

Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics
The Department of World Economy

FINAL QUALIFYING PAPER (PROJECT)

on the topic:

**« ORGANIZATIONAL AND ECONOMIC MECHANISM OF CROSS-BORDER
DEVELOPMENT COOPÉRATION BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA »**

**(based on the data of Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and
Agriculture of Ukraine, Kyiv)**

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Kyiv, 2019

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Approved by

Head of the Department _____

on _____, _____, 20____

Task for a final qualifying paper (project)

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1. Topic of a final qualifying paper (project)

“Organizational and economic mechanism of cross-border development cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia”

Approved by the Rector’s order from _____, _____, 20____, No. _____

2. Term of submitting by a student his/her terminated paper (project)

3. Initial data of the final qualifying paper (project)

Purpose of the paper (project) is a theoretical study of the formation of Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border cooperation, determination of its components and mechanism of implementation and development of priority directions for increasing their level at the current stage of European integration of Ukraine

Object of the research are two-fold: (i) cross-border cooperation in the context of European integration; and (ii) development of a cross-border cooperation of Ukraine and Slovakia in the present-day context.

Subject of the research is theoretical and methodological approaches and organizational and institutional mechanisms for enhancing the socio-economic efficiency of a cross-border cooperation.

4. Consultants of the research and titles of subsections which were consulted:

Section	Consultant (last name and initials)	Date and signature	
		The task given	The task fulfilled
1	Yuzba V.O		
2	Yuzba V.O		
3	Yuzba V.O		

5. Contents of a final qualifying paper (project) (list of all the sections and subsections)

Introduction

Section 1. Research of the current state of development of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia

1.1. Assessment of Ukraine's cross-border cooperation with Slovakia

1.2. Analysis of the dynamics and structure of bilateral relations between Ukraine and Slovakia

Conclusions to Section 1.

Section 2. Assessment of the effectiveness of the strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia

2.1. Assessment of factors of influence of the external environment on the dynamics of relations and cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia

2.2. Analysis of the effectiveness of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia.

Conclusions to Section 2.

Section 3. Ways to increase the efficiency of strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia in the field of transboundary cooperation

3.1. Priority areas for strengthening strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia in the field of cross-border cooperation

3.2. Prognostic assessment of the consequences of the implementation of the proposed measures in bilateral cross-border relations

Conclusions to Section 3.

Conclusions

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Annexes

6. Time schedule of the paper (project)

No.	Stages of a final qualifying paper (project)	Terms of a final qualifying paper (project)	
		de jure	de facto
1	<i>Choosing the theme of the final qualification project</i>		
2	<i>Development and approval of the task on final qualification work</i>		
3	<i>Introduction</i>		
4	<i>Section 1</i>		
5	<i>Section 2</i>		
6	<i>Preparation of the article in the scientific collection masters articles</i>		
7	<i>Section 3</i>		
8	<i>Conclusions</i>		
9	<i>Submission of final qualification work to the department of scientific supervisor</i>		
10	<i>Preliminary graduation protection qualification work</i>		
11	<i>Correction of remarks, external reviewing the final qualification work</i>		
12	<i>Presentation of the finished stitched graduation qualification work for the department</i>		
13	<i>Public graduation protection qualification work</i>		

7. Date of receiving the task _____, _____, 2019.

8. Scientific adviser of the final qualifying paper (project)

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9. Head of the project team (Manager of the educational program)

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10. The task received by the student

Pokanievych V.Y.

АНОТАЦІЯ

Поканевич Володимир Юрійович

Організаційно-економічний механізм розвитку транскордонної співпраці між Україною та Словаччиною

Випускна кваліфікаційна робота на здобуття ступеня магістра за спеціальністю 051 «Економіка», спеціалізацією «Міжнародна економіка». Київський національний торговельно-економічний університет, 2019.

Проект досліджує переваги транскордонного співробітництва у процесі інтеграції України у світову економіку.

Проаналізовано основні передумови та тенденції транскордонного партнерства на прикладі транскордонного співробітництва між Україною та Словаччиною, його місця та ролі у міжнародних економічних відносинах.

Робота також цікава з історичної точки зору, оскільки чітко простежує розвиток транскордонного співробітництва з його підйомами та падіннями та містить низку рекомендацій щодо посилення двосторонніх та прикордонних відносин та торгівлі.

Ключові слова: транскордонне співробітництво, регіональна політика, інтеграція, інноваційний розвиток.

SUMMARY

Pokanievych Volodymyr

Organizational and economic mechanism of cross-border development cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia

Graduate qualification work for the master's degree in specialty 051 "Economics", specialization "International Economics". Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics, 2019.

The project investigates the benefits of cross-border cooperation in the process of integration of Ukraine into the world economy.

The main prerequisites and trends of the cross-border partnership are analyzed, using the example of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia, its place and role in international economic relations.

The work is also interesting from a historical point of view, as it clearly traces the development of cross-border cooperation with its ups and downs and contains a number of recommendations for enhancing bilateral and border relations and trade.

Keywords: cross-border cooperation, regional policy, integration, innovative development.

Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics
The Department of World Economy

ABSTRACT
FINAL QUALIFYING PAPER

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Assistant Professor

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Kyiv, 2019

The final qualifying paper consists of an introduction, three sections, general conclusions, references and annexes. The study materials are presented on 59 sheets, in 7 tables, in 3 figures and in 3 annexes. The list of used references contains 45 names.

The object of the study is theoretical and methodological approaches and organizational and institutional mechanisms for enhancing the socio-economic efficiency of a cross-border cooperation.

The subject of the study two-fold: (i) cross-border cooperation in the context of European integration; and (ii) development of a cross-border cooperation of Ukraine and Slovakia in the present-day context.

The purpose of the final qualifying paper is to evaluate image risks in the process of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia.

Research methods. The basis of the research are the methods of statistical observation, analysis and synthesis, different empiric and theoretical methods of study, management approach, forecasting approach as long as the empiric and deduction.

The introduction describes the relevance of the topic, formulated tasks and objectives, rise up the discussion of the problematic of the paper, making originality research and identified the object and purpose of the qualifying paper.

In the first part was made assessment of Ukraine's cross-border cooperation with Slovakia and analyze the dynamics and structure of bilateral relations between Ukraine and Slovakia

In the second part was created assessment of factors of influence of the external environment on the dynamics of relations and cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia.

In the third we found priority areas for strengthening strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia in the field of cross-border cooperation. Assume prognostic assessment of the consequences of the implementation of the proposed measures in bilateral cross-border relations

The conclusion of the thesis summarizes the final conclusions concerning the topic of final qualifying paper.

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INTRODUCTION

The topicality of the theme. The development of European integration strengthens the processes of regionalization, increasing the role and importance of individual administrative and territorial units in national economies and increasing the relevance of cross-border cooperation. Cross-border cooperation is an integral part of international relations at the interregional and local levels, providing for the formation of relations and contractual relations between the border regions participating in the cooperation and enabling the joint efforts of the authorities, the public and business to jointly solve existing socio-economic problems and sustainable development and increased competitiveness within the common cross-border region.

The dynamics of the development of cross-border cooperation is conditioned by the common goal of its participants - ensuring the convergence of regions and eliminating disparities in their socio-economic development. For Ukraine, cross-border cooperation is a complementary form of a structural model of European integration, which, on the basis of the practical application of the principles of subsidiarity and decentralization of public administration, enhances the opportunities of Ukrainian border regions to initiate and implement cross-border projects in order to increase the level of regional socio-economic development and economic and economic development. entities on both sides of the border in using common resource potential. In the current context, the practical implementation of cross-border cooperation projects in Ukraine is often ineffective due to administrative obstacles and limited funding, as well as the inefficient use of the funds raised. A significant drawback of cross-border cooperation in Ukraine is the lack of science-based theoretical and methodological bases for assessing its socio-economic efficiency, which will help to determine the real status, problems and priority areas of intensifying cooperation.

A considerable contribution to the study of cross-border cooperation problems was made by such Ukrainian scientists as O.Alysov, I.Artyomov, A.Balyan, I.Babets, V.Borshchevsky, I.Butirskaya, P.Belenky, V.Bidak, T.Vasylytsev, O.Vyshnyakov, S.Gakman, V.Hoblyk, A.Golikov, I.Gritsyak, O.Datsyuk, O.Demediyuk, M.Dolishniy,

I.Zablodskaya, V.Zadadko, A.Zborovskaya, I.Zhurba, O.Urban, M.Khmara, V.Chertorizhsky, O.Chmyr, L.Shilik, I.Shkola, M.Shuba and others.

Significant achievements of leading domestic and foreign scientists need to be supplemented with scientific substantiation of theoretical and methodological bases of evaluation, determination of strategic priorities and means of increasing efficiency of cross-border cooperation. The relevance of this research area is largely due to the lack of cross-border statistics and the problems of methodology for studying socio-economic processes in the context of cross-border cooperation, especially after the entry into force of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union. Thus, the topic of the study of socio-economic efficiency of the cross-border cooperation of Ukraine in the context of European integration becomes important and timely.

The objective of the study is a theoretical study of the formation of Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border cooperation, determination of its components and mechanism of implementation and development of priority directions for increasing their level at the current stage of European integration of Ukraine.

The following tasks have been set:

1. Make assessment of Ukraine's cross-border cooperation with Slovakia
2. Analyze the dynamics and structure of bilateral relations between Ukraine and Slovakia
3. Create assessment of factors of influence of the external environment on the dynamics of relations and cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia
4. Generate analysis of the effectiveness of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia.
5. Find priority areas for strengthening strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia in the field of cross-border cooperation
6. Assume prognostic assessment of the consequences of the implementation of the proposed measures in bilateral cross-border relations

The subject of the study two-fold: (i) cross-border cooperation in the context of European integration; and (ii) development of a cross-border cooperation of Ukraine and Slovakia in the present-day context.

The object of the study is theoretical and methodological approaches and organizational and institutional mechanisms for enhancing the socio-economic efficiency of a cross-border cooperation.

On the contrary, we could also see the results and successes on the path of European integration of our close neighbors, among which Slovakia is a good example.

To analyze the steps of implementing a common security policy, development of state administration facilities and the opportunity to take experience, cooperation in law enforcement, anti-corruption and judicial spheres, and find ways to deepen interregional cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia.

PART 1. RESEARCH OF THE CURRENT STATE OF DEVELOPMENT OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA

1.1. ASSESSMENT OF UKRAINE'S CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION WITH SLOVAKIA

In the context of globalization, a cross-border cooperation is considered as one of the priority directions of the integration strategy of the state and its regions, which involves the introduction of special instruments for regulating socio-economic processes and ensuring their sustainability, formation and development of the business environment of the border regions and favorable investment climate, enhancing the economic security of the region. At the present stage, the development of socio-economic systems in the scale of all states is impossible without taking into account the territorial features of the functioning of regional subsystems, trends in the development of regions and border areas. It is at this level that the issues of extended reproduction are solved, projects of socio-economic development are implemented, and the social needs of the population are met.

