end of 2021, exports of products from the ‘Belpharmprom’ holding’s organisations to Uzbekistan totalled \$14 million, and in January–February 2022 – \$3 million”²⁰⁶.

²⁰² Minsk Automobile Plant has commenced vehicle assembly in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-avtozavod--sborniki-tehniki-v-uzbekistane-496181-2022/>

²⁰³ “MAZ-Tashkent” has signed a major contract with an Uzbek company to supply 41 vehicles [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/inaz-tashkent-podpisal-krupnyi-kontrakt-s-uzbekskoi-kompaniei-na-postavku-41-avtomobilov-498224-2022/>

²⁰⁴ MT3 increased its deliveries of machinery to Uzbekistan by more than 23 per cent in the first quarter [Online resource]. - 2022. - <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-v-i-kvartale-narastil-postavki-tehniki-v-uzbekistan-bolee-chem-na-23-499321-2022/>

²⁰⁵ A sales and service centre for Belarusian agricultural machinery has opened in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tsentr-prodazh-i-servisnogo-obsluzhivaniia-belorusskoi-selhoztekhniki-otkrylsia-v-tashkente-499290-2022/>

²⁰⁶ Belarus and Uzbekistan discuss deepening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-obsuzhdaui-uglublenie-sotrudnichestva-v-farmotrasli-498163-2022/>

As for other prospects for cooperation, several further areas can be mentioned. One of these relates to electric transport. The fact is that “Tashkent is considering the possibility of resuming tram services. The Belarusian side is ready to provide comprehensive solutions, including the necessary infrastructure, planning and the supply of rolling stock”²⁰⁷. If a decision is taken in this regard, the establishment of a joint production facility on Uzbek soil will become a reality. The issue of supplying wooden houses from Belarus to Uzbekistan is also currently under consideration, where “this is now a very fashionable trend <...>, with very high demand”²⁰⁸. This could open up promising prospects for the Belarusian Newsprint Mill, which has a conveyor-belt production line for such houses.

In this same context, it is also worth noting that, at the end of April 2022, the parties considered “the possibilities of organising supplies of Belarusian peat substrates to forestry enterprises in Uzbekistan for further use as a base for growing tree seedlings”²⁰⁹. Given the considerable experience of Belarusian peat enterprises in this sector – and the fact that in 2021 exports by organisations in the peat industry under the State Production Association ‘BelTopGaz’ grew by more than a quarter – it is entirely reasonable to predict that Uzbekistan will become the 25th country to receive Belarusian peat as early as this year.

Belarusian light industry enterprises also see prospects for increasing supplies of sought-after products to the Uzbek market; these enterprises produce worsted, linen, synthetic and artificial fabrics with various properties, pile fabrics, corsetry and hosiery. These include the Orsha Flax Mill, OJSC “Mogotex” and OJSC “Kamvol”, which took part in the 4th International Exhibition of the Textile and Fashion Industry, UzTextileExpo Spring 2022, held in April 2022 in Tashkent. Alongside them, five further Belarusian enterprises from the chemical and petrochemical sectors were also represented, showcasing to the numerous visitors at this business forum ‘synthetic and chemical fibres for textile production, technical textiles for construction, polymer products, chemicals and fertilisers for agriculture, glass fibre’²¹⁰. In short, everything that arouses keen interest among partners from Uzbekistan and could form the basis for new contracts.

Speaking of the participation of Belarusian exporters in international

²⁰⁷ Roman Golovenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan needs to be increased to at least \$500 million [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10257>

²⁰⁸ Golovenko: Belarus is working on the supply of wooden houses to Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovenchenko-belarus-prorabatvvaet-postavki-v-uzbekistan-dereviannyh-domov-498185-2022/>

²⁰⁹ Belarus is interested in supplying peat-based growing media to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-zamteresovana-v-postavkah-torfianyh-substratov-v-uzbekistan-499019-2022/>

²¹⁰ Belarusian light industry enterprises showcase their potential in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriiatiia--promyshlennosti--prezentuiut-svoi-potentsial-498369-2022/>

exhibitions, it should be noted that in 2021, whilst taking part in exhibitions and forums organised by ‘Belinterexpo’ – the exhibition arm of the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry – they signed 86 agreements and contracts worth over 80 million dollars. Furthermore, “agreements and contracts worth \$15 million were signed as part of the national pavilions”²¹¹. It is important to note here that among the most successful in terms of the value of contracts signed were the national pavilions organised specifically as part of the exhibitions in Uzbekistan – “INNOPROM. Big Industrial Week” and UzProdExpo/UzAgroExpo.

Speaking of the first of these, it should be noted that “Big Industrial Week in Uzbekistan”, held in April 2021 in Tashkent, became the largest event in this Central Asian country following the hiatus caused by the pandemic. The exhibition was attended by “more than 200 companies operating in the fields of mechanical engineering, metallurgy, energy, pharmaceuticals, the chemical

industry and medicine, from Armenia, Belarus, Germany, Italy, China, the Republic of Korea, Russia, Turkey,

Uzbekistan, France, the Czech Republic, Japan, the EAEU countries and Central Asia”²¹². As for the Belarusian pavilion, it included stands from 65 companies and organisations, which presented mechanical engineering, metallurgical,

chemical and pharmaceutical products, medical equipment, scientific developments and consumer goods. One of the concrete outcomes of their participation in this exhibition was “the signing by the Minsk Automobile Plant’s subsidiary in Uzbekistan – MAZ-Tashkent LLC – of a memorandum of understanding to supply chassis and vehicle kits for the assembly of vehicles for the Uzbek market, worth \$10 million. A contract was also concluded with a private Uzbek company for the supply of 50 units of ‘MAZ’ vehicles totalling \$3 million”²¹³. Interestingly, in April 2022, this exhibition in the Uzbek capital was held under a new name – ‘INNOPROM. Central Asia’ – and comprised six thematic sections: mechanical engineering, metallurgy, energy, chemicals, industrial automation, pharmaceuticals and medicine. A plenary session entitled ‘Central Asia. A Space for Technological Breakthroughs’, as well as specialised sessions on

²¹¹ At the “Belinterexpo” forums and exhibitions, domestic enterprises signed contracts worth \$80 million [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-foruiah-vystavkah-belintereksno-predpriatii-a-nodpisali-kontraktv-na-80-mln-476100-2021/>

²¹² More than 20 Belarusian companies took part in a major industrial exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. –

2021. – URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bole-20-belorusskfh-predpriatfi-priniali-uchastie-v-krupnoi-promyshlennoi-vstavke-v-nzhbekistane-436286-2021/>

²¹³ Zaleski, B. The Key Task is Development. Collection of articles / B. Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2021. – pp. 40–41.

infrastructure projects, logistics, financial instruments and education. Belarus's participation in this business forum was no less significant, given that 'exports of Belarusian goods to Uzbekistan have increased sixfold over the past five years. The items in greatest demand are machinery from Belarus (tractors, articulated lorries and goods vehicles), chemical products, foodstuffs, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, energy resources and petroleum products. In total, Belarus supplies 360 product lines from all 213 industrial sectors to Uzbekistan'²¹⁴.

As for the UzAgroExpo and UzProdExpo agricultural and food exhibitions, which took place in Tashkent in November 2021, these are the largest sector-specific business forums in Uzbekistan, bringing together 120 companies from 18 countries on this occasion. The Belarusian national pavilion, which featured 17 companies, showcased the export potential of domestic enterprises in three key areas: the food industry; agricultural machinery; and science. The first of these areas featured a particularly large number of original new products – beef in lingonberry sauce, soft cheese made using Italian ' ' technology from ricotta whey, high-quality coffee produced using the company's own patented technology, peanut butter with sea salt, fruit bars made from a mixture of dried prunes, dried apple, oat flakes and syrup; protein-enriched milk chocolate; and 'Belarusian whisky, a blended alcoholic beverage made from artesian water using native grain crops – rye, wheat and barley malt'²¹⁵. Scientific developments in the agro-industrial and food sectors, including technologies for the restoration of degraded soils, methods for producing innovative fermented milk drinks and cosmetic products, were showcased to numerous visitors at exhibitions by the Belarusian State University, the Belarusian National Technical University, the Belarusian-Russian University and the Belarusian State University of Food and Chemical Technologies.

Innovative machinery was also brought to the Uzbek capital by the Minsk Automobile Plant and the 'Lidselmash' enterprise – the MAZ-65012K tipper lorry, specially designed for the Uzbek market, which 'is fitted with a metal body that tips using a hydraulic mechanism, and is designed for the transport of bulk cargo, including agricultural produce'²¹⁶, as well as new variants of a cultivator for cotton cultivation – the most popular agricultural crop in this

²¹⁴ The Belarusian National Pavilion will be presented at the 'INNOPROM' exhibition in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskii-natsionalnyi-predstavlen-v-vstavke-uzbekistane-480872-2022/>

²¹⁵ Belarus's national pavilion is featured at exhibitions in Tashkent [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/natsionalnyi-pavilion-belarusi-predstavlen-na-vstavke-v-tashkente-471340-2021/>

²¹⁶ Minsk Automobile Plant unveiled a new gas-powered tipper lorry at an exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online source]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mmskii-avtozavod-predstavil-novyi-gazovyi-samosval-na-vstavke-v-uzbekistane-471501-2021/>

Central Asian country. A concrete outcome of the work at these exhibitions was “an agreement between MAZ-Tashkent, the official distributor of the Minsk Automobile Plant in Uzbekistan, and the company Nurafshon Maxsus Texnika on the supply of engineering products worth \$1 million”²¹⁷. Furthermore, as part of the “Uzbekistan–Belarus” agricultural forum, agreements were reached on the construction and modernisation of a dairy production complex in Uzbekistan using Belarusian technologies.

Another important area of cooperation between the two countries is the intensification of Belarusian-Uzbek regional partnerships, which, in the current climate, are becoming one of the most important areas for the development of cooperation. This cooperation was significantly boosted by the First Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, held in Minsk in July 2019, which opened up new opportunities for partnership in areas such as industrial cooperation, the agro-industrial sector and the food industry, and which brought together, from the Uzbek side alone, ‘more than two hundred representatives from regions such as the Andijan, Bukhara, Jizzakh, Namangan, Samarkand, Khorezm, Fergana and Tashkent regions’²¹⁸.

On the Belarusian side, the Vitebsk Region was one of the active participants in this forum, having already seen positive developments in its trade and economic cooperation with Uzbek partners over the last few years. Suffice it to say that in 2019, Uzbekistan was included in the list of Vitebsk Region’s key partners amongst the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. At that time, the volume of foreign trade between the parties increased by more than a quarter and exceeded nine million dollars. Meanwhile, exports from the Belarusian region ‘increased by one and a half times – to 6.7 million dollars. Exports of food products amounted to 0.9 million dollars, or 13.4 per cent of the total volume. <...> Cheeses and dairy products from the Postavy Dairy Plant, the Verkhnedvinsk Butter and Cheese Factory, and the Polotsk Dairy Complex, as well as meat products from the Vitebsk Meat Processing Plant, are already familiar to Uzbek consumers and are in high demand among them’²¹⁹. In addition, baby food, a wide range of vaccines for combating diseases in domestic animals, and pharmaceutical products were successfully supplied to the Uzbek market from the Vitebsk Region at that time.

In 2021, the volume of bilateral trade between the Belarusian region and this

²¹⁷ MAZ has signed a contract to supply machinery to Uzbekistan worth \$1 million [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

https://www.belta.by/economics/view/maz-nodpisal-kontrakt-na-postavku-tehniki-v-uzbekistan-na-1_-mln-471344-2021/

²¹⁸ Zaleski, B. Sustainability as a formula for growth. Features of international cooperation based on innovation / Boris Zaleski. - Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2021. - p. 37.

²¹⁹ Tikhonov, A. Belarusian–Uzbek Agricultural Forum: Afterword / A. Tikhonov // [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://produkt.by/story/belorussko-uzbekskiy-agrarnyy-forum-noslesovie>

Central Asian country exceeded 12.5 million dollars, with Vitebsk's exports accounting for just under 10 million dollars; these were again primarily comprised of medicines, beef, dried milk and whey, butter, cheese, as well as polyethylene, plastic and fibreglass products, and fibre-optic cable. In addition, a joint venture of the ' ' leather and footwear holding company, 'Marco', has commenced operations in Uzbekistan. Other projects in the field of industrial cooperation are in the pipeline. In particular, since 2020, the Vitebsk Region has been in negotiations to open a joint venture in Uzbekistan with OJSC "BelVitunifarm", which will initially trade in pharmaceutical products before moving on to their manufacture. In December 2021, a representative office of a Belarusian manufacturer of veterinary medicines was opened in Tashkent. And "issues regarding the financing of the project are already being worked out with a view to achieving annual sales of medicines worth \$2 million"²²⁰.

Among other promising areas of cooperation between enterprises in the region and Uzbek partners, discussions in March 2022 centred on the supply of fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy products, as well as collaboration in industrial sectors such as mechanical engineering, energy, and the chemical and gas industries. Strengthening Vitebsk Region's partnerships with a number of Uzbek regions, and particularly with Namangan Region, is set to play a significant role in this regard. The fact is that an agreement on cooperation in the trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural spheres between the Vitebsk and Namangan regions was signed in July 2019 as part of the aforementioned First Forum of Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan. This document is intended to facilitate the development of mutually beneficial trade and economic ties between enterprises and organisations in the regions, and to provide 'comprehensive support to business entities in concluding mutually acceptable contracts for the supply of goods and services. It also provides for joint business seminars, exhibitions and trade fairs involving representatives from the business and commercial sectors'²²¹. To expand the potential areas of trade, economic and investment cooperation between

Belarusian and Uzbek regions is also the aim of the cooperation agreement signed at the same time between the administrations of the free economic zones (FEZs) "Vitebsk" and "Kosonsoy-Farm", which not only creates a

²²⁰ Pushnyakova, A. Uzbekistan could become a springboard for enterprises in the Vitebsk Region to supply goods to Asia / A. Pushnyakova // [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.economics/view/uzbekistan--stat--predpriyati-vitebskoi-oblasti-difa-postavok-v-aziju-491940-2022/>

²²¹ Namangan Region to cooperate with Vitebsk [Online resource].

2019. URL: <https://nampravda.uz/ekonomika/namanganskaya-oblast-budet-sotrudnichestv-vitebsk-om.html>

basis for exchanging experience and fostering the development of partnerships between FEZ residents, but also lays the groundwork for pooling the parties' potential in organising joint events. It should be noted that "Kosonsoy-Farm" was among the seven pharmaceutical FEZs established in May 2017 across six Uzbek regions. In addition to it, the following were established at that time: "Nukus-Farm" in Karakalpakstan, "Zomin-Farm" in the Jizzakh Region, <...> in the Syrdarya region – 'Sirdaryo-Pharm', In the Surkhandarya Region – "Boysun-Farm" – and in the Tashkent Region – "Bustonlik-Farm" and "Parkent-Farm"²²². Special tax, customs and foreign exchange regimes apply within their territories. All of them specialise in the development of enterprises in the pharmaceutical sector. Several residents of the "Vitebsk" SEZ are also active in this sector. This is why "attracting investment into projects aimed at establishing production facilities for medicines and medical devices is one of the most promising areas of cooperation between the administrations of the two SEZs"²²³. And there is every reason to believe that this interaction between the Belarusian and Uzbek free economic zones will further strengthen the emerging partnership ties between the Vitebsk and Namangan regions.

The areas of Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation that are set to be stepped up in the very near future can also be gauged from the documents signed in April 2022 during the visit of a Belarusian government delegation to Tashkent. For instance, the Ministry of Innovative Development of Uzbekistan signed a memorandum of cooperation with the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus and an executive programme for scientific, technical and innovative cooperation for 2022–2023 with the State Committee for Science and Technology of Belarus. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food of Belarus also signed two significant documents: a memorandum of understanding with the State Committee for Veterinary Medicine and Livestock Development of Uzbekistan; and a roadmap for the further development of cooperation in the field of agricultural science, education and innovative development for 2022–2023 with the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan, which, in turn, also signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus on the further development of scientific and technical cooperation, education and the training of scientific personnel. Finally, an agreement on cooperation in the field of livestock breeding was concluded

²²² Seven pharmaceutical SEZs are being established in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2017/05/05/pharm/>

²²³ The "Vitebsk" Special Economic Zone and the Uzbek company "Kosonsoy-Farm" will develop investment cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/sez-vitebsk-i-uzbekskaja-kosonsoi-farm-budut-razvivat-investitsionoe-sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/>

between “Belplemzhivob’edinenie” and the “Uzbekchorvanasl” agency. Back in the autumn of 2018, Belarus and Uzbekistan signed an intergovernmental treaty on socio-economic cooperation for the period 2019–2023, which “reflected key high-level agreements on the development of Belarusian-Uzbek relations and taking them to a qualitatively new level”²²⁴. As we can see, the objectives set out in this document are being pursued by the parties very actively and successfully.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

²²⁴ Zaleski, B. The Vector of Post-Soviet Integration: A View from Belarus / Boris Zaleski. - Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2019. - p. 228.

Joint initiatives are fostering cooperation in innovative areas

In August 2022, the ninth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan took place in Minsk, at which participants emphasised the importance of continuing systematic work on new, promising joint initiatives, so that, through joint efforts, a significant increase in the volume of mutual trade can be achieved in the coming years. It should be noted that “in 2021, trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan amounted to \$301.9 million, an increase of 7.8 per cent compared with 2020, whilst exports totalled \$245.4 million (a rise of 3.3 per cent). The trade balance was positive at \$188.9 million”²²⁵. The main items of Belarusian exports in 2021 were meat and meat products, medicines, vinyl chloride polymers, milk powder, diagnostic reagents, vaccines, blood serums, chipboard, cheese and cottage cheese. In the first half of 2022, trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan exceeded 190 million dollars and increased by almost 40 per cent. The trade surplus for Belarus amounted to 100.7 million dollars. The parties now see a realistic opportunity to achieve a bilateral trade turnover of 500 million dollars. In this regard, Belarus is prepared to increase supplies of food and agricultural products, road-construction, municipal and specialised machinery, quarry dump trucks, wood-processing products, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment.

As regards industrial cooperation and the establishment of joint ventures, a total of “103 organisations with Belarusian investment have already been registered in Uzbekistan, and representative offices of ‘Avtopromsnabspedishn’ LLC, ‘Softclub’ LLC, ‘AmantisMed’ LLC and ‘Belvitunifarm’ LLC are operating”²²⁶. In 2022, the production of vehicles based on chassis from the Minsk Automobile Plant can be considered a successful outcome of this collaboration. “Whilst until recently only bodywork was fitted to ready-made vehicle kits, in April this year the first MAZ tipper truck assembled in Uzbekistan was unveiled. All the necessary conditions are in place to ensure a high degree of localisation in this production”²²⁷. Work is underway to resume the production of Belarusian

²²⁵ Golovchenko and Aripov discussed increasing trade between Belarus and Uzbekistan 2022. - URL:

[Electronic resource]. -

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-i-aripov-obsudili-naraschivanie-tovarooborota-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-520574-2022/>

²²⁶ Zaleski, B. Results-Oriented Approach: Realising the Potential of International Economic Ties / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2022. – p. 23.

²²⁷ Agricultural sector, industrial co-operation, construction. Zayats on plans for co-operation with Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL:

tractors in Uzbekistan. Meanwhile, “BELAZ is ready to supply Uzbekistan with brand-new models of machinery for transporting rock and soil, which are characterised by both high environmental friendliness and efficiency”²²⁸. The company “Belkommunmash” is interested in participating in the development of Uzbekistan’s transport infrastructure and jointly implementing initiatives to launch environmentally friendly passenger transport. Belarusian specialists are ready to offer a comprehensive solution for creating an efficient and safe public electric transport system: from the construction of the necessary infrastructure to the supply of the most modern models of equipment. The implementation of such a project would be a truly landmark event in the development of Belarusian-Uzbek relations.

Trade figures between the two countries have also increased in the agri-industrial sector. In the first six months of 2022, the turnover of agricultural produce grew in both exports and imports. “Meat products, dairy products and baby food are exported to Uzbekistan. Imports consist mainly of vegetables, grapes, dried fruit and nuts”²²⁹. Furthermore, to support Uzbekistan’s growing livestock sector, the Belarusian side is prepared to organise the supply of high-performance premixes, with a view to establishing joint production of compound feed in this Central Asian country. Speaking of Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, it should be noted that Belarusian investors in Tashkent are successfully implementing a project to produce broad-spectrum antibiotics. The Belarusian holding company ‘Belpharmprom’, together with its counterparts in Uzbekistan, is exploring the possibility of establishing joint ventures to produce medicines in non-overlapping product categories. In the construction sector, the parties are interested in jointly designing infrastructure projects in Uzbekistan, industrial buildings and healthcare facilities, including those for the pharmaceutical industry. The Uzbek side has expressed interest in Belarusian timber-frame housing products. Given the rapidly developing tourism sector in Uzbekistan and its need for environmentally friendly residential properties, cooperation in this area holds great promise.

There are also some interesting Belarusian-Uzbek projects underway in the field of education. In particular, Baranovich State University (BarSU), in collaboration with Samarkand State University and the Jizzakh State

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/apk-promkooperatsija-stroitelstvo-zafats-o-planah-vzaimodejstviya-s-uzbekistanom-520299-2022/>

²²⁸ Industrial cooperation, equipment supplies, wood processing. Belarus and Uzbekistan discussed mutual cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/promkooperatsija-postavki-tehniki-woodworking-belarus-and-uzbekistan-discussed-mutual-520492-2022/>

²²⁹ Belarus and Uzbekistan discussed issues of further cooperation in the field of agricultural sector [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-obsudili-voprosy-further-cooperation-in-the-field-of-agriculture-520545-2022/>

Pedagogical Institute, is currently running ‘double degree’ programmes. It is envisaged that undergraduate and postgraduate students will study at BarSU and at partner universities, drawing on positive experiences from both Belarus and abroad. “Enrolment is planned for the following specialisms: ‘practical psychology’, ‘pre-school education’, ‘psychology’ and ‘economics’”²³⁰. Meanwhile, Brest State Technical University will collaborate with the Bukhara Institute of Engineering and Technology. In July 2022, the universities signed cooperation agreements to collaborate on organising retraining and professional development programmes for lecturers from Bukhara in Brest. “We will start with this, and in future we will be able to cooperate on the first and second cycles of higher education”²³¹. The institute in Bukhara is a major educational and scientific centre in Uzbekistan. Teaching takes place across eight faculties, with over 11,000 students receiving higher education across 30 bachelor’s degree programmes. In January 2023, Belarus and Uzbekistan marked the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. In recent years, the two countries have significantly stepped up their bilateral dialogue, including at the regional level. Suffice it to say that by April of this year, the parties had already signed 15 inter-regional agreements. “Exchanges of visits by delegations from regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan take place regularly. The practice of drawing up roadmaps for the implementation of inter-regional agreements has proven effective”²³². Among the active participants in this inter-regional cooperation are regions such as Vitebsk and Kashkadarya, Gomel and Fergana.

In particular, in October 2022, the Vitebsk Regional Executive Committee signed a cooperation agreement with the Khokimiyat of the Kashkadarya Region. This document contributes to the strengthening of mutually beneficial ‘trade and economic ties between enterprises and organisations in the regions. Furthermore, it will set out avenues for developing cooperation in the scientific, technical, tourism, cultural and sporting sectors, as well as in the field of healthcare’²³³. In the same month of October 2022, several important documents were also signed to further cooperation between

²³⁰ BarSU is developing joint educational programmes with Uzbek partners [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/bargu-razrabatyvaet-sovmestnye-obrazovatelnye-programmy-s-uzbekskimi-partnerami-520325-2022>

²³¹ BrSTU to collaborate with the Bukhara Institute of Engineering and Technology [Online resource]. - URL: <https://www.bistu.uz/ru/regions/view/id/20424/about/race-30/institute-30/race-30/programmes-with-uz-berk-partners-2022-2023>

2023. S. Rakhkov: Belarus regards Uzbekistan as an important partner in Central Asia [Online resource]. - 2023.
URL: <https://sovren.gov.by/ru/news-ru/view/srachkov-belarus-rassmatrivaet-uzbekistan-kak-2023-03-26>

293 A delegation from the Vitebsk Region in Uzbekistan is to sign an agreement with the Kashkadarya Regional Administration [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/delegatsii-a-vitebskoj-oblasti-v-uzbekistane-podpishet-soglasenie-s-hokimiatom-kashkadarijskoj-527596-2022/>

individual participants in this interregional partnership: two agreements and two memoranda of cooperation. As regards the agreements, these concern cooperation between the Euphrosyne of Polotsk State University in Polotsk and the Karshin Engineering and Economic Institute, as well as between the P.M. Masherov Vitebsk State University and Karshin State University. Memoranda have been signed between the free economic zones of the two regions, the 'Meat and Dairy Products' concern and an enterprise specialising in the supply and processing of dairy products. In addition, the parties concluded contracts worth approximately three million dollars. These relate to food and woodworking products, as well as the supply of electrical equipment for the oil industry and measuring instruments. Meanwhile, "the Vitebsk region explored the possibility of supplying its products to the Uzbek market. The Kashkadarya Region showed great interest in meat and dairy products, electrical appliances and cable products, particularly with regard to the exchange of expertise between manufacturing enterprises within that country"²³⁴.

At the same time, the Belarusian and Uzbek regions planned cooperation in other areas as well. For example, back in 2021, the Vitebsk-based 'Marco' holding company established a factory within the Kashkadarya Region's free economic zone, where more than two hundred workers now manufacture footwear. Now, however, the Uzbek partners are interested in new areas of expertise – in light industry, dairy farms and milk processing plants. In May 2023, at the 11th International Economic Forum "Innovations. Investments. Prospects", held in Vitebsk, the parties proposed a number of further areas for cooperation, including the flax industry. "The Vitebsk Region is ready to assist in supplying varieties that can be grown in Uzbekistan. This proposal is being prepared by specialists from the RUE 'Flax Institute'. Furthermore, options for cooperation in the woodworking sector are being actively explored, in particular regarding the manufacture of bespoke wooden houses and furniture, including for educational institutions in the Kashkadarya Region"²³⁵. There are also initiatives in the pharmaceutical sector. To foster better contacts in the economic, tourism and other sectors, the parties plan to organise joint information tours. Thus, the joint activities of the Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions are already creating mutually beneficial conditions for the implementation of projects which, in the long term, may strengthen new

²³⁴ Companies from the Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions have signed contracts worth \$3 million [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/predprii-atijia-vitebskava-i-kashkadarvinskava-regionov-sigazn-contracs-worth-3-million-529745-2022/>

²³⁵ The Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions plan to organise information tours to boost cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaja-i-kashkadarvinskaja-oblasti-planiruyut-organizovat-infotur-aktivizatsii-567511-2023/>

areas of common ground in their mutual cooperation.

As for the Gomel Region, which is also actively developing cooperation with Uzbek partners, it is worth noting that its trade turnover with Uzbekistan has more than tripled over the last three years, reaching 33 million dollars. Furthermore, by the end of 2022, the Gomel Region's exports had increased by almost one and a half times. "The main export items from Gomel enterprises are paper, cardboard, wallpaper, chipboard, wood pulp, beef, timber, paint, polyethylene products, wire, chemical fibres, dairy products, agricultural machinery, furniture, ..." ²³⁶. Among the regions of Uzbekistan interested in joint projects with partners in Gomel, the Fergana Region is particularly noteworthy; it intends to develop cooperation with the Belarusian region in the production of agricultural machinery, wood processing, the chemical industry and tourism. In February 2023, the Gomel Regional Executive Committee and the Fergana Region Administration signed a roadmap for 2023, which covers various areas. Concrete progress has already been made. In the near future, "a brand store is expected to open in the Fergana Region, where woodworking products from the Belarusian region will be sold. At the same time, some of these goods will be sent for re-export to countries neighbouring Uzbekistan" ²³⁷. Meanwhile, in Gomel, plans are being drawn up to open a trading house specialising in the sale of fruit, dried fruit and vegetables from Uzbekistan. Furthermore, entrepreneurs from Fergana are interested in joint production of chemical and pulp and paper products with companies from Gomel. It appears that the roadmap for the two regions – Belarusian and Uzbek – will soon be expanded to include other areas as well.

Another interesting aspect of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan lies in the development of Belarusian exports to the Uzbek market through the use of trade fairs.

This is all the more so given that there will be several such projects in 2023. In March 2023, Tashkent hosted the 22nd international exhibition "Food Products, Ingredients and Production Technologies – UzFood", at which Belarus presented a large-scale exhibition – The Taste of Nature – featuring more than 20 food producers. The "Belgospishcheprom" Group presented products from the "Kommunarka", "Spartak" and "Krasny Pishchevnik",

²³⁶ Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has more than tripled over the last three years [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/tovarooborot-gomelskoj-oblasti-s-uzbekistanom-vvros-bolee-chem-v-tri-raz-za-poslednie-tri-goda-549254-2023/>

²³⁷ From combine harvester manufacturing to tourism: Gomel and Fergana regions intend to develop cooperation [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/ot-kombajnostroenija-do-turizma-gomelskaja-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-namereny-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-549242-2023/>

which introduced visitors to the Belarusian pavilion to their finest products and latest innovations – including new varieties of confectionery, chocolate and chocolate sweets, wafers, biscuits, chewy sweets and jelly sweets.

The exhibition also featured a wide range of meat-processing enterprises and dairy producers belonging to the “Grodnomiasomolprom” holding and the “Brestmiasomolprom” group. These include the Brest, Pinsk, Slonim, Volkovysk, Grodno and Oshmyany meat processing plants, which offered high-quality beef in various forms, sausages and semi-finished meat products. In particular, the Grodno Meat Processing Plant showcased its latest products, bringing to Uzbekistan the ‘Vostochnaya’ and ‘Kavkazskaya’ dry-cured sausages, as well as ‘Favorit’ cooked-smoked salami with olives and with cheese.

The dairy sector was represented by the Kobrin Butter and Cheese Factory, the Minsk Margarine Factory, the Luninets Dairy Plant, the Lida Canned Milk Plant, the companies ‘Molochny Mir’ and ‘Molochny Gostinets’, and the Minsk Dairy Plant No. 1. ‘Belarusian producers are showcasing a wide range of whole-milk products – milk, cream, kefir, cheeses, cottage cheese, spreads and yoghurts’²³⁸. The exhibition also featured oil and fat products, as well as rapeseed oil. Baked goods were presented by OJSC ‘Brest Baker’, whilst the company ‘Bellakt’ showcased baby food products. In addition, products from companies such as such as OJSC “Maloritsky Canning and Vegetable-Drying Plant” and OJSC “Lida Food Concentrates”.

As part of the exhibition, an Uzbek-Belarusian business forum was held, attended by over 50 executives and representatives of government bodies and the business community from both countries, where cooperation in the field of agriculture and food was discussed, Belarus’s food production potential was highlighted, and the export potential of the Brest and Grodno regions was presented. In addition, business representatives from both countries held B2B negotiations, which took place separately and at the stands of Belarusian enterprises. As for the specific outcomes of the exhibition, the Grodno Meat Processing Plant signed a contract to supply meat products worth \$500,000, whilst the Minsk Margarine Plant signed a contract to supply its products worth 10 million Russian roubles. During the exhibition, Minsk Dairy Plant No. 1 held talks on increasing sales volumes to its key partners in Uzbekistan, in particular regarding the supply of butter and skimmed milk powder, and also signed a contract to supply dairy products²³⁹. The

²³⁸ Belarus presented an exhibition stand at the food industry fair in Tashkent 2023. - URL: [Online resource]. - <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-predstavila-ekspozitsiyu-na-vystavke-pischevoi-promyshlennosti-v-tashkente-557927-2023/>

²³⁹ Belarusian enterprises intend to increase supplies to Uzbekistan [Electronic source]. - 2023. - URL:

company “Bellakt” discussed opportunities to boost product sales and increase supplies of dried baby food, and agreed to supply this Central Asian country with quark desserts and dried milk, including lactose-free varieties, whilst OJSC “Molochny Mir” signed an agreement to supply nearly two and a half thousand tonnes of dried whey and over a thousand tonnes of dried milk.

Among the Belarusian enterprises actively interested in promoting their export products on the Uzbek market are and the “Bobruiskagromash” holding. In March 2023, as part of the international exhibition ‘Agriculture – AgroWorld Uzbekistan 2023’, specialists from the Belarusian company held talks with key Uzbek partners – Metal Processing, Planeta Servis and MCHJ Buxoro Agro Texnika Garant – with whom further volumes of machinery supplies were agreed, as well as the technical specifications of the machines to adapt them to the requirements of the Uzbek market. Furthermore, during the negotiations, a representative of the holding company introduced the partners to the latest machinery from “Bobruiskagromash”: a cotton cultivator, seed drills and heavy-duty trailers²⁴⁰. The partners from Uzbekistan confirmed their interest in annual supplies of agricultural machinery from Bobruisk. For reference, it should be noted that machines for applying solid organic fertilisers and rotary mower-shredders have already been in operation on Uzbek fields since 2022.

In April 2023, the international industrial exhibition “Innoprom. Central Asia” took place in Tashkent, covering six thematic sections: mechanical engineering, metallurgy and materials, energy solutions, chemical industry technologies, information and telecommunications technologies, and infrastructure development. The exhibition featured an extensive Belarusian display, ‘Made in Belarus’, which showcased the best industrial developments and innovative equipment from the country’s leading engineering firms. “Seven major enterprises expressed their interest in participating <...>: the Belarusian Metallurgical Plant, BELAZ, the Minsk Tractor Works, BATE, the BITU ‘Polytechnic’ Science and Technology Park, ‘Gomselmash’ and ‘StankoGomel’”²⁴¹.

Another important area of potential for Belarusian-Uzbek economic relations lies in strengthening partnerships between the free economic zones (FEZs) of

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriiatiia-namereny-narastit-postavki-v-uzbekistan-559267-2023/>

²⁴⁰ Uzbekistan is interested in supplies of agricultural machinery from “Bobruiskagromash” [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-zainteresovan-v-postavkakh-selskohozi-a-istvennoi-tehniki-hobruiskagromasha-556555-2023/>

²⁴¹ Belarus will present an exhibition at the ‘Innoprom. Central Asia’ exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavit-ekspozitsiiu-na-vystavke-innoprom-tsentralnai-azii-a-v-tashkente-557617-2023/>

Belarus and Uzbekistan, whose residents can develop cooperation in various fields. In March 2023, as part of the Third Congress of Free Economic Zones held in Gomel, constructive talks took place between the administrations of the ‘Gomel-Raton’ and ‘Navoi’ FEZs, during which they discussed the potential for a mutually beneficial partnership. In particular, “the first area is the sale in Uzbekistan of products in high demand from residents of the ‘Gomel-Raton’ FEZ. Uzbekistan is quite an interesting market. It has a population of 36 million. <...> There is a great deal of foreign investment and infrastructure projects”²⁴². Among the products from Gomel manufacturers that are in greatest demand, the Uzbek side highlights such key items as industrial, boiler, heating, ventilation and cooling equipment, as well as energy-saving and energy-efficient technologies. In short, the Uzbek market is a key direction for the development of Belarusian exports in Central Asia. And this is only the beginning.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

²⁴² Industrial cooperation and entering new markets. The CEO of the ‘Navoi’ Free Economic Zone on the partnership between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.uzregions.gov.uz/regions/view/normkooperatsiya-i-vvohod-na-novye-rvni-gendirektor-sez-navoi-o-partnerstve--uzbekistana-557030-2023/>

Key growth areas include industry, agriculture agriculture, healthcare and the regions

In December 2023, the 10th meeting was held in Samarkand of the joint Belarusian-Uzbek

Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on bilateral cooperation took place in Samarkand, during which the parties discussed the state of play and prospects for trade and economic cooperation, paying particular attention to the sectors of industry, agriculture and healthcare, with a view to infusing the economic dimension of the partnership between Belarus and Uzbekistan with new practical substance and ensuring the timely implementation of investment projects and trade contracts. It should be noted that bilateral trade between Minsk and Tashkent is currently showing positive momentum. “In the first 10 months of this [2023] year, mutual trade turnover grew by more than 20 per cent and has already exceeded \$500 million”²⁴³. Nevertheless, it was noted at the JCC meeting that the parties still have significant untapped potential to multiply trade volumes by expanding mutual supplies of products in demand in the markets of both countries.

Take the development of **industrial cooperation**, for example. Since 2019, the number of enterprises from Belarus in Uzbekistan has quadrupled. And today, ‘there are 186 enterprises with Belarusian capital operating in the country, but there is every prospect of this figure increasing’²⁴⁴. Suffice it to note that in the first seven months of 2023, 33 enterprises from Belarus were established in the Central Asian republic. In contrast, a total of 84 organisations with Uzbek capital have been established in our country. Furthermore, in Uzbekistan, ‘representative offices have already been opened by companies specialising in international transport, software development’, and the production of medicines and veterinary preparations have already been established. In 2022, a joint venture for the production of dairy products was opened in Tashkent²⁴⁴.

In this regard, participants at the 10th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission proposed further strengthening the substance of the draft joint roadmap for the development of bilateral cooperation for 2024–2025, with a view to moving towards mutual investment and the establishment of joint

²⁴³ Aripov: Uzbek-Belarusian cooperation has reached a new level [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/aripov-uzbeksko-belorusskoe-sotrudnichestvo-vyshlo-na-uroven-603582-2023/>

²⁴⁴ Chairman of the Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry: we are keen to increase the number of joint ventures [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predsedatel-tpp-uzbekistana-mv-zainteresovan-v-uvlechii-kolichestva-sovmestnyh-predpriyati-603524-2023/>

²⁴⁵ Chervyakov: Among our partner countries, Uzbekistan ranks in the top ten in terms of trade turnover [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervyakov-sredi-nashih-stran-partnerov-uzbekistan-ranks-among-the-top-ten-in-terms-of-trade-volume-586551-2023/>

production facilities. In this regard, the Belarusian side is already implementing projects involving the assembly of specialised equipment and the manufacture of agricultural machinery for soil cultivation and cotton processing. In 2023, “the first Belarusian-Uzbek joint venture for the production of dried milk mixtures was launched; it supplies products made from Belarusian raw materials to both manufacturers and processors in Uzbekistan, as well as to neighbouring countries. In the city of Karshi, a joint venture established with the Belarusian manufacturer ‘Marko’ is in operation, producing footwear”²⁴⁶. There are also significant prospects for setting up production facilities in Uzbekistan for tractors

‘Belarus’, diesel generator and compressor units, medicines, as well as in the woodworking industry and furniture manufacturing.

Overall, Belarus has much to offer its Uzbek partners: engineering products, foodstuffs, services and the latest scientific and technical innovations. Suffice it to say that exports by enterprises under the Belarusian Ministry of Industry to this Central Asian country nearly doubled over the first three quarters of 2023, whilst “trade turnover during this period increased by more than 90% <...>.” Exports to Uzbekistan were mainly comprised of tractors, refrigerators and freezers, automotive equipment, metal products, engines, hardware, electrical transformers, as well as mowers, starters, potato diggers and oil pumps.”²⁴⁷. In particular, OJSC “Management Company of the ‘Bobruiskagromash’ Holding” plans to increase the volume of agricultural machinery supplies to Uzbekistan in the very near future, as “in the Central Asian republics, the most sought-after models of agricultural machinery are tractor trailers for transporting cotton,

soil-tilling equipment, machines for applying organic fertilisers and forage harvesting machinery”²⁴⁸. In addition to tractor-related matters, cooperation between the two countries in the industrial sector is set to expand significantly, as ‘cooperation regarding freight and passenger vehicles, household appliances and lift equipment is being discussed quite extensively and is developing’²⁴⁹. Another example: the enterprises of the “Bellesbumprom” group, which are well known on the Uzbek market. In the first nine months of 2023, ‘exports of wood-processing products, including

²⁴⁶ Golovchenko: Uzbekistan is one of our main trading partners in the Central Asian and CIS regions [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-uzbekistan-dlia-nas-is-one-of-the-main-trading-partners-in-the-central-region-603540-2023/>

²⁴⁷ Ministry of Industry: exports of our products to Uzbekistan doubled in January–September 2023. [Online resource]. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/minprom-eksport-nashei-produktsii-v-uzbekistan-za-ianvar-sentiabr-vvros-vdvoe-603475-2023/>

²⁴⁸ “Bobruiskagromash” plans to increase supplies of agricultural machinery to Uzbekistan [Online source]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bobruiskagromash-planiruet-narastit-postavki-selhoztehniki-v-uzbekistan-582084-2023/>

²⁴⁹ Tractors, lifts, freight vehicles. How Belarus and Uzbekistan will cooperate in industry [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.bv/economics/view/tractory-lifty--tehnika-kak-belarus-i-uzbekistan--sotrudnichestvo-promyshlennosti-596490-2023/>

furniture and cellulose, increased by almost 24 per cent compared with January–September last year <...>. The group is currently working to establish a distribution network in Uzbekistan, which will open up new opportunities for supplies to that country”²⁵⁰.

All these facts indicate that Belarus and Uzbekistan are successfully fostering the development of a well-established framework of cooperative ties, with a view to fully utilising their existing industrial, scientific, technical and innovative potential to achieve the pressing and ambitious goal of increasing trade turnover to one billion dollars. To ensure a more systematic approach overall, the Belarusian side proposed, during the 10th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the development of a programme for bilateral economic cooperation; and, in specific sectors of the economy, the expansion of cooperation formats to identify new areas of partnership and to focus on the functioning of sectoral working groups. For reference, it should be noted that ‘meetings of the working group on agriculture, as well as the joint commission on transport, are held on a regular basis. It would be advisable to organise working groups in the fields of industry, medicine and pharmaceuticals, construction, light industry, wood processing, forestry and water management, which would serve as the working bodies of the Intergovernmental Commission’²⁵¹. Furthermore, other new formats of cooperation are also being successfully implemented.

These **include the Women’s Business Forum**, which was held for the first time in Minsk in September 2023 and brought together participants from both countries across various sectors: light and heavy industry, science and education, and mechanical engineering. It should be noted that by the end of the plenary session, the participants in this meeting had signed ‘14 memoranda and agreements on cooperation, including an agreement to establish a joint leather and footwear production facility. Fifteen contracts were concluded worth Br93.5 million, or 350 billion Uzbek sum’²⁵². In particular, light industry enterprises from Belarus and Uzbekistan signed contracts worth more than two and a half million dollars. For instance, an agreement of intent was signed between Furskins Company and “Marco” to establish a joint venture for the processing of sheepskin and fur, karakul and smushko, and fur raw materials. “Agreements on cooperation between the

²⁵⁰ Exports by ‘Bellesumprom’ enterprises to Uzbekistan rose by almost a quarter over nine months [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-predpriyati-bellesumproma-v-uzbekistan-za-9-mesiatsev-vvros-pochti-na-chetvert-603583-2023/>

²⁵¹ Leonid Zayats on the outcome of the meeting in Samarkand: The decisions taken will help to strengthen bilateral ties [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10747>

²⁵² Contracts worth Br93.5 million were signed during the First Belarusian-Uzbek Women’s Business Forum [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/view/-vremia--belorusko--zhenskogo--foruma--kontraktov-na-935 mln-586641-2023/>

“Uztextilprom” association and the design centre of OJSC “Kamvol” have been reached. A memorandum of understanding has been signed for the purchase of worsted fabrics for the schoolwear range of ‘Charog’on Tekstil’ LLC. A contract has also been signed for the supply of denim clothing between ‘Kalinka’ CJSC and ‘Chichiq Mega Bizness’ LLC”²⁵³.

It should be noted that companies within the “Bellegprom” group have been successfully cooperating with Uzbek partners since 2018. The “Marco” holding company operates as part of a joint venture specialising in shoe re-manufacturing. Around 250,000 pairs have already been produced, but this is by no means the limit. The aim is to increase production to millions of pairs of shoes. ‘And since sheepskin is in demand in Belarus for the production of linings and insoles for winter footwear, but we [in Belarus] do not have this type of raw material, it is very important to enter into industrial cooperation in order to motivate both parties in terms of quality, technical aspects and business”²⁵⁴. Another example: since January 2023, ‘Milavitsa’ has been working with a company in Tashkent on the remanufacturing of underwear. Meanwhile, in Smorgon, a business project is being implemented in partnership with the Uzbek side to create a vertically integrated complex for the production of cotton yarn and cotton products. “This is the first enterprise that will use raw materials sourced from Uzbekistan to manufacture finished products in Belarus”²⁵⁵.

As part of the session entitled ‘Expanding Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan in the Field of Industry’ at the Women’s Business Forum, the Belarusian delegation outlined opportunities for expanding industrial cooperation. In particular, “enterprises in the capital [Minsk] are interested in finding new partners to sell their products on the market of the region [Uzbekistan]”²⁵⁶. They are already cooperating effectively with their Uzbek counterparts. For example, the Minsk Automobile Plant operates on the market of this Central Asian country as an independent exporter on the basis of an existing joint production venture. Specifically, in September 2023, “the Minsk Automobile Plant and the sole trader ‘MAZ-TASHKENT’ LLC

²⁵³ Textile companies from Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed contracts worth more than \$2.5 million [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatia-legproma-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-signed-contracts-worth-more-than-25 mln-586396-2023/>

²⁵⁴ Lugina spoke about the prospects for cooperation between “Bellegprom” enterprises and companies from Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/lugina-rasskazala-o-perspektivah-sotrudnichestva-predpriatii-bellegproma-i-kompanii-iz-uzbekistana-586553-2023/>

²⁵⁵ Belarus and Uzbekistan are implementing joint projects in the pharmaceutical and light industry sectors [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-realizuiut-sovmestnye-proekty-v-oblasti-farmatsevtiki-i-legproma-592648-2023/>

²⁵⁶ Lazarevich: Tashkent-based enterprises are cooperating effectively with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/lazarevich-stolichnye-predpriatia-effektivno-vzaimodeistvuiut-s-uzbekistanom-586603-2023/>

signed a contract for the supply of MAZ vehicles worth \$1 million”²⁵⁷ and agreed to expand their cooperative ties. As for the Minsk Tractor Works, it will supply around 500 BELARUS tractors to the Uzbek company “TEXAGRO-KLASTER” LLC. “The value of the deal exceeds \$8 million”²⁵⁸.

As for the pharmaceutical sector, it was noted at the women’s business forum that the Belarusian side is building a plant on Uzbek soil to produce probiotics, which are not currently manufactured in that country at all. After all, “imports of medicines into Uzbekistan amount to around \$1.5 billion. Belarus is ready to supply its pharmaceutical products, as well as to propose to the health authorities of our countries that they explore the possibility of establishing production facilities in Uzbekistan for bulk medicines, antibiotics, anti-tumour drugs, etc.”²⁵⁹. So, let us hope that this forum has indeed established useful contacts and helped to create further conditions for attracting investment into promising projects that were developed at this Belarusian-Uzbek meeting.

And in November 2023, a three-day **medical forum** entitled ‘Uzbekistan–Belarus Days of Healthcare and Medical Education’ took place in Minsk, covering virtually all areas of medical activity: high technology, primary care issues, staff training, the work of the pharmaceutical industry, and the manufacture of medical equipment. During the event, nearly 120 agreements were signed, along with a ‘roadmap’ in which, in accordance with all the principles of the target-based planning programme, objectives, deadlines for their implementation, resources and the responsible party will be defined²⁶⁰. The day before, Belarusian cardiac surgeons, oncologists and paediatric surgeons, as part of medical teams, travelled to Uzbekistan, where they “performed over 100 operations and provided more than 250 consultations in various regions of the country”²⁶¹. Meanwhile, at the Minsk Scientific and Practical Centre (MSPC) for Surgery, Transplantology and Haematology, around 30 specialists from various hospitals in Uzbekistan have already completed training placements, and a proposal has been put forward to

²⁵⁷ MAZ has signed a contract to supply equipment to Uzbekistan worth \$1 million [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/maz-zakluchil-dogovor-na-postavku-tehniki-v-uzbekistan-na-1-mln-586570-2023/>

²⁵⁸ MTZ is to supply around 500 tractors to Uzbekistan worth more than \$8 million [Online source]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-postavit-okolo-500-tractorov-v-uzbekistan-na-bolee-chem-8-mln-586567-2023/>

²⁵⁹ Chervyakov: Belarus and Uzbekistan have laid a solid foundation for the further development of cooperation [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervyakov-belarus-i-uzbekistan-sozdali-vnushitelny-zadel-na-dalneishee-razvitiie-sotrudnichestva-586639-2023>

²⁶⁰ The health ministers of Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed cooperation agreements [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/ministry-zdravoohraneniya-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-podpisi-dogovory-o-sotrudnichestve-602477-2023/>

²⁶¹ Uzbekistan’s Minister of Health: Belarusian specialists have carried out more than 100 operations in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/-zdravoohraneniya-uzbekistana--v-uzbekistane-bolee-60-operatsii-602505-2023/>

establish a Minsk-style centre in Tashkent. It is also worth noting that “46 patients from Uzbekistan received high-tech medical care at the Minsk Scientific and Practical Centre for Surgery, Transplantology and Haematology. This included 3 liver transplants and 10 kidney transplants. There is considerable potential for further collaboration in this area”²⁶².

A separate topic at the medical forum was the training of medical personnel. Belarus and Uzbekistan now see prospects for intensifying bilateral cooperation in key areas such as cardiology, oncology, transplantation, paediatric surgery, maternal and child health, as well as in the pharmaceutical industry and the supply of medical devices. From January 2024, by mutual agreement, joint online educational programmes will be organised across eight higher education specialisms and all areas of specialised clinical residency training; there are also plans to introduce a system for training 150 specialists through an internship programme. Furthermore, for the first time, from January this year, the training of nurses will commence across six areas of a joint educational programme in accordance with international standards. The fact is that, within Uzbekistan’s healthcare sector, particular attention is paid to the training of nurses. And they are well aware of Belarus’s experience in this area. After all, there are already 74 medical colleges operating in Belarus, and around 100,000 nurses are being trained across seven specialisms. In particular, the Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU) and a college will assist the Uzbek partners in this matter; they plan to accept students, interns and doctors from this Central Asian country. “At present, no more than a dozen students from Uzbekistan are studying at VSMU; they come to Vitebsk independently and enrol on courses that appeal to them”²⁶³. However, the first steps have already been taken towards cooperation between VSMU and, for example, Samarkand State Medical University and the Bukhara State Medical Institute. Furthermore, as part of the medical forum, four further agreements were signed between VSMU and Uzbek higher education institutions.

A new form of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan in the field of education has emerged in the form of **the forum of rectors of higher education institutions**, which convened for the first time in October 2023 in Minsk – at the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics. This body brought together “more than 30 heads of Belarusian and Uzbek higher education institutions, who actively engaged in

²⁶² Petrishenko: The most important task is to do everything possible to improve the well-being of the peoples of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.societv/petrishenko-vazhneishaja-povysheni-a-blagopoluchia-narodov-belarusi-i-602449-2023/>

²⁶³ Pushnyakova, A. How Uzbek universities and colleges view cooperation with VGMU / A. Pushnyakova // [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.societv/view-chem-kolledzhi-vidiat-sotrudnichestvo-s-vsmu-602248-2023/>

dialogue, discussing topical issues concerning the development of the higher education systems of the two countries”²⁶⁴ and signed a roadmap for cooperation, under which, taking into account trends in Uzbekistan’s education market, a number of Belarusian universities will explore the possibility of opening branches or joint faculties. Among the leading institutions in

this context is the Belarusian National Technical University (BITU), which currently runs 75 joint educational programmes with partner universities in Uzbekistan. One of the most striking examples of this cooperation is the collaboration between BITU and the Tashkent State Technical Transport University. ‘This is the first joint “2+2” educational programme. Between 2019 and 2023, similar programmes were also developed and established with the Islam Karimov Tashkent State Technical University, the Karshi Engineering and Economics Institute, the Tashkent University of Architecture and Civil Engineering, and the Samarkand State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering”²⁶⁵. The idea behind the ‘2+2’ programme is that Uzbek students spend the first two years of their studies at home and the next two at BITU, so that graduates receive two degrees at once – one from Uzbekistan and one from Belarus. And so, in June 2023, the first cohort of graduates from the ‘2+2’ programme received their degrees.

Another interesting format for cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan was mentioned during the 10th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission: the **Forum of Regions**, which should be regarded as highly significant and “which is planned to be held in Belarus”²⁶⁶. It should be recalled that the First Forum of Regions between the two countries had already taken place in Minsk in 2019. By April 2023, “the parties had already signed 15 inter-regional agreements. <...> The practice of drawing up roadmaps for the implementation of inter-regional agreements has proven its effectiveness”²⁶⁷. For this reason, it is necessary to continue identifying partners in the regions for long-term cooperation.

An interesting example in this regard is provided by **the Fergana Region and the “Bellesbumprom” concern**. The fact is that Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation in the furniture, woodworking and pulp and paper industries is

²⁶⁴ A roadmap for cooperation was signed by the heads of the Councils of Rectors of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/dorozhnuu-kartu-sotrudnichestva-podpisali-rukovoditeli-sovetov-rektorov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-595530-2023/>

²⁶⁵ BITU awarded diplomas to the first graduates of joint educational programmes between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/v-bntu-vnichili-diplomy-pervym-vypusknikom-sovmestnyh-obrazovatelnyh-programm-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-574797-2023/>

²⁶⁶ Aripov: Uzbek-Belarusian cooperation has reached a new level [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/aripov-uzbeksko-belorusskoe-sotrudnichestvo-vyshlo-na-novyi-uroven-603582-2023/>

²⁶⁷ Zaleski, B. Focusing on Results. Prospects for a Comprehensive Approach to New Opportunities in Partnerships / Boris Zaleski. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. - p. 16.

currently developing actively. ‘The result of our work with our Uzbek colleagues has been the opening of the “Belarus” furniture showroom in Fergana. Products from three domestic factories are now on display here: OFO “FanDOK”, the Yelsk Furniture Factory (a branch of OJSC ‘Mozyr DOK’) and RUE ‘Newsprint Factory’ (a branch specialising in house-building)’²⁶⁸. The parties plan to expand the product range and increase the number of Belarusian brands represented in the furniture showroom. Another interesting idea is to create a showroom in the “Eco City” residential complex currently under construction in Fergana, where products from Belarus in demand for the construction and fitting out of residential premises will be displayed: thermal insulation panels, wallpaper, interior doors and furniture. Meanwhile, in the health resort area of the Buvaydinsky District in the Fergana Region, arrangements have been made for the supply of wooden houses, saunas and gazebos manufactured by the house-building branch of the state-owned enterprise “Newsprint Paper Mill”.

Among the active participants in inter-regional cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan, the **Grodno Region** holds a strong position, having agreements with three Uzbek regions. Currently, this Central Asian country ranks third in terms of the Grodno Region’s trade turnover with foreign states. Moreover, in 2022, a significant increase in mutual trade was recorded – a 1.7-fold rise. In 2023, trade turnover increased by a further 11 per cent. “The Grodno Region supplies Uzbekistan with foodstuffs, wood products and petrochemical products, whilst purchasing foodstuffs, yarn, fabrics and textiles from Uzbekistan, which are in high demand by local light industry enterprises”²⁶⁹. Cooperation is also developing in the field of education: in 2023, 160 Uzbek students were studying at universities in Grodno. The parties have already outlined prospects for further development, including in the field of investment within the ‘Grodnoinvest’ Free Economic Zone.

Finally, let us consider another important tool for increasing Belarusian-Uzbek trade and economic cooperation: **sector-specific trade fairs**. In 2024, Belarus intends to take part in numerous international exhibition events in Uzbekistan, where major sector-specific forums will be held in the fields of agriculture, food, machinery and technologies for the agro-industrial complex, industrial technologies, the food and light industries, and scientific and technical achievements. In particular, this March, a Belarusian exhibition

²⁶⁸ New showrooms and furniture deliveries. “Bellesbumprom” on the development of cooperation with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/---postavki-mebeli---razviti-sotrudnichestva-s-uzbekistanom-561977-2023/>

²⁶⁹ Trade turnover between the Grodno Region and Uzbekistan increased by 11 per cent in 2023 [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/tovarooborot-grodnenskoj-oblasti-s-uzbekistanom-v-2023-godu-uvlechitsja-na-11-594414-2023/>

stand will be organised in Tashkent at the 23rd international UzFood exhibition; in April, at the “Innoprom. Central Asia” industrial forum, in October at the 8th UzTextileExpo Autumn textile exhibition, and in November at the 18th UzProdExpo/Uz AgroExpo food forum. Traditionally, Belarusian participants in these business events always attract great interest from visitors not only from Uzbekistan but also from other Central Asian countries.

