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Introduction

The “EDB Integration Barometer” project is jointly implemented by the Centre for Integration Studies of the Eurasian Development Bank and the «Eurasian Monitor» International Research Agency. It has been carried out since 2012. The aim of this study is monitoring and research of integration preferences of the population of the post-Soviet space (CIS citizens and Georgia), as well as assessment of foreign political, foreign economic and socio-cultural orientation of the population of the region.

In 2012, the nationwide survey involved 11 countries (10 countries of the CIS and Georgia). In 2013, a twelfth country joined the project — Turkmenistan. In 2014, the research was carried out in 11 countries, like in 2012. In total, more than 13,000 people (from 1000 to 2000 in each country) were surveyed in 2014.

Research methodology

«EDB Integration Barometer» study is carried out in monitor mode — regular surveys of public opinion using comparable methodology. This allows not only to register the state of current integration preferences in public opinion, but also to identify the dynamics of these preferences.

The «Integration Barometer» interprets the concept of individual «integration preference» through a simpler basic concept of «attraction to the country.» The concept «attraction» at the level of the individual includes interest, sympathy, presence of ties (through work, family, etc.), willingness to cooperate, and at the level of the whole country’s population reflects public support for cooperation and integration, as expressed in the generalized mass attitudes. The attraction is measured in three aspects — socio-cultural, economic and political. Each of these aspects, in turn, is described through the specific interest of the respondent and the relevant question.

The specified list of selective answers enabled the formation of the following three groups of conclusions based on the responses to each question: the integration preferences within the post-Soviet space (the choice of countries from the former Soviet republics); the integration attraction beyond the limits of this space (the choice of countries from the European Union and the countries of the «rest of the world»); and the degree of the country’s public opinion orientation towards its autonomy (refusal to choose «attractive» countries).

A detailed description of the methodology and research methods is contained in the full report available at the EDB website. Primary survey data are publicly available.

1 The full version of the “EDB Integration Barometer — 2014” report, which is the basis of this research summary, as well as annexes and additional materials on the results of the study are available on the website of the Eurasian Development Bank http://www.eabr.org/r/research/centre/projectsCII/
Attitude towards regional integration

A special place in the study is the survey of the opinion of citizens of the CIS countries on the advisability of their country entering the Customs Union (CU) and the Single Economic Space (SES), as well as the citizens’ perception of the integration associations’ data. The wording of the questions in this survey section varied depending on whether or not the country has entered these associations. Accordingly, in the countries participating in the associations a question was asked about the attitude towards them, and in non-participating countries about the desirability of joining the CU and SES (Fig.1). Starting in 2015, the evaluation is expected of the integration orientation in relation to the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) formed on the basis of the CU and the SES.

The general attitude to the creation of the CU and SES was positive. This is similar to the results of two previous surveys with the percentage of positive ratings at 50% or higher in all countries except Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

The level of approval of the CU and SES in the member countries is at a high level — 84%, 79% and 68% in Kazakhstan, Russia and Belarus, respectively (Fig.1). Compared with 2013, the level of support in Kazakhstan increased by 11% to 84%. This may be related to the group of actions that preceded the signing of the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) on 29 May, with the survey being conducted in April and May. In Russia there was an increase in the level of support for participation in both integration associations: in 2013 67% of respondents approved, and in 2014 the figure increased by 12% to 79%, while the indicators of negative and indifferent attitude decreased. In 2013 a decline was recorded in both countries compared with 2012. In Belarus the level of support increased in 2014 by 3% to 68%, with 6% having a negative attitude, and 24% being indifferent, which remains the highest among the three countries.

Considering CU and SES non-member countries, in 2013 the highest support for participation was registered in Tajikistan (72%) and Uzbekistan (68%). These countries are focused on economic cooperation with the countries of the former Soviet Union, and especially with Russia. In our opinion, this is an argument in favour of greater integration cooperation of the EEU with these two countries. As in the 2013 survey, both countries have a higher level of integration support than Armenia (64%), which is the current candidate for membership.

The level of support for participation in the CU from another candidate country — Kyrgyzstan — has seriously decreased (from 67% to 50%). Such dynamics, which might have economic reasons, definitely require a careful analysis based on additional information. At the same time other results of our survey confirm that in Kyrgyzstan interest in the CIS region has declined in almost all indicators of the integration attitude of its population, and the interest in autonomy has increased.

As you can see from Figure 1 the attitude to the CU varies between groups of countries. In 2014 in CU countries a positive attitude was expressed, on average, by 77% of respondents. Countries considered to be potential candidates for participation in the CU — Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan — also have a great sympathy for the association (63% on average). This is in contrast to the countries included in the
other geopolitical alliances — Georgia, Moldova Ukraine, and Azerbaijan (39% on average in 2014).

It is interesting that more than a half of Georgia’s population (53%) still support the prospects of joining the CU-SES. But the level of such support fell by 6%, and the negative attitude has increased by 7%.

In Moldova only 49% of the respondents support the possibility of joining the CU (5% decrease), and 23% are against (7% increase).

In 2013 Azerbaijan had the highest level of negative attitude towards the prospects of participation in the CU-SES. But in 2014 Ukraine became the second sceptic country in the CIS region: public support of Ukraine’s possible membership in the CU has decreased from 50% to 31%, while negative attitudes increased from 28% to 50%. In Azerbaijan the trend is still the same: the lowest public support of the hypothetical entry into the CU for 2013 decreased from 37% to 22%, and negative attitudes increased from 53% to 64%. Thus, the two countries are becoming more closed for integration within the EEU.

Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia joined in the Customs Union, which made the trade between the three countries free from duties, and created the Single Economic Space (in fact a single market of the three countries). Do you think it is advisable for your country to join this association?