The expediency of cross-border cooperation is due to the leveling of the barrier function of borders in the conditions of globalization, activation of migration of capital, transfer of capital and technologies, large-scale development of trade, presence of global environmental problems, which in the aggregate makes no sense of any attempts at state sealing. European integration tendencies have become a prerequisite for intensification of cross-border cooperation, and cross-border cooperation, in turn, is a factor of regional development, which creates political, institutional, socio-economic and socio-cultural effects. The main mechanisms of cooperation of the border territories of Ukraine are the development of cross-border trade, the establishment of bodies for managing cross-border cooperation, the conclusion of inter-regional agreements on cross-border cooperation, the improvement of budgetary and other instruments of regional policy on the development of border cooperation, coordination of provision of taxation and other activities. border areas.

However, the new realities of world politics and international relations are turning old schemes of establishing cross-border contacts into ineffective ones and urging states to constantly improve them. Therefore, a comprehensive approach to the study of the essence of cross-border cooperation in accordance with the development of modern economic scientific thought will allow to present as fully as possible a picture of the dynamics of cross-border relations with Ukraine and to identify problem areas of this phenomenon in order to make the most effective solutions for their improvement. [20]

Cross-border cooperation of Ukraine is especially intensified in the context of European integration tendencies, the enlargement of the EU, which is accompanied by the formation of networks of informal and formal interaction between the subjects of the neighboring border regions. Horizontal network links form the basis for the formation of new spatial forms of integration (Euro regions, associations of Euro regional cooperation, European groups of territorial cooperation, local forms of cross-border interaction - cross-border clusters, industrial zones, trade centers, trade centers, trade centers).

In this regard, it is possible to increase resource efficiency both by agreeing on strategic directions for the development of individual regions and by developing a common cross-border strategy. [25]

The updated forecast of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade UA of 29 May 2019 states that UA GDP growth slowed to 2.7% in 2019 from 3.3% floods in 2018 with inflation falling to 7, 6% from 9.8% in 2018. In 2019, consumer prices are expected to rise to 8.7%, to 7.6% in 2020, to 6.8% in 2021 and to 6%. in 2022. Experts of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade UA consider the greatest domestic risks to the Ukrainian economy in 2019-2021, high levels of corruption, slow reform process and increased labor migration. Among the external risks are hybrid threats, a lack of external financing and restrictions on access to the international capital markets.

Ukraine's GDP per capita was \$ 3,238 in 2018 (\$ 2583 in 2017). The Ukrainian Statistical Office currently presents data without the occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Sevastopol and Donbas. The structure of GDP in 2018 in terms of value added was as follows: industry (31.3%), agriculture (10.1%),

construction (2.3%), other sectors (43.7%). In 2018, the unemployment rate reached 9.1% in the Ukraine (table 1.1).

Table 1.1

Basic macroeconomic indicators (in %)

Economic Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
GDP	12,9	27,7	14,6	18,0	3,3
GDP per capita in PPS	-	-	-	-	-
Inflation rate (HICP%)	24,9	43,3	12,4	13,7	9,8
Unemployment rate (%)	9,7	9,5	9,7	9,9	9,1
Budget deficit	-4,98	-2,28	-2,94	-1,6	-1,8
External debt	95,8	131,0	121,7	103,8	139,7

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

In 2018 the Ukrainian economy increased its growth rate to 3.3%, which is probably a fraction of a percentage point less than the growth rate of the world economy in the last year. It should be noted that the last time GDP growth in Ukraine outperformed worldwide, in 2011 (table 1.2).

Table 1.2.

GDP structure (in %)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Industry	22,7	22,7	31	26,87	31,3
Building Industry	2,6	2,6	2,5	2,26	2,3
Agriculture	11,8	11,8	12	11,92	10,1
Other	62,9	62,9	54,5	58,95	43,7

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

Ukraine continues to overcome the consequences of the crisis caused by Russian aggression and the loss of control of Crimea. Provided the current Ukraine growth rate is maintained, it will reach the "pre-renewal" level of the economy by the end of 2021. The war has delayed the development of the Ukraine's native economy to eight years, the statistics office of Ukraine states that UA GDP in 2018 amounted to 3 559 billion euro. UAH, which is the largest indicator in Ukrainian history. In dollar terms, GDP was around 130 billion. USD, which is by no means the best indicator in the history of a

separate Ukraine. The highest GDP of Ukraine was recorded in 2013 - more than 183 billion. USD.

Increasing the role and weight of cross-border regions in the modern economy, as well as increasing scientific interest in studying the issues of their formation and functioning, are primarily due to the comprehensive intensification of the processes of cross-border cooperation, which have been caused by increased processes of European integration, in particular by the recent expansion of the European Union. The differentiation of the concepts of “a cross-border” and “a border” is of particular importance for regions of a given country. The former is defined as a common territory adjacent to the border of adjacent administrative units of at least two countries, while the latter refers to territories covering one or more administrative units of the same country and adjacent to the country border. [11]

In another sense, “a cross-border region evokes the presence of at least two territories in different countries that share a common border, with close industrial and socio-economic links. The objective of a cross-border region formation process stems from the level of development of the various connections (production, socio-economic, etc.) that take place between two territories of different countries that share a common border“ [43]

In the current context of integrating the national economy into system of the world economic relations, Ukraine faces a number of important challenges, including the accumulation of additional financial resources for the purpose of structural adjustment, implementation of effective fiscal policy, the use of foreign economic relations to stimulate economic growth. As most regions of Ukraine are border regions, the public administration at the mezzo level should ensure both the development of priority areas of foreign economic activity and the rational use of the favorable location of border areas as an additional resource. International experience and legal forms should be applied to this end cross-border cooperation.

Cross-border co-operation exists within very different structures, legislative systems, and territories. Its main purpose is to overcome the barriers of national borders, to work together on social and economic policy, culture, science and education, and the

environment. Cross-border co-operation is essential for economic relations with the neighboring country, the transfer of capital and labor across the border. The border regions are intermediaries in inter-state cooperation, cross-border exchange of information, innovations and socio-cultural values.

The expediency of such cooperation is due to the migration of the population, the transfer of capital, ideas, the widespread development of trade, the presence of global environmental problems, which together make no sense of any attempt at state sealing. In addition, this vector of activity is in line with Ukraine's strategic orientation to further strengthen and develop economic cooperation with the countries of the European Union. According to the European Framework Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities, cross-border co-operation means any joint action aimed at strengthening and deepening good neighborly relations between territorial communities or authorities with the jurisdiction of two or more parties the purpose of any necessary agreements or arrangements. cross-border cooperation is carried out within the competence of territorial communities or authorities, as defined by national legislation. [17]

According to the Law of Ukraine “On Cross-Border Cooperation”, cross-border cooperation is a joint action aimed at establishing and deepening economic, social, scientific, technical, environmental, cultural and other relations between territorial communities, their representative bodies, local executive bodies of Ukraine and territorial communities, relevant authorities of other countries within the competence defined by national law.

According to representatives of the Association of European Border Regions (AEPR), cross-border cooperation brings so-called added value to the development of communities and regions, in particular emphasizing European added value. European added value cross-border co-operation is based on previous experience of the population living together in neighboring border regions and therefore seeks to co-operate and promote values such as peace, freedom, security, and respect for human rights. [6]

The main role of cross-border cooperation in integration processes is determined by the possibility of speeding up the processes of equalization of the quality of life of the

population of the border territories at least to the Central European and achieving the free movement of goods, people and capital across the border to the full integration of space. Cross-border co-operation in its simplest forms is ongoing, and therefore, the formation of an integrated space in the cross-border region is constantly happening. These processes are also accelerated by globalization factors. It can be said that cross-border cooperation is a preliminary and complementary element of state integration. However, the concepts of "cross-border cooperation" and "cross-border integration" are not identical. Cross-border integration is an objective process of developing deep, stable interconnections and division of labor between the border regions of neighboring countries, and the creation of international business complexes within them. Cross-border economic integration is a form of internationalization of economic activity (production), rapprochement and deepening of the interaction of regional economies.

Participation of Ukrainian in a cross-border cooperation has been a subject of in-depth research of Ukrainian, scientists and academicians, including V. Borschevsky, E.Kish, G.Shcherba, as well as foreign researchers such as J.Kapanelli, E.Medeirush, A. Nebuhr, M.Perkman, D.Smallbow, K. Philippines, and M.Henetti. At a time when studies of domestic scientists focus mainly on the analysis of political initiatives, the creation of institutions and forms of cross-border cooperation, foreign researchers are mostly discussing how the formats of administrative and regulatory acts influence and determine conditions for the evolution of cross-border cooperation on the external borders of the EU. [36]

1.2. ANALYSIS OF THE DYNAMICS AND STRUCTURE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA

In this section, the data provided by the State Statistics Service of Ukraine and the Fiscal Service of Ukraine are analyzed.

As is shown in Table 1.3, in 2018, Slovakia was among the top 20 partners of Ukraine in the EU in terms of bilateral trade that reached over USD 1.5 billion.

Table 1.3.

Dynamics of foreign trade in goods and services (In million USD)

	2014	%	2015	%	2016	%	2017	%	2018	%
Turnover	1 183,9	80	1115,7	94,2	906,1	105,7	1311	144,7	1548	118
Export	711,5	89,2	495,3	69,6	471,3	100,6	695	147,5	907,1	130,5
Imports	472,4	69,2	620,4	131,3	434,8	125,6	616,3	141,7	640,9	104
Balance	239,1	-	-125,1	-31,3	36,5	-	78,7	-	266,2	-

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

In 2018, trade in goods and services amounted to USD 1,588 billion and increased by 18% compared to 2017, with exports from Ukraine to the Slovak Republic up \$ 907.1 million and increased by 30.5 %, imports of Slovak goods and services to Ukraine amounted to USD 640.9 million and increased by 4%. The positive balance for Ukraine during this period amounted to USD 266.2 million (see Table 1.4).

Table 1.4.

