

UKRAINE IS IN SEARCH OF A STRATEGY FOR EURO INTEGRATION



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Abstract. The article discusses the successes and failures of Ukrainian politicians in relation with entrepreneurial measures of European integration of the state country and resolution of the political conflict. Attention is concentrated on the internal and external conditions in which develop the process of political settlement, and also several recent trends, which can help to achieve a multilateral compromise on the future of European integration in Ukraine.

Keywords: *euro integration, crises, spiritual world, sociocultural causes, Political conflict.*

Introduction.

Emphasize the attention on the need to find ways to overcome the social crisis through the European integration that has embraced all spheres of life. The need to look for real ways to get out of this crisis, to overcome spiritual depravity, and socio-economic instability requires strengthening the power of spirit at the level of an individual, since, only returning to its original strength of spirit, which, as A. Schweitzer said, is in each of us, And the return to which can save us, a person can internally self-identify in a globalized world.

In this article used a psychological-anthropological approach, and a synthetic methodology that allows us to define the concepts of European integration in Ukraine.

Research analysis and objective. In the works of the Russian orientalists, relations between Turkey and the EU were viewed mainly through the prism of economic ties. In this article, an attempt is made to supplement the approaches that were used in the works of Russian authors by the cultural and civilizational aspect.

Research results. In conditions of transitive period social changes occur, continuous process of quantitative and qualitative reproduction of society takes place. The spiritual world of modern man becomes more vulnerable, since the relationship between the human and world become more complex. The critical state of contemporary Ukrainian society, caused by the transformational changes of recent decades and the financial crisis, requires clarification of its causes, factors of overcoming and predict the consequences, which is important for the stability of social development as a whole and for improving the efficiency of life of the individual in particular. Fundamental changes caused by the information revolution influenced the human mind, transforming common understanding of the world, value orientations and life strategies of human existence. In the view of many experts European integration will radically change the socio-cultural, psychological and moral principles and forms of human life. Previous habitual way of life is collapsing, sense of belonging to a certain environment and certain values and reference points will disappear. Technologies will define and regulate all aspects of life, contributing to the creation of a new world, respectively, and a change of consciousness. The peculiar "world without support" will arise, in which will be difficult to define priorities and unambiguous ideological orientations. Today more than ever there is an urgent need to find ways to overcome the social crisis through European

integration, which covered all aspects of life. The need to find real ways out of the crisis, overcoming spiritual neglect, social and economic instability requires strengthening of fortitude at the level of a separate individual since a man is able to internal self-determination in a globalized world only by returning to the primary strength of mind, which, as A. Schweitzer said, is in each of us and the return to which can save us [Yankoviy 2003].

The spiritual world of man is a priority. Spirituality, as S. Krinsky indicates, - is the ability to transform a universum of the external existence into the inner world of an individual, through which the self-identity of a person is realized, his/her freedom from dependence on constantly changing situations is achieved [Yankoviy 2003].

However, as T. Titarenko emphasizes: "Life always prepares new and new tests for everyone. And their duration, severity, complexity is somehow commensurate with human abilities, forces that each of us has at the moment. All of us occasionally find ourselves in such life situations which as if are specifically designed to help us survive and realize something very important, that remained behind the attention in the blink of everyday life. Such obstacles toward the goal are apparently fictional by someone in order to enhance the ability of self-exploration, self-development and self-overcoming [Titarenko 2009]".

Against the background of the growing contestation of European integration in recent decades, special attention has been paid to describing and explaining public opinion toward the European Union (EU) [Guinaudeau 2017]".

It is worth mentioning that the Association Agreement with the European Union devotes considerable attention to the environmental issues. Their relevance to Ukraine is beyond question (we need only recall the tragedy and the loss of life at the landfill near Lviv and the

mass poisoning of people in Izmail, which occurred in 2016). The Association Agreement enables Ukraine to improve its environmental standards in the following areas: air quality, water quality and water management, waste management and resources, industrial pollution and so on. It should be noted that there are no transparent and clear procedures for environmental assessment of any economic activity in Ukraine. The Law on environmental impact assessment should fix this matter. It provides for the introduction in Ukraine of a European model for an environmental impact assessment procedure. Its rules are written in such a way as to mitigate corruption opportunities at every stage of the process. Most importantly, officials are denied contact with businesses (all the documentation in the review process shall be entered into publicly accessible registers of environmental impact assessment), and it requires mandatory reviews on any assessment which was adopted by an authority (Semerak, 2016).

