

infrastructure. Strengthen the construction of 5G base stations, big data centers and other information and communication infrastructure industries in central and western regions, and continuously reduce their use and operation costs to create basic conditions for the development of digital industries. Second, we should improve the construction of the digital economy industry docking platform. Explore regional coordinated development mode of digital economy, strengthen inter-regional industrial docking and transfer, build regionalized digital economy industry chain, create digital economy industry clusters with special features, drive backward regions to enjoy "digital dividend", and contribute to China's economic development.

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DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE EU IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The “Eastern Partnership Program” between Ukraine and the EU was officially launched in May 2009, and the Declaration on Eastern Partnership signed by both sides

is based on the key words of democracy, economy and security, while the specific projects include political, economic, cultural, environmental and migration aspects. The aim of the program is to establish closer relations between the parties and create the necessary conditions for accelerating political ties and further economic integration between Ukraine and the EU. Currently, Ukraine and the EU are becoming closer in terms of economic development, and the healthy development of the Ukrainian economy is increasingly dependent on the thriving EU economy.

1. The process of development cooperation. With the expansion of the EU to the East, the EU has become more and more aware of the importance of its eastern neighbors. The EU believes that its own stability and security depend largely on the stability and security of its eastern neighbors, which is the prerequisite for the EU to adjust its relations with its neighbors. Therefore, in May 2004, the EU formally proposed the "European Neighborhood Policy" to deepen the relationship between the EU and its neighbors. The EU is committed to providing trade, investment and technical assistance to these countries, and gradually and conditionally opening up EU markets, including import and export, capital and labor markets, to these countries. In May 2009, the Eastern Partnership Plan (EPP) was launched to deepen cooperation between the EU and its partner countries.

2. The main forms of development cooperation. First, the two sides should work together to build a "civilizational partnership", increase support for humanities exchanges in terms of funds, talents and information, and constantly expand the width and depth of humanities exchanges to provide impetus for cooperation in other areas. Secondly, Ukraine has a strong demand for infrastructure construction and industrialization improvement, which are important entry points and key areas for docking cooperation. Under the platform of Ukraine's connectivity with the EU, we should strengthen the docking in Ukraine's infrastructure fields such as transportation, energy, information and communication, further improve infrastructure, public services, and improve the investment environment. Third, we should accurately grasp the current international situation and fully consider the interests of both sides. To carry out docking cooperation in economic and trade exchanges between Ukraine and the EU, it is necessary to strengthen communication between the two sides, seek to further promote the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU on the principle of mutual benefit and win-win situation, strive to resolve conflicts to the maximum extent and promote the maximum interests of both sides.

3. Status of development cooperation. The EU's policy towards Ukraine can be categorized into two aspects: first, to maintain dialogue with Ukraine on the political system and increase its influence on Ukraine, and second, to promote the process of economic, social and legal integration with Ukraine. In general, the EU's cooperation with Ukraine in the political sphere has basically achieved the desired goals. The following is an analysis of the current state of development cooperation between

Ukraine and the EU. As a foreign policy, the "Eastern Partnership" between Ukraine and the EU can be interpreted in four aspects - political, security, economic and socio-cultural, which can be defined as the direction of the program development and implementation goals. Today, the Eastern Partnership Program has become an important link between the EU and Ukraine, and through the platform provided by the program, the two sides have established closer ties and made progress in the areas of security, politics, economy, and connectivity and mobility.

(1) Economy: The table below shows the statistics of import and export trade volume data between Ukraine and the EU between 2016 and 2021.

Table 1

Import and export trade volume data between Ukraine and the EU

EU-Ukraine data from 2016 to 2021						
Data Type	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Trade balance in million ECU/EURO	1335.4	988.1	1021.6	1465.7	3038.2	1668.0
Exports in million of ECU/EURO	9310.7	11191.2	11941.8	13689.7	12952.2	15735.8
Imports in million of ECU/EURO	7975.4	10203.1	10920.2	12144.0	9914.0	14067.7
Share of imports by partner(%)	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6
Share of exports by partner(%)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6

As it can be seen from the above table, the import and export trade between Ukraine and the EU is increasing and its share in the import and export trade partners is gradually increasing (in 2020 the global economic downturn due to the impact of the epidemic affected the import and export trade of countries, which led to a decline in trade between Ukraine and the EU). This indicates that trade between Ukraine and the EU is increasing and economic cooperation is strengthening. Thus, analysis of the data shows that in recent years economic cooperation between Ukraine and the EU has developed more and more closely, the share of the EU in Ukraine's foreign trade has increased year by year, and trade barriers between the two sides have been decreasing, which is conducive to the long-term development of both sides.

(2) Security. Ukraine and the EU will strengthen cooperation in the fields of defense, taxation, border control and counter-terrorism. According to the agreement, the EU will accordingly provide more convenience and priority protection rights for Ukrainian citizens in migration and work in EU countries, especially after Ukraine meets the relevant criteria set out in the visa-free action plan.

(3) Political aspects. Since the launch of the "Eastern Partnership" between Ukraine and the European Union, Ukraine has started reforms, improved laws, promoted local self-government, supported democratic reforms by reforming the functioning of the Parliament, established a consensual European parliamentary model,

developed international cooperation, and made progress in ensuring the country's political stability and international standing. The foundation has been laid for ensuring the country's political stability and upgrading its international status.

(4) Socio-cultural aspects. The implementation of visa facilitation programs and the granting of visa-free treatment to Ukraine will enhance mutual mobility, avoid the creation of new dividing lines and bring tangible benefits to the population. Support for young people and improving their development prospects are at the core of cooperation within the Eastern Partnership. In the field of education, training and mobility, providing young people and young workers from Eastern Ukraine with access to the EU, supporting young people, especially in the development of their skills and employability

4. Factors affecting the development of cooperation.

Negative factors:

(1) Domestic factors in Ukraine. The most important factor preventing Ukraine from cooperating with the EU is the long-term instability in the Ukrainian political arena after independence, and the wavering or even regression of domestic and foreign policies.

(2) Economic development is also one of the most important and fatal fundamental factors, and currently Ukraine's economy is relatively backward.

(3) Russian factor. For Ukraine, the deeper motivation of the strategy of "European integration" also lies in the country's fear of Russia.

(4) Britain's exit from the EU will seriously affect the EU's foreign and security policies.

(5) The interests and goals of EU member states are divergent. In the process of implementing the "Eastern Partnership" policy, the EU member states are divided due to their different interests, and there are differences in focus and wavering.

Positive factors:

(1) Ukraine is rich in total natural resources, has a strong development base in science and technology, industry and agriculture, and has great development potential.

(2) Ukraine and the EU need each other.

(3) Cooperation between Ukraine and the EU has been strengthened in the fields of energy, environment, transportation and education, with the EU providing financial and technical support in addition to policy guidance.

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