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## EVOLUTION OF WORLD TRADE WARS: THE HISTORICAL ASPECT

This article analyzes trends in international trade regarding trade contradictions and attempts to define “trade wars”. The growth of global trade has changed the economic impact and political contours of trade protection. The study revealed that today trade disputes and wars, which have turned into the biggest problems for the global trading system, this is a matter of great concern, and certain contradictions in trade relations between states are characterized as “trade wars”.

Since the establishment and development of international trade relations, in the context of competition between countries for markets, serious trade conflicts have begun to arise and escalate, and in connection with the development of the international trading system, the consequences of trade clashes have become increasingly large-scale. Countries have used a variety of methods – from diplomacy to military intervention-to protect their own markets from foreign competitors ‘ goods and strengthen their positions in foreign markets.

The article examines the history of development and the reasons of world trade wars. The study of the evolution of international trade contradictions and disputes from the time of Ancient Greece to the present day, showed that the objects of disputes were different, different methods and tools were used during trade wars. Although trade wars have always been destructive, at the present stage, these conflicts causing divisions can escalate into new geopolitical confrontations and lead to a prolonged global recession.

**Key words.** trade and economic relations, trade contradictions, trade war, regulatory tools, USA, China.

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## Әлемдік сауда соғыстарының эволюциясы: тарихи аспект

Бұл мақалада автор халықаралық сауда саласындағы сауда қайшылықтарына қатысты тенденцияларды талдауға және «сауда соғыстарына» анықтама беруге тырысқан. Жаһандық сауданың өсуі сауданы қорғаудың экономикалық салдары мен саяси құрылымын өзгертті. Зерттеу барысында қазіргі уақытта жаһандық сауда жүйесі үшін ең үлкен мәселеге айналған сауда даулары мен соғыстары үлкен алаңдаушылық тудыратыны және мемлекеттер арасындағы сауда қатынастарындағы белгілі бір қайшылықтар «сауда соғыстары» ретінде сипатталатыны анықталды.

Халықаралық сауда қатынастары пайда болғаннан және дамыған кезден бастап, елдер арасындағы сауда нарықтары үшін бәсекелестік жағдайында елеулі сауда қақтығыстары пайда болып шиеленісе бастады, ал халықаралық сауда жүйесінің дамуына байланысты сауда қақтығыстарының салдары барған сайын ауқымданып келеді. Елдер өз нарықтарын шетелдік бәсекелестердің тауарларынан қорғау және сыртқы нарықтардағы ұстанымдарын нығайту үшін дипломатиядан бастап, әскери араласуға дейінгі әртүрлі әдістерді қолданды.

Мақалада әлемдік сауда соғыстарының даму тарихы мен себептері қарастырылған. Ежелгі Грециядан бастап бүгінгі күнге дейінгі халықаралық сауда қайшылықтары мен дауларының эволюциясын зерттеу нәтижесіне сәйкес, даулардың объектілері әртүрлі екендігі көрсетілді, сауда соғыстары кезінде әртүрлі әдістер мен құралдар қолданылды. Сауда соғыстары әрқашан жойқын болғанымен, қазіргі кезеңде бұл қақтығыстар келіспеушіліктерді тудырып, жаңа геосаяси қарама-қайшылыққа ұласып, ұзақ жаһандық құлдырауға алып келуі мүмкін.

**Түйін сөздер:** сауда-экономикалық қатынастар, сауда қайшылықтары, сауда соғысы, АҚШ, Қытай.

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### **Эволюция мировых торговых войн: исторический аспект**

В данной статье анализируются тенденции в сфере международной торговли, касающиеся торговых противоречий, и делается попытка дать определение «торговым войнам». Рост глобальной торговли изменил экономические последствия и политические контуры торговой защиты. В ходе исследования выявлено, что сегодня торговые споры и войны, которые превратились в самые большие проблемы для глобальной торговой системы, вызывают серьезную озабоченность, и те или иные противоречия в торговых отношениях между государствами характеризуются как «торговые войны».

С момента установления и развития международных торговых отношений, в условиях конкуренции между странами за рынки сбыта начали возникать и обостряться серьезные торговые конфликты, а в связи с развитием международной торговой системы последствия торговых столкновений стали приобретать все более крупномасштабный характер. Страны для защиты собственных рынков от товаров иностранных конкурентов и укрепления позиций на зарубежных рынках использовали самые разные методы – от дипломатии до военного вмешательства.

