NEW FORMS OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

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Introduction. Active engagement of Ukraine and its regions in the system of international cooperation in the context of the development of world integration processes is possible due to the use of cross-border cooperation tools, in the form of jointly developed programs of trade and economic, scientific-technical, environmental-ecological, cultural, historical-religious cooperation.

The hypothesis of scientific research. Using cross-border cooperation will solve the problems of accelerating the socio-economic development of transboundary regions, improve the personnel infrastructure training of regions and the country as a whole in order to deepen cooperation with the EU, to solve urgent issues with the neighbors of the post-Soviet space; accelerate European integration processes.

The purpose of the article is to develop theoretical propositions to substantiate the effective algorithm of cross-border cooperation development on the basis of synergistic combination of integration processes and innovations in all types of cooperation.

Methods of research: an interdisciplinary approach – for combining a set of general scientific and special research methods; systemic and structural-functional analysis – to determine the system of international cross-border links; institutional approach – to determine the impact on cross-border cooperation created by political institutions; situational approach – for correlating the development of cross-border cooperation with a specific socio-economic situation; a comparative analysis – for comparing processes of cross-border cooperation in different countries of Europe and post-Soviet space.

Results: the experience of the international community in implementing the system of cross-border cooperation is analyzed; the legal-legal and methodological principles of cross-border cooperation as a direction of European integration processes in Ukraine are researched; The mechanisms of development of foreign economic relations in the border regions of Ukraine in the conditions of realization of its European integration aspirations are revealed.

Conclusions: development of theoretical positions on the substantiation of the active development of the regions as one of the elements of the pan-European system of priorities, which corresponds to the principled integration of states through the integration of regions, which represent joint actions aimed at establishing and deepening economic, social, environmental, scientific, technical, cultural and other relations between territorial communities, various institutions of transboundary regions with the relevant authorities of other states within the competence defined by national legislation.

Keywords: cross-border cooperation; integration; territorial communities; cross-border regions.
Вступ. Активне залучення України та її регіонів до системи міжнародної співпраці в умовах розвитку світових інтеграційних процесів можливо за рахунок використання інструментарію прикордонного співробітництва. У вигляді спільно розроблених програм торговельно-економічного, науково-технічного, природоохоронно-екологічного, культурного, історично-релігійного співробітництва.

Гіпотеза наукового дослідження. Використання транскордонного співробітництва дозволить вирішити проблеми прискорення соціально-економічного розвитку транскордонних регіонів, поліпшить кадрову інфраструктурну підготовку регіонів і країни в цілому для поглиблення співробітництва з ЄС, вирішити нагальні питання з політики Європи та пострадянського простору.

Метою статті є розвиток теоретичних положень щодо обґрунтування дієвого алгоритму розвитку транскордонного співробітництва на основі синергетичного поєднання інтеграційних процесів та інновацій у всіх видах співробітництва.

Методи дослідження: міждисциплінарний підхід – для об’єднання суккупності загальнонаукових та спеціальних методів дослідження; системний і структурно-функціональний аналіз – для визначення системи міжнародних транскордонних зв’язків; інституційний підхід – для визначення впливу на транскордонне співробітництво створюваних політичних інститутів; ситуаційний підхід – для співвіднесення розвитку транскордонного співробітництва з конкретною соціально-економічною ситуацією; порівняльний аналіз – для зіставлення процесів транскордонного співробітництва в різних країнах Європи та пострадянського простору. Результати: проаналізовано досвід міжнародної спільноти щодо впровадження системи транскордонного співробітництва; досліджено нормативно-правові та методологічні засади транскордонного співробітництва як напряму євроінтеграційних процесів в Україні; розкрито механізми розвитку зовнішньоекономічних зв’язків у прикордонних регіонах України в умовах реалізації її євроінтеграційних прагнень.

Висновки: розвиток теоретичних положень щодо обґрунтування активного розвитку регіонів як одного з елементів загальноєвропейської системи приоритетів, який відповідає принципові інтеграції держав через інтеграцію регіонів, які представляють собою спільні дії, спрямовані на встановлення і поглиблення економічних, соціальних, екологічних, науково-технічних, культурних та інших відносин між територіальними громадами, різними установами транскордонних регіонів та одержувачами органами влади інших держав у межах компетенції, визначеної їх національним законодавством.

