

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

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:

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3. <https://erasmusplus.org.ua/>

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

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The relations between Ukraine and the European Union (EU) began in December 1991. In the Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada (the Parliament of Ukraine), adopted on July 2, 1993, Ukraine declared its European integration aspirations for the first time. Then, there followed the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between Ukraine and the EU (that entered into force on March 1, 1998), Presidential Decrees on the Strategy (June 11, 1998) and the Program for Full Membership in the EU (September 14, 2000). Later, some further steps towards the European integration were made: the establishment of the Cooperation Council and its approval of the EU - Ukraine Action Plan, the beginning of negotiations on the free trade area between Ukraine and the EU (February 18, 2008), reaching the consensus on the Association Agreement (2008–2012), signing the full Association Agreement (June 27, 2014) and the Agreement on the Establishment of Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (January 1, 2016), that partially entered into force on July 8, 2019. Ukraine cooperates in the implementation of the EU “Europe 2020” Strategy” in fields of education and training. In 2014 Ukraine joined the EU Erasmus + program as a partner country, and the network of “Erasmus + Ukraine” programs was established in Kyiv and other regions of the country in autumn. Ukraine-EU Agreement on Ukraine's Participation in the “Creative Europe” Program was signed on November 19, 2015. Ukraine enhances cooperation with the European Union in the implementation of the EU Eastern Partnership initiative. Since September 2015, Ukraine has been a beneficiary of the Eastern Partnership Program, but it still faces a problem of getting the status of the full participant in the “Program country”. The visa-free regime of Ukraine with EU countries was established on June 11, 2017. The governmental system for monitoring the implementation of the Association Agreement with the EU "Pulse Agreement" was created (May 2017). At the 21st EU-Ukraine Summit, five financial agreements and contracts were signed in support of Ukraine (July 2019). The ideas of the Customs Union of Ukraine with the EU countries and speeding up the preparation of the application for Ukraine's accession

to the European Union, as well as the results of the fifth meeting of the EU-Ukraine Association Committee on November 5, 2019 are worth being taken account of.

WORKING ACROSS BORDERS

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Sovereign Ukraine has shown the world the earnest desire to become part of the European community, not only geographically, but also politically and economically. European integration for Ukraine is a way to modernize the economy, overcoming technological backwardness, attracting foreign investments and new technologies, create new jobs, and increase the competitiveness of domestic producers, access to world markets, especially the EU market. As an integral part of Europe, Ukraine focuses on the European model of socio-economic development. As a result great prospects for integration in different spheres has been opened. Since then a new item in the development of Ukrainian cross-border cooperation has been reached, certain barriers were removed and a regional, intercultural competence was established. Cross-border cooperation is considered to be one of the key areas of Ukraine's integration into the European structures, as well as a promising direction of international integration in general [1]

The political advantages of integration of Ukraine into the EU are related to the creation of reliable mechanisms of political stability, democracy and security. Rapprochement with the EU is a guarantee, and the implementation of its requirements - tool building of democratic institutions in Ukraine. The European Union and Ukraine launched negotiations on an Association Agreement in 2007, and