

At the same time, forfaiting as a tool for financing foreign trade operations is relatively well-developed and popular in many economically advanced countries. According to the International Chamber of Commerce, for instance, the volume of China's forfaiting transactions is estimated at 30 billion US dollars, accounting for 7% of the global figure¹. The capacity of the CIS countries forfaiting market is about 6,6 %, which in money terms is estimated at 25-28 billion US dollars, and the capacity of the global forfaiting market is about 430 billion US dollars². With reference to the above-mentioned, the forfaiting transactions market development in the EAEU member states, a large share of whose foreign trade turnover is carried out with the CIS countries, is increasingly relevant.

Thus, factoring and forfaiting are modern, dynamically developing and widely used tools for financing foreign economic activity in the world, but there is a need to be improved and promoted in the market of the EAEU member states.

Taking into account the above, there is proposed the following ways to solve the forfaiting development problems in the Republic of Belarus and other EAEU member states:

- improvement of the regulatory framework governing the forfaiting transactions sphere;
- harmonization of the rules for conducting forfaiting transactions, taking into account the accepted international standards in the field of financing foreign trade operations;
- digitalization and use of the latest information technologies³.

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«The problems related to the application of X-ray scanning complexes during non-intrusive customs search in the Republic of Belarus»

Research Field:

Data analysis for the effective border management

Today, the use of X-ray scanning complexes is an important part of non-intrusive customs search.

¹ Rethinking Trade and Finance 2016 : ICC Global Trade and Finance Survey 2016 / D. Bischof [et al.]. – Paris : International Chamber of Commerce, 2016. – 178 p.

² Uglov, V. Directions for improving the tools of foreign trade financing in the Republic of Belarus / V. Uglov, I. Legchilova // Bank Bulletin. – 2018. – № 6. – P. 46–51.

³ Delendik, K. Y. Factoring and forfaiting as modern tools for financing foreign trade operations / K. Y. Delendik, L. I. Tararyshkina // Collection of abstracts of the 77th Scientific and Practical Conference of Students, Undergraduates and Postgraduates of the Faculty of International Relations of the BSU. Minsk, 23 April 2020 / ed.: V. G. Shadursky [et al.]. – Minsk : BSU, 2020. – P. 260–262.

X-ray scanning complexes are a type of technical means of customs control used by customs authorities. They represent complexes of special electronic equipment for non-intrusive customs search of large objects, working on the principle of X-ray scanning¹.

X-ray scanning complexes make it possible to examine vehicles for signs of smuggling or other violations in the field of customs quickly and efficiently.

However, there are problematic issues arising from the application of X-ray scanning complexes, such as technical, organizational and staffing problems.

Technical problems include the reliability of X-ray scanning complexes, the quality of their maintenance and repair.

Technical problems can lead to a lower productivity of this equipment due to frequent equipment breakdowns and prolonged troubleshooting. Therefore, the reliability of X-ray scanning complexes, the quality of their maintenance and repair need to be improved.

Organizational problems include the location and productivity of X-ray scanning complexes, and the problem of informing.

It should be noted that the location of X-ray scanning complexes is an important component, namely, the choice of the appropriate checkpoint and the type of equipment. There may be a problem of equipment downtime when placing X-ray scanning complexes at checkpoints with a low flow of goods and the lack of intensity of search through this equipment. This problem can be solved by moving X-ray scanning complexes to checkpoints with a high traffic flow. However, this action will entail additional costs.

The problem of informing is related to the lack of a single database for storing information and images obtained during the application of X-ray scanning complexes both at the national level and at the international level. Also, the lack of a database prevents the exchange of information between officials of different states. To solve this problem, it is necessary to create uniform requirements for the quality and resolution of images, ensure safe channels for their transmission, conclude appropriate agreements between countries and entrench the way to confirm the originality of the images. Solving this problem will reduce the number of scans using these complexes and improve the exchange of experience.

With regard to human capacity, this aspect includes the following staffing problems: the low number of staff involved in the application of X-ray scanning complexes; the need for regular training of specialists; the quality of the X-ray images obtained.

¹ Инспекционно-досмотровый комплекс – субъективный подход или обезличенная система [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <http://bama.org/information/smi/18781/print/> – Дата доступа: 15.05.2020.

It is very difficult to work with X-ray scanning complexes, as the operators experience mental and physical stress. It is associated with the responsibility for detecting violations and with a heavy strain during prolonged use of the computer and the monotony of actions.

Customs officials were tested, according to the results of which, after six hours of work, 85% of the respondents had dry eyes, 23% had headaches, and 80% had attention disorders.

Consequently, by the end of the working shift, the employee's attentiveness decreases due to tiredness, as a result of which, customs search will become ineffective and can lead to the passage of violators through the customs border.

Thus, the problems of human capacity are related to the human factor and the level of specialists' qualification in the application of X-ray scanning complexes. To solve this problem, it is necessary to conduct advanced training courses for employees working with the X-ray scanning complexes. Within this field, it is important to research software, train employees in innovations, and inform them about new ways to hide goods in such courses.

The above problems are not the only ones. There are issues that affect the subjects of foreign economic activity. The effectiveness of customs search for foreign trade participants consists in the minimum terms of carrying out this form of customs control and the lowest costs.

Nowadays, not all checkpoints across the customs border of the Republic of Belarus are equipped with X-ray scanning complexes. Therefore, the following situations are possible:

1. A foreign trade entity crosses a checkpoint equipped with X-ray scanning complex and bears the costs of conducting a non-intrusive customs search;
2. A foreign trade entity crosses a checkpoint that is not equipped with X-ray scanning complex and bears the costs of conducting an intrusive customs search with an increase in the time spent at the customs border.

Thus, the subjects of foreign economic activity will bear the financial costs in both situations, when conducting intrusive or non-intrusive customs search. However, the use of X-ray scanning complexes will reduce the time costs.

It is necessary to conclude that the problems related to the application of X-ray scanning complexes require solutions, such as the use of legal, organizational and educational measures. The resolution of these issues will improve the efficiency of X-ray scanning complexes, reduce the number of intrusive customs searches, as well as reduce the burden on the participants of foreign economic activity and customs officials.

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