Dynamics of trade in goods (In million USD)

	2014	%	2015	%	2016	%	2017	%	2018	%
Turnover	1 097,4	78,4	987,1	89,9	906,1	105,7	1 164,6	128,5	1389,8	119,3
Export	670,6	89,7	468,5	69,7	471,3	100,6	656	139,2	864	131,7
Imports	426,8	65,4	518,6	121,5	434,8	125,6	508,6	117	525,8	103,3
Balance	243,8	-	-50,1	-	36,5	-	147,4	-	338,2	-

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

According to data provided in Table 1.3 (see below), in 2018, bilateral trade in goods amounted to USD 1,389.8 billion and increased by 19.3% compared to 2017, with exports of goods from Ukraine to the Slovak Republic at the level of USD 864 million and increased by 1.7%, imports of Slovak goods to Ukraine reached USD 525.8 million and increased by 3.3%. The positive balance for Ukraine during this period amounted to USD 338.2 million. The structure of Ukrainian exports to Slovakia was dominated by deliveries of ores, slag and ash (39%), electric machinery (17.1%), organic chemicals (8.3%), meat and by-products (6.9%), ferrous metals (6.4%) In the total structure of imports from Slovakia dominated by land transport except for rail (22.6%), nuclear reactors, boilers, machines (11.4%), ferrous metals (11%), plastics, polymeric materials (7.5%).

In 2018, trade in services amounted to \$ 158.3 million. And increased by 7.9% compared to 2017, with exports of services from Ukraine to Slovakia totaling USD 43.2 million. And increased by 10.7%, imports of Slovak services to Ukraine totaled USD 115 million. And increased by 6.7%. The negative balance for Ukraine during this period amounted to \$ 71.8 million USA. The structure of Ukrainian exports of services to Slovakia was dominated by transport services, business services, material processing services, telecommunication services, computer and information services. Imports of services from Slovakia were dominated by transport services Volodymyr Pokanievych, telecommunication services, computer and information services, and business services (table 1.5).

Table 1.5.

Dynamics of trade in services (In million USD)

	2014	%	2015	%	2016	%	2017	%	2018	%
Turnover	87,4	<i>107,1</i>	128,6	<i>148,8</i>	135,5	<i>105,4</i>	146,7	<i>108,3</i>	158,3	<i>107,9</i>
Export	41,4	<i>81,6</i>	26,8	<i>64,7</i>	26,6	<i>99</i>	39	<i>144,1</i>	43,2	<i>110,7</i>
Imports	46,0	<i>148,1</i>	101,8	<i>221,4</i>	108,9	<i>107</i>	107,7	<i>98,6</i>	115	<i>106,7</i>
Balance	-4,6	<i>-</i>	-74,9	<i>-</i>	-82,3	<i>-</i>	-68,7	<i>-</i>	-71,8	<i>-</i>

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

As of December 31, 2018, \$ 74.3 million was attracted to the Ukrainian economy. US investment from the Slovak Republic (see Table 1.4).

The agreement provides for the recognition of equivalent documents on education, the acquisition of relevant educational and qualification levels and diplomas for the award of scientific degrees, and also determines the procedure for their owners to continue their education at the following levels of education in accordance with the national legislation of Ukraine and the Slovak Republic.

As of December 31, 2018, \$ 74.3 million were attracted to the Ukrainian economy. The largest volume of investments were directed to enterprises in the industry - 29.3%, transport, warehousing, postal and courier activities - 17.8%, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries - 12%. As of December 31, 2018, direct investments from Ukraine into the

Slovak economy attracted \$ 0.4 million. USA. Investments are involved in wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, professional, scientific and technical activity.

Table 1.6.

Dynamics of the flow of Slovak investments into the Ukrainian economy

(In million USD)

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	December 31, 2018
Accumulated volume	99,7	74,2	72,2	71,1	74,3

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine. [2]

The list of agreements of legal basis in the Ukrainian-Slovak bilateral relations provided in the Annex 2. [3]

The activities of the Commission have become an important factor in the cooperation between Ukraine and the Slovak Republic in the field of protection of the rights of national minorities.

Ukraine and Slovakia are also actively involved in the implementation of a number of programs and projects developed within the European Union, the Council of Europe, and other international organizations.

To date, more than 30 agreements and treaties have been concluded between higher education institutions of Ukraine and Slovakia, as well as 4 agreements in which one of the parties is a Ukrainian university and the other is a structural unit of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. The main areas of cooperation are exchanges of students for incomplete and complete training, trainees and graduate students, teachers and scholars for pedagogical and scientific work.

In both countries, schools with Ukrainian and Slovak languages, respectively, operate to meet the needs of national minorities. There are 7 elementary and secondary schools in Slovakia with the study of Ukrainian language and literature, including the Unified High School named after I. T. Shevchenko in Presov with the Ukrainian language of instruction.

In 2018, the Ukrainian Sunday School of Bratislava Dubova 1 was registered at an institution of the capital of Slovakia.

On 1 June 2019, the Institute of Ukrainian Studies, established at the University of Prešov, officially began its work.

NGOs of Ukrainians of Slovakia carry out active cultural and educational work, promote folk traditions, revive ceremonies, celebrate national holidays, maintain close ties with Ukraine and related organizations in other countries. The Embassy constantly supports the activities of Ukrainian NGOs in Slovakia in the implementation of their cultural and artistic projects.

Beginning 2014, the annual "Days of Ukraine in Kosice" are held on a traditional basis in the Slovak Republic, with the participation of Ukrainian art groups from different regions of Ukraine, folklore ensembles, fashion shows from contemporary Ukrainian designers, exhibitions, discussions, thematic conferences, and other cultural activities. Also, within the framework of Days of Ukraine in Kosice, there are Slovak-Ukrainian investment business forums.

On 23 November, 2016, a Slovak-Ukrainian conference was held in Prešov, Slovakia, on the importance of Slovakia-Ukraine cooperation, which is carried out in the framework of bilateral cooperation across borders.

On 15 December, 2016, a series of meetings of deputies of city councils, representatives of public organizations of Ukraine, businessmen with the Chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group with Ukraine of the National Council of the SR, MP of the ruling party "Smer-SD" were organized and held by the Institute of Political Education with the assistance of the Embassy of Ukraine in Slovakia. M. Kraikovich and the Head of the District Bratislava D. Pekar. There was an exchange of views on trade and economic cooperation, regional cooperation between the countries.

On 13 May 2017, the traditional Ukrainian-Slovak Neighborhood Day was held at the checkpoint "Small Bereznii-Ublya". Within the framework of the event, the following were signed: Implementing Protocols to the Memorandums of Cooperation between the Prešov Self-governing Territory, the Transcarpathian Regional State Administration, the Transcarpathian Oblast Council for the period from May 2017 to May 2018 and the Kosice Self-governing Territory, respectively.

On 14 June 2017, the Cross-border Cooperation Conference was held in Kosice with the assistance of the Government Office in the framework of the Norwegian Financial Mechanism in the Slovak Republic. The areas of cooperation in the cross-border area that are important for Ukraine are highlighted, and the assistance of the Slovak government to the development of border infrastructure with the attraction of Norwegian grants is highly appreciated.

On 21-22 November 2017, the 13th meeting of the Ukrainian-Slovakian Cross-Border Cooperation Commission took place in Eastern Slovakia, during which the Ukrainian and Slovak delegations discussed the state and prospects of cooperation at the common border, the development of border and transport infrastructure, the issue of reconstruction of border crossing points, environmental issues and the prevention of border crossings. Following the meeting of the Commission, a Minutes were signed.

In order to further intensify and establish effective partnerships in various fields of cooperation between the regions of Ukraine and Slovakia, the possibility of signing agreements between the Odesa oblast of Ukraine and the Zhilin self-governing region of the SR and between the Chernihiv region and the Trencin self-governing region is being considered. [20]

In Section 1, we have studied and analyzed the Ukrainian and Slovak cooperation. In addition, 98 the most important treaties signed between Ukraine and the Slovak Republic were. [37]

The analysis revealed that during the last 2 years, the trade between the two countries showed sustainable growth and positive dynamic of the cross-country and cross-border commercial cooperation.

In general, trade relations between Ukraine and The Slovak Republic show an upward trend.

The main and traditional export items of Ukraine are iron ore (manganese and iron ores), electricity, black coal, mineral fertilizers, various chemical products, flat-rolled products made of iron and steel, ferroalloys, engineering products, steel pipes and floors. The largest articles of Ukrainian import from Slovakia were refractory bricks, conveyor

belts, flat rolled metal, magnesite, glass containers, herbicides, and other goods of the processing industry.

Key issues of Ukrainian-Slovak relations include cooperation in the field of ethno-national policy. According to the 2001 census, there were 6.4 thousand Slovaks in Ukraine, over 90% of them living in the Transcarpathian region. Slovaks in Ukraine are going through a period of national renaissance.

The above has demonstrated the importance of Ukraine and Slovak cross-border cooperation and its positive influence on the European integration and sustainable development of Ukraine. [38]

Consequently, the Ukrainian-Slovak cooperation in the trade and economic sphere in general, has been positively affecting the border region of Ukraine and characterized by a positive trade balance between the two countries.

Despite the above, foreign trade between the Ukraine and the Slovak Republic is not that large and significant in its intensity. Ukraine mainly exports raw materials to Slovakia, which necessitates the diversification of Ukraine's exports to that country.

At the same time, it should be noted that the prospects for the development of trade and economic relations between Ukraine and the Slovak Republic lies in the perspective of economic relations between Ukraine and the European Union.

Conclusions to Part 1

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The above has demonstrated the importance of Ukraine and Slovak cross-border cooperation and its positive influence on the European integration and sustainable development of Ukraine. Consequently, the Ukrainian-Slovak cooperation in the trade and economic sphere in general, has been positively affecting the border region of Ukraine and characterized by a positive trade balance between the two countries.

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PART 2. ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA

2.1. ASSESSMENT OF FACTORS OF INFLUENCE OF THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT ON THE DYNAMICS OF RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA

The Slovak government has two main objectives with regard to Ukraine: (i) to maintain stability there, particularly to avoid a humanitarian crisis; and (ii) to maintain the stable transit of oil and natural gas at the highest possible levels to Slovakia via Ukraine's territory. The cabinet of PM Robert Fico has declared its full support for Ukrainian ambitions to join the EU' and is committed to supporting the transformation of the Ukrainian economy and the reform of sectoral policies.

At the same time, the Slovak government has avoided criticizing Russia for its aggression towards Ukraine and is careful to maintain its very good political relations and close energy cooperation with the Kremlin. Its pro-Russian rhetoric is partly dictated by the expectations of the electorate of the co-ruling Smer-SD party, which Fico leads. The double-track Eastern policy of the Slovak government, on the one hand, has resulted in criticism of EU sanctions against Russia, but on the other hand, it has been accompanied by actions which assist Ukraine and strike at the Kremlin's interests (such as the reverse flow of gas on the Slovak-Ukraine border).

