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**UDC 336** 

## INTERNATIONALISATION OF PRODUCTION IN BELARUS - THE EXAMPLE OF THE CHINA-BELARUS INDUSTRIAL PARK

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Summary. The China-Belarus Industrial Park is a special economic zone established under an agreement between China and Belarus, and is one of the main manifestations of the internationalisation of production. Belarus proposes to China the construction of the China-Belarus Industrial Park mainly to solve the problem of domestic economic development. Belarus hopes to promote the stable and sustainable development of its domestic economy by following the path of economic diversification, while China can also promote bilateral and multilateral financial cooperation between China and Belarus by expanding China-Belarus humanistic exchanges, which creates new opportunities for Chinese enterprises to go global.

**Keywords:** China-Belarus Industrial Park; internationalisation of production; economic diversification; multilateral financial cooperation

**Introduction.** The internationalisation of production is the process by which production transcends the boundaries of nation states and forms an interdependent organic whole on an international scale<sup>1</sup>. It is the second stage of economic globalisation. Located in the suburbs of Minsk, the capital of Belarus, the China-*Belarus* Industrial Park covers a total area of 91.5 square kilometres and, as a key cooperation project between China and Belarus on the "Belt and Road", is the largest overseas economic and trade cooperation zone with the largest planned area, the largest development and construction scale and the highest level of cooperation in which China is involved. The China-Belarus Industrial Park, also known as "GreatStone", is an area with a special legal regime and is promoted within the framework of international cooperation between China and Belarus, with the signing of a series of intergovernmental documents.

Main part. The Republic of Belarus has created a favourable investment environment for the park's tenants, guaranteed by national legislation, specific international agreements and obligations, offering unprecedented preferential and favourable conditions and establishing an independent state administration to provide a "one-stop shop" for comprehensive administrative services<sup>23</sup>. Any company, regardless of the country of origin of its capital, can apply for admission to the Industrial Park. According to the master plan, the park has production and residential areas, offices and shopping and entertainment areas, financial and research centres. In effect, a modern, international eco-city is being built with a focus on high-tech and competitive innovative industries with high export potential. The companies are divided into 11 sectors: biomedicine, mechanical engineering, research and development, electronics and information, warehousing and logistics, new materials, e-commerce, social and cultural industries, big data processing, fine chemicals and innovative themes. However, no companies are currently located in these two sectors. At the end of 2016, there were only eight enterprises in the China-White Industrial Park, and investment attraction was under enormous pressure. The operation team actively guided the cooperation between Chinese and Belarusian enterprises into the park to achieve complementary advantages and jointly develop third country markets, such as the joint venture between Weichai Power Group and Belarusian Mazi Group to produce high horsepower diesel engines in the park - in less than eight months, the modern production line with a maximum annual capacity of 30,000 engines was officially put into operation. At the beginning of 2019, Belarusian President Lukashenko recently signed a presidential decree granting the China-Belarus Industrial Park the status of a regional special economic zone, enabling the Park's enterprises and residents to benefit to the maximum extent from the customs facilitation policy of the Eurasian Economic Union in terms of logistics and transport and production activities. This is a recognition of the fact that the China-Belarus Industrial Park promotes the economic development of Belarus.

The China-Belarus Industrial Park internationalises production in the following five directions of development.

- 1. International logistics cooperation. Transfar Logistics in the China-*Belarus* Industrial Park and the SCO Qingdao Demonstration Park has already started, and negotiations are underway with Shandong Province Port Group, hoping to form an inland port in the China-*Belarus* Industrial Park for the SCO Qingdao Park, or even the whole Shandong Province.
  - 2. Cross-border e-commerce cooperation. On December 28, 2022, the signing ceremony of the 100th resident

company of China National Machinery Group, "Belarus Yongcheng Ltd", was held by video. It is understood that Belarus Yongcheng Co., Ltd. will actively contribute to the digital development of the park and will carry out cross-border ecommerce operations and international logistics services in the China-*Belarus* Industrial Park.

- 3. Railway yard cooperation. The railway yard station is an important project that can achieve direct access of China-European trains to the China-*Belarus* Park. The project is a joint venture between the Port of Duisburg of Germany, China Merchants, Switzerland and the railway department of Belarus.
- 4. Cooperation in Chinese medicine. Chinese medicine is a new business in the current cooperation between China and Belarus. From 22 to 23 December 2022, the Management Committee of the China-Belarus Industrial Park and representatives from China's Gansu and Sichuan provinces held an online negotiation meeting to discuss the cooperation and development of the Park in the field of Chinese medicine. Belarus has excellent natural conditions for the cultivation of Chinese herbal medicine. It is hoped that the China-Belarus Industrial Park will become an important base for the overseas processing of Chinese herbal medicine in the future, and a bridgehead for Chinese medicine to Europe, as well as for export to Asian markets in the future, with great potential for the development of the industry.
- 5. Cooperation in science and innovation centre. The China-Belarus Industrial Park will vigorously promote cooperation between the Belarusian Academy of Sciences and other institutions in the SCO Model Zone, dovetailing scientific research advantages and enabling the sharing of information and resources. SCO can also make use of the current advantages of Russia and Belarus in human resources and R&D to promote scientific research institutions in Shandong Province to set up R&D centres in the park, or joint R&D laboratories, and also participate in the Starfire programme in the China-Belarus IP, where the scientific research results that have completed incubation in the China-Belarus IP can be landed in China to realise the production of industries and the docking of sales markets<sup>4</sup>.

**Conclusion.** Under the new situation, the China-*Belarus* Industrial Park is exploring new business opportunities, developing innovative businesses such as e-commerce, big data and raw material trade, and actively exploring new ideas of "trade for exhibition, exhibition for promotion, and marketing for production"<sup>5</sup>. Its attractiveness is increasing, its international influence is rising, and it is speeding up its development into a city with complete infrastructure, coordinated industrial development, green ecology and pleasant environment. It is becoming an international industrial city with complete infrastructure, coordinated development of industries, green ecology and livability, and advanced technology.

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