For example, in April 2023 at the “Innoprom. Central Asia” forum, which was attended by around 300 companies, Belarus was represented by ‘leading enterprises from various industrial sectors and scientific and educational institutions, each of which presented its unique products and technologies at the exhibition, demonstrating the potential and opportunities for cooperation and the promotion of manufactured products, scientific and technical developments and services’²⁷⁰. For example, OJSC “BELAZ” – the managing company of the “BELAZ-HOLDING” holding company – presented its promising areas of development at the exhibition. In particular,

the BELAZ-7558N quarry dump truck with a load capacity of 90 tonnes. The Minsk Tractor Works, amongst other things, demonstrated the specialised BELARUS-80X tractor, designed with the specific requirements of crop cultivation in mind. Meanwhile, OJSC “BMZ” – the managing company of the “BMK” holding – showcased hot-rolled steel products for the automotive and other industries. The stand of the Belarusian Ministry of Education featured over 50 scientific and technical developments from six universities and organisations under the ministry’s remit, including new technologies and software packages intended for use in industrial and scientific research, as well as technologies, equipment and materials for the chemical and oil refining industries, mechanical engineering and foundry production.

In April 2023, the international exhibition “Healthcare / TIHE 2023” took place in Tashkent, attended by over 250 companies from 13 countries and showcasing a wide range of materials and technologies for laboratory and functional diagnostics, therapy and surgery, rehabilitation equipment, medical automation systems and equipment for healthcare facilities. Visitors also had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the medicinal and health-promoting products and orthopaedic aids on display, which meet all the industry’s current requirements. Our country was represented at this

²⁷⁰ Belarus presents an exhibition at the “Innoprom. Central Asia” exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavliaet-ekspozitsiiu-na-vystavke-innoprom-isentralnai-a-azij-a-v-tashkente-563204-2023/>

exhibition by the Belarusian Prosthetics, Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation Centre, which showcased ‘rehabilitation aids manufactured in-house: products for children (with cerebral palsy and dysplasia) and women following a mastectomy (bras, swimwear), an active-type wheelchair, orthopaedic insoles, a mechanotherapy table and other items, totalling more than 20 products’²⁷¹.

Belarus is a regular participant in the international exhibition UzTextileExpo Autumn, which took place for the seventh time in October 2023 in the Uzbek capital and was attended by 183 companies from eight countries, including India, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. “The Belarusian exhibition was represented on this occasion by major exporters from the petrochemical sector, including such enterprises as ‘Naftan’, ‘Mogilevkhimvolokno’ and ‘Svetlogorskhirvolokno’. The companies brought with them a wide range of products that are in demand amongst Uzbek and regional consumers”²⁷². “Naftan” introduced visitors to its own acrylic fibres – a durable material widely used in the textile industry. “Mogilevkhimvolokno” presented polyester fibre for the manufacture of fabrics, insulation, synthetic wadding and non-woven fabrics. The company’s range of products on display also included polyethylene terephthalate – a high-strength plastic used in the production of packaging. “Svetlogorskhirvolokno” showcased high-strength non-woven materials, polyester textile yarns and knitted fabrics in various finishes – dyed, with a lacquer effect, bleached, brushed, embossed and many others.

Finally, in November 2023, the Belarusian exhibition ‘Belarus – the Taste of Nature’ was showcased at the leading agricultural and food trade fairs, UzProdExpo/UzAgroExpo, which were attended by ‘more than 120 companies from Uzbekistan, Austria, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Iran, Italy, Kazakhstan, Cyprus, China, Kyrgyzstan, the Netherlands, South Korea, Russia, the USA, Turkmenistan, Turkey and the Czech Republic...’²⁷³. In particular, the Belarusian company – the Postavy Dairy Plant – presented its well-known products, including Cheddar Red, ‘Parmesan Grand’ and ‘Maasdam’ cheeses, which have already become something of a classic. These products are attracting the greatest interest amongst potential partners from Uzbekistan. Another Belarusian participant – the company Bretta – was

²⁷¹ Belarusian assistive technology to be showcased at an exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/beloruskie-tehnicheskie-sredstva-reabilitatsii-predstaviat-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-560954-2023>

²⁷² Belarusian exhibition featured at a textile exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskaja-ekspozitsija-predstavlena-na-tekstilnoi-vystavke-v-tashkente-594563-2023/>

²⁷³ Belarus showcases its food products at exhibitions in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavliaet-svoiu-prodovolstvennuiu--products-at-exhibitions-in-Tashkent-601144-2023/>

taking part in the exhibition for the first time and was hoping for successful contacts and fruitful results. The company showcased a range of dried dairy products manufactured by the Luninetsky Dairy Plant, with the ‘Molochnaya Kapelka’ brand of dried milk standing out; this is produced from skimmed pasteurised milk. This product can be used to make low-calorie yoghurts, ice cream, milkshakes and infant formula. As for the Slutsk Cheese Factory, it showcased an expanded range of its lactose-free products in Tashkent, including a new product – the lactose-free sweet cream butter ‘#Mozhno’ and ‘#Mozhno A2’ milk. In addition, the range included glazed cheese curds, cottage cheese, milk with an extended shelf life, sweet cream butter, chocolate butter and processed cheese. Finally, the Gomel Meat Processing Plant brought products to the Uzbek market that comply with halal standards, including

‘Beef’, the ‘Santorini Prestige’ dry-cured beef product, poultry crisps, the ‘Fileechka’ dry-cured chicken product, as well as boiled-smoked beef products, including ‘Signature Fillet’. In addition, the meat processing plant showcased its latest innovations, including products such as the ‘Izyskannaya’ sirloin and ‘Gourmet’ beef. Another new product for the Uzbek market was the low-calorie ‘Black Pearl’ sausage, made from beef and poultry. Naturally, the ‘Belarus – the Taste of Nature’ exhibition attracted considerable interest from visitors, including representatives of the Uzbek business community, government bodies and the media.

Returning to the 10th meeting of the Joint Belarusian-Uzbek Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation, it is worth noting that Uzbekistan is a key partner for Belarus in Central Asia. In 2023, the two former Soviet republics marked the 30th anniversary of their diplomatic relations. And today, based on numerous facts, it can be said that cooperation between Minsk and Tashkent is experiencing a period of remarkable growth, reaching a qualitatively new level and striving to identify and expand new forms of joint cooperation to achieve the objectives of strategic partnership.

A Forum of Hopes and Prospects

In February 2024, the Second Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan took place in Tashkent, attended by over 150 representatives of Belarusian regions and the business community. Over the course of two days, they discussed a wide range of issues relating to bilateral inter-regional cooperation with their Uzbek partners – from investment and industrial cooperation to the strengthening of cultural and humanitarian ties. As a result, the parties “reached a package of bilateral documents (45 documents), which includes inter-ministerial and inter-regional agreements, as well as a number of contracts with a total value of around \$150 million”²⁷⁴. In particular, the following were concluded: an intergovernmental agreement on the use of electronic systems for certifying the origin of goods; an agreement between the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade of Belarus and the Committee for the Development of Competition and Consumer Protection of Uzbekistan on cooperation in the field of competition development, consumer protection and regulation of the advertising market; and a protocol on cooperation in the field of intellectual property. The parties also “signed an agreement on scientific and industrial cooperation, a roadmap for the development of cooperation in the agro-industrial sector for 2024–2026, and a plan of joint activities to develop cooperation on the integration of information systems in the field of plant quarantine”²⁷⁵.

Cooperation programmes have been adopted in the fields of culture and the arts, sport and tourism, and education. An agreement has been signed between Minsk and Tashkent on establishing sister-city ties and developing multifaceted cooperation. Furthermore, to organise systematic mutual supplies, a joint foreign trade company will be established in Minsk and Tashkent; mechanisms to support exports and an electronic goods certification system will be introduced; favourable conditions for freight transport will be created; and multimodal corridors will be utilised to reach South Asian markets. The parties also “intend to implement projects in the agro-industrial sector, the electrical engineering and textile sectors, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, urban development and public utilities. Roadmaps will be adopted and working groups set up for each area”²⁷⁶.

It is worth noting that over the 30 years of Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation, the

²⁷⁴ Belarusian delegation in Tashkent secures agreements worth \$150 million [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorussskaja-delegatsija-v-tashkente-dostigla-agreements-worth-150-million-614453-2024>

²⁷⁵ Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed a roadmap for cooperation for 2024–2025 [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-podpisali-dorozhnyu-kartu-sotrudnichestva-na-2024-2025-godv-614308-2024>

²⁷⁶ Mirzиеv: Belarus and Uzbekistan to set up a joint foreign trade company [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mirzиеv-belarus-i-uzbekistan-sozdadut-sovmestnyu-vneshnetorgovuyu-kompaniyu-614250-2024>

parties have signed 70 documents, and the scope of the February agreements confirms the strategic nature of relations between the two former republics of the post-Soviet space. All the more so as this package of bilateral documents is crowned by the Roadmap for the Development of Cooperation for 2024–2025, which provides for the implementation of export and investment projects worth one billion dollars. For reference, trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan increased 3.2-fold between 2018 and 2022. In 2023, the volume of bilateral trade grew by a further 12 per cent, exceeding \$565 million. The roadmap for 2024–2025 covers areas of cooperation such as ‘industrial cooperation, agriculture, the processing industry, humanitarian issues, education, cooperation in sport and tourism, training of personnel for the forestry sector, urban planning, and housing and communal services – a wide range of issues. These are underpinned by 99 documents totalling \$1.054 billion’²⁷⁷.

In a joint statement in February 2024, the leaders of Belarus and Uzbekistan emphasised that the priority area for Belarusian-Uzbek relations would be the further expansion of mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation, increasing the volume of mutual trade and broadening its range, including in **the industrial sector**. It should be noted that exports by enterprises under the Belarusian Ministry of Industry to this Central Asian country rose by almost 45 per cent in 2023. At the same time, ‘cooperation in the industrial sector is not limited to mutual supplies of products. Industrial cooperation has traditionally been one of the priority areas of interaction’²⁷⁸.

For example, EnergoKomplekt, in collaboration with YES LLC, is working to localise the production of cable and wire products in Uzbekistan. Since 2018, the Minsk Automobile Plant has been collaborating with Krantas Group LLC on the production of specialised vehicles in Uzbekistan. Over the course of this collaboration, more than 200 units of specialised equipment have been jointly manufactured and sold to Uzbek customers – including tankers (in particular, petrol and water tankers), refuse collection lorries and crane vehicles. In turn, as part of this cooperation, the Uzbek company supplies truck crane booms to the ‘Mogilevtransmash’ plant in Belarus for the subsequent production of lifting cranes. Work is also underway to conclude new contracts for 2024. At the end of 2023, a new cooperation project was launched to organise the assembly of diesel generator sets and

²⁷⁷ Belarus and Uzbekistan to implement projects worth over \$1 billion in 2024–2025
2024. - URL:

[Online source]. -

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-v-2024-2025-godah-realizujut-proekty-bolee-chem-na-1-mlrd-613960-2024/>

²⁷⁸ Exports by Ministry of Industry enterprises to Uzbekistan rose by almost 45 per cent in 2023 [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-predpriatij-minprom-v-uzbekistan-v-2023-godu-vozros-pochti-na-45-614029-2024/>

compressor stations in Uzbekistan. The Minsk Motor Plant and the Uzbek company PLANETA SERVIS LLC are participating in the project.

In 2024, practical implementation of a project with this partner in the tractor manufacturing sector is also planned. The fact is that ‘a pilot project will be launched this year – Belarus and Uzbekistan are setting up an assembly line for cotton-growing tractors. In the first phase, 500 tractor kits will be supplied. Uzbekistan is moving towards developing its manufacturing base’²⁷⁹. Licence agreements have already been signed with the Minsk Tractor Works (MTZ) to organise the assembly of “Belarus” machinery. Work is underway to resolve localisation issues. “The relevance of the project is confirmed by the unwavering demand for Belarusian tractors from Uzbek farmers. In 2023 alone, MTZ increased its tractor exports to Uzbekistan by 1.6 times compared with 2022”²⁸⁰. To be more precise, over four thousand tractors were supplied from Belarus last year. This is a record for recent years.

There is great potential for the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the parties in the establishment of joint production of dump lorries. After all, “Uzbekistan is the leader among CIS countries in copper production and gold mining. It is the mining industry that takes priority and acts as the driving force behind Uzbekistan’s economy”²⁸¹. For this reason, the Uzbek side is prepared not only to organise the assembly of Belarusian dump trucks from major components, but also to manufacture the necessary components and parts itself, in order to transport ore to processing plants where rare-earth metals will be extracted. It is also worth noting, for reference, that following the Second Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, more than ten enterprises under the Belarusian Ministry of Industry signed contracts worth around 45 million dollars.

Cooperation between the two countries **in the forestry, woodworking and pulp and paper sectors** has also been developing very dynamically in recent years. Statistics show that ‘over the last three years, there has been an annual increase in supplies to Uzbekistan – on average doubling, which indicates a constantly growing demand <...>. In 2023, the growth rate of exports of wood processing and pulp and paper products exceeded 150 per cent.

²⁷⁹ Belarus and Uzbekistan are setting up an assembly plant for cotton-harvesting tractors [Electronic source]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-sozdaiut-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-hlopkovodcheskikh-tractorov-613951-2024/>

²⁸⁰ The Ministers of Industry of Belarus and Uzbekistan visited the production sites of partner companies [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ministry-promyshlennosti-belarusi-uzbekistana-oznakomilis-s-proizvodstvennymi-ploschadkami-kompanii-614578-2024/>

²⁸¹ Belarus and Uzbekistan to explore the establishment of a joint dump truck production facility [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-prorabotaiut-sozdanie-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva-samosvalov-614810-2024/>

Enterprises in the sector supply virtually the entire range of products manufactured in Belarus to Uzbekistan²⁸². Meanwhile, organisations under the Ministry of Forestry managed to increase exports to Uzbekistan by as much as fivefold in 2023. And this year, ‘we plan to double shipments once again’²⁸³, partly through prefabricated house kits produced by forestry enterprises. And that is not all. At present, Belarusian wood products are being traded very actively on the Uzbek market via the Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUCE). There are, of course, contracts for other commodity items, but so far, sawn timber from Belarus is leading the way. Overall, ‘in the first month and a half of the current [2024] year, products involving Uzbek businesses have already been sold and purchased on the [BUTB] exchange to the value of \$7 million. More than 100 Uzbek companies are registered on the exchange’²⁸⁴.

At the Second Forum of Regions, several enterprises from the woodworking and pulp and paper industries also concluded contracts to supply their products to Uzbekistan. For instance, Svetlogorsk Pulp and Paper Mill () signed agreements with two Uzbek companies to supply bleached softwood pulp. The State Unitary Enterprise “Newsprint Mill” concluded a contract for the supply of offset and sack paper. The total value of the contracts signed amounts to 17 million dollars. The Newsprint Mill has also signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the sale of sawn timber to Uzbekistan. Meanwhile, the wood processing enterprise ‘FanDOK’ will begin manufacturing furniture in Uzbekistan. There are plans to open a joint venture for furniture production in the Tashkent region. A roadmap has already been drawn up for this. The Uzbek partners have undertaken to construct a building in accordance with ‘FanDOK’s’ requirements, to purchase equipment in line with the Belarusian company’s specifications, whilst ‘FanDOK’ will contribute its raw material base. “In this way, Belarus will not simply be selling raw materials to Uzbekistan, but will be manufacturing and selling a product with high added value on the local market. The parties will own the enterprise on a 50-50 basis”²⁸⁵. In addition,

²⁸² Companies in the woodworking and pulp and paper industries have signed contracts to supply products to Uzbekistan worth \$17 million [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatia-belleshumnroma-zakluchili-kontrakty-po-postavke-produktsii-v-uzbekistan-na-17-mln-614132-2024/>

²⁸³ Organisations under the Ministry of Forestry increased exports to Uzbekistan fivefold in 2023 [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/organizatsii-minleshoza-po-itogam-2023-goda-increased-exports-to-Uzbekistan-fivefold-614577-2024/>

²⁸⁴ BUTB proposes establishing direct sales channels from Uzbek enterprises to buyers in Belarus [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-predlagaet-vystraivat-priamye-prodazhi-uzbekskih-predpriatii-dlia-pokupatelei-v-belarusi-616373-2024/>

²⁸⁵ “FanDOK” to start manufacturing furniture in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/fandok-zaimetsia-proizvodstvom-mebeli-v-uzbekistane-614380-2024/>

a roadmap for the further expansion of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan in the woodworking industry was signed on the sidelines of the forum.

As for cooperation between the two countries in **the field of agriculture**, joint production facilities will be established in Uzbekistan in the near future. Belarus will build a poultry farm in Tashkent and a dairy processing plant in Samarkand. To this end, “a project has been drawn up for the construction of a poultry farm to rear broilers with an annual capacity of around 70–75 thousand tonnes. Implementation of this project has already begun: a compound feed mill has been acquired and land has been secured. There is even a brand name already – ‘Zhoja’ (‘Chick’)”²⁸⁶. In Samarkand, “Savushkin Produkt” will act as a partner, processing not only Belarusian but also local raw materials, before supplying the finished products to markets in third countries, such as Afghanistan. Another area of focus in this regard is the export of veterinary medicines. In February 2024, a contract was signed under which “supplies will increase by almost 2.5 times. This demonstrates the demand for our [Belarusian] veterinary medicines on the Uzbek market”²⁸⁷. Furthermore, Uzbekistan plans to trial Belarusian potatoes and has already ordered the first consignment – 20 tonnes. The fact is that Uzbek potatoes are grown in the fields of this Central Asian country with yields several times lower than in Belarus. “Further cooperation in this area will depend on the results. But overall, around half of Uzbekistan’s demand for potatoes remains unmet”²⁸⁸.

Another important trend in Belarusian-Uzbek relations is that, in 2024, the two post-Soviet countries will significantly strengthen their cooperation in **the textile and garment sectors**. As part of industrial cooperation, there are plans to carry out mutual supplies of cotton yarn, cloth and fabrics for use by Belarusian enterprises, as well as chemical fibres, flax raw materials and blended finished fabrics for use by Uzbek enterprises. Plans will be drawn up for the manufacture in Uzbekistan of finished garments to order for Belarusian brands, as Belarus lacks sufficient garment workers. For this reason, a number of enterprises from Belarus – including ‘Svyyanok’, ‘Slavyanka’, ‘Kalinka’ and the Orsha Flax Mill – already have experience of placing orders with Uzbek enterprises”²⁸⁹. Strategically, the Belarusian side

²⁸⁶ Belarus is to build a poultry farm in Tashkent and a dairy plant in Samarkand [Online source]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-postroit-v-tashkente-ptitsefabriku-a-v-samarkande-molochnyi-kombinat-614367-2024/>

²⁸⁷ Belarus to increase supplies of veterinary medicines to Uzbekistan by 2.5 times [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-v-25-raza-narastit-postavki-vetpreparatov-v-uzbekistan-616324-2024>

²⁸⁸ Uzbekistan wants to trial Belarusian potatoes, as its own yield is several times lower [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-hochet-ispytat-belorusskii-kartofel-urozhainost-svoego-v-neskolko-raz-nizhe-614368-2024/>

²⁸⁹ Belarus will more actively involve Uzbek enterprises in clothing production [Electronic resource]. -

has decided as follows: labour-intensive items – such as suits, dresses and coats, as well as certain complex elements – will be manufactured in Belarus; other items in the range will be produced in Uzbekistan under Belarusian brand names, using fabrics and cloths from our republic. Furthermore, ‘a key aspect of the cooperation will be the field of education and professional development. Uzbek specialists, including seamstresses, technologists and designers, will be sent on work placements to Belarusian enterprises, whilst Belarusian technologists will be engaged in management roles at Uzbek enterprises’²⁹⁰. Incidentally, it is worth noting that over the past five years, the number of students from Uzbekistan studying in Belarus has increased significantly. Whilst five years ago there were 14 Uzbek citizens studying in Belarus, there are now around 1,200. “In total, around 4,000 students are enrolled on joint educational programmes. There is considerable interest in training specialists in Belarus in those specialisms that will be in demand in the real sector of the economy”²⁹¹.

In 2024, Belarus and Uzbekistan intend to develop their cooperation in **the field of healthcare** at an accelerated pace and have identified more than ten areas of collaboration in this regard. For example, in the field of child health care, the Republican Scientific and Practical Medical Centre ‘Mother and Child’ of the Belarusian Ministry of Health, advanced training will be organised for doctors from Uzbekistan’s Republican Specialised Scientific and Practical Medical Centre for Maternal and Child Health on issues relating to neonatology, alongside the development of joint master’s degree and clinical residency programmes, and cooperation on neonatal resuscitation. Internships and professional development programmes will also be organised for Uzbek medical, teaching and research staff in the fields of cardiac surgery, cardiac anaesthesiology, functional diagnostics for patients with congenital heart defects, the provision of online consultations for complex cases, and the exchange of specialists in the fields of radiology, targeted and molecular genetic therapy. A separate area of partnership involves the training in Belarus of medical physicists and oncology engineers, as well as specialists for Uzbekistan’s transplant service, and cooperation in orthopaedics and arthroscopy through the exchange of

2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-budet-aktivnee-privlekat-k-proizvodstvu-odezhdy-uzbekskie-predprii-atija-613968-2024/>

²⁹⁰ Belarus and Uzbekistan to strengthen cooperation in the textile and clothing sectors [Electronic resource]. -

2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-nkreniat-sotrudnichestvo-v-tekstilnoi-i-shvejnoi-otrasli-ah-614106-2024/>

²⁹¹ Uzbekistan’s Ambassador: there is considerable interest in training students in Belarus [Online resource]. -

2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/amp/society/view/nosol-uzbekistana-est-bolshaja-zainteresovannost-v-obuchении-studentov-v-belarusi-616364-2024>

expertise, training and the performance of joint surgical procedures. With regard to cooperation between the public health and epidemiological services of Belarus and Uzbekistan, the parties agreed “to carry out joint work and research in the field of the prevention and treatment of infectious and non-infectious diseases, including immunisation programmes and measures to combat pandemics”²⁹².

The Belarusian side is also considering the possibility of entering the Uzbek market with high-quality, affordable **pharmaceutical products** that are essential for that country’s healthcare needs. This is particularly relevant given that the enterprises of the ‘Belfarmprom’ holding currently hold 136 registration certificates for medicinal products in Uzbekistan. In 2023, supplies of medicines to this country increased by 120 per cent. In February 2024, commercial contracts worth over five million dollars were signed, which will enable a significant increase in these supplies. A memorandum of understanding was also signed between the “Belfarmprom” holding company and the Agency for the Development of the Pharmaceutical Industry under the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan; on the basis of this, the first contracts have already been signed and practical work has begun not only on expanding direct supplies but also on developing new types of medicines. The Belarusian side has proposed a list of 12 products that could be jointly developed at facilities in Uzbekistan. ‘At present, Belpharm, which is based in Tashkent, and the Nesvizh Medicines Plant are exploring the possibility of commencing the manufacture of infusion solutions for the needs of the Ministry of Health of Uzbekistan. The Belarusian plant is acting as a technical partner, which implies a willingness to transfer technology and train specialists’²⁹³. All this suggests that Belarus regards Uzbekistan as one of the most promising platforms for cooperation, with a view to bringing joint products to the markets of third countries. And here is another fact: the Belarusian side has submitted documents for the registration of around 20 new medicinal products in this Central Asian country, and for the re-registration of 27. At the same time, the possibility of introducing a range of Belarusian anti-cancer medicines onto the Uzbek market is being considered; these are two to three times cheaper than their imported equivalents.

Looking at the outcomes of the 2nd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan from the perspective of Belarusian regions, it is worth noting the

²⁹² Staff training and joint operations. How cooperation between the Ministries of Health of Belarus and Uzbekistan is viewed [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/kadrov--sovmestnye-operatsii--viditsia--minzdravov--i-614005-2024/>

²⁹³ Belarus plans to organise the supply of cancer treatment medicines to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/amp/society/view/belarus-planimet-organizovat-nostavki-v-uzbekistan-lekarstv-dlia-lecheniya-onkologii-616347-2024>

interesting results achieved by the Grodno, Brest and Vitebsk regions, as well as Minsk. For example, **the Grodno Regional Executive Committee** signed memoranda of cooperation with the Surkhandarya Region and the Republic of Karakalpakstan, whilst agreements on trade and economic, scientific and technical, environmental, social, humanitarian and cultural cooperation. In this regard, the focus in partnership relations with Uzbek counterparts is on cooperation, the establishment of joint ventures and mutual investment. “There is interest on the part of Uzbek businesses in investing in the economy of the Grodno Region <...>. There is interest on the part of our [Grodno] manufacturers not only in supplying finished products, but also in setting up joint ventures and manufacturing products there”²⁹⁴. During the same period in February, Grodno State University (GSU) “signed cooperation agreements with Urgench Innovative University and Tashkent State Technical University”²⁹⁵, as well as with the Nizami Tashkent State Pedagogical University. In addition, representatives of GrSU at the Tashkent Institute of Chemical Technology outlined plans for the further development of a joint educational programme for master’s students, whilst at Tashkent State Transport University they discussed prospects for developing mutually beneficial ties.

As for **the Brest Region**, which saw an increase in trade turnover and export volumes to the Uzbek market by the end of 2023, it set out clear priorities for cooperation with Uzbek partners at the forum: the production of textiles, road construction, the manufacture of bricks, ceramic bricks and blocks, as well as cooperation in agriculture and the organisation of mutual food supplies – peanuts, raisins, dried apricots, prunes and spices. After all, enterprises in the Brest region ‘not only supply their products to Uzbekistan and import Uzbek goods, but are also investors’. For example, the Kobrin-based company ‘Polessye’, which specialises in the manufacture of children’s toys, has invested in the construction of a similar factory in Tashkent²⁹⁶. For this reason, at the forum, the Brest Regional Executive Committee signed action plans for 2024–2025 to implement interregional agreements on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation with the Syrdarya and Bukhara regions, which were concluded at the First

²⁹⁴ Karanik: in cooperation with Uzbekistan, the focus is on establishing joint production facilities and mutual investment [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/karanik-v-sotrudnichestve-s-uzbekistanom-focus-is-on-the-creation-of-joint-ventures-and-mutual-614485-2024/>

²⁹⁵ Three agreements with Uzbek universities will expand GSU’s portfolio of international cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/tri-dogovora-s-vuzami-uzbekistana-dopolniat-nortfel-mezhdunarodnogo-sotrudnichestva-grgu-614135-2024/>

²⁹⁶ The Brest Region will sign new cooperation agreements at the Forum of Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/novye-dogovory-o-sotrudnichestve-zakluchit-brestskai-a-oblast-na-forume-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-613850-2024/>

Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan. In addition, the following were signed at the second forum: a cooperation agreement between the Brest Regional Clinical Hospital and the Bukhara Regional Multidisciplinary Medical Centre, and a memorandum of understanding between the cities of Brest and Bukhara.

On the sidelines of the Second Forum of Regions, the **Vitebsk Region** signed road s for 2024–2025 with the Namangan and Kashkadarya regions. In the second instance, representatives of the Vitebsk Region and the Kashkadarya Region also agreed “on cooperation in the fields of oncology, paediatric surgery, transplantology and endocrinology...”²⁹⁷, and also discussed issues relating to cooperation in the economy, tourism, information technology and sport. Finally, as mentioned above, at the second forum between **Minsk** and Tashkent, an agreement was signed on establishing sister-city ties and a plan of action for implementing the agreement between the Minsk City Executive Committee and the Tashkent City Administration on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation for 2024–2025. The parties have identified the main objective in this regard as ‘implementing all plans as soon as possible’²⁹⁸.

To summarise, it is worth noting that today the interaction between the two former post-Soviet republics ‘is experiencing a period of unprecedented prosperity, reaching a qualitatively new level and striving to identify and expand new forms of cooperation to achieve the objectives of strategic partnership’²⁹⁹. In this context, the Second Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan demonstrated the parties’ firm commitment to further effective partnership, whilst the priority area of Belarusian-Uzbek relations remains the expansion and deepening of mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation: from industrial cooperation and agriculture to scientific, technological, cultural, humanitarian and regional interaction.

²⁹⁷ The Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions plan to cooperate in the fields of oncology and paediatric surgery [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaia--kashkadariiskaia-oblasti-planiruiut-sotrudnichestvo-v-sferah-onkologii-i-detskoi-hirurgii-613865-2024/>

²⁹⁸ A delegation from Minsk is taking part in the 2nd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/delegatsiia-iz-minska-uchastvuet-v-ii-forume--uzbekistana-613836-2024/>

²⁹⁹ Zaleski, B. Partnership Address – Uzbekistan. A Chronicle of Cooperative Interaction / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – p. 61.

Cooperation is developing on an upward trajectory

In August 2024, the second Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum took place in Tashkent, with around 100 representatives from the business community and government bodies attending from the Belarusian side alone. It should be noted that the first such forum took place in September 2023 in Minsk and was dedicated to the theme 'Women in Business – Potential for the Development of Business Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan', at which "14 memoranda and cooperation agreements, including an agreement to establish a joint leather and footwear production facility, and 15 contracts worth over Br90 million, or 350 billion Uzbek sum"³⁰⁰.

This time, the theme of the women's forum was "From traditional business to green business". In the context of this theme, it was noted that Belarus and Uzbekistan are taking a responsible approach to building a green economy, backing this up with concrete actions. For example, they are increasing trade turnover year on year, mutually ensuring the production of competitive goods and developing industrial cooperation, localising Belarusian and Uzbek production facilities in each other's territories, and increasing the share of investment. Among the priorities for green economic growth, the parties consider joint activities aimed at the development, implementation and use of environmentally friendly technologies, as well as the development of environmental services, ecotourism and agro-ecotourism. It is also "advisable to explore the possibility of establishing a bio-design laboratory farm, where new crop varieties, including agricultural ones, would be bred, and climate-adaptive technologies and approaches would be developed to enhance the resilience of territories to the negative impact of man-made and natural factors"³⁰¹. This was discussed in six thematic sessions of the forum, based on the main areas of cooperation between the two countries: mechanical engineering, light industry, agriculture, chemicals and wood processing, medical and educational services, and tourism. Here, too, interesting results of bilateral cooperation were highlighted, following which it was planned to "sign more than 60 agreements and memoranda of understanding worth around \$50 million"³⁰².

³⁰⁰ Kochanova: The Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum is very much in keeping with the spirit of the times [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/kochanova-uzbeksko-belorusskii-zhenskii-biznes-forum-nolnosti-i-otvechaet-duhu-vremeni-656964-2024/>

³⁰¹ Kochanova: Belarus and Uzbekistan are taking a conscientious approach to building a green economy [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/--uzbekistan--k-stroitelstvu--tipa-dobrosovestno-656993-2024/>

³⁰² Narbayaeva: Following the Second Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum, more than 60 agreements are set to be signed [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/narbaeva-itogam-ii-uzbeksko-belorusskogo-women's-business-forum-plans-to-sign-more-than-60-657064-2024/>

In particular, the forum addressed the area of mutual interest that is education. At the plenary session, the parties set out their objective to expand mutual exchange programmes and work placements for students, lecturers and specialists from various services and departments, and to step up cooperation within the framework of joint educational programmes. This is all the more relevant given that Belarus is keen to increase the number of Uzbek students at Belarusian higher education institutions, as well as to ‘attract personnel from Uzbekistan to Belarusian enterprises, for example, in the light industry and engineering sectors, with the possibility of their rapid training and retraining for the green economy across a wide range of specialisms’³⁰³. In particular, 300 specialists from Uzbekistan are already working at the Minsk Automobile Plant.

Speaking specifically about cooperation between higher education institutions, it was noted at the second Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, held in February 2024, that a few years ago only a few dozen Uzbek citizens were studying in our country, whereas ‘today, around 5,000 students are studying at joint faculties. The focus is on expanding the range of study programmes and making the most of the potential of Belarusian universities’³⁰⁴. To date, more than 400 contracts and agreements have been concluded. A forum of rectors has taken place, and ‘on the agenda is the opening in Uzbekistan of a branch of Vitebsk State University – one of the country’s leading higher education institutions’³⁰⁵.

In this context, another telling example can be cited. Last summer, Grodno State University (GSU) saw its first cohort of students graduate from the joint programme run by GSU and Tashkent Law University. For reference, it should be noted that these students were recruited to study under the 2+1+1 scheme as far back as 2020

. “The students spent their first two years studying in Grodno, followed by one year in Tashkent, and completed their studies back at GrSU. In this way, they mastered all the subjects in the Belarusian curriculum and the necessary subjects in the Uzbek one. As a result, they each received two degrees in ‘international law’, which enables them to work in their home country,

³⁰³ Belarus is ready to assist in training specialists in high demand in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-gotova-okazat-pomosch-v-obuchenii-vostrebovannykh-v-uzbekistane-spetsialistov-656992-2024/>

³⁰⁴ Belarus is ready to set up enterprises in Uzbekistan to commercialise scientific developments [Online resource]. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-gotova-sozdat-v-uzbekistane-predpriatia-dlia-kommertsializatsii-nauchnykh-razrabotok-616330-2024/>

³⁰⁵ “It’s all within our power.” Snopkov assessed the potential for increasing trade turnover with Uzbekistan [Online source]. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/vse-v-nashih-silah-snopkov-otseuil-vozmozhnost-uvlecheniia-tovarooborota-s-uzbekistanom-657036-2024/>

Uzbekistan, as well as in Belarus...³⁰⁶. Several students completed their studies with excellent results and received the corresponding degrees. Some of them will continue their studies at master's level. The programme will continue to run. We would add that GSU is currently running eight joint educational programmes, in which 216 students are enrolled: 144 students from Tashkent State Law University, 37 from Karshi State University, 32 from the Mukimi State Pedagogical Institute in Kokand, and three Master's students from the Tashkent Institute of Chemistry and Technology.

Another topical issue raised during the second Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum was cooperation between the regions of the two countries. At the plenary session of the forum, it was emphasised that the parties need to involve the scientific and expert-analytical communities more actively in the topic of green business, including 'developing people-to-people diplomacy, initiating and monitoring the establishment of twinning links between cities in Belarus and Uzbekistan'. Such an approach will facilitate the development of joint

forward-looking business solutions, including the creation of new markets and the promotion of joint products in third-country markets³⁰⁷. This is all the more relevant given that, as early as the second Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, documents were adopted which foster multifaceted cooperation between the regions of the two countries on the implementation of projects in the agro-industrial sector, the electrical engineering and textile sectors, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, urban planning and public utilities; furthermore, 'roadmaps will be adopted and working groups established for each area'³⁰⁸. Following this February forum, a number of examples emerged of how Belarusian and Uzbek regions are engaging in effective cooperation.

For instance, in April 2024, the Gomel and Fergana regions signed a roadmap for cooperation and approved an action plan for 2024–2025, which 'envisages the deepening and expansion of bilateral trade and economic, scientific and technical, and cultural and humanitarian cooperation'³⁰⁹. At the same time, a cooperation agreement was signed between the "Kokand"

³⁰⁶ 54 graduates of GrSU and Tashkent Law University received degrees from both universities [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/diplomy-srazu-dvuh-vuzov-poluchili-54-vypusknika-grsu-i-tashkentskogo-i-uridicheskogo-universiteta-644190-2024/>

³⁰⁷ Kochanova: We need to forge sister-city ties between towns in Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/society/view/kochanova-mizhno-vvstraiyat-nobrafimskie-svazi-mezhdu-gorodami-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-657003-2024/>

³⁰⁸ Zaleski, B. Realising Economic Potential in a Turbulent Global Environment / Boris Zaleski. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. - p. 32.

³⁰⁹ Leaders of the Gomel and Fergana regions signed a roadmap for cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/rukovoditeli-gomelskoi-i-ferganskoi-oblastei-podpisali-dorozhniin-kartu-sotmdnichestva-629168-2024/>

and “Gomel-Raton” free economic zones, and contracts worth more than six and a half million Belarusian rubles were concluded. It should be noted that the two regions have been developing ties since 2019. During this time, ‘exports of Gomel-produced goods to the Fergana Region have increased 4.5-fold’³¹⁰. Going forward, the parties have identified several key areas on which they will build their cooperation: the establishment of a joint dairy enterprise, the supply of products from Gomel-based engineering firms, furniture production, and the organisation of trading houses in Gomel and Fergana.

As for cooperation between the two capitals – Minsk and Tashkent – in February 2024 they signed an agreement on establishing sister-city ties and a plan of action for trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation for 2024–2025. And as early as April, a delegation from Tashkent visited Minsk to study the city’s experience in various areas of urban management. This was all the more relevant given that “a large-scale project called ‘New Tashkent’ is being implemented in Uzbekistan, which involves building a city based on modern architectural achievements across an area of almost 20,000 hectares”³¹¹. For this reason, the Uzbek partners were interested in everything: the width of the streets, traffic management, the centralised control of traffic lights, and the operation of the ‘One-Stop Shop’ system. In the Belarusian capital, they also shared their experience in other areas: the 115 emergency service, and enterprises manufacturing municipal and passenger transport vehicles. Furthermore, “opportunities for industrial cooperation were discussed, particularly in the fields of woodworking and furniture production, the supply of baby food, and the establishment of a trading house in Minsk”³¹². So the sister-city ties between the two capitals are beginning to develop on an upward trajectory. And that is certainly encouraging.

Finally, the second women’s forum placed particular emphasis on the topics of scientific, technical and industrial-cooperative collaboration. In particular, the Institute of Microbiology of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NAS) signed an agreement on scientific and technological cooperation with the Institute of Microbiology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan and an agreement with the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan on scientific

³¹⁰ The Gomel and Fergana regions have signed contracts worth more than Br6.5 million [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/gomelskaia-i-ferganskaia-oblasti-zakluchili-kontraktv-bolee-chem-na-br65-mln-629575-2024/>

³¹¹ Kuharev: Minsk is ready to share its experience with Tashkent in the housing and utilities sector, urban planning and digitalisation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: https://belta.by/regions/-/minsk-_-_-_-_-v-zhkh-gradoostroitelstvo-tsifrovizatsii-628286-2024/

³¹² Trade, industrial co-operation, exchange of experience. Kuharev outlined areas of co-operation with Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/-/na-vstreche--poslom--napravleniia-sotrudnichestva-s-regionami-uzbekistana-623983-2024/>

collaboration in the study of peptide-based agents as alternatives to antibiotics. Meanwhile, “the Institute of Meat and Dairy Industry signed an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation, and an understanding was reached on the joint implementation of a number of scientific projects, including in the field of the biochemistry of meat, dairy and fish products”³¹³

In addition, a ‘Made in Belarus’ exhibition and presentation was organised at this forum, where over 70 innovations by Belarusian scientists from the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus and the Ministry of Education were showcased in the scientific and technical developments section. For example, the Institute of Meat and Dairy Industry of the National Academy of Sciences presented technologies for the production of low-lactose and lactose-free dairy and fermented milk products, as well as products manufactured using these technologies.

The Institute of Microbiology of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus presented a range of microbiological preparations. One of these is designed for the comprehensive treatment of wastewater from poultry processing plants. The second is for treating winter wheat seeds and growing plants; it stimulates growth and increases the yield of the cereal crop. A unique microbial preparation was also presented for purifying aqueous solutions of a mixture of the most common solvent-based esters and alcohols. Vitebsk State Technological University presented nanofibrous materials of various structures, produced by electroforming and intended for use in medicine and cosmetology to create innovative preparations. Polotsk State University showcased a protective wax for rubber at the exhibition, which is an ingredient in rubber compounds used in the manufacture of car tyres. In terms of its properties, it is equivalent to imported protective wax. “Setting up production will eliminate the need to import 210 tonnes per year into Belarus and reduce costs by 50 per cent thanks to cheaper domestic raw materials”³¹⁴. Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno presented composite materials based on various polymer matrices for the manufacture of industrial products. The National Research Centre for Materials Science of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus demonstrated jewellery-grade synthetic emeralds, the single crystals of which have characteristics similar to those of natural gemstones.

³¹³ Scientists from Belarus and Uzbekistan to collaborate in the fields of microbiology and biochemistry [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/uchenye-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-budut-sotrudnichat-v-oblasti-mikrobiologii-i-biohimii-656830-2024/>

³¹⁴ Gavrilova, V. From biological products to medical devices: which Belarusian innovations are being presented at the business forum in Tashkent / V. Gavrilova // [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/comments/view/of-bionpreparatov-do-medizdelii-kakie-belorusskie-razrabotki-prezentuiut-na-biznes-forume-v-tashkente-9344/>

Meanwhile, Belarusian State University (BSU) showcased ‘more than ten unique inventions in the fields of medicine, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, technological equipment...’³¹⁵. In particular, the range of microbial biopreparations included products in high demand within the agro-industrial sector. For instance, ‘Baktogen’ has been developed to protect vegetable crops from bacterial and fungal diseases. In addition, the stand showcased plant growth and quality regulators designed to boost crop yields – ‘Gulliver’, ‘Stimul’, ‘MaxImmun’ and ‘Korneplus’ – as well as the biological product ‘Nemacid’, which is intended to combat pests such as the gall nematode. This is the only product in Belarus against this parasite that is authorised for use in private gardens. Another exhibit was the ‘Food of the Smart City’ range of food products. It comprises dry mixes of pre-chopped or crushed dried vegetables, herbs, spices, salt and other ingredients. These herbal complexes have an immunomodulatory effect and help to normalise the functions of the musculoskeletal system, as well as the nervous and immune systems. In addition, visitors to the exhibition were able to familiarise themselves with synthetic insect pheromones for controlling pests in forests and orchards, resource-saving technological equipment for the production of products made from flexible, integral and rigid polyurethane foams, and new functional materials based on recycled resources.

Ten enterprises from the Belarusian Ministry of Industry also showcased their products at this exhibition. In the outdoor area, the MAZ-65012K three-axle tipper lorry (), powered by natural gas and with a load capacity of 18.5 tonnes, was on display. The specialised engine is manufactured at a joint Belarusian-Chinese venture in the ‘Velikiy Kamen’ industrial park. In a closed area within the Ministry of Industry’s collective exhibition, the latest models were also showcased – ‘medical products from OJSC “Integral” and the BelOMO holding, the largest television in Belarus with a screen diagonal of 100 inches, as well as laptops and other products from OJSC ‘N Holding’, a large-scale model of the T811 tram (scale 1:20) from OJSC ‘UKH “BKM”’, and diesel generator sets from OJSC ‘Minsk Motor Plant’”³¹⁶.

This exhibition and presentation demonstrated that, for several years now, Uzbekistan has been attracting numerous exporters from Belarus to showcase their capabilities at trade fairs in this Central Asian country. And 2024 is no exception in this regard. There are other examples that illustrate just how diverse the participation of Belarusian enterprises and organisations in Uzbek

³¹⁵ BSU to showcase innovative developments at an exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/bgu-predstavit-innovatsionnye-razrabotki-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-656636-2024/>

³¹⁶ Ten enterprises under the Ministry of Industry will present their products at the 2nd Uzbek-Belarusian Women’s Business Forum [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/desiat-predprii-ati-mimproma-prezentui-ut-produktsii-u-na-ti-uzbeksko-beloruskom-zhenskoy-biznes-forume-655386-2024/>

exhibitions can be.

Back in late winter – early spring of this year, the 25th International Specialised Exhibition ‘Construction – UzBuild’ took place in Tashkent at the ‘Uzexpocentre’ exhibition complex, where a collective Belarusian exhibition was organised, represented by ‘five flagships of Belarusian industry: “Mogilevliftmash”, ‘EnergoKomplekt’, ‘Bellesexport’, the Newsprint Paper Mill and the ‘Parquet Factory’ branch of OJSC Tomeldrev’³¹⁷.

Belarusian enterprises showcased their products: lifts, hoisting, electrical and LED equipment, cable and wire

products, sawn timber, rounded timber, fuel products (wood chips, pellets), glued laminated timber houses, frame-panel houses, solid laminated parquet, engineered timber and mouldings. The exhibition also featured individual stands from Belarusian businesses – ‘OJSC “Keramin”, <...> PO “Energokomplekt”, LLC “Portman” (UNIDOORS brand), as well as OJSC “Rechitsa Metalworks”³¹⁸.

A month later, at the end of March 2024, companies from Belarus took part in the 23rd international exhibition UzFood 2024 in Tashkent, which was attended by over 280 companies from 26 countries around the world. “The ‘Belarus. The Taste of Nature’ comprised 15 Belarusian enterprises and their branches, representing well-known domestic brands”³¹⁹. They presented a product range including meat and dairy products, cheeses, juices and desserts.

And in April, three business events took place here simultaneously. Firstly, there was the 25th International Exhibition “Education and Career – 2024”, which is one of the largest in Uzbekistan; on this occasion, “over 100 universities from nearly 20 countries, including Belarus, were represented”³²⁰.

The Belarusian National Technical University (BITU) organised an information stand, presentations, masterclasses and consultations as part of its exhibition. After all, the number of students from this Central Asian country is growing year on year, not only at BITU but also at other Belarusian higher education institutions.

³¹⁷ Belarus’s exhibition stand is on display at the Uz-Build international construction exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/ekspozitsiia-belarusi-predstavlena-na-mezhdunarodnoi-stroitelnoi-vystavke-uzbuild-v-tashkente-618287-2024/>

³¹⁸ Belarusian companies showcased their products and services at a construction exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriatia-predstavili-svoii-produktsiiu-i-uslugi-na-stroitelnoi-vystavke-v-tashkente-618480-2024>

³¹⁹ Belarusian food products showcased at an exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-produkty-pitaniia-predstavleny-na-vystavke-v-uzbekistane-623805-2024/>

³²⁰ Educational opportunities in Belarus showcased at an international exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/vozmozhnosti-obucheniia-v-belarusi-predstavleny-na-mezhdunarodnoi-vystavke-v-tashkente-628698-2024/>

Secondly, this is the 28th International Exhibition “Healthcare – TINE 2024”, which serves as a unique platform where specialists can familiarise themselves with the latest developments in medical technology. Since its inception, the exhibition has attracted more than three thousand companies, with participants hailing from virtually every continent, including Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa. This year, more than 250 companies from 15 countries took part. Our republic was represented at this forum by BSU, whose stand showcased 20 scientific developments. The exhibition featured achievements by scientists and researchers in the fields of medicine and chemistry. These included medicinal products, medical equipment and pharmaceutical substances. For example, haemostatic wipes to stop bleeding, which are ‘intended for use as an adjunct during surgical procedures to stop capillary, venous and minor arterial bleeding, as well as in cases of domestic bleeding. The wipes are made from sterile, absorbent fabric of a white or yellowish-white colour, produced by the controlled oxidation of cellulose’³²¹. Visitors to the exhibition were also able to learn about ‘Foscelantan’, an innovative preparation designed to accelerate the regeneration of damaged tissues, which speeds up wound healing in cases of boils, abscesses, carbuncles, fistulas, thermal burns and trophic ulcers. The exhibits also included the medicinal product ‘Antispiké’ for the prevention of adhesions following surgical procedures on abdominal organs, the anti-tumour drugs ‘Cisplacel’, ‘Prospidelong’ and ‘Temodex’, as well as herbal supplements and blends based on natural aromatic and spice ingredients, designed to improve the nutrition of pre-school and school-age children, athletes and the elderly.

Thirdly, there is the international specialised exhibition “INNOPROM. Central Asia”, which brought together over 400 exhibitors and featured 28 collective displays, including “Made in Belarus”, in which “more than 10 Belarusian enterprises and their branches, representing renowned domestic industrial brands” took part³²². In particular, samples and developments from one of

flagships of Belarusian industry – the quarry machinery manufacturer OJSC “BELAZ”, the managing company of the “BELAZ-Holding” group. The ‘Gomselmash’ holding company – the largest manufacturer of agricultural machinery and one of the world market leaders in combine harvesters and

³²¹ Around 20 research projects from BSU will be presented at the international healthcare exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/20-nanchnyh--predstaviat-na-mezhdunarodnoi-vystavke-zdravooohranenija-628163-2024/>

³²² Belarus presented industrial innovations at the “INNOPROM. Central Asia” exhibition [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavila-promyshlennye-razrabotki-na-vystavke-innoprom-tsentralnaia-azija-629623-2024/>

other complex agricultural machinery – was also presented at this forum. OAO “Minsk Tractor Works” showcased modernised, upgraded and specialised versions of its tractors, whilst a specialist enterprise engaged in the design and manufacture of starters and alternators for carburettor and diesel engines used in lorries and passenger cars, buses, agricultural machinery and specialised equipment – OJSC “BATE” – showcased products from a number of its subsidiaries, including OJSC “Borisov Power Steering Plant”, OJSC “Belcard”, OJSC “Rudensk” and OJSC “ ” “Vitebsk Electrical Measuring Instruments Plant”. OJSC “BMZ” showcased a wide range of metal products, each type of which combines innovation with the company’s many years of development experience. Samples of metal-cutting machine tools and CNC machining centres, as well as universal cantilever milling machines, were presented at the stand of OJSC “StankoGomel”. Developments in the field of power distribution transformers and other electrical equipment were demonstrated by OJSC “METZ named after V.I. Kozlov”. ‘Cooling Systems Plant’ Ltd presented radiators for cooling power systems and products successfully used in the cooling systems of open-cast mining dump trucks, tractors, drilling rigs, diesel generators, modular power stations, traction transformers for electric locomotives, and compressor stations. BKM Holding, which specialises in the manufacture of electric transport – electric buses, trolleybuses, trams, electric lorries and charging infrastructure – showcased large-scale models of its products at the exhibition, including a low-floor single-section tram with two motor bogies. Minsk Watch Factory OJSC presented its range of wristwatches, alarm clocks, machined parts and printed circuit boards. Furthermore, as part of this forum, Belarusian participants held a series of meetings to consolidate areas of partnership.

As we can see, Belarus and Uzbekistan are maintaining strong momentum in the development of bilateral relations, including in the field of exhibition activities, which is reflected in the trade and economic balance. For the record, it is worth noting that since 2016, trade turnover between the two countries “has increased 5.5-fold and, in 2022, exceeded the half-billion mark for the first time. Growth in mutual trade last year stood at 15 per cent, and in January–September this year – almost 13 per cent”³²³. At the same time, Minsk and Tashkent intend to further deepen this cooperation to cover new promising areas of collaboration.

Returning to the decisions of the second Uzbek-Belarusian Women’s

³²³ Ambassador: Belarus-Uzbekistan relations are developing at a very rapid pace [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: https://subs.belta.by/Republ.nsf/59e33ed42f57f8c5422569f8002b86f7/4142892f5e53f61_843258bcd0069ee26f_OpenDocument

Business Forum, we would emphasise that its proceedings covered a wide range of areas: the real economy, engineering, tourism and healthcare. The investment agenda is also gradually gaining momentum. Suffice it to say that 'Belarus's investment in Uzbekistan's development has multiplied over the last five years. <...> Here in Uzbekistan alone, there are around 180 organisations with capital from Belarus'³²⁴. All this indicates that bilateral Belarusian-Uzbek economic cooperation is developing steadily and is aimed at reaching a new level of mutual trade.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

³²⁴ Chebotar: Belarus and Uzbekistan reaffirm their interest in developing cooperation across all areas [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/-belarus--uzbekistan--interes--sotrudnichestva-po-vsem-napravleni-am-657018-2024/>

An additional impetus for expanding cooperation

In June 2025, the 11th meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission (JIC) on cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan took place in Minsk, at which topical issues of bilateral interaction were discussed in areas such as industrial cooperation, transport links, agriculture, inter-regional cooperation, healthcare, and cultural and humanitarian exchanges. Following these discussions, the parties expressed their mutual interest in the further steady development of trade and economic cooperation. It should be noted that trade turnover between the two countries in 2024 “amounted to US\$620.1 million, which is 14.8 per cent more than in the previous year”³²⁵. The structure of Uzbek exports to the Belarusian market was dominated by industrial goods, finished products, foodstuffs and transport equipment. At the same time, the bulk of exports from Belarus to Uzbekistan consisted of foodstuffs, engineering products, chemical products and raw materials for industry. In this regard, it is worth noting an interesting fact. ‘In 2024, Kamvol, Belarus’s largest full-cycle textile manufacturer, increased its exports to Uzbekistan tenfold, partly due to the supply of new product ranges to the Uzbek market’³²⁶.

Last year, a roadmap for cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan for 2024–2025 was signed, setting the target of increasing the volume of bilateral trade to one billion dollars. At the 11th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the parties agreed to intensify bilateral cooperation. In particular, Belarus expressed its readiness to supply high-quality foodstuffs, as well as products from the woodworking, petrochemical and pharmaceutical industries, agricultural and freight machinery, medicines and household appliances. On the other hand, in our republic, ‘there remains a steady demand for supplies from Uzbekistan of raw materials essential for Belarusian industry, cotton yarn and knitwear, rolled metal products, and wine-making materials. Fruit and vegetables remain a traditional import from Uzbekistan, as they do not grow here [in Belarus] due to climatic conditions or have a later ripening period’³²⁷.

Furthermore, Uzbekistan is interested in developing and expanding industrial cooperation with Belarus, “primarily through the creation of export-oriented

³²⁵ The 11th meeting of the Joint Uzbek-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission took place in Minsk [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: https://eccis.org/news/29998/Zv_minske_sostoialos_11-a_meeting_of_the_joint_Uzbek-Belarusian_intergovernmental_commission

³²⁶ Exports of textiles by OJSC “Kamvol” to Uzbekistan increased tenfold in 2024 [Electronic resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/-/--kamvol-v-uzbekistan-v-2024-godu--v-10-raz-694868-2025/>

³²⁷ Trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan has increased 2.3-fold over five years [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-za-5-let-uvlechilsia-v-23-raz-721650-2025/>

joint ventures producing goods with high added value”³²⁸. In particular, there are already successful examples of cooperation in the light manufacturing sector. There are also successful projects in other sectors. The Minsk Tractor Works is working on organising the assembly of tractors in Uzbekistan. The Minsk Motor Works, in collaboration with Planeta Servis LLC, is implementing a project to set up an assembly line for diesel generators. Furthermore, “the issue of building a cable and wire products manufacturing plant in Uzbekistan was previously discussed; results have already been achieved, and the parties expect to see the first joint finished products in the near future”³²⁹.

As part of the 11th session of the Intergovernmental Commission in Minsk, the 6th meeting of the Belarusian-Uzbek working group on agriculture and the food industry was also held, at which it was noted that by the end of 2024, trade turnover “in the sector of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials had increased by 37.5 per cent compared with the previous year. Exports of Belarusian products are growing at a particularly rapid pace – they have almost doubled, rising by 140.4 per cent”³³⁰. At present, Belarus supplies meat and meat products, dairy products, sugar, fish and chocolate to Uzbekistan. In return, it receives fruit, berries, vegetables and melons.

At the same meeting, particular attention was paid to joint projects. “For instance, a poultry production complex is being developed in the Tashkent region. A blueberry experimental and demonstration field is also being established in Uzbekistan, and cooperation continues between the Belarusian Institute of Flax and Uzbek scientific institutions on the breeding and cultivation of new flax varieties. In addition, work is underway to test Belarusian potato varieties under Uzbek conditions”³³¹. The Uzbek side expressed interest in our potato varieties suitable for the production of crisps and chips, as well as in increasing supplies of Belarusian beef and breeding stock. The partners also agreed to expand cooperation in the field of agricultural machinery certification and the introduction of animal monitoring systems. Finally, the Belarusian side “announced plans to participate in a tender for the supply of peat and proposed that Uzbek specialists consider the possibility of an internship in our country”³³².

