

ЕКОНОМІКА ТА УПРАВЛІННЯ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИМ ГОСПОДАРСТВОМ

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SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP OF UKRAINE WITH THE EU WITHIN THE EUROPEAN REGIONS AND CROSS-BORDER CLUSTERS

СОЦІАЛЬНЕ ПАРТНЕРСТВО УКРАЇНИ З ЄС У РАМКАХ ЄВРОРЕГІОНІВ І ТРАНСКОРДОННИХ КЛАСТЕРІВ

Urgency of the research. Taken into consideration the existing advantages of Ukraine as a powerful European State, promising directions of its development is being involved in cross-border cooperation.

Target setting. Modern analysis of regional development of Ukraine testifies to the presence of negative trends, in particular, to deepen inter-regional differences, economic disparities and the exacerbation of social problems. Concerning this, crossborder cooperation is becoming an important factor of sustained development of Ukraine, a channel of involvement in European integration.

Actual scientific researches and issues analysis. Devoted to problems of euroregional policy of Ukraine are the researches of such scholars as V. O. Martynyuk, N. A. Mikula, C. C. Troyan, L. I. Fedulova, T. M. Uhnovska, A. Hubert.

Uninvestigated parts of general matters defining. Further analysis is needed for the system of institutional and financial mechanisms of innovative development of euroregions. For Ukraine, urgent is a need of scientific justification of cross-border partnership benefits and problems, as well as a need of developing regulatory procedures providing the clustering process.

The research objective. The analysis of the social partnership of Ukraine with the EU in the framework of cross-border clusters and euroregions.

The statement of basic materials. The article deals with priorities of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU within the European regions and cross-border clusters. Based on the data SWOT-analysis identified the main objectives of European regions, effective mechanisms for inter-regional cooperation.

Conclusions. It is important to implement in national statistical agencies the collection and processing of cross-border statistics in accordance with the recommendations of Eurostat; allocate budget funds for co-financing projects supported by the European Commission; create together with the Governments of neighboring States special funds, which will be accumulating finances to support social initiatives.

Keywords: sustainable development; European integration of Ukraine; social partnership; Euroregions, transborder clusters; cross-border cooperation.

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Актуальність теми дослідження. Зважаючи на наявні переваги України як потужної європейської держави, перспективним напрямом її розвитку є участь у транскордонній співпраці.

Постановка проблеми. Сучасний аналіз регіонального розвитку України свідчить про наявність негативних тенденцій, зокрема, поглиблення міжрегіональних суперечностей, зростання економічних диспропорцій та загострення соціальних проблем. У зв'язку з цим, прикордонне співробітництво стає важливим чинником сталого розвитку України, каналом залучення до європейської інтеграції.

Аналіз останніх досліджень і публікацій. Проблематика єврорегіональної політики України присвячено праці таких вчених як В. О. Мартинюк, Н. А. Мікула, С. С. Троян, Л. І. Федулова, Т. М. Юхновська, А. Х'юберт.

Виділення недосліджених частин загальної проблеми. Подальшого аналізу потребує система інституційних та фінансових механізмів інноваційного розвитку єврорегіонів. Для України нагальною є потреба наукового обґрунтування переваг та проблем транскордонного партнерства, а також необхідність розробки нормативно-правового забезпечення процесів кластеризації.

Постановка завдання. Аналіз інструментів соціального партнерства України з ЄС у рамках транскордонних кластерів та єврорегіонів.

Виклад основного матеріалу. У статті проведено аналіз пріоритетних напрямів співробітництва України з ЄС у рамках єврорегіонів і транскордонних кластерів. На основі даних SWOT-аналізу ідентифіковано головні завдання єврорегіонів, ефективні механізми міжрегіональної співпраці.

