Research statement

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I am an economist with a research focus on geostrategy, international development, and the intersection of economics, geography, and history. My journey as a researcher began within various government think tanks and development institutions, where I examined key issues related to industrial and infrastructure development, data analytics, strategic planning, and economic reforms. Over time, my research interests have evolved to cover a broad range of topics that connect historical geopolitical dynamics with contemporary economic challenges.

My research focuses primarily on two broad areas. The first concerns the development challenges faced by landlocked countries like Kazakhstan, which must navigate complex geopolitical landscapes while striving to enhance the welfare of their populations. My work investigates how these countries balance national security concerns with economic growth, particularly within the context of enclave economies—regions that are economically constrained by geographical barriers. I study how landlocked nations can overcome these disadvantages through strategic use of platform-based employment and other economic innovations. By examining successful case studies globally, I explore how Kazakhstan and similar nations can leverage new technologies to strengthen their strategic position and diversify their economies.

The second key area of my research is geostrategy and geopolitics. This involves a deep exploration of the historical and contemporary forces that shape national security and economic stability in regions like Central Asia. I am particularly interested in the role that economic tools, such as regional cooperation and technological advancements, play in fostering stability. My research in this area spans critical sectors such as energy, manufacturing, infrastructure, agriculture, and trade. I also examine Kazakhstan's economic integration across the Eurasian continent and its potential to create new markets and adopt innovative technologies.

Kazakhstan presents a unique set of opportunities and challenges, being the largest landlocked country with significant natural resources, harsh climate conditions, and low population density. My work sheds light on how the country's

geographic and economic conditions influence its role in regional and global geopolitics. In particular, my research delves into Kazakhstan's historical positioning as a bridge between major powers, such as Russia and China. Historically, numerous empires flourished in the territory of Kazakhstan and its surroundings, with the Russian and Chinese empires exerting the greatest influence. Kazakhstan, by necessity, has continuously engaged in delicate diplomatic maneuvers, balancing the competing interests of these powerful neighbors. This dynamic of balancing between global powers is a critical aspect of my research on geostrategy and economic development.

In my ongoing work, I explore how platform markets, blockchain technologies, and artificial intelligence can provide new avenues for economic growth and enhance bargaining power for landlocked nations like Kazakhstan. These innovations offer potential solutions to overcome geographic constraints, improve access to global markets, and reduce dependency on natural resources.

Ultimately, my research contributes to a broader understanding of how nations with geographical and economic limitations can harness modern technologies, strategic planning, and international cooperation to foster sustainable development. By analyzing the historical and current dynamics in regions like Central Asia, I aim to inform both policymakers and the global academic community on pathways to achieve economic resilience and long-term growth.