



United States Chamber of Commerce



Eurasia Business Platform Initiative

**World Custom Organization's
SAFE Framework of Standards:
*the Multilateral Approach***

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US Chamber of Commerce

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UNECE Inland Transport Security Forum

Geneva, Switzerland

United States Chamber of Commerce

Eurasia Business Platform Initiative



THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA



Eurasia Business Platform

- ❖ Eurasia Business Platform was launched by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2006.
- ❖ The U.S. Chambers partners with its affiliated American Chambers of Commerce throughout the region on this effort.
- ❖ Eurasia Business Platform's goal is to foster regional economic cooperation and secure trade facilitation across Eurasia.
- ❖ Eurasia Business Platform is a mechanism for the business community to have input with policy makers in Washington, DC, Eurasian governments, and within regional framework institutions like the SCO, GUAM and EurAsEC.

Key Eurasia Business Platform Projects

- ❖ **Land Transport Options Study**
- ❖ **AmCham Investment and Trade Facilitation Survey**
- ❖ **Security and Trade Facilitation Study**
- ❖  **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES



LAND TRANSPORT OPTIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA: Commercial Feasibility Study

July 2006

Beijing to Brussels

- ❖ Maritime accounts for 85%
- ❖ Rail accounts for 3-4%
- ❖ Trucking accounts for <1%

AmCham Survey 2008

❖ 2008 AmCham Survey on Investment Climate, Transport, and Trade Facilitation

❖ Survey sent to almost 1000 businesses across Eurasia.

Key Results:

❖ 57% report current business climate as “good”

❖ 60% say the situation will continue to improve

❖ 75% report they must add additional human resources to deal with customs regulations.

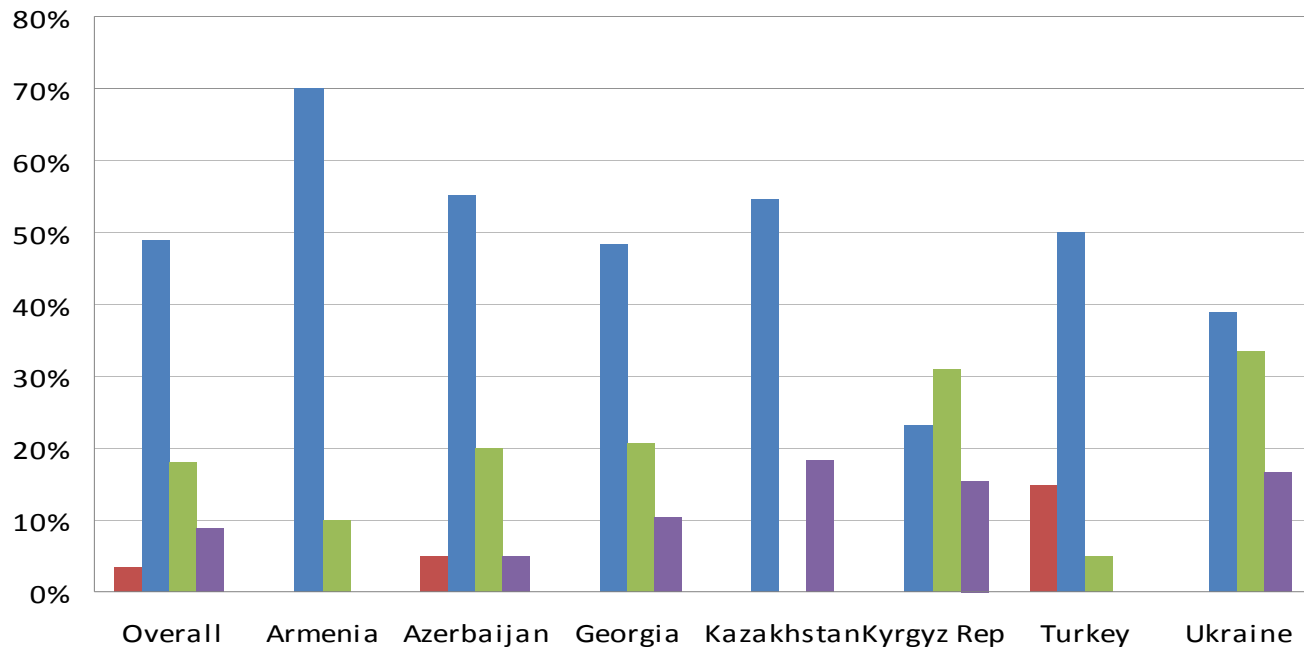
❖ 61% report travel/transit times are slow due to poor road and rail conditions.

❖ Greater than half of all respondents say that with overall improvements in the business and investment climate, their business would improve by over 50%

Transport Security Assessment

Figure 16: Transport Security Assessment

- Very good: borders and customs checkpoints are sophisticated and reliable
- Fair: could use improvement
- Poor: border facilities are not adequate
- Terrible: borders are porous; illegal, dangerous and/or contraband material travels easily through borders





Balancing Security and Trade Facilitation in the 21st Century Global Supply Chain:



***A Study Evaluating International Agreements
to Implement
The SAFE Framework of Standards***

April 2, 2008

Key Findings

- Current approach to implementation is **bilateral only**
- A combined multilateral/bilateral will ensure greater efficiency and uniformity
- And will ensure we avoid.....



More than 24,000 Agreements “Spaghetti Bowl”



Request

- Respectfully request the UNECE to work with the WCO to review our findings and utilize the multilateral approach to *unravel the spaghetti*.
- Thank you!

