THE ROLE OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN ENSURING THE EXTERNAL ECONOMIC SECURITY OF THE STATE

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Introduction. The issue of ensuring the foreign economic security of the state is quite relevant today, because for the normal development of the country it is vital to take care of the interests of both citizens and the state as a whole. The national security of the country depends on various factors. These include financial dependence on other countries or international organizations or other destabilizing factors that are important to keep under control in order to maintain the state of foreign economic security of the state. Since import and export security make up a significant share of foreign economic security, the research of the role of chambers of commerce and industry in ensuring foreign economic security will be an urgent issue.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The question of ensuring the foreign economic security of the state was considered by many Ukrainian scientists. Among them, the following can be distinguished: N.M. Matviychuk, Z.S. Varnaliy, V. Vlasyuk, T.V. Sak, and others.

Objectives of the article. The purpose of the study is to analyze the role of chambers of commerce and industry in ensuring the foreign economic security of the state.

The main material of the study. The foreign economic security of the country can also be understood as the state of the country’s economy, capable of producing competitive products suitable for attracting investments, as well as ensuring the balance of the trade balance and the stability of the country’s financial system in the world system [1].

External economic security has a great influence on all spheres of economic security of the state, through interaction with them in an explicit or latent form. However, foreign economic security does not belong to any of the spheres, but is a separate sphere of economic and national security [2].

External economic security has a number of components, among them the following: import and export security, currency and investments, as well as foreign debt [3].

Export security is the state’s ability to maintain exports at a level that meets the state’s national interests, to ensure its rational product structure and competitiveness. It is worth noting that the export strategy at this stage of development needs changes, because there are certain problems with the development of export potential, which in turn has a bad effect on the state of foreign trade and foreign economic security of the country as a whole.

State control is also quite important when ensuring the export policy, because its lack can lead to the uncontrolled export of raw materials abroad and a shortage of products among the country’s population.

Therefore, it is important to follow a number of measures that will ensure the export security of the state (Figure 1).

As for import security, it represents a rational commodity and geographical balance of imports, which has a positive impact on the development of the domestic economy, protects the domestic market and the national producer, contributes to the strengthening of the competitiveness of domestic products and the economic independence of Ukraine.
It is quite important to determine the optimal volume of imports for each type of product, depending on external and internal factors of foreign economic activity. In turn, the state has ways of influencing imports, including the following: tariff and non-tariff [5].

Import tariffs or customs duties are a tax or monetary levy on imported goods at the moment they cross the customs border of the state. The customs tariff can be specific and is set in absolute terms from the unit of measurement. Another type of customs tariff is ad valorem duty – it is set as a percentage of the price of the product. The assessment of the value of goods is made in accordance with the Agreement on the assessment of goods for customs purposes concluded within the framework of the GATT. The average rate of ad valorem duties is relatively low (about 6%) [6].

The introduction of an import tariff leads to a number of consequences that have a significant impact on foreign economic security. Their list can be seen in Figure 2.

**Figure 1. Measures to ensure export security of the state**
*Source: summarized by the author based on [3]*

**Figure 2. Consequences of the introduction of the import regime**
*Source: summarized by the author based on [3]*
Regarding non-tariff methods, they represent a complex of measures of a prohibitive and restrictive nature that directly or indirectly limit the import of foreign goods (services) to the domestic market of the country or prohibit it altogether. Non-tariff methods may include the methods presented in Figure 3.

![Figure 3. Non-tariff methods of regulating the state's import security](source: summarized by the author based on [7])

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine has a significant influence on the development of import and export policy. First of all, it should be noted that it is a non-state, non-profit self-governing organization that unites legal entities that are created and operate in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine, and citizens of Ukraine, registered as entrepreneurs, and their associations [8].

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry has a Council on Foreign Economic Activities. It is a constantly operating consultative and advisory body formed from the number of entrepreneurs-specialists in the field of foreign economic activity, leading specialists of commercial enterprises, their associations, scientific research, project organizations, and international organizations.

The following tasks of the Council on Foreign Economic Activity are highlighted, which are presented in Figure 4.

It should be noted that according to Figure 4 The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine plays a leading role in ensuring the foreign economic security of the state by supporting importers, as well as establishing new ways for exporters.

Both representatives of self-government bodies and representatives of local self-government bodies are involved in the activities of the Council on a free basis, as well as representatives of foreign embassies accredited in Ukraine.

The Council acts as a mediator in the dialogue between business and the government, lobbies on a wide range of issues with the aim of improving the general legal and regulatory policy and removing obstacles to doing business, exerts a real influence on law-making activity, develops, based on the real needs of business, thorough proposals for consideration relevant state authorities [9].

Further, it is also worth considering the dynamics of commodity exports and imports in the period from 2013 to September 2023.

In figure presented above, you can see that the growth of import and export volumes began in 2016 and continued until 2019. Next, negative dynamics can begin during 2019–2020, and already in 2020–2021, volume growth began. Starting from 2022, the indicators also show negative dynamics.

In order to further improve the foreign economic security of this state, including with the participation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, it is necessary to import such advanced technologies that will contribute to the technical rearmament and modernization of the domestic industry, the cessation of irrational imports and the growth of exports of high-tech and science-intensive products.

As for the situation with export security, it is necessary to ensure the rational territorial placement of export capacities in Ukraine. It is important that Ukraine integrates into the world economy as an equal partner, which
is possible only under the conditions of improving the structure of foreign economic activity due to the supply of finished products, the use of investments in industrial and scientific and technical cooperation, etc.

Conclusions. Summing up, it is worth noting that the chambers of commerce and industry play a special role in ensuring the foreign economic security of the state. In particular, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine is engaged in representing the interests of its members during various domestic and international events. Also, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine supports trade by helping exporters in search of new markets and entering them, importers, helps to establish supply channels, domestic enterprises, helps
with the search and attraction of foreign investors and generally expands international cooperation. In this way, chambers of commerce and industry support the foreign economic security of the country, the path of development of its components, namely import and export security.

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The role of chambers of commerce and industry in ensuring the external economic security of the state.

The purpose of the article is to study the role of chambers of commerce and industry in ensuring the foreign economic security of the state. As a result of the study of the works of a number of scientists, it was determined that "foreign economic security" is the economic state of the country, which produces competitive products and ensures a balanced trade balance. The components of foreign economic security were considered, and the most attention was paid to import and export security. As a result of the conducted research, measures to ensure export security of the state were considered, including economic, organizational and legal measures. Also, the state’s import security was analyzed, which represents the balance of imports in the ratio that is beneficial for the state’s economy. Next, tariff and non-tariff methods of import regulation were considered, including the consequences of the introduction of the import regime. Next, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine and its influence on the foreign economic security of the state, including through the Council on Foreign Economic Activities, were considered. The main prospects for further scientific research in this direction are the study of possible consequences of development and the search for new ways of influence of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine on foreign economic security.

Key words: foreign economic security, import, export, chambers of commerce, tariff methods, non-tariff methods.