## WEST UKRAINAIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY B. HAVRYLYSHYN EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE

Thesis of the Department of International Economics:

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

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#### **КІЦАТОНА**

Інь Ліцзін. - Розвиток співпраці України та ЄС в умовах реалізації політики Східного партнерства. Рукопис

Дослідження на здобуття освітнього ступеня «магістр» за спеціальністю 051 Економіка, освітньо-професійна програма — Міжнародна економіка — Західноукраїнський національний університет, Тернопіль, 2024.

У дипломній роботі розглядаються процеси розвитку співпраці між Україною та ЄС у контексті реалізації політики Східного партнерства. Представлено поточний стан справ, визначено основні напрямки розвитку співробітництва в політичній, економічній, гуманістичній та інших сферах, надані пропозиції для посилення розвитку кооперації між Україною та Єс в контексті політики Східного партнерства.

Ключові слова: ЄС, Україна, економічна інтеграція, політика, економіка, розвиток співробітництва, безпека, культура, суспільство.

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Master thesis looks at the processes of developing cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the context of implementing the Eastern Partnership policy. It also presents the current state of affairs and the main avenues for this both parties cooperation's development, analyzes the factors that influence this growth, and discusses the potential for this cooperation's development in the political, economic,

humanistic, and other domains. Finally, it suggests countermeasures to support this growth in the context of implementing the Eastern Partnership policy.

**Key Words:** EU, Ukraine, Economic integration, Politics, Economic, Development of cooperation, Safety, Cultural, Society.

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Since Ukraine is positioned midway between the EU and Russia, the EU's security is impacted by the country's level of development. Ukraine enjoys advantages in terms of resources, location, and political and geopolitical standing. The EU now views the growth of its relations with Ukraine as a critical tool for securing its own development, enhancing security and stability, advancing European democratic and human rights ideals, and containing any potential Russian threat. In addition to being a crucial step toward improving Ukraine's position internationally and assimilating into Europe, joining the EU is also a means of advancing national development, enhancing the welfare of the populace, and promoting reform of the nation's internal political and economic structure. In line with its current self-interest pursuits and needs for national development, Ukraine is eager to join EU and prioritizes the development of political and economic cooperation as well as European integration with the EU. In the long run, it is believed that cooperative integration with the EU would be more advantageous for Ukraine.

Actuality of the research. There is an urgent need for the EU and Ukraine to have a cordial and amicable partnership. The Eastern Partnership Policy was formally signed by the EU and Ukraine in May 2009. Since then, Ukraine and the EU have worked together more closely in the areas of politics, economy, security, culture, and society, and they have produced notable outcomes. The Eastern Partnership Policy's execution will serve as the primary avenue for future collaboration and development, offering Ukraine and the EU a singular opportunity to grow together. It is in both countries' best interests to do so. Therefore, developing development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU is in both parties best interests.

1) Examining the history and primary justifications for the policy.

- 2) Examine the importance of Ukraine and the EU putting the Eastern Partnership into practice.
  - 3) Provide an overview of the evolution of the EU-Ukraine relationship.
- 4) A statistical examination of the primary development cooperation models and advancements in the Eastern Partnership implementation between the EU and Ukraine.

The aim of the study is to determine the evolution of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU under the terms of the Eastern Partnership's implementation is the study's goal. An examination of the political, social, cultural, security, and economic facets leads to the ultimate conclusion. Investigative tasks include:

- 1) Examining the history and primary justifications for the policy.
- 2) Examine the importance of Ukraine and the EU putting the Eastern Partnership into practice.
  - 3) Provide an overview of the evolution of the EU-Ukraine relationship.
- 4) A statistical examination of the primary development cooperation models and advancements in the Eastern Partnership implementation between the EU and Ukraine.
- 5) To explore the factors affecting the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU and the prospects for future cooperation between the parties.
- 6) To make reasonable suggestions for the actual situation of both Ukraine and the EU.

**The object** is to explore the development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the Eastern Partnership policy.

**Subject of the study** is basic principles, policies policies of partnership, as well as promising directions for the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU within the framework of the Eastern Partnership policy.

**Information basis of the study.** The study used statistical data from European

databases, Xinhua Net, Huanjing Intelligence Net, Central Net and Customs. The study used research papers by Chinese and foreign scholars, information materials in reference and statistical publications, Internet materials, textbooks, manuals, economic guides and reports.

**Practical significance of the obtained results.** Development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU corresponds to the realities of both sides, and the implementation of the Eastern Partnership policy is the right thing to do. The promotion of development cooperation between the two sides is a necessary strategy.

**Structure of work.** The Thesis contains 64 pages, 4 tables, 3 figures.

Chapter I talk about the history of the "Eastern Partnership policy" between the EU and Ukraine. From the viewpoints of economy, politics, culture, security, and energy, the foundation for the growth of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU is examined. In terms of the growth of economic, political and regional integration development, the importance of the Eastern Partnership between Ukraine and the EU is finally examined.

Chapter II e explore the path of change in Ukraine's cooperative relations with the EU. The following observations and suggestions are based on an analysis of the primary ways in which Ukraine and the European Union have developed their collaboration, taking into account economic, political, security, cultural, and social factors.

Chapter III explore the reasons influencing Ukraine's development cooperation with the EU in Chapter III. The potential and expectations for the growth of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU are offered through theoretical advice and analysis. Finally, by reviewing relevant materials, drawing on the experience of development cooperation between other countries, and based on the current realities of both sides,

they put forward their own reasonable suggestions and recommendations.

The study's findings suggest that there are prospects, hazards, and obstacles for the advancement of collaboration between Ukraine and the EU. These chances, dangers, and difficulties could offer advantages as well as disadvantages. Examined from the perspectives of economic, political, security, cultural, and social domains, the enhancement of development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU within the framework of the Eastern Partnership policy aligns with the actual requirements of both parties and will foster their sustained growth.

## CHAPTER 1. REASONS AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE EU

### 1.1 Background to the implementation of the Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the EU

The EU is growing more conscious of the significance of its eastern neighbors as it continues its eastward expansion. The EU know that ensuring stability and security on both sides is a fundamental requirement for the growth of the EU's relations with its neighbors, and that its own stability and security are dependent upon the stability and security of its eastern neighbors [28, p74]. In order to improve collaboration with neighboring nations and develop ties between the EU and its neighbors, the EU formally established the European Neighbourhood Policy in May 2004. The EU is dedicated to provide the neighboring nations that have ratified the deal trade, investment, and technical support. It will also gradually open up the EU market to these countries, including import and export, capital, labour markets [6, p.9].

Since the EU's 2004 eastern expansion, Ukraine has emerged as a new neighbor, with profound political and economic ramifications for Russia, the EU, and Ukraine. Since Ukraine is now the Russia's and the EU's largest neighbor in terms of land, population, and economic volume, it is strategically and strategically important for both countries to maintain positive relations with Ukraine [22].

Developing cooperation with the EU will provide valuable development opportunities for Ukraine. Ukraine seeks economic support from EU, including the removal of technical trade hurdles, increased infrastructure development, increased investment, improved trade cooperation, and lower trade barriers. Furthermore, by

funding Ukraine's energy infrastructure, the EU seeks to enhance Ukraine's energy policy, increase energy efficiency, prevent unexpected interruptions in the energy supply or energy pollution, and provide seamless access to the European market. As a result, both nations stand to gain from increased collaboration and communication [18, p.17-19].

The EU's Eastern Partnership Policy was introduced in 2009 as an extension and advancement of the European Neighbourhood Policy. The EU's new eastward expansion policy, the Eastern Partnership Policy, was put into effect in May 2009 with the goal of strengthening development cooperation with European Union's new neighbors. The development of Ukraine, one of the EU's neighbors, presents a serious threat to the security and stability of the EU. Despite its initial hesitancy, Ukraine ultimately decided to follow the "European path" after gaining its independence, and it has since publicly stated that it is a member of Europe. Deepening the overall strategic partnership between Ukraine and the EU depends heavily on the Eastern Partnership Policy's execution and the growth of bilateral cooperation.

The Eastern Partnership Policy encourages continued growth of collaboration with the EU and serves as a solid political bridge between the EU and its member nations. Additionally, the Eastern Partnership's long-term economic goal is to establish an economic community of neighboring nations through projects including economic integration between the EU and its partner nations as well as expanded EU market access to those nations. International law and core values, such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and freedoms, the market economy, and sustainable development, form the foundation of the Eastern Partnership Policy [42, p.1].

## 1.2 Main motivations for the implementation of the Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the EU

The EU will be strengthened by the growth of European integration, which will surely have a greater global impact. Ukraine, on the other hand, is desperate to prosper through development cooperation with the EU, which will provide valuable development opportunities due to its backward economy and slow social development. As a result, the "Eastern Partnership Policy" between Ukraine and the EU has political, cultural, economic, and security components [40, p.1-3].