Unlike the government, President Andrej Kiska has openly described the Kremlin's policy towards Ukraine (and Georgia) as a threat to international security. During a visit to Kyiv in May 2015, the Slovak president said that Slovakia "will never recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea, and will never accept any political, military or economic interference in Ukrainian sovereignty". This is one of the permanent priorities in Slovak foreign policy, namely respect for international law, and not consent to the revision of boundaries. This position derives, among other things, from the fact that a Hungarian minority of around 460,000 people live in the south of the country [12].

At the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war, Slovakia exerted great restraint in its reactions to the conflict, above all with regard to its economic cooperation with Russia. Since autumn 2014 (see below for a description of the activation of the Vojany-Uzhhorod pipeline), Fico's cabinet has invested in improving political relations with Kyiv, paying somewhat less attention to the kremlin's position in this regard this attitude has resulted from pressure from the EC and the United States, among others. The rapprochement between Slovakia and Ukraine also comes from both states' opposition to the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project; [39] Bratislava and Kyiv both perceive it as a threat to their interests. Slovak support for Ukraine is also gradually extending to other areas; during the NATO summit in Warsaw, Slovakia committed itself to lead the NATO Trust Fund for the destruction of explosive materials in Ukraine.

The challenge for Slovak-Ukrainian relations is the criticism of the EU's sanctions against Russia regularly repeated by the Slovak prime minister. In his talks with his Ukrainian counterparts, Fico has indeed declared that the Slovak position remains in line with the EU consensus (the lifting of sanctions is conditional on the implementation of the Minsk agreements). However, at the same time, he does not conceal his opinion that sanctions are an ineffective and harmful instrument. Slovakia, together with Hungary and other countries, has called for political discussions within the EU on sanctions. In June 2016, the Slovak foreign minister Miroslav Lajcak argued that the question is not about the lifting of sanctions, but rather about avoiding a situation where while formally maintaining them, "each country signs big treaties with Russia, visits [Russia], and meets people on the blacklist [i.e. those covered by the sanctions]". Statements by members of the Slovak government have long expressed increasing annoyance that, on the one hand, Germany, the EC, and the US have been putting pressure on Slovakia to limit its economic contacts with Russia, while on the other hand, the larger states have been conducting dialogue and business with Russia without any major obstacles. [14]

At the same time, Slovakia has acknowledged that the Minsk agreements are the only sensible means for bringing an end to the conflict and that their rapid implementation is in the interest of all parties. The possibility that the Russian-Ukrainian war would be transformed into a frozen conflict would be a very bad turn of events for Slovakia.

Bratislava is looking for ways to develop cooperation with Moscow, despite the obstacles and difficulties in relations between the EU and Russia. The Slovak government maintains that Russia should not be treated as an enemy or a threat to the West or NATO, and has emphasized that none of the world's problems can be solved without Moscow.

Despite a number of pro-Russian gestures, Slovakia has limited the number of areas in which Moscow could put pressure on it. It has guaranteed the possibility of alternative (to Russia) energy supplies and is gradually replacing its old Russian military equipment with hardware from the West. The Slovak government wants to develop economic cooperation with Russia, including in the strategic areas of supply and transit of oil and gas; however, it is taking care to ensure that it will have a readily available alternative in each of these areas. Slovak politicians have become strongly involved in work on the modernization of Ukraine, including the main contributors to the liberal reforms at the turn of the 21st century. [29]

The former prime minister Mikulas Dzurinda has acted as an advisor to President Poroshenko, and the former prime minister Iveta Radicova was involved in a project for the decentralization of Ukraine carried out by the Community of Democracies. Former finance minister Ivan Miklos, on the occasion of the change of government in Ukraine in 2016, even received a proposal to become that country's finance minister; eventually he became the head of a group of advisers to the Ukrainian prime minister, and was also cochair (along with Leszek Balcerowicz) of the Group of Strategic Consultants to Support Reform, whose task is to provide substantive scientific support for the president and the government. Regardless of the results achieved by these politicians' work in Kyiv, their media activity in Ukraine and Slovakia has helped greatly in building a climate of bilateral cooperation.

The development of Slovak-Ukrainian cooperation has also been aided by the involvement of regional authorities on both sides of the border. In both cases, this concerns peripheral and under-funded regions, which is why the Slovak local authorities have also taken the opportunity to increase the attractiveness of eastern Slovakia in cooperation with Ukraine. The border regions have invested high hopes in the launch of visa-free travel, but they maintain that irrespective of this step, it would be worth

simplifying the local border traffic regime and increasing its area to extend as much as 100 kilometers from the border.

Trade with Ukraine generates only 0.6% of Slovakia's trade (according to Slovak data from 2016). This figure is overshadowed by Slovakia's trade with Russia, which itself is far from substantial; at €4 billion, it represents only 3% of Slovakia's total trade turnover. At the political level, attempts are admittedly being made to revive Slovak-Ukrainian economic cooperation, although these remain sporadic. In 2015, the countries' economy ministers discussed resuming the work of the Slovak-Ukrainian intergovernmental commission for economic, industrial and scientific & technical cooperation, the last meeting of which took place in 2015. However, no date for a new meeting has so far been announced.

From the perspective of Slovakia, Ukraine is primarily seen as a state of particular importance for the security of energy supply from the East. The Bratstvo gas pipeline and the southern strand of the Druzhba oil pipeline run via both countries; these play a key role in the system of transporting Russian energy carriers to Western Europe. This infrastructure is not only important for Slovakia with regard to energy security; it also brings the country tangible financial benefits (the Slovak transmission operator's annual revenues from gas transit are estimated at close to €800 million).

Cooperation between Slovakia and Ukraine in the area of energy has widened significantly in the last three years, but it still remains charged with a large degree of mutual distrust. This results from the negative experiences of the period in 2016 when the supply of Russian gas to Ukraine was interrupted, and above all from the crisis of 2019 when Slovakia suffered severely as a consequence of the Russian-Ukrainian dispute. On the one hand, PM Fico's cabinet of the time lost any illusions that good relations with Russia would ensure stable gas deliveries to Slovakia; and on the other, it was confirmed in the belief that Ukraine is an unreliable partner because of the negative experience of Slovakia's cooperation with Kyiv during the crisis. The consequence of the low level of trust between Bratislava and Kyiv was a dispute (which lasted more than a year) around the idea of activating a so-called 'large' gas reverse flow on the Slovak-Ukrainian border. Ukraine demanded that the reverse supplies be activated at the Bratstvo transit gas

pipeline (at the Vefke Kapusany border point), and saw the lack of progress from Slovakia in this field as an element of Bratislava's pro-Russian policy. For its part, the Slovak government argued that activating a 'large' reverse flow was impossible from a legal point of view, due to the country's existing contractual obligations with Gazprom and the Ukrainian side's lack of control over transit (Gazprom does not provide Ukraine with the full transit information, i.e. the shipper codes). Currently, this dispute has been muted, although it has been agreed that talks on the 'large' reverse flow will continue with the participation of the European Commission. A compromise solution to the question of reverse gas supplies from Slovakia to Ukraine arose in the form of the activation of the Vojany-Uzhhorod pipeline in autumn 2014. This connector enables deliveries at the level of 14.6 bqm per year, more than Ukraine's entire gas imports in 2016 (11 bqm). The reverses at Ukraine's connectors with Hungary and Poland have lower capacities (6.1 and 1.4 bqm respectively), and they cannot guarantee the stability of supply due to their intermittent mode of operation. This means that cooperation with Slovakia has become a key element of Ukraine's policy to ensure the security of its gas supplies. This is particularly important in the context of Kyiv's halt to the purchase of Russian gas in November 2015. Currently, Ukraine is relying solely on domestic production and imports of gas from the West.

The theme that brought the governments of Slovakia and Ukraine together in 2015 was their common opposition to the plans to construct the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline. It is in the common interest of Slovakia and Ukraine to maintain the transit of Russian gas via Bratstvo pipeline, which is the main supply route for Russian gas to the EU (it runs from Russia via Ukraine to Slovakia and the Czech Republic; the gas pipeline has branches running from Ukraine to Hungary and Moldova). For this reason, not only the politicians in Bratislava and Kyiv but also the transmission system operators from both countries (Slovakia's Eustream and Ukraine's Ukrtranshaz) have adopted strong stances against plans to ship Russian gas to the West while avoiding Ukraine (and Slovakia).

The Slovak-Ukrainian opposition to the Nord Stream project 2, however, is based on fragile foundations. This is because Bratislava, in contrast to Kyiv, is avoiding confrontation with Russia in this context, as it has mainly criticized those Western

companies which are cooperating with Gazprom. Both the Slovak government and Eustream are negotiating intensively with Russia on the question of the perspectives for the transit of Russian gas via Slovakia after Nord Stream 2 has been constructed. The evolution of the Slovak government's position over the past year is the probable result of these talks. The Slovak authorities have gradually ceased public criticism of the project to build a new gas pipeline via the Baltic Sea. At the same time the Slovak operator, in order to minimize its losses after the implementation of Nord Stream 2, has begun to pursue investments that can be considered as an adaptation to the new directions of gas transfer which will apply after Nord Stream 2 has been completed. At the beginning of 2017, Eustream decided to build a fifth compressor station, which will allow gas transmission from West to East to be increased, and make it easier to redistribute gas from Nord Stream 2 in Central Europe [26].

An important step in creating the perspective of strengthening Slovak-Ukrainian energy cooperation was a letter of intent from Eustream, Ukraine's Naftohaz & Ukrtransgaz, and the Italian operator Snam on their common assessment of opportunities for cooperation in the development and use of the Ukrainian pipeline network, which was signed in April 2017. The letter was a clear signal confirming the Slovak company's interest in cooperating with Ukraine on gas transit. At the same time, it can be read as sounding out what the EU operators' options might be regarding the privatization of the future operator of Ukraine's pipelines.

Slovakia is also playing an increasingly important role in sharing its experiences of reforming the electricity market in Ukraine. Within the framework of the V4 Road Show project, initiated by the Visegrad Group in 2014, Slovakia has organized a number of conferences and training courses designed to share its experiences, primarily in the area of energy efficiency. Since March 2016, Slovakia's energy regulatory authority (URSO) has shared its experience in implementing the Third Energy Package as part of a two-year twinning project with Ukraine. Bratislava has also proposed that, in the context of the cooperation between the European Network of Transmission Systems Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) and Ukraine, it is ready to offer its expertise in synchronizing

Slovakia's network with the European system of electricity transmission networks (UCTE).

2.2. ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA.

Trade with Ukraine generates only 0.6% of Slovakia's trade (according to Slovak data from 2016). This figure is overshadowed by Slovakia's trade with Russia, which itself is far from substantial; at €4 billion, it represents only 3% of Slovakia's total trade turnover. At the political level, attempts are admittedly being made to revive Slovak-Ukrainian economic cooperation, although these remain sporadic. In 2015, the countries' economy ministers discussed resuming the work of the Slovak-Ukrainian intergovernmental commission for economic, industrial and scientific & technical cooperation, the last meeting of which took place in 2015. However, no date for a new meeting has so far been announced.