Висновки. Важливо впровадити у національні статистичні органи збір та обробку транскордонної статистики відповідно рекомендацій Євростату; виділити у бюджеті кошти для співфінансування проектів, які підтримані Європейською Комісією; створити разом з урядами сусідніх держав спеціальні фонди, де будуть акумулюватися кошти на підтримку соціальних ініціатив.

Ключові слова: сталий розвиток; євроінтеграція України; соціальне партнерство; єврорегіони, транскордонні кластери; прикордонне співробітництво.

Urgency of the research. In a globalized world as an important factor in the development of the country is its geopolitical and economic-geographical position. In this regard, Ukraine has competitive

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advantages, namely: the favourable geographical location, common borders with the EU, proximity to major markets products, transit transport routes. Taken into consideration the existing advantages of Ukraine as a powerful European State, promising directions of its development is being involved in cross-border cooperation.

Target setting. However, modern analysis of regional development of Ukraine testifies to the presence of negative trends, in particular, to deepen inter-regional differences, economic disparities and the exacerbation of social problems. Concerning this, crossborder cooperation occupies the leading place in the politics of relations with neighbouring countries, it is becoming an important factor of sustained socio-economic development of Ukraine, a channel of involvement in European integration.

Actual scientific researches and issue analysis. Devoted to problems of euroregional policy of Ukraine are the researches of such scholars as V. O. Martynyuk, N. A. Mikula, C. C. Troyan, L. I. Fedulova, T. M. Uhnovska, A. Hubert.

Uninvestigated parts of general matters defining. However, despite the growing number of scientific publications, certain aspects of european territorial cooperation are not sufficiently studied. Further deeper analysis is needed first of all for the system of institutional, organizational, economic and financial mechanisms of innovative development of euroregions. For Ukraine, urgent is a need of scientific justification of cross-border partnership benefits and problems, as well as a need of developing regulatory procedures providing the clustering process. It creates relevance, theoretical and practical significance of this scientific work.

The research objective. The purpose of the study is the analysis of the instruments of inter-regional neighbourhood and social partnership of Ukraine with the EU in the framework of cross-border clusters and euroregions.

The statement of basic materials. Lately in our country, there were adopted the Laws of Ukraine: "On cross-border cooperation" [1] and "On stimulating the development of the regions" [2], was approved the Decree of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine "On intensification of Ukraine's cooperation with the European Union in the framework of the Euro-Regions and the prospects of cross-border cooperation" [3], and also was adopted the Presidential Decree "On measures to intensify european integration boder cooperation" [4]. Current legislation basis providing possibilities to use the potential of boder cooperation considered as mutually accepted activity of the authorities of two or more boder regions is aimed at joint solving the issues of economic, social, cultural and environmental development of given territories with broad involvement of the local community.

The main mechanism by which the EU gives assistance to Ukraine is the European neighbourhood and partnership instrument for the period of 2014-2020 years (ENPI). It has replaced the programs TACIS and INTERREG. Within the framework of this tool it is possible to provide technical assistance and financing both 148 national projects and cross-border and thematic programs in the following priority areas: migration and refugees, social development, constant management of natural resources, the development of non-State actors and self-governing bodies [5].

Based on the research of the SWOT analysis matrix the cooperation in border areas within the Euro-Regions "Bug" and "Carpathian" was defined as a powerful foundation for accelerating the socio-economic integration processes (Tab. 1).

Cross-border cooperation of the states, which have a common border, is more fully manifested in the creation of Euro-Regions. The law of Ukraine "On cross-border cooperation" Euro-Region is defined as the organizational form of cooperation of administrative-territorial units of European countries, carried out in accordance with the two or multilateral agreements on cross-border cooperation [1]. According to professor S. S. Trojan, an Euro-Region can combine any regions within the european space, which direct their joint activities to solving issues of sustainable development [6, p. 35-36]. It is worth noting that the idea of Euro-Regions is sometimes criticized, because some believe this form of cooperation to be the threat of independence, assistance to foreign interests and even an attempt to change the borders of countries. Refuting these unsubstantiated allegations, a researcher V. O. Martyniuk stresses the importance of the above form of inter-regional cooperation for socio-economic and political development of Ukraine [7].

