Establishment and prospects of diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and Belarus

Abstract: In this article highlights of establishment and prospects of diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and Belarus so as well as training of personnel, will contribute to the development of country.

Key words: Uzbekistan, Belarus, diplomatic relations, economy, politics, society, state, development.

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Introduction

The history of society and states shows that not any country has made progress without cooperation with other states. Located in the center of the historical Road “Great Silk”, which connects the countries of the East and West, Uzbekistan has been a junction point of religions, nations and cultures for several centuries. The last decade of the twentieth century entered history as a period of radical political and ideological transformations worldwide. The world community has stepped into a new era. This period is distinguished by its two aspects. This is the process of rapprochement between states, peoples and the emergence of comprehensive cooperation, political, economic and legal spaces that are holistic, the creation of the norms of modern international law.

While our country conducts an independent foreign policy as an equal subject of international relations, it is important to conduct a profitable foreign policy based on a specific position in the current world political processes.

Focusing on the priority aspects of our country’s international cooperation, the main issue is aimed at finding new partners and new markets, attracting more foreign companies and investors to the economy of our country. We are confident that the state relations are primarily aimed at close cooperation with close troops, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the foreign policy of our country is based on Real goals, pragmatic policy.

One of the founders of the Commonwealth of Independent States is the Republic of Belarus, which is also one of the prospective partners of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It has been 26 years since the establishment of cooperation relations with the state. If the embassy of the Republic of Belarus in Uzbekistan was hanged in Tashkent in 1994, then the embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Belarus was also opened in Minsk in 1994.

In this regard, it should be said that similar aspects are observed in the form of governance of the states of Uzbekistan and Belarus. In particular, the Republic of Belarus is a unitary democratic social legal state. The Constitution adopted in the referendum in 1996 year is valid. The head of state is the president, elected by the population for a period of 5 years. The legislative body is the National Assembly (for comparison: in Uzbekistan – the Oliy Majlis), which consists of the representatives chamber (in Uzbekistan – the legislative chamber) and the Republican Council (in Uzbekistan – the Senate). All 110 deputies of the House of Representatives are elected by the population. 56 of the 64 deputies of the Republican Council are elected by local councils, 8 (16 in Uzbekistan) are appointed by the president. The term of office of the National Assembly is 4 years.
The executive power is exercised by the Council of Ministers, headed by the Prime Minister. The prime minister is appointed by the president with the consent of the House of Representatives. [1]

Diplomatic relations between the two countries were established in 1993 year. In particular, in December 1994, the president of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko made an official state visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan. During this visit, "declaration of the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Uzbekistan on further strengthening friendship and cooperation" [2], "protocol on consultations between the ministries of Foreign Affairs" [3], as well as agreements on trade and economic cooperation between the two countries, on cooperation in the field of Agriculture were signed. Agreement between the Patent Office of the Republic of Belarus and the patent offices of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the protection of industrial property. [4] Between the customs office of the Republic of Belarus and the state tax office of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed an agreement on mutual recognition of customs services and customs documents, an agreement on cooperation in the fight against violation of customs regulations and smuggling, an agreement on cooperation in the fight against illegal arms, ammunition, explosives and trade in narcotic. These signed agreements opened new stages of cooperation between the two countries. In particular, the two countries have established cooperation systems in trade, economic, production, agriculture and scientific and technical spheres.

Between 1994-2016, there were no official meetings directly organized between the leaders of the two countries. The first president of the Republic of Uzbekistan communication between I.Karimov and the president of the Republic of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko met at a meeting of the Council of Heads of state of the Commonwealth of independent states organization. But an atmosphere of fruitful cooperation was created between the governments and state bodies of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Belarus. In particular, on May 24, 2007, the governments of the two countries signed an agreement "On the establishment of a joint commission of the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Belarus on the effective establishment of bilateral cooperation"[6], on June 19, 2008 between the governments of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Belarus "Agreement on economic cooperation", On November 24, 2011, the Prosecutor General's office of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Department for the implementation of financial control of the Republic of Belarus signed an "Agreement on legalization of criminal revenues and fight against terrorism financing" [8]. The above government contracts have brought trade and economic cooperation to a new level.

