

## Prospects of using blockchain technology in the international trade

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### **Abstract**

**The subject/topic.** This article deals with the prospects of adoption of blockchain technology for the sake of facilitating the international trade, saving the costs for enterprises participating in the foreign trade. **Goals/objectives.** The goal of this study is to analyse modern ways of pursuing international trade, possibility of enhancing its efficiency and cost-saving for all parties in the foreign exchange of goods, as well as analysis of current trade finance methods and possible ways of enhancing and simplifying them. **Methodology.** The study elucidates the essence and main characteristics of blockchain technology, as well as its possible application for international trade. The working principles of several different way of setting the scores between the parties of international trade were analysed, and their disadvantages were brought to light. **Results.** The main problems of pursuing the international trade (such as costs, risks and fraud) were revealed, circulation of main trade finance documents was analysed. The study names the main advantages for digitalization and automatization in the sphere of international trade in general, and usage of blockchain in particular. The study also shows examples, how blockchain is adopted for trade in different kinds of resources and trade finance. In the end, the study lists main problems of the new technology, which are holding it back from adoption and usage. **Conclusion/significance.** In today's world, adoption of blockchain technology will hardly meet the expectations, as the technology is not efficient enough. **Application.** The peculiarities and problems of blockchain technology, which were examined in this study, as well as examples of its adoption, can be used in order to improve the methods of pursuing the international trade.

**Keywords:** *international trade, letter of credit, documentary collection, maritime trade, blockchain, digitalisation, automatization, decentralisation, smart contract, trade finance*

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