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The beginning of the Euro-Regional movement in Ukraine can be considered the year of 1993, when the “Carpathian” Euro-Region was established. Later there were created such Euro-Regions on Ukrainian border regions as “Bug” (1995), “Lower Duna” (1998), “Upper Prut” (2000), “Dnipro” (2003), “Slobozhanshina” (2003), “Jaroslavna” (2007), “the Black Sea” (2008), “Donbass” (2010), “Dnister” (2012).

Table 1

SWOT-analysis of the programs of social partnership within the “Bug” and “Carpathian” Euro-Regions

Sphere	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Labour	the proximity of the border territories, ethnic and cultural diversity	the low level of income per capita	the integration of local labor markets, curbing of labour emigration	structural disparity of national labor market
Educational	the high quality of human capital (educational and professional qualification level)	unemployment of the young, language barrier, outdated system of social protection	higher availability and higher quality of education, cross-border transfer of know-how and professional skills	emigration of skilled young people and the “outflow of brain”
Institutional	coverage with the latest social services throughout the region	institutional incompatibility, differences in local administration	civil society development exchange of experience in the field of self government	conflicts between local and national institutions, social conflicts

Source: compiled on the basis of [5; 10]

The researchers of the Institute for Economics and forecasting of the NAS of Ukraine consider promising for our country the creation of new Euro-Regions, because the area of the border regions is about 77.0% of the whole territory of Ukraine [8, p. 19-25]. Evaluation of economic entities activity, the implementation of planned large-scale projects, the results of reation of joint ventures and new jobs, as well as the analysis of indicators of the level of unemployment and migration, living conditions of national minorities, the absence or presence of ethnic conflicts will, in our opinion, determine the competitiveness of Euro-Regions, which will facilitate prediction of trends and directions of further cross-border cooperation.

A necessary strategy in cross-border cooperation of Ukraine is cluster policy. The formation of cross-border clusters on the border between Ukraine and the EU is an effective tool in resolving socio-economic problems of the border regions. By definition of professor N. A. Mikula, cross-border clusters are groups of independent companies and associated institutions that are geographically concentrated in the cross-border region, collaborating and competing, specializing in different areas, but related by common technologies and skills and supplement one another uniting for the realization of joint projects or production of joint products that ultimately gives the opportunity to obtain synergistic and network effects, diffusion of knowledge [9, p. 130- 131].

According to L. I. Fedulova, PhD in economics the development of clusters in Ukraine happens haphazardly, without any legal assistance. Even the term “cluster” is not defined in our country's legal practice. The formation of clusters in the Ukrainian regions is not implemented systematically [8, p. 30-35]. Therefore, there is an urgent need in Ukraine of creating normative-legal support to the development of regional, inter-regional and cross-border clusters.

Scientific approach based on the formation of the inter-regional cluster appears not only the means of improving competitiveness and entrepreneurial activity of small business, but also contributes to the achievement of environmental, economic and social goals.

Scientific analysis of the development of clusters in Ukraine gives an opportunity to identify their main features:

□ *polifunctioning* means comprehensive solutions of economic, social and environmental objectives at both the national and international levels;

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- *adaptability* is the ability to respond to external and internal fluctuations (random deviations) of the global environment through transformation of the system elements of the cluster;
- *coherence* is the ability to synchronize processes of functioning of the structural elements of the cluster with the purpose of coordination transformational cycles of its development in the short and long periods;
- *mutual benefits* mean providing mutual social, economic and environmental benefits in the process of implementing industrial interests of business agents;
- *a synergistic effect* is more significant improvement in the status of the cluster as a whole compared to a separate operation of each of its elements;
- *openness* is the introduction of the bifurkacijnogo mechanism of development that is characterized by the processes of metabolism, product exchange, social services and information from the external environment;
- *integration* is combining in a single complex elements of economic, social and environmental subsystems at the domestic, inter-regional, national and international levels.