³²⁸ Uzbekistan is interested in developing industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/viety/-zainteresovan-v-promkooperatsii-s-belarusiu-721670-2025/>

³²⁹ Belarus is ready to increase supplies of food and machinery to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-gotova-naraschivat--uzbekistan-prodovolstviu-tehniki-721662-2025/>

³³⁰ Belarus almost doubled its agricultural exports to Uzbekistan in 2024 [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-nochti-vdvoe-eksport-selhozproduktov-uzbekistan-v-2024-godu-718637-2025/>

³³¹ Blueberry trial field and potato variety trials. What agricultural projects link Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/opvnoe-pole-golubiki-i-sortispytaniya-kartoshki-kakie-agrarne-proekty-svazvayut-belarus-i-719983-2025/>

³³² Uzbekistan is ready to increase supplies of Belarusian beef and breeding stock [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

In this context, it should be added that in the first half of 2025, Belarusian exporters were very active in the Uzbek market through international trade fairs. For example, in April this year, at the the national exhibition complex ‘Uzexpocentre’ in Tashkent at the **24th international exhibition of food products, ingredients and production technologies, UzFood 2025**, where ‘more than 350 companies from around 30 countries were represented, including Germany, the Netherlands, Jordan, Malaysia, the UAE, China, Russia, India, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Austria’³³³, an exhibition featuring Belarusian producers, **‘Belarus. The Taste of Nature’**, comprised four exhibition areas. The Belarusian State Food Industry Concern ‘Belgospishcheprom’ presented confectionery and pastille and marmalade products made from natural ingredients. Sausage products, tinned goods, beef products, cheeses and skimmed milk powder were exhibited by enterprises belonging to the ‘Management Company of the “Brestmyasomolprom” Holding’ public organisation. Halal-certified broiler chicken products were showcased by one of the largest producers of high-quality chicken meat – OJSC “Druzhba Poultry Farm”. A wide range of sausages and tinned goods was presented by well-known domestic meat processing plants. Among the Belarusian companies participating in UzFood 2025 were also leading players in the dairy sector – OJSC ‘Babushkina Krynka’ and OJSC ‘Molochny Mir’.

Belarusian industrial innovations from well-known domestic brands were showcased in April as part of the collective **‘Made in Belarus’** exhibition at the **5th international specialised exhibition ‘INNOPROM. Central Asia’** in Tashkent. The main objective of this exhibition forum is ‘to expand industrial

cooperation with countries in the region and to establish contacts between industrial enterprises and government bodies in Uzbekistan and other countries’³³⁴. This year, the exhibition brought together more than 400 participating companies and over 10,000 trade visitors from around 40 countries, including Uzbekistan, Russia, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Azerbaijan. The Belarusian exhibition showcased products from 17 Belarusian enterprises and their subsidiaries, including well-known domestic companies such as the Belarusian Automobile Plant,

<https://belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-otlov-narashivat-postavki-belorusskoi-goviadinv-i-plennemozo-skota-721716-2025/>

³³³ The ‘Belarus. The Taste of Nature’ exhibition is on display at the largest food exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/ekspozitsiya-belarus-the-taste-of-nature-predstavlena-na-krupnei-shej-pischevoi-vystavke-v-tashkente-707924-2025/>

³³⁴ The ‘INNOPROM. Central Asia’ exhibition hosts an exhibition of Belarusian manufacturers in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/vystavka-innoprom-tsentrlnala-azija-prinimaet-ekspozitsiyu-belorusskfh-v-tashkente-711830-2025/>

‘Gomselmash’, ‘BKM Holding’, the Belarusian Metallurgical Plant and ‘Integral’, which presented unique industrial prototypes and comprehensive solutions.

In May, Belarusian companies were represented at **the international petrochemical exhibition ‘Oil and Gas of Uzbekistan – OGU 2025’**, which took place in the Uzbek capital and is a key event for representatives of the oil and gas industry, as well as a platform for experts in the fuel and energy sector to exchange experiences. This forum brought together “exhibitors from 20 countries, including experts from Russia, China, Japan, the UAE and representatives of the European Union”³³⁵. The Belarusian exhibition featured leading companies from the petrochemical sector. Oil refining and the production of petroleum products were showcased by OJSC “Naftan” and OJSC “Mozyr Oil Refinery”. Products based on polyamide-6 were presented by the “Zavod Khimvolokno” branch of OJSC “Grodno Azot”. As part of the ‘Oil and Gas of Uzbekistan – OGU 2025’ exhibition, with the participation of the Belarusian side, bilateral meetings were held with representatives of foreign enterprises and companies, as well as thematic round-table discussions and business events aimed at expanding areas of interaction and cooperation.

Returning to the 11th session of the Intergovernmental Commission, it should be noted that the parties agreed to inject fresh momentum into the work of the joint Belarusian-Uzbek commission on cooperation in the field of science and technology. This is all the more relevant given that, back in December 2024, the State Committee for Science and Technology of Belarus and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of Uzbekistan had announced a call for proposals for joint Belarusian-Uzbek scientific and technical projects for 2025–2026, which will cover areas such as ‘digital information and communication technologies and interdisciplinary technologies, energy and

energy saving, medicine and medical technologies, pharmaceuticals and pharmacology, nano- and biotechnologies, chemical technologies, new materials, the digital economy, food security, agro-industrial technologies, sustainable use of natural resources, water resource management technologies, mineral extraction, laser technologies and photonics”³³⁶.

As regards the education sector, a forum of university rectors from both

³³⁵ Belarusian companies are represented at a petrochemical exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belomusskie-predpriiatiia-predstavleny-na-nefehimicheskoi-vystavke-v-uzbekistane-714580-2025/>

³³⁶ Call for proposals for Belarusian-Uzbek scientific and technical projects for 2025–2026 [Electronic resource]. -

2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/obfaylen-konkurs-belomussko-uzbekskh-nauchno-tehnicheskikh-proektov-na-2025-2026-godu-682523-2024/>

countries was held in 2024, and to date ‘a total of around 400 agreements in the field of education have been signed between educational institutions in Belarus and Uzbekistan’³³⁷. Among the active participants in this partnership is the **Maxim Tank Belarusian State Pedagogical University (BSPU)**, which has already signed ten agreements on interaction and cooperation with Uzbek universities. These educational links are most actively pursued with the **Nizami State Pedagogical University of Tashkent and the Kadiri State Pedagogical University of Jizzakh**. In particular, programmes in the specialisms of ‘psychology’, ‘speech therapy’, ‘social and psycho-pedagogical support’ and ‘primary education’ are being delivered between Jizzakh University and BSPU. Furthermore, since 2018, “a joint faculty of ‘Innovative Pedagogy’ has been established with Tashkent University, offering programmes in ‘speech therapy’, ‘practical psychology’, ‘pre-school education’, ‘primary education’, ‘psychology’ and ‘inclusive education’”³³⁸. Graduates receive a double degree from both universities. Since 2023, the university has been offering master’s programmes in ‘inclusive education’ and ‘practical psychology’. “Over 360 graduates have completed the joint faculty programme, whilst 120 students are currently studying for their bachelor’s degrees and around 70 are on master’s programmes”³³⁹. In November 2024, the Centre for Uzbek Culture was opened at the Belarusian State Pedagogical University to expand cooperation in the humanities between the two brotherly countries.

Another interesting example of educational ties between Belarus and Uzbekistan is the **Yanka Kupala Grodno State University (GrSU)**, which “has 20 agreements in place for the implementation of 38 joint educational programmes with higher education institutions in the Republic of Uzbekistan”³⁴⁰. Among its partners are a number of universities in the Uzbek capital – **Tashkent State Law University, the State University of Economics, the Institute of Chemical Technology, the State University of Transport, the University of Information Technologies**, as well as such prestigious institutions as **Samarkand State University and Urgench Innovative University**. In 2024, as part of the second Forum of the Regions

³³⁷ Aleinyk: A unique model of multi-level cooperation has been established between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/aleinik-mezhdu-belarusii-i-uzbekistanom-vystroena-unikalnaya-model-mnogourovnevnogo-sotrudnichestva-703094-2025/>

³³⁸ Vice-Chancellor of BSU on programmes with Uzbek universities: we aim to raise the prestige of the teaching profession [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/society/view/prorektor-bgpu-o-programmah-s-uzbekskimi-vuzami-stremimsya-povysit-prestizh-pedagogicheskoy-professii-694367-2025/>

³³⁹ “Expanding cooperation in the humanities”. A Centre for Uzbek Culture has been opened at BSPU [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/rasshirit-umanitarnoe-sotrudnichestvo-tsentr-uzbekskoi-kultury-otkryt-v-bgpu-676702-2024/>

³⁴⁰ Projects, conferences, exchanges: Grodno State University and Namangan Pedagogical Institute have outlined plans for cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/proektv-konferentsii-obmeny-grgu-i-namanganskii-pedinstitut-nametili-planv-sotrudnichestva-679709-2024/>

of the two countries, Grodno State University also signed a cooperation agreement with **the Namangan State Pedagogical Institute**. And as early as 2025, joint research projects, conferences, and student and academic staff exchanges will be organised with the aim of strengthening mutually beneficial relations and exchanging experience in the fields of education and science. Grodno's agricultural and medical universities, as well as the I. Schastny Electrical Engineering College and the Medical College, are also actively cooperating with Uzbek partners. Overall, **the Grodno Region** cooperates with four regions of Uzbekistan –

Samarkand, Andijan, Surkhondaryo regions and the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Here is another example. In 2025, **the P.O. Sukhoi Gomel State Technical University** signed a cooperation agreement with **the Fergana Polytechnic University**. This document “includes agreements on the exchange of students and lecturers, the organisation of joint seminars, training programmes, the implementation of bilateral projects, and the sharing of expertise within the framework of international programmes”³⁴¹. So, in the field of education, Belarus and Uzbekistan are gradually expanding the scope of their cooperation, including through their regions.

Incidentally, to date, 17 bilateral agreements have already been signed between the regions of Belarus and 14 regions of Uzbekistan. In addition, there is an agreement between the capitals – **Minsk** and **Tashkent** – which became twin cities in 2024. And for 2025, they have already outlined a number of specific areas for cooperation, including ‘waste processing and disposal, including the recycling of construction waste, and the possibility of establishing a single city control centre in Tashkent (similar to Minsk’s “115 service”)³⁴². Other areas under discussion include the replacement and installation of lift equipment, the recycling of car tyres, the creation of a furniture cluster, the improvement of the traffic management system, the production of specialised municipal machinery, the provision of baby food for Tashkent residents, and a number of other investment projects.

The **Minsk Region** also has significant potential for inter-regional cooperation, collaborating with the **Bukhara** and **Tashkent** regions. Last year, the main exports from the Belarusian capital region to the Uzbek market were ‘timber, processed or tinned meat products, offal, flour, cereals,

³⁴¹ Joint projects in manufacturing and education. Gomel and Fergana regions strengthen their partnership [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/-/proektiv-proizvodstve--gomelskaj-a-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-ut-partnerstvo-688538-2025/>

³⁴² Lift equipment and waste management. Minsk and Tashkent define areas of cooperation [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/liftovoe-oborudovanie-i-utilizatsija-othodov-minsk-i-tashkent-onredefajut-vektory-vzaimodejstvija-702536-2025/>

potato flakes and granules, and meat and poultry by-products³⁴³. So, by 2025, ties between the regions of the two countries will only continue to develop. All the more so as there are still many areas where Belarusian and Uzbek partners could work together more intensively.

Let us summarise. When the 10th meeting of the joint Belarusian-Uzbek intergovernmental commission (IGC) on bilateral cooperation took place in Samarkand in December 2023, the parties, discussing the state of play and prospects for trade and economic cooperation, paid 'particular attention to the sectors of industry, agriculture and healthcare, in order to give new practical substance to the economic

component of the partnership between Belarus and Uzbekistan with new practical substance and to ensure the timely implementation of investment projects and trade contracts³⁴⁴. The very fact that the 11th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission is taking place demonstrates that the parties are genuinely committed to developing a multifaceted and constructive dialogue that contributes to the strengthening of trade, economic, scientific, technical and educational ties, which will form the basis for the further development of the full spectrum of Belarusian-Uzbek relations.

³⁴³ Turchin to the Uzbek Ambassador: there are many areas where we could make more intensive progress [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/-poslu-uzbekistana--napravlenij-gde-my-mogli--intensivno-622866-2024/>

³⁴⁴ Zaleski, B. Partnership Destination: Uzbekistan. A Chronicle of Cooperative Interaction / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – p. 47.

Moving on to significant projects

Industrial cooperation

Uzbekistan is one of Belarus's main and key partners in Central Asia. It continues to be our republic's most important trading partner, firmly holding third place in terms of trade turnover amongst the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The figures bear this out. In 2025, trade turnover between the two countries grew by almost 35 per cent, reaching \$855 million. Meanwhile, exports of Belarusian goods increased by almost 42 per cent, to \$686 million. This positive trend in trade and economic cooperation has continued into the start of this year. In particular, 'in January 2026, trade turnover amounted to around \$74 million, which is more than 70 per cent higher than the figures for the same period in 2025'³⁴⁵. Belarus mainly exports beef, timber, petroleum products, medicines, milk and cream, tractors, chipboard and fibreboard to Uzbekistan. In turn, imports from there consist mainly of rolled steel, cotton yarn, grapes, knitted fabrics and clothing, liquid pumps, dried fruit, and mixtures of nuts and dried fruit. The volume of trade in services is also growing. Last year, it increased by more than half, amounting to just under 210 million dollars. There are 229 organisations registered in Uzbekistan whose founders are residents of Belarus.

The past year was marked by a number of events that took relations between Belarus and Uzbekistan to a new level. These included the 11th meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Cooperation, which took place in June 2025 and at which 'current issues of bilateral cooperation were discussed in areas such as industrial cooperation, transport links, agriculture, inter-regional cooperation, healthcare, as well as cultural and humanitarian exchanges'³⁴⁶.

And in September, the Belarusian-Uzbek Women's Business Forum 'Belarus – Uzbekistan: Cooperation as a Factor in Sustainable Development', which covered virtually all areas of bilateral interaction during sessions in seven sections: 'Light Industry: New Horizons for Cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan', "Prospects for cooperation in the engineering sector", "Belarus and Uzbekistan: business partnership in the tourism industry", "Belarus–Uzbekistan: bilateral cooperation in the socio-economic sphere (challenges and prospects)", "Belarus–Uzbekistan: An Expert Perspective on

³⁴⁵ The Ambassador of Uzbekistan has stated his desire to take relations with Belarus to a higher level [Electronic resource]. – 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/posol-uzbekistana-zaiavil-o-stremlenii-vyvesti-otnosheniya-s-belarusiiu-na-bolee-vysokii-uroven-768462-2026/>

³⁴⁶ Zaleski, B. The Strategy of Multivectorism. Current Opportunities for Belarus's International Cooperation in the Context of Global Change / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2025. – p. 105.

the Horizons of Partnership in the Agro-Industrial Sector”, “Youth Cooperation within the Framework of Belarusian–Uzbek Relations”, and “The Role of Local Self-Government in Ensuring the Sustainable Development of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan”. A special place on this agenda can be accorded to the partnership ties between the two countries “in the field of industrial cooperation, which is developing successfully and has significant potential for further expansion; our cooperation in the field of agriculture and food security; and our collaboration in the field of healthcare and pharmacology, which is also developing successfully”³⁴⁷.

At the plenary session of the women’s forum, it was noted that Belarus and Uzbekistan are actively developing contacts in the textile, pharmaceutical, electrical engineering and agricultural sectors. Joint production of cable and wire products has been established in the Tashkent region, as well as footwear and finished textile products under well-known Belarusian brands; projects are also underway to organise the assembly of tractors in Uzbekistan. Nevertheless, the parties “have every opportunity to set up new joint ventures in the fields of garment and knitwear production, and the manufacture of packaging materials for the food industry”³⁴⁸.

As for specific examples, one might mention the Minsk Tractor Works (MTZ), which is establishing a network of service centres across Uzbekistan for the repair of BELARUS machinery. “At the same time, work is underway to open MTZ training courses to train specialists”³⁴⁹. This is all the more significant given that exports of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan in January–August 2025 rose by more than 30 per cent compared with the same period in 2024. “Since the start of [2025], MTZ has shipped more than 2,300 units of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan. The most popular models are the 80X, 80.1, 82.3, 1221.3 and 1222.3. Supplies of BELARUS tractors and tractor kits have also been established...”,³⁵⁰.

Another interesting example is the “Belneftekhim” group. The total trade turnover of the group’s organisations with “Uzbek business partners” exceeded \$32 million by the end of 2024. The growth rate compared with

³⁴⁷ Aleynik: Belarus has established very multifaceted, multi-level relations with Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/aleynik-i-belarusi-vystroyay-ochen-mnogostorannye-mnogourovnevnye-otnosheniya-s-uzbekistanom-735029-2025/>

³⁴⁸ Industry, education, tourism. What are the promising areas of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/economics/view/promyshlennost-obrazovanie-turizm-kakovy-perspektivnye-sfery-sobremennichestva-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-735261-2025/>

³⁴⁹ Shuleiko: Belarus and Uzbekistan enjoy constructive cooperation at all levels [Online source]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/shuleiko-i-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-est-konstruktivnoe-vzaimodeistvie-na-vseh-urovnyah-735251-2025/>

³⁵⁰ MTZ increased exports of BELARUS machinery by more than 30 per cent in January–August [Electronic source]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/mtz-uvlechil-eksport-tehniki-belarus-v-uzbekistan-bolee-chem-na-30-v-ianvare-avguste-735882-2025/>

2023 was 142 per cent”³⁵¹. A pool of partners has already been established in Uzbekistan who purchase a wide range of Belarusian non-woven materials, cord fabrics, synthetic yarns and glass fibre products. At the women’s forum, it was emphasised that the enterprises of the “Belneftekhim” group have offerings not only for Uzbekistan’s light industry, but also for the engineering, construction and medical sectors.

Reflecting on the outcomes of the third Belarusian-Uzbek women’s business forum, it is worth noting that the two previous events – in Minsk and Tashkent – were highly productive. On those occasions, participants at the two forums concluded 30 contracts totalling 235 million Belarusian rubles. At that time, “36 agreements were signed between social sector organisations and local authorities, which served as a starting point for the implementation of a whole range of joint initiatives”³⁵². This time, in September 2025, 30 contracts totalling 261 million Belarusian rubles and 18 bilateral cooperation agreements were signed in Vitebsk, including those aimed at establishing cooperation between regions. As we can see, the upward trend is clear!

As for 2026, as early as February, a Belarusian government delegation paid an official visit to Tashkent, where meetings at the highest and senior levels took place, as well as the fourth session of the Uzbek-Belarusian Business Council and a bilateral business forum. It is worth noting that more than 50 representatives from the Belarusian side took part in these events. “These include 42 enterprises representing various sectors of the economy: mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, light and food industries, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, the forestry and woodworking sector, and construction goods and services. On the Uzbek side, representatives from over 200 companies from all regions are taking part”³⁵³.

During these meetings and negotiations, a substantial package of documents was signed, and a number of interesting ideas and promising proposals for cooperation and the implementation of joint projects were put forward. In particular, Belarus hopes to establish an assembly plant for the Belarusian Automobile Plant in Uzbekistan, as there “are very large deposits of rare metals and minerals there. Of course, for a country like this, having its own production facilities is not only a matter of a high level of expertise, but also

³⁵¹ Belneftekhim reveals which Belarusian petrochemical products are of interest to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/kakaja-produktsiia-belorusskoi-neftehimii-interesuet-uzbekistan-rasskazali-v-belneftehime-735154-2025/>

³⁵² Contracts worth Br261 million were signed at the 3rd Belarusian-Uzbek Women’s Business Forum [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/na-iii-belorussko-uzbekskom-zhenskom-biznes-forume-podpisano-kontraktov-na-br261-mln-735239-2025/>

³⁵³ Belarus plans to develop cooperation with Uzbekistan and export light industry products [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-nlanimet-razvivat-kooperatsii-Uzbekistan-and-export-of-light-industry-products-766058-2026/>

one of technological security”³⁵⁴.

As for the Minsk Tractor Works, exports of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan in 2025 rose by 15 per cent compared with 2024. “Last year, MTZ shipped more than 3,000 units of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan. There is demand in the country for tractors with a wide range of power outputs – from 80 to 200 l. s. – as well as BELARUS 80X cotton-growing tractors”³⁵⁵. In addition, a contract with the Uzbek company KRANTAS GROUP for the supply of transmissions has been partially fulfilled. MTZ’s distribution network in Uzbekistan currently comprises five dealerships. There is also a joint assembly plant in the city of Nurafshan producing BELARUS tractors.

Belarus also plans to develop cooperation with Uzbekistan and export light industrial products. This February, the Belarusian enterprises “Vitebsk Carpets” and “Milavitsa” signed contracts, whilst “Mogotex” and the Orsha Flax Mill finalised the supply of fabrics from Uzbekistan. This is because Belarusian businesses have production facilities there. One in every four T-shirts sewn in Belarus is made from Uzbek cotton. And discussions are already underway regarding wool processing. Uzbekistan has abundant supplies of this raw material. Furthermore, a memorandum on the leather industry was signed at the business council. This is also a promising area that the parties will be working on.

Another area of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan that is currently undergoing active development is education. In particular, the Belarusian State Pedagogical University named after Maxim Tank (BSPU) alone has established partnerships with 12 higher education institutions in this Central Asian country. Key partners include the Nizami National Pedagogical University of Uzbekistan, the Kadiri State Pedagogical University of Jizzakh and the Namangan State Pedagogical Institute. Plans for cooperation with these institutions in the coming academic year include the launch of new, in-demand bachelor’s and master’s degree programmes. In collaboration with the Nizami National Pedagogical University of Uzbekistan, master’s degree programmes in ‘Educational Management’ and ‘Pre-school Education’ will become available, whilst the Namangan State Pedagogical Institute will offer programmes in ‘Inclusive Education’, ‘Philological Education’ and ‘Primary Education’. A programme in pre-school education has been approved in collaboration with the Jizzakh State Pedagogical University. Future joint

³⁵⁴ Belarus plans to set up a BELAZ assembly plant in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-rasschityvaet-sozdat-v-uzbekistane-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-belazov-768578-2026/>

³⁵⁵ The growth rate of Belarusian machinery exports to Uzbekistan exceeded 115 per cent in 2025 [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/temp-rosta-eksporta-tehniki-belarus-v-uzbekistan-prevysil-115-v-2025-godu-766551-2026/>

projects include ‘Dialogue of Cultures: Belarus – Uzbekistan’, which will feature various round-table discussions, exhibitions and literary evenings dedicated to the national traditions, languages, art and history of the two countries. The Namangan Institute has also proposed implementing an international project entitled “A Bridge of Science and Education between Belarus and Uzbekistan”. Another project – “Heritage and Modernity” – involves engaging students in research into the cultural heritage of the two countries, followed by the presentation of their findings through exhibitions, publications and student conferences.

Looking ahead, there is another project – “Bridge of Friendship” – which centres on organising joint voluntary and social initiatives. Overall, a number of joint educational programmes with Uzbek partners are already operating successfully at the Belarusian State Pedagogical University. Since 2018, the university has been offering bachelor’s degree programmes in speech and language therapy, psychology, and pre-school and primary education. “From 2023, the range of programmes has been expanded to include master’s degrees: master’s students now study inclusive education, psychological counselling and biology. To date, there have been four bachelor’s degree cohorts and two master’s degree cohorts. Around 400 graduates have already received dual degrees from Belarus and Uzbekistan”³⁵⁶.

Let us now return to the decisions of the fourth meeting of the Uzbek-Belarusian Business Council and the bilateral business forum held in February this year. As a result of these events, “the total value of contracts and agreements signed amounted to almost \$110 million”³⁵⁷. As for the forthcoming visit by the President of Uzbekistan, Sh. Merzieev, to Belarus in 2026, there are plans to draw up a bilateral cooperation roadmap in which the parties will set out “an ambitious target of achieving a trade turnover of \$2 billion by 2030”³⁵⁸. Active work has already begun on shaping the substance of this visit and formulating a broad economic agenda for bilateral cooperation. This is all the more so given that Minsk and Tashkent have ‘long since reached a clear understanding that the potential of simple trade is not limitless and that it is important to develop cooperation more intensively, to interact more actively in the investment sphere, and to move towards significant projects aimed at establishing joint production facilities, where

³⁵⁶ Management, Philology, Inclusion. BSPU and universities in Uzbekistan launch new programmes [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/menedzhment-filologiya-inkluzivnaya-bespu-i-vuzov-uzbekistana-odkrvva-tut-novye-programmy-766547-2026/>
³⁵⁷ Contracts and agreements worth almost \$110 million were signed during the Belarusian delegation’s visit to Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kontrakty-i-soglashenija-nochti-na-110-mln-podnisan-vo-vremja-vizita-beloruskoj-delegatsii-v-766214-2026/>

³⁵⁸ Belarus aims to increase trade turnover with Uzbekistan to \$2 billion by 2030 [Online source]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/photonews/view/belarus-rasschitvayet-k-2030-godu-uvlechit-tovarooborot-s-uzbekistanom-do-2-mlrd-45829/>

industrial cooperation plays a key role³⁵⁹. The parties see considerable scope for further deepening cooperative ties in other areas as well – ranging from agriculture, wood processing and pharmaceuticals to logistics, collaboration in the financial and IT sectors, as well as cooperation between the regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan.

In this context, the Gomel Region stands out among Belarusian regions, as its trade turnover with this Central Asian country has tripled over the last five-year period and amounted to almost fifty million dollars in 2025. ‘The south-eastern region of Belarus mainly supplies wood products, meat and milk, plastic goods and cellulose. Cotton yarn, slag wool, fruit, ceramic tiles, toys and clothing are purchased from Uzbekistan’³⁶⁰. Among the promising areas, the Gomel Region sees an increase in supplies of food products, ready-made furniture, forage harvesting machinery and equipment for dairy farms.

In March this year, a high-level delegation from the Gomel Region visited Uzbekistan, where, at two business forums – in Tashkent and Fergana – options were discussed for attracting Uzbek business partners to cooperate and set up joint production facilities on the premises of enterprises in both countries. At the forum held in the Uzbek capital, “cooperation agreements were signed between the chambers of commerce and industry of the Gomel and Tashkent regions, as well as 13 documents, including commercial agreements, totalling \$7.5 million”³⁶¹. A number of proposals are also currently being finalised and contracts drawn up.

It should be noted that the main exporters from Belarus’s south-eastern region to Uzbekistan today are ‘Rechitsadrev’ and ‘Tomeldrev’, the Turov Dairy Plant, the Rogachev Canned Milk Plant, the Rechitsa Metalworks, and the Svetlogorsk Pulp and Paper Mill. Other potential exporters were also represented at this forum. In particular, OJSC ‘Management Company of the “Gomel Meat and Dairy Company” Holding’ concluded contracts for the supply of meat and dairy products. Agreements have been reached for direct supplies of sausage products from the Kalinkovichsky Meat Processing Plant. Overall, this OJSC is actively working with partners from Uzbekistan and strengthening its position. “Over the past two years, products worth \$9 million have been supplied. In 2025 alone, volumes doubled”³⁶².

³⁵⁹ Turchin announced the visit of the President of Uzbekistan to Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/turchin-anonsiroval-vizit--v-belarus-766133-2026/>.

³⁶⁰ Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has tripled over the last five-year period [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/tovarooborot-gomelskoi-oblasti-s-uzbekistanom-v-vros-za-posledniy-u-nijatiletku-v-tri-raza-771423-2026/>.

³⁶¹ Gomel Region signed agreements worth \$7.5 million at a business forum in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://www.belarus.by/ru/business/business-news/dokumenty-na-75-mln-podpisala-gomelskaja-oblast-na-biznes-forume-v-tashkente-i-0000210242.html>.

³⁶² Representatives of the Gomel Region have signed contracts worth \$7.5 million with partners in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. -

Furthermore, in Tashkent, representatives from the Gomel region discussed promising projects with a number of interested partners. For example, with ‘Texnopark’ LLC, which brings together around 20 enterprises focused on the creation of high-tech, competitive, export-oriented products. The Gomel delegation expressed their readiness to cooperate in the production of electronic gas meters, domestic refrigerators, industrial air-conditioners and cooling systems, lifts and escalators, and building materials. Furthermore, “one of Uzbekistan’s confectionery factories has expressed an interest in large-scale supplies of milk powder from the Gomel Region. To expand production, it is necessary to procure high-quality raw materials, which the south-eastern region of Belarus can offer”³⁶³. Negotiations were held on site, and agreements were reached on trial deliveries of Belarusian products.

Meanwhile, the authorities of the two regions – Gomel and Tashkent – signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation and discussed regional collaboration across all areas. “The list of topics discussed included student education, employment opportunities for Uzbek citizens in high-demand specialisms, medical tourism, and the organisation of sightseeing tours”³⁶⁴. In this context, it is worth recalling that back in November 2025, the Belarusian State University of Transport (BelGUT), located in Gomel, and the Tashkent State Transport University of Uzbekistan announced the creation of a joint full-time training programme for the transport sector. It should be noted that these universities have been collaborating for eight years. There is already a joint programme for Uzbek part-time students studying at BelGUT, as the Gomel-based university is a key institution and a leading university in the post-Soviet space specifically in the field of rail transport. There are now also plans to establish a joint full-time programme, where students will study at Tashkent State Transport University and graduate in Gomel. “Last year alone, 167 people enrolled on the joint part-time programme with BelGUT”³⁶⁵. The Uzbek university cooperates with four universities in Belarus. However, the greatest interest lies specifically in railway transport.

During the same period in March, the Gomel and Fergana regions signed a Cooperation Action Plan for 2026–2027. This roadmap will strengthen

2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kontraktv-na-75-mln-zakluchili-predstaviteli-gomelskoi-oblasti-s-partnerami-v-uzbekistane-772278-2026/>.

³⁶³ Cooperation, joint production. Gomel Region discusses expanding partnership with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kooperatsiya-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva-gomelskaia-oblast-obsuzhdaet-rasshirenie-partnerstva-s-771554-2026/>.

³⁶⁴ The Gomel and Tashkent regions intend to strengthen cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/gomelskaia-i-tashkentskaia-oblasti-namereny-ukrepit-sotrudnichestvo-771685-2026/>.

³⁶⁵ Universities in Gomel and Tashkent plan to jointly train staff for the transport sector through full-time study [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/-gomelia---sovmestno-gotovit-kadry--transnortnoi--v-ochnom-formate-749801-2025/>.

interaction and serve as the basis for implementing joint projects and intensifying cooperation. For reference, it should be noted that ‘the first inter-regional agreement between the Gomel and Fergana regions was signed in 2019’³⁶⁶. A cooperation agreement has also now been signed between the chambers of commerce and industry of the two regions. The parties plan to partner in several areas – agriculture, mechanical engineering and wood processing. “In particular, the Gomel Region can offer combine harvesters, equipment for storing and cooling milk, compound feed for fish, and food products”³⁶⁷. Discussions also touched upon the possibility of establishing joint production facilities within the framework of cooperation between free economic zones.

Summing up the visit by the Gomel Region delegation to this Central Asian country, we would like to emphasise that cooperation between the south-eastern region of Belarus and the two Uzbek regions – Tashkent and Fergana – has taken a new step forward in strengthening interaction, with a view to increasing trade volumes and expanding investment partnerships. After all, direct links between regions form the foundation of trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan, which will, in the long term, reach a new level and facilitate the implementation of planned projects in priority areas.

³⁶⁶ The Gomel and Fergana regions have signed a roadmap for the implementation of joint projects [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/dorozhnyu-kartu-dlia-realizatsii-sovmestnykh-proektov-podpisali-gomelskaja-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-771961-2026/>

³⁶⁷ “The figures may be higher”. In which areas will the Gomel and Fergana regions strengthen their partnership? [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/tsifry-mogut-byt-vyshe-v-kakih-sferah-usiljat-partnerstvo-gomelskoi-i-ferganskoi-oblasti-771932-2026/>

The third forum aims to guide the regions towards concrete results

In July 2026, the 3rd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan took place in Minsk, attended by representatives of 14 regions from this Central Asian country, including the Republic of Karakalpakstan and the city of Tashkent. During the plenary session and thematic sessions, participants discussed the prospects for inter-regional cooperation in industry, logistics, the agro-industrial sector and medicine, and signed bilateral documents aimed at developing relations between the regions of the two countries. The very concept of the forum – “Regional cooperation as a driver of economic cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan” – has shown that this meeting – now the third of its kind – has become one of the most effective platforms for Belarusian-Uzbek cooperation, where new projects are conceived, direct links are established between the regions and economic entities of the two countries, and “the agreements reached are transformed into real investments and joint production ventures”³⁶⁸. Suffice it to say that by the end of 2025, bilateral trade between Belarus and Uzbekistan had increased by a quarter and was already approaching the one-billion-dollar mark. Overall, over the past ten years, the volume of bilateral trade in goods between Belarus and Uzbekistan “has grown more than 13-fold, from \$63 million to \$854 million in 2025, and by almost 40 per cent in the first five months of [2026]”³⁶⁹. The parties are confident that the one-billion-dollar mark will be reached as early as this year, and that bilateral trade will double over the next few years.

This also indicates that, in recent years, the two post-Soviet republics have begun to shift from ‘buy-sell’ trade to deep industrial and technological cooperation. For example, a qualitatively new level of localisation has already been achieved in agricultural machinery manufacturing. This year, the first batch of the localised BELARUS 50 tractor model, developed specifically for the particularities of agriculture in Uzbekistan. Agricultural attachments are being assembled in Andijan. “In parallel with the localisation of production, branded after-sales service is being developed and advanced training for specialist technicians is being provided. Today, service centres for Belarusian agricultural machinery are present in 11 regions of Uzbekistan”³⁷⁰.

³⁶⁸ Interest in the Belarus-Uzbekistan Regional Forum is growing – Jamshid Khojaev [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/interes-k-forumu-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-rastet-zhamshid-hodzhaev-790190-2026/>

³⁶⁹ Regional cooperation strengthens the strategic partnership between Belarus and Uzbekistan – Shuleiko [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/regionalnoe-vzaimodelstvie-ukrepiaet-strategicheskoe-partnerstvo-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-shuleiko-790184-2026/>

³⁷⁰ Agriculture, wood processing, pharmaceuticals. What new projects are Belarus and Uzbekistan considering [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

Mutually beneficial steps have also been taken in the light manufacturing sector. The pooling of resources in the production of high-quality knitwear and textiles is yielding significant results. By combining Uzbekistan's cotton raw materials, Belarusian flax and modern synthetic fibres, as well as shared technological expertise, the parties are creating high-quality products that are in high demand. There are other interesting examples too. In particular, at the 3rd Regional Forum, attention was drawn to clothing factories established by Belarusian companies in the Tashkent and Andijan regions, as well as the 'Marco' footwear factory in the Kashkadarya region. Meanwhile, in Smorgon, in the Grodno Region, a company with Uzbek capital – Europlastex Invest LLC – is implementing a project to produce cotton yarn. A flagship project in the field of food security is the poultry meat production and processing project being implemented by the SERVOLUX CA group of companies in the Tashkent Region. Initiatives by Uzbek partners to establish livestock complexes in Belarus hold great potential. Two such projects have been launched in the Shumilina and Liozna districts of the Vitebsk Region. The possibility of implementing similar projects in the Mogilev and Gomel Regions is currently being explored. Cooperation in the fields of healthcare and pharmaceuticals is also a key focus for both sides. Organisations within the 'Belpharmprom' holding are working to localise the production of medicines in Uzbekistan and to supply the Uzbek side with the necessary medicines in bulk form.

Another promising area for cooperation is the forestry sector, wood processing and the furniture industry. According to estimates, this could amount to as much as two hundred million dollars a year. The fact is that Belarus possesses a raw materials base, many years of experience and significant production capacity in the field of advanced wood processing. The Uzbek market, which is experiencing a large-scale demographic and construction boom, has a high and sustained demand for high-quality panel products, sawn timber and, most importantly, ready-made furniture. It is therefore logical to make more active use of the tried-and-tested model of transitioning from simple direct purchases of raw materials to the creation of joint high-tech production facilities. Under such a partnership, the Belarusian side guarantees stable supplies of high-quality wood-based panels, components and semi-finished products, whilst the Uzbek side will utilise the potential of its furniture clusters, developed infrastructure and local supply chains. This approach will create new jobs and generate high added value in

the regions of Uzbekistan, whilst providing Belarusian wood-processing enterprises with a long-term, stable and substantial sales market, with the opportunity to jointly enter the markets of neighbouring countries.

New joint projects were already launched during the 3rd Forum of the Regions of the two countries. In Uzbekistan, the first phase of the ‘Servolux’ group of companies’ poultry farming cluster in the Tashkent Region was launched, as were a ‘complex for dyeing and drying knitted fabrics’ in the Andijan Region, a ‘complex for the storage and flash-freezing of fruit and vegetable produce’ and a ‘fruit processing plant’ in the Fergana Region³⁷¹. Meanwhile, in the Belarusian capital, the ‘Tashkent’ restaurant serving traditional Uzbek cuisine has opened, a trading house belonging to the Uzbek company ‘Art Soft’, as well as the Uzbekistan Trading House in Minsk, which is intended to serve as a showcase for Uzbekistan’s export potential, ‘a venue for the presentation and sale of agricultural, electrical engineering, textile and other products’. The trading house will help to establish direct contacts between the business communities of the two countries, take relations to a new level and create joint ventures³⁷².

And here is another important fact that completes the overall picture of the 3rd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan. Up until July this year, there were thirty inter-regional agreements in force within the legal framework of the two countries. In Minsk, more than ten documents were added to this package. Firstly, the governments of Belarus and Uzbekistan signed an ‘action plan (roadmap) for the development of cooperation between the two countries for 2026–2030’³⁷³. Secondly, the **Brest** Region adopted action plans for 2026–2027 with the **Bukhara and Syrdarya** regions to implement the agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation. Thirdly, the **Vitebsk** Region has approved similar action plans for 2026–2028 with the **Kashkadarya** and **Namangan** Regions. Fourthly, the **Gomel** Region signed an agreement on cooperation in the trade, economic, scientific, technical and humanitarian spheres with the **Tashkent** Region, as well as roadmaps for 2026–2027 with the **Fergana, Navoi** and **Khorezm** Regions. Fifthly, the **Grodno** Region and the **Republic of Karakalpakstan** adopted an agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and humanitarian cooperation, as well as a roadmap for

³⁷¹ Belarus and Uzbekistan have launched new joint projects [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-dali-start-s-ovmestnyim-proektam-790236-2026/>

³⁷² Uzbekistan Trade House opens in Minsk [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/torgovyi-uzbekistana-otkrvlsia-790256-2026/>

³⁷³ Economy, science, culture. A number of documents were signed at the 3rd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://www.government.by/news/ekonomika-nauka-kultura-na-iii-forume-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-nodpisan-rvad-dokumentov>

2027–2028 with the **Andijan** Region. Sixthly, the **Minsk** Region signed an action plan with the **Tashkent** Region for the years 2026–2028. Seventhly, the **Mogilev** Region adopted a memorandum of friendship and cooperation with the **Fergana** Region, and also approved roadmaps – with the **Andijan** Region for 2027–2029 and with the **Jizzakh** Region for 2026–2028. Let us take a look at how some of these partners are cooperating this year.

In 2026, the **Brest** Region increased its foreign trade turnover with the regions of Uzbekistan by more than 37 per cent, and its exports by almost 40 per cent. Enterprises in the Brest Region supply this Central Asian country with foodstuffs, plywood, gas and electric cookers, timber, chipboard and refrigerators. From Uzbekistan, they import cotton fabrics and yarn, knitted fabrics, clothing, polyester fibres, fruit and vegetables. The Brest Region is also developing inter-regional cooperation. In particular, ‘a memorandum of cooperation was previously signed between Brest and Bukhara, and the Administration of the “Brest” Free Economic Zone has agreements with the management boards of the “Jizzakh”, “Angren” and “Tizhduvan” Free Economic Zones’³⁷⁴.

In July this year, OJSC “Ivatevichdrev” signed a contract to supply chipboard panels to a company in the **Syr Darya** Region, which manufactures furniture and sells it to Afghanistan. Provision has been made for the possibility of expansion and extension. Documents were also signed regarding the supply of berry produce between farms in the Maloritsky District and companies from Uzbekistan. Furthermore, more than two years ago, the Brest Regional Hospital established bilateral cooperation with the Bukhara Multidisciplinary Regional Medical Centre. During this time, cardiac surgeons, cardiac anaesthetists, transplant specialists and gynaecologists from Brest have visited Bukhara on business trips, conducting seminars and masterclasses on performing various surgical procedures. In total, “more than 300 operations <...> were performed across various specialities, including abdominal and thoracic surgery, as well as related-donor organ transplants”³⁷⁵. This year, medical professionals from Bukhara specialising in cardiac surgery, anaesthesiology and perfusion are undertaking training at the Brest Regional Hospital.

At the end of July 2026, the Brest and **Bukhara** regions also agreed to implement joint educational programmes. “This is provided for in an agreement between the Main Department of Education of the Brest Regional

³⁷⁴ “Ivatevichdrev” to supply chipboard panels to the Syrdarya Region of Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/ivatevichdrev-budet-postavlyat-plity-dsp-v-syrdarinskuyu-oblast-uzbekistana-790303-2026/>

³⁷⁵ Uzbek medical professionals are undertaking placements at the Brest Regional Clinical Hospital [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/uzbekskie-mediki-stazhiruetsya-v-brestskoj-oblastnoj-klinicheskoy-holnitse-790068-2026/>

Executive Committee and the Department of Vocational Education of the Bukhara Region”³⁷⁶. In addition to cooperation on joint study programmes, the signed document provides for the exchange of experience, the organisation of events, and work placements for teaching staff and vocational training instructors. As for the plans signed by the Brest region for 2026–2027 with

the **Bukhara** and **Syr Darya** regions, the south-western region of Belarus will work more closely with them in the areas of the agro-industrial complex and co-operation, and there are plans to establish a textile cluster. “The parties also agreed to explore issues relating to the processing of flax and cotton and the production of fabrics”³⁷⁷.

Turning to the **Vitebsk** Region, which at the 3rd Forum of Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan signed action plans for 2026–2028 to develop cooperation with the **Kashkadarya** and **Namangan** regions, “the main export items from Vitebsk manufacturers available on the Uzbek market are medicines, cable products, wooden goods, engineering products, foodstuffs, footwear and clothing”³⁷⁸. The northern region of Belarus imports raw materials for the textile industry, garments, vegetables and dried fruit from Uzbekistan.

As for the **Kashkadarya** Region, a delegation from this Uzbek region visited Vitebsk back in March 2026. Even then, contracts were signed with the Vitebsk Meat Processing Plant, the Glubokoe Meat Processing Plant and the Canned Milk Plant. Supplies of beef were planned for Uzbekistan. “The initial volume is 100 tonnes per month. The meeting also discussed the prospects of establishing beef production facilities within the Vitebsk Region. The Uzbek side expressed interest in the Gluboksky District for this purpose. At the initial stage, the plan is to rear 1,000 head of cattle, rising to 10,000 head in the long term”³⁷⁹. At the same time, interest was expressed in joint cooperation: the Kashkadarya Region is ready to export fruit and vegetable produce to the Vitebsk Region, which, in turn, will supply baby food to Uzbekistan. In July this year, the parties met again in Vitebsk to discuss the growth in bilateral trade; by 2026, trade volumes between the two regions

³⁷⁶ Joint educational programmes will be implemented by the Brest and Bukhara regions [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/sovmetnive-obrazovatelnye-programmy-bndut-realizovvvat-brestskaja-i-buharskaja-oblasti-793472-2026/>

³⁷⁷ The Brest Region will work more closely with the Bukhara and Syr Darya regions of Uzbekistan in the agricultural sector and in cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/brestchina-s-buharskoi-i-svrdaninskoj-oblasti-ami-uzbekistana-bndut-tesnee-rabotat-v-ank-i-kooperatsii-790052-2026/>

³⁷⁸ The Vitebsk Region has signed roadmaps for the development of cooperation with two regions of Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaja-oblast---razvitiu-sotrudnichestva-s-dvumja-oblastiami-790251-2026/>

³⁷⁹ Antskovich, E. Uzbekistan plans to set up beef production enterprises in the Gluboksky District / E. Antskovich // [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/--sozdat-predpriatia--proizvodstvu-miasa--glubokskom-raione-769456-2026/>

had already increased by more than one and a half times, alongside the development of cooperative ties regarding the processing of agricultural products and livestock rearing at livestock farms. In this context, the Shumilina District is worth noting, where partners from Kashkadarya have leased a livestock farm and are rearing cattle there. “There are plans to establish cattle meat production facilities in the Liozna, Dokshitsy and Gorodok districts”³⁸⁰. Furthermore, projects involving the production of cables and light industrial goods have already been implemented with representatives of this Uzbek region, and there are plans to develop supply chains with the Kashkadarya Region, which borders Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

Vitebsk Region’s second partner – **Namangan Region** – possesses strong logistical potential and a well-developed tourism infrastructure. Furthermore, in this region, ‘virtually the entire volume of industrial production is accounted for by light industry’³⁸¹. And as early as July of this year, partners from Namangan visited the Orsha Flax Mill to organise effective cooperation. Following the 3rd forum, the partners continued their dialogue on mutually beneficial cooperation in the industrial sector, agriculture, medicine, education and culture. In particular, they are working out the details regarding the supply of veterinary medicines, as well as tinned meat, fruit and vegetables for baby food, to meet the needs of the Uzbek market.

Here is another interesting fact concerning cooperation between the Vitebsk Region and Uzbek regions. In the near future, a delegation from the northern region of Belarus will visit the **Andijan Region** to sign a roadmap for cooperation. The conditions for this are favourable. The fact is that in the Beshenkovichi District, at the ‘Rassvet’ farm, sites have already been selected and a new company – ‘AndijanAgro’ LLC – has been registered. “The company will engage in cattle breeding: it plans to purchase 200 bull calves from the ‘Vyaderoovo’ and ‘PolitotdeletsAgro’ farms, with the herd subsequently being expanded to 1,000 head. This will require the refurbishment of five existing buildings”³⁸².

In addition to livestock farming, partners from the Andijan Region have expressed an interest in crop production. Preliminary plans have been drawn up for the areas to be sown: over a thousand hectares for potatoes and eight

³⁸⁰ The Vitebsk Region intends to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/vitebskaja-oblast-namerena-rasshiryat-kooperatsiju-s-uzbekistanom-v-sfere-apk-789868-2026/>

³⁸¹ Agriculture, light industry and tourism. The Vitebsk and Namangan regions are to sign a roadmap for cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/apk-leekaia-promyshlennost-i-turizm-vitebskaja-i-namanganskaj-a-oblasti-podpisut-dorozhnuj-u-kartu-o-790013-2026/>

³⁸² An investment project in the agri-food sector is being implemented in the Beshenkovichi District with the involvement of Uzbek partners [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/v-beshenkovichskom--investitsionnyi-proekt-apk-uchastiem-uzbekskikh-partnerov-793426-2026/>

hundred hectares for wheat.

In the context of the Vitebsk Region's partnership with Uzbek partners, it is worth noting that in late July and early August this year, two through freight trains, the 'Slavyansky Karavan', departed from Orsha-Vostochnaya station and travelled along the Belarus–Uzbekistan route. The trains travelled without being broken up or making any additional stops, following the timetable of a passenger train. This made it possible to cut the delivery time almost in half, whilst also ensuring the safe transport of the cargo. The examples of these two trains show that 'delivering a 20-tonne container costs at least one and a half times less than by road transport. Whereas previously the delivery of a single wagon could take up to two months, this train will arrive in Uzbekistan within 5–7 days'³⁸³. This is not just about the delivery of Belarusian goods. Similar trains will carry goods from Uzbekistan, ranging from light industrial products to foodstuffs, including fruit that does not grow in Belarus. Ultimately, the new service demonstrates "the demand for the project and the route, opening up broad prospects for exporters across all sectors – from the food industry to the chemical, construction, woodworking and engineering sectors"³⁸⁴. Furthermore, the geographical scope of product deliveries via Uzbekistan could be expanded to other high-demand markets in Central and South Asia.

As for the **Gomel** Region, over the last five-year period, trade turnover with this Central Asian country "tripled, reaching almost fifty million dollars in 2025"³⁸⁵. Furthermore, over the past year, three hundred thousand dollars of Uzbek direct investment was channelled into the south-eastern region of Belarus. Fifty enterprises with Uzbek capital are currently registered in the Gomel region. "Mostly in the retail and catering sectors, but there are also manufacturing enterprises"³⁸⁶. Of the Uzbek regions, Gomel is particularly active in its cooperation with the **Fergana** Region. A permanent working group has already been set up to develop this cooperation. This Uzbek region is one of the fastest-growing in this Central Asian country, "occupying a leading position in the development of industry, agriculture, small businesses, entrepreneurship and exports. More than 50,000 industrial and small enterprises are operating successfully"³⁸⁷. Partners in Fergana are ready

³⁸³ The first direct freight train, the 'Slavic Caravan', departed from Orsha to Uzbekistan [Online source]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/pervyi-skyvoznoi-gruzovoi-poezd-slavi-anskii-karavan-otpravilsia-iz-orshi-v-uzbekistan-793732-2026/>

³⁸⁴ BZHD has dispatched the second "Slavic Caravan" train to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026 - URL: <https://belta.by/view/bzhd-otpravila-vtoroi-poezd-slavi-anskii-karavan-v-uzbekistan-794372-2026/>

³⁸⁵ Zaleski, B. From Results to Prospects. Belarus's International Economic Cooperation in a Context of Global Instability / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2026. – p. 42.

³⁸⁶ Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has tripled over five years [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/tovarooborot-gomelskoi-oblasti-s-uzbekistanom-vros-v-tri-raza-za-pi-let-781758-2026/>

³⁸⁷ The Fergana Region of Uzbekistan is interested in utilising Belarusian expertise in dairy farming [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/ferganskaja-oblast-uzbekistana-zainteresovana-v-ispolzovanii-belorusskogo-opyta-v->

to set up joint ventures with the Gomel Region in areas such as the production of agricultural machinery and electrical equipment, components, building materials and furniture. There are also significant prospects for cooperation in the textile industry. In the agro-industrial sector, the Fergana Region is keen to make extensive use of the experience of Belarus's south-eastern region in dairy farming, livestock breeding, agricultural mechanisation and the deep processing of agricultural produce. Businesspeople from Fergana are already prepared to invest in agriculture in the Gomel region, including acquiring land plots for growing vegetables, potatoes and fodder crops, as well as implementing projects in the field of beef and dairy cattle farming. Such cooperation will enable the competitive advantages of the Belarusian and Uzbek regions to be utilised as effectively as possible, increase production volumes, create new jobs and expand exports.

Now, turning to the **Grodno** Region, for which Uzbekistan is the third-largest trading partner amongst the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Suffice it to say that by 2025, the volume of bilateral trade between them had increased by almost one and a half times, and this year it has risen by a further third. "The Grodno Region supplies Uzbekistan with beef, milk, cheese, baby food, wood products, vehicles and equipment. In turn, goods from Uzbekistan include cotton yarn, thread, textiles, fruit and dried fruit..."³⁸⁸. Among the Uzbek partners of Belarus's western region, the **Samarkand** and **Andijan** regions, as well as the **Republic of Karakalpakstan**, are worth mentioning.

In July this year, representatives of the **Samarkand** Region visited Grodno, during which significant potential was identified for expanding cooperation – in industry, agriculture, science, education, culture, sport, tourism and the development of twinning links between cities and districts of the two regions, as well as the preservation of historical memory. The Samarkand side proposed updating the existing roadmap between the regions, whilst paying particular attention to regional cooperation in the fields of agriculture and industry, and to the organisation of regular reciprocal business missions between entrepreneurs from the Samarkand and Grodno regions.

A key outcome of the dialogue between the Grodno Region and the **Andijan** Region in July of this year was the signing of a roadmap for the development of cooperation for the period 2026–2028. For reference, it should be noted that a joint venture, 'AndijanTechMash', has already been established in this

molochnom-790232-2026/

³⁸⁸ The Grodno region intends to expand cooperation with the Andijan and Samarkand regions of Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-/region-nameren---s-andizhanskoi-i-samarkandskoi-oblastiami-790036-2026/>

Uzbek region, where the production of agricultural machinery has been set up in cooperation with the 'Lidselmash' factory. has achieved significant success in the humanitarian sphere: the Grodno Agricultural University has already trained over a hundred highly qualified specialists for Andijan. Agriculture in this region is actively introducing cutting-edge technologies thanks to scientific cooperation with the Grodno Agricultural University. Among the promising areas for cooperation with the Grodno Region, the Andijan side highlighted 'the creation of a livestock complex in the region and cooperation between wood-processing enterprises',³⁸⁹.

Finally, as part of the 3rd Forum of the Belarus-Uzbekistan Region, the Grodno Region signed an agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and humanitarian cooperation with **the Republic of Karakalpakstan**, which opens up "new opportunities in a wide range of areas: the economy and trade, tourism and sport, healthcare and culture",³⁹⁰. The adopted document sets out a long-term framework for cooperation, which will contribute to the economic development of the two regions and the strengthening of humanitarian ties.

Speaking of the **Mogilev** Region in the context of Belarusian-Uzbek regional cooperation, we should first note that Uzbekistan is among its top five trading partners. "Over the past five years, trade turnover has increased 2.6-fold – from \$13.5 million to \$35.2 million in 2025 – and in January–May 2026 it rose by a further 54 per cent. However, the potential for cooperation is much greater",³⁹¹. In this regard, the Mogilev Region is counting on cooperation with Uzbek partners such as the **Bukhara** and **Jizzakh** regions.

Following the 3rd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, at the end of July, a delegation from the **Bukhara** Region visited Mogilev to finalise details of agricultural projects. The Uzbek partners were offered plots of land, disused farms and water bodies. A company specialising in cattle breeding has already been registered in the Dribin District, whilst one specialising in the cultivation of cereals and pulses has been registered in the Klimovichi District. Furthermore, to attract Uzbek investment in timber processing and engineering, the Belarusian side proposed to that they make use of the opportunities offered by the south-eastern region of the Mogilev

³⁸⁹ The Andijan Region of Uzbekistan and the Grodno Region are implementing projects in the agri-food sector and wood processing [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/andzhanskaja-oblast-uzbekistana-i-grodnenskaja-oblast-realizujut-proekty-v-apk-i-derevoobrabotke-790261-2026/>

³⁹⁰ The Grodno Region and the Republic of Karakalpakstan have signed a cooperation agreement [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/regions/view/grodnenskaja-oblast-i-respublika-karakalpakstan-podpisali-soplasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-790188-2026/>

³⁹¹ Joint ventures in the agri-food sector and supplies of agricultural machinery. The Mogilev and Bukhara regions have outlined cooperation projects [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/sovmestnye-predpriyatija--postavki-selhoztekhniki-mogilevskaia-i-buharskaia-oblasti-nametili-793980-2026/>

Region – a special economic zone with unique incentives. The possibility of assembling small-scale municipal and agricultural machinery at local enterprises was also discussed. Factories in Mogilev produce tractors, mowers and multi-purpose brushes, which may be in demand in the Bukhara region. As regards education, the Mogilev Region is ready to welcome students from Bukhara to leading higher education institutions, such as Mogilev State University of Food Technology and the Goret'sk Agricultural Academy. Following the meeting, the parties agreed to draw up a roadmap for cooperation as soon as possible, which will set out all the agreements reached and the deadlines for their implementation.

As for the **Jizzakh** Region, even before the 3rd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan, representatives from Mogilev had offered their Jizzakh partners 'a wide range of agricultural machinery. Enterprises in the region, such as OJSC "UKH

'BobruiskAgromash', produce forage harvesting machinery, equipment for applying liquid agrochemical fertilisers and trailers'³⁹². And small tractors manufactured by OJSC 'Bobruisk Plant of Tractor Parts and Assemblies' may be of interest to farms. Among the exporters of wood products in the Uzbek region, interesting items may be supplied by OJSC "FanDOK", OJSC "Mogilevdrev" and IOOO "Mebelain". As early as the third forum between the regions of the two countries, the Mogilev Region signed a roadmap for cooperation with the Jizzakh Region for 2026–2028, through which the parties will expand supplies of agricultural machinery, dairy products and furniture, and will exchange tourist groups and athletes. Overall, this document will serve to strengthen mutually beneficial relations between the two regions – the Belarusian and the Uzbek.

