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Evaluation of International Trade Agreements between Jordan and Some Countries (Turkey, Egypt, and the USA)

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Abstract: The study aimed to evaluate and reconsider the foundations of some international trade agreements between Jordan and several countries, including the USA, Turkey, and Egypt, and to determine the extent to which they benefit the Jordanian economy. The provisions of the agreements were examined, and similar studies on international trade agreements with the USA, Egypt, and Turkey in several countries were reviewed. The study employed a descriptive-analytical approach. The results showed that international trade agreements with the USA and Egypt positively impact the enhancement of Jordanian exports. The study also indicated that international trade agreements between Jordan and the USA positively affect the Jordanian trade balance, while agreements with Turkey and Egypt negatively affect the Jordanian trade balance. The study recommended supporting and strengthening the Jordanian Free Trade Agreement with the United States of America, considering it the most important trade partner for Jordan.

Keywords: international trade agreements, exports, imports, trade balance

1. Introduction

International trade has significantly contributed to global economic openness. The evaluation of international trade is considered one of the pillars aimed at achieving growth and economic development in both developed and developing countries, whether bilateral, regional, or international, to enhance the substantial role of international trade through commercial activities that have seen significant development over time. International trade has grown considerably due to countries adopting a methodology of cooperation and integration among themselves and incorporating into the international trade system by adopting appropriate trade policies aimed at trade evaluation by removing all barriers and obstacles that hinder free trade [1].

In addressing international trade, among the most crucial sectors of the Jordanian economy and a primary income source for the nation, Jordan, like some other developing nations has a chronic trade balance deficit and experiences issues on both external and local market segments. This requires a review of existing global trade agreements with countries including the USA, Turkey, and Egypt and analyzing their effect on the Jordanian economy. It also requires an assessment of Jordan's economic capacity to accept and keep pace with these agreements and to determine the extent to which they achieve the goal that Jordan aims for in developing its national exports. Accordingly, the study focused on understanding the impact of international trade agreements between Jordan and some countries on the Jordanian trade balance [2].

The application of trade policy varies between countries within the same bloc and towards other countries outside the bloc, depending on the purpose for which it was established. Its application within the bloc aims at liberalization to increase the flow of goods, services, and money by removing all obstacles, while simultaneously using it for restriction towards other countries outside the bloc by complicating its use. Hence, this study aims to examine international trade agreements between Jordan and some countries such as Egypt, Turkey, and the USA, and how to evaluate them. It also aims to assess the impact of international trade agreements between Jordan and these countries on Jordanian exports, imports, and the Jordanian trade balance [3].

Thus, this study represents a response to achieving the best standards that help in evaluating international trade agreements to benefit the Jordanian economy. It also contributes to enriching the knowledge of planners and policymakers concerned with Jordan's foreign trade and the impact of Jordanian international trade agreements on it.

2. Materials and Methods

The descriptive method was followed as this study has multiple aspects requiring various approaches, such as the descriptive method in narrating and analyzing previous studies to evaluate the foundations and standards of international trade agreements between Jordan and some other countries (the USA, Turkey, Egypt). The study also relied on the comparative analytical method.

This study was conducted in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (Yarmouk University - Faculty of Business - Department of Economics), where the subject of the thesis was specified for the period between 1993 and 2021.

The study relied on secondary data from specialized websites, books, and previous studies in this field, in addition to official data issued by official and international institutions and authorities, both Arab and foreign, such as the International Monetary Fund, the Central Bank of Jordan, the Department of Statistics, the official website of the Ministry of Industry and Trade in Jordan, and other government entities. Additionally, press reports were used to obtain the data.

3. Theoretical Framework and Previous Studies

3.1 Theoretical Framework

Modern countries have found that including developing countries, especially neighboring ones, into these regional groupings would ensure traditional markets for their companies and achieve other political and economic benefits. These benefits include revitalizing less economically advanced countries, which in turn reduces the pressures of economic migration towards more developed countries. Thus, these efforts between countries have crystallized into what is known as international trade agreements [4].

