СТОПАНСКА АКАДЕМИЯ „Д. А. ЦЕНОВ“ – СВИЩОВ

КАТЕДРА „СТАТИСТИКА И ПРИЛОЖНА МАТЕМАТИКА“

КРЪГЛА МАСА
С МЕЖДУНАРОДНО УЧАСТИЕ

СТАТИСТИЧЕСКИ ИЗМЕРЕНИЯ НА РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И НЕРАВЕНСТВА МЕЖДУ СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ

Свищов, 16 октомври 2020 г.

Сборник с доклади

Кръглата маса е организирана в изпълнение на научноизследователски проект №13-2020 „Статистически измерения на регионалните различия и неравенства между Северна и Южна България“, финансиран със средства по Наредба на МОН за насърчаване на научно-изследователската дейност

Академично издателство „Ценов“
Свищов
2020

ОРГАНИЗАЦИОНЕН КОМИТЕТ

Доц. д-р Красимира Славева – Ръководител на проекта
Доц. д-р Пламен Петков – Ръководител катедра „Статистика и приложна математика“
Доц. д-р Стела Касабова
Гл. ас. д-р Ваня Ганева

РЕДАКЦИОНЕН СЪВЕТ

Председател:
Проф. д-р Поля Ангелова

Членове:
Доц. д-р Пламен Петков
Доц. д-р Красимира Славева
Доц. д-р Стела Касабова
Доц. д-р Маргарита Шопова
Доц. д-р Екатерина Тошева
Доц. д-р Атанас Атанасов

Публикуваните материали са рецензирани. Авторите носят отговорност за съдържанието на материалите, изразените мнения, използваните данни, цитираните източници и езиковото оформление на текстовете.

ISBN 978-954-23-1892-7

СЪДЪРЖАНИЕ

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И НЕРАВЕНСТВА В БЪЛГАРИЯ

НЕОБХОДИМО ЛИ Е НОВО ТЕРИТОРИАЛНО ДЕЛЕНИЕ НА СТРАНАТА – ЗАЩО, КАК И КОГА?
Борислав Борисов, проф. дн 7

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ НА ПАЗАРА НА ТРУДА, НАСТЪПИЛИ В СЛЕДСТВИЕ ПАНДЕМИЧНАТА КРИЗИСНА ОБСТАНОВКА
Венелин Терзиев, инж., проф., дн 15

ТРАНСПОРТНАТА СВЪРЗАНОСТ И ИНВЕСТИЦИИТЕ ВЪВ ФОКУСА НА ПЛАНОВЕТЕ ЗА ИНТЕГРИРАНО РАЗВИТИЕ НА ОБЩИНИТЕ В РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ (ПО ПРИМЕРА НА БЕЛЕНЕ И ПОРДИМ)
Андрей Захариев, проф. д-р, Стоян Проданов, проф. д-р, Анелия Радулова, доц. д-р, Силвия Заркова, д-р, Борислав Лазаров, докторант 32

ПОЛИТИКИ ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ НА ПЕРИФЕРНИТЕ РАЙОНИ
Маргарита Богданова, проф. д-р 42

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И ТЕНДЕНЦИИ ПРИ ОЦЕНКАТА НА БЕДНОСТТА В БЪЛГАРИЯ
Поля Ангелова, проф. д-р..... 50

ИНТЕГРИРАНОТО ПЛАНИРАНЕ КАТО ИНСТРУМЕНТ ЗА ПРЕОДОЛЯВАНЕ РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ РАЗЛИЧИЯ
Евелина Парашкевова, доц. д-р..... 59

ТЕРИТОРИАЛНОТО УСТРОЙСТВО НА БЪЛГАРИЯ КАТО ФАКТОР ЗА РЕГИОНАЛНОТО РАЗВИТИЕ
Камен Петров, доц. д-р..... 68

РЕГИОНАЛНО ИКОНОМИЧЕСКО РАЗВИТИЕ В БЪЛГАРИЯ – АЛТЕРНАТИВИ МЕЖДУ СЕВЕРА И ЮГА
Камен Петров, доц. д-р, Радослав Костев, докторант..... 77

АНАЛИЗ НА РАЗЛИЧИЯТА В КЛЮЧОВИ ПОКАЗАТЕЛИ ЗА ИКОНОМИЧЕСКОТО РАЗВИТИЕ НА СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ – ТЕНДЕНЦИИ И ПРЕДИЗВИКАТЕЛСТВА
Красимира Славева, доц. д-р..... 85