- 1) Economic motivation. First, Ukraine has a low economic level. By encouraging Ukraine and the EU to work together, Ukraine will strengthen itself, increase its economic benefits, and raise its own level. Second, Ukraine can expand commerce and import capital thanks to the EU's sizable market, which is definitely highly alluring. Third, Ukrainian businesses have been compelled to raise their management and technological standards as well as their overall ability to adjust to global developments due to the competitive pressures imposed by the EU, It will contribute to the improvement of Ukraine's global economic standing and political clout. Ukraine has emerged as the EU's most significant commercial partner in development cooperation since the two countries' 2009 implementation of the Eastern Partnership Policy. Thus, the Eastern Partnership Policy's continuation will help the EU and Ukraine's partnership grow even further [10, p.10-12].
- 2) Political motives. First, fostering closer EU and Ukraine collaboration is beneficial for maintaining peace, security, and prosperity in Europe. Second, by continuously increasing the efficiency of energy use, Ukraine's long-term development cooperation with the EU will assure the security of energy supply and transportation, which will help the EU meet its regular energy needs. Third, Ukraine has expanded development collaboration with the EU through the Eastern Partnership Policy in a variety of areas, such as the economy, finance, politics, rule of law, the environment,

culture, education, energy, security, and border control. As a result, the EU's relationship with Ukraine has generally improved [15, p.25-31].

- 3) Cultural motivations. To a certain degree, the common cultural roots of the Ukrainian state and the EU member states has established the cultural groundwork for future EU and Ukraine collaboration. In the contemporary world, religion, education, culture, and customs all have a significant impact on both sides when forming partnerships, alliances, or development cooperative. Therefore, encouraging collaboration between Ukraine and the EU will also encourage cultural diversity on both sides, which will ultimately strengthen understanding and build strong ties between the two countries.
- 4) Safety motivation. First, putting the two nations on the same developmental path and resolving contradictions, cultural conflicts, and religious issues between them are benefits of the EU and Ukraine implementing the "Eastern Partnership Policy", which also helps to guarantee security and stability in Europe and advance peace, security, and stability throughout the world. Second, Ukraine has inherited part of the military heritage and the military-industrial complex of the former Soviet Union, which is a significant security threat, cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the security domain can prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, eliminate the threat posed by landmines, and prevent the loss of conventional weapons in the former Soviet area. Third, The development of relations with Ukraine, which is geographically very important and has an important geostrategic position in Europe, has become an inevitable choice for the EU's strategy [7, p.40-44].
- 5) Energy motivation. The reliability of energy supply and the rationalization of energy prices are the two primary areas on which the EU concentrates its attention when it comes to energy challenges. In order to ensure a safe and stable environment

in the eastern region, lessen reliance on Russian energy, and safeguard the EU's energy supply, the EU and Ukraine have implemented the "Eastern Partnership Policy" [30, p.261]. To secure the EU's energy security, more diverse routes for the EU's energy supply can be made available by stepping up energy cooperation between the EU and Ukraine [21, p.55].

### 1.3 Significance of the implementation of the Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the EU

The EU and Ukraine collaboration holds great significance, as the advancement of European integration plays a crucial role in shaping the EU's trajectory. Ukraine and the EU need each other, and while entry into European integration is one of Ukraine's top foreign policy objectives, it also serves as a major catalyst for changes in the country's political and economic structure. Ukraine and the European Union are becoming closer, consistently bolstering their development collaboration, expanding their political cooperation, and progressively achieving economic and European integration.

Supporting political, economic, and social changes in Ukraine, enhancing political and economic integration between Ukraine and the EU, and preserving peace, security, and prosperity in the EU neighborhood are the primary goals of the "Eastern Partnership Policy" between Ukraine and the EU. The EU and Ukraine have established reciprocal ties in the fields of infrastructure investment, lowering trade tariff barriers and increasing trade liberalisation break through the traditional cooperation in economic and trade relations and are in line with the development needs of both sides [3, p.137-141]. The following are the reasons why Ukraine and the EU should execute the "Eastern Partnership Policy".

- 1) The EU and Ukraine economic relations have a significant effect on the European economy. The level of agricultural production in Ukraine directly affects the direction of the global agricultural market, and the EU has a significant role in shaping the economic structure of Europe. There are various ramifications.
- i) With the support and assistance of large sums of money from the European Union, Ukraine can change its economically unfavorable situation, seize the opportunity to vigorously develop its economy, learn from the EU's advanced technologies and experience, change its domestic infrastructure, and shorten the gap with the existing member states of the EU as soon as possible.
- ii) Ukraine will have the opportunity to gain access to the EU market if collaboration with the EU is encouraged. This implies that Ukraine can enhance its exports and international trade, draw in more foreign investment, improve its domestic infrastructure, add jobs, and raise national income if it is granted access to the EU market.
- iii) The EU has a wide investment space, Ukraine has a relatively broad trade market, and Ukraine and the EU have complementary economic and industrial structures.
- iv) The EU has greater advantages in terms of capital, technology and human resources, while Ukraine's increasingly improved infrastructure and investment environment can also benefit EU investors, giving full play to the complementary advantages between Ukraine and the EU.
- v) It will encourage additional commodity tariff reductions, lower bilateral trade barriers, open up the investment climate, and accelerate the growth of services trade[1, p.40-42].
  - vi) EU direct investment will lead to the modernisation of the Ukrainian

economy, promote the restructuring of Ukrainian enterprises and the diversification of the product mix, create more jobs and also help to reduce dependence for energy.

- vii) EU helps Ukraine with infrastructure development.
- 2) From political point of view, Russia and the EU will be significantly impacted by Ukraine's development as their shared neighbor. By extending its political and economic development cooperation with the Ukrainian state and integrating Ukraine into the European integration process, the EU seeks to prevent the formation of new lines of division. The region of Eastern Europe will be greatly impacted by the political course of Ukraine's collaboration with the EU[8, p.2]. Since Ukraine is the nation with the largest territory in Europe outside of Russia and has a significant impact on the movement of goods and energy throughout the continent, it is strategically significant. The EU is the primary implementer and defender of European security mechanisms and the dominant force in post-World War II European political practice. Studying Ukraine's and the EU's "Eastern Partnership Policy" is crucial for this reason[29, p.23].
- 3) In terms of how regional integration is developing, one might examine this development by looking at the relationship between Ukraine and the EU. ties between the EU and Ukraine have been upgraded to the status of 'good-neighbourly relations' as the EU expands its borders into Ukraine's neighborhood. Furthermore, studying the relationship between the EU and Ukraine is useful for understanding international politics, the political and economic landscape in Europe, and the trajectory of global growth. An analysis of the evolution of ties between the EU and Ukraine is also a useful resource for upcoming global developments.

Both parties' needs are met by the growing cooperation between the EU and Ukraine. However, given the complexity of the global environment and the disparities between the two sides, it is imperative that we examine and evaluate the issues and

inconsistencies that arise in the course of Ukraine and the EU's cooperation under the "Eastern Partnership Policy," that we consistently foster mutual understanding, tolerance, and communication, and that we encourage joint development and win-win cooperation. Therefore, analysing the development cooperation between the EU and Ukraine and putting forward reasonable recommendations is the significance of this study.

### **Conclusion to chapter 1**

It is first important to introduce the subject research issue through the contents of this chapter in order to better examine the development cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union in the context of the Eastern Partnership Policy's execution. First, this chapter analyses the background to the Eastern Partnership Policy proposed by both Ukraine and the EU. Second, examining the starting points of Ukrainian policy with the EU and Ukraine in order to implement the Eastern Partnership in terms of economic, political, cultural, security, and energy. Third, The importance of the policy is analysed from the point of view of economic, political and regional integration and development. Examine the history, rationale, and importance of Ukraine's policies in carrying out the EU and Ukraine Eastern Partnership to set the stage for the upcoming chapter.

## CHAPTER 2. ANALYSIS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE EU WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP POLICY

### 2.1 The process of change in Ukraine's relations with the EU

With Russia in disarray after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, Ukraine took advantage of the moment to declare its independence. In June 1994, the Ukrainian government and the EU signed the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (AA), which established a new legal foundation and framework for EU and Ukraine relations. The "Strategy for the Integration of Ukraine and the EU" was formally proposed by the Ukrainian government in June 1998 with the president's approval. It outlines the fundamental principles for the growth of Ukraine and EU cooperation in the fields of law, economics, social security, and cultural development.

At a European Council meeting in December 2008, the EU offered a draft idea for "Eastern Partnership" and agreed to create bilateral policies for its new eastern neighbors[33, p.4-5]. In May 2009, the first Eastern Partnership meeting was held in the Czech capital, marking the official launch of the Eastern Partnership Policy [38, p.78].

The Ukrainian conflict began in November 2013. The EU and Ukraine's development cooperation process was hampered by the difficult relationship that resulted from the Ukrainian crisis. Following multiple discussions between the EU and Ukraine to reimplement the development cooperation agreement, the political and economic components of the EU Associated States Agreement were signed in March and June 2014 in response to the effects of the Ukrainian crisis. At the same time Ukraine and the EU have clear policy priorities in a number of areas such as economic

development, trade, connectivity, mobility, security and governance [39, p.25].

The Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU was ratified by the Ukrainian and European Parliaments in September 2016. Aiming to achieve security stability and swift political and economic recovery in neighboring countries, the EU unveiled the '20 Deliverables for 2020' (20 Deliverables for 2020) on the Eastern Partnership Policy in June 2017. It addresses a wide range of topics related to democracy, human rights, and the market economy. It builds on these shared objectives to establish the circumstances for democracy, stability, and prosperity for both parties[11, p.53-55]. The EU Member State Parliaments approved and ratified the agreement between Ukraine and the EU Associated States in July 2017, and it became operative on September 1st of the same year. An important turning point in Ukraine's EU membership process has been reached with the signing of the Association Agreement.

On 7 February 2019, the Ukrainian government adopted changes to the Ukrainian Constitution that modify the country's strategic approach to EU membership. In October 2021, the 23rd Ukraine and EU Summit was held in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine. Ukraine wants the EU to establish a visa-free agreement for industry, abolish restrictions on some food exports, expand quotas for duty-free imports from Ukraine, and further liberalize trade [2, p.1-2].

Russian President Vladimir Putin declared a "special military operation" against Ukraine on February 24, 2022. This was followed by a nationwide state of alert and readiness, with explosions or intense gunfights occurring in the Ukrainian cities of Kiev, Kharkiv, Mariupol, and Odessa. In this conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the EU is supporting Ukraine in two ways. On the one hand, Measures against Russia include economic and personal penalties, blocking Russian aircraft from entering EU airspace,

and limiting trade between the two countries. On the other hand, the support for Ukraine includes refugee hosting, humanitarian aid, civil defence support, rebuilding a democratic Ukraine, economic aid, support for the Ukrainian army, prosecution of war crimes. It is clear from the attitude of the EU that it is very supportive of Ukraine and has been very helpful in assisting the country [34, p1].

On 23 June 2022, European Council President Michel announced the approval of Ukraine as an EU candidate country. It is evident that while the evolution of Ukraine and EU collaboration has resulted in crises, overall conditions have improved. Ukraine and the EU have been working to develop agreements on the economic, political, security, cultural and educational spheres and are actively promoting and developing cooperation in these areas.

### 2.2 The main forms of development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU on the implementation of the Eastern Partnership policy

Ukraine and the EU are enhancing development collaboration in a number of areas as the "Eastern Partnership Policy" implementation. First of all, Ukraine and the EU are working towards a "civilizational partnership", increasing cooperation in the development of financial, human and information resources in the field of humanistic exchanges between the two sides. The two sides' continuous humanistic interactions serve as a catalyst for the growth of collaboration in other domains. Second, Ukraine lacks industrialization and infrastructure, and enhancing industrialization and infrastructure is a crucial area for both parties to collaborate and grow. In order to further improve Ukraine's public services and infrastructure, as well as to improve the investment climate and make it easier to draw in foreign investment, the EU is stepping up its cooperation with Ukraine in the development of infrastructure in the areas of

energy, transportation, and information and communication. Furthermore, the interests of Ukraine and the EU are fully taken into account while determining the current state of affairs internationally. It is necessary to enhance the economic and trade cooperation between Ukraine and the EU. In accordance with the principles of win-win cooperation and mutual benefit, strategies to further advance the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU should be pursued in order to maximize the interests of both parties and to resolve disputes between them as much as possible [36, p.102]. The important aspects of the economy, politics, security, culture and society are discussed in detail below.

- 1) Economic aspects. As part of the agreement's economic component, the EU and Ukraine initiated talks to expand trade dialogues on a broad scale following Ukraine's admission to the WTO in February 2008. In addition, building a network of Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (DCFTA), increasing the advantages of trade in goods and services as well as financial flows, and promoting the growth of open markets for long-term economic and social stability are further significant trade and economic goals shared by the EU and Ukraine. The ways in which Ukraine and the EU promote cooperation for economic development include: liberalization of markets and concurrent market openings to one another, trade balance, encouraging investment in Ukraine by EU member states based on the idea of mutual benefit, and assistance for exporters from Ukraine[9, p.29-33].
- 2) Political aspects. A well-functioning judicial system, a sound and effective legal system, and a clean government are important conditions for ensuring the democratic legitimacy of government. With the many difficulties facing Ukraine after independence, it is important to strengthen the country's politics and it is a priority to keep improving the system and guaranteeing good governance. In addition to providing

the necessary financial incentives for the reform of Ukraine's regional governance, the political development cooperation between the EU and Ukraine will support and technically assist reforms in critical areas like democracy, the rule of law, and human rights. It will also help to strengthen cooperation and information exchange between the two sides in the areas of common diplomacy and security. These include assisting Ukraine in advancing its efforts to fight corruption, uphold the rule of law, implement judicial reforms, and encourage the liberalization of visa policies [35, p.95-96].

- 3) Safety aspects. Encouraging European integration fosters the creation of a regional "security community" that transcends state boundaries, while simultaneously improving regional security and enhancing overall European security. According to this viewpoint, one of the most crucial strategies for achieving security in the EU region is the EU's eastern enlargement. A key element in bolstering peace, security, and prosperity in Europe is the establishment of a strategic alliance between Ukraine and the EU. The Eastern Partnership Policy's implementation supports both areas' security and stability and is consistent with the goal for peaceful post-Cold War development in Europe. The two sides have been working to improve development cooperation in the security sector in recent years, with a particular emphasis on preserving the security of energy supplies and enhancing security cooperation [37].
- 4) Cultural aspects. The EU places great emphasis on building soft power. The main reason for this is that the EU considers European culture and Western values to be a valuable strategic resource, the promotion of which is beneficial to its own development and that of its neighbouring countries. The EU also attaches great importance to cultural diplomacy and is constantly spreading European culture and promoting Western values in its foreign exchanges. Cultural exchanges with countries from different cultures gradually lead to an identification with European norms and

practices, laying the foundations for an increased influence of European culture in the world [23, p.20-24]. In material terms, the EU protects the rapid development of many cultural and creative industries and encourages their productive activities. As a result, in recent years the EU has strengthened its cultural development cooperation with Ukraine in a number of areas, including the strengthening of exchanges and contacts between the two sides and the enhancement of humanistic exchanges between the two sides [24, p.51-53].

5) Social aspects. Apart from the economic, political, security, and cultural facets, collaboration between Ukraine and the EU encompasses numerous social elements that hold significant importance for the general public and yield concrete advantages for the Ukrainian people. such as Ukraine has adopted the practices of EU countries in the areas of health care, employment and pensions. In addition, The EU helping Ukraine to raise the level of social security, strengthen scientific technological and strengthen cultural education, enhance environmental protection [10, p.15-20].

### 2.3 Effectiveness of the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU

Since 1990 to date, Ukraine has maintained a strong desire to join the EU and has worked hard to try to join the organisation. For the EU, it is of great importance to strengthen cooperation with Ukraine. The EU remains steadfast in its support for the independence, territorial integrity, and sovereign integrity of the Ukrainian state and works to assist Ukraine in achieving stability, prosperity, and democracy in that nation. By means of the policy agreement's signature, stronger relationships have been forged to foster political discussions, business collaborations, and the realization of shared ideals. Ukraine will keep carrying out its reform program with the goal of boosting economic expansion and raising people's standard of living. Focus on reforms to

combat corruption, judicial reform, constitutional and electoral reform, and public administration and decentralisation, with a focus on improving the business environment and energy efficiency [29, p.23].

Ukraine intends to actively advance the Eastern Partnership Policy, fortify its development cooperation with the EU, and collaborate on several significant projects that are well-suited for collaboration. In order to achieve rapid economic development in Ukraine, the EU will assist the country in making the best use of its many internal resources and will consistently bolster its policy support for both the national and local governments [43]. These days, strengthening political, security, economic, and sociocultural connections between the EU and Ukraine is largely dependent on the Eastern Partnership Policy. In the framework of this policy, the two sides have developed a deeper partnership and achieved remarkable outcomes in the political, social, economic, and security domains [11, p.117-130]. The follow is a detailed examination of the many advantages that both parties stand to gain from increased cooperation when the "Eastern Partnership Policy" between Ukraine and the EU is put into effect.

1) Economic aspects. Ukraine is the second largest food exporter in the world, with a comparatively developed agricultural sector and record-breaking agricultural exports in recent years. It is known as the 'breadbasket of Europe'. Agriculture is an important pillar of the Ukrainian economy, with better income from agricultural foreign trade. In addition, Ukraine is rich in coal and iron resources, and the iron and steel industry is an important part of its traditional industry and occupies a certain position in the national economy.

Certain pertinent statistics for Ukraine in 2022 cannot be included in the comparison because the efficiency of development cooperation between Ukraine and

the EU in the context of the Eastern Partnership Policy cannot take into account the particular factor of war. We can see Figure 2.1 below about the statistics of GDP change in Ukraine [25].