Today, if we pay attention to the Export-import relations between the two countries, it looks like the following.

| Products exported from Uzbekistan to Belarus | Products exported from Belarus to Uzbekistan |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Rural-agriculture techniques               | Fruit and vegetable products                |
| Construction products                      | Dried fruits                                |
| Road construction equipment                | Cotton fiber                                |
| Light technology                           | Semi-finished products from cotton          |
| Potatoes                                   | Finishing and fabrics                       |
| Medicinal products                         | Ready-made clothes                          |
| Car spare parts                            | Car and its spare parts                     |

If we focus on export-import products between the two countries, we can see that the types of goods and services are in a few cases.

In 2012-2018 years between the republics of Uzbekistan and Belarus will be shown in the following form:
If we pay attention to the above table, the trade relations between the two countries have a changing feature. Because, until 2017, direct agreements between the two countries on the supply of various types of products and services, access to the market, practically did not find its implementation sufficiently. In particular, on June 19, 2008 in Minsk was signed the "economic partnership agreement between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2008-2017". [9] also in 2013, Belarus and Uzbekistan signed an agreement on the Free Trade Zone. This document Belarus ratified itself in 2013 year, while the Uzbek side ratified in 2014 year. But the current implementation of this agreement by the two countries has not been effectively established. For this reason, until 2016, the volume of trade turnover decreased to 63,7 million dollars.

On October 6, 2016, the president of the Republic of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko made an official visit to Uzbekistan. The leaders of the two countries saw them in Samarkand. Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said at the meeting: "we are a little late in relations and economy. I'm sure we will go through this ridiculous turnover in the next one, two or three years. We have a huge potential for this. Our task with you is to ensure that the people of Uzbekistan and Belarus have decent relations," he said. In turn, the president of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev said: "Belarus is our sincere, ancient partner and friendly country. The turnover between us today does not satisfy both you and US. We need to find damage points for growth," he stressed. [10]

September 12, 2018 President of the Republic of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko arrived in Uzbekistan on an official visit. The presidents discussed a wide range of issues related to bilateral cooperation, agreed to strengthen political dialogue between the two countries, consistent development of practical cooperation in various fields. During the negotiations held in an expanded format with the participation of official delegations, issues of diversification and further expansion of trade and economic relations between Uzbekistan and Belarus, strengthening the partnership, taking into account the complementary nature of the economy of the two countries, were discussed.

Within the framework of the visit, 19 documents, including the mutual trade promotion system, industrial property protection, mutual assistance in customs affairs, science and technology, agriculture, health, medicine, Higher Education, Culture and other areas cooperation agreements were signed. Among them, the government agreement on socio-economic cooperation in 2019-2023 and its implementation program are of particular importance. Within the framework of the visit, contracts and agreements worth more than 230 million dollars were signed at the forum of business and regional cooperation. The president of the Republic of Uzbekistan proposed to the Belarusian side to organize a "green corridor" for Belarus in order to simplify the trade in fruits and vegetables and textile products of Uzbekistan.

The head of our country paid an official visit to the Republic of Belarus on July 31 - August 1, 2019. As a result of the visit, the heads of state signed a joint statement. It was achieved to adopt a multifaceted partnership between the two countries, including cooperation in the fields of investment, production, scientific and technical cooperation, as well as a
significant set of documents that provide a solid basis for establishing direct relations between the regions.

The multilateral development of cooperation relations between Uzbekistan and Belarus is beneficial for both countries.

In particular, in the economic sphere, we can see a significant increase in the need for products developed in Uzbekistan and the Republic of Belarus in the domestic market of the two countries. In particular, Uzbekistan can achieve the satisfaction of its needs by importing or jointly producing agricultural farming techniques, Aggregates, Products of carrots (potatoes, sugar beets), which are produced in the Republic of Belarus. In turn, Uzbekistan will achieve the opening of new markets in Europe for itself by launching export of agricultural products (cotton, silk, hemp, melons, vegetables) to Belarus on a global scale. In this regard, the initiative “green corridor” put forward by Shavkat Mirziyoyev should be supported and launched by both countries. Opening joint ventures in the trade relations of the two countries in the field of mining, mechanical engineering, automotive, energy and light industry and bringing them to the level of production of products in cooperation is highly effective. In particular, by signing the necessary agreements for the joint production of Belarusian agricultural machinery, equipment used in the mining and construction industries, we will first of all achieve the satisfaction of our domestic needs, while also providing the opportunity to export the necessary equipment to the countries of the Central Asian region.