Here we should note one of the questions to respondents during the 21st wave of the “Eurasian Monitor” that also demonstrates the attitude of citizens to inter-country collaboration and cooperation. The question was as follows: “If you could decide on such matters, which of the countries listed on the card, in your opinion, our country should join (or should it not join any)?” — see Table 1. This question has been asked in different countries within the “Eurasian monitor” framework of monitoring public opinion since 2006, so you can assess the dynamics of the corresponding indicator of integration preferences.

In general, for the population of the majority of the countries in the CIS region the most attractive country to join is Russia. The positive attitude to integration with the Russian Federation was especially expressed in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan where more than two thirds of respondents chose Russia. Attitude to the union with Russia is also fairly widespread in Armenia, Belarus, Uzbekistan and Moldova. Exceptions today are Georgia, and since 2014 Ukraine, whose citizens are much more focused on the association with the EU than with Russia or other countries in the CIS region.

In turn, the Russians named first — Belarus, and second — Kazakhstan as the most desirable countries for integration. Only about 25% of Russians have a positive attitude today to integration with Ukraine. In Ukraine the proportion of those who chose Russia is close to this value (24% and 22%, respectively).

In all countries there is a fairly common mind-set for “autonomy” — an opinion that their country should not join anyone. This attitude is relatively weak in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan; and the portion of “autonomists” is higher in Belarus, Armenia and Uzbekistan.

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2 A more detailed analysis is contained in the full electronic version of the “EDB Integration barometer — 2014” analytical report available on the website of the Eurasian Development Bank (EDB). http://www.eabr.org/r/research/centr/projectsCII/
Question for member-states of the CU: Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia joined in the Customs Union, which made the trade between the three countries free from duties, and created the Single Economic Space (in fact a single market of the three countries). What do you think of this decision?

Question for the states outside the CU: Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia joined in the Customs Union, which made the trade between the three countries free from duties, and created the Single Economic Space (in fact a single market of the three countries). Do you think it is advisable for your country to join this association?, %

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Azerbaijan</th>
<th>Armenia</th>
<th>Belarus</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
<th>Kazakhstan</th>
<th>Kyrgyzstan</th>
<th>Moldova</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>Tajikistan</th>
<th>Uzbekistan</th>
<th>Ukraine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>With Azerbaijan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>With Armenia</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>With Belarus</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>With Georgia</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>With Kazakhstan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>With Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>With Moldova</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>With Russia</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>With Tajikistan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>With Turkmenistan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>With Turkey</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>With Uzbekistan</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>With Ukraine</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>With European Union</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Our country should not integrate with any of the listed countries and associations</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 99 | Difficult to answer | 4% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 8% | 8% | 3% | 10% | 7% |

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
Economic attraction

The results of our research in 2014 confirmed the 2012–2013 findings about the absence of the common dominant of preference in the economics. Orientation mainly to EU countries is typical for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine (countries signed in June 2014 an association agreement with the EU). Orientation mainly to the countries of the post-Soviet space and the outside world (the «other countries» cluster) exists in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Orientation primarily to the outside world is common for Azerbaijan. In Armenia, Belarus, Russia and Uzbekistan the priority is not allocated and the index values for the three clusters of countries are close. This applies both to simple consumer preferences (goods), and preferences in terms of attracting investment and human resources.

In contrast to the 2013 survey, according to the 2014 results none of the three geopolitical clusters of countries stand out as the most attractive source of foreign capital. In general, in the CIS countries there is no preference for any particular attraction vector, although individual countries have differentiated views (Figure 2).

Investments from the EU are preferred in three countries: Moldova (52%), Ukraine (57%) and Russia (43%).

**Interest in the countries of the former USSR:**

![Graph showing interest in former USSR countries](image1)

**Interest in the countries of the European Union:**

![Graph showing interest in EU countries](image2)

**Interest in other countries:**

![Graph showing interest in other countries](image3)

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
Uzbekistan (61%) and Azerbaijan (44%) are focused on countries outside the CIS region and the EU. Azerbaijan’s interest decreased by 12% compared to 2013. For Uzbekistan, the main countries of the «rest of the world» are Japan and China, and for Azerbaijan — Turkey.

Approximately the same high level of focus on two clusters — EU countries and the «other countries» — exists in Georgia (52% and 59%, respectively), where 48% of the population indicate the United States as the main «other country».

Investments from the former Soviet Union are often favoured by respondents from Tajikistan (74%) and Kyrgyzstan (65%). In comparison with 2013 in both countries there was a considerable decrease of interest in the «Other countries» cluster (–39% in Tajikistan and –26% in Kyrgyzstan); and in Tajikistan there was a growth of interest in investments from the countries of the CIS region (+11%). Within the post-Soviet space Russia has the highest degree of mentioning (39%), ranking first in terms of attractiveness.

Residents of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Armenia have approximately the same orientation to the three clusters of countries, with a slightly higher predominance of the former USSR countries. The most expressed focus on own investment resources was demonstrated by residents of Russia (34%), the least expressed by residents of Tajikistan (3%).

The most attractive partners in the field of science and technology, similar to 2013’s survey, are countries of the «rest of the world.» On average, this group of countries was chosen by half (52%) of the respondents, while fewer preferences (42%) (Figure 3) were given to the countries of the European Union and the former USSR.