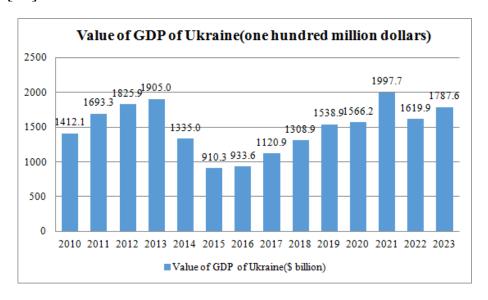


Figure 2.1 Shows the statistics of GDP change in Ukraine.(2010-2023)

Ukraine's GDP in 2023 was \$178.76 billion, an increase of \$16.77 billion, or 5.3 per cent, over the previous year. Compared with 2010, this represents an increase of \$37.55 billion, or 1.21 percentage points higher than in 2010. It can be seen that the domestic economic development of Ukraine from 2010 to 2023 is unstable, and the GDP of Ukraine fluctuates relatively large. During the period of 2010 to 2013, the GDP of Ukraine grows at a faster rate, and the economic development of Ukraine is relatively satisfactory. During the period of 2013 to 2015, due to the Ukrainian crisis affect, the Ukrainian economy appears to have a large amount of time in the period of two years lasting decline. Between 2015 and 2019, Ukraine's GDP experienced a slow rebound as the Ukrainian crisis eased and the country began to develop its economy. The global outbreak of the epidemic at the end of 2019 led to a severe impact on the global economy, and Ukraine was not immune to it. The highly contagious nature of the epidemic led to severe shocks in key sectors such as domestic transportation,

tourism, and accommodation and food service in Ukraine. In 2022, Ukraine's GDP grew at a faster rate than that of other countries, with the economy growing faster. The 2022 start of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine causes a sharp decline in the economy, and the effects of war on the economy are lethal. (see Figure 2.1).

Table 2.1 Annual statistics on the value added of agriculture, industry and manufacturing in Ukraine for 2010-2023

Annual statistics on the value added of agriculture, industry and manufacturing in					
Ukraine for 2010-2023					
	Value added in	Industrial added Manufacturing value			
Years	agriculture(one hundred	value(one hundred	added(one hundred million		
	million dollars)	million dollars)	dollars)		
2010	101.30	352.25	179.82		
2011	138.01	420.61	199.23		
2012	141.72	443.08	223.30		
2013	165.59	427.29	212.23		
2014	135.57	304.64	163.25		
2015	109.78	197.79	108.35		
2016	109.47	216.38	114.07		
2017	114.08	261.05	134.29		
2018	132.72	304.89	150.97		
2019	137.96	347.47	166.02		
2020	145.81	325.76	158.21		
2021	212.75	469.44	206.14		
2022	138.87	291.76	123.17		
2023	132.38	336.70	147.42		

Table 2.1 Annual statistics on the value added of agriculture, industry and manufacturing in Ukraine for 2010-2023

In terms of selected industries, The value added of Ukraine's agriculture in 2023 was \$13,238 million, down \$649 million from the previous year; the value added of industry was \$33,670 million, up \$4,494 million; and the value added of manufacturing

was \$14,742 million, up \$2,425 million from the year before. In 2023 year, the value added of industry will account for 18.84 percent of Ukraine's GDP, the value added of manufacturing will account for 8.25 percent, and the value added of agricultural will account for 7.41 percent. (see Table 2.1)

Ukraine was a developing country with a high level of agricultural production and a relatively underdeveloped industry, especially manufacturing. The Ukrainian economy was gradually recovering and developing, with favourable results in services and agriculture. In the future, with improved infrastructure, Ukraine's development prospects remain full of challenges and opportunities. With a surplus of wheat, corn, barley, rye, and other food crops, Ukraine is one of the biggest food producers in the world. Ukraine's major industrial sectors include steel, metallurgy, chemicals, machine building, aerospace and shipbuilding. Economic changes in Ukraine's agriculture, industry and manufacturing are analysed above. We can sen that the Ukrainian economy is getting better.

Ukraine's Gross National Income (GNI) in 2023 was \$184,268 million, an increase of \$13,797 million from the previous year and \$48,310 million compared to 2010 GNI figures, while Gross National Expenditure (GNE) was \$216,164 million, an increase of \$27,436 million from the previous year and \$70,977 million compared to 2010 figures; The share of Gross National Expenditure in GDP of Ukraine in 2023 is 120.93%, which is an increase of 18.11 percentage points compared to 2010. We can see Figure 2.2 below about the statistics of GNI and GNE of Ukraine and analyse the state of development in Ukraine [20].

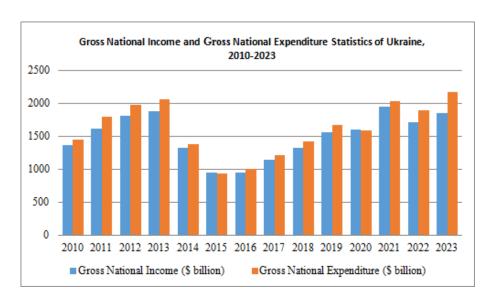


Figure 2.2. Statistics of GNI and GNP of Ukraine.(2010-2023)

As can be seen in Figure 2.2, the overall trend of Ukraine's GNI and GNE from 2010 to 2023 is upward. the crisis in Ukraine in 2013 and the Russian-Ukrainian war in 2022 led to a sharp decline in both GNI and GNE in Ukraine, which seriously affected the process of economic development. In addition, many years Ukraine's GNE exceeded its GNI, which was detrimental to the country's economic development. I think Ukraine should to develop its own economy, when GNI is greater than GNE, Ukraine will become better and better.

Ukraine now has greater access to the EU market thanks to the gradual resumption of signing political and free trade agreements with the EU and increased economic cooperation between the two countries. Additionally, trade and aid from the EU significantly mitigate the negative effects of Ukraine's own economic development. In 2023, the world GDP per capita is \$13,138.3, and Ukraine's GDP per capita is \$5,181.36, which is \$605.38 more than the previous year, and \$2,102.95 more than the GDP per capita figure for 2010.

The Figure 2.3 below shows the national income per capita statistics of Ukraine (2010-2023) [20].



Figure 2.3. The national income per capita statistics of Ukraine (2010-2023)

The national income per capita of Ukraine shows a slow rise. This is due to the Ukrainian crisis and the effects of the Russia-Ukraine war, which led to a significant drop in GNI per capita between 2010 and 2023. (see Figure 2.3)

Developments in trade cooperation. A key component of the "Eastern Partnership Policy" between Ukraine and the EU, which calls for the liberalization of trade in goods and services between the two countries, is the creation of a free trade area. The FTA shall guarantee the thorough modification of Ukrainian trade regulations to conform to EU standards and the progressive integration of the Ukrainian economy into the EU internal market. Since the creation of the Free Trade Area with the EU, Ukraine has increased trade between the two countries. Ukraine has been a global leader in agricultural production as a result of the ongoing European integration process[Помилка! Джерело посилання не знайдено.].

We can see Table 2.2 below about information about EU and Ukraine trade in imports and exports[26].

Table 2.2.

EU and Ukraine trade in imports and exports

EU and Ukraine trade in imports and exports						
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

With a decline or slowdown in 2020 and 2021 due to the global epidemic (global economic downturn due to the impact of the epidemic in 2020, affecting import and export trade between countries) resulting in a decline in trade between Ukraine and the EU. It is evident that the volume of export and import trade between Ukraine and the EU is increasing between 2016 and 2021, and that both sides' shares in the export and import trade partners are gradually growing larger. This is a sign of Ukraine and the EU's expanding economic cooperation (see Table 2.2).

Trade cooperation between Ukraine and the EU should be strengthened and trade barriers should be reduced out of a situation that is beneficial to both parties, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and other EU nations are among the principal trading partners of Ukraine. The following information is derived from an analysis of the products trade between Ukraine and these nations. We can see Table 2.3 below about trade in selected goods[26]. The goods include cereals and cereal preparations(04); Iron and steel(67); petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33).

Table 2.3

Goods trade between Ukraine and a few EU nations in 2021.					
Reporter	Partner	Product Categories	Import	Export	
Ukraine Belgium	cereals and cereal preparations(04)	4,081,152	137,035,600		
	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	28,046,518	10,819,913		
		Iron and steel(67)	28,046,518	10,819,913	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	44,662,301	2,324,935	
Ukraine	France	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	11,160,537	850,321	
		Iron and steel(67)	4,546,943	52,617,711	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	22,696,579	58,783,067	
Ukraine	Germany	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	62,166,927	8,636,839	
		Iron and steel(67)	49,587,118	\$214,012,133	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	44,183,289	244,392,839	
Ukraine	Italy	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	114,588,050	623,317	
		Iron and steel(67)	32,682,610	1,904,482,942	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	72,524,381	33,161,707	
Ukraine Poland	Poland	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	102,344,059	11,121,453	
		Iron and steel(67)	135,508,477	1,312,354,974	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	2,129,479	1,526,586	
Ukraine Slovakia	e Slovakia petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)		2,640,197	8,121,306	
			Iron and steel(67)	70,955,068	81,652,251
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	5,052,973	661,478,391	
Ukraine	Spain	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	51,809,310	2,530,105	
		Iron and steel(67)	12,809,012	196,742,568	
		cereals and cereal preparations(04)	2,059,526	1,809,814	
Ukraine	Sweden	petrobleum, petrobleum products and related materials(33)	1,190,229	285,568	
		Iron and steel(67)	11,169,451	26,728,106	

As the trade data above shows, there is a wide range of trade between Ukraine and the EU's member states, and the trade data for different items is comparatively substantial, indicating that trade between Ukraine and the EU's member states occurs frequently (see Table 2.3).

