



SIDE-EVENT

The role of regional integration in achieving the SDGs: EAEU and other structures

12 March 2024, online

13:00 (MSK)

Halfway through the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda the defining principle of the Agenda for Sustainable Development to work together globally to promote and protect the well-being of everyone on a healthy, thriving planet is under a threat. The implementation of the SDGs is far behind the schedule and there is an urgent need for the acceleration.

In this context, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is very challenging for countries with limited internal resources in a self-sustaining economic development. Therefore, a key factor in ensuring sustainable development is to increase trade and investment cooperation with partners that can assist in attracting financing and ensure the import of necessary products. This creates opportunities for newly emerging world powers to achieve their economic goals.

In this regard, **regional economic integration, as an important driver of sustainable and inclusive economic growth for the Member States**, provides countries with additional opportunities to make significant progress in the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda. Efforts should be undertaken not only by national governments, but also proceed from regional integration processes. When national governments do not act alone, but together as a group, using economies of scale and each other's competitive advantages, the added value of integration associations becomes even more obvious.

The EAEU Member States (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia) are taking concrete steps to achieve the SDGs, introducing these goals and objectives into their national program documents and strategies, while regional economic integration within the Union is an additional factor contributing to the achievement of the SDGs by the Member States.

The EAEU is committed to achieving the SDGs on the regional level and is constantly working with the Member States to advance concrete, integrated and targeted policies and actions to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and end the war on nature.

This year the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) as the regulatory body of the EAEU will present a side event “The role of regional integration in achieving the SDGs: EAEU and other structures” dedicated to the regional dimension of the SDGs. The event will also provide an overview of the Union’s actions and strategies adopted to achieve the SDGs at all levels, from national to regional and global.

The side event will be of interest to the sustainable development specialists, representatives of regional integration associations, as well as to the experts in the field of regional economic integration and international economic relations.

Moderator:

Oleg Barabanov, Programme director of the Valdai Discussion Club, Academic Director of the European Studies Institute at MGIMO University, Professor of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Welcoming remarks:

1. **Sergey Vasiliev**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Russia to the UN in Geneva
2. **Hambardzum Minasyan**, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the UN in Geneva

Speakers:

3. **Sergey Glazyev**, Member of the Board (Minister) for Integration and Macroeconomics, EEC
4. **Askar Japparkulov**, Director of the Macroeconomic Policy Department, EEC
5. **Kanybek Kasymali uulu**, Deputy director of the Trade Policy Department, EEC
6. **Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe
7. **Sohail Khan**, Deputy Secretary General at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
8. **Ugur Turan**, Expert in Environmental Dimension at the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia Secretariat (CICA)
9. **Conrad Albrecht**, Managing Director of the Directorate of Sustainability, Eurasian Development Bank