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Yet, the prospects for the development of strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia are often underestimated, as there is enormous potential for increasing and

deepening bilateral trade, cooperation in the areas of energy, regional security and cross-border cooperation. Moreover, a bilateral mechanism for the protection of minority rights can serve as a model for solving this problem with other countries.

The paper analyzed data of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine on individual goods and services (in terms of imports and exports) between Ukraine and Slovakia for 2014-2018, analyzed the efficiency of cross-border trade and changes that occurred by years in terms of individual product groups (tables 2.1 and 2.2).

Table 2.2.

Volume of imports of Ukraine-Slovakia by section of the heading according to UKTZED codes (In thousands USD)

Code	Name of goods	Import of goods for the period				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
2519	Natural magnesium carbonate; magnesium	32081	27848	16884	18975	22150
2521	Flux limestone, limestone and other limestone stone	5	7231	4794	10177	12771
2711	Gas and oil	2247	64465	181861	2082783	2012795
3004	medicines dispensed or packaged for retail sale	20445	7151	9924	12961	10902
3902	Polymers of propylene or other olefins	19157	17955	14881	16415	17801
4010	Conveyor belts or drive belts, vulcanized rubber belting	5197	2201	3573	3384	10398
4802	Paper and cardboard; manual casting paper	21088	18020	21769	23629	20677
7210	Flat carbon steel 600 mm wide or larger, clad, plated or otherwise coated	57034	38982	39435	40673	43340
8703	Passenger cars and other motor vehicles intended primarily for the carriage of persons	55250	52056	111179	93410	105135
	Total	212504	253929	404300	2302407	2255969
	Total Import	427381	411182	612763	2536072	2514731

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

As can be seen from Table 6, the main goods that Ukraine imported from Slovakia are natural gas, as well as cars, with the volume of natural gas imports in 2018 having increased by 895 times compared to 2014. This is explained by the fact that Ukraine has refused direct supplies of natural gas from the Russian Federation. For other product groups, the main items of import were finished products

Table 2.2

Volume of Exports of Ukraine-Slovakia by section of the heading according to UKTZED codes (In thousands USD)

Code	Name of goods	Export of goods for the period				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
207	Meat and edible offal of poultry	3	61	953	16111	59947
2601	Iron ores and concentrates	268217	140465	159705	312195	332934
2901	Acyclic hydrocarbons	0	0	0	12466	70316
7202	Ferroalloys	18167	14112	11903	13380	13288
7601	Raw aluminum	10134	14112	5629	7450	12607
8418	Refrigerators, freezers; heat pumps	9672	5348	7736	9593	13324
8544	Insulated wires, cables and other insulated electrical conductors; fiber optic cables	70466	71465	72716	78682	146004
	Total	376659	245563	258652	449 877	648 420
	Total Import	671398	469036	471367	656001	863913

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

According to Table 7, the main commodities that Ukraine exported to Slovakia in 2018 were iron ore, meat products and insulated wires and cables. At the same time, thanks to agreements on trade with the European Union, exports by year by major commodity groups grew at a significant rate, in particular, meat production increased exports annually from 4 to 20 times.

Also, as we could see the main part of Ukraine's import is gas and it have a part more than 80% (Fig. 2.1).

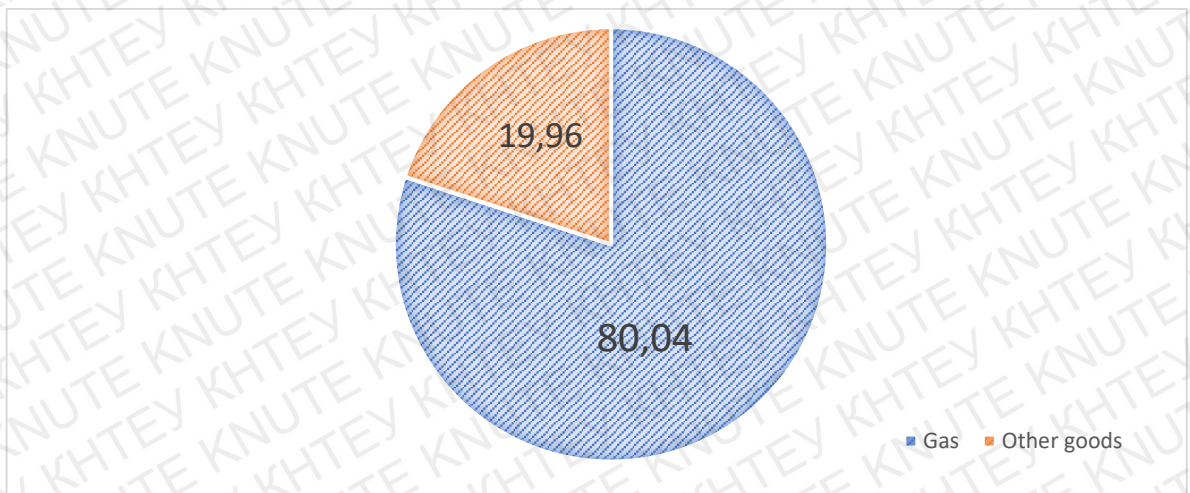


Figure 2.1 Import (%) 2018

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

Slovakian-Ukrainian relations may be best described by words “pragmatism” and “balance”. Unlike the situation with other western neighbors of Ukraine, relations with Slovakia are not burdened by historical and ideological speculations. At the same time, the partnership between the two countries is driven by complementary interests, first and foremost, in the security and energy spheres.

Both Slovakia and Ukraine are young States, and both emerged in the result of geopolitical shifts in Europe following the end of the Cold War. Both states spent the early years of independence in attempts to build effective States institutions, introduce economic and political reforms, and define major vectors of their foreign policies. For Slovakia, the center of gravity lied westward, with Vienna being mere 55 km away, and Prague of only 291 km distance, whereas Kyiv was more than thousand km eastward.

Most part of Slovakian population does not support occupation of the Crimea by Russia and other aggressive Russian steps in Ukraine. The issue has become a cornerstone during Slovakian presidency in the EU in 2016. Sometimes unwillingly Bratislava had to deal with political and security areas, rather than economic, when it came to Ukraine. Improving Ukraine’s state capacity and ensuring the conflict in the east of the country does not last too long have become priorities of the Slovak regional security policy.

An important step in creating the perspective of strengthening SlovakUkrainian energy cooperation was a letter of intent from Eustream, Ukraine’s Naftohaz & Ukrtransgaz, and the Italian operator Snam on their common assessment of opportunities

for cooperation in the development and use of the Ukrainian pipeline network, which was signed in April 2017. The letter was a clear signal confirming the Slovak company's interest in cooperating with Ukraine on gas transit. At the same time, it can be read as sounding out what the EU operators' options might be regarding the privatization of the future operator of Ukraine's pipelines.

Conclusions to Part 2

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Most part of Slovakian population does not support occupation of the Crimea by Russia and other aggressive Russian steps in Ukraine. The issue has become a cornerstone during Slovakian presidency in the EU in 2016. Sometimes unwillingly Bratislava had to deal with political and security areas, rather than economic, when it came to Ukraine. Improving Ukraine's state capacity and ensuring the conflict in the east of the country does not last too long have become priorities of the Slovak regional security policy.

Yet, the prospects for the development of strategic partnership between Ukraine and Slovakia are often underestimated, as there is enormous potential for increasing and deepening bilateral trade, cooperation in the areas of energy, regional security and cross-border cooperation. Moreover, a bilateral mechanism for the protection of minority rights can serve as a model for solving this problem with other countries.

PART 3. WAYS TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA IN THE FIELD OF TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

3.1. PRIORITY AREAS FOR STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA IN THE FIELD OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The issue of the prospects of foreign trade relations between Slovakia and Ukraine is affected by the current changes in the EU trade policy towards Ukraine. It is very demanding in terms of the ongoing conflict situation in eastern Ukraine. Therefore, Ukraine's trade relations with Slovakia do not develop at a favorable pace. The issue of integration processes of Ukraine into the EU is on the table but from the perspective of mutual foreign trade relations with Ukraine and due to the conflict situation in Ukraine, it is very unfavorable.

The most important event in strengthening the foreign direct investments is the ratification of the political part of the Association Agreement between the European Parliament and the Highest Council of Ukraine, which took place on June the 27th and September 16th, 2014. The economic part of the Association Agreement started to apply partially from January 1st, 2016, through a deepened and comprehensive free trade agreement (hereinafter, DCFTA), not ratified the Netherlands. Based on this Agreement, the Slovak business environment has expressed the interest in strengthening cooperation with Ukraine. This cooperation should interfere in trade, economic and investment areas. It is believed that in the above-mentioned areas, the turnover will increase by more than 12.5 % and in the area of Slovak investments by more than 47 %. This establishment of a free trade zone based on the DCFTA and the EU appears to be the prospect of strengthening the Ukrainian-Slovak investment cooperation. [16]

Through the SWOT analysis, the strengths and weaknesses can be expressed, as well as the opportunities and risks of development of mutual business cooperation,

through which the attention to the assessment of potential prospects of foreign trade relations of Slovakia and Ukraine can be drawn.

The strengths:

- Long-term export tradition, knowledge of the Ukrainian market;
- Good image of Slovakia and knowledge of Slovak products among Ukrainian consumers;
- Profile of the Slovak economy, corresponding with the needs of the Ukrainian market;
- Competitive goods with a favorable ratio between price and quality;
- A combination of export with higher forms of cooperation, including the production and technology; establishment of joint companies;
- As neighboring countries, we are also a bridge between the Ukraine and the EU.

The weaknesses:

- Insufficient capital of Slovak companies;
- Lack of knowledge about the possibilities of the Ukrainian market;
- The minimum effort of Slovak companies to form associations concerned with penetration to the Ukrainian market, with a focus on Ukrainian regions;
- The persistent prejudices about the situation on the market, as well as about the negative business experience.

Opportunities:

- Continuous unsaturation of the market and related dynamics of imports;
- Considerable growth potential in Ukraine, starting the process of structural reforms;
- Active promotion of European integration, harmonized with EU regulations;
- Ukraine's membership in the WTO;
- Modernization of outdated production facilities, the introduction of new technologies in virtually all sectors of the national economy (energy, mineral mining, metallurgy, metal production, heavy engineering, chemical industry, agriculture, and food production);
- Improvement of the solvency of Ukrainian partners;

- The gradual development of transport and telecommunication`s infrastructure;
- Efforts in the development of renewable energy sources, in improving energy effectiveness and in a reduction of energy consumption.

