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## **THE MAIN DETERMINANTS OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESSES OF THE TRANSPORT INDUSTRY**

The current stage of development of the global economic space is characterized by an increase in the level of mutual integration of its main entities. For Ukraine one of the key priorities in the context of the expansion of foreign economic activity is deepen cooperation with the European Union.

European integration is a systemic complex process that covers all directions of possible interaction not only directly in the economic, but also in political, legal, socio-cultural, infrastructural and other spheres.

The signing of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU significantly optimizes the possible directions of development of relations between the participants, but requires Ukraine to implement a number of measures related to the adaptation of the economic and legal basis of the functioning of certain industries to EU standards. This applies, in particular, to the transport industry.

Transport is an important link that ensures, above all, the effectiveness of foreign trade relations between Ukraine and the EU. The European Union is Ukraine's main trading partner. According to the results of 2021, the share of trade in goods and services with the EU amounted to 39,0% of total trade in Ukraine (according to the results of 2020 - 38,8%) [1].

That's why optimization of the development of the main types of transport in accordance with European requirements is of particular importance in the context of European integration development. In this regard, it is important to note those components of European integration development that have already been successfully implemented. First, the development and adoption of the National Transport Strategy of Ukraine for the period up to 2030 [2].

Its implementation will contribute, in particular, to the process of harmonizing the legislation of Ukraine with the EU, improving the quality of the provision of transport services, effective implementation of administrative reform, ensuring the creation of equal

conditions for the provision of transport services, strengthening the technological capacity of the transport system of Ukraine.

Among the tasks of the Strategy aimed directly at the implementation of EU norms, the following are of primary importance: ensuring the development of transport infrastructure in accordance with EU standards, in particular improving the functioning of border crossing points; creation of a network of regular container/multimodal cargo train routes synchronized with train routes of EU member states; introduction of European standards for the design, development and maintenance of highways; adoption of normative legal acts on the liberalization of transport market and non-discriminatory open competition in accordance with EU legislation; increasing competition in the air transport market, implementing access rules for ground handling market under EU law.

Second, signing the Common aviation area agreement in 2021 [3].

This document envisages the creation of a common aviation space between Ukraine and the EU, which will facilitate mutual access to air transport markets with equal conditions of competition and the same rules for all participants. It is, in particular, about flight safety, aviation safety, air traffic management, harmonization of the social sphere and environmental protection [4].

Thirdly, the implementation of the main points of the Strategy of the implementation of the provisions of directives and regulations of the European Union in the field of international maritime and inland waterway transport (“road map”) [5].

It is important that this strategy was approved together with the plan of measures necessary to implement the provisions of the relevant EU documents into the legislation of Ukraine. Fourthly, implementation of the project SAFER-U (Strengthening the Aviation Framework and European Regulations for Ukraine), which was launched by the European Commission to support the State Aviation Administration of Ukraine.

This project was focused on upgrading Ukraine’s aviation safety regulations in Air Operations and Flight Crew Licensing. The project was implemented by the European Union with budget of EUR 2,5 million from 2019 to 2022 [6].

Among the further steps necessary for effective harmonization of transport industry functioning with EU standards, it should be highlighted, first of all, the adoption of the Law of Ukraine “On Railway Transport”, as well as the accession of Ukraine to the Convention on a Common Transit Procedure, which unites 35 countries of the European region [7]. NCTS technology is the basis of this Convention.

Accession to the Convention is stipulated by the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, and the stage of national application of NCTS was started by Ukraine in 2021[8].

The implementation of these and other measures is not only an objective necessity in the context of the development of European integration processes in the transport industry, but also acts as a basis for further optimization and deepening of cooperation with the European Union, creates powerful foundations for increasing Ukraine’s competitiveness in the international transport market.

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