THE IMPACT OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE ECONOMIC POLICY

A characteristic feature of the modern world development of the countries is increasing of integration processes in the world and Europe in particular. However, even those countries that are not the part of the integration associations inevitably feel their considerable influence. Following the last enlargement of the EU Ukraine has become a direct neighbor of the European Union. This opens up new opportunities for extending cooperation between Ukraine and the EU. The article is designed to structure the methodological framework for assessing the impact of European integration on Ukraine's economic policy.

The main directions of economic cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the framework of the Association Agreement. Since 01/01/2016 the Association Agreement of Ukraine has come into force with the EU, which is conditionally divided into two parts - political and economic. It is the economic part of the agreement that is worked out in detail and proven as the most important in the extending of the integration of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU because it is designed to give Ukrainian economy new opportunities for growth and development.

It should be emphasized again that the integration between Ukraine and the EU is formed according to the model of asymmetrically deep and comprehensive free trade area. Accordingly, from the author's point of view, all the changes that have to take place by the virtue of the Agreement can be divided into five key areas:

1) the formation of a free trade area;
2) the expansion of the trade area in services;
3) the regulation of the trade with intellectual property rights;
4) the regulation of trade with energy and cooperation in the energy sector;
5) the harmonization of the legislation of Ukraine in accordance with the EU regulations.

The need for developing an integration strategy for Ukraine was caused by the desire of our country to meet the requirements of modern global economic and political system as well as finding additional means to counter threats to international security. The specific geopolitical position and a long history of cooperation with European countries contribute to Ukraine's interest in active participation in integration processes in Europe. Thus, the European integration is officially declared the key priority of Ukraine's foreign policy. For Ukraine, European integration is the way of modernizing the economy, overcoming technological backwardness, attracting foreign investments and new technologies, creating new jobs, increasing competitiveness of domestic producers, access to world markets.

However, our study of the results of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU leads us to the following conclusions. First, the stage for the growth of the Ukrainian economy and improvement of the living standards of its population are not created. Second, joining the Agreement in full force until it has improved economic conditions for Ukraine is not achieved. Thirdly stabilization and the settlement of internal political and military conflicts are essential for a favorable economic development of the country.

The political benefits of the integration of Ukraine into the EU are related to the creation of reliable mechanisms of political stability, democracy and security. Moreover, the EU membership will open the way for collective structures of common security of the European Union, ensure a more effective coordination with European countries in the field of export controls and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, help to intensify cooperation in combating terrorism, organized crime, smuggling, illegal migration, drug trafficking and so on. The European choice of Ukraine opens new prospects for cooperation with the developed countries of the continent, providing opportunities for economic development, strengthening Ukraine's position in the global system of international relations.