

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE AS THE MAIN DESCRIPTOR OF GLOBALIZATION IMPACT

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Under the present circumstances, the international trade is characterized by a series of highly important processes, such as: a) The growth of the national potential of economic competitiveness is ever fluctuating, being influenced almost decisively by the evolution of the technical progress and by its implementation in the economic and social life; b) The polarization of the trade exchanges; c) The internationalization of the financial markets; d) The problems concerning the environment protection.

Analyzing the evolution of the international trade in the last two decades one may outline and forecast several features for the future. First, the faster growth tendency of the world trade in comparison with the world output will remain steady, especially since certain premises have been created, capable to stir the world trade, such as: the existence of more open and more competitive markets, with a fully developing trade, the growth of the direct foreign investments, a low inflation rate, the reduction of the budget deficits in many countries and others.

Second, the growth and the diversification of the services trade will continue, while their role in the states' economy will be more and more important and the implementation of the new technologies and of the modern telecommunication means will allow the development of this particular economic sector.

The regionalization tendencies have increased concomitantly with the tendencies of the globalization.

However, the globalization and the regionalization have to be seen as two complementary processes. The regionalization should not lead to the fragmentation of the global system in blocks of opposing interests, but to the creation of economic and commercial areas within an open world economy. This can be taken as a transition process and not as an alternative for the globalization. The option of the states to take part in cooperation action within the regional economic groups must be subordinated to the national interests of superior revaluation of the material, human and technological potential.

Keywords: *processes describing international trade, features of future evolution international trade, relations between globalization and regionalization.*

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Under the present circumstances, the international trade is characterized by a series of highly important processes, such as:

a) The growth of the national potential of economic competitiveness is ever fluctuating, being influenced almost decisively by the evolution of the technical progress and by its implementation in the economic and social life.

The science has created new industries and technologies lately, out of which the information technique industry (semiconductors, computers, consumption electronics, telecommunications, industrial automating, medical and automobile electronics), *biotechnics*, having as central pillar genetics, *the industry of the new materials*, *the energetic system based on renewable and non-polluting energy*, *the environment technique and the space technique*, define the new status of the economy named "information economy".

The technical progress has deepened the international and technological labour division, emphasizing the intra-industrial and intra-product-like specialization, which has differentiated even more the economic development level of the countries. As a result of this situation the international trade expands and deepens where there is a frame for the manifestation of the technical progress.

b) The polarization of the trade exchanges, so that each country, by its geographic position might have special trade relationships with its neighbouring ones, due to the existence of certain, cultural, historical and political. This process is more and more highlighted by the broadening of the economic integration of the economies, which has freed the barriers. The result obtained by the European Union has determined the states from various regions worldwide to follow its example (NAFTA in North America MERCOSUR (MERCOSUL) in Latin America, AFTA in Asia de South-East etc.), even if the objectives of the integration have not been fulfilled.

c) The internationalization of the financial markets involves, at a national level, a more severe control over the capital, acting as constraints upon the decision-makers in the field of trade policies, the errors being sanctioned much more rapidly.

d) The problems concerning the environment protection must find their well-determined place within the working out process of the trade and economic policies, protecting thus two important trends:

1. The supporters of the globalization process believe that only the market, by its free mechanism of self-regulation, of the balance between resources and needs, may solve the ecological issues by means of negotiation and economic compromises;

2. The opponents of the globalization believe that the market is the cause of the lack of balance and of the negative effects that manifest at the level of the environment, while protecting the nature is possible only by extra-economic means.

We do not believe any of these opinions to be fully true considering that for certain natural resources or certain ecological issues one may resort to the market to solve the problems, while for other one shall prefer the extra-economic ways.

The instruments of the trade policies will remain the same, also taking into account the possibility to appear new ones, adjusted to a reality that cannot be anticipated. In the last decade of the 20th century, the main concern of the world trade policies was the liberalization of the economic and commercial activities. In fact, more or less, all the governments have taken measures to strengthen the role of the private companies and to eliminate the barriers that rise in the way of the commercial exchanges.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Analyzing the evolution of the international trade in the last two decades one may outline and forecast several features for the future. First, the faster growth tendency of the world trade in comparison with the world output will remain steady, especially since certain premises have been created, capable to stir the world trade, such as: the existence of more open and more competitive markets, with a fully developing trade, the growth of the direct foreign investments, a low inflation rate, the reduction of the budget deficits in many countries and others.

Second, the growth and the diversification of the services trade will continue, while their role in the states' economy will be more and more important and the implementation of the new technologies and of the modern telecommunication means will allow the development of this particular economic sector.

As well as this, the weight of the raw materials will continue to drop concomitantly with the increase of the manufactured products, with high level of inclusion of the technical progress. This evolution will determine the intensification of the growth process of the poorly developed countries' dependence, whose foreign trade is based on raw materials or on the products that are in the first working stages.

As a counter-weight, the intensification of the concerns regarding the integration of the different states within the free-trade areas might intensify the international cooperation related to the global trade, and a decrease of the external debt of the poorest countries.

The *regionalization* tendencies have increased concomitantly with the tendencies of the globalization. *Regionalization* and the preferential agreements it supposes have come up either as a source of the fragmentation or as a negotiation weapon, or even as an intermediate way of the liberalization of the exchanges. In some specialists' opinion, regionalization has come out because the fear of a global failure of the multilateral negotiations has lead to a search for those solutions that might guarantee the liberalization of the regional trade.

CONCLUSIONS

However, *the globalization and the regionalization have to be seen a two complementary processes*. The regionalization should not lead to the fragmentation of the global system in blocks of opposing interests, but to the creation of economic and commercial areas within an open world economy. This can be taken as a transition process and not as an alternative for the globalization. The option of the states to take part in cooperation action within the regional economic groups must be subordinated to the national interests of superior revaluation of the material, human and technological potential.

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