

DEVELOPMENT TENDENCIES AND PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC
TERMINOLOGY IN THE UZBEK LANGUAGE

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Annotation: *The article examines the principal tendencies in the development of economic terminology in the modern Uzbek language during the period of market reform and economic globalization. The main channels of term formation – international borrowing, calquing, and the activation of native and classical lexical resources – are characterized, and the key problems hindering the systematization of the economic lexicon are identified, including term variation, the duality of writing systems, and the absence of a unified terminological database. Directions for the further ordering of Uzbek economic terminology are proposed.*

Keywords: *economic terminology, the Uzbek language, term, borrowing, calque, internationalism, standardization, terminography, digital economy.*

Economic terminology plays an important role in the formation of scientific communication, professional interaction, and economic literacy within society. In the context of economic reforms and integration into the global economy, the Uzbek language has undergone substantial lexical and terminological transformations. Since gaining independence, Uzbekistan has experienced rapid socio-economic changes that required the introduction of numerous new economic concepts and terms into the national language. The transition from a centrally planned economy to a market-based economic system accelerated the emergence of new terminological units related to entrepreneurship, finance, banking, taxation, investment, insurance, marketing, and international trade. Consequently, economic terminology has become one of the most dynamically developing layers of the Uzbek lexicon. However, the rapid expansion of economic vocabulary has also generated several linguistic and methodological problems. Many economic terms entered the Uzbek language directly through Russian or English without proper adaptation to Uzbek phonetic, grammatical, and semantic norms. This process has resulted in inconsistency, synonymy, ambiguity, and difficulties in practical usage. The objective of this study is to analyze the development tendencies of economic terminology in the Uzbek language and identify the major problems associated with its formation and application.

The transition of Uzbekistan to a market economy and its integration into the global economic system have made the economic lexicon one of the most dynamically developing layers of the modern Uzbek literary language. The reform of the banking, financial, tax, customs, and entrepreneurial spheres, together with the accelerating digitalization of the economy, has generated an intensive influx of new concepts that require precise linguistic designation. As a result, economic terminology has become an object of close attention for both linguists and economists, and its systematic study has acquired considerable theoretical and practical significance. The aim of the present paper is to characterize the leading tendencies in the development of Uzbek economic terminology and to outline the principal problems that currently impede its standardization.

Development tendencies of economic terminology

An analysis of the modern Uzbek economic lexicon allows several interrelated tendencies to be distinguished.

First, the borrowing of international terms. A substantial share of contemporary Uzbek economic terms has entered the language as internationalisms – inflatsiya, deflatsiya, broker, diler, lizing, faktoring, franchayzing, marketing, audit, dividend, investitsiya. After 1991 such units have increasingly been adopted directly from English rather than through Russian mediation, which reflects the reorientation of national economic education and scholarship toward Anglo-American sources.

Second, calquing and loan translation. Many terms are formed by reproducing the structure or semantics of foreign models using native means: qimmatli qog‘ozlar (securities), bozor iqtisodiyoti (market economy), soliq yuki (tax burden), raqobatbardoshlik (competitiveness), ish haqi (wages). Calquing makes it possible to expand the terminological system while preserving the lexical identity of the language.

Third, the activation of native and classical lexical resources. A characteristic feature of the post-independence period is the revival and terminological re-semanticization of words drawn from the Uzbek language itself and from its Arabic-Persian heritage: tadbirkor (entrepreneur), xarajat (expenditure), daromad (income), foyda (profit), zarar (loss), boj (customs duty), xazina (treasury), soliq (tax). Lexemes once regarded as archaic have thus regained an active terminological function.

Fourth, productive word-formation. Affixation and compounding have become active mechanisms of term creation: the suffixes -dor, -kor, and -chi yield such terms as ulushdor (shareholder), ijarachi (lessee), tadbirkor, while analytical and compound constructions designate complex economic concepts.

Fifth, codification and standardization activity. The work of terminological commissions, the compilation of explanatory and bilingual dictionaries of economic terms, and the coordinating role of the Republican Terminology Committee constitute a deliberate effort to order the economic lexicon and to recommend preferred variants.

Sixth, the emergence of digital-economy terminology. The newest and least stable layer is connected with the digital transformation of the economy: raqamli iqtisodiyot (digital economy), kriptovalyuta (cryptocurrency), blokcheyn (blockchain), elektron tijorat (e-commerce), startup (start-up). These units are still in the process of orthographic and semantic adaptation.

Problems of economic terminology

Alongside these positive tendencies, the development of Uzbek economic terminology is accompanied by a number of unresolved problems.

1. Term variation and synonymy. A single concept is frequently designated by two or three competing units – a borrowed internationalism, a Russian-mediated form, and a native calque coexisting in usage: menejment / boshqaruv, investitsiya / sarmoya, konkurensiya / raqobat, kredit / qarz. Such variation violates the fundamental terminological requirement of monosemy and one-to-one correspondence between concept and term.

2. The duality of writing systems. The incomplete transition from the Cyrillic to the Latin script means that economic terms circulate simultaneously in two graphic systems. This complicates the compilation of dictionaries and databases and gives rise to numerous spelling variants of one and the same term.

3. The absence of unified principles for adapting borrowings. There is no consistently applied principle for rendering foreign terms – transliteration, transcription, and phonetic adaptation are used inconsistently – which produces parallel orthographic forms of borrowed units and reduces the stability of the terminological norm.

4. Russian-mediated borrowing. A considerable number of terms entered Uzbek through the Russian language and retain a Russian phonetic-morphological form that may diverge from the English original, creating inconsistencies when texts are translated directly from English sources.

5. The lack of a unified terminological database. Existing dictionaries of economic terms are partial, become outdated rapidly, and are not coordinated with one another; a national term bank capable of providing authoritative and regularly updated recommendations has not yet been established.

6. The gap between codified and actually used terminology. Officially recommended terms often diverge from the units that prevail in business practice,

the mass media, and translation, which weakens the regulatory effect of codification.

7. Insufficient lexicographic and theoretical groundwork. Terminological research and dictionary-making lag behind the pace of economic change, so that newly emerging concepts – especially in the digital economy – remain without stable and generally accepted designations for a prolonged period.

Economic terminology is one of the most actively developing components of the modern Uzbek language, and its growth is driven by international borrowing, calquing, the activation of native and classical resources, and the demands of the digital economy. At the same time, the systematization of this lexicon is hindered by term variation, the duality of writing systems, the inconsistent adaptation of borrowings, and the absence of a unified terminological database. The ordering of Uzbek economic terminology therefore requires the creation of a national terminological database and term bank for the economic sphere, the elaboration of unified principles for adapting borrowed terms, the strengthening of the coordinating role of the Terminology Committee, the regular compilation of up-to-date explanatory dictionaries that include digital-economy terms, and closer cooperation between academic linguistics and economic practice. The consistent implementation of these measures would enhance the precision, stability, and communicative effectiveness of the Uzbek economic lexicon.

The development of economic terminology in the Uzbek language reflects the broader socio-economic and technological transformations occurring in Uzbekistan. Globalization, market reforms, and digitalization have significantly expanded the national economic lexicon. At the same time, these processes have generated important linguistic challenges, including inconsistency, excessive borrowing, semantic ambiguity, and insufficient standardization. The future development of Uzbek economic terminology requires systematic scientific approaches, coordinated institutional efforts, and balanced language policy. The effective standardization and modernization of economic terminology will contribute not only to linguistic development but also to scientific communication, economic education, and international integration.

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