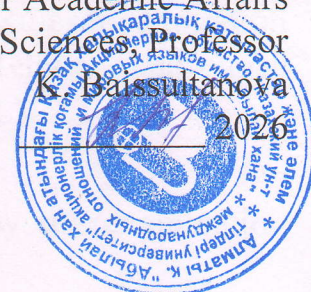


**JSC «KAZAKH ABLAI KHAN UNIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS AND WORLD LANGUAGES»**

“Approved by”  
Acting Vice Rector for Academic Affairs  
Candidate of Political Sciences, Professor



**PROGRAM**  
**entrance exams to doctoral studies**  
**in the field of training**  
**8D065 – «Regional Studies»**  
**in the educational program**  
**8D02321 – «Regional Studies»**

**Almaty, 2025**

## 1. General provisions

1.1 The program was compiled in accordance with the Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan of October 31, 2018 No. 600 «On approval of the Model Regulations for admission to studies in educational organization, implementing educational programs of technical and vocational education» (hereinafter referred to as the Standard rules) and the Rules for admission to study at JSC «Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages» (hereinafter referred to as Ablai Khan KazUIR&WL).

1.2 The entrance exam shall consist of the following blocks:

- 1) an interview with an incoming person conducted by the examination committee of Ablai Khan KazUIR&WL;
- 2) essay writing;
- 3) answers to examination questions on the profile of the educational program group.

1.3 The final score is a collection of scores obtained by summing up the results of the essay assessment, answering examination questions on the profile of the educational program group and interviewing.

Type of test	Scores
An interview with an incoming person conducted by the examination committee of the OHPE	30
Essay writing	20
Answers to examination questions on the profile of the educational program group	50
Total	100

3 hours 20 minutes (210 minutes) are allotted for the doctoral entrance exam, of which:

- for an interview - 20 minutes;
- to write essays and answers to exam questions on the profile of the educational program group - 190 minutes (3 hours 10 minutes).

1.4 Entrance exams for groups of educational programs under doctoral programme are held within the following terms:

- 1) from August 4 to August 20 of a calendar year;
- 2) from November 19 to December 11 of a calendar year.

1.5 The interview for individuals entering doctoral studies is carried out by Ablai Khan KazUIR&WL independently before passing the entrance exams in the blocks

«Writing essays» and «Answers to examination questions on the profile of the group of educational programs».

The interview is aimed at assessing the professional and personal qualities of the incoming, the potential for conducting research or experimental research work.

The interview is formalized by a protocol, which is signed by the chairman, members and secretary of the examination committee.

If the applicant fails to appear for the interview, 0 scores are set, a protocol is drawn up, which is signed by the chairman, members and secretary of the examination commission.

### **Topics for preparing for the exam according to the profile of the educational program group**

1. The history of the formation and development of regional studies as a scientific discipline.
2. Typology of regions: geographical, ethnocultural, political and economic foundations.
3. Methodology of comparative regional studies.
4. Concepts of regionalization and regionalism in world science.
5. Regional geopolitics: classical and modern schools.
6. The civilizational approach in the study of regions (Huntington, Toynbee, Spengler, etc.).
7. The region as a subject and object of international relations.
8. The interaction of globalization and localization: glocalization as a phenomenon.
9. Regionalization and integration processes in the modern world.
10. Models of regional development: center–periphery, uneven development.
11. Cross-border cooperation and interregional cooperation.
12. Megaregions as a new form of organization of space.
13. Regional policy and governance in global and national perspectives.
14. The role of natural resources in shaping the strategic importance of regions.
15. The Middle East: conflicts, religion and the struggle for influence.
  
16. Categories "region", "regional identity", "border": theoretical approaches.
17. Methodology of regional research: comparative analysis, historical, sociological and political science methods.
18. The role of geopolitics and geoeconomics in modern regional studies.
19. Theoretical concepts of globalization and regionalization: interaction and contradictions.
20. Types and models of regional integration (on the example of the EU, EAEU, ASEAN).
21. International organizations and their impact on the development of macro-regions of the world.
22. Foreign policy of States and regional aspects of international relations.
23. Political map of the world: dynamics of state borders and sovereignties.

24. Economic zoning of the world: classification of countries by the level of socio-economic development.
25. Cross-border cooperation: the essence, forms and mechanisms of implementation.
26. Regional security: threats, challenges and strategies for ensuring stability.
27. Demographic processes and population migration as factors of regional development.
28. Digitalization of the economy and its spatial effects (digital divide between regions).
29. Environmental issues in the regional context: sustainable development.
30. Central Asia as an object of regional studies: history, culture, modern political and economic processes.

### **Approximate essay topics**

1. Regionalization and globalization: competing or complementary processes?
2. Evolution of scientific approaches to the typology of regions.
3. Megaregions in the 21st century: driving forces and consequences.
4. The European Union as a model of regional integration: lessons and prospects.
5. Regional integration associations: political and economic logic and models (NAFTA, MERCOSUR, ASEAN, etc.).
6. Cross-border regions as new forms of regional cooperation.
7. The role of regions in global governance: between sub-global initiatives and international institutions.
8. The specifics of public administration and federal relations in Russia as a macroregion.
9. The European Union as a model of supranational integration: institutional structure and policy.
10. The Asia-Pacific region: key actors and the balance of power.
11. The Middle East: historical conflicts, the resource factor and the current situation.
12. Current trends in the transformation of the world order and the changing role of regional powers.
13. The construction of regional identity in the context of globalization.
14. Language, religion and historical memory as factors of regional self-determination.
15. Branding of the region as a tool of soft power and cultural diplomacy.
16. The role of the national state in shaping regional policy.
17. Political and economic asymmetry of regions: causes and mechanisms of smoothing differences.
18. Regional elites and local interests in foreign policy.
19. Ethnopolitical conflicts as a threat to regional stability.
20. Regional energy security: the struggle for resources and sustainable development.

## Literature

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