International trade agreements are defined as agreements that countries enter into or join with related economic and trade groups at the international or regional level. These agreements can also be with other countries under more flexible commitments than those that countries have committed to with international or regional organizations. In this case, they are called free trade agreements [5].

International trade also works to improve the productivity of the labor factor, leading to increased productivity and thus reducing production costs. It helps in the optimal utilization of available resources and increases investments in the local economy. The country imports goods and services that are not available locally due to the lack of natural resources or unfavorable climatic conditions that do not support the production of goods and services locally [6].

The efficiency and feasibility of any international trade agreement in enhancing the interest of the signatory state's economy are evaluated based on a set of guiding principles [7]. These principles include the political dimensions of participating in the agreement and the extent to which it aims to initiate a political dialogue between the concerned parties. Additionally, the reference framework used to evaluate the agreement and determine the gains and losses for the participating parties is considered. Furthermore, the ability and efficiency of the state's local political systems in exploiting opportunities and maximizing gains are also assessed [8].

In discussing the topic of foreign trade, many ideas and theories have emerged, among the most prominent of which is the classical theory. This theory is considered one of the important theories that explained the reasons for trade between countries. It interpreted that the existence of trade is due to the fact that some countries produce goods that other countries cannot produce, and some countries have a surplus of certain goods while other countries suffer from a shortage of these goods or cannot produce them. Among the pioneers of the classical theory in foreign trade are a group of prominent economists such as Adam Smith (1776), David Ricardo (1821), and John Stuart (1873).

There are modern theories that have emerged to explain the occurrence of international trade based on more realistic theories that align with modern economic changes. One of the most prominent of these theories is the "Heckscher-Ohlin Theory," which concluded that the relative cost differences between countries are due to the varying abundance of economic resources among these countries. Heckscher observed that countries differ in terms of the abundance of production factors. Additionally, this theory indicates that the concept of comparative advantage is a dynamic concept that changes over time due to the changing factors that determine it. For example, the supply of labor can be affected by the rate of population growth [9].

There is also the theory of automatic equilibrium, pioneered by David Hume in 1739. This theory posits that precious metal distributes itself among countries engaged in trade relations without state intervention. If the precious metal in a country increases beyond what is appropriate for its economic activity, it causes the prices of goods in that country to rise relative to the prices of goods in other countries. This leads to a decrease in the prices of goods in this country relative to the prices of goods in other countries, thereby increasing its exports and decreasing its imports [10].

International trade plays an important role in the economies of developing countries because these countries generally suffer from difficult economic conditions. Due to the low average income per capita in these countries, the demand for goods and services decreases. As a result, investments do not grow at a high rate, leading to persistently low-income levels. However, if international trade occurs, it contributes to increasing economic activity. Thus, the export of goods and services becomes necessary to support the balance of payments with foreign currencies, which in turn finances the import of various goods and services from those countries [11].

Therefore, applied studies conducted on this topic have indicated that exports play an important role in the economies of developing countries. An increase in export rates leads to an increase in gross domestic product, as concluded by Balassa (1978) [12]. It can be said that foreign trade expands markets for local producers. As a result of increased production returns, there is an increase in capital formation, leading to higher production capacity of the state's economy and expansion in new investments due to the incentive of accessing foreign markets and achieving more profits [13].

3.2 Literature Review

This research derived from earlier studies that addressed international trade locally, internationally, or regionally. The study by Salman & Al Shafie (2023) evaluated the effects of the Egyptian-European Partnership Agreement on the Egyptian trade balance. It found that both Egypt's gross domestic product and the deal had a detrimental impact on the Egyptian trade balance. There is also a significant positive impact of both distance and exchange rate on the Egyptian trade balance [14].

The study by Al-Adwan (2018) aimed to test the impact of trade alternatives on economic development, represented by exports, imports, and gross domestic product, in selected countries of the Islamic world, namely Jordan, Turkey, and Malaysia, during the period 2000-2015 [15]. The research determined that there is no statistically significant trade exchange impact on Jordanian gross domestic product. In the meantime. Abu Al-Sindus and Al Abadi (2004) studied the way the Free trade agreement between Jordan and the United States has impacted the volume of Trade exchange between the two countries and what its primary principles are [16].