В статье рассмотрена история развития и причины возникновения мировых торговых войн. Изучение эволюции международных торговых противоречий и споров со времен Древней Греции до наших дней показало, что объекты споров были различные, использовались различные методы и инструменты в ходе торговых войн. Хотя торговые войны всегда были разрушительными, на современном этапе эти конфликты, вызывая разногласия, могут перерасти в новую геополитическую конфронтацию и привести к длительной глобальной рецессии.

**Ключевые слова:** торгово-экономические отношения, торговые противоречия, торговая война, инструменты регулирования, США, Китай.

## **Introduction**

Globalization and economic integration are a distinctive feature of the modern world. In particular, the growing division of labor and fragmentation of supply chains have led to the globalization of the production and delivery of many goods and services, which has strengthened international economic cooperation. The increase in trade flows is a strong indication of such cooperation (Krugman, Obstfeld, and Melitz, 2014). However, against this trend of globalization, international politics does not necessarily become more cooperative – an idea that has been promoted in popular scientific circles (Friedman, 2000; Mandelbaum, 2002; Witt, 2019). Political tensions can significantly hinder all aspects of economic integration, such as trade, investment, supply chain and transport logistics.

Thus, in connection with the intensive development of globalization processes at the end of the XX – beginning of the XXI century, with the growth of international trade and with the change in the position of countries in the world market and the structure of their trade, the desire of countries to maintain their competitiveness of their own producers and protectionist trends in new forms are actualizing the problem of aggravated

trade relations between countries. In the course of the evolution of international trade, various instruments of its regulation were developed and applied. Since the development of trade relations, each country, protecting the interests of domestic producers in all available ways, has tried to provide the most favorable conditions for them, even if it discriminated against a trading partner. In world history, almost every country has had internal and external political, economic conflicts and wars. There were many reasons for the outbreak of wars, the implementation of ideological, foreign policy, diplomatic and other goals.

In the age of globalization and the development of new innovative technologies, when the human being depends on financial capital, one of the most common and destructive phenomena is trade wars. They have a negative impact on the global economy, international trade and global financial markets. Studying the historical consequences of trade clashes, it can be noted that they can cause serious damage to consumers and businesses in both countries, and even lead to complete ruin.

Trade wars are generally considered a side effect of protectionism. Protectionism refers to government actions and policies that restrict international trade. A country typically takes protectionist actions to

protect domestic businesses and jobs from foreign competition, raising import duties or imposing other restrictions on imports imported from other countries. Trade wars are generally considered a side effect of protectionism. Protectionism refers to government actions and policies that restrict international trade. A country typically takes protectionist actions to protect domestic businesses and jobs from foreign competition, raising import duties or imposing other restrictions on imports imported from other countries. An important goal of trade wars is to protect national economic interests and cause great damage to a rival country in the market of any product, which leads to destabilization. Based on this, various measures are used as a tool in such wars (trade and political, economic, legal, administrative, etc.).

Thus, a trade war is a trade rivalry between two or more countries, which is carried out in order to capture foreign markets or prevent the trade "occupation" of the national economy (Mytareva, 2010).

### Literature review

Today, the problem of studying contradictions in interstate trade and economic relations is more or less complicated by the lack of a generally accepted theory of conflicts in international trade. Scientific research that is devoted to a comprehensive study of the essence, causes, nature, forms of trade contradictions, evolution under the influence of economic, political, and other factors is still insufficient. As you know, modeling or analyzing trade wars is not an easy task. Heckscher-Olin tried to create a model that was successful, but on a limited scale. The main work on this model was done by Eli Heckscher and Bertil Olin in 1933. Johnson (1953-54) (Johnson, 1953) demonstrated that any country can win a trade war if it has a high elasticity of import demand compared to its trading partner. In this situation, he can set a non-zero tariff, and despite the retaliatory actions of his trading partner, he can win. Kennan and Riezman (1988) (Kennan, Riezman, 1988) in their work "Do big countries win in the tariff war?" are of the opinion: that large countries can win a tariff war because of their size of security for every good in the world. The work of Bobylov Yu. A. (2015) was devoted to economic wars in the light of economic theories, and this paper defines the concept of "economic wars". In the works of Korstjens, D.