Risks:

- High level of corruption;
- Uncertainty, related to political development and the ability to ensure the stability of the business;
- State intervention in the economy, promoting the interests of monopolistic structures linked to the government garniture;
- Unresolved privatization of enterprises;
- Differences between the cities, towns, and villages in Ukraine;
- Low diversification of the economy;
- Insufficient protection of intellectual property rights;
- Low capital background of the banking sector;
- High level of bureaucracy, import barriers, certification;
- Imperfect executive legislation and the associated poor law enforcement.

Based on the development of foreign trade relations between the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, the globalization processes taking place in Ukraine, the analysis of foreign trade and the SWOT analysis of the prospects of mutual foreign trade relations affected by global changes, proceeding in the global economy, the following conclusions can be formulated: The Ukrainian market is still under-saturated and a level of bureaucracy is still high. The current government is trying to remove administrative barriers and facilitate the functioning of government management. The business environment in Ukraine is very specific and is characterized by the following features: the legislation just slowly adapts to the standard international conditions. Furthermore, there are still large gaps in the legislation, a high degree of corruption, a supply is prevailing over demand, as well as a frequent failure to comply with negotiated contracts is present. What is more, there is a low purchasing power, low-represented and low middle-class population, as are the problems with VAT refund from the state.

When looking at the bilateral foreign development of Ukraine and the Slovak republic, so we see that already for several years shows a negative balance of foreign trade. This development is due to the economy of Ukraine, which is engaged in the production and subsequent export of goods, which generates high added value, but, on the contrary, using outdated technologies and production equipment focuses on the production of goods with low added value. In mutual foreign trade relations between Slovakia and Ukraine are marked an increase in export and import, there was a sense in the years 2009 – 2011. After the year 2011, we are seeing a slight decrease, which can be attributed to a war conflict situation in the east of Ukraine. Of the second side, corruption and excessive bureaucracy are still present in Ukraine, which is reflected in the business sector, whether on-site or at clearance and certification, thus curbing the favorable development of business cooperation. Based on these facts, there is little likelihood of the negative foreign balance to a positive value.

This trend negatively affects the overall macroeconomic situation in Ukraine, which indicates the deteriorating economic situation in Ukraine. The size of the economic decline shows that the economy of Ukraine remains in a difficult situation. On the one hand, this situation also reacts to the export-oriented industries, because the prices of production of raw materials are high due to the adverse developments in the foreign exchange market. On the other hand, there are promising areas of trade and investment cooperation that suitably consider the needs of the Ukrainian economy. This is particularly the energy sector through a reconstruction of the power system of Ukraine, increasing energy effectiveness.

Very significant potential prospects of cooperation between Ukraine and Slovakia present not only the possibility of using alternative energy sources but also the development of agricultural and food sector infrastructure, which is the key factor in the processing of agricultural production in the field of ecology, engineering, metallurgy, chemical industry, and tourism. Within a range of the current EU trade policy towards Ukraine, there are opportunities for the development of foreign trade cooperation between Slovakia and Ukraine through the modernization of the production base, the introduction

of new technologies in housing and municipal services and modernization of heat and water distribution. [13]

Other possibilities of cooperation can be established via securing the energy conservation, recycling, and development of transport infrastructure. A prospective area of foreign cooperation in the construction and reconstruction of roads, airports, reservoirs, seaports, development of engineering, manufacture of equipment for metallurgy and agriculture, and specific foodstuffs. A very important area of mutual cooperation is the development of tourism and services, agricultural development, the introduction of renewable energy sources, as well as increasing energy effectiveness and reducing energy consumption.

Based on the evolving EU trade policy towards Ukraine, the foreign trade relations between Slovakia and Ukraine are expected to develop a more positive pace. The priority of the Slovak Republic is to develop bilateral trade relations with Ukraine and thus to improve trading cooperation with Ukraine. From January, 1st, 2016, Slovakia uses a special trade regime resulting from the economic part of the Association Agreement. Based on this scheme, positive financial results in the area of mutual foreign trade are expected.

3.2. PROGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED MEASURES IN BILATERAL CROSS-BORDER RELATIONS

Free from historical burdens and troublesome issues, our relations haven't yet become systematic, remaining a tale of underestimated opportunities. Despite the different political colors of the Slovak governments, Slovakia is interested in cooperation with Ukraine and its European integration.

According to the Slovak interlocutors, there is a feeling that their country is perceived by the Ukrainian political elite as a small neighbor, unable to provide sufficient assistance to Ukraine. Moreover, it is incomprehensible that the former President of Ukraine has never visited Bratislava with a full-fledged visit, as meetings at international

venues are not an equivalent substitute. The Slovaks note that many in Kyiv still think that “if they manage to make arrangements with Brussels, Berlin, or Warsaw, Bratislava will support it.”

Ukraine and Slovakia remain “terra incognita” for each other, perhaps due to the lack of interest. However, Slovaks have always been sympathetic to the ideas of Pan-Slavism. Pan-Slavism was first formulated by Czech and Slovak intellectuals in the mid-nineteenth century. This ideology reflected the desire to unite all Slavic peoples. Russia, in its turn, had been perceived by Slovak nationalists as the only ally to become the defender of the Slavs.

The events of 1968 also did not have such a negative impact on the Slovaks as on the Czechs, given that after the suppression of the Prague Spring, Slovak nationalists had been appointed to important government positions. For example, Gustáv Husák, a leading figure in the Slovak national uprising in 1944-1945, had become Secretary-General of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in 1968. Furthermore, the Communist regime contributed to the modernization of the Slovak economy. In 1960-1970, it underwent forceful industrialization, which created new jobs and significantly improved the living conditions of the Slovaks. [8]

It is unlikely that one can find a negative experience of relations with Russia in the history of Slovakia. This is what makes Slovakia’s “post-Communist” perception of Russia unique in the Central European region. According to the Globsec poll, conducted in 2018, 41% of the Slovaks supported Putin’s policy, while 49% disagreed with Poroshenko’s policy. One-third of the respondents did not believe that the conflict in the East of Ukraine was ongoing due to the presence of Russian troops. This year’s poll showed that 46% of Slovaks see their country as a bridge between the East and the West, while 10% chose the East as a priority. Among the Slovaks, there is also the strongest tendency towards conspiracy theories in Central Europe and strong anti-American sentiment (41% consider the United States the enemy).

Having analyzed the basic data on the export-import of goods Ukraine-Slovakia for 2014-2018, we can conclude that the growth of trade between these countries will continue in the future. As can be seen from Figures 3.1 and 3.2, the average growth rate

of trade between Ukraine and Slovakia, given that currently the major part of imports is natural gas), may amount to about 17 percent.

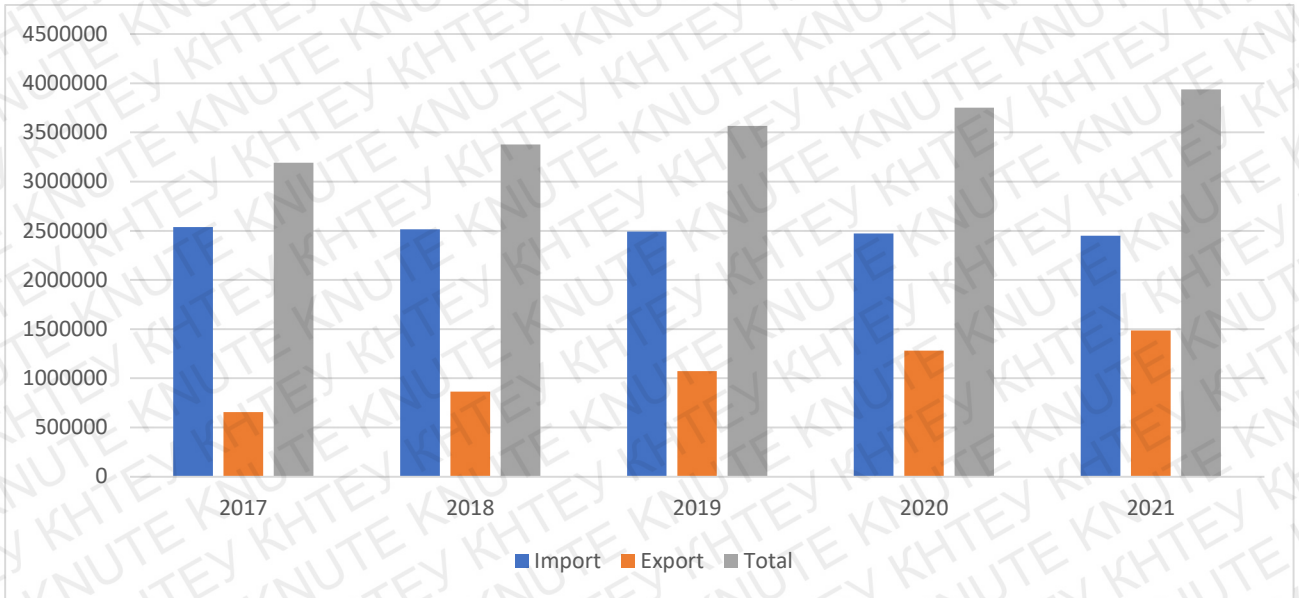


Figure 3.1 Expected trade growth in 2019-2021 (In thousands USD)

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

In general, Slovakia is following a common course across the European community. Former President Andrej Kiska has openly condemned Russian aggression against Ukraine, supported the anti-Russian sanctions and Ukraine’s European aspirations.