It also borrowed from foreign studies on international trade between nations, like the 2020 study by Ishola investigating the effect of free trade agreements in Thailand, Colombia, and Nigeria. Results found that free trade agreements favorably impacted imports and exports in Thailand and adversely impacted exports and imports in Vietnam [17].

Rico Hoskins (2017) investigated if free trade agreements affect bilateral trade flows and in case the impacts will vary for developed and developing nations. The study discovered the advance of the two concerned nations explains the effect of free trade agreements on trade flows [18]. This was confirmed by the research by Bergstrand & Baier (2009) who estimated the econometric impact of free trade agreements on global trade flows and discovered that free trade agreements favorably impact global trade flows [19].

According to the current study, it is the very first to rate international trade agreements between Jordan and several nations - including Egypt, and Turkey United States -. Even though many scientists have analyzed the influence of foreign trade on the Jordanian economy, in addition to the effect of multilateral or bilateral trade agreements between Jordan and many other nations, these studies did not deal with the analysis and evaluation of the effect of international trade agreements between Jordan, Turkey, Egypt and also the United States on Jordanian exports and imports.

4. Data Analysis and Interpretations

When contemplating the reality of global commerce in Jordan, the Jordanian economy is considered market-oriented and active. Economic resources are centered on natural raw materials and skilled labor is plentiful. Despite numerous advantages, it is deprived of several natural resources like petroleum derivatives, external debt, and poverty. Unemployment and budget deficits are among the primary issues the Jordanian economy continuously faces, as is a decrease in foreign aid. The government resorts to traditional solutions which include raising taxes on citizens [20].

Table (1): The Jordanian Trade Balance During the Period 1993-2021

Trade Balance Export Coverage Ratio %	Trade Bal-ance	Total Im-ports	Total Ex-ports	Inflation Rate	Foreign Direct In-vestment	Year
28.2%	-1,762.35	2,453.63	691.28	3.33	13.48	1993
33.60%	-1,568.66	2,362.58	793.92	3.60	18.14	1994
38.78%	-1,585.72	2,590.25	1004.53	2.24	28.14	1995
34.2%	-2,003.76	3,043.56	1039.8	6.59	41.64	1996
36.7%	-1,840.93	2,908.09	1076.16	2.99	248.58	1997
38.55%	-1,667.99	2,714,37	1051.35	3.10	218.04	1998
39.9%	-1,583.86	2,635,21	1080.82	0.58	108.82	1999
33.2	-2,178.58	3259.4	1352.37	0.68	640.5	2000
39.16	2,101.36	3,453.73	1556.75	1.75	171.36	2001
43.25	-2,042.41	3.599.16	1657.08	1.86	158.88	2002
41.14	-2,396.93	4.072.01	2306.63	2.38	389.85	2003
39.77	-3,492.61	5.799.24	2570.22	2.56	650.58	2004
34.53	-4,872.64	7.442.86	2929.31	3.52	1289.48	2005
35.78	-5,258.42	8.187.73	3183.71	6.26	1917	2006
32.75	-6,538.48	9.722.19	4431.11	4.70	1822.43	2007
36.74	7,629.79	12.060.9	3579.17	13.94	2005	2008
35.41	-6,528.53	10.107.7	4216.95	-0.67	1657.72	2009
38.16	-6,833.18	11.050.13	4749.57	5.06	1175.74	2010
35.76	-8,634.35	13.440.22	4805.23	4.17	1030.5	2011

32.24	-9,984.18	14.733.75	4749.57	4.51	1092.75	2012
30.67	-10,862.11	15.667.34	4805.87	4.83	1367.65	2013
31.71	-11,117.2	16.280.2	5163	2.90	1483.76	2014
33.00	-9,739.6	14.537.18	4797.58	-0.90	1132.65	2015
32.044	-9,323.86	13.720.38	4396.52	-0.80	1079.53	2016
30.88	-10,014.39	14.488.61	4474.22	3.30	1432.79	2017
32.41	-9,745,3	14.420.01	4674.71	4.50	683.4	2018
36.71	-8,615,3	13,610,96	4995.66	0.30	621	2019
41.22	-7,191,3	12,235,42	5044.12	0.40	539.8	2020
39.34	-9,305,6	15,345,01	6039.41	1.30	479	2021

