ABSTRACTS

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THE EU PROJECTS AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IN UKRAINE

Institutional changes may speed up with the external help and participation of more developed economies. While substantial EU finance is being allocated to increasing transparency, fighting corruption and awakening active social participation, the efficiency of these labors remains highly dubious. In this article, we are going to discuss sectoral cooperation between the EU and Ukraine and their weight in institutional changes of Ukraine. We begin at the state level of analysis by outlining the political framework of cooperation throughout the selected time since 1994, whereas naturally concentrating on more recent developments within the ENP and the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. Subsequently, moving down from the state to a sectorial level, we will analyze the EU-Ukraine projects. Finally, some measures to improve cross-country cooperation will be offered in the closing marks.

The results of research suggest that EU projects in Ukraine have enjoyed a limited success for the time being. They encountered substantial obstacles from both sides. While the ENP and later DFCTA framework outline significant harmonization and integration of Ukraine into the European community in economic terms, the institutional aspect as yet remains undervalued. While we should indicate positive changes and dynamics since 2014, the efficiency of the EU presence in Ukraine is questionable. On the macrolevel, there's been a shortage of incentives for domestic decision makers to comply with suggested agenda of institutional changes, advancement of life standards, human rights, and the quality of life by and large. On the micro-level, the lack of communication, an absence of regular monitoring/ evaluation visits, the shortage of synergy and virtually absent accountability on behalf of the recipient side took place.

At the same time, I believe the biggest success of the EU-Ukraine cooperation is in education (ERSA-MUS+) with the number of academic exchange rising ten-fold, anticorruption – new e-declaration system, and partially – technical infrastructure upgrade.