We can see Table 2.4. below about comparison of trade in selected goods in 2020 and 2021 [26].

Table 2.4 Data on trade in selected goods in 2020 and 2021

	Comparison of EU and Ukraine data on trade in selected goods in 2020 and 2021					
year	Name of the item	Exports in	Imports in	Share of	Share of	
		million of	million of	imports by	exports by	
		ECU/EURO	ECU/EURO	partner(%)	partner(%)	
2020	Food drink and takens	1592.5	2427.7	24.5	12.3	
2021	Food, drink and tobacco	1717.2	2606.1	18.5	10.9	
2020	Raw materials	372.0	3189.2	32.2	2.9	
2021	Raw materials	440.0	4905.1	34.9	2.8	
2020	Mineral fuels, lubricants	774.9	53.9	0.5	6.0	
2021	and related materials	1311.3	100.6	0.8	8.3	
2020	Chemicals and related	2926.8	316.4	3.2	22.6	
2021	products, n.e.s.	3602.6	528.7	3.8	22.9	
2020	041	2569.4	2893.5	29.2	19.8	
2021	Other manufactured qoods	3003.2	4765.8	33.9	19.1	
2020	Machinery and transport	4428.2	959.9	9.7	34.2	
2021	equipment	5394.0	1076.2	7.6	34.3	
2020	Commodities and	288.4	73.4	0.7	2.2	
2021	transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	267.4	75.2	0.5	1.7	

When the data on trade in goods between Ukraine and the EU in 2020 and 2021 are compared, it is evident that both the volume of trade and the share of each side in the trade in various items between Ukraine and the EU are increasing. Since the EU's share of Ukraine's foreign trade is growing annually and trade barriers between the two countries are falling, the data analysis indicates that economic cooperation between Ukraine and the EU has become closer in recent years, which is good for both parties' long-term growth.(see Table 2.4)

As a result, the EU and Ukraine are significant trading partners. Ukraine's top trading partner is the EU. Ukraine is a valuable market for the EU to import items with significant potential and export raw materials. In recent years, the EU's share of

Ukraine's overall services trade has been steadily rising, suggesting an unavoidable trend toward increased EU-Ukraine development collaboration. Germany, Italy, France, Austria, and Spain are some of Ukraine's principal trading partners within the EU.

In the realm of investing. Ukraine receives the most investment from the EU. The EU has primarily invested in wholesale and intermediate trade, the food industry and agro-processing, finance, transportation, communications, real estate, and other sectors with high capital recovery rates. Instead, while metallurgy and energy are essential to Ukraine's national livelihood, there has been less investment in these sectors. For example, dthe food and agro-processing sector sees the majority of direct investment from the Netherlands, the country's largest investor, while direct investment in Ukraine by the UK (which has now left the EU) and Germany is also concentrated in the processing industry. With loans totaling more than €13 billion (about \$14.2) billion) and help totaling more than €2 billion (around \$2.2 billion) between 2014 and 2019, the EU is Ukraine's largest source of foreign aid. Between 2014 and 2019, Ukraine received an additional €1.4 billion (\$1.5 billion) in bilateral funding from EU member states. In order to combat the new crown outbreak in Ukraine, the EU stated in April 2020 that it would provide more than €190 million (US\$205 million) in emergency assistance. Additionally, the EU has given Ukraine a total of 73.1 billion euros in support of Ukraine since the start of the Russo-Ukrainian war in February 2022 until December 2022, which has substantially financed the nation. EU also provides the majority of its technical support to the Ukraine. The EU has assisted Ukraine in strengthening its service sector, which has resulted in an increasing part of the Ukrainian national economy, since the EU and Ukraine implemented the Eastern Partnership Policy.

Economic and industrial cooperation. The conditions, procedures, and

temporary framework for the progressive harmonization of Ukrainian and EU law as well as the advancement of development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU and its member states in all spheres of the Ukrainian economy are outlined in the Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the EU. Energy, culture, financial services, education, transportation, environmental protection, agriculture, technical cooperation, health care, and other areas are among the areas where the policy lays out measures for cooperation between the two sides.

2) Political aspects. Guarantees of human rights and freedoms, respect for the rule of law, adherence to the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, and assurances of the inviolability of borders and independence are all part of Ukraine and the EU's political cooperation in the Eastern Partnership Policy. Establishing political relations between Ukraine and the EU is the primary goal of fostering the growth of political discourse among the parties in a variety of areas. European security and stability expansion, peace and justice consolidation, the assurance of progressive convergence in foreign and security policy, disarmament and armaments control, conflict prevention, the rejection of nuclear proliferation, counterterrorism are the main focuses of political cooperation[13].

Leading Ukraine toward political changes focused on democracy and good governance is the political task of the EU and Ukraine in carrying out the Eastern Partnership Policy. An important tool for the EU to fulfil this task is the implementation of Comprehensive Institution-Building Programmes. Through the provision of training and assistance and other forms of institution-building support, Ukraine will build up its administrative capacity to gradually adopt and implement legal standards and institutional norms that converge with those of the EU. The follow are the results of the two parties' political partnership.

- i) Ukraine has undertaken a political reform program to boost economic growth and enhance the quality of life for its citizens since the start of the Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the European Union. Priority reforms include anti-corruption, judicial, constitutional and electoral reforms, improvements in the business environment and energy efficiency, and reforms in public administration and decentralization.
- ii) The EU's strong ties with Ukraine are based on human rights and democratization. To assist Ukraine in implementing human rights and democracy reforms and to further solidify its own democratic growth, the EU urges the Ukrainian government to further up its close development collaboration with the Council of Europe. Ukraine's decision to join the EU is welcomed by the EU, which acknowledges its goals for European integration.
- iii) Establishing a system that allows people to travel between the two countries without a visa. Cooperation between Ukraine and the EU is highly valued, and both parties are continuously enhancing the development of transportation infrastructure connections and the phased introduction of visa facilitation initiatives. The EU grants Ukraine visa-free entry and establishes suitable rules to safeguard those who are lawfully employed in each other's nations. For both populations, increased movement between Ukraine and the EU has real advantages.
- 3) Security aspects. Ensuring European security and stability as well as advancing global peace, security, and stability were the original goals of Ukraine's Eastern Partnership Policy with the EU. It is impossible to overestimate the significance of safety[37]. Here are the effects of the security cooperation between two parties.
  - i) Enhanced security cooperation between Ukraine and the EU might stop the

spread of WMDs in Europe and stop the supply of conventional weapons from leaving the former Soviet area. In addition to strengthening cooperation in the provision of civil and criminal court aid, the two sides agreed to increase their efforts to combat money laundering, terrorist funding, drug trafficking, organized crime, and terrorism.

- ii) On February 24, 2022, war broke out between Russia and Ukraine. The EU provides military assistance to Ukraine. Among the weapons provided were air defense systems for the armed forces, anti-tank weapons, ammunition and other military equipment. It also promised to provide strong help and concrete support for the reconstruction of Ukraine[34,p.1].
- iii) The EU aims to safeguard the security of Europe's energy supply by promoting the modernization and reform of Ukraine's energy industry, reducing corruption in this sector, and improving the power network and other infrastructure[30, p.261].
- 4) Socio-cultural aspects. The EU and Ukraine are connected through various cross-cutting projects as part of the Eastern Partnership Policy. In addition, a number of other exchanges and cooperation have been conducted to foster comprehensive contacts and exchanges between the two sides, thereby facilitating socio-cultural exchanges. Some of the specifics are described below.
- i) The EU is helping Ukraine to adopt European standards in the areas of secondary and higher education, training of personnel, science, technology, crafts and culture and the arts, and is promoting the process of cultural, educational, scientific and technological integration between Ukraine and Europe. The core of development cooperation under the Eastern Partnership Policy is EU assistance for Ukraine's youth and the enhancement of their possibilities for development. The EU offers young people chances to participate in education and training, especially in the areas of skill

development and employability enhancement.

- ii) Ukraine has implemented the employment and health care policies of EU member states and restructured its insurance and labor protection system to conform to EU norms. The EU is providing support to Ukraine in order to fortify its institutional structure, raise the caliber of its workforce, standardize cadre management in a scientific manner, and tightly regulate the state guarantee system, which includes unemployment, health, and pension insurance.
- iii) Strengthening EU-Ukraine transport is a key aspect of cooperation between the two sides, which can enhance closer contacts and development cooperation between the two sides. By integrating Ukraine into the trans-European transport network, the EU has made Ukraine an important part of its strategic transport and logistics corridors.
- iv) One of the directions of the Eastern Partnership Policy's development is to increase citizen mobility between the EU and Ukraine in a safe and well-regulated environment. Mobility between Ukraine and the EU will be successfully promoted by the easing of visa requirements and the establishment of a visa-free system for both parties.

## Conclusions to chapter 2

First, this chapter examines the evolution of the relationship between Ukraine and the EU. Although there have been setbacks in the cooperation between Ukraine and the EU since Ukraine's independence, overall things have improved and the two sides have established a long-term development relationship to advance the ultimate objective of European integration. Second, the foundation for the ensuing proposals and ideas is established by analyzing the primary forms of cooperation development

between Ukraine and the EU in the execution of the Eastern Partnership Policy in terms of economic, political, security, cultural, and social aspects. Finally, by examining the evolution of the political, social, economic, and security ties between Ukraine and the EU within the scope of the Eastern Partnership Policy. We are able to determine that the outcomes of the two parties' development cooperation stem from a comprehensive analysis.

