

УДК 339.56.055

*Григорян Д.О.,
Экономист 1-ой категории,
Института экономики им. М. Котаняна НАН,
Республика Армения, Ереван*

АРМЯНО-ИРАНСКИЕ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИЕ ОТНОШЕНИЯ

***Аннотация:** После обретения Арменией независимости между Ираном и Республикой Армения сложились добрососедские межгосударственные отношения, обусловленные как экономическими интересами, так и исторической, этнической и культурной общностью. Экономическое сотрудничество с Ираном во многом способствовало улучшению тяжелейшего социально-экономического положения Армении, в котором она оказалась в названный период в результате блокады республики со стороны Азербайджана и Турции. Неоценимую роль для блокадной Армении сыграла поставка энергоносителей из соседнего Ирана.*

***Ключевые слова:** Армения, Иран, экономические отношения, экспорт, импорт.*

*Grigoryan D.H.,
Master, First Level Economist,
M. Kotanyan Institute of Economics National Academy of Sciences,
Republic of Armenia, Yerevan*

THE ARMENIAN-IRAN ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

***Annotation:** After gaining independence by Armenia, between Iran and the Republic of Armenia developed economic interests and the historical, ethnic and cultural community. Economic cooperation with Iran largely contributed to the improvement of the most difficult socio-economic situation in Armenia, in which it*

found itself in the period in question as a result of the blockade of the republic by Azerbaijan and Turkey. An invaluable role for blockade Armenia was played by the supply of energy from neighboring Iran.

Key words: Armenia, Iran, economic relationship, export, import.

Despite religious and ideological differences, relations between Armenia and the Islamic Republic of Iran remain cordial both Armenia and Iran are strategic partners in the region. For more than 20 years, the Islamic Republic of Iran has appeared as the main and most reliable ally of the republic of Armenia. Since Iran recognized Armenia's independence on December 25, 1991, the two countries have strengthened their political relationship on many occasions and have committed themselves to realize numerous common projects in the economic field¹.

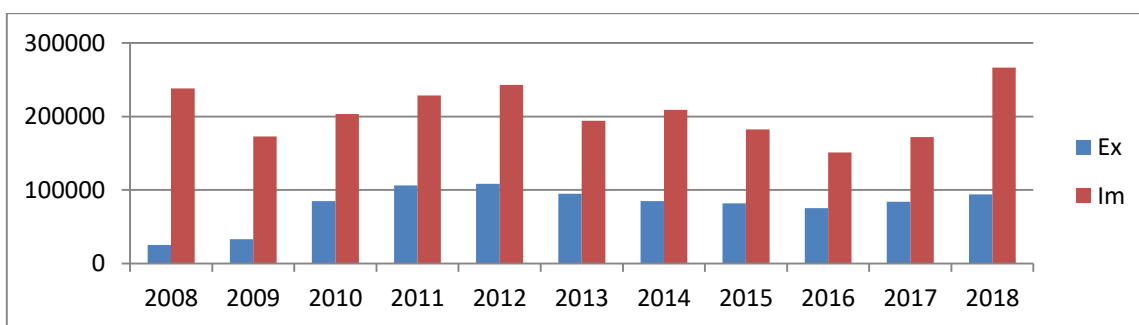


Table 1. Armenia-Iran Trade Turnover (Thousand USD)²

Table 1 show Armenia-Iran trade turnover in 2008-2018. During that period there were both declines and growth. The highest growth was in 2018, when about 266517 Thousand USD products imported from Iran to Armenia. And the lowest point was in 2016 about 151115.7 Thousand USD. In 2017 trade turnover was in 363620.9 thousand USD. From 2012, when imposed sanctions reflected in the official foreign trade figures declined till 2016, the difference was 91562.1 thousand USD. Then it started to increase about 115401.3 thousand USD in 2018. Overall trade between Iran and Armenia rose substantially in 2018, mostly due to greater Armenian imports

¹ <http://www.esisc.org/upload/publications/analyses/the-armenian-iran-relationship/Armenian-Iran%20relationship.pdf>

² https://www.armstat.am/file/article/sv_12_18a_411.pdf

from Iran. According to Armenia's National Statistical Service, Armenia exported 94.2 million USD³ worth of goods to Iran, a 12% increase over 2017.

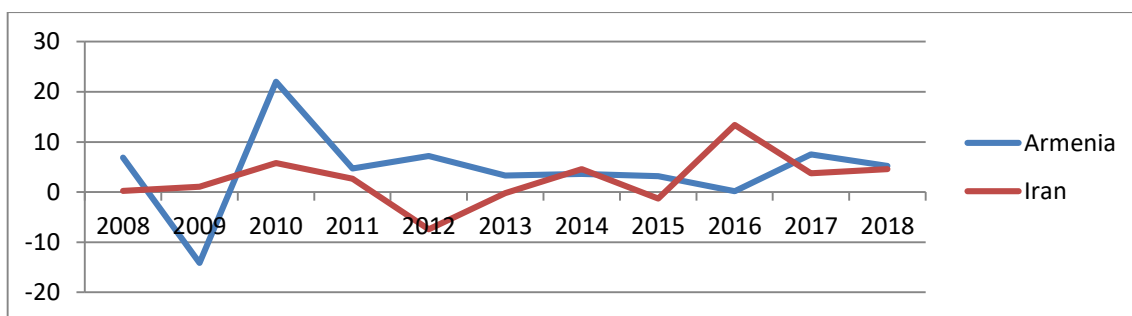


Table 2. Economic Growth Rate in Armenia and Iran 2008-2017⁴, %

Table 2 shows economic growth rate in both countries Armenia and Iran. In Armenia was a negative economic growth in 2009 about -14.15% and after it in 2010 the indicator of economic growth was increased and the difference was 7.85 %. After 2010 the indicator of economic growth was stable decreased till 2016, making about 0.2%. In 2017 the indicator was 7.2%. In Iran was a negative economic growth in 2012 about -7.45%, and the highest point was in 2016 about 13.4%. Then after it the indicator of economic growth was decreased 3.8% in 2017.

