

Concept Note on Internationalization of Education Programs in Strategic Trade Control

A KBTU draft document for discussion

Motivation

There are plenty of positive examples of how collaborative internationalization strategies contribute to the development of new specialties at universities. The benefits of internationalization are many and various. The goal is to create a sustainable environment of experts in Strategic Trade Control through the higher education system and scientific community. Concerning KBTU, we aim at creating a sustainable education program covering undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels. Our focus is to work with higher education institutions, which includes universities, research centers, thinktanks; enterprises; and state bodies involved in foreign trade control for producing knowledge and competences in the emerging field of STC.

The long-run sustainability of applied research and education programs in STC should be attained through (a) increasing advanced knowledge capacity among professors involved in the topic and (b) building multi- and interdisciplinary networks among professors and experts from different departments of KBTU, from different local universities, and, if possible, from universities of other countries specializing in STC. Capacity building through international cooperation is a commonly known way to gain worldwide recognition and higher rankings in this new field of STC. The long-run strategic goal is to realize double degree programs with world class universities in Europe, North America, and South-East Asia.

Brief Action Plan Strategy

Collaboration may take two major tracks: 1) domestic level, and 2) international level:

Concerning local collaboration, KBTU may sign Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the universities specializing in STC like Satbayev University (SU), Kazakh-British Technical University (KBTU), Suleyman Demirel University (SDU), as well as QazTrade, QazIndustry, and other organizations dealing with Strategic Trade Control. The MoUs will allow KBTU to collaborate deeper with these organizations on joint research, educational, and training projects in STC.

As for international level, KBTU should start collaboration with the European Studies Unit at the University of Liege, Belgium and the Center for International Trade Security at the University of Georgia, Athens, USA. KBTU should also encourage networking with the universities from the countries of former Soviet Union. Our collaboration with the Kyrgyz State university, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and Kyiv University, Kyiv, Ukraine is supposed to be perspective. All the activities can be listed in terms of following groups:

1. Research Networking
 - Facilitating launching joint PhD program on STC in collaboration with an internationally recognized university.
 - Creation of the Consortium of local and regional universities and research centers fojoint capacity building projects with internationally recognized universities.
 - Scientific Conference on STC.
2. Education Networking
 - Facilitating exchange program for bachelor/master students between universities of CIS countries.
 - Running at least 1 the research project in STC in collaboration with a western partner.
3. Certification Program Implementation (STC, CBRN, sanctions policy)
 - Internal Compliance Policy in Strategic Trade Control Implementation
 - Training local administrative staff on ICP in STC.
 - UNDC trainings for local professionals and experts on STC.

- Establishment of the Center of Competence for experts and social scientists with potential certification center on STC (presumably at AIFC).

Conclusion

The STC education programs internationalization should be focused on research activity for the academia and expert community, and training activity for professional domain. The research and education collaboration should be extended to other internationally recognized universities.

Training activity should be developing towards certified programs in three languages: Kazakh, English, Russian. Eventually, we may have a platform, which will connect units in academia, think tanks, civil society, and policymakers engaged in designing and implementing STC in practice, research, and education.