In general, there are benefits and drawbacks to the growing cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, as well as opportunities and obstacles. Ukraine is advancing its collaboration with the EU, and it is critical to seize this great chance to forge closer ties with the EU. Currently, Ukraine actively encourages and grows cooperation in these areas while working with the EU and its member states to reach agreements in the domains of economics, politics, security, culture, and education. Therefore, Ukraine has certain bright prospects for developing cooperation with the EU.

## CHAPTER 3. FACTORS AFFECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION AND SOUND SUGGESTIONS

#### 3.1 Factors affecting cooperation development

Although Ukraine has consistently expressed its determination and confidence in joining the EU, and despite the fact that the two countries have been developing cooperation in a number of economic, political, security, cultural, and social areas, there are always a number of factors influencing the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU. These factors can be classified as positive or negative and are discussed separately below[16, p.3-4].

### **Negative factors:**

The key words in the Eastern Partnership Policy are democracy, economy and security. Based on the EU's previous neighbourhood policy, a new framework for bilateral and multilateral collaboration between the EU and its new eastern neighbors has been established since its adoption. However, the Ukrainian crisis and the Russo-Ukrainian War have raised questions about the program's future and sparked fresh discussion and analysis in academic and political circles throughout Europe. Currently, Russian, Ukrainian, and internal EU reasons stand in the way of the two sides' further expansion of their collaboration.

- 1. Ukrainian domestic factors.
- 1) The most significant factor preventing Ukraine from developing cooperation with the EU is the chronic instability of the post-independence Ukrainian government. The wavering and even regressive policies have led many in the country to doubt Ukraine's development path and thus to resist the priority of European integration that successive governments have been advocating. The public's faith in the importance of

European integration has been partly undermined by the political division among Ukraine's political factions over foreign policy, which has further destabilized the country's political environment. In addition to this, compulsory reform will inevitably lead to a loss of rights for parts of the Ukrainian population, and the EU-led reform process will inevitably lead to resistance from all sectors of Ukrainian society and those whose interests are at stake. Driving reform in Ukraine is a long and sometimes costly process. Although the process has started, much work has to be done[41].

- 2) Another critical element impeding Ukraine's development cooperation with the EU is economic development. Ukraine is currently economically backward and after more than 20 years of tortuous economic development, the economic level has still not improved significantly, especially since the Russian-Ukrainian war has had a devastating impact on Ukraine. Although Ukraine is able to strengthen its confidence in European integration, the huge economic gap with the EU is also a major challenge before reality [4, p.73-74]. Because it lacks hydrocarbon resources, its economy is mostly dependent on outside funding, outside markets, and imported energy. It also has a relatively uniform economic structure. Ukrainian agriculture is mainly concentrated in the west and industry in the east. Ukraine has good agricultural conditions and is known as the 'breadbasket of Europe', with agricultural exports accounting for 39% of total exports and a contribution of more than 10% of GDP from agriculture. However, agricultural inputs are inadequate, storage and logistics infrastructure is backward, there is a lack of deep processing capacity, and exports are mainly raw materials with low added value. Within the industrial aspect, there is a slow rate of industrial technological renewal, a comparatively lagging manufacturing industry, poor value added in the top sectors' products, and weak international competitiveness [17, p.2].
  - 3) The slow pace of domestic political reform in Ukraine makes it difficult to

meet the demands of the EU. During Poroshenko's presidency of Ukraine, corruption was more of a problem and many officials rejected the government's efforts to combat it. One of the two most critical issues in Ukraine, according to most respondents to an opinion poll, is corruption (the other being the conflict with Russia). According to Transparency International's (NGO) Corruption Perceptions Index, Ukraine has been ranked relatively low since 2013. In 2019, it was ranked 126th out of 180 nations. During Zelensky's presidency, the Ukrainian government pursued a vigorous anticorruption campaign and the problem of corruption in Ukraine improved, but obstacles still existed that prevented the proper functioning of Ukraine's anti-corruption agencies. Despite the fact that ties between Ukraine and the EU have greatly improved in recent years, worries for Ukraine's future have been raised by the absence of noticeable progress on important anti-corruption problems. The majority of Ukrainians believe that the nation's social, economic, and political turmoil is a result of these corruption-related issues [12, p.200-203].

4) Following the fall of the Soviet Union, Ukraine had to modify its industrial structure to conform to global trends, the dominance of heavy and military industry changed, while light industry and services became increasingly important. The military industry is facing difficult problems such as shrinking production capacity, shortage of capital, brain drain, outdated management models and difficulties in production transformation, while the civilian goods processing and manufacturing industry and tertiary industries such as tourism and communications are relatively weak, and agricultural growth is not sufficiently dynamic.

#### 2. Internal EU factors.

1) EU member states have different goals and interests. A uniform stance is rarely truly reached in practical reality due to the constraints of EU foreign policy, and

conflicts frequently arise amongst EU member states. The EU member states have been disagreements by their respective interests during the Eastern Partnership Policy's implementation, with disagreements and waverings over the policy's direction.

2) Consequences of the UK's exiting the EU. Based on the outcome of the referendum, the UK decided to leave the EU on June 23, 2016. After leaving the EU officially on January 31, 2020, at 11 p.m., the country will begin a transition phase that will last until December 31, 2020. It may help the UK in the short term by reducing and deflecting economic and social conflicts. But it will undoubtedly that Brexit have an impact on the process of European integration in the long run, causing changes in the EU landscape and raising doubts about the Ukraine and EU two sides' future development and cooperation [11, p.143-145].

#### 3. The Russian Factor.

1) Although Ukraine has very important ties with Russia, both politically, geographically and historically, as well as in terms of ethnic traditions and social development. Following the fall of the Soviet Union, and particularly in the last several years, the state of ties between Ukraine and Russia has been marked by sporadic tensions and détente, which have also had an impact on other areas like trade and commerce. For its part, Ukraine has mixed feelings about Russia and is extremely resistant and guarded against it. Russia was once Ukraine's largest trading partner and major energy supplier, and Ukraine has not been able to escape its heavy economic and energy dependence on Russia since independence. In addition to severely harming the growth of the Ukrainian economy, the worsening of ties between Russia and Ukraine and the ensuing border conflicts and wars have also directly affected development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU. Every border conflict and military conflict tends to worsen Ukraine's economy, and when the economy continues to deteriorate

and the military conflict persists, it may even lead to a significant refugee influx [4, p.73-74].

- 2) Russia's opposition and boycott. Russia sees Ukraine as its traditional sphere of influence and strategic barrier, as well as its strategic security and vital interests [19]. Russia's fundamental interests have been violated by the EU's "Eastern Partnership Policy" implementation with Ukraine, which is certain to incite Russian resistance and insurrection [27, p.4].
- 3) War broke out. Early on February 24, 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced on television that he had made the decision to begin a specific military operation in the Donbass region. In a speech later in the day, Ukrainian President Zelensky said Ukraine had decided to break off diplomatic relations with Russia. The Russian army then invaded Ukrainian territory, sparking a heavy firefight between the two armies in the Donbass region as well as in the east, north, and south of the nation. Missile attacks were launched against multiple Ukrainian cities, and there were explosions in Kiev, the nation's capital, a fire close to the intelligence service headquarters of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, and a mass evacuation of citizens that caused gridlock on the roads out of Kiev. The conflict between Russia and Ukraine is still going on as of right now, and because of its length, the Ukrainian economy has declined dramatically, and has created uncertainty in the EU about cooperation between the two sides.
- 4) Conflict with the EU. The intense battle between the interests of the two sides has transformed into a question of whether Ukraine will choose to be pro-Russian or pro-European due to the lack of mutual confidence between the EU and Russia as a result of self-interest. Ukraine has a tougher position and has to find room to survive in the gap between Russia and the EU. The confrontation between the EU and Russia

has the potential to evolve into a crisis if the issue between them is not resolved [31,p.3].

#### **Positive factors:**

- 1) Ukraine has abundant natural resources, a robust industrial, scientific, and agricultural basis, and enormous development potential. Additionally, the EU has a sizable market in Ukraine, and investors might benefit more from the country's economy. Ukraine's strengths are in these 7 areas.
- i) The Ukrainian market is relatively large. With a population of more than 40 million, Ukraine has the largest market in Eastern Europe. Its proximity to the EU, Eurasian, and North African markets further contributes to its appeal.
- ii) The economy of Ukraine is comparatively more open and focused on the market. Investors can benefit from duty-free imports of raw materials, components, and equipment under the terms of the Free Trade Area Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, with 95% of products obtaining zero tariffs and other products seeing a decline in tax rates.
- iii) Ukraine has a significant positional advantage. Located in the eastern part of Europe, Ukraine is known as the "Gateway to Europe" and has three routes to Europe, with relatively short rail links from China to Europe via Central Asia, Russia and Ukraine.
- iv) Ukraine has higher quality and lower cost labour resources. With 70% tertiary education for all, Ukraine ranks 45th out of 149 countries (regions) included in the Global Prosperity Index in terms of education and has a relatively high concentration of skilled personnel, with 88,000 freelance programmers in the IT industry alone.
- v) Ukraine has excellent natural conditions for the development of agriculture and a high potential for development.