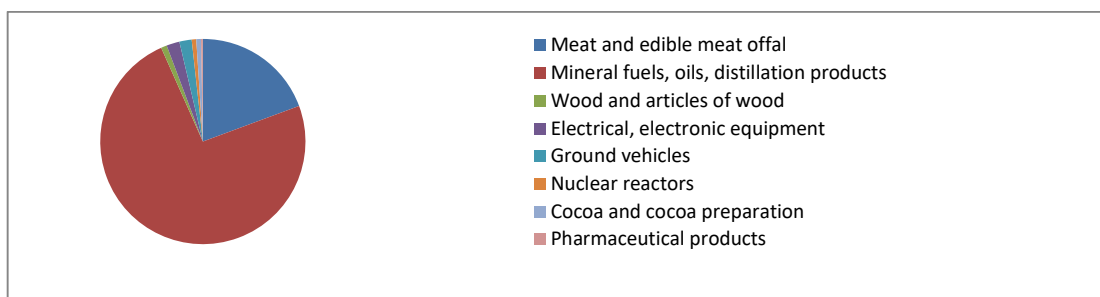


Table 3. Export structure from Armenia to Iran⁵

According to stats provided by Armenia's Customs Service, Armenia exported 110 million USD worth of goods to Iran in 2018, of which 83.5% was electricity. (In return, Armenia received natural gas). This arrangement has been in place since 2009. The main 8 products are exposed to export from Armenia to Iran. From the Table 3 are clear that the main exported product is mineral fuels, oils and distillation products about 74%, and then the second is meat and edible meat offal about 19%.

³ https://www.armstat.am/file/article/ft_2_nish_2018_18.pdf

⁴ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?end=2017&locations=IR-AM&start=2008>

⁵ https://www.armstat.am/file/article/ft_2_nish_2018_18.pdf

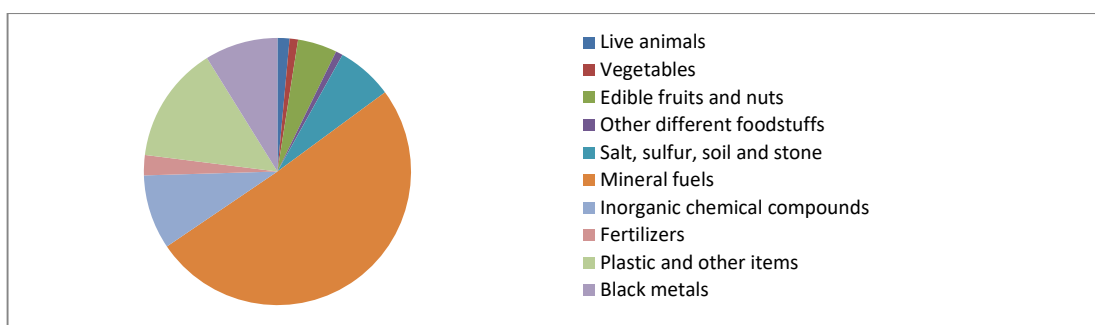


Table 3. Import structure from Iran to Armenia⁶

Armenian imports from Iran are more diversified. According to Armenia's Customs Service, Armenia imported 276.7 million USD goods from Iran in 2017, of which mineral fuels comprised 51% (138.35 million USD). Then the second-largest remarkable product is plastic and other items, about 14%. The trends of imports and exports between these countries could not be characterized by stability. Despite the fact of being small country, Armenia is the only country in the region, the economic and political interests of which does not contradict with the interests of Iran in the region. Moreover, even with full use of industry capacities of the country, Armenia could not be the rival producing country for the Iranian production sector, which is not the case for Turkey, Azerbaijan and others. Production sector of Armenia could be supplement one for the Iranian producers. Iran is the world's third largest natural gas producer. 2017 Iran has produced 193 million tons of natural gas (224 billion cubic meters), which is 6.1 percent of world natural gas production⁷. Iran and Armenia have two lines of electricity, and the third line is under construction, which prepares land for connecting networks of neighboring countries. The signing of a temporary agreement on the establishment of a free trade zone between EAEU and Iran was an important step in the development of trade and economic relations between Armenia and Iran.

⁶ https://www.armstat.am/file/article/ft_2_nish_2018_18.pdf

⁷ World Natural Gas 2018-2050: World Energy Annual Report (Part 3), <http://peakoilbarrel.com/world-natural-gas-2018-2050-world-energy-annual-report-part-3/>

REFERENCES

1. European Strategic Intelligence and security center, «The Armenian-Iran relationship strategic implication for security in the south Caucasus Region», edited by Claude Moniquet and William Racimora, January 17th, 2013, URL: <http://www.esisc.org/upload/publications/analyses/the-armenian-iran-relationship/Armenian-Iran%20relationship.pdf>
2. Все графики, составленная автором согласно данным НСС РА, URL: https://www.armstat.am/file/article/sv_12_18a_411.pdf
3. Диаграмма, составленная автором согласно данным Всемирный банк URL: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?end=2017&locations=IR-AM&start=2008>
4. World Natural Gas 2018-205, World Energy Annual Report, Part3, URL: [World Natural Gas 2018-2050: World Energy Annual Report \(Part 3\), http://peakoilbarrel.com/world-natural-gas-2018-2050-world-energy-annual-report-part-3/A](http://peakoilbarrel.com/world-natural-gas-2018-2050-world-energy-annual-report-part-3/A)