All these facts show that the regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan are actively creating opportunities for partnership. This is, incidentally, also borne out by the statistics. "There are 250 enterprises with Belarusian capital operating in Uzbekistan, and 110 enterprises with Uzbek capital in Belarus. A number of manufacturing projects are being implemented"³⁹³. This also indicates that inter-regional cooperation between the two countries is already reaching a more mature stage, where a sustainable system of industrial interaction is taking shape, and where trade, investment and industrial cooperation are beginning to function as an integrated whole. And this is very important.

³⁹² Agricultural machinery, dairy products and tourism: Belarus and Uzbekistan have identified areas for regional cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/selhoztehnika-molochka-i-nirizm-belarusi-uzbekistan-nametili-sfery-sotrudnichestva-regionov-789939-2026/>

³⁹³ Relations between Belarus and Uzbekistan are based on a high degree of practical compatibility between their economies – embassy [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/-belarusi-uzbekistana-opirautsia-na-sovmestnost-ekonomik-790292-2026/>

CHAPTER 3

TAJIKISTAN

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Cooperation based on respect, mutual support and consideration of interests

March 2016 will mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Belarusian-Tajik diplomatic relations. Today, in Minsk, Tajikistan is regarded as an important and reliable partner in Central Asia, with whom cooperation is based on mutual trust, respect and friendly support; the implementation of agreements already reached with Tajikistan 'will enable us to significantly boost the momentum of our multifaceted partnership'³⁹⁴.

It is worth recalling that in the 1990s, this former Soviet republic – more than 90 per cent of whose territory is mountainous – had to endure a five-year civil war following the collapse of the Soviet Union, which claimed the lives of more than 100,000 people, as well as a difficult period of rebuilding the national economy. However, thanks to sustained socio-economic development in the years that followed, Tajikistan has managed to significantly strengthen its position and standing within the international community, and has expanded productive cooperation with many countries around the world and with authoritative international organisations. Today, it is recognised by 147 countries and maintains diplomatic relations with 128 nations.

By pursuing an 'open-door' policy, which involves creating effective mechanisms for reconciling national interests with international ones, Tajikistan is demonstrating its commitment to developing regional cooperation within the framework of existing international organisations that contribute to the resolution of purely national issues. Thus, within a very short period of time, the United Nations has already endorsed three initiatives put forward by the country: the designation of 2003 as the International Year of Clean Water, the designation of 2005–2015 as the 'Water for Life' Decade, and the designation of 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation.

Tajikistan has also made a significant contribution to strengthening the Commonwealth of Independent States, as evidenced by concrete facts. In particular, at the 2007 summit in Dushanbe, the heads of state approved the Concept for the Further Development of the CIS, which set out the immediate and long-term objectives of this organisation in the post-Soviet space, as well as specific ways of achieving them. Furthermore, 'under the

³⁹⁴ Congratulatory message to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: http://president.gov.bj/ru/news_ru/view/nozdravlenie-prezidentu-respubliki-tadzhikistan-emomali-raxmoni-9755/

auspices of Tajikistan's chairmanship of the Commonwealth in 2011, a number of foundational documents were adopted, including a free trade area agreement, an inter-state programme for innovative cooperation, a concept for the strategic development of rail transport, the 'Atom-CIS' Cooperation Framework Programme, and a concept for cooperation in the field of culture³⁹⁵.

Speaking about the CIS region, the President of Tajikistan, E. Rahmon noted that in Dushanbe "we have defined the specifics and beneficial aspects of cooperation with member states, that is, with our traditional partners, and we will contribute to the development and improvement of integration processes within the Commonwealth with the aim of utilising their creative potential and developing mutually beneficial cooperation"³⁹⁶. Among such specific partners in the post-Soviet space, which possess significant creative potential and are capable of utilising it effectively in the implementation of integration processes, the Tajik side also regards the Republic of Belarus.

The first impetus for the revitalisation of bilateral Belarusian-Tajik relations came from the visits by the heads of the two states to Dushanbe and Minsk in April 2000 and July 2001, respectively. This high-level dialogue resulted in a foundational document – the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation – which 'defined the fundamental principles of bilateral relations: mutual respect for independence and state sovereignty, equality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and a mutual desire to establish mutually beneficial economic partnerships'³⁹⁷.

Even earlier – in 1999 – the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation was established, whose remit covers such priority areas as: the supply of engineering products based on new leasing schemes; cooperation in the agro-industrial complex and the energy sector; participation in joint economic projects; and the creation of a network of joint production enterprises on the territory of both states. However, a truly new chapter in relations between Belarus and Tajikistan was opened by the visit of the Belarusian head of state to Dushanbe in October 2011, during which the Belarusian side expressed its interest in actively developing mutually beneficial cooperation with Tajikistan across all areas, ranging from agriculture and industry to security issues and cooperation within international organisations. The Tajik side, for its part,

³⁹⁵ Garkun, V. Tajikistan makes a significant contribution to strengthening and improving the activities of the CIS / V. Garkun // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/ru/person/-/Garkun1514987.html>

³⁹⁶ Speech at a meeting with the country's diplomatic staff to mark the opening of the new building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.prezident.tj/node/4114>

³⁹⁷ Cooperation between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://khovar.tj/rus/foreign-policy/30297-sotrudnichestvo--tadzhikistan-s-respublikov-belarus.html>

noted that ‘relations with Belarus occupy a leading position in Tajikistan’s foreign policy and foreign economic strategy. We are interested in their steady development’³⁹⁸.

These talks resulted in the signing of a number of bilateral Belarusian-Tajik documents, which defined the nature of relations between the two countries for the immediate and long-term future. Firstly, the leaders of Belarus and Tajikistan adopted a joint statement in which they instructed their governments to focus their efforts on priority areas of economic, scientific, technical and humanitarian cooperation. Secondly, a Treaty on Long-Term Cooperation for 2011–2020 was signed, under which the parties resolved to ‘promote the creation of favourable conditions for the development of trade and economic ties, the strengthening of interbank relations, the development of specific projects and programmes, the establishment of joint production structures and the implementation of investment activities’³⁹⁹.

Thirdly, the Inter-State Programme of Cooperation for 2011–2020 was approved, in which the parties identified nine key areas of Belarusian–Tajik cooperation as long-term priorities:

- 1) cooperation in the agro-industrial sector, mechanical engineering, the petrochemical industry, the food industry and light industry;
- 2) supplies of Belarusian quarrying and road-construction machinery, as well as heavy-duty dump lorries for the needs of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the further development of the after-sales service and warranty repair system;
- 3) the establishment of assembly plants for industrial products, including tractors and other agricultural machinery;
- 4) supplies of agricultural machinery, including through leasing schemes;
- 5) supplying cotton fibre, fruit, vegetables and other produce from Tajikistan;
- 6) the development of regional cooperation and collaboration through chambers of commerce and industry;
- 7) involving Belarusian enterprises in the development of mineral deposits in the Republic of Tajikistan;
- 8) military-technical cooperation;
- 9) cooperation in the field of freight transport⁴⁰⁰.

At the same time, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the two

³⁹⁸ Alexander Lukashenko is on an official visit to Tajikistan [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news/ru/view/aleksandr-lukashenko-sovershaet-ofitsialnyi-vizit-v-tadzhikistan-5173/>

³⁹⁹ Agreement between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan on long-term cooperation for 2011–2020 [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://www.taieimbassy.by/files/dpb-2.pdf>

⁴⁰⁰ Intergovernmental Programme of Cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan for 2011–2020 [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://www.taieimbassy.by/files/dpb-2.pdf>

countries established the Tajik-Belarusian Business Council, which set out its main objective as the expansion and development of business contacts and mutually beneficial cooperation between entrepreneurs, the promotion of business in the markets of both countries, and the attraction of mutual investment in Belarus and Tajikistan. And as early as the 8th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, held in April 2013 in Dushanbe, the parties discussed specific opportunities for expanding bilateral trade, the legal and regulatory framework and partnerships between the regions of the two countries, as well as cooperation in the fields of agriculture, transport, social protection, migration, healthcare, education and culture, and industry, ‘including the establishment of joint ventures for the processing of agricultural produce, the assembly of tractors manufactured by RUE “MTZ” in Tajikistan, the supply of quarrying machinery by OJSC “BelAZ” in 2013–2014, and the organisation of its servicing and technical maintenance’³⁹⁹⁴⁰¹.

The timeliness of the measures taken was evident, as in 2012 the volume of Belarusian-Tajik trade fell by 20.6 per cent, amounting to 57.7 million dollars, with a trade surplus for Belarus of 39 million dollars. At that time, Belarusian exports consisted mainly of ‘sugar, ferrous metals, tyres, furniture,

machinery, equipment, medicines, transport vehicles, timber and timber products, and inorganic products’⁴⁰². However, the downward trend in bilateral trade between Belarus and Tajikistan continued in 2013, when the volume stood at \$41.8 million. At the same time, Belarusian exports fell significantly – by almost 40 per cent – whilst the commodity structure of these exports underwent certain changes. ‘The main trend is a reduction in the share of

food and raw materials due to a reduction in supplies of sugar, fluoroaluminates and petroleum products, alongside a significant increase in the share of engineering products following the resumption of supplies of BelAZ quarrying machinery’⁴⁰³. This worrying sign became the main topic of discussion at the 9th meeting of the intergovernmental commission, held in Minsk in early May 2014. Within the framework of this cooperation, the parties, noting the slowdown in trade growth, acknowledged the need to

⁴⁰¹ On the latest meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Online resource]. – 2013. – URL: <http://mfa.gov.by/press/mfa/be5f2ec75d7008b2.html>

⁴⁰² On the meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: <http://mfa.gov.by/press/news/mfa/a6bf2f8f586c159a.html>

⁴⁰³ On trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan in 2013 [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: <http://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/ab80403d8ea1de2f.html>

‘intensify trade and economic cooperation in the fields of agriculture, food and light manufacturing, mechanical engineering and the humanitarian sphere’⁴⁰⁴.

This topic was discussed in even greater depth by the heads of the two states during the visit to Belarus by the Tajik leader, E. Rahmon, at the end of May 2014. The Belarusian side set out a very specific position at the time: ‘We need not only to restore the economic relations that once existed, but also to significantly surpass them, despite the fact that we saw a certain decline in trade last year’⁴⁰⁵. To address this issue, the Belarusian authorities announced a whole series of specific initiatives.

In particular, Tajik partners were offered the supply of Belarusian goods under leasing schemes, as well as through preferential credit arrangements, including those involving Tajik banks. Given that the top priority in Tajikistan at present is to modernise the machinery fleet and establish service centres to maintain it, the Belarusian side expressed its readiness to fully meet this demand for both machinery and comprehensive after-sales support. To this end, a network of machinery and tractor stations could be established in collaboration with the Tajik side, and joint assembly plants for agricultural machinery could be set up. In this context, the idea of establishing production facilities for agricultural mounted and trailed equipment on Tajik soil was described as promising.

As a result, the parties adopted a substantial package of documents expanding Belarusian-Tajik cooperation across a wide range of areas. In the field of construction, cooperation was agreed between the Ministry of Architecture and Construction of Belarus and the Committee on Architecture and Construction under the Government of Tajikistan; in the field of sport – the National Olympic Committees of the two countries; in the field of media – the National State Television and Radio Company of Belarus and the Committee on Television and Radio under the Government of Tajikistan; in the industrial sector – the “Bellegprom” concern and the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies of Tajikistan; and in the field of education – Grodno State Agrarian University and the Sh. Shotemur Tajik Agrarian University. The significant intensification of bilateral inter-regional cooperation was evidenced by agreements on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation, which were signed during this summit by the Minsk and

⁴⁰⁴ Belarus and Tajikistan intend to step up cooperation in agriculture, the food industry and light industry [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-i-Tajikistan-namereny-to-step-up-cooperation-in-agriculture-and-the-food-and-light-manufacturing-sectors-i-667853.html

⁴⁰⁵ Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news/ru/view/aleksandr-lukashenko-vstretilsia-s-President-of-Tajikistan-Emomali-Rahmon-8846/>

Sughd regions, the Uzden and Yavan districts, and the cities of Mogilev and Khujand.

Speaking of the need to make more active use of the potential for regional cooperation, both sides highlighted the need to involve small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as business associations from both countries, in joint work. In this regard, it is important to note that in Tajikistan, ‘improving the efficiency of the use of national resources, particularly human capital and fixed assets’⁴⁰⁶ is considered one of the priority areas in long-term state strategies and programmes up to 2030. After all, the population of this small Central Asian country now stands at over eight million people, which indicates a substantial labour surplus. This is why, in pursuing an ‘open-door’ policy, the focus here is, first and foremost, on industrial cooperation with foreign partners and on creating new jobs: “This presents an opportunity to set up small businesses within Tajikistan’s free economic zones and to utilise transport and communication corridors to establish cooperation between various companies operating in the business sector”⁴⁰⁷.

For this reason, the Tajik side is seriously interested in the establishment on its territory of joint ventures with Belarus, including those focused on exports to Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, which could be set up on the basis of enterprises already existing in Tajikistan by expanding their production capacities. “We are talking about enterprises that will use semi-finished products manufactured in Belarus, as well as Belarusian technology, investment and software”⁴⁰⁸.

Work on establishing such enterprises is currently underway, in particular within the “Dangara” Free Economic Zone in the Dangara District of the Khatlon Region, where the assembly of Belarusian tractors is planned. In total, four FEZs have been established in Tajikistan – namely “Sughd”, “Panj” and “Ishkashim”. The “Dangara” FEZ is an industrial zone, which “aims to stimulate industrial development in neighbouring districts through the effective use of local resources. A railway line runs close to the “Dangara” FEZ, and construction of a road bridge to Afghanistan is ongoing, which contributes to the development of logistics and transport services”⁴⁰⁹.

⁴⁰⁶ Address by the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon, to the Majlis-i Olii of the Republic of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2015. - URL:

<http://www.president.tj/ru/node/8137>

⁴⁰⁷ Koimododov, K. Tajikistan: the doors to cooperation are open / K. Koimododov // [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: <http://www.kurier.lv/dveri-dlva-sotrudnichestva-otkrtyt/>

⁴⁰⁸ Savko, S. Tajikistan proposes that Belarus establish multi-sector joint ventures in the construction sector / S. Savko // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/ru/all-news/economics/-proposes-Belarus-to-establish-multi-sector-joint-ventures-in-the-construction-sector-and670360.html>

⁴⁰⁹ Karimova, M.T. The role of free economic zones in the development of industry in Tajikistan / M.T. Karimova // Current issues in economics and management: proceedings of the 2nd international scientific conference (Moscow, October 2013). - Moscow: Buki-Vedi, 2013. - p. 123.

Meanwhile, in the Gissar District of Tajikistan, an assembly plant for mounted and towed equipment by OJSC 'Bobruiskagromash' is set to be established.

Interesting prospects are also opening up in Belarusian-Tajik cooperation across a number of other areas. For instance, in the field of healthcare, the parties intend to focus their efforts "on addressing issues related to increasing supplies of Belarusian medicines and medical equipment to Tajikistan, the provision of educational services, and the exchange of expertise in the field of transplantology"⁴¹⁰. In this regard, the Tajik partners are particularly interested in the possibility of cooperating with Belarus in the field of postgraduate education and in arranging placements for Tajik doctors at Belarusian healthcare institutions.

It should be recalled that, speaking at the Belarusian State University in May 2014, the Tajik President E. Rahmon noted that his country currently has a demand for qualified specialists in a number of fields, including international relations, engineering and medicine. For this reason, "Belarus and Tajikistan intend to actively <...> develop new projects in the field of education, particularly in the areas of university research and further education"⁴¹¹.

Prior to this, on 31 May 2013, the parties signed an intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the field of higher and postgraduate education, thereby establishing a legal framework for enhancing collaboration in this area. Each party now has the opportunity to admit, on an annual basis, 'for a full course of study: five students to the first cycle of higher education; two students for the second cycle of higher education (master's degree); and one student to pursue a Candidate of Sciences degree'⁴¹². As a result, in the 2013/2014 academic year, '245 citizens of Tajikistan were studying at Belarusian educational institutions, which is twice as many as in the previous academic year'⁴¹³.

It is also interesting to note that, since 2012, a joint Faculty of Engineering and Technology with the Belarusian National Technical University has been operating at the Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi. Teaching here is carried out in two stages in Russian, following integrated curricula curricula developed

⁴¹⁰ On the meeting between Ambassador O. Gavruk and the Minister of Health of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://mf.gov.by/press/news/mfa/a96995ade1720f7.html>

⁴¹¹ A degree from BSU opens the door to the future for students in Tajikistan - Rahmon [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/ru/all/news/societyv/BGU-Diploma-opens-the-door-to-the-future-for-students-from-Tajikistan---Rahmon-670351.html>

⁴¹² Tajik-Belarusian relations [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://www.tajembassy.by/politicheskie/>

⁴¹³ Grishkevich, A. Belarus and Tajikistan share common approaches to solving pressing contemporary issues / A. Grishkevich // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/ru/all/news/politics/Belarus--Tajikistan-imeit-obschie-podxody-k-resheniyu-aktualnyx-problem-sovremennosti-679524.html>

by Belarusian lecturers. In the first stage, students who do not speak Russian attend preparatory courses in Tajikistan, whilst those who do study in the first and second years. In the second stage – years 3 to 5 – studies take place in Belarus, culminating in the defence of a dissertation and the award of the relevant qualification. ‘The first cohort of students to enrol on this faculty will graduate in 2017. The main areas of study are construction and architecture, energy, mechanical engineering and metallurgy, transport and road engineering, information technology, and economics’⁴¹⁴. Drawing largely on this existing experience, the Belarusian Ministry of Education put forward an initiative in 2014 to ‘establish a joint secondary vocational educational institution in Tajikistan’⁴¹⁵. Overall, the parties intend in the near future to increase both the number of students and the range of specialisms, as well as to expand training and exchanges for trainees and young professionals.

The measures to boost Belarusian-Tajik cooperation, agreed at the highest level in May 2014, had already yielded results by the autumn. Over the first 10 months of this year, the volume of exports from Belarus to Tajikistan rose by 11.1 per cent, with the range of Belarusian exports comprising 140 product lines, 37 of which were new. The largest shipments under the new product categories comprised ‘frozen beef, engines for the repair of lorries, gas cookers, sawn timber and hot-rolled steel bars’⁴¹⁶.

These facts clearly demonstrate the growing interest of the two former Soviet republics in fruitful cooperation across a wide range of areas. For instance, modern, high-performance machinery and equipment manufactured in Belarus can be put to effective use in Tajikistan not only in the areas mentioned above, ‘not only in the construction of hydraulic structures, but also in the development of the country’s mineral deposits – the extraction of Tajik gold, silver, rare metals, polymetallic ores, uranium and precious stones’⁴¹⁷. There is therefore every reason to believe that the work currently being carried out by both sides to fully realise the existing potential of bilateral Belarusian-Tajik relations will, in the very near future, enable them to reach a qualitatively new level.

⁴¹⁴ The joint faculty of BITU and the Tajik Technical University will open on 11 September in Dushanbe [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.movby.com/news/92466/>

⁴¹⁵ On the meeting between Ambassador O. Gavruk and the Minister of Labour, Migration and Employment of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: http://mfa.gov.by/press/mfa/c6_a6784_fcfc82_.html

⁴¹⁶ On trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan for the first 10 months of 2014 [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: http://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral_relations/trade_economic/statistics/c3_e89717_90a80.html

⁴¹⁷ Belarus – Tajikistan: The Customs Union as a stimulus for the development of mutually beneficial cooperation [Online resource]. – 2010. – URL: http://export.by/resources/izdaniya_i_publicacii/belarus%E2%80%9494_tadzhikistan_ta_mozhennii_sovuz_kak_sti.html

A course of strategic partnership

In June 2019, in Minsk, the Presidents of Belarus and Tajikistan, A. Lukashenko and E. Rahmon, signed a Treaty on Strategic Partnership, in which they enshrined a qualitatively new level of Belarusian-Tajik bilateral relations and reaffirmed their intention to actively develop them in all areas of mutual interest. It is anticipated that the implementation of the provisions of this document will inject new momentum into further cooperation across all areas. This is particularly true in the trade and economic sphere, as trade turnover between the two former Soviet republics totalled only around forty million dollars in 2018, which, in the view of the parties, ‘in no way reflects the potential of Belarusian-Tajik cooperation’⁴¹⁸. That is why, upon signing the aforementioned document, the need to significantly deepen and expand cooperation was emphasised. Among the main promising areas mentioned were: industrial cooperation; the supply of Belarusian lorries, road-construction and passenger transport equipment, and the modernisation of the railway carriage fleet; the expansion of cooperation in agriculture, including agricultural education; and the intensification of inter-regional cooperation.

In developing Belarusian-Tajik **industrial cooperation**, Minsk and Dushanbe proceed from the premise that ‘direct cooperation and the joint production of high-quality, competitive goods must become the driving force behind the further development of economic cooperation between our countries’⁴¹⁹. And the first steps in this direction have already been taken. In particular, a joint assembly plant for MTZ tractors has been operating in the Tajik city of Gissar for the second year running. Furthermore, in January 2019, with the aim of supplying the domestic market with high-quality dairy products and with a view to entering the markets of neighbouring countries, an agreement was signed to establish a joint venture in Dushanbe, ‘Vatan Dairy Production’ LLC, founded on the Belarusian side by ‘Minsk Dairy Plant No. 1’ OJSC. Raw milk and finished dairy products will be supplied from Belarus to this enterprise, as well as to the Tajik partner’s distribution network. It is also telling that Tajikistan has already expressed its interest in setting up another joint venture for the production of dairy products. Only this time, it will be based at Avicenna LLC, where the Belarusian partner will be Grodno-based OJSC ‘Molochny Mir’. As part of this project, ‘Avicenna’ has already acquired a dairy farm with a herd of more than 1,500 head of cattle, as well as production facilities and equipment for a dairy plant in Gissar. Negotiations are currently underway with the International Finance

⁴¹⁸ Talks with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news/ru/view/peregovorov-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana--raxonom-21425/>

⁴¹⁹ Ibid.

Corporation regarding the allocation of the necessary funding. The project is aimed at the Afghan market⁴²⁰. Consequently, it is expected that dairy products manufactured in collaboration with the Belarusian side at the plants in Dushanbe and Gissar will reach the market of this Central Asian country as early as the beginning of 2020.

As for the prospects of **supplying Belarusian machinery** to Tajikistan, the cooperation in this regard between the Belarusian company 'Belkommunmash' and its Tajik partners looks very promising; the company is currently finalising a contract to supply its machinery to the country worth thirty million dollars. The fact is that in recent years, work on modernising and upgrading passenger and public transport in Dushanbe has intensified. Suffice it to say that the Tajik capital's budget for 2019 provides for the purchase of more than three hundred units of equipment. As early as May 2019, as part of the 'Sustainable Development of Dushanbe's Public Transport' project, funded by a loan from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, four trolleybuses with autonomous driving capability, worth one million dollars, were supplied from Belarus. Also in May 2019, 'Belkommunmash' and Dushanbe City Council signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the supply of 100 trolleybuses with autonomous driving capability. However, discussions are currently underway regarding the possibility of supplying as many as 150 vehicles⁴²¹. Autonomous trolleybuses will help resolve a number of problematic issues in the capital of Tajikistan. Firstly, they can be used to establish new routes and extend existing ones, as well as to run additional trolleybus lines to residential areas or areas with underdeveloped transport infrastructure. Secondly, the use of new contactless trolleybuses could have a beneficial effect on reducing traffic congestion on the streets of Dushanbe, as conventional trolleybuses remain stationary on the roads for hours in the event of a power cut, obstructing traffic. Thirdly, 'the innovative trolleybus is capable of travelling up to 15 km without a contact network, whereas conventional trolleybuses can travel no more than 500 m on autonomous power'⁴²². The Belarusian side plans to establish a service centre here, where local specialists will be trained, with a view to turning it into a base for assembly production and expanding operations to third countries.

⁴²⁰ Matveev, V. The first dairy products from the Belarus-Tajikistan joint venture will be launched on the market in 2020 / V. Matveev // [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/pervaia-produktsiia-molokopereabotki-sp-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-vyidet-na-rynok-v-2020-godu-353105-2019/>

⁴²¹ Matveev, V. 'Belkommunmash' is finalising a contract to supply equipment to Tajikistan worth \$30 million / V. Matveev // [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/prorabatyvaet-kontrakt-postavku-tehniki-tadzhikistan-30-mln-353062-2019/>

⁴²² 'Belkommunmash' electric buses to begin operating in Dushanbe [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/elektrobusy-belkommunmash-nachnut-kursirovat-v-dushanbe-333003-2019/>

Interesting prospects for Belarusian-Tajik cooperation are also opening up today in **the field of education**. Statistics show that there are currently around 1,500 Tajik students studying at universities in Belarus. Furthermore, thanks to the establishment of five joint faculties at leading higher education institutions in Tajikistan, it is now possible to obtain a Belarusian education in that country as well. Nevertheless, according to the Tajik leader E. Rahmon, ‘the time has come to explore the possibility of implementing new joint Tajik-Belarusian educational projects’⁴²³. In this regard, ‘the establishment of branches of Belarusian universities in Tajikistan, the opening of new joint faculties and even higher education institutions’ is seen as promising⁴²⁴.

It should be noted that Belarusian-Tajik cooperation in the field of education is currently based on several intergovernmental and inter-ministerial agreements: on cooperation in the field of higher and postgraduate education (2013), on cooperation in the field of education (2000), and on cooperation in the field of pre-school education (2018). These partnerships between universities in the two countries are developing particularly dynamically. Suffice it to say that ‘the contractual relations between Belarusian higher education institutions and Tajik educational establishments are implemented within the framework of 77 inter-university agreements in the field of education’⁴²⁵. Indeed, joint Belarusian-Tajik faculties have proved to be a highly effective means of implementing these agreements; by mid-2019, there were already five such faculties.

The first such initiative was the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, established in 2012 at the Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi and the Belarusian National Technical University. Tuition at this faculty is conducted in Russian in two stages. The first stage takes place at the Tajik university and involves students who do not speak Russian first attending preparatory courses, followed by the first and second years of study. The second stage consists of study in Minsk, culminating in the defence of a final-year project. In the 2017/2018 academic year, 476 Tajik students were enrolled at the faculty. The most popular fields of study among them are: construction, architecture, mechanical engineering and instrument engineering. ‘In 2017, the joint faculty held its first graduation

⁴²³ Krishenik, E. Rahmon: We are interested in attracting Belarus’s advanced technologies to the real sector of the economy / E. Krishenik // [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://www.economics/view/rahmon-mv--privlecheni--belarusi-v-realnyi-sektor-ekonomiki-353119-2019/>

⁴²⁴ Talks with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <http://president.gov.bj/ru/news/ru/view/peregovory-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana--raxmonom-21425/>

⁴²⁵ Cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of education is developing actively [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <http://edu.gov/news/sotrudnichestvo-mezhdu-respublikov-belarusi--tadzhikistan-v-sfere-obrazovaniya-aktivno-r/>

ceremony, with 24,425 graduates⁴²⁶.

In 2016, a Faculty of Civil Aviation was established at the same Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi, in collaboration with the Belarusian State Academy of Aviation. This faculty trains specialists in fields such as ‘Technical Operation of Aviation Equipment (Instrumentation and Electrical Lighting Equipment)’, ‘Technical Operation of Aviation Equipment (Radio-Electronic Equipment)’, and ‘Organisation of Air Traffic and Flight Support in Air Transport (Air Traffic Management)’. ‘Currently, 25 first-year students are studying at the joint faculty, whilst 28 students are continuing their studies at the BGA in their second year’⁴²⁷.

Two joint faculties are also currently operating at the Belarusian State University and the Tajik National University. Firstly, there is the joint Faculty of Information Technology, for which an agreement was signed in June 2015 and where, since then, students have been trained in the ‘specialisms of “applied mathematics”, “computer security” and “mathematics and information technology”’⁴²⁸. Secondly, there is the Faculty of

for Environmentally Friendly Technologies, established in 2016, where, as of the start of 2018, 101 first- and second-year students were studying ‘in the following first-cycle degree programmes: “Energy-Efficient Technologies and Energy

Management’, ‘Nuclear and Radiation Safety’ and ‘Medical and Biological Sciences’⁴²⁹.

Finally, in March 2019, a joint faculty of Polotsk State University and the Technological University of Tajikistan was inaugurated. This enabled the first intake of students to the new faculty in 2019 across two specialisations: ‘Machinery and Equipment for Chemical Production and Building Materials Enterprises’ and ‘Design, Construction and Operation of Gas and Oil Pipelines and Storage Facilities’. Furthermore, following negotiations between representatives of Polotsk State University and the management of Tajik National University, plans were drawn up at the same time to ‘implement cooperation in the training of specialists, master’s and postgraduate students, joint participation in academic mobility programmes, conducting scientific research and implementing joint educational

⁴²⁶ Joint Faculty of Engineering and Technology, BNTU-TTU [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://www.bntu.by/engineering-and-technical-faculty-bntu-ttu.html>

⁴²⁷ Faculty of Civil Aviation of the Belarusian State Academy of Aviation – Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi (FCA BSAA-TTU) [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://ttu.tj/university-/structure/-/-/-/>

⁴²⁸ BSU and Tajik National University have opened a joint Faculty of Information Technology [Online resource]. – 2015. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-i-tadzhikskij-natsionalnyi-universitet-otkryli-sovmestnyi-fakultet-informatsionnyh-tehnologii-4702-2015/>

⁴²⁹ Faculty of Environmentally Friendly Technologies, TNU [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://www.iseu.bsu.by/faculty-of-environmentally-friendly-technologies-tnu/>

programmes in the specialisations ‘Practical Psychology’ and ‘Tourism and Hospitality’⁴³⁰.

It is to be expected that other higher education institutions in both countries will soon move towards more advanced forms of cooperation. In particular, this applies to the Belarusian State Medical University and the Tajik National University, which signed an Agreement on Academic and Scientific Cooperation as far back as October 2016. At the time, the Belarusian side expressed an interest in such partnerships, ‘especially if the cooperation can be given a distinct practical focus, for example, in the field of research into cardiovascular diseases’⁴³¹.

Another important element in the implementation of the Strategic Partnership Agreement is the development of **inter-regional cooperation** between the regions, cities and districts of Belarus and Tajikistan. Upon signing this document, the parties declared their intention to “do everything possible to promote the expansion of direct links between the regions of our countries and economic entities”⁴³². Representatives of the parliaments of both countries have also spoken of the need to ‘harness regional potential’⁴³³. It should be noted that, to date, agreements on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation have been concluded between the Vitebsk and Sughd regions, the Minsk and Sughd regions, the Gomel and Khatlon regions, the cities of Minsk and Dushanbe, the Yavan and Uzden districts, as well as agreements on cooperation between the Mogilev and Sughd regions, and on mutual cooperation between the cities of Mogilev and Khujand.

Belarusian-Tajik interregional cooperation began more than twenty years ago, when, in the summer of 1998, the capitals of the two former Soviet republics became twin cities. At that time, **Minsk and Dushanbe** adopted two documents at once. The first – the “Agreement on the Twinning of the Cities of Minsk and Dushanbe” – set out the mutual desire “to do everything possible to create the most favourable conditions for the development of friendly ties between the residents of our cities, and for cooperation between enterprises, organisations and firms”⁴³⁴. The second document – the Agreement on Cooperation in the Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Fields – set out the parties’ intention to facilitate the establishment

⁴³⁰ Alekseeva, D. Opening of a joint faculty with the Technological University of Tajikistan / D. Alekseeva // [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://www.psu.by/novosti-mezhdunarodnoj-devatelnosti/11961-otkrytie-of-a-joint-faculty-with-the-Technological-University-of-Tajikistan>

⁴³¹ Stasevich, M. Visit by a delegation from Tajik National University (Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan) to BSMU / M. Stasevich // [Online resource]. - 2016. - URL: <https://www.bsmu.by/allarticles/rubric2/121/article1593/>

⁴³² Talks with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news/ru/view/neregovory-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana--raxmonom-21425/>

⁴³³ Mfashnikovich: New forms of cooperation are important for expanding trade and economic relations with Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-----rasshireniya-a-torgovo-ekonomicheskikh-otnosheniy-s-295210-2018/>

⁴³⁴ Zalesky, B. A Second Wind / B. Zalesky // Vecherniy Minsk. – 1998. – 3 Aug.

of joint ventures, joint-stock companies, financial and industrial groups, trading houses, and commercial, business and regional information centres for the collection, processing and dissemination of information required by producers and consumers of goods and services to analyse market conditions. It seems that both these documents remain entirely relevant today, as they serve to foster the development of sister-city and partnership ties between the two capitals and their respective economic entities. In this regard, the recent example of cooperation between the Minsk-based enterprise ‘Belkommunmash’ and the Dushanbe City Council on the modernisation of public passenger transport in the Tajik capital only serves to confirm the enduring nature of the documents adopted more than twenty years ago.

Among the other participants in Belarusian-Tajik interregional cooperation, **the Sughd Region** clearly stands out from the rest, actively developing partnerships with no fewer than three Belarusian regions – the Vitebsk, Minsk and Mogilev Regions. An agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation with **the Vitebsk Region** was signed in April 2012. In this context, ‘the priority areas of cooperation were identified as mechanical engineering, the furniture industry, leather processing and light industry’⁴³⁵. A similar agreement with **the Minsk Region** came into being in May 2014. It is worth noting that, for the Belarusian capital region, cooperation with Tajik partners has, on the whole, yielded good results. Suffice it to say that ‘at the end of 2018, the Minsk Region’s exports to the Republic of Tajikistan amounted to US\$6.4 million <...>. The main export items were: sugar and chemically pure sucrose in solid form; petroleum products; and printed matter’⁴³⁶. To consolidate this positive trend, in June 2019 a number of enterprises in the Minsk Region, including OJSC ‘Slutsk Meat Processing Plant’, OJSC “Minsk Meat Processing Plant”, OJSC “Borisov Meat Processing Plant” and OJSC “Slutsk Cheese Factory”, showcased their products at the “Sughd-2019” international trade fair, which resulted in the signing of 14 agreements and memoranda of cooperation.

As regards cooperation between the Sughd and Mogilev regions, the cornerstone of this relationship is the partnership between **Mogilev** and the city of **Khujand**, located in the Tajik region of Sughd, which was formalised by a corresponding agreement in May 2014. From the outset, the parties declared their intention to “move to a new level of cooperation – from trade and the exchange of goods to cooperation between industrial enterprises and

⁴³⁵ Rafieva, S. Sogd and Vitebsk signed a cooperation agreement / M. Rafieva // [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL:

<https://news.vitebsk.cc/2012/04/26/sogd-i-vitebsk-podpisali-soglashenie-o-sotrudnichestve/>

⁴³⁶ A delegation from the Minsk Region paid a working visit to Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL:

<https://www.mlnv.by/2019/06/delegatsiya-minskoj-oblasti-s-rabochim-vizitom-posetila-tadzhikistan/>

the establishment of joint production facilities”⁴³⁷. At the same time, the Tajik side expressed an interest in working with “Mogilevliftmash” to set up an elevator assembly plant in Tajikistan. In June 2015, the parties reached an agreement on the supply of lifts and lift equipment to Khujand for municipal purposes, as well as on the establishment of a joint venture to manufacture lifts for sale in Tajikistan and neighbouring countries. Furthermore, it was noted that “the Tajik side has shown considerable interest in establishing joint ventures in Khujand with the furniture companies ‘Mogilevdrev’ and ‘Mogilevmebel’. There is also a willingness to consider proposals for setting up a joint venture to produce confectionery products”⁴³⁸.

Finally, in December 2017, the **Gomel and Khatlon** regions signed an Agreement on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation to give fresh impetus to the development of relations between the two regions and to help strengthen trade and economic co-operation. The fact is that over the first three quarters of 2017, the Belarusian region’s total trade turnover with Tajikistan amounted to just 818 thousand dollars. “Enterprises in Gomel supplied soap, sealing products, wallpaper and cattle hides”⁴³⁹. In total, there were thirteen exporting enterprises, including TUP “Gomel Traditions of Taste”, IPUP “Alkopak”, ODO “Vimala” and OAO AFPK “Zhlobin Meat Processing Plant”. It is to be hoped that, in light of the recently adopted policy of a Belarusian-Tajik strategic partnership, the signed agreement will play an important role in strengthening cooperation between these regions.

⁴³⁷ Kulyagin, S. Tajikistan is interested in developing cooperation with enterprises in the Mogilev Region – Koimodov / S. Kulyagin // [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/tadzhikistan-interested-in-developing-cooperation-with-enterprises-in-the-Mogilev-region-koimodov-174610-2015/>

⁴³⁸ Kulyagin, S. Mogilev and Khujand in Tajikistan intend to set up joint production facilities / S. Kulyagin // [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: <https://www.belarus.by/ru/business/-news/-i-tadzhifskii-xudzhand-namereny-sozdat-sovmestnye-proizvodstva/0000025058.html>

⁴³⁹ Gomel and Khatlon Regions have signed a Cooperation Agreement [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <https://newsgomel.by/news/societv/15070/-skava-i-hatlonskava-oblasti-podpisali-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve.html>

The commission's decisions – to the priorities of the roadmap

Belarus and Tajikistan have traditionally enjoyed close relations, and the two countries are consistently strengthening their mutually beneficial strategic partnership. The Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on Trade and Economic Cooperation, established back in 1999, now plays a key role in the development of effective bilateral cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan. Its remit ‘covers such priority areas as: the supply of engineering products under new leasing schemes; cooperation in the agro-industrial complex and the energy sector; participation in joint economic projects; and the creation of a network of joint production enterprises on the territory of both states’⁴⁴⁰.

In April 2021, the 14th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission took place in Dushanbe, at which topical issues relating to industrial cooperation and production collaboration, agriculture and transport, healthcare and education, investment and information technology were discussed. At the same time, the following events were organised in the capital of Tajikistan: the ‘Made in Belarus’ exhibition of Belarusian manufacturers; the ‘Belarus–Tajikistan–Afghanistan’ business forum; and the ‘TajBelAgro’ forum. The holding of all these events demonstrated once again that “despite the global crisis, Belarusian-Tajik trade and economic cooperation remains positive and dynamic. Since 2016, mutual trade turnover has increased 5.5-fold and amounted to \$111.7 million in 2020”⁴⁴¹. Meanwhile, Belarusian exports to the Tajik market over the same period increased more than sixfold to reach almost \$110 million, whilst the trade surplus stood at \$107.5 million, driven by supplies from Belarus of cars, sugar, tractors and articulated lorries, flour, meat by-products and fish, stationery made from paper and cardboard, and chipboard.

Among the major joint projects implemented recently is the shipment to Afghanistan of the first consignment of Belarusian tractors assembled at the JSC “Agrotechservice” at in the Tajik city of Gissar, where there are plans not only to produce modern machinery for the agro-industrial complex – forage harvesters, attachments and an expanded range of assembled tractors – but also to create a further hundred skilled jobs as the project develops. In this regard, during a meeting of the intergovernmental commission, an

⁴⁴⁰ Zaleski, B. The Vector of Post-Soviet Integration: A View from Belarus / Boris Zaleski. – Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2019. – p. 211.

⁴⁴¹ Belarus and Tajikistan need to implement agricultural projects more actively – Krupko [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarusi-i-tadzhikistam-muzhno-aktivnee-realizovyvat-proektv-v-selskom-hozi-aistve-krupko-435795-2021/>

agreement was signed between OJSC “UKH Bobruiskagromash” and AOZT “Agrotechservice” to expand assembly operations through the production of PST-9 tractor semi-trailers at the Gissar site. “In addition, the companies have concluded a contract for the supply of the first batch of machine kits, the shipment of which is scheduled for the second quarter of 2021”⁴⁴². It should be noted that in

Gissar, with Belarusian assistance, “there is also a training centre for preparing specialists to ensure the effective operation and maintenance of machinery and equipment used in the fields of Tajikistan”⁴⁴³. The implementation of a contract to supply 100 Belarusian trolleybuses with autonomous driving capability to Dushanbe is also in its final stages.

Belarusian-Tajik cooperation in the field of agriculture also developed very dynamically in 2020. Suffice it to say that the volume of mutual trade in agricultural produce and foodstuffs between the two former Soviet republics reached just under ten million dollars. An important detail is that ‘Belarusian food exports to this country increased 1.4-fold, totalling \$9.5 million <...>. In January 2021, domestic agricultural produce and foodstuffs worth \$775,000 were supplied to Tajikistan (a seven-fold increase compared with the same period last year)’⁴⁴⁴. And there is every reason to believe that this positive trend will continue in the medium term. The “Bellegprom” group is also exploring opportunities to supply flax to this Central Asian country, a product which is attracting considerable interest from Tajik business circles. In particular, within the framework of the Intergovernmental Commission, discussions took place on

‘the issue of supplying products from the Orsha Flax Mill, , and “Kamvolya” flax-containing fabrics to the Tajik market’⁴⁴⁵.

The ‘Made in Belarus’ exhibition of Belarusian manufacturers, held in Dushanbe in 2021, was also designed to promote the growth of exports from Belarus to Tajikistan. It showcased products from 40 domestic companies across key industrial sectors: Agrofood – agriculture and food products; TechMach – mechanical engineering and technology; Wood – the woodworking industry and furniture; Health – healthcare and

⁴⁴² “Bobruiskagromash” to expand its assembly operations in Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bobruiskagromash-rasshirit-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-v-tadzhikistane-436621-2021/>

⁴⁴³ Belarus and Tajikistan discussed the development of trade and economic cooperation and industrial cooperation [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-obsudili-razvitiye-torgovo-ekonomicheskogo-sotrudnichestva-i-nromkooperatsiiu-436006-2021/>

⁴⁴⁴ Exports of Belarusian agricultural produce to Tajikistan increased 1.4-fold in 2020 [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-belorusskoi-selhozproduksii-v-tadzhikistan-v-2020-godu-vvros-v-14-raza-434869-2021/>

⁴⁴⁵ “Bellegprom” is exploring opportunities to supply flax to Tajikistan [Online source]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bellegprom-prorabatvayet-vozmozhnosti--nostavok-lna-v-tadzhikistan-435980-2021/>

pharmaceuticals; FMCG – fast-moving consumer goods. Tajik partners were also able to learn about the export potential of the Belarusian agro-industrial complex and the prospects for bilateral cooperation in the fields of crop and livestock farming at the ‘TajBelAgro’ agricultural forum, where discussions centred not only on concluding contracts for the mutual supply of agricultural produce and machinery, but also on exploring options for cooperation. Finally, as part of the “Tajikistan–Belarus– Afghanistan’ business forum, attended by over two hundred enterprises from the three countries, “eight documents were signed on the development of partnerships in the fields of industry, education, and the supply of food and beverages”⁴⁴⁶, which testifies to the growing momentum of the partnership within this trilateral framework as well.

It should be noted that in June 2022, the 15th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission was held in Minsk, at which the parties highlighted the most significant areas of bilateral cooperation: investment, industry, agriculture, transport, and the social, cultural and scientific-technical spheres. It should be recalled that “in 2021, trade turnover between Belarus and Tajikistan amounted to over \$126 million, an increase of 12.6 per cent compared with 2020; exports totalled just over \$122 million (an increase of 11.1 per cent), whilst imports stood at \$4 million (an increase of 90.5 per cent)”⁴⁴⁷. Today, both countries have a mutual interest in expanding areas of cooperation, which could include the development of assembly production of Belarusian lifts, organised in Tajikistan, the establishment of a joint venture for carpet production, the supply of Belarusian passenger, quarry and construction machinery, as well as pedigree cattle of Belarusian breeding stock, and the expansion of food exports, including those certified to ‘Halal’ standards. Belarus, for its part, is interested in importing raw materials from Tajikistan for the Belarusian light manufacturing sector, as well as in continuing cooperation in the fields of education, culture and sport. In this context, it is significant that 2022–2026 have been declared the ‘Years of Industrial Development’ in Tajikistan. “During this period, the plan is to ensure average annual economic growth of at least 7 per cent and to double GDP per capita, create more than 500,000 new jobs and reduce the poverty rate to 15 per cent. Belarusian companies have been invited to play an active role in achieving these objectives. A separate proposal has been made to continue training Tajik specialists in Minsk for various sectors of the

⁴⁴⁶ Belarus, Tajikistan and Afghanistan signed eight documents on the development of partnership at a business forum [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-tadzhikistan--afganistan-podpisali-na-biznes-forume-8-dokumentov--razviti-partnerstva-435998-2021/>

⁴⁴⁷ Belarus and Tajikistan are keen to expand areas of cooperation [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-zainteresovany-v-rasshirenii-napravlenii-sotrudnichestva-506166-2022>

economy”⁴⁴⁸. In this regard, the Belarusian side is prepared to supply its Tajik partners with all types of engineering machinery, primarily quarrying and road-building equipment, for the implementation of infrastructure projects in the country’s mining and power industries. There is scope for a significant increase in supplies to the Tajik market of new models of Belarusian buses and lorries, as well as products from the woodworking, petrochemical and metallurgical sectors, and for the establishment of joint ventures for the assembly of lifts, household appliances and furniture.

In the agri-industrial sector, Tajikistan is keen to increase imports of Belarusian agricultural machinery and meat and dairy products. In particular, significant efforts are under way to ship agricultural machinery from Belarus, which the Tajik agricultural sector is in urgent need of. “In 2021, 411 tractors of various makes and more than 124 agricultural machines were supplied to Tajikistan”⁴⁴⁹. The Tajik side has expressed an interest in continuing cooperation in this area. Furthermore, partners from Tajikistan plan to expand the range of beef products, dairy products and raw materials supplied. During the 15th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the parties also noted “the potential for growth in supplies of pedigree cattle of Belarusian breeding stock and the possibility of providing Tajik farmers with high-yield, balanced compound feeds and additives”⁴⁵⁰.

Cooperation between the regions of Belarus and Tajikistan is also developing successfully in 2022. In particular, the agenda includes the development of cooperation between the capitals of the two countries in a number of areas, including machinery, pharmaceutical production and education. It should be recalled that in 2019, Minsk implemented a major project to supply Dushanbe with “Belkommunmash” trolleybuses. Today, these vehicles are already a familiar sight in the Tajik capital. Another project is being implemented in the field of dairy production – cooperation between Tajik partners and Minsk Dairy Plant No. 1. Plans include developing cooperative ties and establishing joint production of municipal equipment. As for the education sector, there are currently around 600 Tajik students studying in Belarus. Most of them choose to study in Minsk and at technical universities. Many of them are studying at the Aviation Academy and in various faculties of the Belarusian State University. In addition, there are four joint faculties

⁴⁴⁸ Pivovar, E. Krutoy stated that Belarus is ready to supply Tajikistan with any type of engineering machinery / E. Pivovar // [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/krutoi-zaiaivil-o-gotovnosti-belarusi-obespechit-tadzhikistan-ljubymi-vidami-mashinostroitelnoi-tehniki-523859-2022/>

⁴⁴⁹ Tajikistan is interested in increasing supplies of Belarusian meat and dairy products and agricultural machinery [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tadzhikistan-zainteresovan-v-uvelichenii-postavok-belorusskoj-mjaso-molochnoj-produktsii-i-506657-2022/>

⁴⁵⁰ Belarus is ready to supply halal products to Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gotova-postavit-at-v-tadzhikistan-halalnuu-produktsiiu-506619-2022/>

run by Belarusian and Tajik higher education institutions. Thus, the two capitals are developing numerous mechanisms for cooperation. And ‘in the future, a document will be signed to regulate the further development of relations between Minsk and Dushanbe’⁴⁵¹.

Another example of regional cooperation is between the Gomel and Khatlon regions, which intend to develop cooperation in agriculture and industry. For instance, specialists from Gomel are ready to build turnkey farms in the Tajik region. Partners from the Khatlon Region “intend to purchase mineral fertilisers, timber, cattle, as well as feed for poultry farms”⁴⁵². The Khatlon Region is a large region of Tajikistan where, for certain agricultural products, between 48 and 78 per cent of the country’s total output is grown. These include vegetables, early-season fruit, melons and citrus fruits.

Another important document was signed by Belarus and Tajikistan in Dushanbe in October 2022 – a roadmap for 2022–2026. , in the context of implementing the programme for the accelerated industrial development of this Central Asian country, Tajik partners are interested in developing cooperation with the Belarusian side in the light, food, pharmaceutical, chemical and mining industries. Furthermore, “the agricultural sector in the context of industrial cooperation and inter-regional cooperation were identified as priority areas for economic interaction”⁴⁵³. Furthermore, the two republics adopted a number of key bilateral documents. These include intergovernmental agreements on a system to facilitate mutual trade and on cooperation in the field of youth policy. The General Prosecutor’s Office of Belarus and the Agency for State Financial Control and Anti-Corruption of Tajikistan signed a document on cooperation in the field of anti-corruption. The Ministry of Sport and Tourism of Belarus and the Committee for Tourism Development under the Government of Tajikistan agreed to develop cooperation in the field of tourism. An agreement on cooperation was also signed by the National Centre for Marketing and Price Trends of Belarus and the Export Agency under the Government of Tajikistan. The National Academies of Sciences of the two countries agreed to train personnel in the fields of virology, microbiology, molecular biology, epidemiology, biotechnology and pharmacology. In addition, a ‘plan of measures for the development of trade, economic and humanitarian cooperation between the Minsk City Executive Committee and the Executive Body of State Authority

⁴⁵¹ Cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan was discussed at the Minsk City Executive Committee [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/view/sotmidnichestvo-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-obsudili-v-mingorispolkome-525441-2022/>

⁴⁵² The Gomel and Khatlon regions intend to develop cooperation in the agri-food sector and industry [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/gomelskaia-hatlonskaia-namereny-razvivat-v-apk-promyshlennosti-507131-2022/>

⁴⁵³ Rahmon outlined priority areas for cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/-oboznachil-napravleniya-s-belarusiu-528619-2022/>

of the City of Dushanbe for 2023–2024’ was approved. The Mogilev District has established twinning ties with the Spitamen District of the Sughd Region of Tajikistan.⁴⁵⁴

During these days in October, a Tajik-Belarusian business forum was also held in Dushanbe, attended by representatives of 73 enterprises from Belarus, nearly fifty of which showcased their products at the ‘Made in Belarus’ exhibition. “Virtually all sectors of the Belarusian economy were represented at the business forum: engineering, metallurgy, food products, wood processing and light industry. The total value of contracts signed amounted to around \$46 million. In addition, agreements worth a further \$2 million were finalised during online negotiations”⁴⁵⁵.

In particular, the Minsk Tractor Works signed contracts with Tajik companies worth \$11 million. “For instance, 170 BELARUS tractors, worth around \$4 million, will be supplied to the company ‘Madadi Tursunzoda’. A trade agreement has been signed with ‘Agrotechservice’ for the supply of 320 tractors worth over \$7 million”⁴⁵⁶. It should be noted that around 370 Belarusian tractors have already been delivered to Tajikistan over the first three quarters of this year. This is almost 50 per cent more than in January–September 2021. For reference: in November 2017, a BELARUS tractor assembly plant was opened in the city of Gissar and contracts were signed for the production of seven models.

Another fact: the Minsk Automobile Plant will supply 14 units of automotive equipment to the Tajik market, worth almost 500,000 dollars. The contract, signed as part of the Tajik-Belarusian business forum, was concluded between MAZ and OJSC “Obi Zulol” – “the largest producer of bottled water, carbonated drinks and natural juices in Tajikistan”. In 2019, MAZ supplied the company with 18 units of vehicles, including road trains and flatbed lorries with trailers”⁴⁵⁷.

Another participant in the Tajik-Belarusian business forum was the “Belgospishcheprom” group, eight of whose enterprises took part in the “Made in Belarus” exhibition and even signed a number of contracts with Tajik partners for the supply of sugar, brewing malt and confectionery. Incidentally, “in terms of export volume, Tajikistan ranks first this year

⁴⁵⁴ Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a roadmap for 2022–2026 and several other important documents [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan--dorozhmini-_-2022-2026-_-neskolko-vazhnv-dokumentov-528597-2022/

⁴⁵⁵ Tajik-Belarusian Business Forum takes place in Dushanbe [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/foi-fakti-tadzhiksko-belorusskii-biznes-forum-prohodit-v-dushanbe-528500-2022/>

⁴⁵⁶ MTZ has signed contracts with companies from Tajikistan worth \$11 million [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-zakluchil-kontrakt-s-kompani-ami-iz-tadzhikistana-na-11-mln-528650-2022/>

⁴⁵⁷ MAZ to supply machinery to Tajikistan worth almost \$500,000 [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/maz-postavit-tehniku--tadzhikistan-pochti-na-500-tyis-528637-2022/>

among the group's trading partners in Central Asia and the Middle East"⁴⁵⁸. Meanwhile, representatives of the "Bellegprom" group explored the possibility of investing in cotton production in Tajikistan during the business forum. Managers from the Orsha Flax Processing Plant and the Baranovich Cotton Production Association, who visited Dushanbe, held talks on the possible import of cotton yarn and fibre, as the price of cotton yarn in Tajikistan has become more acceptable for Belarusian manufacturers in recent years. It should be noted that there are other areas of interest in the cooperation between the two countries in the light industry. "This [2022] year, the Belarusian company 'Mogotex' supplied its products to Tajikistan for the first time. Technical fabrics were exported, with the total value of the deals amounting to \$250,000. The Mogilev-based company has agreed to supply goods to Tajikistan in 2023 as well. <...> 'Mogotex' will supply technical fabrics worth \$300,000."⁴⁵⁹.

The "Vitebsk Carpets" holding company will also be represented on the Tajik market; together with Tajik partners, it is setting up a joint production facility in Khujand, Sughd Region. Interestingly, in mid-April 2022, an official opening ceremony was held in this city for the joint Belarusian-Tajik lift assembly plant of OJSC "Mogilevliftmash", in partnership with LLC "Khujandtorgmash". The new lift production facility has provided jobs for 50 residents of Khujand, where "using modern equipment and technologies, various types of lifts will be manufactured – including passenger and goods lifts for high-rise buildings, industrial enterprises and healthcare facilities"⁴⁶⁰.

As regards cooperation in the fields of education and science, at the forum of rectors of higher education institutions from Belarus and Tajikistan, held in October 2022, the parties identified significant potential in the field of innovation, both in the implementation of joint educational programmes and in the training of Tajik students at Belarusian universities and institutes. In particular, the Belarusian National Technical University (BITU) signed a number of cooperation agreements with universities in Tajikistan. These include Danghara State University, Tajik Agrarian University, Tajik National University and the Technological University of Tajikistan, as well as the Mining and Metallurgy Institute of Tajikistan. The Belarusian and Tajik

⁴⁵⁸ Zhidkov: Tajikistan is one of Belgospisheprom's key partners in the Central Asian market [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/view/-tadzhikistan--iz-kluchevyh--dlia-belgospisheproma-na-tsentranoaziatkom-rvnye-528642-2022/>

⁴⁵⁹ Belarus is exploring the possibility of investing in cotton production in Tajikistan [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-izuchaet-vozmozhnost-investirovaniia-v-proizvodstvo-lifonka-v-tadzhikistane-528489-2022>

⁴⁶⁰ Emomali Rahmon took part in the opening of the 'Mogilevliftmash' lift assembly plant in Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/emomali-rahmon-primjal-uchastie-otkrytii-sborochnogo-proizvodstva-lifov-mogilevliftmash-v-496483-2022/>

partners have already identified a number of areas for cooperation. ‘Cooperation with these universities represents a new level of entry into the Tajik market for educational services. <.> Opening up new horizons for cooperation...’⁴⁶¹. Ultimately, the parties believe that innovative collaboration is the key to establishing new joint ventures in Tajikistan and Belarus. Overall, all these facts “demonstrate the growing interest of the two former Soviet republics in fruitful cooperation across a wide range of areas”⁴⁶², which is reaching a new level in the form of comprehensive measures set out in the Belarus–Tajikistan roadmap for 2022–2026.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

⁴⁶¹ BITU and Tajikistan's universities to cooperate in the fields of science, education and innovation [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

https://www.belta.by/society/view/bntu-i-vuzov-tadzhikistana-budut-sotrudnicat-v-sfere-nauki-obrazovaniia-i-innovatsij_-528871-2022

⁴⁶² Zaleski, B. International Relations and the Media. Characteristics of Multidirectional International Cooperation in a Period of Global Challenges / Boris Zaleski. - Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2016. - p. 129.

