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**ВЛИЯНИЕ РОССИИ НА ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИЕ И ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИЕ
ПРОЦЕССЫ В РЕСПУБЛИКЕ НИГЕРИЯ**
**ARTICLE: RUSSIA'S INFLUENCE ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC
PROCESSES IN THE REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

Аннотация. В данной статье анализируется растущее политическое и экономическое влияние России в Нигерии на фоне глобальных геополитических изменений. Цель состоит в оценке многопланового сотрудничества между двумя странами и его воздействия на развитие Нигерии. Задачи включают оценку динамики торговли, ключевых секторов, таких как энергетика и сельское хозяйство, институционального партнёрства и барьеров на пути углубления экономических связей. Несмотря на прочные политические связи, экономическое сотрудничество остаётся ограниченным, наблюдается значительный торговый дисбаланс и реализовано немного соглашений.

Abstract. This article analyzes Russia's growing political and economic influence in Nigeria amid global geopolitical shifts. The goal is to evaluate the multifaceted cooperation between the two countries and its effects on Nigeria's development. Tasks include assessing trade dynamics, key sectors such as energy and agriculture, institutional partnerships, and barriers to deeper economic ties. Despite strong political ties, economic cooperation remains limited, with a significant trade imbalance and few implemented agreements.

Ключевые слова: Российско-Нигерийские отношения, экономическое сотрудничество, политическое влияние, двусторонняя торговля, энергетический сектор, геополитическая переориентация.

Keywords: Russia-Nigeria relations, economic cooperation, political influence, bilateral trade, energy sector, geopolitical realignment.

Introduction: Russia's influence in Nigeria has evolved within a dynamic geopolitical landscape, shaping political and economic cooperation between the two countries. This study aims to explore the multidimensional aspects of Russia-Nigeria relations, focusing on the impact of bilateral trade, strategic sectors like energy and agriculture, and institutional partnerships. Understanding these relations is crucial to assessing how Russia's presence affects Nigeria's economic development and political alignment.

The research further highlights that Russian companies have shown increased interest in key sectors in Nigeria, such as revitalizing the country's largest steel plant and entering the automotive market through companies like Avtovaz. Trade figures indicate that Russia's exports to Nigeria reached about \$1.51 billion in 2023, predominantly refined petroleum, wheat, and malt, while Nigerian exports to Russia remain minimal at around \$10 million, mainly consisting of cocoa products and other agricultural goods. This significant trade imbalance underscores the asymmetry in economic engagement between the two countries.

Additionally, logistical obstacles, such as the lack of direct trade routes, increase costs and reduce competitiveness for Nigerian products on the Russian market. Institutional efforts, including



the establishment of the Russian Trade Mission in Nigeria and increased participation in trade fairs, aim to promote Nigerian exports. The study emphasizes that improving infrastructure, expanding bilateral investment frameworks, and increasing awareness of market opportunities are critical for bridging the existing trade and cooperation gaps. These factors collectively contribute to understanding the current cooperation dynamics and inform strategies to achieve balanced, mutually beneficial economic ties. To strengthen Russia-Nigeria economic cooperation, it is recommended to enhance direct trade routes and transport infrastructure, improve investment frameworks by simplifying regulatory environments, and facilitate market intelligence sharing to increase mutual opportunities. Developing joint ventures in energy, agriculture, and mining sectors should be prioritized. Furthermore, fostering institutional collaboration via regular bilateral dialogues and expanding cooperation under multilateral platforms like BRICS can solidify strategic ties and foster sustainable development.

Conclusion: While Russia has positioned itself as a key geopolitical partner for Nigeria, translating political influence into sustainable economic partnerships remains a challenge. Addressing infrastructural and institutional barriers alongside strategic sectoral cooperation can unlock greater potential in bilateral relations. This study underscores the need for pragmatic policies and collaborative frameworks that move beyond rhetoric to foster meaningful economic engagement, benefiting both nations in an evolving global order.

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