Ключові слова: транскордонне співробітництво; інтеграція; територіальні громади; транскордонні регіони.
Formulation of the problem. In the modern world, in a context of accelerated processes of regionalization and integration, a comparatively new phenomenon such as cross-border cooperation, which promotes the intensification of political, economic and socio-cultural ties between regions of the states, acquires a relatively new phenomenon. Since the need for studying cross-border relations has arisen recently, they, being incorporated in the process of regionalization, often suffer from incomplete description and lack of study.

New realities of the world economy and international relations turn old schemes of establishing cross-border contacts into ineffective ones and encourage states to continuously improve them. Therefore, an integrated approach to studying the essence of cross-border cooperation in terms of modern science will allow to fully present the picture of the dynamics of cross-border relations in Ukraine and European countries and to establish problem areas of this phenomenon in order to develop the most effective solutions for their improvement.

Analysis of recent publications and unresolved part of the problem. The specificity of the range of sources of this study is that until the 80s of the twentieth century, the problem of cross-border cooperation was not studied in full. The consideration of this issue was at the angle of contrasting cross-border cooperation and conflict as such. Later scientists' attention began to attract such issues as internal causes of cross-border cooperation [1], stimulating or impeding the role of the international environment in its development [2; 3], the ways leading to cross-border cooperation, its causes and consequences, its forms and types [4]. Great contribution to the study of the issues of cross-border cooperation was made by J.-P. Derrienik [5] and R. Kohohin [6]. Proponent of a realistic approach to the definition and study of the essence of transborder relations is A. Wallfers [7]. Later, E. Milner [8] analyzes previous works of scientists on this topic, highlights the general and distinction, conducts parallels, explains the essence of the phenomenon.

But the emergence of new relationships in cross-border cooperation requires Ukraine to adapt the legislation and conditions of such activity to the requirements of the European Union and its changes in accordance with new geopolitical realities. First of all, this is taking into account the fact of cooperation on the borders not only with neighbors, but with neighboring member states of the European Union, which requires the development of normative and organizational and economic provision of relations in the light of new realities.

The purpose of the article is to find out new forms of cross-border cooperation of Ukraine.

Research results. The current regional policy of the EU member states and Ukraine needs to find new forms of cross-border cooperation that will let to
achieve a full-scale integrated space. Cross-border cooperation can be carried out within the framework of the created Euro-region by concluding agreements on cross-border cooperation in certain spheres and by developing mutually beneficial contacts between subjects of cross-border cooperation [9].

The law "On Cross-border Cooperation" was adopted in Ukraine in 2014, and State Programs for the development of cross-border cooperation, which promote economic growth in the remote border regions, are periodically adopted. Nevertheless, the realization of tasks and the use of opportunities for cross-border cooperation require the search for new organizational forms. Modern forms of cross-border cooperation are cross-border clusters, European groupings of territorial cooperation, cross-border partnership and border trade complexes in the conditions of formalization of border trade [9; 10; 11].

Trans-border partnership is an organizational form of cross-border cooperation, which is carried out on the basis of voluntary cooperation between two or more territorial communities, their representative bodies, local executive authorities, public organizations, legal entities and individuals from different sides of the border, operating in accordance with the terms of a formal contract (agreement). The cross-border partnership is carried out to implement joint projects, programs and solving social, charitable, cultural, educational, scientific or managerial tasks [12, p. 159]. The cross-border partnership creates the preconditions for effective solution of a significant number of common problems on both sides of the border, promotes the competitiveness of the economy, activating innovative processes and real mechanisms for coordinating the interests of authority, business, science and education in operating a development strategy at the level of the region and the country.

The promise of cross-border partnership as a form of interaction between actors and participants in cross-border cooperation is characterized by the growth of a large number of cross-border partnerships in European countries operating in the tourism, education, employment, agriculture, etc. An example of a partnership in the agricultural sector is the MED Partnership (1999), which is so named after the union of the three cross-border territories of Northern Ireland (UK) and Republic of Ireland: Melvin, Ern, and Duff.

Within the framework of the partnership, there are three main projects that contribute to the effective employment of the rural population: The first project: education and training (IT training, development of personality and skills) is aimed at expanding employment opportunities and improving the quality of work for specialists from different levels of the agricultural sector: veterinarians, technical staff, managers, marketers, etc.

