

EU Cross-Border Cooperation Activities and Governance of its Eastern Neighbourhood

to spread information about EU; involve foreign partners in joint actions developing the spirit of cooperation and mutual help.

From the practical point of view, Ukrainian European integration is the realization of certain reforms (namely those coming out of Association Agreement) and euroclubs` activities bring their contribution in the process.

The place where they can exchange their views and ideas on the Internet is the sight (www.euroclubs.org.ua).

***THE ROLE OF CREDIT MOBILITY
FOR CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION***

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The European Union (EU) has always considered continuous advancement of education and training to be of primary importance. Widespread access to quality education and training is a driver of economic growth, social cohesion, research and innovation – and effectively increases prospects for personal development[2]. One of the main priorities in the field of higher education for EU is to support partner countries outside the EU in their efforts to modernise their education and training systems[2]. This is effectively implemented by different means, one of which is credit mobility. Academic cross-border cooperation emerged in the late 1980s boosted by European mobility programmes (such as Erasmus) based on bilateral agreements. A few pioneering universities, supported by their Euro regions, began to collaborate on the basis of regional cross-border networks. However, until the Bologna process (1998), cross-border cooperation was rather limited as to its impacts

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on the structuring of academic cross-border spaces[1]. The Bologna process and the Lisbon strategy opened a new way for a new higher education European context, with a well-developed system of credit mobility as its integral part. Ukraine, as a Partner country, is efficiently participating in various mobility programmes supported by EU. Going abroad to study or to train helps people to develop their professional, social and intercultural skills, broadens their worldview, helps to establish cross-cultural contacts. Mobility experience can also enhance the employability of students. Higher education students who undertake a mobility period abroad are more likely to find employment one year after graduation.[3]. The benefits of mobility are widely recognized not only by students, but by academic staff as well. Teachers, indulged in mobility programmes notice a positive impact on the development of their professional competence and personal development.

References:

1. Giband D, Mary K. Territorial cross-border cooperation in higher education. A case study of the eastern Pyrenean border./D. Giband, K. Mary // Documents d'Anàlisi Geogràfica. – 2018. – Vol. 64/3. – P.587-600.
2. https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en
3. <https://erasmusplus.org.ua/>

**UKRAINE – EUROPEAN UNION RELATIONS:
PRESENT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS**

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