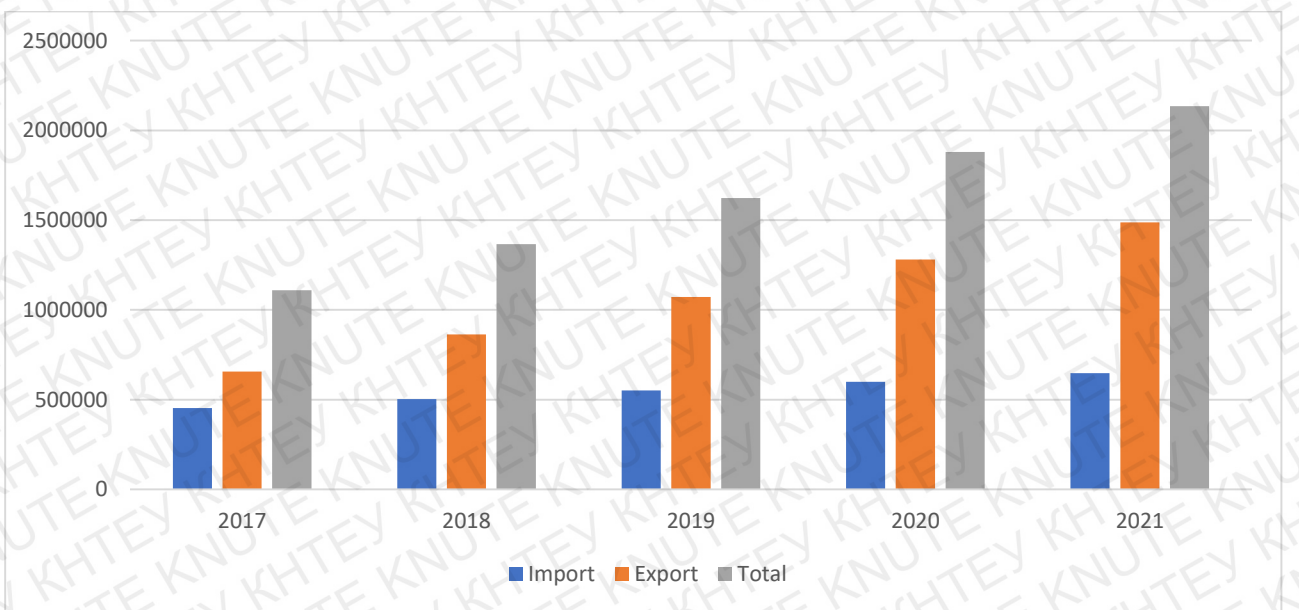


Figure 3.2 Expected trade growth in 2019-2021 without gas (In thousands USD)

Source: State Statistics Service of Ukraine.

The current Slovak president, Zuzana Čaputová, shares his position: “I will continue supporting Ukraine,” she said in an interview during her visit to Brussels. “Each country has the right to decide independently to where it wants to belong.” Zuzana Čaputová’s official visit to Ukraine during the first 100 days of her presidency is a vivid example of Ukraine’s importance as a partner. It could set the tone for the Slovak discourse on Ukraine. The Slovak Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs also has a legacy of issues around Ukraine. Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajčák notes that Ukraine is not a temporary concern for Slovakia; on the contrary, Slovakia is interested in Ukraine remaining on the European agenda.

Former Prime Minister Robert Fico (leader of the left-wing party Smer-SD), known for his statements on the counter-productive nature of anti-Russian sanctions and flirting with the Kremlin, has a different approach to Russia. However, his Government agreed to all restrictive measures against Russia approved by the EU and implemented reverse natural gas supply to Ukraine, despite the probability of Fico’s disappearance from Russia’s friendship list after such a move). The current Prime Minister, Peter Pellegrini (a member of the Smer-SD party), who, according to the Slovak interlocutors, holds the post only nominally, has not shown himself in the context of the policy toward Ukraine: he is simply silent about it. The contradictions in the rhetoric of politicians and their actions are quite simple to explain: politicians usually make statements that their constituents would like to hear. The average Slovaks perceive Russia mostly favorably. Moreover, no matter how pro-Russian, in critical moments provoked by Russia’s destructive policies, Western partners provided maximum support to Bratislava (for instance, during the 2009 natural gas crisis). [28]

For a part of the Slovak political circles, the Russian prism of perception of Ukraine is quite close. Russian narrative about the war in Donbas, as well as the established opinion of Ukraine as a “failed state” states,

Stemming from the situation described above, the following set of practical recommendations is suggested for consideration:

- Organizing of a visit of the President of Ukraine to Slovakia. Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s visit to Bratislava would demonstrate how Ukraine values Slovakia’s support

in various areas. Currently, in Slovakia, attention is drawn to the imbalance of visits: the Slovak top-level officials have been much more likely to visit Ukraine than their Ukrainian counterparts have been to visit Slovakia.

- Enhancing the dialogue with Slovak “friends of Ukraine”. Investing in communication at the level of experts, opinion leaders, and media in Slovakia is vital. There are not enough experts in the country who know about the internal situation in Ukraine and are able to provide competent comments. Ukraine is most often associated with war, corruption, and Crimea. Expert and journalist visits (such as study tours), joint think tank projects, and academic exchanges are critically important.
- Establishing an intensive inter-parliamentary partnership. The Slovak direction of bilateral interparliamentary cooperation should be the responsibility of MPs who understand the Slovak specificity or at least have an idea of cooperation in Central Europe. Following the parliamentary elections in Slovakia in February 2020, the composition of the National Council is likely to be substantially renewed, and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has also changed its composition. The exchange of visits by “friendship groups” of the two countries would be a good start for establishing contacts, and Ukraine could take the initiative in this sense.
- Focusing on Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border cooperation. Consider establishing a joint fund for Transcarpathia and Prešov or Košice self-governing regions to select and fund joint projects on an ongoing basis. This issue could be discussed during a meeting of the Ukrainian-Slovak Intergovernmental Commission on Cross-border Cooperation.
- Implement the integrated border management and increase the capacity of border crossing points between Ukraine and Slovakia. This would help solve the problem of long lines at the border.
- Maintaining active communication with the Ukrainians of Slovakia, who is becoming a significant part of the Slovak society. It is about both Ukrainians living in the country for a long time and those who have just arrived: students or migrant workers (their number is steadily increasing). The more the Slovaks know about Ukraine, the more opportunities there will be to counteract the Kremlin’s anti-Ukrainian activities, and the

further we will depart from the image of Ukraine as a “terra incognita” in the minds of Slovaks.

- Cooperating more actively with Slovak counterparts on energy security in the region. It would be expedient to set up a “hotline” at the corporate and ministerial levels starting from January 1, 2020, to avoid a communication gap. Continue the exchange of experience between Slovakia and Ukraine in the field of energy sector reforms. Slovakia is able to share with Ukraine its experience of adapting national legislation to the EU energy policy, energy audit, energy conservation, biomass utilization and more.
- Completing to unbundle and involve European partners, in particular, Slovak Eustream, in the management of the GTS of Ukraine. The Slovak company is interested in participating in a full-fledged consortium after the establishment of an independent GTS operator of Ukraine.
- Having a clear strategy with deadlines and tasks for connecting to the ENTSO-E pan-European energy system. The important steps during the implementation of this strategy will be the reconstruction of transmission lines and the reinforcement of shared grids in accordance with ENTSO-E safety standards.
- Improving the mechanism of informing Ukrainian manufacturers about the procedure required to enter the Slovak market and other technical details. This could be facilitated by coordinated work at all levels: Council of Exporters and Investors at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chambers of Commerce, FEA Offices at the regional state administrations, etc., which would allow avoiding duplication of functions. A joint organization of a start-up fair or a “MadeinUkraine” exhibition to increase and diversify Ukrainian exports could be one of the interesting activities; it is also important to continue organizing Slovak businessmen’s missions to Ukraine and holding joint business forums.

In Section 3, the emphasis was made on the importance for both countries to use rationally the existing potential for cooperation in order to strengthen their strategic partnership. Balancing – is what perhaps both States have often been demonstrating in their bilateral relations. Ukraine today is trying to balance off Russian influence, tackling tensions with its other Western neighbors, which also are Slovakia’s partners in the V4 Group.

In turn, Slovakia attempts to find a balanced approach to deny Russia's revisionist policy, assist Ukraine, preserve regional security, and enhance its own interests. The way the reverse gas supplies had been arranged to Ukraine from Slovakia – a step considered to be decisive for bilateral relations by most Ukrainian experts – could serve as a good example of implementing a policy of balancing.

In 2014 Slovakia, started to supply EU natural gas through Vojany-Uzhgorod pipeline, whose maximum potential raised to some 44 million cubic meters a day. This made it possible to cover about 20% of Ukraine's consumption. This deal played and continues to play a critical role in and remains an important factor of Ukraine's energy security.

Relations between Slovakia and Ukraine resemble strategic partnership: parties' interests and positions often coincide or complement each other. They also have huge potential for development of bilateral trade. As a proof of this, the growth of commodity turnover between the two countries amounted to 36% in the first half of the current year.

The two countries have similar vision of regional challenges and a close perception of threats. Russian factor still plays an important role in their bilateral relations and may provide additional bridges for cooperation.

The two countries may cooperate in the area of the energy security, especially within the context of the Nord Stream-2 pipeline. Similar positions towards this project may bring the parties closer to a joint vision of how the energy security in the region may be enhanced.

Regional security initiatives, such as the Three Seas Initiative, also provide additional potential for further political cooperation, while bilateral mechanisms for protecting rights of minorities may serve as a model for dealing with the issue.

Conclusions to Part 3

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CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of this research, it is possible to conclude that taking advantage of the cross-border Ukrainian-Slovak cooperation could become a significant factor in strengthening the Ukraine's competitiveness in the post-crisis stage of economic development and limited public funding of programs required to balance regional disparities in socio-economic development. The processes of intensifying cooperation are complementary, and therefore the experience of interregional cooperation can be successfully used to enhance the effectiveness of the cross-border cooperation and to strengthen Ukraine's competitiveness.

Experience of Slovakia in conducting internal reforms aimed at European integration and economic development can serve as an example for Ukraine. To improve the efficiency of bilateral relations the following steps should be taken.

In the political sphere:

- i. Establish and maintain balanced relations through regular consultations at all political levels, especially given the fact that the basic tools are already created. Ukraine should use the existing tools promptly and to the best extent possible in the context of its European integration strategy, particularly through the Visegrad Group and the Eastern Partnership policy;
- ii. Strengthen the bilateral dialogue for further liberalization of the visa regime between Ukraine and the EU. The local border traffic should be resumed;
- iii. Use regional cooperation in order to ensure the supply of natural gas and initiate the development of unified approaches to prevent energy crises;
- iv. Strengthen interregional and cross-border relations, especially to support active cooperation of the western regions of Ukraine in the framework of the Carpathian Euroregion; to provide state support for the development of regional infrastructure of economic and foreign trade activities; together with Slovakia to work out a concept for the development of border areas with the EU funding.

In the economic sphere:

1. Search for new opportunities for deepening investment and industrial cooperation. To identify common trade interests of Slovakia and Ukraine in the framework of the Agreement on a free trade zone between the EU and Ukraine;
2. Promote solving the Kryvyi Rih oxidized ore dressing plant issue;
3. Create conditions for the development of cooperation in the field of engineering (supply of energy, oil and gas and chemical equipment); in the automotive industry (the cooperation of Ukrainian and Slovak enterprises on the production of spare parts for autos in case of a shortage of production resources in Slovakia; the inclusion of Ukrainian enterprises into logistics solutions of automotive companies); in the field of aircraft manufacturing (delivery, repair and modernization of aircrafts, aviation engines and other aviation equipment); in metallurgy (replacement of the exports of Ukrainian steel products and raw materials by the exports of metal, semi-finished and finished products); in the furniture and wood industry; in the field of agriculture (trade of agricultural products and foodstuffs, the production and supply of biofuels);
4. Facilitate the additional permissions to perform transit and bilateral traffic between Ukraine and Slovakia according to the needs of each party; to increase capacities of border crossing points for truck traffic; to create conditions for container traffic development; to improve rail freight traffic through the border crossing point in Matevtse; and to advance transportation by means of logistics centres development, which would provide a wide range of services.