ЛОГИСТИЧНИТЕ ВЕРИГИ КАТО ИНСТРУМЕНТ ЗА ТЕРИТОРИАЛНА КОХЕЗИЯ
Маруся Линкова, доц. д-р, Елица Лазарова, гл. ас. д-р..... 97

ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА РЕГИОНАЛНАТА ДИФЕРЕНЦИАЦИЯ В БЪЛГАРСКАТА СИСТЕМА НА ВИСШЕТО ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ С КЛЪСТЕРЕН АНАЛИЗ
Пламен Петков, доц. д-р, Елеонора Минева-Димитрова, ас. д-р..... 105

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ В ДОХОДИТЕ И АСОРТИМЕНТНОТО ПОТРЕБЛЕНИЕ НА ДОМАКИНСТВАТА В БЪЛГАРИЯ
Симеонка Петрова, доц. д-р..... 115

БИЗНЕС СРЕДАТА КАТО ФАКТОР ЗА РЕГИОНАЛНО РАЗВИТИЕ
Стела Касабова, доц. д-р..... 122

ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИ ЗА НАМАЛЯВАНЕ НА РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ ДИСБАЛАНСИ ЧРЕЗ ПРОМЕНИ В АДМИНИСТРАТИВНО-ТЕРИТОРИАЛНОТО ДЕЛЕНИЕ НА СТРАНАТА
Тихомир Личев, доц. д-р, Катя Личева, доц. д-р..... 130

ПРОФЕСИОНАЛНОТО ОБУЧЕНИЕ – КЛЮЧОВ ФАКТОР ЗА ПРЕОДОЛЯВАНЕ НА РАЗЛИЧИЯТА МЕЖДУ СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ
Христо Сирашки, доц. д-р..... 138

ПАРТНЬОРСТВО В УПРАВЛЕНИЕТО НА РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ ДИСБАЛАНСИ
Десислава Алексиева, гл. ас. д-р..... 146

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И НЕРАВЕНСТВА В МАЛКИТЕ ОБЩИНИ В РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ: ТЕНДЕНЦИИ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ
Методи Иванов, гл. ас. д-р 153

РЕГИОНАЛНИ АСПЕКТИ И ИЗМЕРЕНИЯ НА СОЦИАЛНО-ИКОНОМИЧЕСКАТА ДЕЙНОСТ НА БПЦ
Петкан Илиев, гл. ас, д-р..... 161

СОЦИАЛНО-ИКОНОМИЧЕСКИЯ МЕГАПОЛИС В ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ СРЕЩУ ОАЗИСИТЕ В СЕВЕРНА БЪЛГАРИЯ
Петя Василева, гл. ас. д-р..... 173

РЕГИОНАЛНИ РАЗЛИЧИЯ В НАПОЯВАНАТА ОБРАБОТВАЕМА ЗЕМЯ МЕЖДУ СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ
Радка Ненова, гл. ас. д-р..... 181

СТАТИСТИЧЕСКИ ИЗМЕРЕНИЯ НА РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И НЕРАВЕНСТВА МЕЖДУ БЪЛГАРИЯ И РУМЪНИЯ
Таня Тодорова, гл. ас. д-р 190

РЕГИОНАЛНИ АСИМЕТРИИ В УПРАВЛЕНИЕТО НА ПРОЕКТИ В БЪЛГАРИЯ (2014-2020)
Юлиян Господинов, гл. ас. д-р 197

СЪПОСТАВИТЕЛЕН АНАЛИЗ НА ИНДУСТРИЯТА В СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ
Явор Станев, гл. ас. д-р 205

ИКОНОМИЧЕСКИ, СОЦИАЛНИ, ДЕМОГРАФСКИ ПРОБЛЕМИ В БЪЛГАРИЯ

ВРЪЗКАТА “УРБАНИЗАЦИЯ - ПОТРЕБНОСТИ ОТ ЗДРАВЕ И ЗДРАВОСЛОВЕН НАЧИН НА ЖИВОТ”. МЕТОДИ ЗА ИЗМЕРВАНЕ
Анастасия Марчева, доц. д-р 213

