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CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION: THEORY AND PRACTICE

Cross-border cooperation is a form of world economic integration, which has received a special dissemination in Europe. Cross-border cooperation facilitates the free movement of goods, services, capital and people. Cross-border region adjacent border areas of states that are characterized by certain natural, economic, socio-cultural and ethnic unity. In Western Europe, Euroregions, border cooperation and international transport corridors have become the most widespread among forms of cross-border cooperation. The path to a united Europe passes through the border areas where socio-cultural fronts are most clearly manifested.

Cross-border regional cooperation is a structural element of the state economic policy. At the same time, such cooperation can not be carried out without consideration of factors of a non-economic nature the provision of defense, socio-political, food security of the state. The objectives of cross-border cooperation can not be in conflict with the national interests of Ukraine. The regions of cross-border cooperation are focused on finding a flexible regime of cross-border economic relations. Within these regions there is a combination of the principles of sovereignty with the practice of cross-border economic cooperation. Promotion, formation and implementation of regional development programs are key value to cross-border cooperation. An important trend in the development of cross-border relations is their institutionalization creating a system of regional international organizations, complementing the world's political institutions. The modern concept of cross-border cooperation in the field of regional development helps to rethink the notion of the administrative-territorial structure of the country, the inhabitants of the border areas, the development of these territories, their inherent problems, etc. Many factors, including the integrity of the boundaries of the state depends on the level of development of the border areas, on the quality of life of their population [1]. Cross-border cooperation is a tool for solving local problems. Therefore, in order to maximize the efficiency of this activity, it is first necessary to align with the European one the national legislation, allocate sufficient powers to local self-government bodies and allocate the necessary resources to fill the practical content of projects within the framework of cross-border cooperation. Currently, Ukraine's cross-border cooperation has been overlooked. In the European Union, the principle of subsidiarity is one of the fundamental ones. In Ukraine, local self-government bodies have somehow limited powers, and, the more so, resources for solving local problems.

The issue of the need for redistribution of powers between the central and regional authorities and the transfer to the last rights to resolve issues of border cooperation remains actual. The complexity of the question is that the only subject of international law is the state. And if the regions of cross-border cooperation were created on the basis of international agreements, then the norms of cooperation between local authorities would be regulated directly. Therefore, out in this situation is seen one transferring part of the powers to the regional authorities [2]. Economic relations play a key role in regional cooperation. It is the easiest to establish a cross-border trade between neighboring or adjacent internal parts of different countries. Such exchanges are usually mutually beneficial and complementary in them, along with large corporations, can take part the middle and the small business. The deepening of cross-border economic ties in many cases is accompanied by the creation of appropriate transport networks and telecommunication systems. Arising from local structures of inland regions, they turn to cross-border infrastructure of international geopolitical region. Large-scale cross-border regional cooperation opens in the areas of high technologies, science and development of natural resources.

The basis of cross-border cooperation is the historical traditions and regional ties that have been forming for centuries. Ukraine and neighboring states can rely on the accumulated traditions of interaction, while overcoming the negative historical stereotypes that have developed in bilateral and multilateral relations. At the regional level, there is a dialogue of cultures for the purpose of their mutual enrichment, preservation of cultural diversity of peoples. Permanent communication between people promote better understanding of each other and affect the state policy of a neighboring country towards Ukraine. The world is interconnected sometimes small projects that improve mutual understanding between small towns or villages, achieve stability and mutually beneficial relations between states.

At the Council of Europe two committees on cross-border cooperation were created. The Madrid Convention of 1989 provided local authorities with the opportunity to develop, within the framework of national legislation, the legal framework for interaction between economic, social, environmental and cultural issues irrespective of national borders. The term «cross-border cooperation» called for further understanding of all agreed measures of an administrative, technical, economic, social and cultural nature aimed at strengthening and developing good-neighborly relations between the regions on both sides of the border, as well as the conclusion of relevant agreements.

It was also envisaged the creation of special bodies coordinating activities of cross-border regions and funded by interested States. The Convention recommended thorough examination of existing national legislation in terms of cross-border contacts.

Particular attention was paid to improving tax and customs rules, foreign trade conditions and capital transfer procedures. The Convention has

defined the scope of cross-border cooperation. It included issues of urban and regional development, improvement of the transport and communication network, energy supply, environmental protection, mutual assistance in emergencies. The problems of upbringing, education, research, health care, in particular, the extension of benefits in the area of medical care to residents of the border areas were not overlooked. Convention developers have shown a keen interest in issues of cultural policy, as well as in the organization of leisure, sports, tourism. Problems of social protection of workers working in the border areas were put on the agenda. Cross-border cooperation also involves the implementation of joint economic projects, the construction of new enterprises, and the improvement of agro-industrial systems. The authors of the convention, based on the desire to promote official recognition of the legality of such cooperation and encouragement of local authorities to its development, called on its participants to enter into relevant intergovernmental treaties. At the same time, they noted the experience of such an interstate legislative system already accumulated by Scandinavian countries [3].

In the spirit of this convention, the Council of Europe has established a permanent representative forum for local and regional authorities of 32 member countries of the Council of Europe the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe. In the course of his first European Conference on Transboundary Regions, held in 1990, special attention was paid to the harmonization of political measures related to the arrangement of transboundary territories.

In the conditions of regionalization, the question of its influence on the European security system is relevant. Regions, which are able to provide their own development, all louder advocate for reducing defense spending. Thus, after the fall of the Berlin Wall the governments of several German federal states called for the conversion of military bases in the training centers. However, the mayors of the cities that are the capital of these lands opposed such an offer, seeking to preserve job places at these military bases. According to authoritative observers, these discrepancies are likely to show that Europeans are increasingly relying not only on their own governments, but on the relevant structures of NATO and the EU, to ensure their own security. Many participants in the debate about Europe of regions come to the conclusion that under present conditions, European institutions, member states and territorial entities should abandon the radical break-up of existing structures and begin jointly developing a system of new equilibrium between them in conditions of transparency and democratic control. A new mechanism for their interaction is intended to provide an optimal balance between supranational, state and local power institutions. In this regard, first of all, there is the problem of developing a democratic legislative framework for European regionalism, the so-called «regional (territorial) autonomy».

It is hoped that the principles of European law will be able to provide a firm foundation for the concept of «new regionalism». This is, in particular, about «subsidiarity, complicity (partnership) and flexible financing»

[4]. The principle of subsidiarity, that is, the mechanism of redistribution of competences between the center and the periphery, due to its flexibility and antagonism in relation to the rigid bureaucratic delimitation of powers, is directed against supracentralization and provides a flexible approach to solving local problems. In other words, subsidiarity is characterized as the principle of a «government that is closest to citizens». The principle of complicity (partnership) means the coherence of action between the European institutions, interested Member State and regional autonomies partners in the pursuit of a common goal. The principle of flexible financing gives the regional bodies of management the peculiar functions of entrepreneurial activity, which allows for partial self-financing. It is important to keep in mind that these provisions apply only to local self-government bodies established in accordance with national legislation.

Obviously, the modern organization of society should first of all provide the population of certain regions with the possibility of conscious participation in national affairs. At the same time, the logically decentralized political system is much more than strictly centralized, responds to the demands of today's life.

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Ключові слова: транскордонне співробітництво, євро регіони, децентралізація, взаємодія, прикордонні регіони.

Ключевые слова: трансграничное сотрудничество, евро регионы, децентрализация, взаимодействие, приграничные регионы.

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