In the energy sector:

1. Reliability of the transit of gas and oil should be ensured. Thus, it is necessary to use it in direct and reverse modes, as well as to use the opportunity to store natural gas for the EU consumers in the Ukrainian underground storage tanks;
2. Implementation of the Euro-Asian Oil Transportation Corridor (EAOTC) project and the development of the Southern Energy Corridor initiative may contribute to ensuring the accession of Ukraine to the ENTSO-E, establishing of cooperation in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy and alternative fuels (particularly,

biomass), as well as to exchanging information and experience on energy efficiency of industries, housing and communal services.

In the field of environmental protection, it is necessary to strengthen cooperation on prevention of flooding and to maintain initiatives to promptly warn the people residing in both Ukraine and Slovakia about a threat. Thus, the effective mechanism for counteracting natural disasters should be created. The exchange of Slovak experience in building anti-flood constructions is also useful for the mountainous regions of Ukraine.

In the humanitarian sphere, it is necessary to develop a state program on assistance to Ukrainian diaspora in Slovakia, which should provide for information and educational activities about Ukraine. Partially, the resources to fund the program objectives could be obtained within the People to People Contacts Platform in the framework of the Eastern Partnership policy.

To achieve these goals, the following set of priority actions is suggestion as a road map for consideration by policymakers and key stakeholders of Ukraine:

- Summarize theoretical provisions for the essential characteristics of the cross-border co-operation and its impact on the socio-economic development of cross-border regions;
- Systematize the existing theoretical and methodological approaches to the interpretation of socio-economic efficiency of the cross-border cooperation and its evaluation;
- Investigate the legal framework, organizational support, and state of implementation of the cross-border cooperation in the EU Member States and in Ukraine at the current stage of European integration:
- Identify the main trends and features of ensuring socio-economic efficiency of the cross-border cooperation in the Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border regions;
- Offer conceptual bases of the model of assessment and to carry out econometric analysis of basic indicators of socio-economic development in the Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border regions;

- Substantiate the priority organizational and institutional mechanisms to enhance the socio-economic efficiency of cross-border cooperation in the regions of Ukraine;
- Propose basic directions of formation of the cross-border clusters and industrial parks in the cross-border regions;
- Develop systematic measures to improve information support for the cross-border cooperation in the regions of Ukraine.
- Consider applying the positive factors of the cross-border Ukrainian-Slovak cooperation to other cross-border regions of Ukraine.

Ukraine has benefited from the Slovak experience in the field of local self-government in terms of creating an effective model of financial interaction between the center and the regions. Integrated border management should be implemented between Ukraine and Slovakia. A long-awaited task is to increase the capacity of the Ukrainian-Slovak border crossing points and to introduce joint customs control.

Within the framework of the general information campaign of Ukraine in the world, a campaign should be developed, focused specifically on the Slovak audience. Tools such as the traditional Annual Days of Ukraine in Slovakia (in Kosice), Neighborhood Days in Border Regions, the recently launched Slovak-Ukrainian Business Forum and others should be used more effectively.

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The information request from State Statistics Service of Ukraine



ДЕРЖАВНА СЛУЖБА СТАТИСТИКИ УКРАЇНИ (Держстат)

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Від _____ № _____ На № вх.ЗП/П-1347-19 Від _____ 04.11.2019

Володимиру Поканевичу

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Міністерство розвитку економіки,
торгівлі та сільського господарства

На Ваш запит, що надійшов 03.11.2019, надаємо в електронному форматі наявну статистичну інформацію щодо зовнішньої торгівлі товарами між Україною та Словаччиною за 2018 рік.

Одночасно інформуємо, що дані з експорту-імпорту товарів оприлюднюються на офіційному вебсайті Держстату (www.ukrstat.gov.ua) в розділі "Статистична інформація"/"Економічна статистика"/"Зовнішньоекономічна діяльність"/"Країни за товарною структурою зовнішньої торгівлі".

Крім того, повідомляємо, що органи державної статистики не є розпорядниками інформації щодо торговельних обмежень між країнами та програм торговельного співробітництва. Відповідно до пункту 3 статті 22 Закону України "Про доступ до публічної інформації" запит направлено для розгляду за належністю та надання відповіді запитувачу в межах повноважень до Мінекономіки.

Додатки: 1. Файл "Словаччина.xls" на першу адресу.
2. Файл "запит.pdf" на другу адресу.

Директор департаменту
поширення інформації та комунікацій

Олена ВИШНЕВСЬКА

Андрій Жадан 287 51 11

арк.1

Держстат
15.1.3-22/1303Пі-19 від
08.11.2019



11:24:01

The information request from State Fiscal Service of Ukraine



ДЕРЖАВНА ФІСКАЛЬНА СЛУЖБА УКРАЇНИ (ДФС)

Львівська пл., 8, м. Київ-53, МСП 04053, тел.: (044) 272-51-59, факс: (044) 272-08-41
www.sfs.gov.ua; e-mail: kabmin_doc@sfs.gov.ua, gromada@sfs.gov.ua Код ЄДРПОУ 39292197

04. 11. 2019 № 1371/99-99-07-14 На № від 03. 11. 2019

Володимиру Поканевичу
vpokanievych@gmail.com

Державна фіскальна служба України розглянула запит на отримання публічної інформації від 03.11.2019 (вх. ДФС № 2152/ЗПІ від 04.11.2019) про надання інформації щодо обсягів імпорту та експорту товарів з/до Словаччини та в межах компетенції повідомляє.

Статтями 6 та 19 Конституції України передбачено, що органи законодавчої, виконавчої та судової влади здійснюють свої владні повноваження у встановлених цією Конституцією межах і відповідно до законів України. Органи державної влади та органи місцевого самоврядування, їх посадові особи діють у межах повноважень та спосіб, визначені Конституцією та законами України.

Відповідно до статті 19 Закону України від 13 січня 2011 року № 2939-VI «Про доступ до публічної інформації» (далі – Закон) запит на інформацію – прохання особи до розпорядника інформації надати публічну інформацію, що знаходиться у його володінні.

Згідно зі статтею 1 Закону публічна інформація – це відображена та задокументована будь-якими засобами та на будь-яких носіях інформація, що була отримана або створена в процесі виконання суб'єктами владних повноважень своїх обов'язків, передбачених чинним законодавством, або яка знаходиться у володінні суб'єктів владних повноважень, інших розпорядників публічної інформації, визначених цим Законом.

Отже, задоволення запиту не вимагає створення нової інформації та не потребує проведення аналітичної роботи.

Крім того, як зазначено у постанові Пленуму Вищого адміністративного суду України від 29.09.2016 № 10, визначальним для публічної інформації є те, що вона заздалегідь зафіксована будь-якими засобами та на будь-яких носіях та знаходилась у володінні суб'єктів владних повноважень, інших розпорядників публічної інформації.

К
Державна фіскальна служба України
2030/ЗПІ/99-99-07-14 від 07.11.2019



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Згідно з наказом ДФС від 26.06.2018 № 405 «Про забезпечення підготовки та регулярного оприлюднення даних митної статистики зовнішньої торгівлі» надання фізичним та юридичним особам відкритих даних митної статистики зовнішньої торгівлі України здійснюється за запитом на умовах визначених Законами України «Про доступ до публічної інформації», «Про інформацію» та «Про державну статистику». Підготовка інформації здійснюється за затвердженими цим наказом формами відкритих даних (на рівні товарних позицій згідно з УКТ ЗЕД) за допомогою програмно-інформаційних комплексів Єдиної автоматизованої інформаційної системи відповідно до Алгоритму формування даних митної статистики зовнішньої торгівлі України, затвердженого наказом ДФС від 30.11.2015 № 952.

Враховуючи вище викладене, надаємо наявну у розумінні статті 1 Закону статистичну інформацію щодо обсягів імпорту та експорту товарів в розрізі товарних позицій згідно з УКТ ЗЕД з/до Словацької Республіки у 2013-2018 роках.

Додатково повідомляємо, що інформація про обсяг імпорту та експорту товарів у розрізі товарних позицій за кодами УКТ ЗЕД щомісячно та в розрізі країн щорічно розміщується на вебпорталі ДФС за адресою: <http://sfs.gov.ua> у розділі «Митна статистика».

Щодо наявності заборон та обмежень у торгівлі між Словацькою Республікою та Україною, у межах компетенції повідомляємо про таке.

На сьогодні згідно з інформацією Всесвітньої організації охорони здоров'я тварин на території Словацької Республіки зареєстровано випадки тварин захворювання на скріпень овець, високопатогенний грип птиці та африканську чуму свиней. У зв'язку з цим Головним державним ветеринарним інспектором України встановлено заборони щодо ввезення в Україну із Словацької Республіки сприятливих до зазначених хвороб тварин, продукції та сировини з них.

Щодо існування програм транскордонного співробітництва між Україною і Словацькою Республікою надаємо наявну інформацію щодо нормативних документів з питань вказаного транскордонного, співробітництва, а саме:

Угода про асоціацію між Україною, з однієї сторони, та Європейським Союзом, Європейським співтовариством з атомної енергії і їхніми державами-членами, з іншої сторони (глава 27 Транскордонне та регіональне співробітництво) та Протокол про взаємну адміністративну допомогу в митних справах (невід'ємна частина Угоди);

Угода між Україною і Словацької Республікою про співробітництво і взаємодопомогу в галузі митної справи;

Державна програма розвитку транскордонного співробітництва на 2016 - 2020 роки, затверджена постановою Кабінету Міністрів України від 23.08.2016 № 554, яка визначає пріоритетами транскордонного співробітництва із Словацькою Республікою, в тому числі в рамках єврорегіонів, є співпраця у сфері реформування органів місцевого

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самоврядування; забезпечення розвитку туристично-рекреаційного потенціалу прикордонних регіонів; виконання культурно-мистецьких програм; введення спрощеного механізму малого прикордонного руху та розширення території його дії; удосконалення та спрощення механізму малого прикордонного руху, модернізація та реконструкція пунктів пропуску на українсько-словацькому кордоні; мінімізація негативних наслідків впливу виробничої діяльності на соляних рудниках у смт Солотвино Тячівського району Закарпатської області.

Додаток: товари з/до Словаччини_2013_2018.xlsx.

Директор Департаменту моніторингу
доходів та обліково-звітних систем



Микола ЧМЕРУК

Кравчук Ірина 272 49 22