

KAZAKHSTAN AND THE WORLD

WHAT DO KAZAKHSTANIS KNOW ABOUT THE EAEU
(EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION)?

In May 21, 2021, Nur-Sultan will host the meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council (SEEC). We present the results of a sociological survey on what Kazakhstanis know about the EAEU and the role of our country in this organization.

Economic development and expansion of the markets of the member states caused the creation of the Customs Union (according to the new version **EAEU – Eurasian Economic Union**) in 1995. The EAEU Treaty was signed on May 29, 2014 in Astana by the presidents of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan and entered into force on January 1, 2015. The Union has 5 member states: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia, which have adopted common rules for the import and export of products across their borders and comply with a set of conditions of signed international agreements. The area of the EAEU countries is more than 20 million square kilometers (14% of the world land), the population of the EAEU countries, as of early 2020, amounted to 184.26 million people.

According to the results of a sociological survey, **more than half of all Kazakhstani respondents (62.9%) have a positive attitude towards Kazakhstan's participation in the EAEU**. 7.1% of respondents were strongly against such participation, and another 4.9% chose “rather negative”.

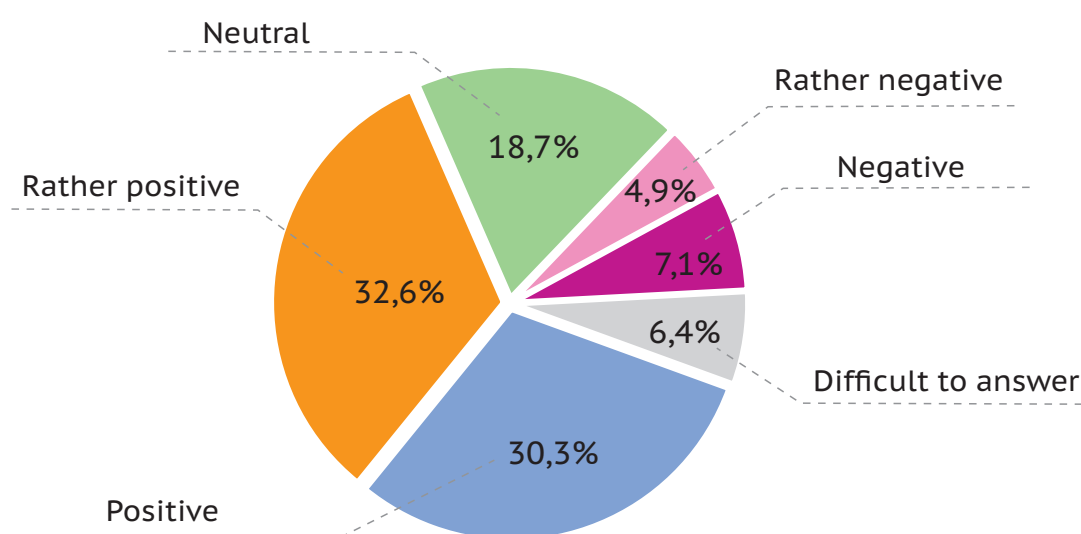


Fig 1. How do you feel about Kazakhstan's participation in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which includes Kazakhstan, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia?

The vast majority of respondents (84.6%) named various positive aspects of the EAEU for its member states. First and foremost, it is the preservation and expansion of economic, cultural and humanitarian ties between the participating countries, as well as the improvement of the quality and range of goods in the Kazakhstani market. A positive thing for Kazakhstanis is the opportunity for individuals to work outside of Kazakhstan, as well as expanding opportunities for Kazakhstani businesses. Kazakhstanis also see the EAEU as a guarantee of sovereignty and security for our country.