**Figure 3:** With which countries or companies would it be useful for your country to cooperate in the field of science & technology — to conduct joint research, and to exchange developments and scientific ideas? [Responses grouped by three categories of countries], %

**Interest in the countries of the former USSR:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>67 68</td>
<td>61 63</td>
<td>60 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>39 38</td>
<td>49 46</td>
<td>46 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>46 43</td>
<td>44 46</td>
<td>41 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>32 39</td>
<td>27 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>31 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>50 51</td>
<td>32 39</td>
<td>27 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>49 53</td>
<td>32 39</td>
<td>27 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>48 42</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>34 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>48 47</td>
<td>43 42</td>
<td>35 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>53 53</td>
<td>50 53</td>
<td>53 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interest in the countries of the European Union:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>19 20</td>
<td>24 29</td>
<td>27 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>39 38</td>
<td>49 46</td>
<td>41 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>50 51</td>
<td>32 39</td>
<td>27 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>41 37</td>
<td>31 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>50 51</td>
<td>32 39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>53 53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>55 47</td>
<td>53 53</td>
<td>53 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>61 66</td>
<td>64 61</td>
<td>67 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>61</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Interest in the other countries:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>74 70</td>
<td>61 64</td>
<td>67 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>33 34</td>
<td>42 55</td>
<td>40 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>58 65</td>
<td>59 60</td>
<td>56 56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>59 65</td>
<td>41 49</td>
<td>48 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>40 57</td>
<td>41 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>59 62</td>
<td>48 57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>59 62</td>
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<td>40 48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>60 61</td>
<td>59 62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>67 69</td>
<td>64 61</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>61</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In all countries, Japan, the USA and China received most references as a desirable scientific and technical partner (on average 29%, 20% and 18% respectively). Japan had the highest reference share in Russia (45%), Uzbekistan and Georgia (42% each), Kazakhstan (38%) and Belarus (37%); United States — in Ukraine and Georgia (33% each), China — in Belarus (35%), Uzbekistan (29%) and Russia (27%). In general, the «Other countries» cluster has the highest ratio, compared to the other clusters, in Azerbaijan (67%), Uzbekistan (65%), Russia (61%), Belarus (60%) and Georgia (65%).

In this question the EU countries were preferred only in Moldova (51%). About half of the respondents in Russia (46%), Georgia (53%) and Ukraine (53%) also choose this cluster; however, these values are close to the «Other Countries» cluster. Popularity of the EU is largely associated with the high frequency of references to Germany, which is noted on average by 32% of respondents, most of all in Belarus (44%), Moldova (42%), Georgia (41%), Russia (39%).

Scientific and technical cooperation with the countries of the former USSR received the most popularity in Tajikistan (68%) and Kyrgyzstan (65%); values of this index in Kazakhstan (50%) and Uzbekistan (49%) are also rather high, but are exceeded by the vector directed to the «Other Countries» cluster.

In comparison with 2013, no significant growth of interest in scientific and technical cooperation with the countries of the «rest of the world» and the EU countries was noticed. However, one could note a decline of interest in the countries of the «rest of the world» in Tajikistan (–37%), Kyrgyzstan (–20%), Armenia (–9%) and Moldova (–8%), and in the EU countries — in Armenia (–11%).

As for the CIS region, the interest in scientific and technical cooperation with its countries increased in Tajikistan (13%), but decreased in Ukraine (–12%) and Uzbekistan (–11%).

Another important measure of integration preferences of the population of the CIS countries in the economic sphere is the attitude to labour migration and foreign workforce.

When considering intentions with respect to temporary work abroad (Figure 4), no predominant preferences were revealed. Preferences for the countries of the former Soviet Union (where Russia remains the most preferred destination) are typical for residents of Tajikistan (62%), Uzbekistan (42%), Armenia (38%) and Kyrgyzstan (37%). In comparison with 2013, a growth of this preference was notable in Uzbekistan (+15%) and Tajikistan (+13%), and a decline in Moldova (–10%) and Kyrgyzstan (–9%).

Stronger focus on the EU is indicated by the citizens of Ukraine (36%), as well as by Russia (29%) and Belarus (25%). The growth of preference towards the EU is not notable, but there is a decline in some countries, most noticeable in Kyrgyzstan (–13%). Stronger focus on the «rest of the world» is shown by Azerbaijan (40%).

Residents of Belarus (56%), Kazakhstan (51%), Ukraine (50%), Russia (49%) were mostly focused on the domestic labour markets of their own countries (Figure 5), and the least focused were the people of Tajikistan (11%) where for 2013 this figure significantly decreased (–19%), as well as in Uzbekistan (–14%) and Azerbaijan (11%). An increase occurred in Kyrgyzstan (+15%) and Moldova (+12%).
The question of the preferred country of residence also revealed interesting results. Among the clusters of priority the countries of the former Soviet Union are considered the most attractive for relocation by citizens of Tajikistan (59%, an increase of 26% compared to 2013), Armenia (38%), Kyrgyzstan (29%), as well as Uzbekistan (19%).

The European Union is considered as a more attractive place of residence mainly by citizens of Ukraine (23%), Belarus (17%) and Russia (16%). The European Union has higher than average proportion of references in Moldova (18%), while still it is somewhat lower than the Moldova references to the «Former USSR countries» (21%).

Category the «Other countries» is not the most popular in terms of references in any of the surveyed countries. At the same time in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan there was a relatively high number of references to the USA, Turkey and countries of the Arab-Islamic World. The share of refusals in response to this question was the highest out of all 17 dy-
adic questions — from 16% to 84% in different countries (Figure 6). Unwillingness to even consider the hypothetical possibility of emigration was the highest in Azerbaijan (84%), Russia (75%), and Uzbekistan (74%), although this figure exceeds 50% in most countries.

In reviewing the responses to the question about the desirable sources of foreign workforce, grouped into three categories, we can see that all three clusters have approximately the same number of respondents: countries of the former USSR were preferred by 40% of the respondents, EU countries — by 32%, the «rest of the world» countries — by 30%.

The highest interest in students and specialists from the countries of the former USSR was shown by the residents of Tajikistan (70%), Kyrgyzstan (63%), Belarus (40%) and Kazakhstan (39%). The only country focused in this issue mainly on the «rest of the world» countries was Uzbekistan (42%), whose respondents referred to Japan (19%), China (19%), the USA (11%) and Turkey (9%) as countries preferred for the inflow of personnel and exchange of scientific information. Priority to the countries of the European Union was given in Moldova (50%), Georgia (44%) and Ukraine (38%), whose residents often noted the UK, Germany and France.