Both Uzbekistan and Belarus are interested in peace and stability in the political sphere, in the Central Asian region and in the Eastern European region. In international organizations such as the Commonwealth of independent states, the Shanhai Cooperation Organization, the organization for security and cooperation in Europe, the two countries are united by common interests. Belarus supports the position of Uzbekistan on the establishment of peace in Afghanistan. On October 23, 2018 in the field of security, Uzbekistan and Belarus signed plan for the further development of cooperation in the field of security for 2019-2020. [11] In accordance with this agreement, the two countries are achieving military cooperation without conflict with international agreements and national legislation of the parties, exchange of experience in the training of military personnel, joint military training in the fight against terrorism, religious extremism, organized crime and drug addiction. [12]

Cooperation in the socio-cultural sphere is developing year after year between the two countries. In particular, the National-Cultural Center of Belarus is operating in Uzbekistan, while the national-cultural center of Uzbekistan has been operating in Belarus for many years.

Also, the relations of cooperation in the field of Science and medicine are developing year after year. On April 9, 2019, Uzbekistan proposed to establish scientific cooperation in Belarus, including the opening of joint laboratories, on May 24, 2007, it was agreed to ensure the implementation of the cooperation agreement between the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan and the National Academy of Sciences of Sciences of Belarus [13] and the agreement between the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the government.

Between Samarkand Institute of Economics and service in the field of education and Polosk State University of Belarus (July 19, 2019), Tashkent University of information technologies and Belarusian State University of Informatics and electronics (June 18, 2019), Tashkent State Pedagogical University named after Nizami and Belarusian State Pedagogical University (September 19, 2018), Uzbekistan State University of physical education and sports and Belarusian State

As a result of the visit of the minister of health of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Republic of Belarus in 2015 in the field of Health, an agreement was reached on the Export-Import of pharmaceuticals and medicines, joint production of medicines. In addition, with the signing of the agreement on cooperation in the field of post-higher education between the Institute for the professional development of doctors of Uzbekistan and the Belarusian Medical Academy, on September 13, 2018, with the agreement between the ministers of health of the two countries, special attention will be paid to support cooperation in the field of training. In addition, exchange of experience in such areas as development of pharmaceutical sector, development of fundamental and scientific-practical research in the field of sanitation-epidemiology, clinical and profilactic medicine, as well as in the field of medical oncology was established.

If we pay attention to the information learned, from 1993 to 2019, more than 130 cooperation contracts and agreements were signed between Uzbekistan and Belarus in different directions. This information means that the legal basis of the cooperation relations between the two countries is perfectly established. At the meeting of the United Nations, the organization for security and cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Shanhai Cooperation Organization, Uzbekistan and Belarus support each other's interests and promote joint initiatives. The two countries will also support cooperation in ensuring tinnitus and stability in the Central Asian region and the Eastern European region. The Republic of Belarus is also constantly supporting Uzbekistan's initiatives and efforts to establish peace in Afghanistan.

In the economic sphere, there are many aspects that make up the two countries. Therefore, in order to
develop trade relations and increase the volume of commodity circulation to 1 billion US dollars, the two countries should organize “green corridors” in relation to different types of products and introduce more customs benefits. It is also possible to achieve an increase in the economic potential of the regions of Uzbekistan by expanding the cooperation in the trade and economic sphere between the major cities and economic centers of Uzbekistan and Belarus.

In the field of science, Uzbekistan conducts scientific research in cooperation with higher educational institutions specializing in the management and creation of equipment that serves for machine and technical, mining, metallurgy, heavy industry, as well as scientific research centers of Belarus, as well as training of personnel, will contribute to the development of industrial economy in our country.

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