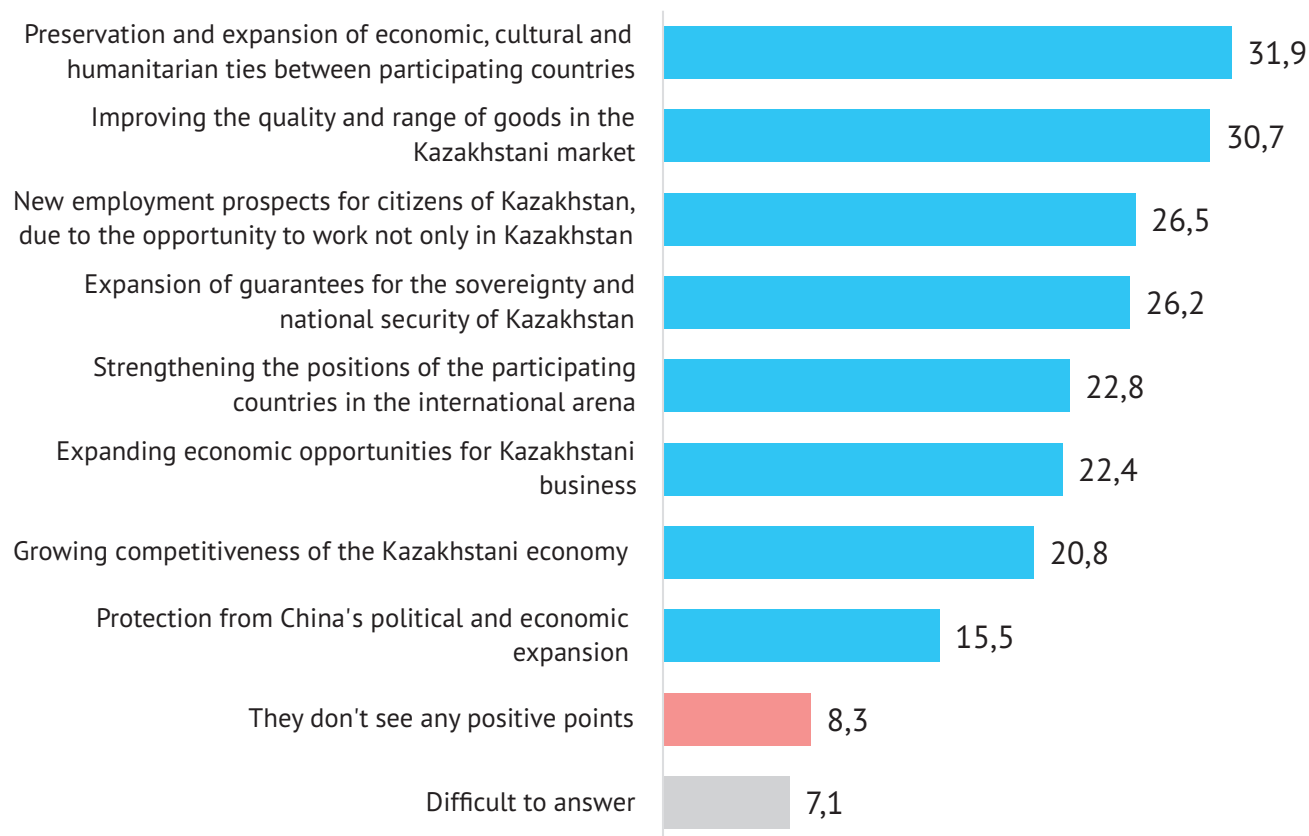


Fig. 2. What positive aspects do you see in the EAEU? (%)

Kazakhstan took over the presidency of the EAEU from 2021, and in this regard, in December 2020, at a meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council, K.K. Tokayev outlined the priorities of our country's presidency in the EAEU, one of them being the industrial cooperation, including the development of cooperation in high-tech industries: space, biotechnology, nanoindustry, photonics, modern component base, information and communication technology, new technology for mining and processing of natural resources, and ecology.

We wish the SEEC meeting to have a successful work in our capital! Hopefully, the systematic work undertaken by the participating countries to accumulate the best national and global achievements of scientific and technological progress and the mobilization of scientific potential will be the key to success for the innovative development of the Eurasian Economic Union. Moreover, we hope that this will allow every resident of Kazakhstan, Russia, Armenia, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan to fully experience the positive impact of the EAEU activities!

Research methodology:

The survey method is an interview of a respondent at the place of residence using a route quota selection.

Selection – 1500 respondents aged 18 and over in 54 settlements of urban and rural areas in 14 regions and 3 cities of republican significance.

The duration error does not exceed 3.5%.

Duration – November 2020.