The analysis of the relationship within the post-Soviet space (Figure 7) revealed that Russia remains the most attractive country as a source of skilled professionals (simi-

![Figure 6: Which of the following countries would you like to move to as a permanent place of residence if you had an opportunity? The share of answers «There is no such country» and «Don't know», %](source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.)
lar to previous surveys), the average share of references in all countries is 32%. Since 2013 its appeal has grown in this respect for the population of Tajikistan (+13%) and decreased for Uzbekistan (−10%). Russian labour force is especially attractive for the citizens of Kyrgyzstan (55%) and Tajikistan (47%).

The most pronounced focus on internal human resources is found in Ukraine (47%), Russia (43%) and Belarus (36%). The lowest share of supporters of autonomous development was identified in Tajikistan (6%) and Kyrgyzstan (19%). On country average, the focus on «autonomy» is expressed by one quarter to one third of the respondents. In Kyrgyzstan, the interest in foreign labour force over the past year increased by 7%, in Uzbekistan — by 9%.

Important practical information is provided by answers to the question on the preferred countries of origin of goods. In the matter of consumer preferences of the population of the former USSR, none of the three geopolitical blocks has a significant priority. Results of such comparison allow the following conclusions to be made. Over the three years of surveys the focus on goods from countries of the former USSR increased among the residents of Uzbekistan (78%: +14%), Georgia (56%: +18%), Armenia (50%: +18%), Russia (34%: +9%). Orientation to goods from the EU has changed only in Uzbekistan — by 9%.

3 This diagram and the similar one below (“with arrows”) show fractions of responses that exceed a certain lower level. The level is indicated in a chart legend (in this case it is 10%). Arrow from Country 1 to Country 2 means that n% of the respondents in Country 1 in response to this question named Country 2: for example, in response to this question 55% of respondents in Kyrgyzstan named Russia as the country from which inflow of skilled professionals is desired. The size of each data point is proportional to the average share of references to the country, calculated across all countries.
and Kyrgyzstan, where there has been a decrease in the proportion of this cluster on the background of the other two. In relation to the orientation to goods from countries of «the rest of the world» significant changes compared with the previous year occurred in Tajikistan — towards reduction (39%: — 31%), and in Russia — towards growth (60%: +15%). In 2014, the indicators also decreased in Kyrgyzstan and increased in Georgia and Kazakhstan, yet they have actually returned to the level of 2012.

**Within the post-Soviet space the most attractive area of products origin is Russia — it was mentioned by 18% to 55% of respondents in each country (Figure 8). As in 2013, citizens of the Central Asian countries (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan) are oriented on Russian products. Their share of references to Russia in response to this question (49%-55%) is significantly higher than in the other countries.**

The only post-Soviet country, besides Russia, whose products are preferred by more than 20% of the population of any other country participating in the study, remains Belarus. In 2014 Belarus was mentioned by 24% of respondents in Russia; and in Ukraine this indicator decreased compared with 2013 to 15%.
Political attraction

In 2014, surveys under the third wave of «EDB Integration Barometer» took place against the background of serious aggravation of Russian-Ukrainian relations. This affected the dynamics of public opinion of the population of these two countries and the entire post-Soviet world included in the single information field.

In the socio-cultural and economic spheres there is a significant differentiation of the views and attitudes regarding the preferred vectors of attraction. However, in the political sphere — especially the military-political — there is still a relative unanimity of opinion. In matters of political friendship and mutual military assistance, the population of most countries in the CIS region is primarily oriented to their neighbouring countries. The exceptions are Georgia and Azerbaijan. Georgia is significantly oriented to the United States and Europe, and Azerbaijan to Turkey. The main change over the past year is the dramatic growth of orientation in Ukraine to the European Union with a simultaneous decrease in orientation to the CIS countries, primarily to Russia.

In the question about friendly countries (Figure 9) — countries of the former USSR enjoy the greatest confidence — on average 79% of references in all countries. The lowest level of friendliness and trust in relation to the countries of the CIS region in 2014 was in

Figure 9: Which of the following countries, in your opinion, are friendly to our country (on whose support we can count in hard times)? [Responses grouped by three categories of countries], %

Attraction to the countries of the former USSR:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>91</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>68</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
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<td>65</td>
</tr>
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<td>Azerbaijan</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attraction to the countries of the European Union:

<table>
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<th>Country</th>
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<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
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<td>Armenia</td>
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<td>11</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Attraction to the other countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
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<td>Georgia</td>
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<td>65</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
Ukraine (53%). Please note, that in Ukraine the figure is not only the lowest among the countries participating in the survey; but it is also only in Ukraine and Moldova where over the last year a trend towards reduction has been seen.

When considering deviations from the general trend, it should be noted that the European Union was mentioned significantly more often than average by respondents in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. While for the past year this figure for Moldova and Georgia has slightly decreased, in Ukraine it has increased from 36% to 48%. One should also note a significant decrease over the past year of references to the European Union in Armenia (from 38% to 16%).

Countries of the «rest of the world» were mentioned more frequently than on average by respondents in Georgia and Azerbaijan; in Azerbaijan there has been a noticeable growth of the indicator from 51% to 70% over the past year. For Azerbaijan, like in 2013, the most friendly and reliable partner is Turkey (66% of responses), and for residents of Georgia — the USA (52% of responses). In contrast, there is a noticeable decline in references to the «other countries» in Uzbekistan (from 63% to 33%).

In the post-Soviet space the highest «friendliness» belongs to Russia — it was put in the first place as a «friendly country» on the basis of frequency of mentioning by respondents from 7 countries (Figure 10). The highest percentage of those who consider Russia a friendly country is in Armenia (87%), Belarus (83%) and Central Asia (81–86%). Russia did not take the first place in responses in Georgia and in Azerbaijan, where Russia (21%) as a «friendly country», like in 2013, was behind Georgia and Ukraine. In Georgia in the first place is Ukraine (59%) followed by Azerbaijan (42%). Respondents in Georgia called Russia a friendly country in only 7% of cases. This is slightly lower than in 2013 when it was 9%.