- vi) Ukraine has a strong industrial base, with technological advantages in the aviation, aerospace, military, shipbuilding and communications sectors. In recent years, Ukraine has vigorously promoted privatisation reforms to restructure its production capacity, and every year publishes a list of privatisation projects to attract foreign investors.
- vii) The extremely numerous deposits of coal, iron ore, and other natural resources are found in Ukraine. The Ukrainian government encouraged the development of renewable energy sources like solar, wind, hydro, bioenergy, and geothermal energy in order to achieve energy independence. The Ukrainian government has introduced subsidised tariffs for solar power and wind power, promising to purchase "green energy" at preferential prices[41].
- 2) The EU and Ukraine depend on one another. The EU and Ukraine depend on one another. One of the main goals of Ukraine's foreign policy after independence was to integrate with Europe since it was a major force behind the transformation of the country's political and economic structure. Both parties will gain a great deal from the creation of a free trade zone between the EU and Ukraine. Encourage additional reductions in commodity tariffs, lower trade barriers for both parties, open up the environment for investment, encourage trade in services, and eventually permit both sides to establish mutually beneficial trade and investment policies. If Ukrainian companies produce products that meet EU standards, they will have better access to the EU and third country markets, which will also help Ukrainian companies to become international multinationals. The quality and safety of domestically produced goods and services in Ukraine will increase with the harmonization of product standards between the EU and Ukraine. EU direct investment will lead to the modernisation of the Ukrainian economy, promote the restructuring of Ukrainian enterprises and the

diversification of the product mix, create more jobs and objectively help to reduce Ukraine's dependence on energy [1, p.40-42].

- 3) The Eastern Partnership Policy between Ukraine and the EU offers significant access to the EU internal market for economic cooperation. Through mechanisms like market access, visa facilitation, free movement of people, and promotion of trade and economic integration, supports and encourages the establishment of a comprehensive free trade area between the two sides. Fosters a neighboring economic community, and facilitates better integration of Ukraine's economic resources with the EU.
- 4) Increased financial cooperation with the EU could help Ukraine become more resilient to the economic crisis. The EU represents a sizable trading market and a generally dependable source of foreign investment. The energy, environment, transportation, and education sectors have seen increased cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, with the EU offering both policy assistance and financial and technical support. EU direct investment dominates foreign investment in Ukraine [32].

## 3.2 Prospects for the development of cooperation between Ukraine and EU

The EU has persisted in advancing the "Eastern Partnership Policy" since the start of the Ukrainian crisis, fortifying political, economic, commercial, and energy-related exchanges and collaboration with Ukraine while also achieving new heights. Following the EU's proposal to abolish visa requirements for Ukraine in 2016, the organisation worked closely with Ukraine to urge the completion of the necessary reforms. In 2017, the proposal was approved by the European Parliament and Council, resulting in more people being able to move between the EU and Ukraine. The sixth Eastern Partnership Summit, which will take place at the end of 2021, will highlight the Eastern Partnership Policy's pursuit of stable development and mutually beneficial

cooperation. With recovery, resilience and reform as its cornerstones, the Eastern Partnership focuses on providing guidance, funding and technical support to create a circular economy, promote green growth, improve digital facilities and govern cyberspace.

The European Union has established a cooperation and development approach that is in accordance with the real situation in Ukraine in the face of challenging obstacles, fostering the country's social and economic development and providing the Eastern Partnership Policy with the momentum it needs to keep improving. In order to energize the extensive and thorough implementation of the Eastern Partnership Policy, Ukraine and the EU currently need to take advantage of the chance to continue developing cooperation in areas like the application of environmental technologies and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises.

1) The dynamics of environmental technology application. Sustainable economic growth is an important issue of common concern to the international community. In addition to increasing productivity in the same way as conventional technologies, environmental technologies can also reduce pollutant emissions, improve resource efficiency and prevent production from causing harm to the environment. For Ukraine, the use of "green technologies" to create a "green economy" can bring long-term benefits, but the first task is to familiarise itself with these new concepts and to determine how to implement them, and this can only be done by learning from the EU's valuable experience of how to improve education, raise public awareness and tailor the construction and use of wind power plants to local conditions. In addition to this, Ukraine is also considering the introduction of old EU new energy generation facilities at low cost. On the condition that both sides take what they need, the EU, which has mastered advanced green processes, strengthens targeted exchanges and cooperation

on the application of environmental technology in Ukraine, and the EU cultivates markets for its new energy equipment exports.

2) The potential of SME development. The active participation of SMEs in the economy is a direct and effective platform for people in many countries to increase their income and wealth, thereby boosting employment, expanding supply and demand and complementing market dynamics. In order to achieve these goals, issues such as the inadequacy of the relevant laws and regulations in Ukraine have yet to be resolved. As a more developed economy, the EU offers better policy guarantees for SMEs in important areas such as the business environment and the order of competition, so it is possible to engage in exchanges with Ukraine on how to overcome difficulties in order to develop the potential of SMEs. In addition to this, the EU provides advisory services and technical support to these SMEs to provide them with the ability to overcome their production and business difficulties in order to promote their own proven business management models.

In conclusion, the EU by seizing development opportunities brought about by trends like the adoption of environmental technology and the growth of small and medium-sized businesses, contributes positively to the successful execution of the Plan. The geo-economic and geo-political factors have led the EU to actively develop its relations with other countries, including Ukraine. In its relations with its international competitive partners, both offensively and defensively, the EU has an advantage in geo-economic and geo-political terms. Given this situation, it is likely that the EU will maintain its current relationship with Ukraine and may also sign a long-term cooperation treaty with Ukraine to fulfil its mutual obligations and responsibilities.

On 28 February 2022, Ukraine submitted its formal application for EU membership. The European Commission recommended that Ukraine be granted EU

candidate status in its response to Ukraine's membership application on June 17. President Michel of the European Council declared on June 23 that Ukraine was accepted as a candidate for membership in the EU. According to Ukrainian President Zelensky, the EU holds the key to Ukraine's future and that this was one of the most significant decisions made in the country's thirty years of independence. This indicates that Ukraine will formally join the EU if it meets the conditions set by the EU. Both parties are now more comfortable that the Eastern Partnership Policy is being implemented correctly, having made Ukraine a candidate for the EU. This will also give the two sides a strong foundation for future development of their collaboration.

In general, there will be both positive and negative effects from the growth of EU and Ukraine cooperation, as well as opportunities, risks, and challenges for all parties. Ukraine must use the opportunity of the Eastern Partnership Policy to maintain friendly and close relations with its EU partners. Ukraine and the EU have always been committed to concluding agreements in the economic, political, security, cultural and educational fields, and actively promote and develop cooperation in these areas. As a result, there are many opportunities for development collaboration between the EU and Ukraine, and they should be enhanced. Helping each other to be better[40, p.1-3].

# 3.3 Suggestions for strengthening the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU

Currently, important countermeasures to strengthen Ukraine's and EU development cooperation should be as follows:

1) There is no doubt that Ukraine now needs to improve its economy and promote domestic economic reforms as soon as possible. Encourage Ukraine's domestic economic reforms (such as industrialization, market liberalization, and company privatization), encourage international trade, draw in more foreign capital,

make Ukrainian goods more competitive on the global market, etc[16, p.3-4].

- i) Since the introduction of trade liberalisation, Ukrainian industry and agriculture have been subjected to international competition. For satisfy the demands of an increasing number of both domestic and international consumers, Ukraine must now move on with the new industrialization process. Therefore, in order to promote the rapid growth of industries in which Ukraine has a strong domestic advantage and to create a level playing field, the Ukrainian government needs to implement some important countermeasures and adopt effective measures and strategies, such as policies to protect foreign investment, anti-monopoly policies, and to generate competition from foreign companies.
- ii) Many Ukrainian SMEs do not have sufficient resource capacity to organise their own training, but these Ukrainian SMEs need to continue to develop and therefore need EU assistance to these Ukrainian SMEs, and EU direct investment is an important way to boost the Ukrainian economy. In addition to this, the Ukrainian government should also provide assistance to Ukrainian SMEs. Most of the SMEs in Ukraine have been established for a short period of time. The government should help SMEs with financing, provide financial assistance, simplify some administrative procedures, change the old tax system and provide more incentives, including incentives and promotion policies, etc. Ukrainian SMEs will only have better opportunities if the government increases its efforts to help these SMEs.
- iii) In terms of foreign trade, Ukraine should optimise its domestic capital market, encourage the development and cooperation of Ukrainian SMEs, and adopt new measures and strategies to improve the competitiveness of Ukrainian enterprises as soon as possible and form internationally competitive enterprises. At present, the quality of products produced by Ukrainian companies is not as good as those produced

by EU companies. Therefore, the countermeasure that the Ukrainian government should take at present is to actively increase the amount of high-tech products imported and to raise the proportion of imported goods with high-tech content. In order to expand exports of Ukrainian agricultural products, the Ukrainian government should resolve the contradictory relationship between supply and demand and reduce the risk of inflation [10, p.50-51].

iv) The EU is a major investor in Ukraine. For Ukraine to attract more investment from the EU, it must create a favorable investment climate for EU investors. For example, simplifying the procedure for approving foreign investment, reforming the banking system, implementing loose fiscal and monetary policies and a flexible exchange rate. At the same time, both Ukraine and the EU must actively create trade free zones, which will attract more foreign investment [14, p.57-58].