Data from the Central Bank of Jordan

As seen in Table No. (1) The 1993 export coverage ratio was 28.2%. It reached 43.25% in 2002 thanks to the growth of qualified industrial zones. Then it dropped to 30.88% in 2017 before climbing to 39.34% in 2021 because of the COVID-19 problems that started in 2019. The average export coverage ratio during the study period was 34.48%, as reported by (reports of the Central Bank of Jordan, different issues).

Table 2: Commodity Structure and Relative Importance of Jordanian Exports by Economic Purposes

Relative Importance of Intermediate Goods and Raw Materials	Relative Importance of Capital Goods	Relative Importance of Consumer Goods	Exports to GDP Ratio %	Intermediate Goods and Raw Materials Exports	Capital Goods Exports	Consumer Goods Exports	National Exports	Gross Domestic Product	Year
%51	%5.56	%43.6	%17.8	351.474	38.424	301.320	691.28	3884.2	1993
%55	%6.49	%38.8	%18.22	434.587	51.544	307.788	793.92	4357.4	1994
%55	%4.14	%41.02	%21.31	550.897	41.542	412.095	1004.53	4714.7	1995
%59	%2.26	%39.2	%21.17	608.507	23.477	407.595	1039.8	4911.3	1996
%50	%2.88	%47.5	%20.77	529.353	30.733	507.028	1067.16	5134.4	1997
%53	%2.94	%34.7	%18.65	558.106	30.752	457.522	1046.38	5609.9	1998
%56	%3.98	%39.2	%18.2	591.851	41.793	417.622	1051.35	5778.1	1999
%53	%4.38	%41.2	%18.02	577.995	52.240	450.448	1080.82	5998.6	2000
%47	%6.26	%46.3	%21.25	642.039	84.664	625.667	1352.37	3636.7	2001
%42	%4.59	%53.4	%22.19	654.36	71.433	830.651	1556.75	6794.0	2002
%38	%2.74	%58.9	%23.17	643.451	45.819	985.805	1675.08	7228.8	2003
%36	%2.56	%60.98	%28.79	842.369	57.676	1,406.554	2306.63	8090.7	2004
%36	%2.56	%61.6	%28.79	920.255	65.798	1,584.133	2570.22	8925.4	2005
%36	%3.02	%61.4	%27.44	1042.804	88.393	1,797.663	2929.31	10675.4	2006
%40	%2.28	%57.9	%26.24	1264.556	72.673	1,846.259	3183.71	12131.4	2007
%54	%3.1	%42.6	%28.42	2401.576	137.892	1,889.471	4431.11	15593.4	2008
%48	%3.54	%48.55	%21.16	1714.593	126.834	1,737.676	3579.17	1612.2	2009
%50	%2.95	%46.8	%22.48	2116.916	124.431	1,975.288	4216.95	18762.0	2010
%54	%2.66	%43.7	%23.47	2577.855	127.721	2,098.775	4807.87	20476.6	2011
%50	%2.89	%47.4	%21.62	2357.942	137.204	2,250.056	4749.5	21965.5	2012
%44	%3.54	%52.6	%20.15	2112.534	165.813	2,526.393	4805.23	23851.6	2013
%45	%2.96	%52.5	%20.3	2311.068	138.809	2,712.726	5163	25437.1	2014
%41	%2.62	%55.9	%18.01	1986.32	125.851	2,685.462	4797.58	26637.4	2015
%40	%2.07	%58.29	%16.02	1741.94	90.947	2,562.693	4396.52	27444.8	2016
%40	%2.13	%57.72	%15.73	1787.929	95.079	2,582.363	4474.22	28448.5	2017
%42	%2	%55.6	%15.33	1,975.608	97.448	2,598.826	4674.71	304818	2018
%43	%2.3	%54.6	%15.8	2,158.241	107.265	2,729.346	4995.66	31597.1	2019
%48	%1.8	%50	%16.25	2,427.762	91.739	2,522.360	5044.12	31025.3	2020
%52	%1.6	%46.24	%18.8	3,147.791	97.809	2,792.869	6039.41	32123.1	2021