In Ukraine there is a sharp decline in references to Russia as a friendly country — from 54% to 24%; Russia in the status of «friend» is behind Belarus (29%) and Georgia (26%), although in 2013 Russia was the leader. One could also note a significant decrease in the share of those who consider Russia a friendly country in Kyrgyzstan (from 93% to 81%) and in Moldova (from 72% to 56%).

A military-political alliance does not have a practical effect on ordinary citizens. The attitude is mostly based not on the personal, individual experience, but on the indirect perception, which is greatly influenced by the media. Therefore, such «projected» public opinion is an important base of support for the integration process.

An important indicator of the relationship to the political integration of countries is the general attitude towards the prospects of mutual rapprochement of the countries in the region (Figure 11). Based on this indicator the countries could be divided into several groups. In Tajikistan (51%), Uzbekistan (45%), Kyrgyzstan (46%) and Russia (49%) the share of respondents who believe that in the next five years the countries of the former USSR will converge is about 50% of the population, and is significantly higher than the share of «integration pessimists». In Belarus (37%), Armenia (27%), Georgia (29%) and Moldova (32%) the number of «integration optimists» is also higher than the number of sceptics, but it is not so significant and does not constitute a dominant group. Finally, in Azerbaijan (18%) and Ukraine (18%) the share of respondents
Figure 10: Which of the following countries, in your opinion, are friendly to our country (on whose support we can count in hard times)? [Preference within the former Soviet Union, 2014], %

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.

4 The diagram is divided into two parts to improve readability. Gray arrows indicate data from the 2013 survey for comparative purposes, because the 2014 survey in Turkmenistan was not conducted. Please, remember that diagrams of this type (“with arrows”) show fractions of responses that exceed a certain lower level. This level is indicated in the diagram legend. Arrow from Country 1 to Country 2 means that n% of respondents in Country 1 in response to this question named Country 2. For example, it shows that 85% of respondents from Kazakhstan consider the friendliest country in the region to be Russia, as well as Belarus (46%). The size of each data point is proportional to the average share of references to the country, calculated across all countries.
who believe that the countries of the former USSR will increasingly move away from each other exceeds the number of supporters of the reverse. Notably in Azerbaijan there has been this response for the three years of the «EDB Integration barometer» survey. In Ukraine, according to the authors of this study, the result was a consequence of its sharp turn towards Europe and the growth of negative attitudes towards the post-Soviet world.

The dependence of integration preferences of the population from the social well-being and sense of self-sufficiency of the country is seen particularly well in the analysis of propensity of autonomy (Figure 12). The increased desire for autonomous development, recorded in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and in 2013 in Turkmenistan, correlates well with the relatively higher level of satisfaction with life in these countries. On the contrary, in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the prevalence of integration attitudes (irrespective of...
the specific gravity vector) is associated with the low level of social well-being of the population. It can be assumed that in the unions with wealthy countries the population of poorer countries sees the opportunity to improve their situation; and a considerable part of the population of relatively prosperous countries are not willing to share their wealth with anyone, demonstrating refusal to integrate. Hence there are: risks to stability and long-term integration; increased requirements for mutually beneficial cooperation; and information of population about the mutual benefits. Otherwise, the idea of «unequal usefulness» of integration can lead to the growth of isolationist moods in the most developed countries of the region.
Socio-cultural (humanitarian) attraction

The essential point determining a particular integration attitude is the already existing majority respondents’ practice of cooperation with other countries in socio-cultural terms, including the existence of links with relatives, colleagues and friends in these countries (Figure 13).

In the post-Soviet space the main direction of cross-border mobility is Russia. The most significant stream of labour migration from almost all countries is oriented towards Russia. The highest share of references to Russia is in Tajikistan (37% — an increase of 7% since 2013), Belarus (33%), Moldova (32%), Armenia and Kyrgyzstan (30% each). Ukraine is most often mentioned in Belarus (34%) and Moldova (22%). One could also note the flow of labour migration from Kyrgyzstan to Kazakhstan (but compared to 2013 it has significantly decreased from 22% to 13%) and Uzbekistan (15%), as well as from Azerbaijan and Armenia to Georgia (12%).

Trips abroad are very rare in the life of an ordinary citizen. Therefore, in response to the question on actual mobility the combined share of positions “No such country” and “Don’t know” was naturally high. The most “autonomous” countries in this question were Uzbekistan (76% of the population do not have recent experience of travelling abroad) and Georgia (77%).

Figure 13: In which of the following countries do you have relatives, close friends, colleagues with whom you constantly keep in touch (in person, by mail, phone, etc.)? [Preference within the former USSR, 2014], %

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
The practice of cooperation with other countries associated with educational and informative-tourist interests is an equally important aspect (Figure 14). Here, the post-Soviet space has no special competitive advantages to the European Union or the most frequently mentioned countries of the «rest of the world».

Regarding the selection of countries or groups of countries attractive in terms of educational services, in 2012 only in Kazakhstan the demand for the countries of the former USSR was relatively greater than for the European Union and the «rest of the world» countries, although the difference was not statistically significant. In 2013, a similar situation was observed in Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. In 2014 educational services of the countries from the former USSR were of higher priority than the services of the EU and the «rest of the world» countries, in two countries — Tajikistan (57% versus 14% for EU countries and 43% for «other countries») and Uzbekistan (37% versus 27% for EU countries and 30% for «other countries»). On the contrary, in Kazakhstan the situation has changed — the interest in the post-Soviet countries decreased from 29% to 20%; it must be said that there was also a decrease of interest in education abroad.

In the 2014 survey the EU countries were frequently mentioned by respondents from Georgia (59%) and Russia (46%). In Georgia this indicator is stable; however in Russia it has grown since 2013 from 34% to 46%, which is significant. Countries of the “rest of the world” were of the highest demand in Azerbaijan (44%), Kazakhstan (29%), Kyrgyzstan (39%); a decrease of interest is noted.