In conclusion, in the face of today's critical situation in the world economy, Ukraine must actively adopt methods and measures to promote economic and trade development. As soon as possible, Ukraine should raise the standard and degree of its foreign trade development; gradually advance the marketization process; establishing Ukraine's foreign trade in accordance with the features of an open economy; sustain the steady growth of the Ukrainian economy; establish a peaceful environment for both internal and external development; and encourage coordinated and sustainable development.

2) Ukraine must provide the framework for social security and political stability (enhancement of internal and external security, strengthen democratization of society, etc.). Ukraine needs to work on ensuring social security and government stability and propose solutions and measures to address social security and government stability issues, thus providing the government with referable recommendations to improve the

capacity of social security services [12, p.197-204].

- 3) An in-depth reform of the Ukrainian judicial system in strict compliance with EU standards and Council of Europe regulations. The judicial authority is a crucial part of state power, it along with the legislative and executive branches, forms the foundation of the contemporary state's power structure in a society where the rule of law is upheld. Strengthening the division of judicial power in the Ukrainian State is the basis for the implementation of judicial reform. Therefore, Ukraine is subject to a redistribution of judicial competences in accordance with EU standards and principles [5, p.88-94].
- 4) Bringing the insurance and labor protection systems up to EU standards and using cutting-edge EU expertise in fields like employment and healthcare. Since independence, Ukraine has also faced significant challenges in the areas of health care, employment and labour insurance, and it is therefore time for the Ukrainian government to take effective measures and countermeasures to address the problems in Ukraine in the areas of health care, employment and labour insurance. Ukraine must strictly regulate the national security system, pension insurance, health insurance, unemployment insurance, etc., as well as strengthen its social insurance workforce in accordance with the EU model, enhance employee quality, and accomplish scientific and standardized social insurance management.
- 5) To encourage the growth of cultural, educational, scientific, and technological collaboration between Ukraine and the EU. Ukraine needs to manage in the field of culture and should continue to increase the pace of educational development and actively promote quality education in the country. Strengthening quality education is an important way for Ukraine to improve its science and technology, increase national income, transform traditional industries with high technology and advanced and

applicable technology and develop internationally competitive enterprises. Ukraine also needs to increase the independent innovation of its industry and improve the international competitiveness of its enterprises through technological innovation.

6) Strengthening environmental protection and promoting sustainable development. The three pillars of sustainable development is economic, social, and environmental. The sustainable development is for balance environmental preservation, social advancement and economic growth. The idea of sustainable development has taken center stage in socioeconomic development and is quickly emerging as a crucial component of business and national plans that will shape future growth. No matter now and in the future, sustainable development is driving this change's course and direction going forward. Therefore, both parties should follow the trend of the times, grasp the concept of sustainable development, and strive to create economic value while contributing sustainable value and positive power to social progress and ecological harmony.

7) End the Russian-Ukrainian war as soon as possible and start the reconstruction of the country. The impact of the war on the country was immeasurable, with both sides using heavy artillery and air strikes against each other's positions, leading to extensive damage to infrastructure such as houses, businesses, schools, hospitals and roads. In addition to these physical damages, the economy was severely affected by the gradual decline in investment from foreign countries due to the inability to carry out normal economic activities. Given the complexity of this conflict and its devastating effects on both parties involved, both Ukraine and Russia should commit themselves to a peaceful and negotiated end to the conflict to avoid a deeper and deeper dive.

## Conclusions to chapter 3

First, the elements influencing Ukraine's development cooperation with the EU are examined in this chapter. Positive and negative elements make up the two categories of influencing factors.

The negative factors include:

- i) Ukraine's own political instability, lack of economic development, slow political reforms and backward industrial structure.
  - ii) Divisions within the EU, impact of Brexit events.
- iii) Long-standing conflicts with Russia, leading to Russian opposition and resistance, and even the outbreak of war between the two sides.

The positive factors include:

- i) The rich resources of Ukraine and the developed economic base of the EU.
- ii) Complementary interests and mutual needs between the parties.
- iii) Both sides share the common goal of promoting European integration.

Second, the potential and forecasts for development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU are offered through a combination of theoretical advice and analysis.

Finally, by reviewing relevant materials, drawing on the experience of development cooperation between other countries, and based on the current realities of both sides, they offer their own sound advice and suggestions.

- i) Ukraine now needs to promote domestic economic reforms and improve its own economy as soon as possible.
- ii) The need for Ukraine to promote the development of a democratised society and to strengthen internal and external security.
- iii) To carry out an in-depth reform of the Ukrainian judicial system in strict compliance with EU standards and EU regulations.

- iv) Reconstructing the insurance and labour protection system in line with EU standards and adopting the EU's advanced experience in areas such as healthcare and employment.
- v) To encourage the growth of collaboration between the two sides in the fields of science, technology, education, and culture.
- vi) To promote the importance that the country attaches to environmental protection, the development of a sustainable economy and the protection of the ecological balance.
- vii) The Russian-Ukrainian war should be ended as soon as possible and national reconstruction efforts should begin.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

Stability and prosperity for both parties may be maintained to a greater extent if development cooperation between Ukraine and the EU is strengthened in the framework of the Eastern Partnership Policy. In addition to being a sizable trading market, the EU provides a dependable source of foreign investment for Ukraine. Closer financial ties with the EU may also make Ukraine more resilient to the economic crisis. In addition to being a dependable supplier of energy and agricultural products, Ukraine is a significant partner for the EU. Political collaboration with Ukraine can further advance European integration.

Regarding how the two sides' collaboration develops, Ukraine has two expectations: first, it wants to successfully change its economy through market economy guidance and help from the EU; second, it wants to get economic and technical aid from the EU along with support for human resource training. Also, the EU has two goals for how the two sides' cooperation will advance: first, In order to ensure the security of the EU's energy supply, to fortify development cooperation between the two parties; second, to establish stability and security along the EU's eastern borders while enhancing the EU's global influence and advancing the EU's integration process. With notable outcomes, Ukraine and the EU are advancing cooperation in the areas of economics, politics, security, culture, and society within the framework of the Eastern Partnership Policy.

Regarding the economy, the EU has provided Ukraine with financial and technical support to enable its economy to grow quickly, move toward a market economy, create a free trade area, and encourage trade between the two countries. On the political front, with the assistance of the EU, Ukraine has made significant steps in

nation-building, gradually establishing a political system with EU norms, gradually adopting and implementing legal standards and institutional norms that converge with those of the EU, and moving towards political democracy. On the security front, in order to ensure national security, Ukraine and the EU have strengthened their cooperation in the field of security. With EU support, Ukraine is gradually dismantling its nuclear weapons and implementing disarmament. Additionally, they are bolstering their exchanges and cooperation in the areas of crime, terrorism, and energy security. In the cultural sphere, establishing cultural ties between the EU and Ukraine through different cross-cutting projects and other types of support and cooperation between the two sides can facilitate socio-cultural exchanges by promoting complete interactions and exchanges. In the social sphere, the general public benefits directly from the social cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, which has helped Ukraine improve social security, science, technology, and culture, education, environmental protection, and the adoption of EU standards in the areas of health care, employment, pensions, education, staff training, science, technology, crafts, and the arts.

Both parties will face chances, difficulties, and challenges as their cooperation between the EU and Ukraine develops. There will also be positive and negative impacts. In addition to Ukraine's current status as an EU candidate and the ongoing commitment of both sides to reach agreements in the domains of economics, politics, security, culture, and education and to actively promote and develop cooperation in these areas, the analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of the Eastern Partnership Policy implementation by both the EU and Ukraine is combined. I thus assume that there are good chances for further development collaboration between the EU and Ukraine.

Last but not least, some recommendations are given for bolstering the development of cooperation between Ukraine and the EU by researching the

drawbacks of doing so and referencing the prosperous experiences of other nations. These include:

- 1) Ukraine now needs to promote domestic economic reforms and improve its own economy as soon as possible.
- 2) The need for Ukraine to promote the development of a democratised society and to strengthen internal and external security.
- 3) To carry out an in-depth reform of the Ukrainian judicial system in strict compliance with EU standards and EU regulations.
- 4) Building the insurance and labor protection system in accordance with EU norms and incorporating the EU's cutting-edge expertise in fields like employment and healthcare.
- 5) To encourage the growth of mutual cooperation between the two parties in the fields of science, technology, education, and culture.
- 6) To promote the importance that the country attaches to environmental protection, the development of a sustainable economy and the protection of the ecological balance.
- 7) The Russian-Ukrainian war should be ended as soon as possible and national reconstruction efforts should begin.

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