СЪСТОЯНИЕ И РАЗВИТИЕ НА ПАЗАРА НА ТРУДА В ОБЛАСТ ПЛЕВЕН
Галина Тодорова, доц. д-р 220

ОТНОСНО НЯКОИ МАКРОИКОНОМИЧЕСКА ДАННИ – ПРЕДПОСТАВКА ЗА ИДЕНТИФИЦИРАНЕ ИНОВАЦИОННИТЕ ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИ НА БЪЛГАРСКАТА ИКОНОМИКА
Искра Пантелеева, доц. д-р 228

МАЩАБИ НА БЪЛГАРСКИТЕ ФИНАНСОВИ АГРОПАЗАРИ
Любомир Любенов, доц. д-р, Анелия Любенова, д-р 237

ОПЕРАТИВЕН КОНТРОЛИНГ ВЪВ ФИРМАТА
Людмил Б. Кръстев, доц. д-р 247

ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИ ЗА ОЦЕНКА НА СОЦИАЛНО-ИКОНОМИЧЕСКО СБЛИЖАВАНЕ СПОРЕД ЕВРОПЕЙСКИЯ СТЪЛБ НА СОЦИАЛНИТЕ ПРАВА
Маргарита Шопова, доц. д-р, Тихомир Върбанов, гл. ас. д-р, Евгени Овчинников, ас. д-р 254

ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИ И ПРЕДИЗВИКАТЕЛСТВА ПРИ РАЗВИТИЕ НА ПОЗЕМЛЕНИТЕ ОТНОШЕНИЯ В БЪЛГАРИЯ
Марина Николова, доц. д-р 263

„ЗА“ И „ПРОТИВ“ ДОПЪЛНЕНИЕТО НА МЕТОДИКАТА ЗА ОПРЕДЕЛЯНЕ НА ЛИНИЯТА НА БЕДНОСТ В БЪЛГАРИЯ
Николай Нинов, доц. д-р 273

БИЗНЕС СРЕДАТА И ПИВОВАРНИТЕ ПРЕДПРИЯТИЯ В БЪЛГАРИЯ
Сергей Найденов, доц. д-р 282

СОЦИАЛНОТО НЕРАВЕНСТВО – КОНЦЕПТУАЛНА РАМКА И ИЗМЕРВАНЕ
Ваня Ганева, гл. ас. д-р 290

КОРПОРАТИВНА СОЦИАЛНА ОТГОВОРНОСТ В УСЛОВИЯТА НА КОВИД-19
Емил Николов, гл. ас. д-р 298

СТАТИСТИЧЕСКО ИЗУЧАВАНЕ НА ЗАСТРАХОВКА „КАРГО“ В БЪЛГАРИЯ ЗА ПЕРИОДА 2010-2019 Г. – СЪВРЕМЕННИ ИЗМЕРЕНИЯ
Милен Митков, гл.ас. д-р 306

УВЕЛИЧАВАНЕ НЕДОСТИГА НА РАБОТНА СИЛА В ЗДРАВЕОПАЗВАНЕТО
Милена Владимирова, гл. ас. дм 316

УСТОЙЧИВОТО РАЗВИТИЕ В ЕВРОПЕЙСКАТА СОЦИАЛНА ПРОГРАМА
Иванка Янкова, докторант 323

ИКОНОМИЧЕСКИ, СОЦИАЛНИ, ДЕМОГРАФСКИ ПРОБЛЕМИ В ЕВРОПА

MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS – A GREAT TOOL FOR A MULTIVARIATE WORLD
Carlos A. Coelho, Full Professor of Statistics PhD 331

DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN THE REGION OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: THE VISEGRAD FOUR AND UKRAINE
Yevhen Savelyev, Prof. DSc (Econ.), Vitalina Kuryliak, Prof. DSc (Econ) 336

ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS
Antonina Sydorova, Prof. DSc (Econ.), Olena Cherenkevich, PhD Student, Hanna Anisimova, Research Assist. PhD 343

CROSS-BORDER TRADE OF UKRAINE AND THE VISEGRAD FOUR COUNTRIES
Mariia Lyzun, Prof. DSc (Econ.), Ihor Lishchynskyy, Prof. DSc (Econ.)..... 352

FORECASTING SERBIAN GDP GROWTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE USING VAR MODEL
Vinko Lepojević, Full professor, PhD, Tadija Djukić, Full professor, PhD..... 358

РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЕ РАЗЛИЧИЯ ПОВЕДЕНИЯ НАСЕЛЕНИЯ В УСЛОВИЯХ ПАНДЕМИИ COVID-19, НА ПРИМЕРЕ МОЛДОВЫ, БОЛГАРИИ И РУМЫНИИ (MD, BG, RO)
Эдуард Хырбу, доц. к.э.н. 366

ПОЗДРАВИТЕЛНИ АДРЕСИ..... 373

CONTENTS

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AND INEQUALITIES IN BULGARIA

IS A NEW TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY NEEDED – WHY, HOW AND WHEN
Borislav Borisov, Prof. DSc..... 7

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES ON THE LABOR MARKET AS A RESULT OF THE PANDEMIC CRISIS
Venelin Terziev, Eng., Prof, DSc..... 15

TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS IN THE FOCUS OF THE PLANS FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA (ON THE EXAMPLE OF BELENE AND PORDIM)
Andrey Zahariev, Prof. PhD., Stoyan Prodanov, Prof. PhD., Anelia Radulova, Assoc. Prof. PhD., Silvia Zarkova, Ph.D., Borislav Lazarov, PhD Student..... 32

POLICIES FOR PERIPHERAL REGIONS DEVELOPMENT
Margarita Bogdanova, Prof. PhD..... 42

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AND TRENDS IN EVALUATION OF POVERTY IN BULGARIA
Polya Angelova, Prof. PhD..... 50

INTEGRATED PLANNING AS A TOOL FOR OVERCOMING REGIONAL DIFFERENCES
Evelina Parashkevova, Assoc. Prof. PhD..... 59

THE TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION OF BULGARIA AS A FACTOR FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Kamen Petrov, Assoc. Prof. PhD..... 68

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN BULGARIA - ALTERNATIVES BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH
Kamen Petrov, Assoc. Prof. PhD, Radoslav Kostev, PhD Student..... 77

ANALYSIS OF THE DIFFERENCES IN KEY INDICATORS FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH AND SOUTH BULGARIA
Krasimira Slaveva, Assoc. Prof. PhD..... 85

LOGISTICS CHAINS AS A TOOL FOR TERRITORIAL COHESION
Marusya Linkova, Assoc. Prof. PhD,
Elitsa Lazarova, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 97

STUDY OF REGIONAL DIFFERENTIATION IN THE BULGARIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM WITH CLUSTER ANALYSIS
Plamen Petkov, Assoc. Prof. PhD,
Eleonora Mineva-Dimitrova, Assist. Prof. PhD 105

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN INCOME AND ASSORTMENT CONSUMPTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN BULGARIA
Simeonka Petrova, Assoc. Prof. PhD 115

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AS A FACTOR FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Stela Kasabova, Assoc. Prof. PhD 122

OPPORTUNITIES FOR REDUCING REGIONAL IMBALANCES THROUGH CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY
Tihomir Lichev, Assoc. Prof. PhD, Katya Licheva, Assoc. Prof. PhD 130

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING - A KEY FACTOR FOR GET OVER THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NORTHERN AND SOUTH BULGARIA
Histo Sirashki, Assoc. Prof. PhD 138

THE PARTNERSHIP IN MANAGING REGIONAL IMBALANCES
Desislava Aleksieva, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD..... 146

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AND INEQUALITIES IN SMALL MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA: TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES
Metodi Ivanov, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 153

REGIONAL ASPECTS AND DIMENSIONS OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF THE BOC
Petkan Iliev, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 161

THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC MEGAPOLIS IN SOUTH BULGARIA AGAINST THE OASIS IN NORTHERN BULGARIA
Petya Vasileva, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 173

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN IRRIGATED ARABLE LAND BETWEEN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BULGARIA
Radka Nenova, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD..... 181

STATISTIC MEASUREMENT OF REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AND INEQUALITY BETWEEN BULGARIA AND ROMANIA
Tanya Todorova, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 190

REGIONAL ASYMMETRES IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN BULGARIA (2014-2020)
Yuliyan Gospodinov, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 197

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRY IN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BULGARIA.
Yavor Stanev, Chief. Assist. Prof. PhD 205

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS IN BULGARIA

THE "URBANIZATION – HEALTH AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE" RELATIONSHIP. MEASUREMENT METHODS
Anastasiya Marcheva, Assoc. Prof. PhD 213

CONDITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE LABOR MARKET IN PLEVEN DISTRICT
Galina Todorova, Assoc. Prof. PhD 220

REGARDING SOME MACROECONOMIC DATA – A PREREQUISITE FOR IDENTIFYING THE INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE BULGARIAN ECONOMY
Iskra Panteleeva, Assoc. Prof. PhD 228

SCALE OF BULGARIAN AGRICULTURAL FINANCIAL MARKETS
Lyubomir Lyubenov, Assoc. Prof. PhD Anelia Lyubenova, PhD 237

OPERATIVE CONTROLLING IN THE FIRM
Lydmil Krastev, Assoc. Prof. PhD 247

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVALUATING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONVERGENCE WITHIN THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS
Margarita Shopova, Assoc. Prof. PhD, Tihomir Varbanov, Chef Assist. Prof. PhD, Evgeni Ovchinnikov, Assist. Prof. PhD 254

PPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND RELATIONS IN BULGARIA
Marina Nikolova, Assoc. Prof. PhD 263

„FOR" AND „AGAINST" THE ADDITION TO THE METHODOLOGY FOR DETERMINING THE POVERTY LINE IN BULGARIA
Nikolay Ninov, Assoc. Prof. PhD 273

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND BREWERIES IN BULGARIA
Sergey Naydenov, Assoc. Prof. PhD..... 282

SOCIAL INEQUALITY – CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND MEASUREMENT
Vanya Ganeva, Chief Assist. Prof. PhD..... 290

CORPORATE SICIAL RESPONSIBILITY IT THE CONDITION OF COVID-19
Emil Nikolov, Chief Assist. Prof. PhD 298

STATISTICAL STUDY OF CARGO INSURANCE IN BULGARIA FOR THE PERIOD 2010-2019 - MODERN DIMENSIONS
Milen Mitkov, Chief Assist. Prof. PhD..... 306

INCREASING THE LABOR SHORTAGES IN HEALTHCARE
Milena Vladimirova, Chief Assist. Prof. MD 316

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL AGENDA
Ivanka Yankova, PhD Student 323

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS IN EUROPE

MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS – A GREAT TOOL FOR A MULTIVARIATE WORLD
Carlos A. Coelho, Full Professor of Statistics PhD 331

DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN THE REGION OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: VISEGRAD FOUR AND UKRAINE
Yevhen Savelyev, Prof. DSc (Econ.),
Vitalina Kuryliak, Prof. DSc (Econ) 336

ASSESSMENT OF THE ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS
Antonina Sydorova, Prof. DSc (Econ.), Olena Cherenkevich, PhD Student,
Hanna Anisimova, Research Assist. PhD 343

CROSS-BORDER TRADE OF UKRAINE AND THE VISEGRAD FOUR COUNTRIES
Mariia Lyzun, Prof. DSc (Econ.),
Ihor Lishchynskyy, Prof. DSc (Econ.)..... 352

FORECASTING SERBIAN GDP GROWTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE USING VAR MODEL
Vinko Lepojević, Full professor, PhD,
Tadija Djukić, Full professor, PhD 358

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN POPULATION BEHAVIOR IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY MOLDOVA, BULGARIA AND ROMANIA (MD, BG, RO)
Eduad Hirbu. Assoc. Prof. PhD 366

КРЪГЛА МАСА
С МЕЖДУНАРОДНО УЧАСТИЕ

СТАТИСТИЧЕСКИ ИЗМЕРЕНИЯ НА РЕГИОНАЛНИТЕ РАЗЛИЧИЯ И НЕРАВЕНСТВА МЕЖДУ СЕВЕРНА И ЮЖНА БЪЛГАРИЯ

Свищов, 16 октомври 2020 г.

