Cooperation Between the European Union and the Eurasian Union

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Abstract: The aim of this paper was to define promising areas of cooperation between the European Union and the Eurasian Union at the present stage. This was an analytical-logical research. In this study, the EU and the Eurasian Union dispute issues were first examined. It was then determined what could be the co-operation between the two unions: fossil energy and fossil fuels, security and terrorism, refugees and immigration, intercontinental exchanges, mediation between Europe and China, and ultimately land trade.

Index Terms: European Union, Eurasian Union, Promising areas.

I. INTRODUCTION

Given the complicated processes in the unstable system of international political and economic relations, the possibility of mutually beneficial and mutually beneficial cooperation between countries becomes valuable and important. In this regard, the development of relations with those countries that demonstrate their capacity for constructive dialogue and to strengthen bilateral economic, scientific and technical relations, investment and political interactions, as well as the fruitful presence in processes that constitute the new geo-space environment. They are interested in Eurasia, they are of fundamental importance to Eurasian Economic Community countries [1].

In 2015, the European Union began preparing its new program entitled “The EU and Central Asia: A Strategy for New Cooperation”. This strategy is based on the fact that the EU is the player with the least influence in the region. According to an analytical report by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament, the situation in the region has become more volatile than the past, and the distribution of energy sources, including gas, has been stopped.

The level of trade relations between the European countries and the countries of this region, with the exception of Kazakhstan, is very low and democracy is a tool for the region’s leaders to survive. On the other hand, corruption has prevented economic development and the human rights situation has also not improved. Under such circumstances, the European Union understands that it cannot compete with Russia and China in this region, and has therefore decided to focus on specific projects. Projects that can bring good achievements. In addition to the projects of economic and security cooperation, the EU should also pay attention to the education and promotion of the human rights situation and to provide more financial and political support to civil society.

The impact of Afghanistan’s position on the European Union’s strategy towards Central Asia has fallen sharply since 2012. In this way, it was possible to improve the relations between the European Union and Russia, which was in the wake of the Ukrainian crisis. In general, this area is not one of the geopolitical priorities of the European Union. In this regard, the EU would prefer to focus more on long-term strategies and outcomes. In 2014, signs of declining EU interest in the Central Asian region were clearly visible. This year, the European Union postponed the introduction of its special representatives in Central Asia, however, it again introduced representatives in the region in 2015 [7],[8].

The fact is that the European Union is overwhelmed by the security issues in the Central Asian region. Terrorism and the participation of citizens in the region in ISIL-affiliated operations with al-Qaeda are also a major security issue. But these issues could not be the basis for cooperation between the European Union and the countries of the Central Asian region. In 2013, the EU tried to carry out high-level security talks between the parties, but this attempt failed. The budget of the European main program for the creation of the border security of BOMAQ, the Border Management Program in Central Asia, was € 5 million, which was intended for three years from 2015. Even in this case, the prioritization of the parties was different; the countries of the region were more interested in receiving equipment, while the EU was more interested in investing in training forces. The European Union and Central Asian counter-narcotics program moved from the framework of the United Nations Counter Narcotics Program to the framework of the Joint International Cooperation Program with Germany. The European Union is trying to bring more regional countries into regional special projects. In the very near future, cooperation between the European Union and Central Asia in the security sector will remain limited and will only be limited to the implementation of the BOMAQ program and a number of other programs to prevent conflicts.
II. METHODOLOGY

This research was an analytical-logical research based on available resources and information.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The European Union and other key powers of the continent are serious about creating a common security area between Europe and Asia. Ensuring security in the region is possible only through the development of regional countries and joint economic relations in the Eurasian region. The European Union tends to continue to actively promote human rights in Central Asia. The union aims to achieve this goal by holding civil society seminars as well as its financial assistance for promoting democracy and human rights in the framework in the program for democracy and human rights, funding is provided for organizations that carry out human rights-related activities. According to European experts, an agreement was signed on increasing the level of cooperation between the European Union and Kazakhstan on December 21, 2015. The agreement also aimed to support the democratic transition of power in Kazakhstan and a significant increase in trade and economic relations between the parties. Kazakhstan is the first Central Asian country to sign a second-generation agreement with the European Union. Indeed, the European Union is the key unifying partner of this republic.

In this context, China’s new “belt, a road” program has not diminished EU concerns about the region’s future. A huge amount of funding has been promised to implement the Silk Road Economic Belt Projects. China’s willingness to provide the required labor and construction capacities has attracted the attention of the world to Beijing's will to implement its plans. In such a situation, the European Union is concerned about how all these programs can be implemented[4].

Another challenge is to create a high economic dependence of the countries of the region on China. China’s loans are by no means cheap and may lead to economic instability in Central Asian countries in the future. This may lead to the political proximity of Central Asia and South Asia to China. This is despite the fact that the European Union has long been trying to reduce Russia’s influence in the region after the collapse of the Soviet Union and is definitely not willing to give the region China full [5]. The European Union is also concerned about the geopolitical implications of the launch of the new Chinese program "A Road Belt". Especially the union is concerned about the escalation of the conflict between India and Pakistan and the rivalry between China and India. Most importantly, the EU does not see much of a benefit for Afghanistan in this new Chinese program [6]. On the other hand, the South Road route, which is the Chinese-Pakistani corridor, does not seem to be beneficial to Afghanistan. This means that the burden of economic development will be on the shoulders of the European Union and the United States[3].

The EU also provides its support and expertise in combating illegal immigration and the development of immigration policy standards and is ready to provide support in combating corruption and combating international terrorism, for which the European Union Special Representative Office was also established in Dushanbe. Is. The EU also proposed stability and peace tools to address regional instability issues in order to prevent regional conflicts[2].

IV. CONCLUSION

The European Union specifically emphasizes the importance of dialogue with Central Asian countries in relation to human rights and considers it part of its “Europeanization mission for the region.” First of all, we are talking about programs designed to reform the legal and judicial systems in Central Asian countries based on the European Union model. The “Civil Society and Local Authorities”, the "European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights", are among the other instruments of the European Union. The European Union’s dependence on energy sources has led to a rising supply of resources. Central Asian countries see the European Union as their energy partners. In the foreseeable future, the prospect of supplying energy carriers from Central Asia to Europe remains very vague. However, Brussels is trying to develop the mining and energy sector in the region. The European Union supports the development of new oil and gas fields and the construction of hydroelectric plants, additional pipelines, and the formation of new routes and transportation networks. In addition, Brussels presented its program "Instrument for Cooperation in the Field of Nuclear Security" to the countries of the region.

Naturally, the European Union is most concerned about the possibility of transferring energy from Central Asia to its domestic market. To this end, the European Union supports the integration of Central Asian countries into a single market, as well as public-private partnerships and financial reforms, and primarily the privatization of the banking sector, while also providing financial support to the privatization of the banking sector. The EU also insists that countries take into account EU energy policy. Brussels also adopted the system and general principles of preferences in order to support the export of goods from Central Asian countries to the EU market. Brussels announces its support for the new Caspian Sea-Black Sea energy corridor. In terms of the EU, Central Asia is also considered as a corridor of East and South Asia to Europe.

REFERENCES