

---

## India, Vietnam and other countries take interest in establishment of free trade zone with CU

ARMENPRESS - 14/12/2013

---

YEREVAN - The door of the Customs Union is open in front of any country which will be ready to sign under all the fundamental documents, as well as under those additional documents which form the foundation of the common economic space with the CU. `Armenpress' reports that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov stated it at the course of the interview given to `Russia-24' TV company as a response to the question whether the door of the CU is open in front of Ukraine.

Sergey Lavrov also underscored that the Eurasian Economic Union Treaty must get ready in May next year `which removes all the restrictions and will provide complete freedom of goods, capital, and labor force and service movement'.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation also stated that India, Vietnam and Turkey have offered to launch negotiations with the CU around the establishment of free trade zone. `The negotiations between Vietnam and the CU on the establishment of free trade zone have already commenced. We hope that in case of success, and for that not bad opportunities exist, they will serve as a model for the establishment of the negotiations on free trade zone between the CU and the Association of Southeast Asia countries. At the same time, negotiations for the establishment of free trade zone are ongoing with New Zealand, as well as the European Association of free trade which include Western European countries, in particular, Switzerland, Norway which are not regarded to be member of the CU. There is curiosity and it is mutual. I believe it is a promising work,' Sergey Lavrov highlighted.

In the result of the negotiations on September 3, 2013 in Moscow the Presidents Serzh Sargsyan and Vladimir Putin confirmed the aim of the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation in the direction of further development of economic integration processes in the Eurasian territory. In that context the President of the Republic of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan announced about the Armenia's decision to join the Customs Union and the necessity of implementation corresponding steps for that aim and in future about participating in formation of the Eurasian economic union. The President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin expressed his support to the abovementioned decision of Armenia and informed about the readiness of the Russian side to support the process. Serzh Sargsyan noted that this decision is not refusal from dialogue with European organizations.

<http://armenpress.am/eng/news/743779/india-vietnam-and-other-countries-take-interest-in-establishment-of-free-trade-zone-with-cu.html>

---