Сборник с доклади

Кръглата маса е организирана в изпълнение на научноизследователски проект №13-2020 „Статистически измерения на регионалните различия и неравенства между Северна и Южна България“, финансиран със средства по Наредба на МОН за насърчаване на научно-изследователската дейност

ISBN 978-954-23-1892-7

Издателство и печат: Академично издателство „Ценов”
Свищов, ул. Градево № 24

DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN THE REGION OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: VISEGRAD FOUR AND UKRAINE

Yevhen Savelyev, Prof. DSc (Econ.)
e-mail: yev.savelyev@gmail.com
Vitalina Kuryliak, Prof. DSc (Econ.)
e-mail: ternopil2000@yahoo.com
Department of International Economics, West Ukrainian National University, Ternopil, Ukraine

Савельев Е. В., доктор экономических наук, профессор,
профессор кафедры международной экономики,
Западноукраинский национальный университет, Украина;
E-mail: yev.savelyev@gmail.com;
Курыляк В. Е., доктор экономических наук, профессор,
заведующий кафедрой международной экономики,
Западноукраинский национальный университет, Украина;
E-mail: ternopil2000@yahoo.com.

Abstract: *The paper determines the directions of Ukraine's economic European integration in the context of the Eastern Neighbourhood and Partnership policy. The economic ties between Ukraine and the Visegrad Group are analysed and the concept of their priority for Ukraine as a natural neighbour is developed. It is believed that the restriction of cooperation between Ukraine and V4 to the field of technical assistance in the implementation of policy reforms does not facilitate integration processes and the latter should be deepened in the direction of economic cooperation. It is especially important to implement a deep industry partnership with trained and interested partners. The expediency of prioritising the development of the TEN-T network, focusing efforts on the construction of a high-speed railway line for both passenger, and eventually freight services is proved. It is shown that the development of economic integration in the production of goods can be accelerated by increasing the attraction of investment for V4 countries, implementing a policy that makes use of financial, economic and organizational tools aimed at achieving competitive advantages in spatial, human and natural factors of Ukraine.*

Key words: *Visegrad Four, infrastructure, integration, high-speed rail lines, investment, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine.*

JEL: *E220; F100; F150; F210; F420.*

Introduction

Among the goals set by the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (2014) is the expediency of "promoting the gradual rapprochement of the Parties, based on common values and close privileged ties, as well as deepening Ukraine's ties with EU policy and its participation in programs and agencies". In this context, the development of Ukraine's relations with the Visegrad Group countries as natural neighbours is gaining special importance. This is in line with both the Neighbourhood Policy and the Eastern Partnership policy, which were proclaimed more than ten years ago and have been implemented by the European Union since. For Ukraine, in the economic context, the Eastern Partnership means the deepening of integration, which should primarily occur in the geographical space of neighbouring countries.

The European integration context for Ukraine is developing primarily in the direction of finding the institutional forms that are able to ensure the systematic adherence of all processes of implementation to European values. This conclusion can be drawn from the fact that the European Neighbourhood Policy for Ukraine, proclaimed in 2003 by the European Commission in its Wider Europe appeal, did not lead to definitive convergence.

It is important for Ukraine that the European Union continues to have an interest in maintaining the Eastern Partnership at a quality level. In a joint statement by the Foreign Ministers of the Visegrad Group on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Eastern Partnership, they underlined the importance of keeping the Eastern Partnership high on the EU´s agenda and reaffirmed the mutual interest in continuing this unique policy of the European Neighbourhood based on shared fundamental values and the common commitment to the principles of international law, human rights and democracy, rule of law, accountability and good governance, sustainable development and market economy. They reiterated that political association and economic integration of the Eastern partners with the EU remained the main goal of the program (Visegrad Group, 2019).

Research results

Ukraine's first-order neighbours in Central and Eastern Europe are the Visegrad Four countries. At present, its cooperation with this group is limited mainly to adopting the experience of joining the EU through the transformational actions in the field of developing policy reforms aimed at European integration. All the while, there is virtually no real integration with neighbouring economies. This is evidenced by the geographical structure of

Ukraine's foreign trade in goods on the world market, and in particular with the V4 countries. Thus, the share of V4 countries in Ukraine's total exports of goods in 2018 amounted to 14.04%. However, almost half of exports to V4 go to Poland. As for Hungary (3.48%), the Czech Republic (1.85%) and Slovakia (1.83%), the amounts are insignificant. The share of imports from V4 countries to Ukraine is even smaller (Table 1).

