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INTERNATIONAL LAW NORMS IN THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION

**Marina Trunk-Fedorova
Associate Professor, School of Law, St. Petersburg State University, Russia**

A wide-spread view on Russia and Russia-led organizations is that they often do not respect international law norms and do not consider themselves bound by them. The real picture is, in our view, much more multifaceted and cannot be drawn in only black or white colours. An example of this might be the recently created Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which has five Member States – Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia.

The Treaty on the EAEU entered into force on 1 January 2015. It sets up a legal framework for a customs union between the EAEU Member States as well as for creation of a single economic space.

According to the Treaty on the EAEU, the Court of the Eurasian Economic Union has been created. It is worth noting that the drafters used the model of the CJEU, and the functions of the EAEU Court are similar to those of the CJEU. The judges have to deal not only with norms of the EAEU but also with other international law norms.

The paper will analyze the legal framework of the EAEU from the perspective of its attitude to general international law as well as the practice of the EAEU Court. The author will show that the EAEU Treaty has a rather open approach to international law, an important example being the role of the norms of the World Trade Organization. The paper will also explore the role of general international law in the jurisprudence of the EAEU Court and the reasons for that.