(2005), and Byalogo Yu. (2013), Mytareva E. A. (2010), the phenomenon of trade wars, the causes and consequences of historical trade confrontations are investigated. Gordeeva T. (2013) analyzed the problem of international trade disputes arising between countries in the modern regulatory paradigm. The study of Makarov V. L., Vu Ts, Vu Z., Khabriev B. R., Bakhtizin A. R. (2019) assesses the consequences of trade wars.

Despite the fact that many international trade wars have been recorded in history, the problem of forming a paradigm of controversial relations in international trade still remains unresolved. Some aspects of this issue are addressed only in a small number of available research papers.

### Materials and methods

The problem of trade contradictions requires theoretical understanding, special methodology and holistic analysis. The theoretical basis of the study was the fundamental work of foreign, Russian and Kazakh authors considering global instruments for regulating world trade, foreign trade policy and interests of states, international trade disputes. In the course of the research, materials of official foreign policy departments and information agencies that are in the public domain were used. The interrelation of systemic, evolutionary and institutional paradigms of foreign economic development and international relations were used as methods of theoretical understanding. The study used the methods of historical, systemic, critical analysis. When studying individual issues of the research topic, the authors used an interdisciplinary approach.

### Results and discussion

Researchers distinguish between defensive and offensive trade wars.

- offensive war, carried out with the aim of capturing foreign markets and the acquisition of strategically important enterprises and organizations (investment companies, banks);

- defensive wars are conducted in order to avoid trade "occupation" of the national economy, the desire to maintain the current situation of the domestic market (Bobylov, 2015).

There are several methods of conducting trade wars (Bobylov, 2015).

Trade wars often result in armed conflicts when trying to break through a trade blockade.

The methods are used in offensive warfare:	The methods are used in a defensive trade war:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- tariff escalation (lowering of export customs tariffs);</li> <li>- an increase in export quotas;</li> <li>- application of dumping prices;</li> <li>- embargo on certain goods, blockade of services;</li> <li>- hidden anti-advertising of goods of foreign competitors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increase in import customs duties (including the use of countervailing duty), which involves raising the price of imported goods to the level of domestic prices in order to prevent dumping;</li> <li>- reduction of import quotas;</li> <li>- introduction of non-tariff restrict-barriers related to the complication of licensing procedures and customs formalities;</li> <li>- introduction of technical barriers that contribute to difficulties with the compliance of imported goods with national standards and technical conditions.</li> </ul>

### The retrospective of the world trade wars

Since the establishment and development of international trade relations, in the context of competition between countries for markets, serious trade conflicts have begun to arise and escalate, and in connection with the development of the international trading system, the consequences of trade clashes have become increasingly large-scale. Countries have used a variety of methods – from diplomacy to military intervention-to protect their own markets from foreign competitors ‘ goods and strengthen their positions in foreign markets.

This study examines the well-known”trade wars” in world history, which could give clear ideas about their nature, causes, methods of confrontation and other aspects.

One of the first manifestations of trade conflicts can serve as an example of the ban imposed by Athens on trade with the Megarians. (432-430 BC). In ancient Greece, rival city-states used military force or the threat of military force to support their trade expansion or restrict foreign trade. Athens pursued an expansionist economic policy against Megara and banned trade with them. This conflict resulted in a serious war, which was later called the “Peloponnesian War”. Similar trade conflicts also occurred in Ancient Rome, Byzantium, and ancient Egypt.

In the X–XIII centuries on the ancient water and land trade route from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea and then to Byzantium “The Way from the Varangians to the Greeks”, there were also trade wars. Nomads living on this route seized the property of merchants and charged a fee for their transportation. In this case, the method of controlling trade routes under economic blockade was used (Boxer, 2018: 268-270)

In the era of great geographical discoveries, trade confrontations between the leading powers and rivalries for control of the sea routes intensified.

In the XVI century, the spice trade was considered profitable, the Portuguese controlled this area. A state monopoly was established on foreign trade in Portugal, and independent traders were required to pay high taxes, which sometimes reached 50% of profits. At the beginning of the XVII century, during the trade confrontation, the Netherlands managed to oust the Portuguese from world trade. There, favorable conditions for doing business were created and effective organizational forms of doing business were formed. In 1602, the world’s first joint-stock company, the Dutch East India Company, was formed in Holland, which later monopolized trade relations with Eastern countries.