Table 1

Geographical structure of Ukraine's foreign trade in goods with the EU and V4 countries in 2018

	Export		Import		Balance, thousand USD
	Thousand USD	% of Ukraine's foreign trade	Thousand USD	% of Ukraine's foreign trade	
Ukraine total	47334987,0	-	57187578,0	-	–9852591,
Including the Visegrad Four countries					
Poland	3257248,5	6,89	3641921,5	6,37	–384673,0
Slovakia	863926,4	1,83	525879,4	0,92	338047,0
Hungary	1646045,9	3,48	1260239,9	2,20	385806,1
Czech Republic	878035,7	1,85	1034786,6	1,81	–384673,0
Total V4 countries	6645256,5	14,04	6462827,4	11,30	-45492,9

Note: created by the author using the data of State Statistics Service of Ukraine (2019).

The lack of close economic ties between Ukraine and the Visegrad Group countries is one of the causes for the limitation of integration processes to the field of technical assistance in the implementation of policy reforms. Although this facilitates the geopolitical and geoeconomic development of the country, it does not have a direct impact on the development of interstate economic relations.

Thus, the policy of the Eastern Partnership should have two sections: pan-European and national. At the pan-European level, common conditions would be defined for all neighbouring countries: forms of cooperation, institutional systems, funding, etc. At the same time, a specific strategy of cooperation should be developed for each neighbouring country, which in the economic sphere would be focused on the country's inclusion in the Central-Eastern system of industrial cooperation and joint venture, and through it in the European and world system of production and exchange.

Certain elements for this can be borrowed from associations such as the Energy Charter, the Single European Sky. The advantage of such division of labour and cooperation is the creation of favourable conditions for more efficient use of human and natural resources in the territorial space of Central and Eastern Europe. The main goal of interstate coordination of these processes will have increasing the welfare of the population of each country, while giving priority to divergence policies.

Inclusion of Ukraine into the system of integration economic processes of Central and Eastern Europe is most effective in the energy sector. Almost a third of gas needs of Ukraine are satisfied through an increase of its reverse from Slovakia (Lendel, 2015). At the same time, an idea of creating a gas hub in the Central Europe is being discussed, supported by Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic and Ukraine. However, its implementation is slowed because of a lack of unity in partners' approaches to humanitarian issues, in particular Hungary's view on ethnic policy. Despite this, pragmatic interests should sway the decision in favour of economic and general political challenges, as a common understanding of risks inherent to the "Nord Stream-2" dominates (Ekonomichna pravda, 2020).

In terms of the countries of the Eastern Partnership and EU as a whole and V4 in particular, an approach defined as inclusive is developed. It is especially important for the issues of Ukraine's Euro-integration as a big European state in terms of territory, population and natural resources. It is especially important for Ukraine to realise a deeper sectoral partnership with prepared and interested Partners (Visegrad Group, 2020).

Using the sectoral approach to determine the structure of integrational processes requires a certain ranking of priorities capable of creating a balanced strategic development concept of Ukraine's economy closely tied to the goals and objectives of European integration and amassing of material and financial resources. Moreover, it is worth fully using the position of V4 in the issues of Eastern Partnership. In this context importance is given to "The Visegrad Group Joint Statement on the Future of the Eastern Partnership" (Visegrad Group, 2020), which notes that "the EU and the Eastern partners should make bold steps to increase and improve their connectivity, transport and infrastructural bedrock for the sake of future economic success".

Objectives connected to the euro-integration project of Ukraine, are resolved in the conditions of outdated infrastructure. It is the greatest obstacle to its implementation, which is why building a quality infrastructure gains first priority. Ukraine partially creates it within the framework of the 2020 national project "Velyke budivnytsvo" from Ukrainian – Large-Scale

Construction). It entails building or reconstructing 6.5 thousand km of roads, 142 schools, 117 kindergartens, 212 emergency wings, 570 medical ambulatories, 122 sport complexes all over the country for 2020 (Velyke budivnytstvo, n.d.).

The first stages of the national infrastructure project are directed towards eliminating the so-called "bottlenecks" at the moment. If it is continued, objectives the achievement of which increasing the European-like quality of the country should be set. Considering that the resolution of the European Commission included Ukraine into the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T), the country should show that it can be an effective participant in the creation of a strategic Europe-Asia transport corridor. In the framework of such investments, it is advisable, first of all, to put a priority on the development of the transport and logistics system of EU, as the TEN-T core network map in the Eastern Partnership countries has already been approved by the European Commission. Second, this transport corridor requires accumulated efforts to develop a high-speed rail line for both passenger and ultimately freight services that are fully compatible with the conventional rail network. This approach is programmed by the V4 countries and, accordingly, it will ensure the full integration of Ukrainian railways into both European and Asian space (Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, 2019). The effectiveness of such a project lies in its potential to ensure future economic success through the gradual expansion of access to the EU Single Market and the Asian market.