*Source: Central Bank of Jordan

Data from Table No. (2) represents a rise in Jordanian exports of household items (43.6% of exports in 1993). Consumer products exports hit 47.5% of exports in 1997. After Jordan yanked from financial reform initiatives with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in 2004 it rose to 60.98% of exports. In 2011, it made up 43.7% of exports and in 2014 attained its greatest proportion of exports of 52.5%. It shifted between increases and decreases from 2017 to 2021. The Jordanian trade balance is affected by global trade deals between America and Jordan. Table (3) illustrates the values of the deficit and surplus in the Jordanian trade balance with America.

Table 3: Development of the Relative Importance of Exports and Imports to the Total Exports and Imports between Jordan and America During the Period 1993-2021

Percentage of Deficit to Total Trade Balance Deficit of Jordan	Trade Balance Deficit - Surplus	Relative Importance of Imports to Total Imports %	Relative Importance of Exports to Total Exports %	Total Imports Between Jordan and America	Total Exports Between Jordan and America	Year
17.3	304,227-	12.7	1.1	311492	7.265	1993
14.3	223,625-	9.8	1.1	232545	8,920	1994
14.2	225,836-	9.3	1.5	240512	14,676	1995
14.0	281,130-	9.7	1.3	294904	13.774	1996
15.8	289.993-	10.1	0.5	294904	4.911	1997
15.1	252.474-	9.5	0.5	258072.2	5598.1	1998
15.8	250.337-	9.5	0.9	259655	9318.7	1999
12.7	277.134-	9.9	4.1	321982	44847.7	2000
12.7	277,134-	9.9	1.4	276,758.3	13.66	Average Before the Agreement Took Effect
5.5	116,170-	8.1	12.1	280722.1	164551.7	2001
1.3-	25.785	7.7	19.5	278608.3	304392.7	2002
8.0-	192.341	6.8	28	278608.3	468563.9	2003
9.4-	328.279	6.8	31.3	393923.6	722202.9	2004
7.7-	373.216	5.6	30.7	416988.8	790204.4	2005
9.8-	514.475	4.8	31	393293.2	907768.2	2006

-6.5	425.950	4.6	27.5	449020.5	874970.9	2007
-2.4	185.046	4.6	16.6	551110.5	736156	2008
1.5	95.307-	7	17.1	707326	612019.1	2009
0.6-	40.226	5.6	15.6	615623.3	655849.6	2010
1.5	127.570-	6.4	15.3	861.355	733785.1	2011
1.9	188.964-	6.6	16.6	977504	788540.4	2012
1.1	121.741-	6.2	17.6	969292.4	847551	2013
0.06	7.637-	5.8	18.0	937581.1	929943.8	2014
1.1-	107.395	6.2	20.95	894659.6	1002054.7	2015
0.95-	88.988	6.9	23.7	952204.5	1041192.6	2016
3.07	307.695-	9.8	24.9	1420256.7	1112561.7	2017
2.46	24.030-	8.9	22.3	1252573.7	1228544	2018
3.2-	273.022	8.1	23.8	1108913.8	1381936	2019
3.4-	244.240	8	21.6	976238	1220478	2020
6.4-	598.642	6.4	23.9	987885	1586527	2021
		7.7	21.8	747,681.1	862,371.1	Average After the Agreement Took Effect

*Source: Central Bank

Table No. (3) shows the values of the deficit and surplus in the Jordanian trade balance with America during the period before and after the agreement took effect, respectively, and the percentage of this deficit from the total deficit of Jordanian foreign trade during those periods. It is evident that the free trade agreement with America had a positive effect on the Jordanian trade balance, as this deficit decreased continuously for years before the agreement took effect, from -304.227 million dinars in 1993 to -116.170 million dinars in 2001. The Jordanian trade balance then became a surplus during the period 2002-2008, with a significant increase from 25.785 million dinars in 2002 to 514.475 million dinars in 2006. After that, the trade balance started fluctuating between surplus and deficit from 2009-2021, reaching approximately 598.642.