New steps towards cooperation

Belarus and Tajikistan plan to intensify their trade and economic cooperation in order to increase trade turnover and reach a level of at least US\$100 million in bilateral trade by 2024. Minsk and Dushanbe see positive momentum and untapped potential to focus not only ‘on the simple supply of goods, but on expanding cooperative ties, establishing long-term joint projects and assembly plants in the fields of agricultural machinery and attachments, lifts, dairy products, electrical transformers and other promising sectors’⁴⁶³.

It should be noted that in 2022, trade turnover between Belarus and Tajikistan amounted to over 78 million dollars. For the first 11 months of 2023, this figure stood at around 75 million dollars. There are nine enterprises with Tajik capital registered in Belarus, including two joint ventures and seven foreign-owned companies. In Tajikistan, there are more than 20 entities in the distribution network of Belarusian enterprises and one joint venture. Furthermore, a number of interesting joint cooperation projects have emerged over the past five years. Firstly, since 2017, an assembly plant for Belarusian agricultural machinery has been operating in the Tajik city of Gissar. In 2024, there are plans to organise the assembly of combine harvesters at the same site. Secondly, in 2022, an assembly plant for lifts produced by OJSC “Mogilevliftmash” was opened in the Tajik city of Khujand. Thirdly, in the country’s capital, Dushanbe, a joint venture based on Belarusian technology has been established – the ‘Vatan’ Dairy Products Production Joint Venture LLC – which has been manufacturing products under the ‘ALMIR’ brand since June 2023. Fourthly, in November 2023, OJSC “Minsk Electrotechnical Plant named after V.I. Kozlov” and OJSC “Transformer” from the city of Bokhtar signed a Memorandum on the organisation of an assembly plant for Belarusian transformers in Tajikistan. Fifthly, commercial agreements have been signed to supply cotton, yarn and cotton fabrics from this Central Asian country to light industry enterprises in Belarus until 2025, totalling more than 40 million dollars. Sixthly, OJSC “BELAZ” has explored the possibility of establishing a quarry machinery manufacturing plant in Tajikistan in the near future.

In September 2023, the 16th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on Trade and Economic Cooperation took place in Dushanbe, at which trends in cooperation in the fields of industrial cooperation, light industry, and the supply of wood products,

⁴⁶³ Cooperative ties and joint projects. Belarusian Ambassador on cooperation with Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.societv.view/kooperatsionnye-sv'язi--sovmestnye-proekty--posol-belarusi--s-tadzhikistanom-607001-2023/>

foodstuffs and pharmaceuticals. The parties also discussed cooperation in the fields of agriculture, food and training for the agro-industrial sector, transport, education and science, healthcare and social protection, culture and sport, tourism and inter-regional cooperation. On the same day, a meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Business Council was held, attended by heads and representatives of 24 Belarusian

enterprises and organisations, as well as small and medium-sized businesses. Following the event, the participants signed “13 bilateral documents – cooperation agreements and contracts for the supply of products totalling over \$16 million”⁴⁶⁴.

In particular, during the 16th session of the Intergovernmental Commission, OJSC “Gomselmash” signed a memorandum on bilateral cooperation with CJSC “Agrotechservice”. This document provides for the supply of five GS5A grain harvesters to the Tajik market in 2024. The fact is that “Gomselmash has been working closely with Agrotechservice for several years now to supply Tajik farmers with grain and forage harvesting machinery, as well as to provide timely maintenance services”⁴⁶⁵. We would add that GOMSELMASH’s economical and simple combine harvesters and self-propelled mowers are currently the most popular in this Central Asian country. There are also plans to supply machine kits and other machinery to Tajik partners. Furthermore, “Belarus will supply Tajikistan with seeds, livestock, tinned meat, dairy products and fish products”⁴⁶⁶.

In 2023, Belarusian–Tajik cooperation took on a new dimension in the woodworking, pulp and paper industries, where exports from Belarus increased 1.7-fold over a seven-month period. Looking at the figures for the last five years, exports by enterprises belonging to the “Bellesbumprom” group have increased 2.2-fold. “At present, virtually the entire range of products from the republic’s timber industry is being sold to Tajikistan: sawn timber, wood-based panels, paper, cardboard and products made from them, wallpaper, furniture and plywood”⁴⁶⁷. And the Belarusian group already has clear prospects for the further development of cooperation with its Tajik

⁴⁶⁴ Companies from Belarus and Tajikistan signed contracts worth \$16 million during the business council [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriatija-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-vo-vremia-delovogo-soveta-podpisali-kontrakty-na-16-mln-590816-2023/>

⁴⁶⁵ “Gomselmash” to supply a batch of combine harvesters to Tajikistan in 2024 [Online source]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-postavit-partiiu-zernoborochnyh-kombai-nov-v-tadzhikistan-v-2024-godu-591373-2023/>

⁴⁶⁶ Belarus and Tajikistan have agreed on cooperation in agriculture [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve-v-selskom-hozjaistve-592218-2023/>

⁴⁶⁷ Over the past five years, “Bellesbumprom” enterprises have increased their exports to Tajikistan by a factor of 2.2 [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriatija-bellesbumproma-za-poslednie-5-let-have-increased-exports-to-Tajikistan-by-22-times-590869-2023/>

partners.

Investment cooperation between the two countries was also given significant attention in the decisions of the 16th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission. Earlier, in February 2023, at the first meeting of the working group on these issues between the Ministry of Economy of Belarus and the State Committee for Investment and State Property Management of Tajikistan, the parties identified the key objective in this area as ‘to give impetus to investment cooperation, identify areas of common interest, right down to a list of specific projects to attract business’⁴⁶⁸. Discussions are already underway regarding the most promising sectors and the compilation of a list of investment projects, including those aimed at import substitution. These include the mining industry, mechanical engineering, the IT sector, agriculture, pharmaceuticals and tourism. Plans also include exploring the possibility of establishing a Belarusian-Tajik investment fund. Furthermore, among its new investment projects, Tajikistan intends to build a ‘multi-functional retail complex in Minsk to serve as a coordination centre for representatives of both countries’⁴⁶⁹.

Another priority of Belarusian-Tajik cooperation is the field of education, which is set to reach a new level in 2024. Indeed, various educational projects are already being implemented between educational institutions in the two countries, “within the framework of which joint faculties have been established and unified educational programmes adopted. The possibility of opening branches of Belarusian universities in Tajikistan is currently being explored”⁴⁷⁰. For reference, it should be noted that four joint Belarusian-Tajik faculties are operating within higher education institutions in Dushanbe, the graduates of which receive state-recognised diplomas of the Republic of Belarus. Firstly, there is the joint faculty of the Tajik National University with higher education institutions in Belarus: Belarusian State University (BSU), the A.D. Sakharov International State Ecological Institute of BSU, Belarusian State Technological University, and Polotsk State University. Secondly, there is the Faculty of Civil Aviation, a joint programme between the Belarusian State Academy of Aviation and the Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi. Thirdly, there is

⁴⁶⁸ Chervyakov: priority areas for investment cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan need to be identified [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervyakov-nuzhno-opredelit-prioritetnye-areas-of-investment-cooperation-between-belarus-and-tajikistan-552755-2023/>

⁴⁶⁹ Tajikistan wants to set up its own trading house in Minsk [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tadzhikistan-hochet-sozdat-v-minske-svoj-torgovyi-dom-609906-2024>

⁴⁷⁰ Safarzoda, B. Water for Life, Glacier Melting, Navruz and Kupalle / B. Safarzoda // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/interview/view/voda-dlia-zhizni-tajanie-lednikov-navruz-i-kupalie-posol-o-tadzhikistane-i-druzhibe-s-belarusiiu-8874/>

the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, a joint programme between the Belarusian National Technical University and the Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi. Fourthly, there is a joint faculty of Polotsk State University based at the Technological University of Tajikistan. Furthermore, more than 500 Tajik students are studying at Belarusian universities.

In October 2023, a joint action plan for the years 2023–2026 was signed in Minsk between the Ministry of Education of Belarus and the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan. At the same time, the Belarusian capital hosted the second forum of rectors from the two countries, attended by representatives from over 50 higher education institutions in Belarus and Tajikistan, where more than 10 bilateral agreements were signed at university level. In particular, as part of this collaboration, ‘the Belarusian State Pedagogical University is working closely with the Pedagogical University of Tajikistan specifically on the exchange of academic staff and best practices in the training of future teachers’⁴⁷¹. Meanwhile, Baranovich State University and the Tajik State University of Law, Business and Politics have signed a cooperation agreement which “sets out key areas for joint educational and research activities, as well as for the implementation of joint youth initiatives”⁴⁷². The universities are now drawing up a roadmap for international cooperation to facilitate the implementation of educational modules, participation in scientific and educational field trips, and academic exchanges.

Finally, in June 2024, the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on Cooperation was held in Minsk, at which the parties discussed the state of play and prospects for trade, economic and investment cooperation in the fields of transport and logistics, industrial cooperation, education and healthcare, as well as inter-regional partnerships, with a view to taking a new step towards deepening trade and economic cooperation and setting a clear objective: to improve joint Belarusian-Tajik production facilities. This is all the more relevant given that there are already some interesting examples. As noted above, a joint venture is already operating in Tajikistan, processing Belarusian milk and producing dairy products. Another area of cooperation involves the assembly of Belarusian machinery on Tajik soil.

At the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, it was

⁴⁷¹ The Ministries of Education of Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a joint action plan for 2023–2026 [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/-/obrazovaniya-belarusi-tadzhikistana-podpisali-plan-sovmestnykh-dei-stvi-2023-2026-gody-592165-2023/>

⁴⁷² BarSU is developing a roadmap for cooperation with a new partner university from Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.regions.by/ru/regiony/novyy-vuzom-partnerom-iz-tadzhikistana-592689-2023/>

emphasised that there is now a need to expand production capacity, the range of machinery produced and the product range. The Tajik side is also interested in the assembly of agricultural machinery, whilst motor vehicles and transport for the housing and utilities sector will not be overlooked. It should be noted that the Belarusian-Tajik enterprise ‘Agrotechservice’ has been established in Tajikistan, where machinery from the Minsk Tractor Works is assembled. Demand for this machinery is very high. Moreover, Tajik agricultural producers are interested not only in Belarusian tractors but also in combine harvesters. An agreement has already been reached to purchase machinery from the ‘Gomselmash’ enterprise.

There are also plans to expand cooperation with the Bobruisk Plant of Tractor Parts and Assemblies.

As for Tajikistan’s areas of interest in Belarus, firstly, the Tajik side has been purchasing Belarusian pedigree cattle for several years to develop its farms. Last year alone, approximately two thousand head were purchased. One of the enterprises in this Central Asian country is engaged in rearing breeding stock for subsequent sale. Secondly, Tajik partners purchase potatoes from Belarus. In 2023, purchases totalled 800 tonnes. These figures are set to increase this year. Thirdly, another item in Belarus’s exports to Tajikistan is flaxseed, a sector set to expand. Fourthly, for its part, the Tajik side has already supplied Belarus with a trial batch of safflower seeds – an oilseed crop – and can also supply tomato and cucumber seeds for cultivation in greenhouse farms. Finally, from late April to early May, Tajikistan is already harvesting fresh apples, sweet cherries and apricots. By establishing a logistics system, the parties could supply all these products in substantial volumes.

Continuing on this theme, it is worth noting that supplies of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials from Belarus to Tajikistan last year increased by more than 160 per cent. ‘The mainstay of agricultural exports was sugar (a 2.1-fold increase), milk and dairy products (a growth rate of 140.9 per cent), cattle (151.2 per cent), and meat and meat products (61.8 per cent) <...>. Imports from Tajikistan in 2023 amounted to 103.8 per cent. Dried fruit accounted for the bulk of imports. Exports of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials for January–March 2024 increased 2.4-fold⁴⁷³. Furthermore, during the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the parties agreed to establish an exchange programme for the training of specialists in the field of agriculture, as well as for students to undertake work placements.

⁴⁷³ Bartosz: Deepening cooperation with Tajikistan is facilitated by the improvement of joint production [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bartosz-uzlubleniju-sotrudnichestva-s-Tajikistan-promotes-the-improvement-of-joint-639287-2024>

Turning to the topic of Belarusian-Tajik inter-regional partnerships within the framework of the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, there are some interesting examples of this cooperation. In particular, Minsk and Dushanbe. In June this year, the two capitals discussed the possibility of supplying Dushanbe with snow-clearing and passenger transport equipment, spare parts, sugar and vegetable oil, as well as the construction in Minsk of a Tajikistan trading house, the site for which is located in the area of Pritytskogo and Leshchinskogo Streets. The necessary documents for the implementation of this project are already being drawn up. Meanwhile, in Dushanbe, Belarusian specialists are set to provide support for a joint project with South Korea to build a light rail system. There are other areas of cooperation that are still developing. This is evidenced by the fact that ‘trade turnover [between Minsk and Tajikistan] in the first quarter alone exceeded last year’s total of 473’⁴⁷⁴.

Developing cooperation with Tajikistan is also a promising area for the Gomel Region. Suffice it to say that trade between the two sides has already quadrupled this year. Products including ferrous metals, wood products, dairy goods and confectionery are supplied to this Central Asian country from the south-eastern region of Belarus. Meanwhile, cotton yarn is being sourced from Tajikistan for enterprises in the Gomel Region. As for the prospects for cooperation between the parties, these have already been largely defined across all areas. For example, consignments of combine harvesters from Gomel will be delivered to Tajikistan as early as this year, and there are also plans for further purchases next year. For its part, Tajikistan is ready to supply lemons, grapes, sweet cherries, apricots and dried fruit. The parties also have the opportunity to establish trading houses, “which would enable goods from Tajikistan to be showcased in the Gomel region, and in Tajikistan – the products that Gomel manufacturers can offer”⁴⁷⁵. Partners in the fields of agritourism and ecotourism, in healthcare institutions and in the education sector – particularly with regard to training personnel for the agricultural sector – also have their own plans for cooperation.

Returning to the 17th meeting of the Belarusian–Tajik Intergovernmental Commission, it should be noted that the participants in this meeting placed particular emphasis on issues relating to the intensification of trade and economic cooperation, the development of industrial cooperation and

⁴⁷⁴ Supplies of equipment, construction of a trading centre. Minsk and Dushanbe discussed areas of cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/postavki-tehniki-stroitelstvo-torgovogo-doma-minsk-i-dushanbe-discussed-areas-of-cooperation-638915-2024/>

⁴⁷⁵ From engineering to agritourism. The Gomel Region and Tajikistan to develop partnership in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.regions/view/ot-mashinostroenija-agroturizma-gomelskaja-oblast-razvivat-ank-639537-2024>

humanitarian interaction, emphasising the importance of continuing to make fruitful progress in the most pressing areas of partnership between Belarus and Tajikistan.

And finally. In October 2022, Belarus and Tajikistan signed a roadmap for bilateral cooperation for 2022–2026, which contains 39 points. To date, 6 have already been implemented, whilst 33 are in the process of being implemented, including 21 that are being implemented on an ongoing basis. Today, the parties continue to seek new opportunities to intensify cooperation in order to fully implement this strategic document and make a fresh contribution to the development of Belarusian-Tajik relations.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Growth trends and prospects in key areas

In September 2025, the 18th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on trade and economic cooperation took place in Dushanbe, at which the results of bilateral cooperation were summarised and the prospects for partnership in key areas were discussed – the agro-industrial sector and food security, staff training and the development of agricultural science, industrial cooperation, education and inter-regional ties. Minsk and Dushanbe welcomed the growth in trade turnover between the two countries and noted the significant potential for its expansion. Particular attention was paid to the diversification of supplies, increasing the volume of trade in agri-industrial products, and the prospects for ‘establishing joint ventures and deepening industrial cooperation on the principles of mutual benefit. Such projects could form the basis for a sustainable economic partnership’⁴⁷⁶.

It should be recalled that at the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, held in June 2024 in Minsk, the prospects for trade, economic and investment cooperation in the fields of transport and logistics, industrial cooperation, education and healthcare, as well as inter-regional partnerships, with a view to taking a new step towards deepening trade and economic cooperation and setting a clear objective: to improve joint Belarusian-Tajik production facilities. It was also emphasised at that time that ‘there is a need to expand production facilities, the range of equipment manufactured and the product portfolio. The Tajik side is also interested in the assembly of processing machinery, whilst the motor vehicle sector and transport for the housing and utilities sector will not be left out’⁴⁷⁷. And in that same year, 2024, the volume of trade between the two post-Soviet republics exceeded 168 million dollars. At the same time, the volume of trade in foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials increased by one and a half times, whilst supplies from Belarus rose even further – by 1.6 times. Belarus’s exports to this Central Asian country consisted mainly of “sugar, milk powder, chilled beef, tinned meat, cattle, eggs and meat-and-bone meal. Tajikistan mainly supplies Belarus with dried fruit, cotton yarn, fabric and fibre”⁴⁷⁸. Between January and July of this year, trade turnover between the

⁴⁷⁶ Diversification of supplies, growth in trade turnover in the agri-food sector. Belarus and Tajikistan have identified prospects for cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/ diversifikatsii-- rost-tovarooborota- v- apk- -tadzhikistan- onredelili- perspektivy-738086-2025/>

⁴⁷⁷ Zaleski, B. The Evolution of Belarus’s Partnership Formats with Friendly Countries / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – p. 22.

⁴⁷⁸ Agricultural trade between Belarus and Tajikistan rose by 34.8 per cent over five months [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/view/ -- selskom- hozjajstve-- belarusiiu- i- tadzhikistanom- za- piat- mesiatshev- vvros- na-348-729107-2025/>

two countries in the agri-food sector increased by 52 per cent, whilst exports of Belarusian products rose by 54 per cent. At the same time, supplies of meat and meat products from Belarus increased 7.2-fold, whilst egg supplies rose four-fold. Furthermore, as early as the first half of 2025, ‘substantial contracts were concluded for the supply of tinned fish and chilled beef’⁴⁷⁹.

At the 18th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the parties identified areas of mutual interest for the further expansion of their partnership. For example, Belarus is prepared to increase supplies of foodstuffs, agricultural machinery and breeding cattle. For Belarusian producers, supplies from Tajikistan of fresh and tinned fruit and vegetables, nuts and fruit purées also hold great promise. Overall, at this meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, “enterprises in Belarus’s agro-industrial complex concluded more than a dozen contracts totalling over \$16 million. Agreements and memoranda of cooperation were signed, opening up new prospects for long-term product supplies”⁴⁸⁰. The cooperation will encompass not only trade but also in-depth collaboration in the scientific, educational and manufacturing spheres. This involves joint projects in crop and livestock farming, the exchange of expertise in the fields of veterinary medicine and plant breeding, and the training of specialists through the agricultural education system.

Let us take **production cooperation as an example**. As early as the summer of 2025, at a meeting of the two countries’ prime ministers in Dushanbe, it was noted that joint production ventures are a cornerstone for advancing the interests of both parties. So, ‘the establishment of joint ventures both in Tajikistan and in Belarus is an important direction in which we need to move. This addresses our common objectives’⁴⁸¹. A successful example of mutually beneficial cooperation is the “Agrotechservice” enterprise. This joint assembly plant in the Tajik city of Gissar was established in 2017. Here, machinery from the Minsk Tractor Works, agricultural machinery from Tomselmash and trailers from Bobruiskagromash are assembled. Currently, the production complex comprises small and large assembly workshops, a finished goods warehouse, open and covered exhibition areas, and an administrative and training building where Tajik specialists are trained to maintain and operate Belarusian machinery. “In 2025, 1.5 hectares of land were allocated to the assembly plant for capacity expansion, and preparations

⁴⁷⁹ Belarus and Tajikistan are set to develop cooperation in crop production and veterinary medicine Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/kooperatsiin-v-rastenievodstve-i-veterinariii-stanut-razvivat-belarus-i-tadzhikistan-718582-2025/>

⁴⁸⁰ Belarus and Tajikistan have signed contracts worth over \$16 million [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-tadzhikistan-podpisali-kontraktv-na-summu-bolee-16-mln-738238-2025/>

⁴⁸¹ Turchin: Joint production ventures with Tajikistan – a cornerstone for advancing the interests of both countries [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-sovmestnye--tadzhikistanom--dlia-nirodvizhenia-dvuh-718988-2025/>

are underway for the construction of new production facilities”⁴⁸².

Another interesting example of cooperation between the two countries is the Belarusian ‘BKM Holding’. The fact is that in Tajikistan, urban electric transport consists of trolleybuses and electric buses, which are operated in Dushanbe. “A total of 60 electric buses are in service, as well as around 105 trolleybuses, 104 of which were manufactured by BKM. Between April 2019 and January 2021, the holding company supplied 104 ‘Syabar’ series 32100D trolleybuses to meet Dushanbe’s needs”⁴⁸³. At the “Tajikistan-2025” international exhibition, which took place in November this year and where products were presented by more than 60 companies from Tajikistan, Belarus, Uzbekistan, Iran, India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and China, the “BKM

Holding’ stand showcased scale models of the 32100D ‘Olgerd’ trolleybus, the E433 ‘Vitovt’ electric bus and the T811 tram. All this rolling stock can be supplied to meet the needs of Tajik communities, as well as for the organisation of joint production of electric buses within Tajikistan and in other countries in Central and South Asia.

Tajikistan sees broad prospects for cooperation with Belarus in **light industry** as well, specifically in the textile sector, which is one of the priorities under the programme for the accelerated industrialisation of this Central Asian country. Here, “targets have been set to establish six cotton-textile clusters in the country – ranging from the complete processing of cotton fibre to the production of finished goods”⁴⁸⁴. In this regard, Tajik partners are interested in mutually beneficial cooperation aimed at establishing these clusters, including through the acquisition of production lines via leasing or the use of other financial instruments. Furthermore, cooperation could be expanded in the processing of environmentally friendly agricultural produce within the food industry.

The **field of education** occupies a special place in Tajik-Belarusian relations and holds enormous potential for further growth. It is worth noting that, thanks to joint exchange programmes based on agreements between higher education institutions in the two countries, the number of students from Tajikistan already exceeds 500. “They are studying in such sought-after fields as engineering, technology and medicine, and return to Tajikistan with

⁴⁸² “An example of mutually beneficial cooperation”: Ministry of Industry on assembly production in Tajikistan [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/primer-vzaimovzgodnogo-sotrudnichestva-minprom-o-shorochnom-proizvodstve-v-tadzhikistane-719085-2025/>

⁴⁸³ “BKM Holding” presented machinery at an exhibition in Tajikistan [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-holding-prezentoval-tehniku-na-vystavke-v-748760-2025/>

⁴⁸⁴ Rasulzoda: Tajikistan sees broad prospects for industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-tajikistan--perspektivy-promyshlennogo-sotrudnichestva-s-belarusiu-740056-2025/>

up-to-date knowledge, becoming valuable specialists”⁴⁸⁵. Incidentally, in November 2024, the 3rd International Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and Tajikistan was held in Dushanbe, at which joint educational programmes, academic exchanges and even the possibility of establishing branches of Belarusian universities in Tajikistan, with a view to taking educational cooperation to a new level, increasing the number of Tajik students in Belarus and broadening the range of joint educational programmes. The forum was attended by ‘the rectors of the Abu Ali ibn Sino Tajik State Medical University, the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, the Tajik National University, the Belarusian National Technical University, the Technological University of Tajikistan, and Brest State Technical University’⁴⁸⁶, who signed 25 bilateral agreements between higher education institutions of the two countries. In particular, agreements were signed between the Tajik State University of Law, Business and Politics and the Brest State Technical University and the Belarusian-Russian University, and between the Khujand State University named after Bobojon Gafurov and

Polotsk State University named after Euphrosyne of Polotsk. These agreements are aimed at supporting technical progress in both countries, training highly qualified specialists, conducting scientific research and introducing scientific and technical achievements into industrial production. “Under the terms of the agreements reached, higher education institutions in Tajikistan and Belarus plan to organise annual academic exchanges of students and lecturers, as well as scientific conferences, seminars and round-table discussions. These measures will enable the development of educational and scientific projects, as well as help to strengthen ties between educational institutions”⁴⁸⁷. Particular attention was paid at the forum to expanding cooperation in the fields of education, science and innovation, including projects in the ‘green’ economy, digitalisation and the professional development of teaching staff.

In this context, in February 2025, the Belarusian State University of Transport (BelGUT), the Belarusian and Tajik railways discussed the possibility of retraining specialists from Tajikistan “in railway transport specialisms, as well as training workers in the professions of ‘diesel

⁴⁸⁵ Safarzoda, B. The cold of the glaciers and the warmth of hearts. The Tajik Ambassador on the prospects for friendship with Belarus and the priorities of the CIS chairmanship / B. Safarzoda // [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/interview/view/holod-lednikov-i-teplo-serdets-posol-tadzhikistana-o-georizontah-dmzhby-s-belarusii-i-prioritetah-9510/>

⁴⁸⁶ International Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and Tajikistan takes place in Dushanbe [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/mezhdunarodnyi-form- Rektorov-vuzov-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-prohodit-v-dushanbe-678774-2024/>

⁴⁸⁷ Forum of Rectors of Tajikistan and Belarus: 25 cooperation agreements signed in Dushanbe [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://asia-today.news/29112024/5057/>

locomotive driver’, ‘Assistant diesel locomotive driver’⁴⁸⁸ and organising training courses or specialised courses for workers in other railway professions at the Belarusian Railways’ Centre for Training, Retraining and Professional Development of Personnel.

Finally, the resolutions of the 18th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission highlighted the importance of developing **inter-regional cooperation** between the two countries. In this regard, the activities of several Belarusian regions stand out as recent examples. Take **the Gomel Region, for instance**, where trade turnover with Tajikistan has increased 5.5-fold over the past five years. This indicates that the development of trade, economic and investment cooperation with this Central Asian country is one of the priority areas in the Gomel Region’s international cooperation. The mainstay of bilateral trade consists of metal and wood products, foodstuffs and agricultural machinery. Back in 2017, this Belarusian region signed an agreement on trade, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and humanitarian cooperation with **the Khatlon Region**. And in October 2024, the leaders of the two partner regions signed a roadmap for 2025–2026 to implement this agreement, with the aim of increasing mutual supplies of high-quality goods and carrying out joint projects. At the same time, the Gomel Region concluded contracts with Tajik partners totalling six million dollars. In particular, discussions took place regarding the joint assembly of the main components of a combine harvester at the Tomselmash site, with final assembly to be carried out at Agrotechservice in Tajikistan. “A contract has been signed for 40 units for 2025”⁴⁸⁹. The documents were signed by “Milkavita” and the Rogachevsky MKK as well. At the same time, new promising areas of cooperation were agreed upon. “These include the supply of foodstuffs, furniture, woodworking products, agricultural machinery, and the design of dairy production complexes”⁴⁹⁰. Tajikistan also wishes to open a trading house in Gomel and supply it with dried fruit, early vegetables, cotton and other products.

The Minsk Region also has promising areas of cooperation with Tajik partners. In particular, in May 2025, the Belarusian region surrounding the capital signed an action plan for cooperation for 2025–2026 with **the Sughd Region**, which leads the country in terms of the number of industrial enterprises. “Thanks to its advantageous geographical location, the region

⁴⁸⁸ Tajikistan is interested in training specialists at the Belarusian Railway centre [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/-/-v-podgotovke-spetsialistov-na-baze-...dorozi-699159-2025/>

⁴⁸⁹ The Gomel Region has signed contracts worth \$6 million with partners from Tajikistan [Online source]. – 2024. – URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/dogovorv-na-6-mln-podpisala-gomelskaja-oblast-s-partnerami-iz-tadzhikistana-669667-2024/>

⁴⁹⁰ Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Tajikistan has increased 5.5-fold over the last five years [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/-/gomelskoi--tadzhikistanom--v-55-raza--poslednie-pi-at-let-668993-2024/>

serves as Tajikistan's northern trade gateway. Favourable conditions have been created here to attract investment, and enterprises involving foreign partners are regularly established"⁴⁹¹. The signed plan is specifically aimed at strengthening cooperation between the regions. This is all the more relevant given that trade turnover between the Minsk and Sughd regions increased by one and a half times in 2024, and by a further forty per cent in the first five months of 2025. The Minsk Region supplies its Tajik partners with sugar, beef, poultry, tinned goods and wood products, whilst in turn purchasing dried fruit, nuts and yarn. Thus, the prospects for regional partnerships between the two countries are on an upward trajectory and will only continue to grow.

Returning to the 18th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, we would like to note once again that ten agreements on joint production and the supply of goods to the Tajik market were signed in Dushanbe. Among these documents are agreements between OJSC "Slutsk Sugar Refinery" and CJSC "Obi Zulol", as well as between the state-owned Livestock Breeding Association "Belplemzhivob'edinenie" and LLC "Boboi Sharifbek" on the supply of Belarusian breeding livestock to Tajikistan. A corresponding document has also been concluded "between OJSC 'Slonim Meat Processing Plant' and the unitary state-owned enterprise for the production, procurement, storage and sale of essential food products in Dushanbe"⁴⁹². Meanwhile, commercial contracts have been agreed between OJSC "Pruzhany Dairy Plant" and LLC "Lokhur Tijorat" for the supply of milk powder and whey, as well as between OJSC "Glubokoye Canned Milk Plant" and the Agency for the Provision of Special Property under the Government of Tajikistan. All this suggests that cooperation between Minsk and Dushanbe extends beyond trade and now encompasses joint initiatives in various fields.

And one final point. Back in 2022, the leaders of the two countries signed a Roadmap for Bilateral Cooperation for 2022–2026, which set out the priority areas for this cooperation – 'the economy, transport, agriculture, light industry and the food industry'⁴⁹³. And today we can see how this policy document has already become the foundation for sustainable Belarusian–Tajik

⁴⁹¹ The Minsk and Sogd regions of Tajikistan have signed an action plan for 2025–2026 [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/special/society/view/minskaia-i-sogdiiskaia-oblast-tadzhikistana--signed-a-plan-of-activities-for-2025-2026-717348-2025/>

⁴⁹² Tajikistan and Belarus have signed 10 agreements on industrial cooperation and the supply of goods [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://www.asiaplustfi.info/ru/news/tajikistan/economic/20250920/tadzhikistan-i-belarus-podpisali-10-soglasheni-o-promishlennoi-kooperatsii-i-postavkah-produktsii>

⁴⁹³ Relations between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://mfa.tj/ru/main/view/136/otnosheniya-tadzhikistana-s-belarusi>

economic partnership, contributing to the development of these priority sectors in both countries.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Thirty years of trust, respect and cooperation

In September 2026, Belarus and Tajikistan will mark **the 30th anniversary** of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Over this period, Minsk and Dushanbe have followed a steady and meaningful path of developing bilateral cooperation, based on the principles of mutual respect, trust and strategic partnership. Last year, this steady positive trend in cooperation between the two post-Soviet countries continued. This is borne out by the statistics. In particular, ‘the volume of trade between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan in 2025 exceeded \$222 million, which is 29.2 per cent higher than the figure for 2024’⁴⁹⁴. This also indicates that cooperation between the two countries is multifaceted and mutually beneficial, involving joint projects in the fields of industrial cooperation, agriculture, and the supply of machinery and food products. For example, a joint venture – the ‘Agrotechservice’ assembly plant for Belarusian agricultural machinery – is operating in the city of Gissar in Tajikistan.

Other promising areas include “further localisation of production, the establishment of new joint ventures in the field of agricultural product processing, the expansion of the range of products manufactured, technology transfer and the training of skilled personnel”⁴⁹⁵, which will enable industrial cooperation to reach a qualitatively new level and give further impetus to the economic partnership between the two countries. Furthermore, in January this year, **the Belarusian and Tajik railways** signed a memorandum of understanding and cooperation to take their partnership to a new level, and to deepen practical cooperation in the field of digitalisation and automation of rail transport, including the implementation of ‘software for the automation system for the preparation and processing of freight and commercial reporting documents, as well as railway automation and telemechanics systems at the Tajik Railway test site’⁴⁹⁶.

In July 2026, **the 19th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation (IGC)** took place in Brest, at which the current state and prospects for the development of trade, economic, investment and interregional cooperation were discussed.

⁴⁹⁴ Technology transfer, investment projects. The Tajik Ambassador spoke about the specifics of cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/transfer-tehnologii-investiroekty-posol-tadzhikistana-rasskazal-ob-osobennostyah--s-766748-2026/>

⁴⁹⁵ Industry and tourism. Tajikistan’s ambassador identified key areas for intensifying cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/promyshlennost-i-turizm-posol-tadzhikistana--klucheveve-vektory-intensifikatsii-vzaimodejstviya-766762-2026/>

⁴⁹⁶ The Belarusian Railways (BZHD) has signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Tajik Railways [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/-podpisala-memorandum--s-tadzhikskoi--dorogoi-758957-2026/>

Discussions also focused on cooperation “in industrial cooperation, agriculture and food, transport, communications and digitalisation, light industry and the pharmaceutical sector, and in the social sphere”⁴⁹⁷. The parties also discussed cooperation through chambers of commerce and industry and free economic zones.

It should be recalled that **the 18th session** of the Intergovernmental Commission took place in Dushanbe in September 2025. It discussed the prospects for bilateral partnerships in key areas – the agro-industrial sector and food security, staff training and the development of agricultural science, industrial cooperation, education and inter-regional ties. “Minsk and Dushanbe welcomed the growth in trade turnover between the two countries and noted the significant potential for its expansion. Particular attention was paid to the diversification of supplies, increasing the volume of trade in agro-industrial products, as well as the prospects for establishing joint ventures and deepening industrial cooperation”⁴⁹⁸.

On this occasion in Brest, the parties stated that bilateral trade between Belarus and Tajikistan would reach an all-time high in 2025. Suffice it to say that last year alone, ‘trade in foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials exceeded the previous year’s figures by 61.4 per cent, whilst exports grew by 63.4 per cent. This positive trend is continuing in 2026: over the first five months, supplies have increased by almost 20 per cent’⁴⁹⁹. Belarusian exports are primarily comprised of meat and meat products, sugar, and dairy products, the volume of which has almost tripled. This shows that cooperation with Tajikistan has long gone beyond a simple exchange of goods, extending to industrial cooperation, construction, transport and healthcare. Concrete results have been achieved in the agricultural sector: nine veterinary medicines manufactured in Belarus have been registered on the Tajik market. Scientific dialogue is also developing actively: Belarusian higher education institutions specialising in agriculture are cooperating with four research centres in Tajikistan. Furthermore, citizens of this Central Asian country are studying at Belarusian agricultural universities, which lays a solid human resources foundation for future projects.

During the 19th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the parties identified **priority tasks** for further joint work: expanding production

⁴⁹⁷ A meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik intergovernmental commission is taking place in Brest 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/zasedanie-belorussko-tadzhikskoi-intergovernmental-commission-meets-in-Brest-793340-2026/>

[Online resource]. -

⁴⁹⁸ Zaleski, B. Tajikistan: A Focus for Cooperation. A Chronicle of Economic Partnerships / Boris Zaleski. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2025. - p. 47.

⁴⁹⁹ Belarus has increased its agricultural exports to Tajikistan by 20 per cent [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-uvlechila-...-tadzhikistan-na-20-791610-2026/>

partnerships and inter-regional contacts, as well as cooperation in agriculture, light industry, pharmaceuticals, wood processing, logistics and the social sector. This is all the more so given that “the countries have the potential and all the prerequisites to increase trade turnover many-fold”⁵⁰⁰. Minsk is keen to further increase exports to Tajikistan of Belarusian machinery, products from the woodworking, petrochemical and metallurgical sectors, and foodstuffs. Dushanbe, meanwhile, hopes to increase supplies of Tajik raw cotton to Belarus, whilst supplies of fruit and dried fruit grown in Tajikistan could also be increased several-fold.

One of the concrete outcomes of the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Commission was the signing by the two countries of **a roadmap for cooperation for 2027–2031** – a strategic document outlining Belarusian-Tajik cooperation for the coming five-year period, ranging from trade and economic partnership and cooperation in industrial processing, agriculture, light industry, transport and education. In addition, the Tajikistan–Belarus Business Council was held in Brest, at which the parties discussed the prospects for developing trade, economic and investment cooperation, expanding inter-regional ties, industrial cooperation and the implementation of joint projects; at this meeting, ‘a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the “Brest” Free Economic Zone and the “Sogd” Free Economic Zone of the Republic of Tajikistan, aimed at developing interaction, attracting investment and expanding ties between residents of the two free economic zones’⁵⁰¹. As part of this event, a business matching and cooperation fair was also held, bringing together businesspeople from both countries. “Belarusian enterprises signed contracts with partners worth approximately \$26 million”⁵⁰².

Among other interesting outcomes of the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Commission, it is worth noting that Belarus and Tajikistan will cooperate more closely **in plant breeding**. The fact is that as far back as 2019, scientists from the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences established orchards in the Brest and Mogilev regions. In particular, the Belarusian-Tajik ‘Friendship’ orchard was established in the Brest district. Several thousand fruit tree saplings were planted – including sweet cherries, apricots, apple trees and walnut trees – as well as grape varieties bred in Tajikistan that have

⁵⁰⁰ Belarus and Tajikistan are steadily increasing their foreign trade turnover [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-planomemo-naraschivauiut-obiemy-vneshnetorgovogo-oborota-793395-2026/>

⁵⁰¹ The Business Council of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus was held in Brest [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://mfa.tj/ru/minsk/view/19180/v-breste-sostoyalsya-delovoi-sovet-respubliki--tadzhikistan-i-respubliki-belarus>

⁵⁰² Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a roadmap for cooperation for the years 2027–2031 [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-podpisali-dorozhnyu-kartu-sotrudnichestva-na-2027-2031-godv-793432-2026/>

already been adapted to conditions in Belarus. Meanwhile, in Tajikistan, work was carried out on early potato varieties bred in Belarus. These include ‘Skarb’, ‘Yanka’ and ‘Briz’. The next area of collaboration between scientists from the two countries will be the provision of seeds of future varieties of cereal and vegetable crops, grown on Belarusian soil, for the Tajik Centre for Genetic Resources. This involves “further supplies of both potatoes from Belarus and cuttings of soft fruit crops (blueberries, raspberries and honeysuckle)”⁵⁰³ for Tajikistan.

Another area of cooperation between the two countries, which was specifically discussed at the 19th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, is **education**. In particular, Brest State Technical University has signed a cooperation agreement with the Tajik Agricultural University. These universities intend to establish student and staff exchanges to implement undergraduate, master’s and postgraduate programmes, as well as work placements and internships. “The universities are keen to jointly develop educational programmes and train academic staff. One of the priorities of the cooperation is the creation of joint research teams for research projects, grants and the defence of theses”⁵⁰⁴.

Belarusian and Tajik universities aim to jointly organise events and exchange information on programmes and academic documents. In short, the signed agreement will open up new horizons for the joint development of education and science, marking an important step towards strengthening friendly ties and mutually beneficial cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan.

Finally, at the 19th meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Commission, the parties emphasised the intensification of **inter-regional cooperation**. Direct contacts have already been established and are systematically maintained between the Vitebsk, Mogilev and Minsk regions and the Sogd region, as well as between the Gomel and Khatlon regions. Furthermore, “inter-regional cooperation agreements have been concluded between the cities of Minsk and Dushanbe, Mogilev and Khujand, and the districts of Uzden and Yavan, as well as between the Mogilev and Spitamen districts”⁵⁰⁵. A clear message was conveyed in Brest to all regions of both countries: it is essential to actively engage in partnerships, as the economic benefits of such cooperation are evident.

⁵⁰³ Belarus and Tajikistan are keen to cooperate more closely on plant breeding and industrial cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-zainteresovany-tesnee-sotrudnichat-v-selekcii-i-promkooperatsii-793457-2026/>

⁵⁰⁴ Brest State Technical University to collaborate with a university in Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/brestskii-gosudarstvennyi-tehnicheskii-universitet-budet-sotrudnichat-s-vuzom-iz-tadzhikistana-793445-2026/>

⁵⁰⁵ Trade and economic cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

https://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral_relations/belarus_tajikistan/trade_economic/

Back in the spring of 2026, a high-level delegation of around 50 people from the business community of the **Sughd Region** visited our republic to discuss prospects for expanding trade, economic and investment cooperation, as well as to implement joint projects in the industrial, agricultural and other sectors of mutual interest. For reference, it should be noted that this Tajik region, situated near Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, is known for its active mining and processing of rare and non-ferrous metals. The region ‘mines fluorite and gold, coal, oil and gas, as well as building materials such as marble, gypsum and granite <...>. The engineering, metalworking and non-ferrous metallurgy sectors are active here. There are silk and cotton-ginning factories operating in the region’⁵⁰⁶. Carpets, knitwear, garments and footwear are successfully produced.

In April, the heads of the **Mogilev** and **Sughd** regions signed a roadmap for the implementation of the inter-regional cooperation agreement for 2026–2027, which provides for the expansion of cooperation in the trade, economic, industrial, agricultural and humanitarian spheres. It is worth noting that the two regions – Belarus and Tajikistan – have been cooperating for eight years now. Today, the parties have identified several key areas of cooperation. First, tourism. Secondly, agriculture and processing. The people of Mogilev are ready to share technologies for the production of meat and dairy products, to send their specialists to train their Tajik colleagues or to host them in Belarus. Cooperation in the mining industry was also discussed, where the Mogilev region can assist with machinery, equipment and design work, as well as in the lift manufacturing sector, including design, installation and staff training. Another topic is the establishment of joint ventures in the textile industry. The Tajik side will ‘supply cotton and yarn. From here, we will receive timber, metal and chemical products required by Tajikistan’s industry, specifically the Sughd Region’⁵⁰⁷. Partners from this Central Asian country are also interested in organising the production of confectionery and meat and dairy products using Belarusian technologies. Incidentally, the Mogilev-based company OJSC “Domochay” has already begun shipping confectionery products to Dushanbe. The first consignment – a small, trial batch – is intended to familiarise the market with the products. However, there are plans to expand supplies to include not only confectionery but also bakery products.

During the same period in April, in-depth talks took place between representatives of the **Minsk** and **Sogd** regions, during which the current

⁵⁰⁶ Sogd Region [Electronic resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://hochka-na-karte.ru/Goroda-i-Gosudarstva/1982-Sogdiiskaya-oblast.html>

⁵⁰⁷ The Mogilev and Sogd Regions have signed a roadmap for cooperation for 2026–2027 [Electronic resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/-i-sogdiiskaia--podpisali-dorozhniuu-kartu--2026-2027-godv-776698-2026/>

state and prospects for the development of inter-regional cooperation were examined in detail, as well as the existence of significant untapped potential for strengthening cooperation. Particular attention was paid to expanding mutual trade, increasing the volume of industrial and agricultural product supplies, and diversifying the range of goods. The parties emphasised the importance of strengthening direct contacts between enterprises in the regions of the two countries to create favourable conditions for economic entities to enter each other's markets. For reference, it should be noted that the two regions signed a roadmap for 2025–2026 last year. This document demonstrated that this cooperation is developing very actively, as confirmed by the figures for bilateral trade. “In 2025, it increased by a factor of 1.5 and exceeded the \$53 million mark. Moreover, both exports and imports are growing”⁵⁰⁸. This year, the parties have added just under thirty per cent. The Minsk Region exports timber, sugar, medicines and foodstuffs to Tajikistan. In turn, Tajik partners supply yarn, dried fruit and nuts.

The visit by a delegation of business representatives from the Sughd Region to Belarus in April culminated in **the Belarusian-Tajik business forum** held in Minsk, at which it was noted that ‘establishing direct dialogue between business representatives contributes to a more effective utilisation of the economic potential of both countries and the expansion of mutually beneficial partnerships’⁵⁰⁹. At this forum, the parties discussed promising areas for cooperation, including the expansion of mutual trade, the development of industrial cooperation, and the implementation of joint investment projects. Particular attention was paid to strengthening ties in the agro-industrial sector, the processing industry and logistics. The bilateral meetings that took place demonstrated the constructive nature of the cooperation and the potential for representatives of companies from Belarus and Tajikistan to implement joint initiatives.

Let us now return to the 19th meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation. By signing

a roadmap for cooperation for 2027–2031, Belarus and Tajikistan have reached a new level of interaction, enabling them to identify new areas for the further development of relations in various fields, to expand industrial cooperation, to strengthen the resilience of their national economies, and to build reliable, secure logistics and cooperation chains.

⁵⁰⁸ Industrial cooperation and tourism: what other areas of cooperation will the Minsk and Sughd regions be developing? [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/view/-i-turizm--esche--budut-razvivat--i-776880-2026/>

⁵⁰⁹ Logistics, processing of agricultural produce. A business forum for the business communities of Belarus and Tajikistan was held in Minsk [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/view/logistika-pererabotka-selhozproduktii-biznes-forum-delovnyh--tadzhikistana--v-776923-2026/>

CHAPTER 4

KYRGYZSTAN

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

The priority task is to accelerating cooperation

The Republic of Belarus has traditionally been keen to forge the closest possible partnership with the Kyrgyz Republic – a country in Central Asia that possesses abundant natural resources and minerals, as well as significant potential for the development of agriculture, hydropower and tourism. This is all the more so given that trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan has recently intensified significantly.

As far back as May 2013, the Kyrgyz side noted: ‘We would like to see economic relations between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan develop dynamically. Belarus has a range of goods in which Kyrgyzstan is interested. For our part, we are also ready to supply goods that are of interest to the Belarusian economy’⁵¹⁰. In September 2015, at a meeting between the heads of government of the two countries, focusing on the need to increase mutual trade, the parties agreed that ‘in addition to trade cooperation, efforts should be directed towards developing industrial cooperation’⁵¹¹. And as early as the first quarter of 2017, trade between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan had already increased by one and a half times, reaching 15.2 million dollars. The Intergovernmental Belarusian-Kyrgyz Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation played an important role in boosting bilateral cooperation between the countries; its sixth and seventh meetings took place in June 2016 in Bishkek and in June 2017 in Minsk.

In particular, during the Commission’s seventh meeting, the parties noted a significant increase in contacts between Belarusian enterprises and their Kyrgyz partners, which only serves to further expand cooperation between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan in the supply of equipment and industrial cooperation, as well as in the fields of energy, agriculture, healthcare, education, science, culture, information and tourism, as well as the development of cooperation between the regions and free economic zones of the two countries. Within this extensive list of areas of Belarusian-Kyrgyz cooperation, the following were also identified as promising: ‘the training of specialists, the improvement of their qualifications, the creation of distribution networks, joint ventures for the production of agricultural machinery, and the supply of Belarusian lifts to Kyrgyzstan’⁵¹².

As regards bilateral trade, supplies of Belarusian agricultural produce to the

⁵¹⁰ Kyrgyzstan is interested in developing trade and economic relations with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.belvno.com/ru/26710.html>

⁵¹¹ Andrei Kobaykov met with the Head of the Kyrgyz Government [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/6027>

⁵¹² On the meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Co-operation [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: http://kyrgyzstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/7_170_217_5943

Kyrgyz market are clearly leading the way, as evidenced by the figures: ‘By the end of 2016, exports of products from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to Kyrgyzstan had increased 3.1-fold; by the end of the first quarter of 2017, they had increased almost 14-fold. Meat and dairy products form the bulk of these exports’⁵¹³. Whilst agreeing to further increase mutual supplies of agricultural produce and expand the range of goods traded, the parties also decided to explore the possibility of implementing joint projects in the field of livestock and crop farming.

The flagship of Belarusian-Kyrgyz industrial cooperation is the tractor assembly plant and service centre for agricultural machinery from Belarus, which opened in Bishkek in November 2016 on the premises of Avtomash-Radiator LLC. An important detail is that ‘around 90 per cent of the radiators for tractors assembled in Minsk are supplied from Kyrgyzstan. Assembly of combine harvesters manufactured by Gomselmash OJSC has now also begun in the same assembly workshop’⁵¹⁴. Furthermore, the parties actively explored the possibility of establishing joint ventures in the light industry sector, a move underpinned by the revitalisation of trade links in this field. Thus, in April 2017, the Kyrgyz company “Opt-Invest” supplied a consignment of textile products to Belarus for the first time, and in September 2017 signed a contract with the Belarusian side to supply garments as well.

In February 2020, the ninth meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation took place in Minsk, at which current issues relating to the development and strengthening of systematic, mutually beneficial partnerships were discussed. In Minsk and Bishkek, this meeting of the intergovernmental commission – where the status of the co-chairs had already been raised to that of deputy prime ministers – was seen as ‘a new impetus for the development of relations between our countries’⁵¹⁵. It should be recalled that in 2019, the volume of Belarusian-Kyrgyz trade amounted to over 105 million dollars, with a trade surplus for Belarus of more than 90 million dollars, which was achieved through supplies from Belarus of dairy products, tractors and articulated lorries, poultry meat and offal, medicines, furniture

⁵¹³ Kyrgyzstan is interested in setting up assembly plants for Belarusian agricultural machinery [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL:

<http://www.belta.by/economics/view/kvrgvzstan-zainteresovan-v-sozdanii-shorochnyh-proizvodstv-belorusskoi-selhoztehniki-251058-2017/>

⁵¹⁴ Omuraliev noted a positive trend in the development of relations between Kyrgyzstan and Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/politics/-otmetil-pozitivnyi-trend-otnoshenii-mezhdu-kvrgvzstanom-i-belarusiiu-269017-2017/>

⁵¹⁵ A meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz intergovernmental commission will take place in Minsk on 21 February [Online source]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/zasedanie-belorusko-kvrgvzskoi-intergovernmental-commission-to-meet-in-Minsk-on-21-February-378085-2020/>

and chipboard. However, in the view of both sides, the volume of mutual trade between Kyrgyzstan and Belarus does not reflect the countries' economic potential. Indeed, it was for this reason that, at the latest meeting of the intergovernmental commission, the parties' attention was focused on priority areas of cooperation: 1) **increasing** the volume of bilateral trade; 2) **deepening** industrial cooperation and establishing joint assembly plants;

3) **expanding** inter-regional cooperation.

With regard to **increasing the volume of mutual trade**, the Belarusian side put forward specific proposals to increase supplies to Kyrgyzstan of passenger, freight and municipal vehicles, which is fully in line with the Kyrgyz side's plans to modernise, for example, the fleet of passenger vehicles in Bishkek and other cities. Furthermore, whilst promoting its products on the Kyrgyz market, the Belarusian side continued in 2020 to actively participate in trade fairs held in Kyrgyzstan. For instance, in April, Belarusian exporters exhibited for the third time at the 'FoodExpo' international food industry exhibition in Bishkek, where visitors were able to sample food and drink products from Belarus. The focus was on healthy eating and products with 'Halal' certification. For the first time, the exhibition featured "food supplements, casings for meat and sausage products, and baby food"⁵¹⁶.

As regards **deepening industrial cooperation**, the Kyrgyz side proposed stepping up collaboration in the fields of agriculture and the agro-industrial complex. This primarily involves the creation of a joint agricultural cluster for milk processing in Kyrgyzstan using Belarusian technologies, as well as the "construction of commercial dairy complexes equipped with the necessary Belarusian-made equipment and the supply of breeding livestock"⁵¹⁷. To enshrine these agreements in law, following the meeting of the intergovernmental commission, a cooperation agreement in the field of agriculture and food was signed between the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of Belarus and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Land Reclamation of Kyrgyzstan. As regards industrial cooperation, the plans announced in Minsk appear entirely realistic: 'transformer assembly production could be established with the Kozlov Minsk Electrical Engineering Plant, lifts

⁵¹⁶ Nemankova, Yu. Belarusian producers will be showcasing their products at the FoodExpo exhibition in Bishkek / Yu. Nemankova // [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ekspozitsiya-belorusskikh-proizvoditelei-will-be-presented-at-the-foodexpo-exhibition-in-bishkek-378791-2020/>.

⁵¹⁷ Kyrgyzstan proposes that Belarus establish an agricultural cluster for milk processing [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-predlagaet-belarusi-sozdat-agroklastern-po-pererabotke-moloka-380586-2020/>.

with ‘Mogilevliftmash’, and gas meters with ‘BelOMO’⁵¹⁸. The seriousness of these intentions on the part of the parties is demonstrated, in particular, by the fact that, following the meeting of the intergovernmental commission, a cooperation agreement was signed between the V.I. Kozlov Minsk Electromechanical Plant and ‘Mashelektrosnab’ LLC.

As regards **the expansion of interregional cooperation** between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan, the tone is currently being set by the capitals – Minsk and Bishkek – which signed an Agreement on Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation as far back as 1997, and established sister-city relations in 2008. In figures, this inter-regional cooperation looks as follows: ‘The growth rate of trade turnover between Minsk-based enterprises and Kyrgyzstan in January–June 2017, compared with the same period in 2016, stood at 306 per cent; exports of goods at 393.7 per cent; and exports of services at 176.1 per cent’⁵¹⁹. The goods supplied to Kyrgyz partners included tractors, paving slabs, radiators, air heaters, refrigerators and medicines. New goods exported from Minsk included dairy products, chipboard and tools. Cooperation between the two capitals in the field of public transport development could prove highly promising in the long term. After all, Bishkek’s plans include the purchase of around 400 high-capacity buses. The authorities in the Kyrgyz capital are currently studying the market for suppliers. In this regard, it is reasonable to assume that Minsk-based manufacturers of transport equipment have a good chance of becoming involved in this project. After all, back in 2009, Minsk-based ‘Belkommunmash’ supplied 20 trolleybuses to Bishkek, and later won a tender to export a further 30 electric vehicles.

At the 9th meeting of the intergovernmental commission in Minsk, an Agreement on cooperation in the trade, economic, scientific, technical, humanitarian and cultural spheres was signed by the Gomel Regional Executive Committee and the Office of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the Government of Kyrgyzstan in the Chui Region. Although this agreement marked the first such arrangement for the Belarusian region with Kyrgyz partners, enterprises from the Gomel region had already been present in the Central Asian country’s market prior to this. Suffice it to say that in 2019, the region’s trade turnover with Kyrgyzstan exceeded ten million dollars. “Exports amounted to \$8.5 million. Twenty-six enterprises from the region

⁵¹⁸ Vladimir Kukharev: Belarusian electric buses may appear on the streets of Bishkek [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL:

<http://www.government.by/ru/content/9293>

⁵¹⁹ Matveeva, N. Bishkek plans to purchase equipment from Minsk-based companies to develop public transport / N. Matveeva // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/bishkek-nlanirnet-zakupit-u-minskikh-predpriyatiy-tehniku-dli-a-razvitiya-obshchestvennogo-transporta-265609-2017/>

supplied their goods, including OJSC ‘Gomselmash’, IPUP ‘Multipak’, OJSC ‘Mozyrsol’, and manufacturers of doors and wallpaper. The Turovsky Dairy Plant began marketing its products, in particular soft cheeses, on the Kyrgyz market”⁵²⁰.

It should be noted that in 2021, trade turnover between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan again amounted to almost one hundred million dollars, including Belarusian exports of over 86 million dollars. The trade balance was positive at 75.4 million dollars. “Last year [2021], the range of goods supplied by Belarus comprised 749 commodity lines (by comparison, in 2020 there were 620). In January–June of this year, bilateral trade amounted to \$56.4 million, which is 44.3 per cent more than in the same period of 2021, including Belarusian exports of \$42.8 million (an increase of 24.8 per cent)”⁵²¹. The main Belarusian export items to Kyrgyzstan are fresh or chilled beef, sugar, poultry meat, medicines, processed meat products, carpets and other textile products, fibre-optic cables, cheese and cottage cheese, diagnostic reagents, and chicken eggs. There are grounds for believing that Belarusian enterprises stand every chance not only of consolidating and expanding their presence in the Kyrgyz market with the products already supplied, but also of broadening the range of export items. In particular, Belarusian manufacturers of agricultural, passenger and municipal machinery have prospects for increasing their supplies to Kyrgyzstan.