Also, the most famous events of the use of weapons as a tool for promoting national interests and realizing commercial ambitions were:

- The Navigation Act of 1651, passed by the English government, which granted only English ships the right to export goods from their colonies and led to the three Anglo-Dutch wars (The Navigation Act, 1651),

- The “Boston Tea Party” of 1773, when the British government abolished the import duty on the export of tea to its colonies in North America by the English “East India Company”, which caused the beginning of an anti-colonial struggle.

In the XIX century, trade clashes were characterized by the emergence of protectionism, the rapid development of industrialization and urbanization, as well as the transformation of trade tensions into real military actions. During this period, two opium wars in China are known in history, which were unleashed by Great Britain with the support of France and the United States. As a result, China was forced to sign the Treaty of

Nanking (1842), under which five Chinese ports were opened for British trade, import and export duties were established that were favorable for Great Britain, and Xianhan Island (Hong Kong) was transferred to the property of the United Kingdom (Treaty of Nanking, 1842).

The two “opium wars” are a clear example of the use of military force in trade conflicts.

In the XIX century, Great Britain, as the world leader in industry and trade, supplied almost half of the world’s industrial production to the world market, pursued a strict trade policy against its competitors (France, Sweden, Germany, etc.) through targeted trade sanctions, including full or partial embargoes, or exceptions to the principles of free trade in certain goods. During this period, countries tried to protect their national markets with high import duties (at that time, the average import duty was 35-45%) (Byaly, 2013).

However, the countries used not only legal methods of entering foreign markets. At the beginning of the twentieth century, in order to oust Great Britain from Persia, Germany secretly imported goods in large quantities with the trademarks of Turkish or Persian companies through the sea routes of Turkey to the territory of Persia.

The growth of Germany’s economic power caused concern among the industrialized countries (Great Britain, France, etc.), which tried to slow down the growth of its commercial expansion in every possible way. The rivalry is often transformed into a local armed conflict.

However, later in the subsequent trade clashes, military power receded into the background.

In the XX century, “trade wars” were waged in the light of decolonization, during the emergence of new economic unions and blocs, in the context of the formation of the international free trade system (GATT), scientific and technological progress. At the same time, during this period, trade contradictions intensified in the struggle for consumer markets and trade corridors, which often led to crises and recessions. In some cases, trade disputes have led to military conflicts.

Among the trade and economic wars of this period, which developed into a real war, one can note the “banana wars” (1898-1934) between the United States and Spain. The United States began to increasingly promote its political, military, and economic interests in Central America and the Caribbean in order to maintain its sphere of influence and protect the Panama canal, which was opened in 1914. Some American companies, such as the United Fruit Company, had a financial stake in

the production of bananas, sugar cane, tobacco and other goods throughout Central America, northern South America and the Caribbean.

The First World War had a huge impact on humanity, significantly reduced the volume of world trade and led to economic losses. Customs duties, which were slightly reduced before the war, rose sharply again after the war.

In the early 30s of the twentieth century, the global economic crisis led to a further deterioration of international trade relations. Almost all states found themselves in a difficult economic situation, and they tried to improve their condition with the help of international trade. For example, if in the early 20s in the United States customs duties averaged 40% of the value of imports, then in 1930 the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act was passed, which increased the already high import duties to 64-65%. (Barlow, 2016). After that, total U.S. imports dropped from \$ 4.4 billion in 1929 to \$ 1.5 billion in 1933. European countries responded to these actions by setting their own trade barriers for goods from the United States. Moreover, countries whose goods were subject to prohibited duties did not receive revenue in dollars, which, in turn, did not allow them to make purchases in the United States. As a result, US exports decreased from \$ 5.4 billion to \$ 2.3 billion, and almost all exports from European countries were blocked. Thus, the process of trade and settlement between Europe and the United States was disrupted. This led to devastating consequences, first for the banking system of European countries, and since 1931 – for the United States itself. As a result, the monetary and international trading system was destroyed (Kizilov, Sapov, 2006).