The second project: an increase in livestock. Third project: ecological (creation of an efficient mechanism for waste recycling and improvement of the environment in the countryside). Another example of a cross-border partnership is
the EURES network of partnerships (European Employment Service), which brings together employment and training services of EURES member states, employers and trade unions, local and regional authorities, other regional, state and international levels institutions and organizations dealing with employment and vocational training. The network of EURES cross-border partnerships, which has a total of 22 cross-border partnerships [13, p. 139], is an important tool for ensuring labor mobility and monitoring employment at cross-border labor markets.

The main tasks of the EURES cross-border partnerships are: to ensure the exchange of vacancies at the cross-border level, public access to information on living and working conditions, networking and the regular training of EURES consultants. European experience shows that cross-border partnership has many advantages for cross-border regions, although its functioning is complicated by the existence of socio-economic and institutional problems.

Coherent regions have a functional structure, that is, within them there are subsystems: productive, social, ecistic (resettlement), demographic, and others. At the same time, as separate regions, cross-border cooperation is divided into territorial-production, territorial-social, geodemographic features, the system of resettlement. The spatial functional subsystem of the region may not coincide with the corresponding territorial system.

Each system of cross-border cooperation, starting with the global level, can be represented as a set of more partial subsystems – until we reach the local level (see Table 1).

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<th>Hierarchical level</th>
<th>Functional type of region</th>
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<td>Political</td>
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<td>Global level</td>
<td>World political system</td>
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<td>Mega-region</td>
<td>Countries of NATO, EU, CIS, OAS, African Union, League of Arab States, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Macro-Region</td>
<td>Union State of Russia and Belarus, Benelux, Baltic States, etc.</td>
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<td>Local level</td>
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Table 1

The unconditional advantages of forming a cross-border partnership are:

1) the possibility of active involvement of public and private organizations on both sides of the border, the use of their knowledge and interests on issues of cross-border activities;

2) mobilization of the internal potential of the region, acceleration of the processes of equalizing the quality of life of the population; association of the parties irrespective of their individual responsibilities around the common goal, which is important for the economic development of the regions;

3) expanding the outlook of partners through joint activities. It should be noted that the main institutional obstacles to the development of the cross-border partnership are a small number of relevant structures dealing with cross-border cooperation; the complexity of regulating the activities of all partners in the partnership.

Significant socio-economic barrier in the development of the cross-border partnership are considerable differences in the level and rates of economic development of Ukraine and EU countries; fiscal and customs barriers.

The state policy of Ukraine on the development of cross-border cooperation should facilitate the transfer of most of the management powers on cross-border cooperation to the level of local government and local self-government bodies [14, p. 32].

The development of cross-border cooperation involves the following tasks: the use of opportunities for cross-border cooperation at the regional and local levels; promoting the development of existing Euro-regions and creating new organizational forms (European Territorial Cooperation Groups and Euro-regional Cooperation); stimulating the cross-border cooperation network between enterprises, namely the formation and development of cross-border clusters, will significantly increase the competitiveness of the border regions; promoting cross-border cooperation for sustainable and innovative use and development of natural resources, cultural heritage, strengthening of economic, cultural and humanitarian ties between actors and participants in cross-border cooperation.

Conclusions and suggestions. The enlargement of the European Union, Ukraine's accession to the WTO, the global economic crisis, and other processes of globalization have a significant impact on the socio-economic development of the Ukrainian state. The new challenges of external and internal origin cause a sharp differentiation of the Ukrainian regions, first of all borderline indicators of the level of human development, which leads to an increase in alienation between communities and regions, posing a threat to the national security of the Ukrainian state.

Therefore, one of the effective innovative tools for solving these problems is the use of the potential of cross-border cooperation. Thus, 19 out of 25 regions
of Ukraine are border regions (the total area is about 77% of the entire territory of the state), there are 9 Euroregions in the territory of Ukraine and the process of institutionalization of transborder cooperation in the form of Euroregions throughout the perimeter of the state border of Ukraine is completed.

Planned measures initiated by the European Union and the Council of Europe to create a "Europe without dividing borders", ensuring "territorial equalization" between regions in order to reduce the imbalances in their development. The implementation of priority tasks, the development of a number of important legal instruments, provides the basis for supporting cross-border co-operation: the European Convention on the Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Authorities or Communities, the Additional Protocols thereto, the European Parliament and the Council Regulation 1082/2006 on the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) of July 5, 2006, etc. Thus, the new state regional policy should envisage opportunities for expanded representation of Ukraine's regions in the European economic and political space by developing cross-border economic and political cooperation.

References


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