The European Union is currently one of the largest donors that supports the implementation of reforms in Ukraine in all sectors of public administration. The Centre for Adaptation of the Civil Service to the standards of the European Union was established on the foundation provided by the National Agency of Ukraine on Civil Service, which is the national coordinator for the implementation of European Institution Building Instruments Twinning, TAIEX, SIGMA and the projects of the Ukraine-EU Comprehensive Institution Building Programme. EU assistance in the area of institutional development of the state creates additional opportunities for the implementation of important reforms in Ukraine. The EU offers Ukraine not only financial assistance, but is also ready to share its experience and expertise that will certainly contribute to the implementation of commitments made by Ukraine in accordance with the Association Agreement. Implementation of institutional development tools with the support of the European Union is a unique opportunity to accelerate and effectively implement compelling public administration reforms in Ukraine with the assistance of the best European practices.

The process of European integration became the natural characteristic of our

present in the conditions of globalization and transformational changes.

Ukrainian authorities have outlined a number of priority actions on European integration for the country, namely: signing the Association Agreement and creating a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area; completing the realization of conditions of the visa dialogue; negotiations on the Plan Association Republic of Ukraine - European Union; continuation of efforts on integration into the European energy system; the launch of Neighbourhood program for agriculture and rural development; strengthening the cooperation with the Baltic countries and the Visegrad Group countries, and also the intensification of political dialogue with all countries of the European Union.

Ukraine has fulfilled most of the key actions that were included to the report on Neighbourhood Policy progress of the previous year, Ukraine has continued to implement democratic reforms, having registered a total success in the implementation of most provisions of the Action Plan EU - Republic of Moldova; has succeeded in implementing the Action Plan on liberalization of visa regime, having fulfilled the conditions of the first stage and proceeding to the second stage of the plan. However, in the report, European officials urge Ukraine to follow some serious recommendations: to complete the implementation of the Human Rights Action Plan; to continue the reform of the justice system and the Ministry of Internal Affairs; to improve customs procedures in order to reduce the risk of corruption; to ensure the full and effective independence of the Coordinating council for television and radio; to continue the active advance along the line of implementing the second phase of the Action Plan on liberalization of the visa regime; to continue the sectoral reforms and the process of harmonization with EU in the trade sector and related areas (as it is stipulated in the DCFTA preparation guidelines), along with conducting negotiations on deep and comprehensive free trade zone (DCFTA); to accelerate the public administration reform and start to implement a decentralization strategy in order to strengthen the institutional capacity, including in terms of the effective use of public resources and the optimization of local governance; to continue the process of privatization, in particular, large state-owned

enterprises; to take measures to increase transparency in the banking sector; to take measures to further improving the business environment, including the readjustment of enterprises and procedures for registration of foreign investors, as well as the fight against the shadow economy.

The European Union is interested in normalizing political situation in Ukraine, where the government was sent into retirement. According to the legislation, the president nominates the prime minister after consulting with the parliamentary factions. At the same time, the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova does not set a deadline, during which the head of state must do this. The Constitution says that only the president can propose the candidacy of the prime minister to the parliament no more than twice within 45 days. If the parliament does not approve twice a new prime minister, the president dissolves the parliament and sets a date for early parliamentary elections.

European officials urge Ukrainian politicians to an immediate dialogue in order to form "a strong and stable majority for promoting democratic values and further integration into the European Union for the benefit of citizens and the entire Republic of Moldova" [Baza danyih Evrostata]. One can only hope that the crisis will not affect relations with the EU and will not harm the image of the country at the European level if the problem will resolve quickly.

The European Union invites Ukraine to actively participate in promoting a mutually acceptable view of the common future and, in accordance with this, adopting the main parameters for the settlement of the conflict.

