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PROBLEMS OF IMPLEMENTING INTEGRATION PROCESSES FOR POST-WAR ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION

Over the past two decades, opportunities for economic growth have become increasingly constrained. This is due both to the approaching physical limits of resource utilisation and to growing instability in the global economy and the emergence of economic crises. Against this background, integration with other national economies, facilitated by digital technologies, may become a key component in shaping models of economic development in the twenty-first century.

Consequently, particular attention should be paid to identifying mechanisms through which the negative trends affecting the development of Ukraine's national industrial complex can be addressed. These trends include continuing economic regression, growing technological backwardness, and the increasing influence of developed economies on patterns of international economic cooperation. Within the international economic system, Ukraine continues to play an important role as both a supplier of raw materials and a market for goods produced by Western countries and China. The continued functioning of the Ukrainian economy within a predominantly raw-material-based economic model poses a significant threat to the financial and economic security of the state [1, p. 15]. Therefore, one of the most important conditions for strengthening economic security is the development of international trade relations and deeper integration with leading global corporations.

Integration processes are significantly influenced by a range of factors in the global economic environment, including:

- The geopolitical environment, particularly the importance of maintaining secure borders and stable relations with neighbouring countries.
- Globalisation and the increasing digitalisation of society. Globalisation creates substantial economic opportunities while simultaneously generating significant risks. The process is strongly influenced by transnational corporations and global centres of financial

capital, whose activities are primarily shaped by their own economic interests. Although globalisation can generate considerable benefits for developed economies, it presents particularly complex challenges for economies in transition. Addressing these challenges effectively may enable less developed economies to strengthen their economic performance and improve their position within the global economic system.

- The cyclical development of the global economy and the slowdown in economic growth in recent years.
- Rapid technological change, including the expansion of global information networks, the Internet of Things (IoT), and artificial intelligence (AI).
- International economic integration and the increasing mobility of capital on a global scale.
- The growing importance of intellectual capital in the economy, accompanied by the rapid expansion of knowledge-intensive industries that rely heavily on scientific expertise, technological innovation, and human capital.

A number of common characteristics of the global external environment demonstrate the importance of considering these factors at both the state and enterprise levels.

First, it is necessary to recognise the strong interdependence among factors within the global economic environment. A significant change in one factor may lead to the restructuring of entire sectors or, in some cases, broader economic systems. One example is the rapid growth in demand for new means of communication and data transmission during the early 1990s, which contributed to the emergence and expansion of telecommunications and network communications as a distinct sector of the global economy. The subsequent rapid technological development of this sector resulted in unprecedented growth and generated wide-ranging effects across numerous industries and market participants.

Second, an important characteristic of the external environment is its increasing dynamism. At the present stage of economic development, technological and market changes are occurring at an accelerating pace, particularly in sectors such as telecommunications, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and the Internet of Things. However, the intensity and significance of these changes may differ across organisational functions and industries. For example, research and development specialists and scientists must continuously respond to developments in science and

technology and monitor the emergence of new discoveries, innovations, and technological applications.

Third, the external environment is characterised by a high degree of complexity. As organisations grow, their structures typically become more complex because of the increasing number of organisational divisions, the geographical scope of their activities, and their involvement in international markets. Consequently, organisations operating internationally face increasingly complex economic, technological, political, and institutional conditions.

In recent years, Ukraine has faced an exceptionally challenging economic environment. This has resulted from a combination of factors, including Russia's full-scale military invasion of Ukraine, slower economic growth in European economies, and political instability in the Middle East. In addition to these external pressures, Ukraine faces a number of significant internal economic challenges, including:

– fragmentation, inconsistency, and incompleteness in the transformation of the country's economic mechanisms [2, p. 156];

– continued investment in industries associated with the third and fourth technological paradigms, including electrical engineering, heavy engineering, steel production, organic and inorganic chemistry, and non-ferrous metallurgy, at a time when the relative importance of some of these sectors in the global economy is declining;

– insufficient financing of scientific, technological, and research activities;

– excessive tax pressure on small businesses, which constrains the development of innovation infrastructure;

– weaknesses in the quality and effectiveness of management at different organisational and institutional levels; and

– insufficient state oversight of large businesses [3].

Taken together, these factors constrain the rapid structural transformation required within Ukraine's economic and industrial complex and, consequently, contribute to the widening technological gap between Ukraine and more technologically advanced economies.

Thus, Ukraine's national economy is currently at a critical stage in the process of economic integration and post-war reconstruction. International experience, including that of countries such as Japan and South Korea, may provide valuable lessons for overcoming the severe economic challenges arising from both external and internal factors. Ukrainian policymakers and researchers therefore face the important task of identifying specialised niches within the global economy in which

Ukraine can develop competitive advantages and establish productive cooperation with more technologically advanced economies.

Such cooperation may provide opportunities for the implementation of specific projects with significant potential for economic and technological development. However, for Ukraine to establish itself as an attractive and competitive international economic partner, the adoption of effective development strategies alone will not be sufficient. These strategies must also be implemented consistently and supported by stable institutional and economic policies, irrespective of changes in the domestic political environment.

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