Another interesting component of exports from Belarus to this Central Asian country is pharmaceutical products. “Belarusian pharmaceutical companies are actively operating in the Kyrgyz market. For instance, in 2021, the value of pharmaceutical exports to Kyrgyzstan amounted to \$4.3 million”⁵²². In April 2022, Belarusian manufacturers took an active part in the 16th International Specialised Healthcare Exhibition, MedExpo Kyrgyzstan-2022, in Bishkek. ‘Technology and Medicine 2030’ LLC, ‘Belmedpreparaty’ RUE, ‘Borisov Medical Preparations Plant’ OJSC, ‘Minskintercaps’ UP, OJSC “Exzon”, State Enterprise “Akademfarm” and Non-Profit LLC “Medbiotech”. In particular, “OJSC “Exzon” presented the VITAX range of vitamins and haematogen with new flavourings (apple, apple with cinnamon, cranberry)”⁵²³. As a result, the Belarusian companies signed contracts for the

⁵²⁰ The Gomel Region will develop cooperation with the Chui Region of Kyrgyzstan [Online source]. - 2020. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/gomelskii-region-budet-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-s-chui-skoi-oblastiu-kyrgyzstana-381123-2020>

⁵²¹ The National Centre for Marketing discussed the prospects for promoting Belarusian goods and services in Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ntsm-rasskazal-o-perspektivah-prodvizheniia-belorusskikh-tovarov-i-uslug-v-kyrgyzstan-519484-2022/>

⁵²² Belarusian companies showcased their products at a healthcare exhibition [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorusskie-predpriatia-predstavili-produktsiiu-na-vystavke-zdravooohraneniia-v-bishkeke-494393-2022/>

⁵²³ Belarusian pharmaceutical companies plan to expand the range and volumes of medicines supplied to Kyrgyzstan [Electronic

supply of products and planned to hold training seminars for medical representatives on the promotion of medicinal products in Kyrgyzstan.

In the second half of 2022 – in September – the 10th meeting of the intergovernmental commission took place in Osh, during which it was stated that a promising area for the development of Kyrgyz-Belarusian cooperation is the expansion of production capacity and facilities for the manufacture of high value-added products, as well as the establishment of joint ventures across all industrial sectors. “There are currently 54 representative offices of retail chains and distributors of Belarusian enterprises operating in the country, including the tractor assembly plant of the joint-stock company ‘Minsk Tractor Works’”⁵²⁴. The Kyrgyz side is also interested in attracting investment in sectors such as information technology, agriculture and tourism.

In this regard, the Kyrgyz-Belarusian Business Forum was also held in Osh in September 2022, which demonstrated the growing interest of Belarusian businesses in developing bilateral business contacts with Kyrgyzstan. Representatives from the Belarusian side – the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the “Belgospishcheprom” concern and the “Belkommunmash” holding company – presented to forum participants opportunities for cooperation with enterprises in Belarus’s agricultural, food and industrial sectors. A business matchmaking event was organised at the forum. “Meetings were held between Belarusian and Kyrgyz enterprises operating in the food sector, the engineering sector, the healthcare sector and the agricultural sector. Following the business forum, bilateral contracts totalling \$900,000 were signed.”⁵²⁵.

Also in Osh, the international general exhibition “Yug Expo-2022” took place, where the Belarusian exhibition was represented by the “Belgospishcheprom” concern and its 16 enterprises, which showcased a range of export goods – “confectionery, snacks, instant foods, food concentrates, baby food, spirits – including ‘gaisty’, tinctures and balms made from Belarusian herbs, distillates, whisky produced entirely from Belarusian grain, and products made from fruits and berries...”⁵²⁶. The

resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/farmpredpriyatia-belarusi-planiruyut-rasshirit-assortiment-i-obiemy-postavok-lekarstv-v-kyrgyzstan-494553-2022/>

⁵²⁴ A business forum was held in Osh as part of the 10th meeting of the Kyrgyz-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Electronic source]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://cis.minsk.by/news/24072/v-ramkakh-10->

<https://cis.minsk.by/news/24072/v-ramkakh-10-> A business forum was held in Osh following a meeting of the Kyrgyz-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation

⁵²⁵ Contracts worth \$900,000 were signed following the Belarusian-Kyrgyz business forum [Online resource]. - 2022. -

URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kontraktiv-na-900-tys-podpisany-po-itogam-belorussko-kyrgyzskogo-biznes-foruma-523912-2022/>

⁵²⁶ Sixteen enterprises belonging to ‘Belgospishcheprom’ presented their products at the ‘Yug Expo’ exhibition in Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/produksii-na-vystavke-yug-ekspo-v-kyrgyzstane-predstavili-16->

world-renowned Belarusian brands ‘Gomselmash’, ‘MTZ’ and ‘MAZ’ were represented at the exhibition by a local dealer – OSOO ‘AVTOMASH-RADIATOR’. Other Belarusian enterprises were also among the exhibition participants: one of Europe’s largest manufacturers of electrical equipment – OJSC ‘Minsk Electrical Engineering Plant named after V.I. Kozlov’; leading medical institutions – the N.N. Alexandrov National Research and Practical Centre for Oncology and Medical Radiology (OMR) and the National Research and Practical Centre for Cardiology, as well as the manufacturer of veterinary medicines – OJSC ‘Belzoovetsnabprom’. In particular, at the OMR stand, Kyrgyz specialists were offered training programmes in the fields of radiology, surgery and ultrasound diagnostics. According to , following negotiations between the RNC ‘OMR’ and Osh State University, ‘a cooperation agreement has been drawn up, providing for the exchange of expertise between staff of the institutions through professional development programmes and internships; and the organisation of conferences, seminars, symposia and round-table discussions’⁵²⁷ .

All these facts confirm that Belarus and Kyrgyzstan intend to realise the potential of their bilateral relations across all areas of cooperation and, in particular, to accelerate collaboration in the economic sphere, including partnerships in the fields of industrial cooperation, the agro-industrial sector, transport, as well as on a wide range of issues relating to the cultural, humanitarian and regional agendas.

[predpriyatiy - belgospisheproma-523807-2022](#)

⁵²⁷ The 6th International General Exhibition and Fair “Yug Expo 2022” [Online resource]. – 2022. - URL: <https://omr.by/news/news-main/6-ya-mezhdunarodnaya-universalnaya-vystavka-varmarka-yug-ekspo-2022>

Roadmap and strategic Outlook

Kyrgyzstan is an important partner for Belarus in Central Asia, with relations developing positively across all areas. In November 2024, the 12th meeting of the Belarusian–Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission (IGC) on Trade and Economic Cooperation took place in Bishkek, at which participants paid particular attention to the development of industrial cooperation, the creation of a favourable investment climate, and the increase in trade turnover between the countries through a significant expansion of supplies of Belarusian products. For reference, it should be noted that over the first three quarters of 2024, ‘trade turnover between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan grew by 14.1 per cent compared with the same period in 2023 and stands at almost \$135 million’⁵²⁸. Among the successful domestic exporters that are rapidly increasing their supplies to the Kyrgyz market are enterprises belonging to the Belarusian Forestry, Woodworking and Pulp and Paper Production and Trade Concern – forestry, woodworking and pulp and paper industry “Bellesbumprom”. “Mainly, panel products and sawn timber are supplied to this Central Asian country. Over the first seven months of 2024, exports to Kyrgyzstan increased by a factor of 1.3”⁵²⁹.

It should be recalled that at the 11th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, held in August 2023 in the Belarusian capital, the parties noted a marked intensification of interaction and identified several important areas of cooperation: growth in trade turnover and the development of industrial cooperation. At that time, based on the results for 2022, ‘trade turnover exceeded \$160 million and increased by 56 per cent compared with 2021. <...> In the first half of the year, we added \$19 million.’⁵³⁰. As for industrial cooperation, the organisation of joint production of lift equipment by OJSC “Mogilevliftmash” on Kyrgyz soil was highlighted. The degree of localisation of production reached 25 per cent in less than a year, with a production target of 100 lifts.

At the same time, the parties identified significant untapped potential for cooperation in the industrial sector. In particular, Kyrgyzstan offered all the necessary conditions for the establishment of joint industrial ventures. This is all the more so given that ‘mechanisms for special investment contracts under

⁵²⁸ Sivak: Trade turnover between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan rose by 14.1 per cent in January–September [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-tovarooborot-belarusi-i-kyrgyzstana-za-1-anvar-senti-abr-vvros-na-141-678763-2024/>

⁵²⁹ Belarus is increasing its supplies of wood products to Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-naraschivaet-postavki-produktsii-derevoobrabotki-v-kyrgyzstan-664450-2024/>

⁵³⁰ Sivak: Trade between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan is growing; we plan to develop industrial cooperation [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-tovarooborot-mezhdu-belarusiu-i-kyrgyzstanom-rastet-planiruem-razvivat-i-normkooperatsiu-584179-2023/>

the Industrial Development Fund have already been established and implemented, along with subsidiary support measures aimed at attracting private investment into industry, and an export support infrastructure has been created⁵³¹. The foundation of any manufacturing sector lies in mineral and raw material reserves, and Kyrgyzstan is home to over 100 types of raw materials, which makes it possible to establish enterprises with a high degree of localisation in their production. The country's reserves consist mainly of titanium, gold, copper, antimony, tin and other minerals – including tungsten, silicon, uranium and fuel and energy raw materials. There are prospects for the development of iron ore mining.

Furthermore, at the 11th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, the possibility of establishing a textile cluster and implementing a project for the processing of leather and wool was raised. In this regard, a brief comment is in order. 'In 2022, exports of Belarusian clothing to Kyrgyzstan reached a record \$5.1 million, which is 8.4 times higher than the 2021 figure. The main subheadings supplied were women's and children's dresses made of machine- or hand-knitted cotton, men's and children's trousers, overalls, shorts and breeches made of cotton, and men's and children's shirts, also made of cotton'⁵³². For this reason, when planning new export shipments, the Belarusian side will focus on these commodity items.

Returning to the 12th meeting of the Joint Commission, we would like to emphasise that the Belarusian side also put forward its proposals for the implementation of joint trade and economic projects and expressed its readiness "to increase supplies of agricultural machinery, municipal and other equipment, and to develop industrial cooperation projects in other areas. There are good prospects for establishing joint production of electrical equipment"⁵³³. To this end, during the JCC meeting, banks from both countries signed a framework agreement on the general terms for the provision of

export credits, which "envisages the creation of a universal financial infrastructure to support domestic exports"⁵³⁴. And already, OJSC "AMKODOR" is considering the possibility of implementing joint projects

⁵³¹ Torobaev outlined what joint production ventures Belarus and Kyrgyzstan could establish [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/torobaev-oboznachil-kakie-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-mo-gli-bv-sozdat-belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-584198-2023/>

⁵³² Dresses, shirts, breeches – all made of cotton. What are the prospects for Belarusian clothing on the Kyrgyz market? [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/platija-riubashki-bridzhi-vse-iz-hlonka-kakie-perspektivy-u-belorusskoi-odezhdy-na-rvnye-kyrgyzstana-640865-2024/>

⁵³³ Sivak: Belarus is ready to increase supplies of utility and agricultural machinery to Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-belarus-gotova-naraschivat-postavki-kommunalnoi-i-selhoztehniki-v-kyrgyzstan-678782-2024/>
⁵³⁴ Belarus and Kyrgyzstan have signed an agreement on export credits [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-podpisali-soglasenie-ob-eksportnykh-kreditakh-678790-2024/>

in Kyrgyzstan, including the establishment of production facilities and service centres to maintain “AMKODOR” machinery. “Such a step will strengthen industrial cooperation and expand opportunities for the development of economic ties between the countries”⁵³⁵.

Furthermore, in 2025, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan also intend to step up cooperation in the field of exchange trading by introducing new items into their mutual trade, broadening the range of trading participants and deepening inter-exchange cooperation. An important detail: in 2024, Kyrgyzstan expanded the range of commodities traded on the exchange with Belarus. Thus, in June, the first transactions for the sale of dairy products to this Central Asian country were concluded on the Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUCE). Under the exchange contracts concluded, trial consignments of Belarusian butter and skimmed milk powder, each weighing 20 tonnes, were delivered. These transactions not only open up new export opportunities for Belarusian dairy processing enterprises but also confirm the interest of Kyrgyz business circles in becoming more actively involved in the Belarusian commodity exchange market.

A distinctive feature of the development of cooperation between the two countries in the exchange sector is the regular expansion of the range of goods involved in mutual trade. “Initially, these were solely supplies of sunflower seeds to Belarusian agricultural organisations; however, over the last few years, a whole range of new items has appeared in the structure of exchange transactions”⁵³⁶. In particular, ferrous metal products manufactured in Kyrgyzstan have begun to be imported into Belarus via exchange trading, whilst Belarusian exporters have started to successfully sell sawn timber, sugar and, more recently, dairy products to Kyrgyz trading participants. And in October 2024, the first transaction involving the sale of textile raw materials by a Kyrgyz resident was concluded on the BUTB. “The counterparty to the transaction was one of the largest domestic light industry enterprises, and the subject of the purchase was raw calico – an unprocessed fabric made from cotton fibre”⁵³⁷.

Overall, 30 Kyrgyz businesses are currently accredited on the exchange, five of which took part in exchange trading for the first time in 2024. “According to the results for the first 10 months of 2024, exchange trade turnover with

⁵³⁵ “AMKODOR” will consider the possibility of setting up joint projects with Kyrgyzstan [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/amkodor-rassmotrit-vozmozhnost-sozdanija-sovmestnyh-proektov-s-kyrgyzstanom-666338-2024/>.

⁵³⁶ Kyrgyzstan has purchased its first consignments of Belarusian dairy products at an exchange auction [Electronic source]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-zakupil-pervye-partii-belorusskoj-molochnoj-produkcii-na-birzhevnyj-torgah-641884-2024/>.

⁵³⁷ Kyrgyzstan has expanded the range of goods traded on the exchange with Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-rasshirit-tovarnyj-nomenklatur-birzhevoj-torgovli-s-belarusiu-667300-2024/>.

Kyrgyzstan increased 2.4-fold, to \$5.7 million. Exports of Belarusian butter accounted for almost 65 per cent of this amount”⁵³⁸. At the 12th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, it was decided to give further impetus to the development of Belarusian-Kyrgyz exchange trading, including by joining forces with the Kyrgyz Stock Exchange, which is considering the possibility of launching trading on the commodities market and is interested in studying the experience and technologies of the Belarusian Commodity and Futures Exchange (BUFT). In this regard, a preliminary agreement has been reached between the Belarusian and Kyrgyz stock exchanges to sign a cooperation agreement in 2025, which will form the basis for further joint work between the two countries’ stock exchanges.

All this suggests that the decisions of the 12th meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation have demonstrated that: the parties have significant potential to take their cooperation to a higher level, both in terms of increasing trade turnover and implementing substantial initiatives in industrial cooperation and new infrastructure projects.

And as early as March 2025, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan signed a Roadmap for the Development of Cooperation for 2025–2027. This comprehensive document sets out highly practical measures aimed at intensifying cooperation in the trade and economic, scientific and technical, and humanitarian spheres, and includes ‘77 measures, including those relating to the development of bilateral trade in goods and services, cooperation in the fields of industrial collaboration, agriculture, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, the food and light industries, and other areas’⁵³⁹. This plan is also intended to provide further impetus for strengthening cooperation between Minsk and Bishkek. This is all the more important given that the volume of mutual trade between the countries is growing. Whilst trade turnover between the countries stood at over \$160 million in 2023 – an increase of almost one per cent compared with 2022 – “last year the figure rose by more than 15 per cent, exceeding \$190 million”⁵⁴⁰. At the aforementioned 12th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan planned to multiply the volume of mutual trade to \$500 million. “It is precisely this level of trade turnover that we must achieve through joint efforts in the coming years”⁵⁴¹.

⁵³⁸ Belarus and Kyrgyzstan to strengthen stock exchange cooperation [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-kyrgyzstan--birzhevoi-vektor-sotrudnichestva-678941-2024/>

⁵³⁹ Belarus and Kyrgyzstan have signed an action plan for the development of cooperation for 2025–2027 [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-kyrgyzstan--plan--razvitiu-sotrudnichestva-na-2025-2027-godv-703746-2025/>

⁵⁴⁰ Anatoly Sivak: Cooperation between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan is developing positively across all areas [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/11187>

⁵⁴¹ An ambitious figure of \$500 million: Belarus and Kyrgyzstan plan to multiply their trade turnover [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/ambitsioznaia-tsifra-v-500-mln-belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-planiruiut-kratno-uvlechit-tovarooborot-701449->

The parties are currently implementing a whole range of successful joint projects.

In particular, the joint project in the field of lift equipment is showing good growth momentum. All the more so because “given Kyrgyzstan’s significant need to replace and modernise its lift equipment, this enterprise will have a larger order book than it does at present”⁵⁴². In March this year, OJSC ‘Mogilevliftmash’ completed the manufacture of the first batch of lift equipment for the joint assembly plant in Kyrgyzstan. This equipment will soon be delivered to the production site of Kyrgyz Unaa Kurulush LLC in Osh. It should be recalled that an agreement to launch assembly production was reached in the summer of 2024 as part of the programme to modernise Bishkek’s lift fleet. Last September, the parties signed a general cooperation agreement, and in November they concluded a contract for the supply of 20 lifts worth over 200,000 dollars. “At present, the list of components and parts to be manufactured at the Kyrgyz partner’s facilities is being finalised. The plan is to replace at least 100 lifts annually in residential buildings across Kyrgyzstan.”⁵⁴³ We would add that since the start of 2025, the volume of Belarusian industrial goods exported to Kyrgyzstan has increased by 23 per cent compared with the same period in 2024.

Another interesting and important area of Belarusian-Kyrgyz cooperation is collaboration in the fields of environmental protection, waste management and the recycling of secondary raw materials. In August 2024, in the city of Karakol, located in the Issyk-Kul region, a waste processing complex was opened; it was built on a ‘turnkey’ basis by a Belarusian company, and ‘135 million soms were allocated from the national budget for its construction. The plant is capable of processing 50–80 tonnes of solid household waste per day. The facility has created 22 jobs’⁵⁴⁴. This will not only enable compliance with high environmental standards, but also provide valuable secondary raw materials for the production of new, in-demand products.

And one more thing. In February 2024, speaking at the World Government Summit in Dubai, the Kyrgyz President S. Japarov outlined three strategic priorities for Kyrgyzstan’s new economic policy: energy, mining, and transport and transit, with the aim of transforming this Central Asian country

2025/

⁵⁴² From lift manufacturing to waste processing. Golovchenko on successful joint projects in Kyrgyzstan [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/-proizvodstva-liftov-do-musoroprerabotki-golovchenko-oh-nspezhnyh-sovmestnyh-proektah-v-kyrgyzstane-692620-2025/>

⁵⁴³ Donis, I. Belarusian lifts to be assembled in Osh – first batch of equipment ready for dispatch / I. Donis // [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://economist.kg/2025/03/11/-oshie-nachmit-sobirat-bielorusskie-lifty--partiya-oborudovaniia-ghotova-k-otehruzhkie/>

⁵⁴⁴ Waste sorting and asphalt concrete plants opened in Karakol [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://economist.kg/2024/08/30/-zavody-no-sortirovkie-musora-proizvodstvu-asfalta-2/>

into a region ‘with an attractive investment climate, a liberal foreign trade policy, and an open and trustworthy business environment’⁵⁴⁵. And today, major strategic initiatives are being implemented there, including the construction of new hydroelectric power stations, two large-scale railway projects and the development of new mineral deposits. To be more specific, ‘in 2025, new hydroelectric power stations will begin operating in the Jalal-Abad, Osh and Naryn regions. A textile factory will open in the Osh region, creating hundreds of jobs. In the Chui region, construction will begin on logistics centres for trade and exports. Enterprises producing building materials will be established in the regions. In Bishkek, a modern coach station and the refurbished Osh Market will open’⁵⁴⁶. Overall, 128 new enterprises are planned to be launched in Kyrgyzstan in 2025. Belarusian specialists, who possess professional expertise in both the design and the provision of construction services for such facilities – including engineering, the supply of relevant equipment and commissioning work – are ready to provide any assistance in this matter should it be required. All the more so as the parties still have ‘untapped potential in trade, industrial cooperation, agriculture and the transport and logistics sector’⁵⁴⁷.

Returning to the signed action plan for the development of cooperation for 2025–2027, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan have agreed that in June this year, at the “Belagro” international exhibition in the Belarusian capital, the parties will hold a business forum bringing together business communities from both countries to “work out specific projects to flesh out the roadmap for cooperation up to 2030”⁵⁴⁸. And there is every reason to believe that this document will serve as a concrete roadmap for the development of bilateral Belarusian–Kyrgyz cooperation in the long term.

⁵⁴⁵ The President of Kyrgyzstan has outlined three areas for the country’s economic development [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://eurasiatoday.ru/prezident-kyrgyzstana-oznachil-tri-napravleniya-razvitiya-ekonomiki-strany/>

⁵⁴⁶ Sadyr Zhaparov: “Our ancestors saw a new phase of life in Nowruz” [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://eurasiatoday.ru/sadyr-zhparov-nashi-predki-v-nooruz-novy-zhizni/>

⁵⁴⁷ Head of the Kyrgyz Cabinet of Ministers: there is untapped potential in trade and industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/glava-kabmina-kyrgyzstana-v-torgovle-i-nromkoopratsii-s-belarusiiu-est-nerealizovannyi-potentsial-692631-2025/>

⁵⁴⁸ Sivak proposed holding a Belarus–Kyrgyzstan business forum at the ‘Belagro’ exhibition [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-nredlozhit-provesti-biznes-forum-belarusi-i-kyrgyzstana-at-the-belagro-exhibition-703777-2025/>

CHAPTER 5

TURKMENISTAN

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

Features of media coverage long-term cooperation

The Republic of Belarus has traditionally regarded the Commonwealth of Independent States as the most important integration organisation in the post-Soviet space, which contributes to ensuring economic and social stability in the region. As the chair of the CIS in 2013, it “intends to use its chairmanship to further strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation among the CIS member states, raise the standard of living and well-being of their citizens, and preserve and build upon the positive experience of integration accumulated within the Commonwealth of Independent States”⁵⁴⁹. Of particular interest in this regard is the positive experience of cooperation between Belarus and Turkmenistan – a country that occupies a special position amongst the former Soviet republics, but whose foreign policy, in the view of the official authorities in Minsk, ‘is an effective instrument and guarantee for maintaining peace and stability in the region’⁵⁵⁰.

It is well known that Turkmen foreign policy in the 21st century is shaped by factors such as ‘Turkmenistan’s neutral status, the country’s vast natural gas reserves and the desire to maximise its exports’⁵⁵¹.

Turkmenistan’s neutral status was enshrined as far back as December 1995 in a special resolution of the UN General Assembly, which was supported at the time by 185 countries. The official authorities in Ashgabat defined one of the main objectives of their foreign policy at the time, as the development of constructive

mutually beneficial cooperation with all foreign partners on the basis of equality and mutual respect. At the same time, ‘given the state’s significant resource potential, Turkmenistan utilises it to carry out large-scale projects, the implementation of which involves the establishment of joint ventures and the attraction of investment from foreign state-owned and private companies, banks and international financial institutions’⁵⁵².

The keynote address delivered by the country’s President, G. Berdymukhamedov, at the UN General Assembly in September 2007 is generally regarded as the starting point for the implementation of

⁵⁴⁹ Address to the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States 2013. [Electronic resource]. -

<http://president.gov.by/press130838.html#doc>

⁵⁵⁰ Alexander Lukashenko congratulated the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov 2010. [Online resource]. -

<http://president.gov.by/press102262.html#doc>

⁵⁵¹ Kamenev, S. Turkmenistan’s Foreign Policy: The Battle over the Gas Pipeline / S. Kamenev // 2002. [Electronic resource]. -

<http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1033368840>

⁵⁵² The concept of Turkmenistan’s foreign policy as a neutral state [Electronic resource]. - 1995. -

http://nivazov.sitcity.ru/itext/0608085523.phtml?p_id=itext/0608085523.p/210810.0642

Turkmenistan's modern foreign policy strategy. In that address, he noted: 'Today, Turkmenistan is open to the world and open to broad international cooperation in all areas'⁵⁵³. This suggests that Ashgabat is well aware that the process of economic and social transformation within the country is inconceivable without reliable economic partnerships with the world's leading producers of goods and technologies; therefore, 'Turkmenistan readily responds to many proposals, carefully selecting the very best that global manufacturing and technological expertise has to offer today. <...> We do not enter into economic agreements that are disadvantageous to the country in exchange for certain political dividends'⁵⁵⁴. It is important to emphasise here that, by harmoniously combining the successful resolution of domestic development challenges with active participation in international affairs, the official Ashgabat "regards cooperation with the CIS countries as an important pillar of its foreign policy"⁵⁵⁵, with the dynamic expansion of partnership ties with the Republic of Belarus playing a significant role in this. It is worth recalling that as far back as 2008, bilateral trade between Belarus and Turkmenistan amounted to only around 50 million dollars. It was only in 2009 that a trend towards the revitalisation of bilateral relations began to emerge, when the Belarusian head of state arrived in Ashgabat on an official visit after a seven-year hiatus. At that time, the parties took decisions that gave the cooperation between Belarus and Turkmenistan a 'long-term and strategic character'⁵⁵⁶. These decisions concerned the mutual supply of Belarusian engineering products and goods from Turkmen light industry enterprises, as well as a fundamentally new form of economic ties – Belarus's comprehensive participation in projects relating to Turkmenistan's industrial and social infrastructure. It was at that time that a Framework Agreement was signed for the construction, by Belarusian specialists on Turkmen soil, of a mining and processing complex for the extraction of potash fertilisers with a design capacity of 7 million tonnes of ore per year, including 1.4 million tonnes of potash fertilisers.

It is worth noting here that the national programme 'Strategy for the Economic, Political and Cultural Development of Turkmenistan for the Period up to 2020' envisages an almost 18-fold increase in agricultural output compared with 2000. 'By this time, a number of measures aimed at

⁵⁵³ Durdyev, S. Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy at the Present Stage / S. Durdyev // Neutral Turkmenistan. – 2009. – 21 May.

⁵⁵⁴ Agakhanov, H.A. Focus on Turkmenistan's foreign policy / H.A. Agakhanov // [Online resource]. – 2009. – URL:

http://www.turkmenistan.ru/7page?id=4&lang_id=ru&elem_id=15725&tvpe-event&sort-date_desc

⁵⁵⁵ December 2012: following the course of the nation's leader's foreign policy initiatives [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL:

<http://www.parahat.info/news/2013-01-10-dekabr-2012-sleduya-kursom-vneshnepoliticheskikh-iniciativ-lidera-nacii-politika-otkrytykh-dvureyev>

⁵⁵⁶ Belarus and Turkmenistan step up bilateral cooperation [Online resource]. – 2009. – URL: http://president.gov.by/press73283.htm/#_doc

increasing crop yields and agricultural output will have been implemented in the country. The establishment of potash fertiliser production is one of the government's priorities in addressing this challenge⁵⁵⁷. As for the Garlyk natural potash salt deposit itself, located in the Lebap velayat of Turkmenistan, its reserves exceed three billion tonnes, or more than 40 per cent of all proven potash salt reserves in Turkmenistan. In essence, the development of this deposit and the construction of a plant there for the extraction and enrichment of potash salts is the starting point for the development of Turkmenistan's mining industry and a guarantee of the planned growth in agricultural production in the country.

An international tender for the design, supply of equipment, staff training and commissioning of the plant itself was announced by the state-owned concern 'Turkmenkhimiya' as far back as

at the end of 2007. Among the participants were the Chinese company 'Tamplan' and the Russian West Ural Machine-Building Concern. However, the Turkmen side ultimately gave preference to the Belarusian public joint-stock company 'Belgorhimprom' – the Research and Design Institute of the Mining and Chemical Industry of Belarus, which provides support for the production activities of the 'Belaruskali' production association. And just a year and a half later, on 19 June 2009, a time capsule was laid in the foundations of the mining and processing plant at the Garlyk potash deposit, the first phase of whose development concept envisages "extraction of raw materials using the open-cast method and the construction of a potash fertiliser plant with a capacity of up to one and a half million tonnes per year. Following the development of two further deposits – up to 4.5 million tonnes per year"⁵⁵⁸. Furthermore, in addition to the construction of a complex of production facilities and the creation of new jobs, the project provides for the supply of modern equipment and the training of Turkmen specialists.

The inclusion of such a large-scale facility as a mining and processing plant in the long-term plans for Belarusian-

Turkmen cooperation is a natural continuation of the policy pursued by the current leadership of Turkmenistan, which envisages the industrial development of this former Soviet republic: 'To tackle this important task, we intend to build industrial giants equipped with the latest equipment and technologies'⁵⁵⁹. One consequence of this policy is that the population of

⁵⁵⁷ Belarus – Turkmenistan: Potash as the Foundation for Future Cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: http://export.by/resources/zdaniva_i_publicacii/belarus_%E2%80%9494_turkmenistan_k_alinii_fundament_bnduse.html

⁵⁵⁸ Belarus to take part in a large-scale investment project in Turkmenistan [Online resource]. - 2009. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press73356.html#doc>

⁵⁵⁹ The President of Turkmenistan gave an interview to representatives of the Turkish press [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL:

Turkmenistan is now supplied free of charge with natural gas, electricity, essential fuels and table salt.

At the same time, in 2009, the Belarusian side also proposed to its Turkmen partners projects for the comprehensive modernisation of the transport system in Turkmen cities, the creation of environmentally friendly transport routes – including within the ‘Avaza’ national tourist zone – and the construction of a number of other facilities on Turkmen soil. All these arrangements were formalised in relevant documents, including agreements on international road passenger and freight transport; on cooperation in the economic sphere, customs matters, compliance with tax legislation, sport and tourism, science and technology, culture, education, healthcare and medical science; as well as on the press and information.

In the last of these documents, which is of particular importance to international journalists from both countries, the parties agreed to provide each other with ‘assistance in facilitating the regular exchange of news concerning the political, economic and cultural spheres of their respective states, through news agencies, the print media, audiovisual media and other mass media’⁵⁶⁰.

It is also envisaged that cooperation in the media sector will be directed towards: the establishment of correspondent offices in both countries on an equal footing; the exchange of information materials and bulletins on media issues; the exchange of specialists in the field of media and print distribution; the exchange of experience in the training and work placements of specialists; participation in international book and press fairs, seminars and conferences.

The parties’ close attention to media support for the long-term Belarusian–Turkmen partnership stems from the fact that ‘the effectiveness of integration processes depends directly on the political will of the states’ leadership and the constructive stance of their citizens. This is why the role of the media is so important in this regard, as it honestly and objectively reflects real processes and shapes public opinion’⁵⁶¹. This is all the more relevant to the cooperation between Belarus and Turkmenistan, which has been growing at an impressive rate over the past three years.

In early 2010, the Turkmen leader G. Berdymukhamedov, during which the heads of the two states concluded that Belarus and Turkmenistan were entering a qualitatively new stage of strategic partnership, confirming this

<http://www.turkmenistan.ru/ru/articles/37076.html>

⁵⁶⁰ Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of Turkmenistan on cooperation in the field of the press and information [Electronic resource]. – 2009. – URL: <http://pravo.levonevsky.org/bazabv11/republic10/text213.htm>

⁵⁶¹ Alexander Lukashenko sent a message of greeting to the participants of the 7th Forum of European and Asian Media [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press141469.html#doc>

through the intensification of economic and trade cooperation in both existing and new areas of collaboration. In particular, discussions have already begun on deepening industrial cooperation, establishing new production facilities based on cutting-edge technologies and innovations, implementing major infrastructure projects, and developing productive cooperation in the energy sector. Furthermore, the parties demonstrated similar positions in their assessment of such principles of international relations and the activities of international organisations as ‘equal dialogue between developed and developing countries, the inviolability of state sovereignty and the rejection of interference in internal affairs, the right of peoples to choose their own model of political development, and the rejection of war as a means of resolving conflicts’⁵⁶².

The establishment of the Belarusian–Turkmen Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation and the signing of a new package of agreements – on trade and economic cooperation in the supply of Belarusian agricultural and automotive machinery and urban transport; on military and military-technical cooperation; on the mutual recognition of educational documents, academic degrees and titles; on the establishment of trading houses in Turkmenistan and Belarus; on cooperation between Belarusian and Turkmen higher education institutions; on further exploration and development of the Karabil potash deposit in the Lebap velayat – contributed significantly to the fact that, by 2010, the volume of bilateral trade between Belarus and Turkmenistan had already reached 90.7 million dollars. This was underpinned by exports of Belarusian goods with a high level of added value – tractors, road construction machinery, soil cultivation machinery, lorries, tyres, and the woodworking industry, medicines, and foodstuffs.

At the same time, the Belarusian side is exploring opportunities to implement several more major projects in Turkmenistan, including the design and ‘turnkey’ construction of a plant for the production of ceramic tiles, porcelain stoneware and sanitaryware; the modernisation of a plant producing basalt fibre-based insulation; the construction of social and cultural facilities – a sports and leisure complex and three 14-storey residential blocks in Ashgabat⁵⁶³. In addition, Belarusian builders have embarked on a pilot project to renovate and improve the thermal efficiency of residential

⁵⁶² Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov [Online resource]. - 2010. - URL:

<http://president.gov.by/press82516.html>

⁵⁶³ A Belarusian delegation led by A. Kalinin is taking part in the third meeting of the Belarusian–Turkmen Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation [Online resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/3468>

buildings dating from the 1960s and 1970s. “Belavtodor” has decided to take part in the tender for the construction of a bridge across the Amu Darya. Meanwhile, in January 2012, the Turkmen side announced its intention to purchase 2,000 tractors and around 3,000 units of machinery from the Minsk Automobile Plant in Belarus, as well as to open four MAZ vehicle service centres in various regions of Turkmenistan. As a result, in 2012, “4,200 tractors and 3,800 lorries” were supplied to Turkmenistan from Belarus⁵⁶⁴. At the same time, the Belarusian side expressed its readiness to continue supplying domestically manufactured tower cranes and lifts to this Central Asian country.

To train specialists who will work at the new enterprises, the parties agreed to open a Belarusian-Turkmen college. Meanwhile, Belarusian Prime Minister M. Myasnikovich outlined new horizons for cooperation between the two countries: ‘Cooperation must be innovative, forward-looking and large-scale, and must not be limited to the interests of the national economies. This is precisely why great prospects are opening up for the two countries in the field of innovative cooperation <...> We need to create the capacity and production facilities that will enable exports to third countries. The two countries’ economies complement one another, and in this respect it seems possible to implement the most ambitious projects’⁵⁶⁵. And today it can be stated that it is precisely this course – of innovative cooperation – that is now taking on an increasingly concrete form in relations between Belarus and Turkmenistan, as evidenced by a variety of facts.

In particular, there are already 15 enterprises operating in Turkmenistan with Belarusian capital, and 13 investment projects involving Belarus have been registered, totalling 1.3 billion dollars. In 2011, Belarusian-Turkmen foreign trade turnover exceeded 200 million dollars, and in 2012 it increased by a further half.

The Turkmen leader’s visit to Minsk in April 2012 brought a new dimension to the development of cooperative ties between the two countries; during this visit, G. Berdymukhamedov invited the Belarusian side to participate in the modernisation of

Turkmenistan. The fact is that, in early 2012, Turkmenistan adopted a socio-economic development programme for 2012–2016, which places great emphasis on the development of agriculture, urban infrastructure and roads. In this regard, the Turkmen side is prepared to expand the range of

⁵⁶⁴ The Customs Union’s unified negotiating delegation is actively working to finalise the harmonisation of trade regimes with other countries [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/politics/Edinaia_peregovornaia-delegatsiia-TS-aktivno-rabotaet-nad-zaversheniem-unifikatsii-torgovyx-rezhimov-s-druzimi-stranami_i_620828.html

⁵⁶⁵ More Belarusians to be recruited for the construction of the Garkly Mining and Processing Plant in Turkmenistan [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4214>

Belarusian engineering and is interested in purchasing agricultural, road-building, construction and municipal machinery, machine tools, building materials, foodstuffs and medicines from Belarus.

A proposal from Belarus to establish an educational institution in Turkmenistan for training mid-level personnel is currently at an advanced stage of development; this institution could meet the demand for specialists in the mining industry being developed in the Lebap velayat. It is worth noting that the current scale of cooperation between the two countries in the field of education is already quite impressive: more than 7,000 Turkmen students are currently studying at Belarusian universities, of whom around 200 are specialising in fields relevant to work at the Garlyk Mining and Processing Plant. All this prompted the Turkmen president to describe Belarus as 'a key partner in the education of our students'⁵⁶⁶.

The rapid expansion of areas of Belarusian-Turkmen cooperation was also confirmed by a new package of bilateral documents signed in Minsk in April 2012. These include intergovernmental agreements on cooperation in the fields of geodesy, cartography and remote sensing; agreements on scientific and technical cooperation between the Academies of Sciences of the two countries, between the Centre for Geophysical Monitoring of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus and the Institute of Seismology of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan, and between the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics and the Turkmen State Institute of Transport and Communications. Also in this context are inter-ministerial agreements on cooperation in the fields of industrial, housing and social construction, and agriculture, as well as a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministries of Justice of the two countries. In addition, the parties revisited the issue of establishing and operating a Business Council for cooperation between the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the two countries, which is intended to encourage the business community and small and medium-sized enterprises to participate more actively in the implementation of joint projects. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the Business Council for Cooperation, as well as the meeting of the Belarusian-Turkmen Intergovernmental Commission on Cooperation in the Field of Science and Technology, will be held in 2013⁵⁶⁷.

The rapid pace of implementation of the planned Belarusian-Turkmen

⁵⁶⁶ Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press/131087.html>

⁵⁶⁷ On Belarusian-Turkmen inter-ministerial consultations [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: http://mfa.gov.by/press/news/mfa7bc702_c3_e1008_ee51.html

cooperation initiatives – with trade turnover between the two countries having increased almost fivefold over the last four years – has enabled the Belarusian authorities to state: ‘Our relations with Turkmenistan serve as an example to others. We have expanded our cooperation across all areas in recent years’⁵⁶⁸. The Belarusian side sees further prospects for the development of this foreign policy vector in the post-Soviet space in the development of direct links between enterprises, the active utilisation of the potential of regional contacts, and new forms of economic cooperation, including the implementation of joint industrial and infrastructure projects. It seems that representatives of the international section of the national press in Belarus and Turkmenistan – who are still seeking new creative approaches – should also play their part in promoting the ideas of long-term and strategic Belarusian-Turkmen cooperation to the public consciousness of the citizens of their respective countries, capable of adequately reflecting the full scope of this international subject matter and effectively contributing to the resolution of the challenges at hand.

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

⁵⁶⁸ Alexander Lukashenko received the credentials of foreign ambassadors [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press140152.html#doc>

References

1. On 9 December, a meeting of the EurAsEC Intergovernmental Council took place in Moscow [Electronic resource]. – 2010. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press02182.html#doc>
2. Kolesnik, V.S. The conflict of values in intercivilisational dialogue / V.S. Kolesnik // [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: [http:// dom- hors. ru/ issue/ fik/1-2011-1- 2/ kolesnik. pdf](http://dom-hors.ru/issue/fik/1-2011-1-2/kolesnik.pdf)
3. Zaleskiy, B.L. The Mass Media and the Formation of a Unified Information Space within the Commonwealth of Independent States / B.L. Zaleskiy // The Information Field of Contemporary Russia: Practices and Effects: Proceedings of the 8th International Scientific and Practical Conference, Kazan, 20–22 October 2011 / edited by V.Z. Garifullin, R.P. Bakanov. – Kazan: Kazan University, 2011. – pp. 251–258.
4. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on cooperation in the field of the press and information [Electronic resource]. – 2000. - URL: kazakhstan.news-city.info/docs/sistemsndok_oerajb.htm
5. Agreement on cooperation in the dissemination of mass media information [Electronic resource]. - 2002. - URL: pravo.kulichki.com/zak/megd/meg00645.htm
6. 8th meeting of the Belarus–Kazakhstan Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: [www.. belembassy. org/ rus/ news/~m12=1~m1 2=461094](http://www.belembassy.org/rus/news/~m12=1~m12=461094)
7. Trade and economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: [www.kazembassy.by/kaz bel otn/torg econom.html](http://www.kazembassy.by/kaz_bel_otn/torg_econom.html)
8. On the signing of the Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Belarus on long-term economic cooperation for 2009–2016 [Electronic resource]. - 2009. - URL: http://ru.government.kz/docs/u090000821_20090610.htm
9. On 24 May, talks were held between the Presidents of Belarus and Kazakhstan in Astana [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press114645.html#doc>
10. Twelve assembly plants for Belarusian machinery were established in Kazakhstan in 2010–2011 [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: [www. government. by// content/4072/](http://www.government.by/content/4072/)
11. 25 May marked the end of the Belarusian President’s official visit to Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: [http:// president. gov. by/](http://president.gov.by/)

[press115738.html#doc](#)

12. Smirnov, A. The future lies in joint forms of cooperation / A. Smirnov // Union of Entrepreneurs. – 2009. – 4 September.

13. Smirnov, A.V. Belarus – Kazakhstan: the state of play and prospects for cooperation / A.V. Smirnov // [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://forum.sovuzbv/main-news/detail.php?TID=12457>

14. Regional Cooperation [Online resource]. – 2011. – URL: www.belarus21.by/ru/main-menu/compatriots/sotr

15. Proleskovsky, O.B. To the participants of the 13th International Scientific and Practical Conference “Journalistics-2011: Current Status, Problems and Prospects” / O.V. Proleskovsky // Journalistics-2011: Status, Problems and Prospects: Proceedings of the 13th International Scientific and Practical Conference, dedicated to the 90th anniversary of BSU, 8–9 September 2011, MiHCK / Edited by: S.V. Dubovzh (ed.) [et al.]. – Issue 13. – MiHCK: BSU, 2011. – p. 3.

16. Münch, R. The role of journalism in a communication society / R. Münch // [Electronic resource]. – 1991. – URL: <http://www.academy-go.ru/Site/JournalPR/Publications/RMunch.shtml>

17. Alexander Lukashenko congratulated the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, on the 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press139713.html#doc>

18. Belarus is interested in developing cooperation with Kazakhstan – M. Myasnikovich [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4242>

19. Alexander Lukashenko accepted the credentials of foreign ambassadors [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press140154.html#doc>

20. Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/Zpress130425.html>

21. Address by Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, at the plenary session of the 9th Forum on Interregional Cooperation between Kazakhstan and Russia [Electronic resource]. –

2012. – URL:

http://www.akorda.kz/ru/page/page_vystuplenie-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-nursultana-nazarbaeva-na-plenarnoi-sessii-ix-foruma-me1348065813

22. State Programme for Accelerated Industrial and Innovative Development

- [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/category/gos_of_the_development_programme
23. Strategic Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2020 [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/category/gos_programmi_razvitiya
24. Address by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev, to the people of Kazakhstan. 14 December 2012. [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: http://www.akorda.kz/ru/page/page_poslanie-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-n-nazarbaeva-narodu-kazakhstana-14-dekabrya-2012-g_1357813742
25. Address by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, N. A. Nazarbayev, at a meeting with the heads of foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.akorda.kz/ru/page/vystuplenie-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-n-a-nazarbaeva-na-vstreche-s-glavami-zarubezhnykh-diplomaticheskikh>
26. Alexander Lukashenko met with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Serik Akhmetov [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press143900.html#doc>
27. M. Myasnikovich and K. Masimov discussed issues of trade and economic cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4087>
28. On the 9th meeting of the Belarus-Kazakhstan Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: http://www.mfa.gov.by/press/news_mfa/e00430_e7_bcd76cb1.html
29. Mikhail Rusy met with the akim of the Karaganda Region of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4960>
30. Mikhail Myasnikovich visited the 'KazBelAZ' joint venture in Karaganda [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4685>
31. Mikhail Rusy met with the akim of the Kostanay Region [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4876>
32. Sidorchik, V. Gomel and Kostanay regions to sign a cooperation agreement / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Gomelskaja-i-Kostanajskaja-oblasti-zakljuchat-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-i-628956.html

33. Mikhail Myasnikovich met with the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, Serik Akhmetov [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: [http:// www. government. by/ ru/ content/4982](http://www.government.by/ru/content/4982)
34. Mikhail Myasnikovich met with the Ambassador of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4928>
35. Belarus and Kazakhstan are establishing an industrial and technology park [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: [http:// www. belta. by/ ru/ all news/ economics/ Belarus- i- Kazakhstan- sozdajut-industrialno-texnologicheskij-park i641046. html](http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-i-Kazakhstan-sozdajut-industrialno-texnologicheskij-park i641046.html)
36. Mikhail Rusy took part in a press conference on cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: [http:// www. government. by/ ru/ 4931](http://www.government.by/ru/4931)
37. Belarus and Kazakhstan are investing around \$700 million in petrochemical production in Mogilev [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-i-Kazakhstan-investirujut-okolo-700-mln-v-nefteximicheskoe-proizvodstvo-v-Mogilev i 628920.html
38. Mikhail Myasnikovich pays an official visit to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/4684>
39. Grigorovich, T. Belarus and Kazakhstan intend to step up interregional cooperation / T. Grigorovich // [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/economics/Belarus-i-Kazakhstan- namereny-aktivizirovat-mezhregionalnoe- sotrudnichestvo i 628944.html
40. Bulegenov, E. Economic cooperation between Kazakhstan and Belarus has great potential / E. Bulegenov // [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.belarus.by/ru/press-center/speeches-and-interviews/ergali-bulegenov-u-ekonomicheskogo-sotrudnichestva-kazaxstana-i-belarusi-bolshoj-potentsial i 0000005439.html>
41. Sluka, O. Communication in Eurasian integration / O. Sluka // International Journalism 2013: Globalisation and Regionalisation of the Information Space: Proceedings of the Second International Scientific and Practical Conference, 20 February 2013, Minsk / edited by T. N. Dasayeva; compiled by B. L. Zaleski. - Minsk: BSU Publishing Centre, 2013. - pp. 246–257.
42. Zaleski, B. L. Belarusian International Journalism: Characteristics, Trends, Prospects / B. L. Zaleski. - Minsk, Belarusian State University, 2014. - 374 pp.
43. BelTA and Kazinform have agreed to cooperate [Online resource]. -

2014. – URL: <http://bsj.by/2014/04/belta-i-kazinform-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve/>

44. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on cooperation in the field of mass media [Electronic resource]. – 2017. – URL:

http://egov.kz/wps/portal/!ut/p/b0/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfIjc7PyChKtUvKTS3NT80r0w_Wj9KNgPM8U_cgAQzMDEDAzM_QBJ5STmpZcmpqfqRxaV6hfk5lqUOvoqAgAahz7G/#z6

45. Official talks with the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: http://president.gov.by/ru/news_ru/view/ofitsialnye-talks-with-the-president-of-kazakhstan-nursultan-nazarbaev-17546/

46. Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have reached a high strategic level – Nazarbayev [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/politics/view/otnosheniya-belarusi-i-kazakhstana-vyshli-na-vysokij-strategicheskij-uroven-nazarbaev-278130-2017/>

47. ‘Bellesbumprom’ enterprises increased exports to Kazakhstan by 42.3 per cent in January–September [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-bellesbumproma-v-yanvare-sentjabre-uvlichili-eksport-v-kazakhstan-na-423-278065-2017/>

48. Dylenok, Yu. ‘Agromashholding’ JSC has become the exclusive dealer for ‘Gomselmash’ in Kazakhstan / Yu. Dylenok // [Online resource].

– 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/ekskluzivnym-dilerom-gomselmasha-v-kazakhstane-stalo-ao-agromashholding-278165-2017/>

49. Dylenok, Yu. Belarus and Kazakhstan step up cooperation on the development of digital transport corridors / Yu. Dylenok // [Electronic resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazakhstan-aktivizirujut-sotrudnichestvo-v-razvitii-tsifrovyyh-transportnyh-koridorov-278213-2017/>

50. Review of the Republic of Belarus’s foreign policy achievements and the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2017 [Electronic resource].

– 2018. – URL: <http://mfa.gov.by/publication/reports/a8a5169b6e487b3b.html>

51. Matveeva, N. Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have taken on an allied and strategic character – Bulegenov / N. Matveeva // [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://www.belta.by/politics/view/otnosheniya-belarusi-i-kazakhstana-priobreli-sojuznicheskij-i-strategicheskij-harakter-bulegenov-266564-2017/>

52. Production of MAZ vehicles has commenced in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/v-kazahstane-zapuscheno-proizvodstvo-aytotehniki-maz-256106-2017/>
53. Sidorchik, V. Two new models of grain harvesters to be developed by the Belarusian-Kazakh joint venture in 2018 / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/newscompany/view/dve-novye-modeli-zernouborochnyh-kombajnov-osvoyat-na-belorusko-kazahstanskom-sp-v-2018-godu-278818-2017/>
54. How Kazakhstan's economy is being boosted in the field [Online resource]. - 2016. - URL: <https://forbes.kz/process/economy/kak-v-polevyih-usloviyah-podni-mavut-ekonomiku-kazahstana/>
55. Akashin, V. Minsk – Kokshetau: a mutually beneficial project / V. Akashin // [Online resource]. - 2016. - URL: <http://apgazeta.kz/2016/10/01/minsk-kokshetau-vzaimovyygodnyj-proekt/>
56. Interview with Anatoly Nickkasov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of Kazakhstan, given to the Kazakh news agency “Khabar” (11 June 2014) [Online resource]. – URL: <http://mfa.by/press/8d30fc5ce4d68be>.
57. Belarus and Kazakhstan are planning a project to set up a joint drone manufacturing facility [Online source]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazahstan-namechajut-proekt-po-sozdaniyu-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva-bespilotnikov-278212-2017/>
58. Bilateral trade and economic cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral-relations/trade-economic/>
59. Sidorchik, V. The regions of Belarus and Kazakhstan have many promising areas for cooperation – Vladimir Dvornik / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/regions/view/u-regionov-belarusi-i-kazahstana-est-mnogo-perspektivnyh-napravlenij-dlja-sotrudnichestva-vladimir-243748-2017/>
60. Bozumbaev, K. Interregional cooperation plays an important role in the development and strengthening of integration / K. Bozumbaev // The Eurasian Economic Union: a regional perspective: an information and integration project / compiled and interviewed by: B. Zaleski, M. Valkovsky, A. Mostovoy. - Minsk: Biznesofset, 2014. – pp. 177–180.

61. Sidorchik, V. A delegation from the Pavlodar Region of Kazakhstan will visit the Gomel Region on 19–20 April / V. Sidorchik // [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/delegatsija-pavlodarskoj-oblasti-kazahstana-posetit-gomelskij-region-19-20-aprelja-243412-2017/>
62. Sidorchik, V. The head of the Pavlodar Region takes an interest in Belarus's experience of urban regeneration / V. Sidorchik // [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/glavu-pavlodarskoj-oblasti-interested-in-belarusian-experience-in-urban-development-243790-2017/>
63. The Pavlodar and Minsk regions have expressed mutual interest in developing cooperation in the agricultural sector [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/pavlodarskaja-i-minskaja-oblasti-projavljajut-vzaimnyj-interes-k-razvitiu-sotrudnichestva-v-selskom-243719-2017/>
64. The Partizansky District of Minsk has signed a cooperation agreement with the Kazakh city of Ekibastuz [Electronic resource]. - 2017. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/partizanskij-rajon-minska-podpisal-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-s-kazhstanskim-gorodom-ekibastuzom-243437-2017/>
65. Tkacheva, O. Kazakhstan is interested in strengthening interregional cooperation with the Mogilev Region / O. Tkacheva // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/kazahstan-zainteresovan-v-aktivizatsii-mezhregionalnogo-sotrudnichestva-s-mogilevskoj-oblastiju-31160-2013>
66. Stasyukevich, E. The Akmola Region of Kazakhstan is interested in adopting the agricultural experience of the Grodno Region / E. Stasyukevich // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL:
<http://www.belta.by/regions/view/akmolinskaja-oblast-kazahstana-zainteresovana-perenjat-selskoho-zajstvennyj-opyt-grodnenskoj-oblasti-38047-2014>
67. Industrial Cooperation and Culture Days – Belarus and Kazakhstan held a meeting of the intergovernmental commission [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:
<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/promkooperatsija-i-dni-kulturny-belarus-i-kazahstan-proveli-zasedanie-mezhpravkomissii-443204-2021/>
68. Ruslan Golovchenko visited major enterprises in Kazakhstan

- [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ society/ view/ roman- golovchenko- posetil- krupnye-predprii atij a- kazahstana-447818-2021/](https://www.belta.by/society/view/roman-golovchenko-posetil-krupnye-predprii-atij-a-kazahstana-447818-2021/)
69. Belarus has reached an agreement with Kazakhstan on oil supplies [Electronic source]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-dogovorilas-s- kazahstanom-o-postavkah-nefti-447959-2021/>
70. Belarus is stepping up supplies of machinery to Kazakhstan [Electronic source]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-naraschivaet-postavki- tehniki-v-kazahstan-447970-2021/>
71. Industrial enterprises in Belarus and Kazakhstan intend to sign major contracts [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. by/ economics/ view/ prompredprii atij a- belarusi-i-kazahstana-namereny-podpisat-krupnye-kontrakty-447828- 2021/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/prompredprii-atij-a-belarusi-i-kazahstana-namereny-podpisat-krupnye-kontrakty-447828-2021/)
72. Golovchenko: the foundation of Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation is trade and economic relations [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-fundament- belorussko-kazahstanskogo-sotrudnichestva-torgovo- ekonomicheskije-otnosheniya-447956-2021/>
73. Brylo: Belarusian food exports to Kazakhstan are increasing every year [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. belta. / economics/ view/- eksport- belorusskogo- prodovolstvija- v- kazahstan- kazhdvj- god- uvelichivaetsja-447921-2021/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport- belorusskogo- prodovolstvija- v- kazahstan- kazhdvj- god- uvelichivaetsja-447921-2021/)
74. On the meeting between the Belarusian Ambassador and the Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [http:// kazakhstan. mfa. gov. by/ ru/ embassy/ news/ 6628873 a0 b75. ml](http://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/6628873a0b75.ml)
75. Exports of Belarusian agricultural produce to Kazakhstan grew by more than 20 per cent in 2020 [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ eksport- Belarusian-agricultural-production-to-Kazakhstan-in-2020-grew-by-more- than-20-430100-2021](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-Belarusian-agricultural-production-to-Kazakhstan-in-2020-grew-by-more-than-20-430100-2021)
76. Kazakhstan is interested in Belarus's experience in developing the dairy and sugar sectors [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kazahstan- interested-in-belarusian-experience-in-developing-the-dairy-and-sugar-sectors-430102-2021>
77. “Gomselmash” and “AgromashHolding KZ” to expand their range of agricultural machinery in 2021 [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-i-agromashholding-kz-rasshirjat-linejku-agrotehniki-v-2021-godu-424825-2021/>

78. “Gomselmash” has shipped a further 30 KZS-10 MAX machine sets to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2020. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/additional-shipment-of-30-KZS-10-machine-sets-to-Kazakhstan-max-421382-2020/>

79. Utyupin: The possibility of holding the ‘Belagro’ exhibition in Kazakhstan is being considered [Online resource]. – 2020. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/utyupin-rassmatrivaetsja-vozmozhnost-provedenija-vystavki-belagro-v-kazahstane-417045-2020/>

80. BUTB and the Kazakhstani ‘Astana’ Stock Exchange intend to develop cooperation in the field of e-commerce [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-i-kazahstanskaja-birzha-astana-intends-to-develop-cooperation-in-the-field-of-e-commerce-425206-2021>

81. Belarus and Kazakhstan are interested in expanding cooperation in the construction sector [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kazahstan-interested-in-expanding-cooperation-in-the-construction-sector-452678-2021/>

82. On the 16th meeting of the Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/dda48a09c28d30da.html>

83. Multi-million contracts and agreements on oil supplies: summarising the Prime Minister’s three-day visit to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9894>

84. A joint ceramic tile plant and the “Belarusian Quarter” may be established in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/sovmestnyj-zavod--ceramic-tiles-and-the-Belarusian-Quarter-may-be-built-in-Kazakhstan-452553-2021/>

85. Belarus is interested in building a ‘Belarusian Quarter’ in Kazakhstan – Utyupin [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-zainteresovana-v-stroitelstve-belorusskogo-kvartala-v-kazahstane-utyupin-451644-2021/>

86. “Bellesbumprom” enterprises increased exports to Kazakhstan by 28.7 per cent in January–April [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predprii-atij-a-bellesbumproma-v-ianvare-aprele-narastili-eksport-v-kazahstan-na-287-448021-2021/>

87. Belarus plans to double exports of building materials to Kazakhstan – Parkhamovich [Online resource]. – 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-planiruet-udvoit-eksport-strojmateriialov-v-kazahstan-parhamovich-447920-2021/>
88. On interregional cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2021. - URL: [https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral relations/trade economic/region/](https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral%20relations/trade%20economic/region/)
89. Joint ventures, small businesses, tourism – Gomel Region intends to expand cooperation with Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/sp-malvi-biznes-turizm-gomelskaja-oblast-namerena-rasshirjat-sotrudnichestvo-s-kazahstanom-446559-2021/>
90. The Belarusian-Kazakh Intergovernmental Commission plans to meet in Brest [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ regions/ view/ belorussko- kazahstanskaja- mezhpravkomissija-planiruet-sobratsja-v-breste-434510-2021/](https://www.belta.by/regions/view/belorussko-kazahstanskaja-mezhpravkomissija-planiruet-sobratsja-v-breste-434510-2021/)
91. A Belarusian industrial centre is to be established in the Kostanay industrial zone [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. sb. by/ articles/ belorusskiy- industrialnyy- tsentr- povavitsya-v-industrialnoy-zone-kostonaya.html](https://www.sb.by/articles/belorusskiy-industrialnyy-tsentr-povavitsya-v-industrialnoy-zone-kostonaya.html)
92. Goray, O. The ‘Kostanay’ industrial zone is gradually filling up with new production facilities / O. Goray // [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: [https:// top- news. kz/ industrialnaja-- kostonaj-postepenno-zapolnjaetsja-novymi-proizvodstvami/](https://top-news.kz/industrialnaja--kostonaj-postepenno-zapolnjaetsja-novymi-proizvodstvami/)
93. Zaleski, B. L. With a focus on trade and industrial cooperation / B. L. Zaleski // Proceedings of the 17th International Scientific and Practical Conference “Dynamics of Scientific Research – 2021”, Volume 6. Przemysl: Nauka i studia. – pp. 21–24. ’
94. Golovchenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and Kazakhstan exceeded \$1 billion for the first time in 2021 [Electronic resource]. – 2022. - URL: [https:// www. belta./ economics/ view/ golovchenko- tovarooborot- belarusi- i- kazahstana- v-2021- godu- vpervye- prevysil-1- mlrd-486829-2022/](https://www.belta./economics/view/golovchenko-tovarooborot-belarusi-i-kazahstana-v-2021-godu-vpervye-prevysil-1-mlrd-486829-2022/)
95. Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan need to move forward in the field of industrial cooperation [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ golovchenko- belarusi-i-kazahstanu-nuzhno-dvigatsja-dalshe-v-oblasti- promkooperatsii-531879-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarusi-i-kazahstanu-nuzhno-dvigatsja-dalshe-v-oblasti-promkooperatsii-531879-2022/)
96. Snopkov: Industrial cooperation forms the basis of cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta./ economics/ view/ snopkov- bazoj- sotrudnichestva- belarusi- i-](https://www.belta./economics/view/snopkov-bazoj-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-)

[kazakhstana- javlj aetsj a- proizvodstvennaja- kooperatsija-506651 -2022/](#)

97. The Minsk Motor Plant presented its products at an exhibition in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta./ regions/ view/- motornyj- zavod- predstavil- produktsiju-- vystavke- v- kazakhstane- 528774-2022/](https://www.belta.by/regions/view/-motornyj-zavod-predstavil-produktsiju--vystavke-v-kazakhstane-528774-2022/)

98. More than 30 Belarusian enterprises are taking part in industrial exhibitions in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// www. belta./ economics/ view/-30- belorusskih- predpriyatij- uchastvujut- v- vvstavkah- promyshlennosti- v- kazakhstane-525159-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-30-belorusskih-predpriyatij-uchastvujut-v-vystavkah-promyshlennosti-v-kazakhstane-525159-2022/)

99. Production of veterinary medicines and the construction of livestock farms. How Belarus and Kazakhstan will cooperate in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https://www.belta.by/economics/view/proizvodstvo-vetpreparatov-i- stroitelstvo-mtf-kak-budut-sotrudnichat-belarus-i-kazakhstan-v-apk- 531987- 2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/proizvodstvo-vetpreparatov-i-stroitelstvo-mtf-kak-budut-sotrudnichat-belarus-i-kazakhstan-v-apk-531987-2022/)

100. A Belarusian quarter in Astana, a Kazakhstani one in Minsk. What new construction projects are being discussed [Online resource]. -

2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorusskij-kvartal-v-astane- kazahstanskij-v-minske-kakie-novye-proekty-obsuzhdajut-v- stroitelstve- 531980-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorusskij-kvartal-v-astane-kazahstanskij-v-minske-kakie-novye-proekty-obsuzhdajut-v-stroitelstve-531980-2022/)

101. Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to develop rail freight transport [Online resource]. – 2022. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- kazakhstan-planirujut-razvivat-gruzoperevozki-po-zheleznnoj-doroge- 530740- 2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazakhstan-planirujut-razvivat-gruzoperevozki-po-zheleznnoj-doroge-530740-2022/)

102. Zaleski, B. The Goal: Stable Growth. A collection of articles / B. Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2021. – 180 pp.