During World War II, the participating countries suffered severe economic destruction. On the agenda was an acute problem of post-war recovery of the national economy. The countries realized that the problem of economic recovery could not be solved without expanding foreign trade relations. In 1947, after lengthy negotiations (1944-1947) aimed at establishing a stable multilateral economic order, 23 countries signed the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Although there was no broad agreement on liberalizing a significant sector of international trade, it was recognized that the unilateral and discriminatory practices of the period between the two World Wars had negative consequences for all parties. One of the main principles of the GATT was the principle of protecting the domestic market through duties, rather than through quantitative or administrative instruments. During the first round of negotiations,

45 thousand tariff concessions were made, covering one-fifth of world trade. The basic documents included the rules of trade between the parties and a list of reduced tariffs.

In the context of increasing liberalization of international trade, countries sought not to lose their positions in the world market, and applied new and new methods of non-tariff regulation of trade. A striking example of the widespread and successful use of such trade policy instruments can be considered Japan. The set of tools was very diverse: from non-compliance of imported goods with certain standards or Japanese traditions to endless bureaucratic approvals and licensing difficulties.

But since the 1970s, new methods of non-tariff import restrictions began to appear: phytosanitary, environmental, non-compliance of imported goods with the conditions of consumer safety or labor safety, etc.

Tariff reduction issues were discussed at the initial rounds of multilateral negotiations, and later these interstate negotiations touched upon other areas, including anti-dumping and non-tariff measures. At the Uruguay Round of the GAAT (1986-1994), the WTO was established, which, continuing the GAAT, oversees a wider range of trade agreements. Thus, the GATT system was adapted to the new conditions of modern international trade.

Another example of the trade wars of the twentieth century is the “Banana wars” between the European Union and Latin American countries (1993-2012), which arose as a result of the EU’s imposition of high duties on imported bananas from the Latin American region. Latin American countries accused the Europeans that they allowed banana producers from Africa and the Caribbean to enter their markets on preferential terms to their detriment, and several times filed lawsuits with the WTO. Due to the long consideration of these trade disputes, the “banana war” turned into a protracted “trade war”, which ended only in 2012.

As for the **“trade wars” of our time**, the peculiarity of these wars from the previous ones is that they turn into an instrument of geopolitics. In addition, in the context of globalization and interdependence, almost all States feel the consequences of “trade wars”.

A vivid example of “trade wars” in the modern world is the tense relations between the United States and China. The reasons for the war were laid in 2017 by the election campaign of D. Trump and today it is growing every day. In the election platform, Donald

Trump promised to raise trade duties on imported goods from China by 40% and deal with what is happening in relations with the largest trade and economic partner of the United States (Vinogradov, Salitskiy, 2018).

The main reasons for the start of the “trade war” was the negative balance in the US foreign trade balance, most of which is accounted for by trade with China, According to the American president, the excess of imports over exports is the result of unfair trade with China and other trading partners (Sinyu, 2018). In addition, the United States has accused China of conducting unfair trade and stealing intellectual property.

At the beginning of 2020, the parties to this conflict came to some compromise and took a step towards resolving the trade conflict by signing an agreement on the “first phase” of the trade deal. However, despite this success, this trade standoff has the potential to become a protracted conflict, and has a significant impact increasing uncertainty and destabilizing global markets. In addition, the situation was worsened by COVID-19, which threatened to disrupt the “first phase” of the trade deal. Some experts believe that the risk of developing a “trade war” into a viral one, and then into a full-scale one, is increasing.

## Conclusion

The analysis made it possible to draw the following conclusions.

- being a historical phenomenon, trade wars occupy a significant place in international trade, and are reflected in the history of many countries, and continue to be actively conducted in the modern period. In world practice, trade wars took place regularly. Many states tried to protect their producers and at the same time capture new markets for their goods. In world history, there were “banana”, “cheese”, “cigarette”, “automobile”, “gasoline” wars, which led to a deterioration of relations between states and caused significant damage to national economies.

- trade contradictions, conflicts and wars are one of the methods of conducting foreign policy and can ignite a new level of armed conflict, which will significantly damage the financial and economic system and the social sphere of state agencies;

- modern trade wars develop into more complex methods of capturing national markets, turning into a tool for achieving the geopolitical goals of states.

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