To date the forms of manifestation of the European integration processes are: integration into the European Union - getting membership, the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, evolving to the Council for Regional Cooperation, Neighbourhood Policy for Eastern and Southern Europe, regional projects for the Black Sea basin, centred around the Organization of the Black Sea Economic cooperation, the Eastern Partnership and others.

Political changes in Ukraine show that the question of the future of this region is becoming more keenly.

The processes of European integration for the Ukrainian society will largely depend on the solution of its internal problems -

stabilization in the sphere of the economy, the resolution of the protracted political crisis, the resolution of the conflict in DONBASS.

Cooperation with the European Union in political, commercial, economic, legal, cultural and scientific fields is aimed at support Ukraine in the process of:

- consolidation of democracy and legal state, as well as respect for human rights and minorities, by providing an appropriate framework for political dialogue;
- the long-term development of the economy and the completion of the process of transition to a market economy through the stimulation of trade exchange, investment and harmonious economic relations.

The relationship between the Republic of Ukraine and the European Union is institutionalized through three cooperation structures responsible for intensifying the political dialogue and monitoring the implementation of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, namely the Moldova-EU Cooperation Council, the Moldova-EU Cooperation Committee, the RM-EU Cooperation Subcommittees and The Parliamentary Cooperation Committee of the RM-EU.

The modern practice of international economic relations confirms the interdependence of international economic organizations and integration associations.

The topicality of the European Union lies in the fact that at the moment it is the only integration association that has a unique qualitative condition, embodied in a combination of features of the integration association on the territorial basis and the availability of the title documents. It is rather difficult to foresee the "future of European integration" and the ways of further development of the European Union for two reasons.

The first reason is due to the difficulties in the simultaneous analysis of the evolution and policies of the European Union, on the one hand, and the not always predictable nature of the impact of decisions at the national level, on events taking place at the supranational, and at the regional level on the other hand.

The second reason is the absence of an indication of the ultimate goal of the project for the formation and development of the European Union, "which has never been clearly articulated" [Babyinina 2012].

Analyzing and comparing different points of view and approaches to the study of the current state and determining the prospects for the development of the European Union in the near and distant future, we note that despite the wide dissemination in Western scientific literature of each of these views, the positive attitude of the authors on this issue and mainly positive assessments of the ongoing process of European integration, which manifests itself in various forms, clearly prevail.

However, Euro-optimists, and along with them, Euro-ideals, judging by their statements, often exaggerate the significance of the "European extreme" and the "European model" itself as a model not only for Europe but for the whole world.

"It's too early to talk about when and how the United States of Europe will arise," when and how this "European dream" will come about, affirm optimistic authors, but time and events are working towards further integration not only in Europe, but all over the world.

Today, in all European countries, the standard of living of the population is unquestionably higher than in the 1970s. And even more so in the post-war period. The quality of life of an average family, its supply of goods and services is much better than that of the previous generation.

Economic growth in the last 10-15 years has remained slow and weak.

As a result of 2012, the GDP of the European Union fell by 0.3%, and the euro zone - by 0.6%. According to the Eurostat forecasts, the current year will also be complete with negative indicators. Unemployment grows: in April 2013 the total number of unemployed in the EU countries was 26.6 million people, or 12% of the workforce [Borko 2012].

It is necessary to pay attention to the fact that the state debt of the euro zone has overcome the plank in 150%, though slightly, but still later than the EU debt.

The economy of the EU countries can no longer do without financial support made by the government. And the longer this will continue, the more difficult it will be to get out of today's debt crisis.

It is also worth noting that as a result of the crisis, there was a demarcation of the external borders of the European Union

This opens new opportunities for the development of integration processes in the post-Soviet space and the construction of a new format for relations between Russia and its immediate neighbors, on the one hand, and the European Union, on the other hand.

Conclusions.

The processes of European integration for Ukrainian society will largely depend on solving its internal problems - stabilizing the economy, resolving a long-lasting political crisis and, last but not least, settling the conflict around the DONBASS.

It should also be noted that as a result of the crisis, the demarcation of the external borders of the European Union took place. It opens up new opportunities for the development of integration processes in the post-Soviet space and the construction of a new format of relations between Ukraine on the one hand, and the European Union on the other hand.

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