Table 2

Direct investment in Ukraine in 2019 (million USD)

	Direct investment (total) (2 + 5)	Equity participation instruments (3 + 4)	Equity instruments other than income reinvestment	Reinvestment of income	Borrowing
	1	2	3	4	5
Total	5860,4	4909,1	1658,8	3250,3	951,4
	451,6	425,8	171,3	237,4	35,2
Czech Republic	4,7	9,4	1,6	10,8	4,7
Hungary	190,6	189,1	91,6	97,6	1,5
Poland	210,3	193,7	77,1	116,6	16,6
Slovakia	46,0	33,6	1,0	32,6	12,4

Note: compiled by the authors using the data of the National Bank of Ukraine (2020).

Ukraine's European and global economic integration has been slower than the similar processes the newer EU members had gone through, largely due to the fact that the country has not created an appropriate business climate to attract direct investment. This is especially true of relations with the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia (Table 2), which objectively should be of interested in this because of Ukraine's large spatial, human and natural potential (compared to them) that naturally encourage investors to make direct investments. In view of this, the legislative bodies of Ukraine should develop financial, economic and organizational tools that will make use of Ukraine's competitive advantages.

Conclusions

Cooperation with the Visegrad Group countries is a priority for the development of Ukraine's European economic integration. Its successful development is the basis for expanding ties with EU member states in general. At the same time, the deepening of integration processes in the economic sphere facilitates the resolution of crises of the European project, which are often combined with Russia's aggressive revisionist policy in Central and Eastern Europe.

Cooperation between Ukraine and the Visegrad Four is mainly technical in nature, focused on assistance with the preparation and implementation of reforms. However, the resource of economic integration is not used enough. First of all, Ukraine should enhance its activity in the development of the TEN-T road transport project in order to improve connections with Europe and create preconditions for the extension of highways in the Asian direction. In addition, it is advisable to implement a policy of attracting investment in the creation of a modern production network on the principles of the Eastern Partnership.

References

Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, OJ L 161, 29.5.2014, p. 3–2137.

Ekonomichna pravda. (24 September, 2020). *Zelenskyi: Ukraina ta Slovachchyna rozumiiut ryzyky, yaki nese «Pivnichnyi potiu-2»*. [Економічна правда. (24 вересня, 2020). *Зеленський: Україна та Словаччина розуміють ризики, які несе «Північний потіу-2»*]. https://www.epravda.com.ua/news/2020/09/24/665497/

Lendel, M. L. (2015). *Ukraina ta Vyshehradska chetvirka: stan i perspektyvy rozvytku vidnosyn. Analitychna zapyska*. Natsionalnyi instytut stratehichnykh doslidzhen [Лендьел, М. Л. (2015). *Україна та Вишеградська четвірка: стан і перспективи розвитку відносин. Аналітична записка*. Національний інститут стратегічних досліджень]. http://old2.niss.gov.ua/articles/1861/

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. (21 May, 2019). *Joint Declaration of the Ministers of the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic responsible for transport, development and EU funds*. https://www.mzv.sk/documents/10182/3574816/190521+V4+Declaration+on+High-Speed+Rail+Network_Bratislava

National Bank of Ukraine. (2020). *Direct investment into Ukraine in 2019* [Dataset]. https://bank.gov.ua/en/statistic/sector-external/data-sector-external#5

State Statistics Service of Ukraine. (2019). *Ukraine's Foreign Trade in Goods in 2018* [Database]. http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/zd/ztt/ztt_e/ztt1218_e.xlsx

Velyke budivnytstvo: prohrama Prezydenta Ukrainy. (n.d.) [Велике будівництво: програма Президента України. (n.d.)]. https://bigbud.kmu.gov.ua/

Visegrad Group. (May 6, 2019). *The Visegrad Group Joint Statement on 10th Anniversary of the Eastern Partnership* [PDF]; http://www.visegradgroup.eu/documents/official-statements

Visegrad Group. (April 8, 2020). *The Visegrad Group Joint Statement on the Future of the Eastern Partnership.* http://www.visegradgroup.eu/documents/official-statements/the-visegrad-group-joint-200409