The Impact of International Trade Agreements Between Jordan and Egypt on the Jordanian Trade Balance. The trade agreements between Jordan and Egypt have witnessed a clear fluctuation, as shown in Table No. (4):

Table 4: Development of the Relative Importance of Exports and Imports to the Total Exports and Imports Between Jordan and Egypt During the Period 1993-2021

Percentage of Deficit to Total Trade Balance Deficit of Jordan	Trade Balance Deficit - Surplus	Relative Importance of Imports to Total Imports %	Relative Importance of Exports to Total Exports %	Total Imports Between Jordan and Egypt	Total Exports Between Jordan and Egypt	Year
0.9	15000.1-	1.1	1.6	25876.9	10876.8	1993
1	15331.2-	1.1	1.5	26987.9	11656.7	1994
0.9	14740-	1.1	1.3	27654.6	12914.6	1995
0.8	15775.4-	1	1.2	28765.2	12989.8	1996
0.9	16888.7-	1.0	1.3	30432.6	13543.9	1997
1.1	17745.8-	1.2	1.3	31560.3	13814.5	1998
0.9	13772.3-	1.1	1.5	29157	15384.7	1999
%0.9		1.075	1.3	28,633.5	13.025	Average Before the Agreement Took Effect
0.6	13938.3-	0.9	1.6	30858	16919.7	2000
1.0	21742.8-	1.1	1.1	36595.6	14852.8	2001
2.1	42636.4-	1.5	0.7	53940.4	11340	2002
2.8	66481.1-	2.1	1.0	83584.1	17103	2003
5.6	194300.8-	3.7	0.9	214508.6	20207.8	2004
5.6	260986.5-	3.7	0.9	260986.5	29263	2005
5.9	312846.4-	4.2	1.1	346408.3	33561.9	2006
5.7	373213.2-	4.3	1.4	418861.8	45648.6	2007
6.1	467535.7-	4.5	1.7	541696.2	74160.5	2008
8.4	547528.6-	6.0	1.8	610336.3	62807.7	2009
5.9	405005.9-	4.5	2.1	492862.6	87856.7	2010
5.3	454790.8-	4	1.7	534967.8	80177	2011
4.8	475441.8-	3.8	1.8	560503.8	85062	2012
3.8	416179.1-	3.2	1.7	500194.9	84015.8	2013
2.8	311019.0-	2.4	1.5	390670.7	79650.8	2014
2.9	280943.3-	2.4	1.4	348076.1	67123.8	2015
3.0	281042.9-	2.5	1.3	336492.3	55449.4	2016
2.7	272860.9-	2.3	1.4	335730.1	62869.2	2017
3.2	317894.8-	2.7	1.4	396424.4	78529.6	2018
5.3	456840.5-	4.0	1.5	546644.6	89804.1	2019
4.7	338426-	3.5	1.5	424188	85762	2020
4.1	378792-	3.3	1.9	505821	127029	2021
%4.2		3.19	1.4	362,288.7	59,507.6	Average After the Agreement Took Effect

*Source: The Central Bank of Jordan

It is shown in Table No. (4), and by examining Jordanian exports and imports into Egypt after an agreement between them the trade balance arrived at a deficit in 2000 (-13,938.3 million dinars) once the Jordanian trade balance surplus accrued into a deficit of approximately -21,742.8 million dinars in 2001. The deficit stayed between 2002 and 2005, ranging between -42,636 million dinars in 2002 and 260,986.5 million dinars in 2005. This deficit persisted till the conclusion of the research time in 2021, when the average percentage of the deficit from the total deficit was computed, the average value increased from 0.9% before the agreement to 4.2% following the agreement, hinting that global trade agreements between Egypt and Jordan impacted the trade balance.Jordanian Trade Balance Impact from International Trade Agreements Between Jordan and Turkey.The influence of global trade agreements between Turkey and Jordan on the Jordanian trade balance is exhibited in Table No. (5):