The acceleration of clusterization processes of Ukraine is connected with the coordination and harmonization of actions in the field of strategic planning and funding the initiative “Carpathian Horizon”. In 2011, the Congress of local and regional authorities of the Council of Europe proposed to develop and introduce investment at the expense of the EU program “Carpathian Horizon”, and in 2012, the project received the support of the Association of European border regions. In connection with the observance of the EU regime of austerity the budget for regional policy of the EU in financial perspective for 2014-2020 was reduced by 11 billion euros, the “Carpathian Horizon” program has been suspended [10]. The European experience shows that cross-border partnership creates significant advantages for cross-border regions. But its implementation is complicated by the existence of certain problems. Tab. 2 presents the benefits and problems of cross-border partnership.

Table 2

The benefits and problems of cross-border partnership

Benefits	Problems
Institutional:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the formalization of relations; • the possibility of active engagement of public, private and the third sector on both sides of the border, using their knowledge and interests on the issues of cross-border activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • centralization of power; • a small number of relevant actors involved in transborder cooperation; • the complexity of the regulation of activities of all participants in the partnership; • differences in the division of responsibility on different sides of the border
Socio-economic:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mobilization of internal potential of the region; • accelerating the process of alignment of the quality of life of the population; • merging parties around a common, important for socio-economic development of the regions of purpose; • the opportunity to share ideas and resources (labour, financial, etc.) to achieve common goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a significant difference in the level and pace of socio-economic development; • the lack of relations between the partners in the cross-border space; • the closeness to the border market; • fiscal and customs barriers
Cultural:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to the skills and experience of partnership; • expanding the horizons of partners through joint activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • socio-cultural distance, different mentality, language barriers; • the existence of different national or regional stereotypes; • fear of losing identity

Source: compiled on the basis of [5; 10]

In accordance with the concept of national strategy up to 2020 r. cluster policy of Ukraine should be directed to the formation and development of cross-border clusters within the framework of the project of

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the German technical cooperation agency GTZ "Programs of promoting economic development and employment" and the EU project "Programs of supporting sustainable regional development in Ukraine", which will impact the formation of cross-border clusters, the development of the social sphere, solve the problem of a drastic differentiation of Ukrainian regions, including the border ones [10].

Conclusions. In conclusion, it should be noted that Ukraine periodically adopts State programs of development of cross-border cooperation, the use of which requires new approaches and organizational forms, namely:

- improvement of existing mechanisms and the use of the EU aid for the development of public relations (through the cross border cooperation program with the participation of Ukraine), in particular, the allocation of budgeted funds for co-financing projects supported by the European Commission and meet the government targets of socio-economic development of border communities and regions;
- creation together with the Governments of neighbouring States of special funds, which will be accumulating finances to support mutually beneficial socio-economic cross-border initiatives;
- preparation of the joint with neighboring States concepts and strategies for the development of border areas, the development of mechanisms of co-financing programs and projects, which will be formed on the basis of these documents;
- development and implementation of mutual educational programs for the public, local authorities and civil society institutions of borderlands with the purpose of spreading information about the possibilities of cross-border cooperation in the conditions of enlargement of the EU;
- attraction of investment and financial resources for the development of social infrastructure and improvement of the environmental situation in the regions of Ukraine;
- creating innovative cross-border clusters to increase the share of innovative projects within the programs of cooperation.

To enhance cross-border partnerships, as well as the development of the Euro-Regions there must be in possession cross-border statistics which will give grounds for the development of joint international projects, strategies of social development and spatial arrangement of the border territories. Therefore, in our opinion, it is important to implement in national statistical agencies the collection and processing of cross-border statistics in accordance with the recommendations of Eurostat.

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