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
Among the countries outside the former USSR, for citizens of Azerbaijan the priority is Turkey, for citizens of Tajikistan — the USA and China, for Kyrgyzstan — Turkey and the USA. In Georgia the population prefers education in the USA, Great Britain and Germany. Education in the UK is also preferred in Russia.

If we exclude Russia, the post-Soviet space has become unattractive as a generalized place of education. The percentage of references to the other former USSR countries rarely exceeds 5%. Russian education seems competitive only for residents of Central Asia; although in some countries the dynamics are rather negative. This is an alarming trend from the point of view of attractiveness and global competitiveness of the post-Soviet space in general and of the Eurasian integration project in particular.

Vectors of cognitive interest of the respondents were recorded in responses to the question «About which of the following countries can you say that you are interested in their history, culture, geography (nature)?» (Figure 15) The country-average degree of such interest virtually does not vary between the three geopolitical clusters. However, within the general trend, there are some fairly significant fluctuations.

Thus, Georgia and Moldova are markedly different from the rest in their increased level of interest to the European Union (59% and 43% respectively). While in Georgia this indicator has increased smoothly from 2012 to 2014 by 3% per year, in Moldova it remains approximately at the same level. Fluctuations of this interest in the countries of the Eu-

**Interest in the countries of the former USSR:**

![Graph showing interest in the countries of the former USSR](image1)

**Interest in the countries of the European Union:**

![Graph showing interest in the countries of the European Union](image2)

**Interest in other countries:**

![Graph showing interest in other countries](image3)

Source: EDB Integration Barometer — 2014.
European Union in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan are unstable and are likely to be random fluctuations in the public attitudes.

The greatest interest in the countries of the former USSR is shown by the residents of countries of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan), as well as Moldova and Belarus. However, compared with 2013, this figure shows instability in all of these countries. The share of those interested in the post-Soviet countries increased compared with 2013, in Tajikistan (from 52% to 60%), Uzbekistan (from 46% to 59%) and Belarus (from 39% to 45%). A reduction of the level of interest in the countries of the former USSR is recorded in Kyrgyzstan (from 48% to 34%), Kazakhstan (from 40% to 35%), and Moldova (from 41% to 36%). As for the other countries, a decline can be noted in Ukraine and Azerbaijan.

Within the post-Soviet space the most “interesting” country is Russia, with Ukraine significantly behind. Some growth of the interest in Russia over the last year is recorded in Belarus (from 29% to 36%) and Georgia (from 11% to 13%). In the other countries it has either decreased slightly (Armenia, Kazakhstan, and Moldova), or remains the same. Excluding Russia and Ukraine, relations between countries on the basis of cognitive interest were, in general, not too intense. The exception is Uzbekistan, which was mentioned by 13% of the population of Tajikistan (apparently, the majority of these respondents have Uzbek nationality). All the other countries of the former USSR do not have “incoming” lines of interest with values of more than 10%.

Thus, the potential for integration in the post-Soviet space in the socio-cultural sphere is provided mainly by the continuing interest of the population of Central Asia in Russia. In Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan there is a marked prevalence of interest in the countries of the Arab, Persian and Turkic ethnic cultural clusters — for Azerbaijan this is the general dominant trend. In Moldova and Georgia a considerable humanitarian area of interest is represented by the European Union countries. In this regard, the success of Eurasian integration will still largely depend on the efforts aimed at improving the long-term sustainability of the Eurasian integration project, and improving its attractiveness not only in economic and military-political aspects, but also in scientific, educational, cultural and general humanitarian aspects.
Insert 1. Trust in international associations and unions as an indicator of integration attitudes. Comparative analysis

The description of integration attitudes would not be complete without a comparative analysis of attitudes to international organizations existing in other regions of the world. To achieve this objective, this section will present the results of secondary analysis of the 6th wave of the World Values Survey data. The World Values Survey (WVS) is the largest cross-cultural project, which started in 1981 and includes approximately 100 countries of the world. The sixth wave was conducted in 2010–2014 with the participation of 55 countries and 79,803 respondents; the average sample size in each country was 1,450 people. Currently this is the only database that meets the stated objectives and allows the analysis of attitudes to a number of inter-state associations. The 6th wave of the World Values Survey allows the description of attitudes towards 10 international associations. They include:

- The United Nations (UN)
- The Commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS)
- The European Union (EU)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)
- North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
- Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR)
- African Union (AU)
- Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- League of Arab States (LAS).

The analysis shows that the level of trust in international organizations does not depend on the level of integration of the member states. The Association of South East Asian Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States representing free trade zones have the highest level of trust among the international organizations (about 60%). The European Union with the highest degree of integration is supported by only 43%. The lowest levels of trust were found in the Arab Maghreb Union (25%) and the League of Arab States (20%) — associations with the lowest level of integration.

Despite the general level of trust, inside the blocks the values can be significantly different (Table 2). They are the most homogeneous among member countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). Thus, the highest level of trust was among the residents of Malaysia (65%), and lowest was among the residents of Thailand (58%). Most of all, values vary in respect of the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The difference between the minimum and maximum level of support is 80%, 50% and 49%, respectively. Very critical concerning the UN were respondents from Egypt (8%), and the least critical were respondents from

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5 In the analysis only those international organizations are considered where the number of member states in the selection of the World Values Survey ranged from 2 or more.
Uzbekistan (88%). The most negative assessment of AU was again from the representatives of Egypt (14%); but the representatives of Ghana have the highest degree of confidence (63%). Residents of Uzbekistan are in the first place in the assessment of the CIS (89%), with Russia in last place (41%). However, the residents of Russia have a better attitude to the Customs Union (CU) between Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus, than the attitude to the CIS: 67% versus 41%.