Table 5: Development of the Relative Importance of Exports and Imports to the Total Exports and Imports Between Jordan and Turkey During the Period 1993-2021

Percentage of Deficit to Total Trade Balance Deficit of Jordan	Trade Balance Deficit - Surplus	Relative Importance of Imports to Total Imports %	Relative Importance of Exports to Total Exports %	Total Imports Between Jordan and Turkey	Total Exports Between Jordan and Turkey	Year
7.1	117663.9-	4.5	0.4	121922	4258.1	1998
2.8	44775.3-	2.1	0.96	54918.4	10143.1	1999
2.5	54281.9-	2	0.9	64278.5	9996.6	2000
3.7	77528.1-	2.5	0.7	86419.1	8891	2001
3.6	74425.7-	2.4	0.8	87439.3	13013.6	2002
3.7	89372.5-	2.4	0.6	98683.3	9311.4	2003
3.5	122943.4-	2.3	0.5	133807.9	10864.5	2004
3.4	165339.3-	2.4	0.6	181642.1	16302.8	2005
3.9	204901.8-	2.6	0.9	216158.4	11256.6	2006
4	260227.4-	2.8	0.4	273687.6	13460.2	2007
4	299941.3-	2.7	0.45	319767.9	19826.6	2008

4.4	288740.8-	3.1	0.6	309121.5	20380.7	2009
5.2	356649.8-	3.6	0.9	397235.4	40585.6	2010
4%	----------	2.7	0.6	180,390.9	14,483.9	Average Before the Agreement Took Effect
3.8	330858.6-	3	1.3	393485.3	62626.7	2011
4.8	479143.4-	3.9	1.9	568912.3	89768.9	2012
4.3	468672.2-	3.4	1.5	568912.3	69846.9	2013
4.4	488406.6-	3.7	2.2	604050.6	116544	2014
4.8	468862.1-	3.7	1.4	537335.3	68473.2	2015
4.4	407695.7-	3.4	1.5	472241.8	64546.1	2016
4.1	410591.7-	3.3	1.6	484293.9	37302.2	2017
5.1	489798.8-	3.8	1.5	547542.9	57744.1	2018
4.2	363389.5-	2.9	0.5	394622.5	31233	2019
4.8	34308-	3.2	1	396916	53308	2020
4.5	421313-	3.2	1.1	490533	96220	2021
4.5%	----------	3.4	1.4	493,495	68,737.5	Average After the Agreement Took Effect

*Source: The Central Bank of Jordan Reports

The data in Table No. (5) shows the development of the Jordanian trade balance during the period 1998-2021, both before and after the agreement took effect. In 2011, the deficit decreased to -330,858.6 million dinars, which is 3.8%. However, after the agreement took effect, the deficit increased significantly to approximately 479,143.4 million dinars in 2012 and continued to increase until it exceeded -241,313 million dinars in 2021, "after the cancellation of the agreement." Consequently, the average percentage of the deficit increased from 4% before the agreement to 4.5% after the agreement, negatively impacting the Jordanian trade balance.

5. **Results and Recommendations**

Based on the descriptive analysis and the calculation of the averages of the study variables, the study results showed a positive impact of international trade agreements between Jordan and America on Jordanian exports, where the percentage increased after the agreement took effect from 1.4% to 21.8%. The international trade agreement between Jordan and America also had a positive impact on the Jordanian trade balance and was favorable to Jordanian exports. In contrast, the international trade agreement between Jordan and Egypt had a negative impact on the Jordanian trade balance compared to the positive impact of the trade agreement between Jordan and Turkey, where the average imports increased from 2.7% before the agreement to 3.4% after its implementation. The study recommended stimulating and encouraging Jordanian industries to meet American specifications to gain acceptance and demand from American consumers. It also suggested directing technical and financial support towards projects and programs that increase export opportunities to the Egyptian market, especially in non-traditional economic sectors such as manufacturing industries, and the necessity to review all free trade agreements signed by Jordan.

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