103. Turchin discussed with Beisenbayev the development of cooperation between the Minsk Region and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2022.

- URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/turchin-obsudil-s- beisenbaevym- razvitie-sotrudnichestva-mezhdu-minskoj-oblastju-i- kazakhstanom-486296- 2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/turchin-obsudil-s-beisenbaevym-razvitie-sotrudnichestva-mezhdu-minskoj-oblastju-i-kazakhstanom-486296-2022/)

104. Potylitsyn, S. The process of natural evolution / S. Potylitsyn // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: [https:// kazpravda. kz/ n/ protsess- zakonomernov- evolyutsii/](https://kazpravda.kz/n/protsess-zakonomernov-evolyutsii/)

105. Akhmetova, A. Karaganda residents have assembled the first Belarusian dump lorry / A. Akhmetova // [Electronic resource]. - 2013. -

URL: <https://www.altyn-orda.kz/karagandincy-sobrali-pervyj-belorusskij-samosval/>

105. Belarus and Kazakhstan may launch joint production of firefighting equipment in the Karaganda Region [Electronic resource]. - 2021.

<https://primepress.by/news/kompanii/belarus-and-Kazakhstan-may-launch-joint-production-of-fire-fighting-equipment-in-the-Karaganda-region-38483/>

107. On the visit of the Belarusian Ambassador to the Karaganda Region [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://kazakhstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/c25b80e259079cad.html>

108. Zaleski, B. Current media topics in Belarusian-Kazakh cooperation / B. Zaleski // International Journalism 2018: Global Challenges, Regional Partnership and the Media: Proceedings of the 7th International Scientific and Practical Conference, Minsk, 15 February 2018 / compiled by B. L. Zaleski; edited by T. N. Dasayeva. – Minsk: BSU Publishing Centre, 2018. – pp. 92–102.

109. BELAZ has delivered 130-tonne dump trucks to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belaz-postavil-130-tonnnye-samosvaly-v-kazahstan-428544-2021/>

110. Enterprises in the Gomel Region intend to develop cooperative ties with Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/predpriyatija-gomelskoj-oblasti-namereny-razvivat-kooperatsionnye-svjazi-s-kazahstanom-512360-2022>

111. Isachenko at a meeting with the Ambassador of Kazakhstan: the time has come to step up efforts in the trade and economic sphere [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/isachenko-na-vstreche-s-poslom-kazahstana-prishlo-vremja-usilit-rabotu-v-torgovo-ekonomicheskoy-sfere-525098-2022/>

112. Kazakhstan's Ambassador at a meeting with Karanik: our task is to help businesspeople from both countries connect with one another [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/posol-kazahstana-na-vstreche-s-karanikom-nasha-zadacha-pomoch-biznesmenam-dvuh-stran-najti-druga-514826-2022/>

113. BarSU aims to cooperate closely with a university in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/bargu-natselen-tesno-sotrudnicat-s-universitetom-iz-kazahstana-530948-2022/>

114. Kazakhstan's Ambassador: Belarus is a country one always wants to return to [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ society// posol- kazahstana- - -- kotoruju- vseгда-- vozvrashchatsja-526048-2022/](https://www.belta.by/society//posol-kazahstana- -- kotoruju- vseгда-- vozvrashchatsja-526048-2022/)
115. Agriculture, culture and education. In which areas will Belarus and Kazakhstan strengthen their mutual cooperation [Electronic resource].
- 2024. - URL:
<https://belta.by/society/view/apk-kultura-i-obrazovanie-v-kakih- sferah-belarus-i-kazahstana-budut-ukrepljat-vzaimnoe- sotrudnichestvo-63 8164-2024/>
116. From the agri-food sector to high technology. Myatlikov outlined promising areas for cooperation with Kazakhstan [Electronic resource].
- 2024. - URL:
<https://belta.by/economics/view/ot-apk-do-vysokih-tehnologii- mj atlikov-nazval-perspektivnye-napravlenij a-sotrudnichestva-s- kazahstanom-637976-2024/>
117. The ‘INNOPROM. Kazakhstan’ International Industrial Forum has opened in Astana [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ v- astane- otkrylsja- international-industrial-forum-innoprom-kazahstan- 590049-2023/>
118. Ministry of Industry enterprises signed contracts worth \$64 million at ‘INNOPROM. Kazakhstan’ [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/predprii atija-minprom-na- innoprom-kazahstan-zakljuchili-kontrakty-na-64-mln-591102-2023/>
119. Predko: products “Horizont” will sold through retail chains in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ predko- produktsija-gorizonta-budet-realizovyvatsj a-torgovymi-setj ami- kazahstana-590599-2023/>
120. “Gomselmash” to supply upgraded combine harvesters to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ gomselmash- postavit- v- kazahstan-upgraded-grain-harvesters-590179-2023/>
121. “Mogilevliftmash” plans to sell up to 700 lifts a year in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ mogilevliftmash- planiruet- prodavat- v-kazahstane-do-700-liftov-v-god-590005-2023/>
122. “Atlant” intends to expand its cooperation with Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/atlant-nameren-narashivat- sotrudnichestvo-s-kazahstanom-590085-2023/>

123. MTZ to supply 1,500 cab assemblies worth \$3 million to Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-postavit-v-kazahstan-15-tys-edinit-kabinokomplektov-na-3-mln-590218-2023/>

124. Since the start of the year, ‘Bellegprom’ enterprises have increased their supplies to Kazakhstan by more than a third [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/predpriiatija-bellegproma-s-nachala-goda-uvelichili-postavki-v-kazahstan-bolce-chem-na-tret-590675-2023/>

125. Shakhanovich, A. A first for Kazakhstan. What Belarus will present at the ‘INNOPROM. Kazakhstan’ exhibition in Astana / A. Shakhanovich // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/comments/view/-v-kazahstane-chto-belarus-predstavit-na-vystavke-innoprom-v-astane-8893/>

126. Gavrilova, V. Belarus’s scientific and technical developments to be presented at the “INNOPROM. Kazakhstan” exhibition / V. Gavrilova // [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/nauchno-tehnicheskije-razrabotki-belarusi-predstavjat-na-vystavke-innoprom-kazahstan-589784-2023/>

127. The ‘Belarus – The Taste of Nature’ exhibition at InterFood Astana [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.cci.by/o-palate/novosti/ekspozitsiya-belarus-the-taste-of-nature-na-vystavke-interfood-astana/#>

128. Belarusian companies are represented at the InterFood Astana international exhibition in Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2024.

- URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriiatija-predstavleny-na-mezhdunarodnoj-vystavke-interfood-astana-v-kazahstane-637677-2024/>

129. The ‘KazFarm/KazAgro-2023’ exhibition took place in Astana on 19–21 October [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.mshp.gov.by/printv/ru/news-ru/view/19-21-oktyabrya-v-gastana-proshla-vystavka-kazfarm-kazagro-2023-9164-2023/>

130. Belarus presented an exhibition at a food fair in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavila-ekspozitsiju-na-prodovolstvennoj-vystavke-v-kazahstane-597496-2023/>

131. Belarusian companies took part in a major food industry exhibition in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriiatija-stali-uchastnikami->

[krupnoj-vystavki-pischevoj-promyshlennosti-v-kazahstane-675060-2024/](#)

132. Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan are capable of increasing trade turnover to \$1.5 billion [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarusi-i-kazahstanu-po-silam-narastit-tovarooborot-do-15-mlrd-638669-2024/>

133. Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan need to ensure positive growth in bilateral trade [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarusi-i-kazahstanu-nuzhno-obespechit-polozhitelnuju-dinamiku-dvustoronnej-torgovli-675371-2024/>

134. Relations between Belarus and Kazakhstan have always been based on friendship, mutual trust and respect – Roman Golovchenko [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/11054>

135. Belarus and Kazakhstan to discuss the possibility of establishing an industrial cooperation fund [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kazahstan-obsudiat-vozmozhnost-sozdaniya-fonda-promyshlennoj-kooperatsii-619287-2024/>

136. Golovchenko: We are counting on a transition to deeper cooperation with Kazakhstan in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-rasschityvaem-na-perehod-k-bolee-glubokomu-sotrudnicestvu-s-kazahstanom-v-apk-638683-2024/>

137. Dairy products, clothing, confectionery. Which Belarusian products are popular in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/molochka-odezhda-konditerskie-izdelija-kakaja-belorusskaja-produktsija-populjarna-v-kazahstane-640064-2024/>

138. Snopkov: Belarus is ready to actively cooperate with Kazakhstan on the localisation of agricultural machinery production [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/snopkov-belarus-gotova-aktivno-sotrudnichat-s-kazahstanom-v-lokalizatsii-proizvodstva-selhoztekhniki-638115-2024/>

139. A new assembly line for BELARUS tractors is to open in Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/v-kazahstane-otkrojut-novuju-liniju-sborki-traktorov-belarus-620534-2024/>

140. Golovchenko: Production of MM3 engines is planned to be set up in Kostanay, Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-proizvodstvo-dvigatelej-mm3-planiruetsja-organizovat-v-kazahstanskom-kostanae-638677-2024/>

141. Construction of machinery, housing and farms. What are the prospects for cooperation between Belarus and Kazakhstan [Online resource]. -

2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/stroitelstvo-mashin-zhilija-ferm-kakie-perspektivy-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-kazahstana-640062-2024/>

142. Golovchenko proposed that Kazakhstan set up joint production facilities for fire-fighting equipment and agricultural loaders [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-predlozhit-kazahstanu-sozdat-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-pozharnoj-tehniki-i-selhozpogruzchikov-675373-2024/>

143. Golovchenko: Belarus is ready to supply amino acids to Kazakhstan and implement projects in the housing and utilities sector [Online resource].

- 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarus-gotova-postavljat-v-kazahstan-aminokisloty-i-realizovyvat-proektv-v-zhkh-675377-2024/>

144. A high-level visit to the world of high technology. The heads of government of Belarus and Kazakhstan visited the High-Tech Park [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

https://www.park.by/press/news/vysokiy_vizit_v_mir_vysokikh_tekh_nologiv_pvt_posetili_glavy_pravitelstv_belarusi_i_kazahstana/

145. Contracts worth over \$90 million were signed following the visit of the Kazakh delegation to Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/kontrakty-na-bolee-chem-90-mln-podpisany-po-itogam-vizita-delegatsii-kazahstana-v-belarus-675470-2024/>

146. Golovchenko: Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to hold a Forum of Regions [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/golovchenko-belarus-i-kazahstan-planirujut-provesti-forum-regionov-675354-2024/>

147. A new workshop for the production of cabs for BELARUS tractors has opened in Kostanay, Kazakhstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/novyi-tseh-po-proizvodstvu-kabin-k-tractoram-belarus-pojavilsja-v-kazahstanskom-kostanae-637069-2024/>

148. Belarus and Kazakhstan plan to expand political and cultural cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-kazahstan-planirujut-rasshirjat-politicheskoe-i-kulturnoe-vzaimodejstvie-663284-2024/>

149. Integration and joint production. Isachenko on cooperation between the Mogilev Region and Kazakhstan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/view/integratsija-i-sovmestnye-proizvodstva->

[isachenko-- sotrudnichestve- mogilevskoj- oblasti- s- kazahstanom- 607349-2023/](#)

150. Zaleski, B. From programmes to specific projects. Features of positive trends in the Belarusian economy / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – 96 pp.

151. Investment, technology, tourism. The Brest Region and Kazakhstan are aiming for closer cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/investitsii-tehnologii-turizm-breetskaja-oblast-i-kazahstan-natseleny-na-bolee-tesnoe-sotrudnichestvo-680543-2024/>

152. Matievsky, M. Lukashenko and Merzиеev believe it is possible to increase trade turnover to \$1 billion / M. Matievsky // [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: https://www.belta.by/president/view/lukashenko-i-mirzieev-schitajut-vozmozhnyvm-podnjat-uroven-tovarooborota-do-1-mlrd-317697-2018/?utm_source=belta&utm_medium=news&utm_campaign=acce nt

153. Talks with the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Merzиеev [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/news ru/view/peregovory-s-prezidentom-uzbekistana-shavkatom-mirzieevym-19489>

154. Signing of the roadmap for the development of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/8364>

155. Matievsky, M. Belarus and Uzbekistan plan to set up joint ventures in the pharmaceutical, engineering and agri-food sectors / M. Matievsky // [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/special/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-planirujut-sozdat-sovmestnye-predpriyatija-v-farmatsevtike-mashinostroenii-i-apk-317534-2018/>

156. MTZ to open an assembly plant for tracked and gardening machinery in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-otkroet-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-gusenichnoj-i-sadovoj-tehniki-v-uzbekistane-318069-2018/>

157. “Gomselmash” plans to set up joint assembly plants in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/gomelmash-planiruet-sozdat-sovmestnye-sborochnye-proizvodstva-v-uzbekistane-338356-2019/>

158. Uzbekistan is interested in industrial cooperation with the Gomel Region [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view-zainteresovan-v-promyshlennoj-s-gomelskoj-327270-2018/>

159. A cotton processing plant is to be built in Smorgon [Online resource].

- 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/zavod-po-pererabotke-hlopka-postroiat-v-smorgoni-317921-2018/>

160. Matievsky, M. Baranovich plant joins Uzbek cotton producers' cluster / M. Matievsky // [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/baranovichskij-kombinat-has-joined-the-Uzbek-cotton-producers-cluster-317839-2018/>

161. Motorcycle and Bicycle Factory will establish a joint venture in Uzbekistan

[Online resource]. - 2018. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/motovelezavod-sozdast-sp-uzbekistane-314017-2018/>

162. Belarus – Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: [http:// mfa.gov.by/ bilateral/ cis/ uzbekistan/](http://mfa.gov.by/bilateral/cis/uzbekistan/)

163. Belarus and Uzbekistan plan to set up a joint confectionery production facility [Online resource]. – 2018. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- uzbekistan-planirujut-sozdat-sovmestnoe-proizvodstvo-konditerskih- izdelij- 306531-2018/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-planirujut-sozdat-sovmestnoe-proizvodstvo-konditerskih-izdelij-306531-2018/)

164. Vladimir Dvornik took part in a meeting of the intergovernmental commission on bilateral cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <http://government.gov.by/ru/content/8847>

165. The Belarusian Government proposes large-scale projects for the production of machinery to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2019.

- URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/pravitelstvo-belarusi-predlagaet-uzbekistanu-masshtabnye-proekty-po-proizvodstvu-tehniki-113-2019/>

166. “Bellegprom” plans to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/- planiruet- rasshirit- sotrudnichestvo- s- uzbekistanom-333-2019/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-planiruet-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-uzbekistanom-333-2019/)

167. The “Vitebsk” Special Economic Zone and the Uzbek company “Kosonsoj-Farm” are to develop investment cooperation [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ regions/ view/- vitebsk- i- uzbekskaja- -- budut- razvivat-- sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/](https://www.belta.by/regions/view/-vitebsk-i-uzbekskaja--budut-razvivat--sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/)

168. Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ society/ view/ belarus- i- uzbekistan- podpisali- soglashenie-- sotrudnichestvo- v- oblasti- -- tehnologii-317747-2018/](https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-podpisali-soglashenie--sotrudnichestvo-v-oblasti--tehnologii-317747-2018/)

169. Belarus and Uzbekistan are implementing 15 joint scientific and

technical projects [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-realizujut-15-sovmestnyh-nauchno-tehnicheskikh-proektov-343295-2019/>

170. The first university technology park is being established in Uzbekistan with the participation of BITU [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/v-uzbekistane-uchastii-bntu-sozdaetsja-pervyj-universitetskij-tehnopark-335511-2019/>

171. Belarusian-Uzbek Institute of Applied
A centre for technical qualifications is to be established in Tashkent [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belorusko-uzbekskij-institut-prikladnyh-tehnicheskikh-kvalifikatsij-sozdadut-v-tashkente-345862-2019/>

172. BSU to present over 30 scientific and technical developments at an exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/bolee-30-scientific-and-technical-developments-to-be-presented-by-bgu-at-an-exhibition-in-Tashkent-317246-2018/>

173. Grishkevich, A. Belarusian-Uzbek
Educational Centre opened at Tashkent Pedagogical University / A. Grishkevich // [Electronic resource]. – 2018. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belorusko-uzbekskij-obrazovatelnyj-tsentr-otkrylsj-a-v-tashkentskom-peduniversitete-318451-2018/>

174. Growth in trade turnover and new projects – Uzbekistan’s ambassador on the dynamics of relations with Belarus [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-tovarooborota-i-novve-proekty-posol-uzbekistana-o-dinamike-s-belarusiju-333099-2019/>

175. Belarus aims to further develop bilateral relations with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/9736>

176. Metrology institutes in Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed a cooperation agreement [Electronic resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/institutv-metrology-in-belarus-and-uzbekistan-sign-a-cooperation-agreement-431178-2021/>

177. The State Standards Committee of Belarus and the ‘Uzstandart’ Agency have signed a cooperation programme for 2021–2023 [Electronic resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gosstandart-belarusi-i-agentstvo-uzstandart-podpisali-programmu-sotrudnichestva-na-2021-2023-gody->

[431298-2021/](#)

178. Higher education institutions in Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed 10 cooperation agreements [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// .. by/ society/ view/ - -](https://..by/society/view/---)

[Uzbekistan-signed-10-cooperation-agreements-431140-2021](#)

179. BSU and the National University of Uzbekistan take their cooperation to a new level [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-i-natsionalnyi-universitet-uzbekistana-vyhodjat-na-novyj-uroven-sotrudnichestva-436206-2021/>

180. BSU plans to expand joint educational programmes with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-planiruet-ras-shirit-s-uzbekistanom-sovmestnye-obrazovatelnye-programmy-435893-2021/>

181. A Department of Uzbek Language and Culture is to be opened at BSU [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/kabinet-uzbekskogo-jazyka-i-kulture-otkroj-ut-v-bgu-435914-2021/>

182. BSU to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in the field of education [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ society// bgu-rasshirit- sotrudnichestvo- s- uzbekistanom-v-oblasti-obrazovaniya-436565-2021/](https://www.belta.by/society//bgu-rasshirit-sotrudnichestvo-s-uzbekistanom-v-oblasti-obrazovaniya-436565-2021/)

183. More than 170 business representatives from Belarus and Uzbekistan took part in the meeting of the Business Council [Electronic resource].

- 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-170-predstavitelej-biznesa-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-prinjali-uchastie-v-zasedanii-delovogo-soveta-431374-2021>

184. MM3 plans to sign contracts worth more than \$4 million during the intergovernmental commission meeting in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mmz-vo-vremja-mezhpravkomissii-v-uzbekistane-planiruet-podpisat-kontrakty-bolee-chem-na-4-mln-431277-2021/>

185. More than 20 Belarusian enterprises took part in a major industrial exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-20-belorusskih-predpriyatij-prinjali-uchastie-v-krupnoj-promyshlennoj-vystavke-v-uzbekistane-436286-2021/>

186. Vladimir Dvornik held talks with Sardor Umurzakov, Deputy Prime

- Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9423>
187. Zaleski, B. The Vector of Post-Soviet Integration: A View from Belarus / Boris Zaleski. – Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2019. – 268 pp.
188. Belarusian food exports to Uzbekistan more than doubled in 2020 [Electronic resource]. – 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-Belarusian-food-exports-to-Uzbekistan-in-2020-more-than-doubled-431838-2021/>
189. On the results of Vladimir Dvornik's visit to Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9301>
190. “Gomselmash” to showcase its potential at an agricultural forum in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/-/-/-potentsial--forume-v-uzbekistane-380486-2020>
191. Over 30 agreements and contracts were signed following the Belarus-Uzbekistan Agricultural Forum [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-30-soglashenij-i-kontraktov-podpisano-po-itogam-belorussko-uzbekskogo-agrarnogo-foruma-381350-2020/>
192. The National Academy of Sciences of Belarus presented more than 60 innovative developments for agriculture in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/nan-belarusi-predstavila-v-uzbekistane-bolee-60-innovatsionnyh-razrabotok-dlja-selskogo-hozjajstva-381057-2020/>
193. Roman Golovchenko: Belarus and Uzbekistan can increase trade and investment volumes; areas for growth have been identified [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10260>
194. Belarus and Uzbekistan are stepping up the implementation of industrial cooperation projects [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-aktivizirujut-realizatsiju-proizvodstvenno-kooperatsionnyh-proektov-495026-2022/>
195. Machinery, equipment, scientific and technical developments. What Belarus is presenting at the exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/comments/view/tehnika-oborudovanie-nauchno->

[tehnicheskie-razrabotki-hto-belarus-prezentuet-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-8158/](#)

196. Roman Golovnenko: Trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan needs to be increased to at least \$500 million [Electronic resource]. -

2022. - URL:

[http://www.government.by/ru/content/10257](#)

197. Minsk Automobile Plant has started assembling vehicles in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/minskij-avtozavod-naladil-sborku-tehniki-v-uzbekistane-496181-2022/](#)

198. “MAZ-Tashkent” has signed a major contract with an Uzbek company to supply 41 vehicles [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/maz-tashkent-podpisal-krupnyi-kontrakt-s-uzbekskoj-kompaniej-na-postavku-41-avtomobilja-498224-2022/](#)

199. MT3 increased its deliveries of machinery to Uzbekistan by more than 23 per cent in the first quarter [Online resource]. - 2022. - [https:// .. by/economics/ view/- v- i- kvartale- narastil- postavki- tehniki-- uzbekistan-bolee-- na-23-499321-2022/](#)

200. A sales and service centre for Belarusian agricultural machinery has opened in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tsentr-prodazh-i-servisnogo-obsluzhivaniya-belorusskoj-selhoztehniki-otkrylsja-v-tashkente-499290-2022/](#)

201. Belarus and Uzbekistan discuss deepening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- uzbekistan-discussing-the-deepening-of-cooperation-in-the-agricultural-sector-498163-2022/](#)

202. Golovchenko: Belarus is exploring the supply of wooden houses to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-belarus- prorabatyvaet-postavki-v-uzbekistan-dereviannyh-domov-498185-2022/](#)

203. Belarus is interested in supplying peat-based growing media to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-zainteresovana-v- postavkax-torfnykh-substratov-v-uzbekistan-499019-2022/](#)

204. Belarusian light industry enterprises showcase their potential in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriyatija- legkoi-](#)

- [promyshlennosti-prezentujut-svoj-potentsial-v-uzbekistane- 498369-2022/](#)
205. At forums and exhibitions “Belinterexpo” domestic companies signed contracts worth \$80 million [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/na-forumah-i-vystavkah-belinterekspo-otechestvennye-predpriyatija-podpisali-kontraktv-na- 80-mln-476100-2021/>
206. More than 20 Belarusian enterprises took part in a major industrial exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bolee-20-belorusskikh- predpriyatiy -prini ali-uchastie-v-krupnoj -promyshlennoj-vystavke-v- uzbekistane-436286-2021/>
207. Zaleski, B. The Key Task: Development. A collection of articles / Boris Zaleski. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2021. - 108 pp.
208. The Belarusian National Pavilion will be featured at the ‘INNOPROM’ exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorusskij-natsionalnyi- paviljon-budet-predstavlen-na-vystavke-innoprom-v-uzbekistane- 480872-2022/>
209. Belarus’s national pavilion is on display at exhibitions in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ natsionalnyi- paviljon- belarusi- predstavlen-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-471340-2021/>
210. Minsk Automobile Plant presented a new gas-powered tipper lorry at an exhibition in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ minskij-avtozavod-predstavil-novyj-gazovyj-samosval-na-vystavke-v- uzbekistane-471501-2021/>
211. MAZ has signed a contract worth \$1 million to supply vehicles to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2021. – URL: <https:// www. belta./ economics/ /- podpisal- - - tehniki- v- uzbekistan--1 - mln-471344-2021/>
212. Zaleski, B. Sustainability as a formula for growth. Features of international cooperation based on innovation / Boris Zaleski. - Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2021. - 156 pp.
213. Tikhonov, A. The Belarusian–Uzbek Agricultural Forum: Afterword / A. Tikhonov // [Electronic resource]. – 2019. – URL: <https:// produkt. by/ story/ belorusko- uzbekskiy- agrarnyy- forum- posleslovie>
214. Pushnyakova, A. Uzbekistan could serve as a springboard for businesses in the Vitebsk Region to supply goods to Asia / A. Pushnyakova // [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/>

[uzbekistan- mozhet- stat-- predprij atij-vitebskoj -oblasti-tramplinom- dlj a-postavok-v-azij u- 491940-2022/](#)

215. Namangan Region to cooperate with Vitebsk [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: [https:// nampravda. uz/ ekonomika/ namanganskaya oblast budet sotru dnihat s vitebskom.html](https://nampravda.uz/ekonomika/namanganskaya-oblast-budet-sotru-dnihat-s-vitebskom.html)

216. Seven pharmaceutical SEZs are being established in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: [https:// www. gazeta. uz/ ru/2017/05/05/pharm/](https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2017/05/05/pharm/)

217. The “Vitebsk” Free Economic Zone and the Uzbek company “Kosonsoj-Farm” will develop investment cooperation [Online resource]. – 2019. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ regions/ view/- vitebsk- i- uzbekskaja-- budut- razvivat-- sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/](https://www.belta.by/regions/view/-vitebsk-i-uzbekskaja--budut-razvivat--sotrudnichestvo-352766-2019/)

218. Golovchenko and Aripov discussed increasing trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ golovchenko- i- aripov- obsudili- naraschivanie-tovarooborota- belarusi- i- uzbekistana- 520574-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-i-aripov-obsudili-naraschivanietovarooborota-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-520574-2022/)

219. Zaleski, B. Focus on Results: Realising the Potential of International Economic Relations / B. Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2022. – 76 pp.

220. Agricultural sector, industrial co-operation, construction. Zayats on plans for co-operation with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ apk- promkooperatsija-stroitelstvo- zajats- o- planah- vzaimodejstviya- s- uzbekistanom-520299-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/apk-promkooperatsija-stroitelstvo-zajats-o-planah-vzaimodejstviya-s-uzbekistanom-520299-2022/)

221. Industrial cooperation, equipment supplies, wood processing. Belarus and Uzbekistan discussed mutual cooperation [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/promkooperatsija-postavki- tehniki-derevoobrabotka-belarus-i-uzbekistan-obsudili-vzaimnoe- 520492-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/promkooperatsija-postavki-tehniki-derevoobrabotka-belarusi-uzbekistan-obsudili-vzaimnoe-520492-2022/)

222. Belarus and Uzbekistan discussed issues of further cooperation in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-obsudili-voprosy-dalnejshego-sotrudnichestva-v-sfere-apk-520545-2022/>

223. BarSU is developing joint educational programmes with Uzbek partners [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/bargu-razrabatyvaet-sovmestnye-educational-programmes-with-uzbek-partners-520325-2022/>

224. BrSTU to collaborate with the Bukhara Institute of Engineering and Technology [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/](https://www.belta.by/)

[regions/ view/- budet- sotrudnicat- - - inzhenerno- tehnologicheskim- institutom-514381 -2022/](#)

225. S. Rachkov: Belarus regards Uzbekistan as an important partner in Central Asia [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: [http:// sovrep. gov. by/ ru/ news- ru/ view/ srachkov- belarus-considers-uzbekistan-as-an-important-partner-in-central-asia-22630-2023/](http://sovrep.gov.by/ru/news-ru/view/srachkov-belarus-considers-uzbekistan-as-an-important-partner-in-central-asia-22630-2023/)

226. A delegation from the Vitebsk Region visiting Uzbekistan is set to sign an agreement with the regional administration of the Kashkadarya Region [Online source]. – 2022. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/delegatsija-vitebskoj-oblasti-v-uzbekistane-podpishet-soglashenie-s-hokimijatom-kashkadarjnskoj-527596-2022/>

227. Companies in the Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions have signed contracts worth \$3 million [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// .. bv/ regions/ view/ predpriyatij- vitebskoj-- Kashkadarya-region-sign-contracts-worth-3-million-529745-2022/](https://..bv/regions/view/predpriyatij-vitebskoj--Kashkadarya-region-sign-contracts-worth-3-million-529745-2022/)

228. The Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions plan to organise information tours to boost cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaja-i-kashkadarjnskaja-oblasti-planirujut-organizovat-infotury-dlja-aktivizatsii-567511-2023/>

229. Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has more than tripled over the last three years [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/tovarooborot-gomelskoj-oblasti-s-uzbekistanom-vyros-bolee-chem-v-tri-raz-za-poslednie-tri-goda-549254-2023/>

230. From combine harvester manufacturing to tourism: the Gomel and Fergana regions intend to develop cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/ot-kombajnostroenija-do-turizma-gomelskaja-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-namereny-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-549242-2023/>

231. Belarus presented an exhibition stand at the food industry exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-predstavila-ekspozitsiju-na-vystavke-pischevoj-promyshlennosti-v-tashkente-557927-2023/>

232. Belarusian enterprises intend to increase supplies to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: [https:// www. belta./ economics/ view/](https://www.belta./economics/view/)

[belorusskie- predprijatija- namereny- narastit- postavki-- uzbekistan-559267-2023/](#)

233. Uzbekistan is interested in supplies of agricultural machinery “Bobruiskagromash”

[Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-zainteresovan-v-postavkah-selskohozjajstvennoj-tehniki-bobrujskagromasha-556555-2023/](#)

234. Belarus will present an exhibition at the “Innoprom. Central Asia” exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavit-ekspozitsiju-navystavke-innoprom-tsentralnaja-azija-v-tashkente-557617-2023/](#)

235. Industrial cooperation and entering new markets. CEO of the “Navoi” on the partnership between Belarus and

Uzbekistan [Online source]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/regions/view/promkooperatsija-i-vyhod-na-novye-ryнки-gendirektor-sez-navoi-o-partnerstve-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-557030-2023/](#)

236. Aripov: Uzbek-Belarusian cooperation has reached a new level

[Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: [https://www.belta.by/economics/view/aripov-uzbejsko-belorusskoe-sotrudnichestvo-vyshlo-na-uroven-603582-2023/](#)

237. Chairman of the Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry: we are keen to increase the number of joint ventures [Online resource]. -

2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predsdatel-tpp-uzbekistana-my-zainteresovany-v-uvelichenii-kolichestva-sovmestnyh-predpriyatij-603524-2023/](#)

238. Chervyakov: Among our partner countries, Uzbekistan ranks in the top ten in terms of trade turnover [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervjakov-sredi-nashih-stran-partnerov-uzbekistan-vhodit-v-desjatku-po-objemu-tovarooborota-586551-2023/](#)

239. Golovchenko: Uzbekistan is one of our main trading partners in the Central Asian and CIS regions [Online source]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/golovchenko-uzbekistan-dlja-nas-javljaetsja-odnim-iz-osnovnyh-torgovyh-partnerov-v-regione-tsentralnoj-603540-2023/](#)

240. Ministry of Industry: exports of our products to Uzbekistan doubled in January–September [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/minprom-eksport-our-exports-to-Uzbekistan-doubled-in-January-September-603475-2023/>

241. “Bobruiskagromash” plans to increase supplies of agricultural machinery to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bobrujskagromash-plans-to-increase-agricultural-machinery-supplies-to-Uzbekistan-582084-2023/>

242. Tractors, lifts, heavy goods vehicles. How Belarus and Uzbekistan will cooperate in industry [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/traktory-lifty-gruzovaja-tehnika-kak-belarus-i-uzbekistan-budut-sotrudnicat-v-promvshlennosti-596490-2023/>

243. Exports by ‘Bellesbumprom’ enterprises to Uzbekistan rose by almost a quarter over nine months [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-predpriyatij-bellesbumproma-v-uzbekistan-za-9-mesjatsev-vyros-pochti-na-chetvert-603583-2023/>

244. Leonid Zayats on the outcome of the meeting in Samarkand: The decisions taken will help to strengthen bilateral ties [Online resource]. – 2023. – URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/10747>

245. During the First Belarusian-Uzbek Women’s Business Forum contracts worth Br93.5 million were signed [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/vo-vremja-pervogo-belorusko-uzbekskego-zhenskogo-biznes-foruma-zakljucheno-kontraktov-na-br935-mln-586641-2023/>

246. Textile companies from Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed contracts worth more than \$2.5 million [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-legproma-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-podpisali-kontrakty-bolee-chem-na-25-mln-586396-2023/>

247. Lugina spoke about the prospects for cooperation between ‘Bellegprom’ enterprises and companies from Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/lugina-rasskazala-o-perspektivah-sotrudnichestva-predpriyatij-bellegproma-i-kompanij-iz-uzbekistana-586553-2023/>

248. Belarus and Uzbekistan are implementing joint projects in the pharmaceutical and light industry sectors [Electronic resource]. - 2023.

- URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-realizujut->

[sovmestnye-proekty-v-oblasti-farmatsevtiki-i-legproma-592648-2023/](#)

249. Lazarevich: Enterprises in the capital are cooperating effectively with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/lazarevich-stolichnye-predpriyatija-effektivno-vzaimodejstvujut-s-uzbekistanom-586603-2023/>

250. MAZ has signed a contract to supply machinery to Uzbekistan worth \$1 million [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-zakljuchil--postavku-tehniki-v-uzbekistan-na-1-mln-586570-2023/>

251. MTZ to supply around 500 tractors to Uzbekistan worth over \$8 million [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mtz-postavit-okolo-500-tractorov-v-uzbekistan-na-bolee-chem-8-mln-586567-2023/>

252. Chervyakov: Belarus and Uzbekistan have laid a solid foundation for the further development of cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervjakov-belarus-i-uzbekistan-sozdali-vnushitelnyj-zadel-na-dalnejshhee-razvitie-sotrudnichestva-586639-2023>

253. The health ministers of Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed cooperation agreements [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/ministry-health-authorities-of-belarus-and-uzbekistan-have-signed-cooperation-agreements-602477-2023/>

254. Uzbekistan's Minister of Health: Belarusian specialists have performed over 100 operations in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/ministr-zdravooohranenija-uzbekistana-belorusskie-spetsialisty-proveli-v-uzbekistane-bolee-60-operatsij-602505-2023/>

255. Petrishenko: the most important task is to do everything possible to improve the well-being of the peoples of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/petrishenko-vazhnejshaja-zadacha-sdelat-vse-dlja-povyshenija-blagopoluchija-narodov-belarusi-i-602449-2023/>

256. Pushnyakova, A. How Uzbek universities and colleges view cooperation with VG MU / A. Pushnyakova // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/v-chem-uzbekskie-vuzy-i-kolledzhi-vidjat-sotrudnichestvo-s-vgmu-602248-2023/>

257. A roadmap for cooperation was signed by the heads of the Councils of Rectors of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023.

- URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/dorozhnuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva--podpisali-rukovoditeli-sovetov-rektorov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-595530-2023/>

258. BITU awarded diplomas to the first graduates of joint educational programmes between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. -

2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/v-bntu-vruchili-diplomy-pervym-vypusknikam-sovmestnyh-obrazovatelnyh-programm-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-574797-2023/>

259. Zalesky, B. Focusing on Results: Prospects for a Comprehensive Approach to New Opportunities in Partnerships / Boris Zalesky. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2023. – 80 pp.

260. New showrooms and furniture deliveries furniture.

“Bellesbumprom” on the development of cooperation with Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/novye-showrumy-i-postavki-mebeli-bellesbumprom-o-razvitii-sotrudnichestva-s-uzbekistanom-561977-2023/>

261. Trade turnover between the Grodno Region and Uzbekistan increased by 11 per cent in 2023 [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ regions/ view/- grodzenskoj- s- uzbekistanom- v-2023- godu- uvelichilsja- na-11-594414- 2023/](https://www.belta.by/regions/view/-grodzenskoj-s-uzbekistanom-v-2023-godu-uvlechilsja-na-11-594414-2023/)

262. Belarus is presenting an exhibition at the ‘Innoprom. Central Asia’ exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavljaet-ekspozitsiju-na-vystavke-innoprom-tsentralnaja-azija-v-tashkente-563204-2023/>

263. Belarusian rehabilitation equipment to be showcased at an exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ society/ view/ beloruskie- rehabilitation-equipment-on-display-at-the-exhibition-in-Tashkent-560954- 2023](https://www.belta.by/society/view/beloruskie-rehabilitation-equipment-on-display-at-the-exhibition-in-Tashkent-560954-2023)

264. Belarusian exhibition on display at the textile exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ beloruskaja- ekspozitsija- predstavlena-na-tekstilnoj-vystavke-v-tashkente-594563-2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/beloruskaja-ekspozitsija-predstavlena-na-tekstilnoj-vystavke-v-tashkente-594563-2023/)

265. Belarus showcases its food products at exhibitions in Tashkent [Online resource]. – 2023. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- presents-its-food-products-at-exhibitions-in-Tashkent-601144-2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-presents-its-food-products-at-exhibitions-in-Tashkent-601144-2023/)

266. Belarusian delegation in Tashkent reaches agreements worth \$150 million [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belorusskaja- delegatsija- v- tashkente- dostigla- dogovorennostej- na-150- mln-614453-2024](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belorusskaja-delegatsija-v-tashkente-dostigla-dogovorennostej-na-150-mln-614453-2024)
267. Belarus and Uzbekistan have signed a roadmap for cooperation for 2024–2025 [Online resource]. – 2024. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- Uzbekistan-signs-roadmap-for-cooperation-for-2024-2025-614308-2024](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-Uzbekistan-signs-roadmap-for-cooperation-for-2024-2025-614308-2024)
268. Mirziyoyev: Belarus and Uzbekistan to establish a joint foreign trade company [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ mirzieev- belarus- i- sozhdadut- sovmestnuju- vneshnetorgovuju- kompaniju-614250-2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mirzieev-belarus-i-sozhdadut-sovmestnuju-vneshnetorgovuju-kompaniju-614250-2024/)
269. Belarus and Uzbekistan will implement projects worth more than \$1 billion in 2024–2025 [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// www. . by/ economics/ view/- i- uzbekistan- v- 2024-2025- godah- realizujut- proekty- bolee-- na-1- mlrd-613960- 2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/i-uzbekistan-v-2024-2025-godah-realizujut-proekty-bolee-na-1-mlrd-613960-2024/)
270. Exports by enterprises under the Ministry of Industry to Uzbekistan in 2023 increased by almost 45 per cent [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// www. belta. / / - - - v-2023- godu- vozros- pochti- na-45-614029- 2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/v-2023-godu-vozros-pochti-na-45-614029-2024/)
271. Belarus and Uzbekistan are setting up an assembly plant for cotton-growing tractors [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-sozdajut-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-hlopkovodcheskih-traktorov-613951-2024/>
272. The Ministers of Industry of Belarus and Uzbekistan visited the production sites of partner companies [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: [https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ministry-promyshlennosti- belarusi-i- uzbekistana-oznakomilis-s-proizvodstvennymi- ploschadkami-kompanij- 614578-2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ministry-promyshlennosti-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-oznakomilis-s-proizvodstvennymi-ploschadkami-kompanij-614578-2024/)
273. Belarus and Uzbekistan to explore the establishment of a joint dump truck production facility [Online resource]. – 2024.- URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- uzbekistan-prorabotajut-sozdanie-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva- samosvalov- 614810-2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-prorabotajut-sozdanie-sovmestnogo-proizvodstva-samosvalov-614810-2024/)
274. Enterprises in the woodworking and pulp and paper industries have signed contracts worth \$17 million to supply products to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// www. . / economics/ view/ - - - kontrakty-- postavke- produktsii- v- uzbekistan--17- mln-614132-2024/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-kontrakty-postavke-produktsii-v-uzbekistan-17-mln-614132-2024/)

275. Organisations under the Ministry of Forestry increased exports to Uzbekistan fivefold in 2023 [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/organizatsii-minleshoza-po-itogam-2023-goda-narastili-eksport-v-uzbekistan-v-pj-at-raz-614577-2024/>
276. BUTB proposes establishing direct sales channels for Uzbek enterprises to buyers in Belarus [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/butb-predlagaet-vystraivat-prjamye-prodazhi-uzbekskih-predpriyatij-dlja-pokupatelej-v-belarusi-616373-2024/>
277. “FanDOK” to start manufacturing furniture in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/fandok-zajmetsja-proizvodstvom-mebeli-v-uzbekistane-614380-2024/>
278. Belarus is to build a poultry farm in Tashkent and a dairy plant in Samarkand [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-postroit-v-tashkente-ptitsefabriku-a-v-samarkande-molochnyj-kombinat-614367-2024/>
279. Belarus to increase supplies of veterinary medicines to Uzbekistan by 2.5 times [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-v-25-raza-narastit-postavki-vetpreparatov-v-uzbekistan-616324-2024>
280. Uzbekistan wants to trial Belarusian potatoes, as its own yield is several times lower [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-hochet-ispvyat-belorusskij-kartofel-urozhajnost-svoego-v-neskolko-raz-nizhe-614368-2024/>
281. Belarus will more actively involve Uzbek enterprises in clothing production [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-budet-aktivnee-privlekat-k-proizvodstvu-odezhdy-uzbekskie-predpriyatija-613968-2024/>
282. Belarus and Uzbekistan to strengthen cooperation in the textile and garment sectors [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-ukrepjat-sotrudnichestvo-v-tekstilnoj-i-shvejnoj-otrasliah-614106-2024/>
283. Ambassador of Uzbekistan: There is considerable interest in educating students in Belarus [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/amp/society/view/posol-uzbekistana-est-bolshaja-zainteresovannost-v-obuchenii-studentov-v-belarusi-616364-2024>
284. Staff training and joint operations. How cooperation between the Ministries of Health of Belarus and Uzbekistan is viewed [Electronic

resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/podgotovka-kadrov-i-sovmestnye-operatsii-kakim-viditsja-sotrudnichestvo-minzdravov-belarusi-i-614005-2024/>

285. Belarus plans to organise the supply of cancer treatment medicines to Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/amp/society/view/belarus-planiruet-organizovat-postavki-v-uzbekistan-lekarstv-dlja-lechenija-onkologii-616347-2024>

286. Karanik: in cooperation with Uzbekistan, the focus is on establishing joint production facilities and mutual investment [Online resource]. -

2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/karanik-v-sotrudnichestve-s-uzbekistanom-upor-delaetsja-na-sozdanie-sovmestnyh-proizvodstv-i-vzaimnye-614485-2024/>

287. Three agreements with Uzbek universities will expand GSU's portfolio of international cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/tri-dogovora-s-vuzami-uzbekistana-dopolnjat-portfel-mezhdunarodnogo-sotrudnichestva-grgu-614135-2024/>

288. The Brest Region will sign new cooperation agreements at the Forum of Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2024.

- URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/novye-dogovory-o-sotrudnichestve-zakljuchit-brestskaja-oblast-na-forume-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-613850-2024/>

289. The Vitebsk and Kashkadarya regions plan to cooperate in the fields of oncology and paediatric surgery [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaja-i-kashkadarijskaja-oblasti-planirujut-sotrudnichestvo-v-sferah-onkologii-i-detskoj-hirurgii-613865-2024/>

290. A delegation from Minsk is taking part in the 2nd Forum of the Regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/society/view/delegatsija-iz-minska-uchastvuet-v-ii-forume-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-613836-2024/>

291. Zalesky, B. Partnership Destination: Uzbekistan. A Chronicle of Cooperative Interaction / Boris Zalesky. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. - 80 pp.

292. Kochanova: The Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum is fully in keeping with the spirit of the times [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/kochanova-uzbekska-belorusskij-zhenskij-614485-2024/>

[biznes-forum-polnostiju-otvechat-duhu-vremeni-656964-2024/](https://belta.by/society/view/kochanova-belarus-i-uzbekistan-podhodjat-k-stroitelstvu-ekonomiki-zelenogo-tipa-dobrosovestno-656993-2024/)

293. Kochanova: Belarus and Uzbekistan are taking a conscientious approach to building a green economy [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/kochanova-belarus-i-uzbekistan-podhodjat-k-stroitelstvu-ekonomiki-zelenogo-tipa-dobrosovestno-656993-2024/>

294. Narbayeva: Following the Second Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum, more than 60 agreements are set to be signed [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/narbaeva-po-itogam-ii-uzbeksko-belorusskogo-zhenskogo-biznes-foruma-planiruetsja-podpisat-bolee-60-657064-2024/>

295. Belarus is ready to assist in training specialists in high demand in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-gotova-okazat-pomosch-v-obuchenii-vostrebovannyh-v-uzbekistane-spetsialistov-656992-2024/>

296. Belarus is ready to set up enterprises in Uzbekistan to commercialise scientific research [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/belarus-gotova-sozdavat-v-uzbekistane-predprijatija-dlja-kommertsializatsii-nauchnyh-razrabotok-616330-2024/>

297. "It's all within our power". Snopkov assessed the potential for increasing trade turnover with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/vse-v-nashih-silah-snopkov-otsenil-vozmozhnost-uvelichenija-tovarooborota-s-uzbekistanom-657036-2024/>

298. 54 graduates of Grodno State University and Tashkent Law University received degrees from both universities [Online resource]. - 2024.

- URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/diplomy-srazu-dvuh-vuzov-poluchili-54-graduates-of-GrSU-and-Tashkent-Law-University-644190-2024/>

299. Kochanova: We need to forge twinning links between cities in Belarus and Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/special/society/view/kochanova-nuzhno-vystraivat-pobratimskie-svjazi-mezhdu-gorodami-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-657003-2024/>

300. Zaleski, B. Realising Economic Potential in a Turbulent Global Environment / Boris Zaleski. - LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. - 100 pp.

301. The heads of the Gomel and Fergana regions have signed a roadmap for cooperation [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: [https:// belta. by/ regions/ /- gomelskoj- i- ferganskoj- oblastej- podpisali- dorozhnuju- kartu- sotrudnichestva-629168-2024/](https://belta.by/regions/-gomelskoj-i-ferganskoj-oblastej-podpisali-dorozhnuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva-629168-2024/)

302. The Gomel and Fergana regions have concluded contracts worth more

than Br6.5 million [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/-i-ferganskaja--zakljuchili-kontrakty--br65-mln-629575-2024/>

303. Kukharev: Minsk is ready to share its experience with Tashkent in housing and communal services, urban planning and digitalisation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/kuharev-minsk-gotov-podelitsja-s-tashkentom-opytom-raboty-v-zhkh-gradostroitelstve-tsifrovizatsii-628286-2024/>

304. Trade, industrial cooperation, exchange of experience. Kukharev outlined areas of cooperation with Tashkent [Electronic resource]. -

2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/kuharev-na-vstreche-s-poslom-oboznachil-napravlenija-sotrudnichestva-s-regionami-uzbekistana-623983-2024/>

305. Scientists from Belarus and Uzbekistan to collaborate in the fields of microbiology and biochemistry [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/uchenye-belarusi-i-uzbekistan-will-cooperate-in-the-field-of-microbiology-and-biochemistry-656830-2024/>

306. Gavrilova, V. From biological products to medical devices: which Belarusian developments will be presented at the business forum in Tashkent / V. Gavrilova // [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/comments/view/ot-biopreparatov-do-medizdelij-what-belarusian-developments-are-being-presented-at-the-business-forum-in-Tashkent-9344/>

307. BSU to present innovative developments at an exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/bgu-predstavit-innovatsionnye-razrabotki-na-vystavke-v-tashkente-656636-2024/>

308. Ten enterprises from the Ministry of Industry are presenting their products at the 2nd Uzbek-Belarusian Women's Business Forum [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/desjat-predpriyatij-minprom-a-prezentujut-produktsiju-na-ii-uzbeksko-belorusskom-zhenskom-biznes-forume-655386-2024/>

309. Belarus's exhibition stand is on display at the Uz-Build international construction exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2024.

- URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/ekspozitsija-belarusi-predstavlena-na-mezhdunarodnoj-stroitelnoj-vystavke-uzbuild-v-tashkente-618287-2024/>

310. Belarusian companies showcased their products and services at a construction exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. - 2024.
- URL:
<https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-predpriyatija-predstavili-svoju-produktsiju-i-uslugi-na-stroitelnoj-vystavke-v-tashkente-618480-2024>
311. Belarusian food products showcased at an exhibition in Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: [https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ beloruskie- produkty- pitanija- predstavleny- na- vystavke- v- uzbekistane- 623805-2024/](https://belta.by/economics/view/beloruskie-produkty-pitanija-predstavleny-na-vystavke-v-uzbekistane-623805-2024/)
312. Educational opportunities in Belarus are presented at an international exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// belta. by/ society/ view/ vozmozhnosti- obucheniya-- na- mezhdunarodnoj- vystavke- v- tashkente-628698-2024/](https://belta.by/society/view/vozmozhnosti-obucheniya-belarusi-na-mezhdunarodnoj-vystavke-v-tashkente-628698-2024/)
313. Around 20 scientific developments from BSU will be presented at the international healthcare exhibition in Tashkent [Electronic resource].
- 2024. - URL:
<https://belta.by/society/view/okolo-20-nauchnykh-razrabotok-bgu-presented-at-the-international-healthcare-exhibition-in-Tashkent-628163-2024/>
314. Belarus presented industrial developments at the “INNOPROM. Central Asia” exhibition [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: [https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- predstavila-promyshlennye-razrabotki-na-vystavke-innoprom- tsentralnaya-azija-629623-2024/](https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-predstavila-promyshlennye-razrabotki-na-vystavke-innoprom-tsentralnaya-azija-629623-2024/)
315. Ambassador: Belarusian-Uzbek relations are developing at a very rapid pace [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// subs. belta./ Republ./59e33ed42f57f8c54225698002867/4142892f5e53f61843258bcd0069ee26!OpenDocument](https://subs.belta./Republ./59e33ed42f57f8c54225698002867/4142892f5e53f61843258bcd0069ee26!OpenDocument)
316. Chebotar: Belarus and Uzbekistan reaffirm their interest in developing cooperation across all areas [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/chebotar-belarus-i-uzbekistan-podtverzhdayut-interes-k-razvitiyu-sotrudnichestva-po-vsem-napravleniyam-657018-2024/>
317. The 11th meeting of the Joint Uzbek-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission
[Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:
[https://eccis.org/news/29998/v The 11th meeting of the joint Uzbek-Belarusian intergovernmental commission took place in Minsk](https://eccis.org/news/29998/v-The-11th-meeting-of-the-joint-Uzbek-Belarusian-intergovernmental-commission-took-place-in-Minsk)
318. OJSC “Kamvol”’s exports of textiles to Uzbekistan increased tenfold in 2024 [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: [https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/ -- kamvol- v- uzbekistan- v-2024- godu-- v-10- raz-694868-2025/](https://belta.by/economics/view/--kamvol-v-uzbekistan-v-2024-godu--v-10-raz-694868-2025/)
319. Trade turnover between Belarus and Uzbekistan has increased 2.3-fold

over five years [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-za-pjat-let-uvelichilsja-v-23-raza-721650-2025/>

320. Uzbekistan is interested in developing industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/view/-zainteresovan-v-promkooperatsii-s-belarusiju-721670-2025/>

321. Belarus is ready to increase supplies of food and equipment to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-gotova-naraschivat--uzbekistan-prodovolstvija--tehniki-721662-2025/>

322. Belarus has almost doubled its exports of agricultural produce to Uzbekistan in 2024 [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-pochti-vdvoe--eksport-selhozproduksii-v-uzbekistan-v-2024-godu-718637-2025/>

323. A blueberry trial field and potato variety trials. What agricultural projects link Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/opytное-pole-golubiki-i-sortoispytaniia-kartoshki-kakie-agrарnye-proekty-svjazyvajut-belarus-i-719983-2025/>

324. Uzbekistan is ready to increase supplies of Belarusian beef and breeding cattle [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-gotov-naraschivat--postavki-belorusskoi-govядины-i-племенного-скота-721716-2025/>

325. The 'Belarus. The Taste of Nature' exhibition is on display at the largest food exhibition in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/ekspozitsija-belarus-the-taste-of-nature-predstavlena-na-krupnejшей-pischevoj-vystavke-v-tashkente-707924-2025/>

326. Exhibition "INNOPROM. Central Asia" hosts an exhibition by Belarusian manufacturers in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/vystavka-innoprom-tsentrálnaja-azija-prinimaet-ekspozitsiju-belorusskih-proizvoditelei-v-tashkente-711830-2025/>

327. Belarusian companies are represented at a petrochemical exhibition in Uzbekistan [Electronic [source]. - 2025. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belorusskie-predpriiatija--presented-at-the-petrochemical-exhibition-in-Uzbekistan-714580-2025/>

328. Call for proposals for Belarusian-Uzbek scientific and technical

- projects for 2025–2026 [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/objavljen-konkurs-belorussko-uzbekskh-nauchno-tehnicheskikh-proektov-na-2025-2026-gody-682523-2024/>
329. Aleynyk: A unique model of multi-level cooperation
a unique model of multi-level cooperation has been established [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/alejnik-mezhdu-belarusiju-i-uzbekistanom-vystroena-unikalnaja-model-mnogourovnevnogo-sotrudnichestva-703094-2025/>
330. Vice-Chancellor of BSPU on programmes with Uzbek universities: we aim to raise the prestige of the teaching profession [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/society/view/prorektor-bgpu-o-programmah-s-uzbekskimi-vuzami-stremimsja-povysit-prestizh-pedagogicheskikh-professij-694367-2025/>
331. “Expanding cooperation in the humanities”. An Uzbek Cultural Centre has been opened at BSPU [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/rasshirit-gumanitarnoe-sotrudnichestvo-tsentr-uzbekskoj-kultury-otkryli-v-bgpu-676702-2024/>
332. Projects, conferences, exchanges: GrSU and
Namangan Pedagogical Institute have outlined plans for cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/proekty-konferentsii-obmeny-grgu-i-namanganskij-pedinstitut-nametili-plan-y-sotrudnichestva-679709-2024/>
333. Joint projects in industry and education. The Gomel and Fergana regions are strengthening their partnership [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/sovmestnye-proekty-v-proizvodstve-obrazovanii-gomelskaj-a-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-ukreplajut-partnerstvo-688538-2025/>
334. Lift equipment and waste management. Minsk and Tashkent set out areas for cooperation [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/liftove-oborudovanie-i-utilizatsija-othodov-minsk-i-tashkent-opredelajut-vektory-vzaimodeistvija-702536-2025/>
335. Turchin to the Uzbek Ambassador: there are many areas where we could work more intensively [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/turchin-poslu-uzbekistana--napravlenij-gde-my-mogli---intensivno-622866-2024/>
336. The Uzbek Ambassador has stated his desire to take relations with

- Belarus to a higher level [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/posol-uzbekistana-zajavil-o-stremlenii-vyvesti-otnoshenija-s-belarusiju-na-bolee-vysokij-uroven-768462-2026/>
337. Zaleski, B. The Strategy of Multivectorism. Current Opportunities for Belarus's International Cooperation in the Context of Global Change / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2025. – 692 pp.
338. Aleynik: Belarus has established very multifaceted, multi-level relations with Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/politics/-/-belarusi-/-mnogourovnevye-otnoshenija-s-uzbekistanom-735029-2025/>
339. Industry, education, tourism. What are the promising areas of cooperation between Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/economics/view/promyshlennost-obrazovanie-turizm-kakovy-perspektivnye-sfery-sotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-735261-2025/>
340. Shuleiko: Belarus and Uzbekistan have constructive cooperation at all levels [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/view/-u-belarusi-i-uzbekistana--konstruktivnoe-vzaimodejstvie-na-vseh-urovnjah-735251-2025/>
341. MTZ increased exports of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan by more than 30 per cent in January–August [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/-/-uvelichil-/-uzbekistan-bolee-/-30--janvare-avguste-735882-2025/>
342. Belneftekhim explains which Belarusian petrochemical products are of interest to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/kakaja-produktsija-belorusskoj-neftehimii-interesuet-uzbekistan-rasskazali-v-belneftehime-735154-2025/>
343. Contracts worth Br261 million were signed at the 3rd Belarusian-Uzbek Women's Business Forum [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-iii-belorussko--zhenskom--forume-podpisano-kontraktov--br261-mln-735239-2025/>
344. Belarus plans to develop cooperation with Uzbekistan and export light industrial products [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-planiruet-razvivat-kooperatsiju-s-uzbekistanom-i-eksport-produktsii-legproma-766058-2026/>
345. Belarus plans to set up a BELAZ assembly plant in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-rasschityvaet-sozdat-v-uzbekistane-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-belazov-768578-2026/>

346. The growth rate of exports of BELARUS machinery to Uzbekistan exceeded 115 per cent in 2025 [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/--eksporta- --uzbekistan- prevvsil-115- v-2025- godu-766551-2026/>
347. Management, philology, inclusion. BSPU and universities in Uzbekistan are launching new programmes [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/menedzhment- filologija- inkluzija- i- vuzy- uzbekistana- otkryvajut- novye- programmy-766547-2026/>
348. Contracts and agreements worth almost \$110 million were signed during the Belarusian delegation's visit to Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kontrakty-i-soglashenija-pochti-na- 110-mln- podpisany-vo-vremja-vizita-belorusskoj-delegatsii-v- 766214-2026/>
349. Belarus aims to increase trade with Uzbekistan to \$2 billion by 2030 [Online source]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/phonews/view/belarus-rasschityvaet-k-2030-godu-uvelichit-tovarooborot-s-uzbekistanom- do-2-mlrd-45829/>
350. Turchin announced the Uzbek President's visit to Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/turchin-anonsiroval-vizit-prezidenta- uzbekistana-v-belarus-766133-2026/>
351. Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has tripled over the last five-year period [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/tovarooborot-gomelskoj-oblasti-s- uzbekistanom-vyros-za-poslednjuyu-pjatiletku-v-tri-raza-771423- 2026/>
352. The Gomel Region signed agreements worth \$7.5 million at a business forum in Tashkent [Online resource]. - 2026.- URL: <https://www.belarus.by/ru/business/business-news/the-Gomel-region-signed-contracts-worth-75-million-at-the-business-forum-in-Tashkent i 0000210242.html>
353. Representatives of the Gomel Region have signed contracts worth \$7.5 million with partners in Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kontrakty- na-75-mln-zakljuchili-predstaviteli-gomelskoj-oblasti-s-partnerami- v-uzbekistane-772278-2026/>
354. Cooperation and joint production. The Gomel Region is discussing the expansion of its partnership with Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kooperatsija-sovmestnye- proizvodstva-gomelskaja-oblast-obsuzhdaet-rasshirenie-partnerstva- s-771554-2026/>

355. The Gomel and Tashkent regions intend to strengthen cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/gomelskaja-i-tashkentskaja-oblasti-namereny-ukreplijat-sotrudnichestvo-771685-2026/>

356. Universities in Gomel and Tashkent plan to jointly train staff for the transport sector through full-time study [Electronic resource]. - 2025.

- URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/vuzy-gomelja-i-tashkenta-planirujut-sovmestno-gotovit-kadry-dlja-transportnoj-sfery-v-ochnom-formate-749801-2025/>

357. The Gomel and Fergana regions have signed a roadmap for the implementation of joint projects [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/dorozhnuju-kartu-dlja-realizatsii-sovmestnyh-proektov-podpisali-gomelskaja-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-771961-2026/>

358. “The figures may be higher”. In which areas will the Gomel and Fergana regions strengthen their partnership [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/tsifry-mogut-byt-vyshe-v-kakih-sferah-usiljat-partnerstvo-gomelskaja-i-ferganskaja-oblasti-771932-2026/>

359. Interest in the Belarus–Uzbekistan Regional Forum is growing – Jamshid Khojaev [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/interes-k-forumu-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-rastet-zhamshid-hodzhaev-790190-2026/>

360. Regional cooperation strengthens the strategic partnership between Belarus and Uzbekistan – Shuleiko [Electronic resource]. - 2026.

- URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/regional-cooperation-strengthens-the-strategic-partnership-between-belarus-and-uzbekistan-shuleiko-790184-2026/>

361. Agriculture, wood processing, pharmaceuticals. What new projects are Belarus and Uzbekistan considering? [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/apk-wood-processing-light-industry-pharmaceuticals-what-new-projects-are-belarus-and-uzbekistan-considering-790212-2026/>

362. Belarus and Uzbekistan have launched new joint projects [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-uzbekistan-dali-start-new-joint-projects-790236-2026/>

363. Uzbekistan’s Trade House has opened in Minsk [Online resource].

- 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/society/view/torgovyi-dom-uzbekistana-otkrylsja-v-minske->

[790256-2026/](#)

364. Economy, science, culture. A number of documents were signed at the 3rd Forum of the regions of Belarus and Uzbekistan [Electronic resource].

- 2026. - URL:

<https://www.government.by/news/ekonomika-nauka-kultura-na-iii-forume-regionov-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-podpisan-ryad-dokumentov>

365. “Ivatsevichdrev” will supply chipboard panels to the Syrdarya Region of Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/ivatsevichdrev-budet-postavljat-plity-dsp-v-syrdarjinskuju-oblast-uzbekistana-790303-2026/>

366. Uzbek medical professionals are undertaking training at the Brest Regional Clinical Hospital [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/uzbekskie-mediki-stazhirujutsja-v-bresterkoi-oblastnoi-klinicheskoi-bolnitse-790068-2026/>

367. Joint educational programmes will be implemented by the Brest and Bukhara regions [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/sovmestnye-obrazovatelnye-programmy--realizovvat-bresterkaja-i-buharskaja-oblasti-793472-2026/>

368. The Brest region will work more closely with the Bukhara and Syrdarya regions of Uzbekistan in the agri-food sector and in cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/brestchina-s-buharskoi-i-syrdarjinskoi-oblastjami-uzbekistana-badut-tesnee-rabotat-v-apk-i-kooperatsii-790052-2026/>

369. The Vitebsk Region has signed roadmaps for the development of cooperation with two regions of Uzbekistan [Electronic resource]. -

2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/regions/view/vitebskaja-oblast-podpisala-dorozhnye-karty-po-razvitiyu-sotrudnichestva-s-dvumja-oblastjami-790251-2026/>

370. Aniskovich, E. Uzbekistan plans to set up beef production enterprises in the Gluboksky District / E. Aniskovich // [Electronic resource]. - 2026. -

URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/uzbekistan-planiruet-sozdat-predpriatij-a-po-proizvodstvu-mj-asa-govj-adiny-v-glubokskom-rajone-769456-2026/>

371. The Vitebsk Region intends to expand cooperation with Uzbekistan in the agri-food sector [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/vitebskaja-oblast-namerena-rasshirjat-kooperatsiju-s-uzbekistanom-v-sfere-apk-789868-2026/>

372. Agriculture, light industry and tourism. The Vitebsk and Namangan

- regions are to sign a roadmap for cooperation [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/apk- - - vitebskaja-i-namanganskaja-oblasti-podpishut-dorozhnuju-kartu-o-790013-2026/>
373. An investment project in the agri-food sector is being implemented in the Beshenkovichi District in collaboration with Uzbek partners [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/v-beshenkovichskom-raione-realizujut-investitsionnyi-proekt-v-apk-s-uchastiem-uzbekskih-partnerov-793426-2026/>
374. The first through freight train, the ‘Slavic Caravan’, departed from Orsha for Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/pervyi-skvoznoj-gruzovoi-poezd-slavjanskij-karavan-otpravilsja-iz-orshi-v-uzbekistan-793732-2026/>
375. The Belarusian Railway (BZHD) has dispatched the second “Slavic Caravan” train to Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/bzhd-vtoroj-slavjanskij-karavan-v-794372-2026/>
376. Zaleski, B. From Results to Prospects. Belarus’s International Economic Cooperation in a Context of Global Instability / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2026. – 176 pp.
377. Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Uzbekistan has tripled over five years [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/gomelskoj-v-v-tri-raza-piat-let-781758-2026/>
378. The Fergana Region of Uzbekistan is interested in utilising Belarusian expertise in dairy farming [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/ferganskaja-oblast-uzbekistana-zainteresovana-v-ispolzovanii-belorusskogo-opyta-v-molochnom-790252-2026/>
379. The Grodno region intends to expand cooperation with the Andijan and Samarkand regions of Uzbekistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/grodnenskoj-region-nameren-rasshirj-atsotrudnichestvo-s-andizhanskoj-i-samarkandskoj-oblastjami-790036-2026/>
380. The Andijan Region of Uzbekistan and the Grodno Region are implementing projects in the agri-food sector and wood processing [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/andizhanskaja-oblast-uzbekistana-i-grodnenskaja-oblast-realizujut-proekty-v-apk-i-derevoobrabotke-790261-2026/>
381. Grodno Region and the Republic of Karakalpakstan have signed a cooperation agreement [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/special/regions/view/grodnenskaja-oblast-i-respublika-karakalpakstan-podpisali-soglasenie-o-sotrudnichestve-790188-2026/>

382. Joint ventures in the agri-food sector and the supply of agricultural machinery. The Mogilev and Bukhara regions have outlined cooperation projects [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/sovmestnye-predprijatija-apk-i-postavki-selhoztehniki-mogilevskaja-i-buharskaja-oblasti-nametili-793980-2026/>

383. Agricultural machinery, dairy products and tourism: Belarus and Uzbekistan have identified areas for regional cooperation [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/societv/view/selhoztehnika-molochka-i-turizm-belarus-i-uzbekistan-nametili-sfery-sotrudnichestva-regionov-789939-2026/>

384. Relations between Belarus and Uzbekistan are based on a high degree of practical compatibility between their economies – embassy [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/politics/view/otnoshenija-belarusi-i-uzbekistana-opirajutsja-na-vysokuju-prakticheskiju-sovmestimost-ekonomik-790292-2026/>

385. Congratulatory message to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: http://president.gov.by/ru/news_ru/view/pozdravlenie-prezidentu-respubliki-tadzhikistan-emomali-raxmonu-9755/

386. Garkun, V. Tajikistan makes a significant contribution to strengthening and improving the activities of the CIS / V. Garkun // [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL:

http://www.belta.by/ru/person/opinions/Vladimir-Garkun_i_514987.html

387. Speech at a meeting with the country's diplomatic staff to mark the opening of the new building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:

<http://www.prezident.tj/ru/node/4114>

388. Cooperation between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://khovar.tj/rus/foreign-policy/30297-sotrudnichestvo-tadzhikistan-s-respublikov-belarus.html>

389. Alexander Lukashenko pays an official visit to Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2011. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/newsru/view/aleksandr-lukashenko-sovershaet-ofitsialnyj-vizit-v-tadzhikistan-5173/>

390. Agreement between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan on long-term cooperation for 2011–2020 [Electronic resource]. -

2011. – URL: [http:// www. by/ files/ dpb-2](http://www.by/files/dpb-2).
391. Intergovernmental Programme of Cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan for 2011–2020 [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: [http:// www. tajembassy. by/ files/ dpb-2. pdf](http://www.tajembassy.by/files/dpb-2.pdf)
392. On the regular meeting of the Belarusian-Tajik Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: [http:// mfa. gov. by/ press/mfa/ be5 f2 ec75 d7008 b2. html](http://mfa.gov.by/press/mfa/be5f2ec75d7008b2.html)
393. On the meeting of the Belarusian–Tajik Intergovernmental Commission [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: [http:// mfa. gov. by/ press/mfa/ a6 bf2 f8 f586 159. html](http://mfa.gov.by/press/mfa/a6bf2f8f586159.html)
394. On trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan in 2013 [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: [http:// tajikistan. mfa. by/ ru/ embassy/ / 80403 8 1 2 . 1](http://tajikistan.mfa.by/ru/embassy/804038121)
395. Belarus and Tajikistan intend to step up cooperation in agriculture, the food industry and light industry [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: [http:// www. belta. by/ ru/ all news/ economics/ Belarus- i- Tajikistan- namereny- aktivizirovat-sotrudnichestvo-v-selskom-xozjajstve- pischevoj-i-legkoj-promyshlennosti i667853. html](http://www.belta.by/ru/allnews/economics/Belarus-i-Tajikistan-namereny-aktivizirovat-sotrudnichestvo-v-selskom-xozjajstve-pischevoj-i-legkoj-promyshlennosti-i667853.html)
396. Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/ru/newsru/view/aleksandr-lukashenko-vstretilsja-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana-emomali-rahmonom-8846/>
397. Address by the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon, to the Majlis-i Oli of the Republic of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2015. - URL: <http://www.prezident.tj/ru/node/8137>
398. Koimododov, K. Tajikistan: the doors to cooperation are open / K. Koimododov // [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: [http:// www. kurier. lt/- dveri- dlva- sotrudnichestva- otkrty/](http://www.kurier.lt/dveri-dlva-sotrudnichestva-otkrty/)
399. Savko, S. Tajikistan proposes that Belarus establish multi-sector joint ventures in the construction industry / S. Savko // [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: [http://www.belta.by/ru/all news/economics/Tadzhikistan-predlagaet- B elarusi-sozdat-mnogoprofilnye-SP-v-stroitelnoj- otrasli i 670360.html](http://www.belta.by/ru/allnews/economics/Tadzhikistan-predlagaet-Belarusi-sozdat-mnogoprofilnye-SP-v-stroitelnoj-otrasli-i-670360.html)
400. Karimova, M. T. The role of free economic zones in the development of industry in Tajikistan / M. T. Karimova // Current issues in economics and management: proceedings of the 2nd international scientific conference (Moscow, October 2013). - Moscow: Buki-Vedi, 2013. - pp. 122–124.
401. On the meeting between Ambassador O. Gavruk and the Minister of

- Health of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. – 2013. – URL: [http:// mfa. gov. by/ press/ news/mfa/ a96995 a9ef720 ff7](http://mfa.gov.by/press/news/mfa/a96995a9ef720ff7).
402. A degree from BSU opens the door to the future for students in Tajikistan – Rahmon [Online resource]. – 2014. – URL: [http:// www. belta. by/ ru/ all news/society/Diplom-BGU-opens-the-door-to-the-future-for-students-from-Tajikistan---Raxmon i 670351.html](http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/society/Diplom-BGU-opens-the-door-to-the-future-for-students-from-Tajikistan---Raxmon_i_670351.html)
403. Tajik-Belarusian relations [Electronic resource]. – 2014. – URL: <http://www.tajembassy.by/politicheskoe/>
404. Grishkevich, A. Belarus and Tajikistan share common approaches to addressing pressing contemporary issues / A. Grishkevich // [Online resource]. - 2014. - URL: [http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/politics/Belarus-i-Tadzhikistan-imejut-obshchie-podxody-k-resheniju-aktualnyx-problem-sovremennosti i 679524.html](http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/politics/Belarus-i-Tadzhikistan-imejut-obshchie-podxody-k-resheniju-aktualnyx-problem-sovremennosti_i_679524.html)
405. Joint faculty of BITU and the Tajik Technical University to open on 11 September in Dushanbe [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - Access URL: [http:// www. moyby. com/92466/](http://www.moyby.com/92466/)
406. On the meeting between Ambassador O. Gavruk and the Minister of Labour, Migration and Employment of Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: [http://mfa.gov.by/press/news mfa/c6a6e78ca4fcfe82.html](http://mfa.gov.by/press/news/mfa/c6a6e78ca4fcfe82.html)
407. On trade and economic cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan for the first 10 months of 2014 [Electronic resource]. - 2014. - URL: [http://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral relations/trade economic/statistics/c3e89aa71 e790a80.html](http://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral_relations/trade_economic/statistics/c3e89aa71e790a80.html)
408. Belarus – Tajikistan: The Customs Union as a stimulus for the development of mutually beneficial cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2010. - URL: [http://export.by/resources/izdaniya i publikacii/belarus %E2%80% 94 94 tadzhikistan tamozhennii sovuz kak sti.html](http://export.by/resources/izdaniya_i_publicacii/belarus_%E2%80%94_94_tadzhikistan_tamozhennii_sovuz_kak_sti.html)
409. Talks with the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: [http://president.gov.by/ru/news ru/view/peregovory-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana-emomali-raxmonom-21425/](http://president.gov.by/ru/news_ru/view/peregovory-s-prezidentom-tadzhikistana-emomali-raxmonom-21425/)
410. Matveev, V. The first dairy products from the Belarus-Tajikistan joint venture will be launched on the market in 2020 / V. Matveev // [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: [https://www.belta.by/economics/view/pervaja-produktsiya- molokopererabotki-sp-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-vyidet-na-rynok-v-2020-godu-353105-2019/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/pervaja-produktsiya-molokopererabotki-sp-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-vyidet-na-rynok-v-2020-godu-353105-2019/)

411. Matveev, V. “Belkommunmash” is finalising a contract to supply equipment to Tajikistan worth \$30 million / V. Matveev // [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belkommunmash-prorabatvvaet-kontrakt-na-postavku-tehniki-v-tadzhikistan-na-30-mln-353062-2019/>
412. “Belkommunmash” electric buses to begin operating in Dushanbe [Online source]. - 2019. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/elektrobusy-belkommunmash-nachnut-kursirovat-v-dushanbe-333003-2019/>
413. Krishenik, E. Rahmon: We are interested in introducing Belarus’s cutting-edge technologies into the real sector of the economy / E. Krishenik // [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/rahmon--interested-in-attracting-advanced-technologies-from-belarus-to-the-real-sector-of-the-economy-353119-2019/>
414. Cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of education is developing actively [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <http://edu.gov./news/sotrudnichestvo-mezhdu-respublikov-belarus--tadzhikistan-v-sfere-obrazovaniva-aktivno-r/>
415. Joint Faculty of Engineering and Technology, BNTU–TTU [Online resource]. – 2018. – URL: <http://www.bntu.by/engineering-and-technical-faculty-bntu-ttu.html>
416. Faculty of Civil Aviation of the Belarusian State Academy of Aviation – Tajik Technical University named after Academician M.S. Osimi (FCA BSAA–TTU) [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL: <http://ttu.tj/ru/university-ru/structure/fmt-dmtb-dtt/fga-bgaa-ttu/>
417. Bashkir State University and the Tajik National University have opened a joint Faculty of Information Technology [Electronic resource]. - 2015. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/bgu-i-tadzhikskij-natsionalnyj-universitet-otkryli-sovmestnyj-fakultet-informatsionnyh-tehnologij-4702-2015/>
418. Faculty of Environmentally Friendly Technologies, TSU [Electronic resource]. - 2018. - URL: <http://www.iseu.bsu.by/fakultet-ekologosberegayushhih-tehnologiy-tnu/>
419. Alekseeva, D. Opening of a joint faculty with the Technological University of Tajikistan / D. Alekseeva // [Electronic resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.psu.by/novosti-mezhdunarodnoj-devatelnosti/11961-otkrytie->

[sovmestnogo-fakulteta-s-tehnologicheskimi-universitetom-tadzhikistana](#)

420. Stasevich, M. Visit by a delegation from Tajik National University (Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan) to BSMU / M. Stasevich // [Electronic resource]. - 2016. - URL:

<https://www.bsmu.by/allarticles/rubric2/page121/article1593/>

421. Myasnikovich: new forms of cooperation are important for expanding trade and economic relations with

Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2018. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/mjasnikovich-novye-formy--dlja-rasshirenija-torgovo-ekonomicheskikh-otnoshenij-s-295210-2018/>

422. Zalesky, B. A Second Wind / B. Zalesky // Vecherny Minsk. - 1998. - 3 Aug.

423. Rafieva, S. Sogd and Vitebsk signed a cooperation agreement / M. Rafieva // [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL: <https://news.vitebsk.by/2012/04/26/sogd-vitebsk-podpisali-soglashenie-o-sotrudnichestve/>

424. A delegation from the Minsk Region paid a working visit to Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2019. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/2019/06/delegatsiya-oblasti-rabochim-posetila-tadzhikistan/>

425. Kulyagin, S. Tajikistan is interested in developing cooperation with enterprises in the Mogilev Region - Koimdodov / S. Kulyagin // [Electronic resource]. - 2015. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/tadzhikistan-zainteresovan-v-razvitii-kooperatsii-s-predpriyatijami-mogilevskoj-oblasti-koimdodov-174610-2015/>

426. Kulyagin, S. Mogilev and Khujand in Tajikistan intend to set up joint production facilities / S. Kulyagin //

[Electronic resource]. - 2015. - URL:

<https://www.belarus.by/ru/business/business-news/mogilev-i-tadzhikskij-xudzhand-namereny-sozdat-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-i-0000025058.html>

427. Gomel and Khatlon Regions have signed a cooperation agreement [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL:

<https://newsgomel.by/news/society/15070-gomel-skaya-i-hatlonskaya-oblasti-podpisali-soglashenie-o-sotrudnichestve.html>

428. Belarus and Tajikistan need to implement agricultural projects more actively - Krupko [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarusi-i-tadzhikistanu-nuzhno-aktivnee-realizovyvat-proekty-v-selskom-hozjajstve-krupko-435795-2021/>

429. "Bobruiskagromash" to expand its assembly operations in Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL:

- <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/bobrujskagromash-rasshirit-sborochnoe-proizvodstvo-v-tadzhikistane-436621-2021/>
430. Belarus and Tajikistan discussed the development of trade and economic cooperation and industrial cooperation [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-obsudili-razvitie-torgovo-ekonomicheskogo-sotrudnichestva-i-promkooperatsiju-436006-2021/>
431. Exports of Belarusian agricultural produce to Tajikistan increased 1.4-fold in 2020 [Electronic resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/eksport-belorusskoj-selhozproduktsii-v-tadzhikistan-v-2020-godu-vyros-v-14-raza-434869-2021/>
432. “Bellegprom” is exploring the possibility of supplying flax to Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-prorabatyvaet-vozmozhnosti-postavok-lina-v-tadzhikistan-435980-2021/>
433. Belarus, Tajikistan and Afghanistan signed at the business forum 8 documents on the development of partnerships [Online resource]. - 2021. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-tadzhikistan-i-afganistan-podpisali-na-biznes-forume-8-dokumentov-o-razvitii-partnerstva-435998-2021/>
434. Belarus and Tajikistan are keen to expand areas of cooperation [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-zainteresovany-v-rasshirenii-napravlenij-sotrudnichestva-506166-2022>
435. Pivovarov, E. Krutoy stated that Belarus is ready to supply Tajikistan with all types of engineering machinery / E. Pivovarov // [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/krutoj-zajavil-o-gotovnosti-belarusi-obespechit-tadzhikistan-ljubymi-vidami-mashinostroitelnoj-tehniki-523859-2022/>
436. Tajikistan is keen to increase imports of Belarusian meat and dairy products and agricultural machinery [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tadzhikistan-zainteresovan-v-uvelichenii-postavok-belorusskoj-mjaso-molochnoj-produktsii-i-506657-2022/>
437. Belarus is ready to supply halal products to Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-gotova-postavljat-v-tadzhikistan-haljalnuju-produktsiju-506619-2022/>

438. Cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan discussed at the Minsk City Executive Committee [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/view/sotrudnichestvo-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-obsudili-v-mingorispolkome-525441-2022/>

439. The Gomel and Khatlon regions intend to develop cooperation in the agri-food sector and industry [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/gomelskaja-i-hatlonskaja-oblasti-namereny-razvivat-sotrudnichestvo-v-apk-i-promyshlennosti-507131-2022/>

440. Rahmon outlined priority areas for cooperation with Belarus [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/politics/view/rahmon-oboznachil-priority-areas-of-cooperation-with-belarus-528619-2022/>

441. Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a roadmap for 2022–2026 and several other important documents [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-signed-a-roadmap-for-2022-2026-and-several-other-important-documents-528597-2022/>

442. Tajik-Belarusian Business Forum takes place in Dushanbe [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/fotofakt-tadzhiksko-belorusskij-biznes-forum-prohodit-v-dushanbe-528500-2022/>

443. MTZ has signed contracts worth \$11 million with companies from Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/-zakljuchil-kontrakty- --tadzhikistana-na-11-mln-528650-2022/>

444. MAZ to supply machinery to Tajikistan worth nearly \$500,000 [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/maz-postavit-tehniku-v-tadzhikistan-pochti-na-500-tys-528637-2022/>

445. Zhidkov: Tajikistan is one of the key partners for “Belgospishcheprom” in the Central Asian market [Online source]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/zhidkov-tadzhikistan-odin-iz-kljuchevyh-partnerov-dlja-belgospischeproma-na-tsentralnoaziatskom-rynke-528642-2022/>

446. Belarus is exploring the possibility of investing in cotton production in Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/>

[economics/ view/ belarus-](#)

[exploring-the-possibility-of-investing-in-cotton-production-in-Tajikistan-528489-2022](#)

447. Emomali Rahmon took part in the opening of an elevator assembly plant “Mogilevliftmash” in

Tajikistan [Online resource]. – 2022. – URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ emomali- rahmon- prinjal- uchastie-- otkrytii-sborochnogo-proizvodstva-liftov- mogilevliftmash- v-496483-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/emomali-rahmon-prinjal-uchastie--otkrytii-sborochnogo-proizvodstva-liftov-mogilevliftmash-v-496483-2022/)

448. BITU and higher education institutions in Tajikistan to cooperate in the fields of science, education and innovation [Electronic resource]. – 2022.

– URL: [https:// www. belta./ society/ view/ bntu-- vuzv- tadzhikistana-budut- sotrudnicat- v- sfere- nauki-- i- innovatsij-528871- 2022](https://www.belta./society/view/bntu--vuzv-tadzhikistana-budut-sotrudnicat-v-sfere-nauki--i-innovatsij-528871-2022)

449. Zaleski, B. International Relations and the Media. Features of Multidirectional International Cooperation in a Period of Global Challenges / Boris Zaleski. - Palmarium Academic Publishing, 2016. - 392 pp.

450. Cooperative ties and joint projects. The Belarusian Ambassador on cooperation with Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/society/view/kooperatsionnye-svязi-i-sovmestnye-proekty-posol-belarusi-o-sotrudnichestve-s- tadzhikistanom-607001-2023/](https://www.belta.by/society/view/kooperatsionnye-svязi-i-sovmestnye-proekty-posol-belarusi-o-sotrudnichestve-s-tadzhikistanom-607001-2023/)

451. Companies from Belarus and Tajikistan signed contracts worth \$16 million during a business council meeting [Online resource]. - 2023.

- URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-belarusi-i- tadzhikistana-vo-vremja-delovogo-soveta-podpisali-kontrakty-na-16- mln-590816-2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-vo-vremja-delovogo-soveta-podpisali-kontrakty-na-16-mln-590816-2023/)

452. “Gomselmash” to supply a batch of combine harvesters to Tajikistan in 2024 [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash- postavit-partiju-zernouborochnyh-kombajnov-v-tadzhikistan-v-2024- godu-591373-2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/gomselmash-postavit-partiju-zernouborochnyh-kombajnov-v-tadzhikistan-v-2024-godu-591373-2023/)

453. Belarus and Tajikistan have agreed to cooperate in the agricultural sector [Online resource]. – 2023. - URL: [https:// www. belta. by/ economics/ view/ belarus- i- tadzhikistan-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve-v-selskom-hozjaistve- 592218-2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-dogovorilis-o-sotrudnichestve-v-selskom-hozjaistve-592218-2023/)

454. Over the past five years, ‘Bellesbumprom’ enterprises have increased their exports to Tajikistan by a factor of 2.2 [Online resource]. - 2023.

- URL:

[https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-bellesbumproma- zapovednie-5-let-narastili-eksport-v-tadzhikistan-v-22-raza-590869- 2023/](https://www.belta.by/economics/view/predpriyatija-bellesbumproma-zapovednie-5-let-narastili-eksport-v-tadzhikistan-v-22-raza-590869-2023/)

455. Chervyakov: we need to identify priority

- areas of investment cooperation between Belarus and Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/chervjakov-nuzhno-opredelit-prioritetnye-napravlenija-investsotrudnichestva-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-552755-2023/>
456. Tajikistan wants to set up its own trading house in Minsk [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/tadzhikistan-hochet-sozdat-v-minske-svoj-torgovyi-dom-609906-2024>
457. Safarzoda, B. Water for Life, Glacier Melting, Navruz and Kupalye / B. Safarzoda // [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/interview/view/voda-dlja-zhizni-tajanie-lednikov-navruz-i-kupalje-posol-o-tadzhikistane-i-druzhbe-s-belarusiju-8874/>
458. The Ministries of Education of Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a joint action plan for 2023–2026 [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/ministerstva-obrazovanija-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-podpisali-plan-sovmestnyh-dejstvij-2023-2026-gody-592165-2023/>
459. BarSU is developing a roadmap for cooperation with a new partner university from Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/bargu-razrabatyvaet-dorozhnyu-kartu-sotrudnichestva-s-novym-vuzom-partnerom-iz-tadzhikistana-592689-2023/>
460. Bartosz: deepening cooperation with Tajikistan is helping to improve joint production [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/view/bartosh-uglubleniju-sotrudnichestva-tadzhikistanom-sposobstvuet-sovshenstvovanie-sovmestnyh-639287-2024>
461. Supplies of equipment, construction of a trading centre. Minsk and Dushanbe discussed areas of cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/postavki-tehniki-stroitelstvo-torgovogo-doma-minsk-i-dushanbe-obsudili-napravlenija-sotrudnichestva-638915-2024/>
462. From mechanical engineering to agritourism. The Gomel Region and Tajikistan will develop a partnership in the agri-food sector [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/ot-mashinostroenija-do-agroturizma-gomelskaja-oblast-i-tadzhikistan-budut-razvivat-partnerstvo-v-apk-639537-2024>
463. Diversification of supplies, growth in trade turnover in the agri-food sector. Belarus and Tajikistan have identified prospects for cooperation

[Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/diversifikatsii--rost-tovarooborota-v-apk--tadzhikistan-opredelili-perspektivy-738086-2025/>

464. Zaleski, B. The Evolution of Belarus's Partnership Formats with Friendly Countries / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2024. – 76 pp.

465. Agricultural trade between Belarus and Tajikistan rose by 34.8 per cent over five months [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/tovarooborot-v-selskom-hoziajstve-mezhdu-belarusiju-i-tadzhikistanom-za-pjat-mesjatsev-vyros-na-348-729107-2025/>

466. Belarus and Tajikistan to develop cooperation in crop production and veterinary medicine [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/koooperatsiju-v-agriculture-and-veterinary-science-to-be-developed-by-belarus-and-tajikistan-718582-2025/>

467. Belarus and Tajikistan have signed contracts worth over \$16 million [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-tadzhikistan-podpisali-kontrakty-na-summu--16-mln-738238-2025/>

468. Turchin: joint production with Tajikistan is a cornerstone for promoting the interests of both countries [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/turchin-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-s-tadzhikistanom-opornaja-tochka-dlia-prodvizhenija-interesov-dvuh-718988-2025/>

469. “An example of mutually beneficial cooperation”: Ministry of Industry on assembly production in Tajikistan [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/primer-vzaimovgodnogo-sotrudnichestva-minprom-o-sborochnom-proizvodstve-v-tadzhikistane-719085-2025/>

470. “BKM Holding” presented machinery at an exhibition in Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-holding-prezentoval-tehniku-na-vystavke-v--748760-2025/>

471. Rasulzoda: Tajikistan sees broad prospects for industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-tadzhikistan--perspektivy-v-promyshlennom-sotrudnichestve-s-belarusiju-740056-2025/>

472. Safarzoda, B. The cold of glaciers and the warmth of hearts. The Tajik Ambassador on the prospects for friendship with Belarus and the priorities of the CIS chairmanship / B. Safarzoda // [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/interview/view/holod-lednikov--serdets-posol->

[tadzhikistana- o- gorizontah- družby- s- belarusju- i- prioritetah-9510/](#)

473. International Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Belarus and Tajikistan takes place in Dushanbe [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/mezhdunarodnyi-forum-rektorov-belarusi--tadzhikistana-prohodit-v-dushanbe-678774-2024/>

474. Forum of Rectors of Tajikistan and Belarus: 25 cooperation agreements signed in Dushanbe [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://asia-today.news/29112024/5057/>

475. Tajikistan is interested in training specialists at the Belarusian Railways centre [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/tadzhikistan-zainteresovan-v-podgotovke-spetsialistov-na-baze-tsentra-belorusskoj-zheleznnoj-dorogi-699159-2025/>

476. The Gomel Region has signed contracts worth \$6 million with partners from Tajikistan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/regions/view/dogovory-na-6-mln-podpisala-gomelskaja-oblast-s-partnerami-iz-tadzhikistana-669667-2024/>

477. Trade turnover between the Gomel Region and Tajikistan has increased 5.5-fold over the last five years [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/regions/-gomelskoj-razvitiya-v-55-raza--poslednie-pjat-let-668993-2024/>

478. The Minsk and Sogd regions of Tajikistan have signed an action plan for 2025–2026 [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/special/society/view/minskaja-i-sogdijskaja-oblast-tadzhikistana-podpisali-plan-meroprijatij-na-2025-2026-gody-717348-2025/>

479. Tajikistan and Belarus have signed 10 agreements on industrial cooperation and the supply of goods [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://www.asiaplustj.info/ru/news/tajikistan/economic/20250920/tadzhikistan-i-belarus-podpisali-10-soglashenii-o-promishlennoi-kooperatsii-i-postavkah-produktsii>

480. Relations between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://mfa.tj/ru/main/view/136/otnosheniya-tadzhikistana-s-belarusi>

481. Technology transfer, investment projects. The Tajik Ambassador spoke about the specifics of cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/transfer-tehnologii-investproekty-posol-tadzhikistana-rasskazal-ob-osobennostyah-sotrudnichestva-s-766748-2026/>

482. Industry and tourism. Tajikistan's ambassador outlined the key areas for strengthening cooperation with Belarus [Online source]. -

2026. - URL:

<https://belta.by/politics/view/promyshlennost-i-turizm-posol-tadzhikistana-nazval-kljuchevye-vektory-intensifikatsii-vzaimodejstvija-766762-2026/>

483. The Belarusian Railways (BZHD) has signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Tajik Railways [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society//bzhhd-podpisala-memorandum--sotrudnichestve-s-tadzhikskoj-zheleznoj-dorogoj-758957-2026/>

484. Meeting Belarusian-Tajik

Intergovernmental Commission is taking place in Brest [Electronic resource]. - 2026 - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/zasedanie-belorussko-tadzhikskoj-mezhpravitelstvennoj-komissii-prohodit-v-breste-793340-2026/>

485. Zaleski, B. Tajikistan: A Focus for Cooperation. A Chronicle of Economic Partnerships / Boris Zaleski. – LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2025. – 72 pp.

486. Belarus has increased its agricultural exports to Tajikistan by 20 per cent [Electronic resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-uvelichila--apk--tadzhikistan-na-20-791610-2026/>

487. Belarus and Tajikistan are steadily increasing their foreign trade turnover [Online resource]. – 2026.

- URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-tadzhikistan-planomerno-naraschivajut-objemy-vneshnetorgovogo-oborota-793395-2026/>

488. The Business Council of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Belarus was held in Brest [Electronic resource]. – 2026. - URL:

<https://mfa.tj/ru/minsk/view/19180/v-breste-A-business-council-between-the-Republic-of-Tajikistan-and-the-Republic-of-Belarus-was-held>

489. Belarus and Tajikistan have signed a roadmap for cooperation for 2027–2031 [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-tadzhikistan-podpisali-dorozhnuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva-na-2027-2031-gody-793432-2026/>

490. Belarus and Tajikistan are interested in closer cooperation in plant breeding and industrial cooperation [Online resource]. – 2026. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-tadzhikistan--tesnee-sotrudnicat-v-selekcii-i-promkooperatsii-793457-2026/>

491. Brest State Technical University to collaborate with a university in Tajikistan [Online resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/society/view/brestskij-gosudarstvennyj-tehnicheskij-universitet-budet-sotrudnicat-s-vuzom-iz-tadzhikistana-793445-2026/>

492. Trade and economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: https://tajikistan.mfa.gov.by/ru/bilateral_relations/belarus_tajikistan/t_rade_economic/
493. Sogd Region [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://tochka-na-karte.ru/Goroda-i-Gosudarstva/1982-Sogdiiskaya-oblast.html>
494. The Mogilev and Sogd regions have signed a roadmap for cooperation for 2026–2027 [Electronic resource]. – 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/mogilevskaja-i-sogdijskaja-oblasti-podpisali-dorozhnuju-kartu-sotrudnichestva-na-2026-2027-godv-776698-2026/>
495. Industrial cooperation and tourism: what other areas of cooperation will the Minsk and Sogd regions be developing? [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/politics/view/promkooperatsija-i-turizm-kakie-esche-napravlenija-sotrudnichestva-budut-razvivat-minskaja-i-776880-2026/>
496. Logistics, agricultural processing. A business forum for the business communities of Belarus and Tajikistan was held in Minsk [Electronic resource]. - 2026. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/logistika-pererabotka-selhozproduksii-biznes-forum-delovyh-krugov-belarusi-i-tadzhikistana-proshel-v-776923-2026/>
497. Kyrgyzstan is interested in developing trade and economic relations with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://www.belvpo.com/ru/26710.html>
498. Andrei Kobyakov met with the Head of the Kyrgyz Government [Online resource]. - 2015. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/6027>
499. On the meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Commission on trade and economic cooperation [Online resource]. – 2017. – URL: <http://kyrgyzstan.mfa.gov.by/ru/embassy/news/7a170217ff5943.html>
500. Kyrgyzstan is interested in establishing assembly plants for Belarusian agricultural machinery [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-zainteresovan-v-sozdanii-sborochnyh-belorusskoj-selhoztehniki-251058-2017/>
501. Omuraliev noted a positive trend in the development of relations between Kyrgyzstan and Belarus [Online source]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/politics/view/omuraliev-otmetil-pozitivnuju-tendentsiju-v-razvitii-otnoshenij-mezhdu-kyrgyzstanom-i-belarusiju-269017-2017/>

502. A meeting of the Belarusian-Kyrgyz intergovernmental commission will take place in Minsk on 21 February [Electronic resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/zasedanie-belorussko-kyrgyzskoj-mezhpravkomissii-projdet-v-minske-21-fevralja-378085-2020/>
503. Nemanova, Yu. An exhibition of products from Belarusian producers to be showcased at the FoodExpo exhibition in Bishkek / Yu. Nemanova // [Online]. - 2020. - URL: <https://.belta.by//view/-Belarusian-producers-to-be-represented-at-the-Foodexpo-exhibition-in-Bishkek-378791-2020/>
504. Kyrgyzstan proposes that Belarus establish an agricultural cluster for milk processing [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-predlagaet-belarusi-sozdat-agroklastern-po-pererabotke-moloka-380586-2020/>
505. Vladimir Kukharev: Belarusian electric buses may appear on the streets of Bishkek [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/9293>
506. Matveeva, N. Bishkek plans to purchase equipment from Minsk-based companies to develop public transport / N. Matveeva // [Online resource]. - 2017. - URL: <http://www.belta.by/economics/view/bishkek-planiruet-zakupit--minskih-predpriyatij--dlja-razvitiya-a-obschestvennogo-transporta-265609-2017/>
507. The Gomel Region will develop cooperation with the Chui Region of Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2020. - URL: <https://.by/regions/view/gomelskij--will-develop-cooperation-with-the-Chui-region-of-Kyrgyzstan-381123-2020>
508. The National Centre for Marketing spoke about the prospects for promoting Belarusian goods and services in Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/economics/view/ntsm-rasskazal-o-perspektivah-prodvizheniya-belorusskih-tovarov-i-uslug-v-kyrgyzstan-519484-2022/>
509. Belarusian companies showcased their products at a healthcare exhibition [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://.belta.by//view/-companies-presented-their-products-at-the-healthcare-exhibition-in-bishkek-494393-2022/>
510. Belarusian pharmaceutical companies plan to expand their range and volumes of medicines supplied to Kyrgyzstan [Electronic resource]. - 2022. - URL: <https://www.belta.by/society/view/farmpredpriyatija-belarusi-planirujut-rasshirit-assortiment-i-objemy-postavok-lekarstv-v-kyrgyzstan-494553->

2022/

511. A business forum was held in Osh as part of the 10th meeting of the Kyrgyz-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

[https://cis.minsk.by/news/24072/v, as part of the 10th session of the Kyrgyz-Belarusian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, a business forum was held in Osh](https://cis.minsk.by/news/24072/v_as_part_of_the_10th_session_of_the_Kyrgyz-Belarusian_Intergovernmental_Commission_on_Trade_and_Economic_Cooperation_a_business_forum_was_held_in_Osh)

512. Contracts worth \$900,000 were signed following the Belarusian-Kyrgyz business forum [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// www.belta.by/ economics/ / -- 900- tys- podpisany- po- itogam- belorusko-kyrgyzskogo- biznes- foruma-523912-2022/](https://www.belta.by/economics/ / -- 900- tys- podpisany- po- itogam- belorusko-kyrgyzskogo- biznes- foruma-523912-2022/)

513. Sixteen enterprises belonging to ‘Belgospishcheprom’ presented their products at the ‘Yug Expo’ exhibition in Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL:

<https://www.belta.by/economics/view/produktsiju-na-vystavke-jug- ekspo-v-kyrgyzstane-predstavili-16-predpriyatij-belgospishcheproma- 523807-2022>

514. The 6th International General Exhibition and Fair “Yug Expo 2022” [Online resource]. - 2022. - URL: [https:// omr. by/ news/ news- main/6- -- universalnaya- vvstavka- varmarka-- ekspo-2022](https://omr.by/news/news-main/6-- universalnaya-vvstavka-varmarka-- ekspo-2022)

515. Sivak: Trade turnover between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan rose by 14.1 per cent in January–September [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// belta. by// view/- tovarooborot- belarusi- i- kyrgyzstana- za- janvar- sentjabr- vvros- na-141-678763-2024/](https://belta.by/view/- tovarooborot- belarusi- i- kyrgyzstana- za- janvar- sentjabr- vvros- na-141-678763-2024/)

516. Belarus is increasing its supplies of wood products to Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: [https:// belta. by/ economics/ view/- naraschivaet- postavki- produktsii- derevoobrabotki- v- kyrgyzstan-664450-2024/](https://belta.by/economics/view/- naraschivaet- postavki- produktsii- derevoobrabotki- v- kyrgyzstan-664450-2024/)

517. Sivak: Trade turnover between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan is growing; we plan to develop industrial cooperation [Online resource]. - 2023. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-tovarooborot-mezhdu- belarusiju-i-kyrgyzstanom-rastet-planiruem-razvivat-i- promkooperatsiju-584179-2023/>

518. Torobaev outlined what joint production ventures Belarus and Kyrgyzstan could set up [Electronic resource]. - 2023. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/torobaev- oboznachil-kakie-sovmestnye-proizvodstva-mogli-by-sozdat-belarus- i-kyrgyzstan-584198-2023/>

519. Dresses, shirts, breeches – all made of cotton. What are the prospects for Belarusian clothing on the Kyrgyz market? [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL:

<https://belta.by/economics/view/platija-rubashki-bridzhi-vse-iz-hlopka-kakie-perspektivy-u-belorusskoj-odezhdy-na-rynke-kyrgyzstana-640865-2024/>

520. Sivak: Belarus is ready to increase supplies of municipal and agricultural machinery to Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/view/-belarus--naraschivat-postavki-kommunalnoj-i-selhoztehniki-v-kyrgyzstan-678782-2024/>

521. Belarus and Kyrgyzstan have signed an agreement on export credits [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-i-kyrgyzstan-podpisali-soglashenie--eksportnyh-kreditah-678790-2024/>

522. “AMKODOR” will consider the possibility of setting up joint projects with Kyrgyzstan [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/-rassmotrit-vozmozhnost--sovmestnyh-proektov-s-kyrgyzstanom-666338-2024/>

523. Kyrgyzstan has purchased its first consignments of Belarusian dairy products at exchange auctions [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan-zakupil-pervye-partii-belorusskoj-molochnoj-produktsii-na-birzhevyh-torgah-641884-2024/>

524. Kyrgyzstan has expanded the range of commodities traded on the exchange with Belarus [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/kyrgyzstan--the-range-of-goods-traded-on-the-stock-exchange-with-belarus-667300-2024/>

525. Belarus and Kyrgyzstan to strengthen the stock exchange dimension of their cooperation [Online resource]. – 2024. – URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-usiljat-birzhevoj-vektor-sotrudnichestva-678941-2024/>

526. Belarus and Kyrgyzstan have signed an action plan for the development of cooperation for 2025–2027 [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-podpisali-plan-meroprijatij-po-razvitiyu-sotrudnichestva-na-2025-2027-gody-703746-2025/>

527. Anatoly Sivak: Cooperation between Belarus and Kyrgyzstan is developing positively across all areas [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL: <http://www.government.by/ru/content/11187>

528. An ambitious figure of \$500 million. Belarus and Kyrgyzstan plan to multiply their trade turnover [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL: <https://belta.by/economics/view/ambitsioznaja-tsifra-v-500-mln-belarus-i-kyrgyzstan-planirujut-kratno-uvelichit-tovarooborot-701449-2025/>

529. From lift manufacturing to waste processing. Golovchenko on

- successful joint projects in Kyrgyzstan [Electronic resource]. - 2025.
- URL:
<https://belta.by/societv/view/ot-proizvodstva-liftov-do-musoropererabotki-golovchenko-ob-uspeshnyh-sovmestnyh-proektah-v-kyrgyzstane-692620-2025/>
530. Donis, I. Belarusian lifts to be assembled in Osh – first batch of equipment ready for dispatch / I. Donis // [Electronic resource]. - 2025. - URL:
<https://economist.kg/novosti/2025/03/11/v-oshie-nachnut-sobirat-bielorusskiye-lifty-piervaia-partiia-oborudovaniia-ghotova-k-otghruzkie/>
531. Waste sorting and asphalt concrete plants opened in Karakol [Electronic resource]. - 2024. - URL:
<https://economist.kg/ekonomika/2024/08/30/v-karakolie-otkryli-novye-zavody-po-sortirovkie-musora-i-proizvodstvu-asfalta-2/>
532. The President of Kyrgyzstan has outlined three areas for the country's economic development [Online resource]. - 2024. - URL: <https://eurasiatoday.ru/prezident-kyrgyzstana-oboznachil-tri-directions-for-the-development-of-the-country-s-economy/>
533. Sadyr Zhaparov: “Our ancestors saw a new phase of life in Nowruz” [Online resource]. – 2025. – URL: <https://eurasiatoday.ru/sadyr-zhaparov-nashi-predki-v-nooruze-novyj-zhizni/>
534. Head of the Kyrgyz Cabinet of Ministers: there is untapped potential in trade and industrial cooperation with Belarus [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:
<https://belta.by/economics/view/glava-kabmina-kyrgyzstana-v-torgovle-i-promkooperatsii-s-belarusiiu-est-nerealizovannyi-potentsial-692631-2025/>
535. Sivak proposed holding a Belarus–Kyrgyzstan business forum at the ‘Belagro’ exhibition [Online resource]. - 2025. - URL:
<https://belta.by/economics/view/sivak-predlozhit-provesti-biznes-forum-belarusi-i-kyrgyzstana-na-vystavke-belagro-703777-2025/>
536. Address to the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press130838.html#doc>
537. Alexander Lukashenko congratulated the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov [Online resource]. - 2010. - URL:
<http://president.gov.by/press102262.html#doc>
538. Kamenev, S. Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy. The Battle over the Gas Pipeline / S. Kamenev // [Electronic resource]. - 2002. - URL: <http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1033368840>

539. The Concept of Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy as a Neutral State [Electronic resource]. – 1995. – URL: <http://nivazov.sitecity.ru/ltxt0608085523.phtml?pident=ltxt0608085523.p2108100642>
540. Durdyev, S. Turkmenistan's foreign policy at the present stage / S. Durdyev // Neutral Turkmenistan. – 2009. – 21 May.
541. Agakhanov, X. A. In the Spotlight: Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy / X. A. Agakhanov // [Electronic resource]. – 2009. – URL: http://www.turkmenistan.ru/?page_id=4&lang_id=ru&elem_id=15725&type=event&sort=date_desc
542. December 2012: following the course of the nation's leader's foreign policy initiatives [Online resource]. – 2013. – URL: <http://www.parahat.info/news/2013-01-10-dekabr-2012-sleduva-kursom-yneshnepoliticheskikh-iniciativ-lidera-nacii-politika-otkrvtyh-dverey>
543. Belarus and Turkmenistan step up bilateral cooperation [Online resource]. – 2009. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press73283.html#doc>
544. Belarus – Turkmenistan: the potash foundation for future cooperation [Online resource]. – 2010. – URL: http://export.by/resources/izdaniva_i publikacii/ belarus %E2%80% 94 turkmenistan kaliinii fundament budusc.html
545. Belarus to participate in a large-scale investment project in Turkmenistan [Online resource]. – 2009. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press73356.html#doc>
546. The President of Turkmenistan gave an interview to representatives of the Turkish press [Online resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://www.turkmenistan.ru/ru/articles/37076.html>
547. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of Turkmenistan on cooperation in the field of the press and information [Electronic resource]. – 2009. – URL: <http://pravo.levonevsky.org/bazaby11/republic10/text213.htm>
548. Alexander Lukashenko sent a message of greeting to the participants of the 7th Forum of European and Asian Media [Electronic resource]. – 2012. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press141469.html#doc>
549. Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov [Electronic resource]. – 2010. – URL: <http://president.gov.by/press82516.html>
550. A Belarusian delegation led by A. Kalinin is taking part in the third meeting of the Belarusian-Turkmen Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation [Electronic resource]. – 2011. – URL: <http://www.>

government.by/ru/content/3468

551. The Customs Union's unified negotiating delegation is actively working to finalise the harmonisation of trade regimes with other countries [Electronic resource]. - 2013. - URL:

http://www.belta.by/ru/all_news/politics/Edinaja-peregovornaja-delegatsija-TS-aktivno-rabotaet-nad-zaversheniem-unifikatsii-torgovyx-rezhimov-s-drugimi-stranami-i-620828.html

552. More Belarusians will be recruited to work on the construction of the Garlyk Mining and Processing Plant in Turkmenistan [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL:

<http://www.government.by/ru/content/4214>

553. Alexander Lukashenko met with the President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov [Electronic resource]. - 2012. - URL:

<http://president.gov.by/press131087.html>

554. On Belarusian-Turkmen inter-ministerial consultations [Online resource]. - 2013. - URL: [http:// mfa. gov. by/ press/ news mfa/ bc702 c3 e100851. html](http://mfa.gov.by/press/news_mfa/bc702_c3e100851.html)

555. Alexander Lukashenko accepted the credentials of foreign ambassadors [Online resource]. - 2012. - URL: <http://president.gov.by/press140152.html#doc>

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

**More
Books!**

yes
I want morebooks!

Buy your books fast and straightforward online – at one of world's fastest growing online book stores! Environmentally sound due to Print-on-Demand technologies.

Buy your books online at
www.morebooks.shop

Kaufen Sie Ihre Bücher schnell und unkompliziert online – auf einer der am schnellsten wachsenden Buchhandelsplattformen weltweit! Dank Print-On-Demand umwelt- und ressourcenschonend produziert.

Bücher schneller online kaufen
www.morebooks.shop



info@omniscryptum.com
www.omniscryptum.com

OMNIScriptum



FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY

FOR AUTHOR USE ONLY