

Brief information on the implementation of the project AP22685210 "Central Asian region in "5+1" formats: problems and prospects for economic cooperation" in accordance with the calendar plan for 2025

Task code, stage	Name of the works under the Agreement and the main stages of its implementation	Key Results
2	To identify the main problems and constraints faced by the Central Asian region and its 5+1 partners in implementing economic cooperation	The main problems and constraints facing the Central Asian region and its "5+1" partners in implementing economic cooperation have been identified. Potential risks and threats to the further development of economic cooperation in the region have been identified. Recommendations for eliminating or mitigating the identified constraints to improve the conditions for economic cooperation have been proposed. Two articles have been published in peer-reviewed national journals recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

List of published works in accordance with the calendar plan for 2025

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Abauova G., Abaidullayeva M.* (<i>corresponding author</i>), Khajiyeva G., Issakhmetova A. Foreign trade relations of Central Asian countries and the USA: dynamics, barriers, prospects. Herald of the "Kazakh University of Economics, Finance and International Trade". 2025;3(60): 148-159. https://doi.org/10.52260/2304-7216.2025.3(60).18	Domestic publications
Abaidullayeva M.M.* (<i>corresponding author</i>), Khajiyeva G.U., Bakhadirov M.M., Arupova A.A. Cooperation of Central Asian countries with external partners in the "5+1" formats: problems and prospects for implementing initiatives. Bulletin of "Turan" University. 2025;(3):40-53. https://doi.org/10.46914/1562-2959-2025-1-3-40-53	Domestic publications

Abstract

Object of research, development or design: Economic cooperation of Central Asian countries with external partners in the "5+1" formats.

Objective of the work: The objective of the project is to analyze existing opportunities and limitations for deepening economic cooperation between the Central Asian region and states in the "5+1" formats.

Research methods: To identify the key challenges and constraints arising in the implementation of economic cooperation between the Central Asian region and external partners in the "5+1" formats, methods of theoretical analysis, content analysis, comparative analysis, and a structural-functional approach were used. These methods allowed for the systematization of regulatory documents, strategic programs, and analytical reviews of international organizations, as well as a comparison of key barriers across different interaction formats. An institutional approach, SWOT analysis, and risk mapping were employed to identify potential risks and threats to the further development of economic cooperation. These methods enabled the

identification of external and internal factors that could impact the sustainability of cooperation, including geopolitical, infrastructural, institutional, and trade risks. Scenario analysis and causal analysis of interrelationships were used to develop recommendations for eliminating or mitigating the identified constraints. This enabled the formulation of recommendations aimed at increasing the effectiveness of economic cooperation and improving the conditions for interaction between the Central Asian countries and their "5+1" partners.

Results obtained and novelty: The main problems and constraints hindering effective economic cooperation between Central Asian countries and their 5+1 partners were identified. These include inconsistent rules and procedures, weak coordination, infrastructure difficulties, and the influence of external political factors. Potential risks and threats that could impact the future development of cooperation were identified, including rising costs, unstable transport routes, differences in technical standards, sanctions restrictions, political instability in individual states in the region, increased climate threats, and tightening ESG requirements. A set of recommendations aimed at mitigating the identified constraints was developed. These recommendations are based on an analysis of current trends and hidden interdependencies, making them particularly relevant for further improving economic cooperation in the region. The scientific novelty of the study lies in its comprehensive and systemic assessment of the influence of institutional, infrastructural, political-economic, and geopolitical factors on the effectiveness of initiatives within the 5+1 formats and the sustainability of the Central Asian region's foreign economic development. The results of the study were reflected in two articles published in peer-reviewed journals and were also tested at the 24th International Academic Conference on Economics, Business and Contemporary Social Science Debates in Istanbul, Turkey (MIRDEC 2025).

Key design and technical and economic indicators: not provided.

Degree of implementation: not provided.

Effectiveness: The study will facilitate more effective planning and implementation of economic cooperation between Central Asian countries and external partners in the "5+1" format. The identified challenges and constraints will help more accurately identify the factors hindering the development of joint projects. Identifying potential risks and threats will allow countries to proactively consider potential external shocks, the vulnerabilities of individual sectors, and changes in global trade policy. The developed recommendations can serve as guidelines for addressing key constraints. This will enable countries in the region to more confidently build economic ties, increase the resilience of their economies, and more quickly adapt to changes in the international environment. Thus, the study will contribute to the development of a more thoughtful and coordinated foreign economic policy, which will enhance the effectiveness of Central Asia's participation in global partnership initiatives.

Application area: The results of the conducted research, forecasts and recommendations can be applied in the development of strategies for foreign economic and foreign policy activities of Kazakhstan and the countries of Central Asia in the context of modern geopolitical changes and instability in the global economy.

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Project topic:

AP22685210 "Central Asian region in "5+1" formats: problems and prospects for economic cooperation"

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