In the evaluation we used research data from “Eurasian monitor” conducted in 2013. The question was as follows: “Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia joined in the Customs Union, which made the trade between the three countries free from duties, and created the Single Economic Space (in fact a single market of the three countries). What do you think of this decision?” The table shows the percentage of those who chose the answer “definitely positive” and “rather positive”.

**20 countries without Hong Kong, which is not a state; and 19 countries without Taiwan, which has disputed official status.**
Common attraction indicators

In the face of aggravation of the crisis in the Russian-Ukrainian relations, this study identified both the stable parameters of integration preferences of citizens of the CIS region, and the indicators that are sensitive to the information influence, as well as the degree of this sensitivity.

For most of the countries changes over the past year are small, but the gradual accumulation of these changes leads to a qualitative change in the positioning of the countries. As in the previous two waves of the “EDB Integration barometer”, the residents of Ukraine and Russia, countries that are essential for the integration process, proved to be not focused on the post-Soviet space. On a par with Kazakhstan they are of the greatest interest to the residents of the other countries of the former USSR. Ukraine became even more inclined to the European Union.

Additionally, in Russia, Ukraine, and, in some respect, in Armenia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, as well as in Turkmenistan in 2013, there is a fairly common orientation toward autonomy (no attraction to any other country).

The greatest mutual interest to each other is by the citizens of the three Slavic countries — Russia, Belarus and Ukraine — and Kazakhstan. Moreover, the trend is that Ukraine is more and more coming out of this cluster of countries, and Kazakhstan is becoming more and more integrated. Unifying influence of the Customs Union (and Eurasian Economic Union which is under formation), on the one hand, and the disintegrating effects of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, on the other hand, are gradually leading to a change in the pattern of integration in the mass consciousness.

In general, it can be noted that the Russian-Ukrainian crisis has affected public opinion of the population of the CIS countries in relation to possible integration vectors. At the same time the level of changes of the integration orientation is not so great and in different countries it varies from 2–3% to 12–15% of the population (unless, of course, the population of Russia and Ukraine is counted where the dynamics are much more noticeable).

More specifically, summary priority indicators of the main geopolitical clusters for each country as a whole and for each of the areas are as follows.

In politics, we can see that for all countries the cluster «Countries of the former USSR» remains a priority. In 2014, the exceptions were Georgia and Azerbaijan which are significantly focused on the USA (and Europe) and Turkey, respectively. In this case, in Azerbaijan the balance is shifting in favour of the cluster «Other Countries». Serious reorientation took place in Ukraine whose population more often gives preference to the EU and other countries, as opposed to the cluster «Countries of the former USSR.»
In economics, there is no general dominance in preferences, as is in the case with politics. Countries can be divided into the following groups:

- Orientation primarily to the outside world — Azerbaijan.
- Orientation primarily to the European Union — Georgia and Ukraine.
- Orientation primarily to the CIS region and the outside world — (index values of «Countries of the former USSR» and «Other countries» are close and are significantly higher than the index value of the «EU countries») — Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Belarus.
- No priority, values of the three indices («Countries of the former USSR», «EU countries», «Other countries») are close — Armenia, Moldova, Russia and Uzbekistan.

Thus, in economic integration preferences former tendencies take place: drifting of Moldova and Ukraine towards Europe, multiple-vector orientation of Belarus, Russia and Uzbekistan — they are maintaining interest in all areas of economic integration.

Social and cultural relations sphere is characterized by the following patterns:

- Focus on the European Union is prevalent in three countries — Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
- Tajikistan, Uzbekistan show greater preference to the post-Soviet cultural space.
- Countries of the «Other world» are a priority for the population of Azerbaijan.
- Population of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia (members of SES — EurAsEC and the most likely candidates for membership) exhibit a variety of preferences in the socio-cultural sphere.
• Excluding Russia and Ukraine, relations between the countries of the CIS region on the basis of cognitive interest were not intensive.

For the combination of three factors — politics, economics, and culture — the post-Soviet space remains the priority vector of attraction for the relative majority of countries (countries of Central Asia — Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan — as well as Armenia and Belarus). A key factor of such grouping is political. Positioning of Russia and Moldova has become much more multi-vector oriented and uncertain. Therefore they arrived at the zone of uncertainty, moving away from the zone of attraction to the European Union, in which Georgia and Ukraine remained. Azerbaijan is steadily focused on Turkey.

A more detailed analysis on all the information provided in this analytical summary and additional issues are contained in the full electronic version of the “EDB Integration barometer — 2014” analytical report available on the website of the Eurasian Development Bank (EDB)^6.

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^6 Full version of the «EDB Integration Barometer - 2014» report, which is the basis of this analytical summary, as well as annexes and additional materials on the results of the study are available on the website of the Eurasian Development Bank http://www.eabr.org/r/research/centre/projectsCII/
Comprehensive assessment of the macroeconomic effect of different forms of intensive economic cooperation by Ukraine with the member states of the Customs Union and the Single Economic Space within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Community (ECC)

The main goal of the project is to assess a macroeconomic effect of the creation of the Customs Union and Single Economic Space of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, and to determine prospects of the development of integration links between Ukraine and the CU. The project was conducted by the team of five research institutions. The results presented in the Report have been widely recognized and become standard.

Available in Russian and English:
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/ukraine/

Studies of Regional Integration in the CIS and in Central Asia: A Literature Survey

This report, published under auspices of the EDB Centre for Integration Studies, summarizes both international studies in the area of regional integration within the former Soviet Union and Russian language materials on this issue, reviewing the research papers and publications in the area of economics, political studies, international relations and international political economy, law and area studies.

Available in Russian and English:
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/CIS_CentralAsia/

Assessment of the economic, institutional and legal impact of labour migration agreements within the framework of the Single Economic Space

The project included analysis of two labour agreements that came into force on January 1, 2012 within the SES of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. It analyzes their economic and social impact on labour migration processes, labour market and productivity, strengthening of the regional economic relations.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/labour_migration/

EDB integration barometer 2012

The EDB Centre for Integration Studies in cooperation with the Eurasian Monitor International Research Agency examined the approaches of population to regional integration.

