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ACTIVITIES OF THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES OF BELARUS IN THE PREVENTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENSES

*Research Field:
Current issues of state border protection*

The customs authorities of the Republic of Belarus are state bodies that regulate legal relations that arise, change and cease in the field of customs affairs. Today, customs authorities are entrusted with a number of tasks and functions, for example, the implementation of state customs policy and the management of customs affairs. In addition, a very important function of customs authorities is the prevention of administrative customs offenses. It is worth noting that by June 2023, customs authorities had identified more than 18 thousand offenses related to the movement of goods across the customs border, which indicates the effectiveness of measures to combat administrative offenses.¹

As part of their activities, customs authorities carry out preventive measures to prevent administrative customs offenses under Articles 12.2, 13.34, 14.4, as well as under the articles specified in Chapter 15 of the Code of the Republic of Belarus on Administrative Offenses.

Speaking about the fight against administrative customs offences, it should be noted that the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Belarus and customs take various measures every day, and also approve various legal acts aimed at preventing administrative customs offences.

Considering the measures, it is worth noting that one of them is carrying out preventive work among young people. As part of this activity, employees inform about the inadmissibility of committing administrative customs offenses, as well as about the responsibility that will be imposed on the person who committed the administrative customs offense.

The next measure is to improve customs legislation. It is worth noting that to prevent administrative customs offenses, legislation is fundamental. To achieve this, the State Customs Committee constantly not only monitors changes in the customs legislation of other countries, but also improves the regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Belarus.

¹ Беларусь.Новости На июнь 2023 года таможенниками выявлено уже более 18 тысяч правонарушений [Электронный ресурс]-. 29 июня 2023.Режим доступа: <https://belarus-news.by/news/na-iyun-2023-goda-tamozhennikami-vyyavleno-uzhe-bolee-18-tysyach-pravonarusheniy?ysclid=lsgjjwfmfz308845842>. Дата доступа: 29.04.2024

Also very important for preventing administrative customs offenses is strengthening control over the movement of goods across the customs border. It should be noted that today this measure is the most popular in the Republic of Belarus. When applying this measure, customs authorities use modern technologies and various software. An example of such technologies is the inspection and screening system, thanks to which customs authorities can scan a vehicle in a few minutes and find out whether a person is carrying any undeclared goods.

It is worth noting that there is also a risk management system that helps in identifying the illegal movement of goods across the customs border.

Customs authorities also use automatic license plate recognition systems and photo and video recording of violations at customs posts, which allows them to quickly identify violations and take measures to prevent them.

Another measure is the retraining and advanced training of customs officers of Belarus. Today, customs officers are constantly taking measures to improve their skills. This is really necessary, since every day people try to hide an increasing number of goods from customs control, and for this, a customs officer should constantly monitor the places where other employees discover various goods. It will be very important to exchange experience between employees of both the customs authorities of Belarus and the customs authorities of other countries. It is worth noting that only constant training and advanced training will allow customs officers to be one step ahead of criminals and effectively combat crimes in the customs sphere.

The next measure aimed at reducing the number of administrative customs offenses is the introduction of harsh and severe penalties for violation of customs legislation. In the Republic of Belarus, this measure is also common among both carriers and customs officers, since in our country there is an acute issue of giving a “bribe” to officials. In accordance with this, the measure of introducing a number of harsh penalties is a necessary step to ensure the effective operation of customs services and the protection of the economic interests of the state. Such penalties include fines, arrest, confiscation of property, imprisonment, and even expulsion from the country.

Since customs services ensure the protection of the rights and interests of law-abiding citizens and business entities, the introduction of harsh penalties for violations of customs legislation also contributes to the fight against corruption and other negative phenomena in this area.

It is worth noting that in the modern global economy, the importance of the activities of customs authorities in the prevention of administrative offenses is especially relevant. This is due to the fact that international trade is constantly evolving and world markets are becoming more

open. Therefore, the role of customs authorities in ensuring fair and transparent trade and preventing unfair competition is becoming increasingly important.

Continuous improvement of customs legislation, as well as improvements in customs control methods, the introduction of modern technologies, advanced training of customs authorities, as well as the introduction of more stringent penalties applied to persons who have committed administrative offenses will enhance the efficiency of customs authorities and prevent illegal actions in the field of foreign trade and movement of goods across the customs border.

Thus, it should be noted that the activities of the customs authorities of the Republic of Belarus in the prevention of administrative offenses are an integral part of ensuring the security of the state border and economic stability. In turn, the work of customs authorities to prevent crime, comply with customs legislation and ensure the legality of trade is important for the development of the economy and society as a whole.

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THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS IN ENHANCING NATIONAL SECURITY

Research Field:
Customs in the context of globalization and regionalization.

In modern conditions, one of the main issues of the country's economic development is its national security. Integration processes in the modern economic space are objective in essence and significant in their manifestation. They largely determine the vector of economic development at the mega- and macro-levels and affect the position and degree of success of functioning of individual economic structures.

For the Republic of Belarus, its membership in the EAEU is of particular importance. Belarusian scientists discuss and consider various opinions about the prospects of Belarus' integration with Russia. In particular, it is noted that «in the conditions of instability and even unpredictability of the policy of the leading world powers, the strategic importance of integration unions increases»¹.

During the XI Meeting of Security Representatives held in Istra on May 23-25 under the auspices of the Russian Security Council, Elena Danilova, Deputy Director of the Integration

¹ Economic integration - an important factor of security in Eurasia [Electronic resource]. - Access mode: https://eec.eaeunion.org/comission/department/dep_razv_integr/novosti/evraziyskaya-integratsiyafaktor-obespecheniya-ekonomicheskoy-bezopasnosti/. - Date of access: 11.04.2024.