

ABSTRACTS

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NORTH-EASTERN CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION OF UKRAINE: EXPECTATIONS AND REALITIES

Euroregions are a form of international cross-border cooperation, which became widespread in European countries. Ukraine also has more than twenty years experience in similar formations. However, significant positive results for socio-economic development of Ukrainian territories that are part of certain European regions, are still not achieved.

On this basis, the authors of the article set a goal to analyze and evaluate trends in the convergence of development levels of regions of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus within the international transboundary formations established in 2003 (Euroregion “Dnipro” and “Slobozhanshchyna”) and may justify promising ways to increase the effectiveness of international regional economic cooperation.

Comparative analysis of regional development in the period of joint cross-border activities on a number of basic indicators (gross regional product, investments, wages, etc.), despite expectations for synergies, shows a significant deepening of divergence phenomena that resulted from the impact of global economic processes, instability of Ukrainian – Russian relations, low competitiveness of the Ukrainian economy and low use of institutional and financial factors, both from the state, and representatives of local authorities.

Improving the effectiveness of cross-border cooperation in the near future is seen in the decentralization of public administration and empowering local authorities, development of real economic cooperation projects, attracting additional sources of funding for their implementation, the use of new organizational forms of cooperation according to the type of European groupings of territorial cooperation.