Available in Russian and English
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/integration_barometer/

Threats to public finances of the CIS in the light of the current global instability (in Russian)

The Report deals with the assessment of the risks for the government finances of the CIS countries in the light of current world instability. The report was conducted at the request of the Finance Ministry of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and presented at the permanent council of the CIS Finance Ministers.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/risks/

Monitoring of Mutual Investments in the Member States of the CIS

The monitoring of mutual CIS investments provides analytical support for work conducted by state and supranational agencies on developing a suitable strategy for deepening integration processes throughout the post-Soviet space. The Centre in partnership with IMEMO (RAS) has created and is regularly updating the most comprehensive database up to date.

Available in Russian and English
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/invest_monitoring/

Customs Union and cross-border cooperation between Kazakhstan and Russia

Research on the economic effects of the development of industrial relations under the influence of the Customs Union in the border regions of Russia and Kazakhstan.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/kaz_rus_e/

Unified trade policy and addressing the modernization challenges of the SES

The Report presents an analysis of the key economic risks arising under the agreement by SES participants of a foreign trade policy, formulates proposals on the main thrusts of SES Common Trade Policy, and names measures for its reconciled implementation.

http://eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/trade_policy/

SES+ Grain policy

Growth in grain production is propelling Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Russia to the leadership ranks of the global grain market. The Report systematically analyzes trends in development of the grain sector and actual policies and regulations in SES countries, Ukraine and other participants of the regional grain market.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/grain_policy/

Technological Coordination and Improving Competitiveness within the SES

The report presents a number of proposals aimed at improving SES competitiveness within the international division of labour.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/technological_coordination/
The Customs Union and Neighbouring Countries: Models and Instruments for Mutually Beneficial Partnership

The report proposes a broad spectrum of approaches to the fostering of deep and pragmatic integrational interaction between the CU/SES and countries throughout the Eurasian continent.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/cu_and_neighbors/

Labour Migration and Human Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Impact of the Customs Union

The report focuses on the effects of Kyrgyzstan’s possible accession to the Customs Union (CU) and Single Economic Space (SES) on the flows of labour resources, the volume of cash remittances, labour market conditions and professional education and training in this country.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/labor_migration_kyrgyzstan_cu/

Tajikistan’s Accession to the Customs Union and Single Economic Space

Tajikistan’s accession to the CU and the SES will have a positive economic impact on the country’s economy. The Report includes a detailed economic analysis of the issue using various economic models and research methods.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/Tajikistan_CU_SES/

Monitoring of Mutual Investments in the CIS

The report contains new results of the joint research project of the Centre for Integration Studies of EDB and the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences. It is aimed at the maintenance and development of the monitoring database of mutual direct investment in the CIS countries and Georgia. A general characteristic of mutual investments in the CIS at the end of 2012 is provided.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/

EDB Integration Barometer – 2013

The EDB Centre for Integration Studies in cooperation with the Eurasian Monitor International Research Agency examined the approaches of population to regional integration.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/integration_barometer/

Cross-Border Cooperation between Russia, Belarus and Ukraine

Cooperation between 27 cross-border regions of Belarus, Russia and Ukraine has significant potential; however the existing frontiers and barriers are a significant factor that fragments the region’s economic space.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/project16/

Labour Migration and Human Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Impact of the Customs Union

The report focuses on the effects of Kyrgyzstan’s possible accession to the Customs Union (CU) and Single Economic Space (SES) on the flows of labour resources, the volume of cash remittances, labour market conditions and professional education and training in this country.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/labor_migration_kyrgyzstan_cu/

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http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/

ARMENIA AND THE CUSTOMS UNION: IMPACT OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION Report 20

SyStem of IndIcatorS of euraSIan IntegratIon II

System of Indicators of Eurasian Integration

The System of Indicators of Eurasian Integration (SIEI) is designed to become the monitoring and assessment tool for integration processes within the post-Soviet territory.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/siei/index.php?id_16=37610

Monitoring of direct investments of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine in Eurasia

The Eurasia FDI Monitoring project supplements another research by the EDB Centre for Integration Studies —Monitoring of Mutual Foreign Investment in the CIS Countries (CIS Mutual Investment Monitoring).

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/project19/

Armenia and the Customs Union: Impact of Accession

This report provides the assessment of the macroeconomic impact of Armenia joining the Customs Union.

http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/project20/
Quantifying Economic Integration: of the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union: Methodological Approaches
The objective of the project is to discuss and analyse economic integration in Eurasia, both on the continental scale “from Lisbon to Shanghai,” and in the EU-EEU dimension “from Lisbon to Vladivostok.”
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/project21/

Pension Mobility within the Eurasian Economic Union and the CIS
In the report the experts evaluate the prospects of implementing effective mechanisms in the region to tackle pension problems of migrant workers.
http://www.eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/projectsandreportsCIS/project24/

Eurasian Integration. Challenges of Transcontinental Regionalism
Evgeny Vinokurov, Alexander Libman
Basingtoke: Palgrave Macmillan
“Vinokurov and Libman have pulled together a tremendous range of information and insight about Eurasian economic integration. Their eminently readable book tackles an important and timely topic, which lies at the heart of global economic and political transformation in the 21st century.”
Johannes Linn, Brookings Institute
http://eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/monographsCIS/

Holding-Together Regionalism: Twenty Years of Post-Soviet Integration (Euro-Asian Studies)
An in-depth analysis of one of the most important and complex issues of the post-Soviet era, namely the (re-)integration of this highly interconnected region. The book considers the evolution of “holding-together” groups since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, looking at intergovernmental interaction and informal economic and social ties.
http://eabr.org/e/research/centreCIS/monographsCIS/