EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF POLAND, SIGNIFICANCE FOR UKRAINE

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The experience of European integration of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, first of all Poland, which is an important economic partner and a locomotive of the European motion of our state acquires great importance in the context of the priority of the European way of development of Ukraine.

The failure of the communist forces in the 1989 parliamentary elections paved the way for significant changes in Poland, in particular, a radical transformation of the economic, political and social systems[1, p. 8].

The period from 1990 to 1994 was marked by the activation of reforms in the economical and cultural spheres, a change in the authoritarian demographic system, and the creation of a multiparty system. The legal framework was created, providing for the existence of the market economy and effective ownership rights regulation; macro-economic stability was

achieved, showing itself in a relative price stability, etc. Unfortunately, due to the fact that Poland was too quick to open its domestic market to goods from the EU, the state faced a growing foreign trade deficit, thus leading to negative consequences[2].

Official negotiations over Poland's accession to the EU took 57 months and were carried out in 29 areas. Moreover, the parties managed to reach a consensus on most of them relatively quickly. It testifies to considerable dependence of conditions of joining the European Union from skill of negotiating by the country-candidate. However, this proves that the Ukrainian government needs to prepare thoroughly [3].

It launched a systematic dialogue between Poland and the EEC, which promoted social changes in the country; the Copenhagen Summit of 1993, which announced that the states with which the Association Agreement was signed could become full EU members after they reached certain criteria; the submission of the official Polish application for EU membership in 1994; the beginning of official negotiations between the parties in 1998; accession of the Republic of Poland to the European Union, taking place in 2004. Over the years of integration the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth has focused its

efforts both on changes in the domestic policy of the country (economic, judicial, institutional and other reforms), and on cooperation on regional and international levels (participation in the Visegrad Association, accession to NATO, cooperation within the framework of the Weimar Triangle, etc.) [1, p.4].

The experience of accession of our western neighbor Poland is extremely relevant for Ukraine, considering that analysis of positive and negative aspects of this process can accelerate accession to Euro-Atlantic structures.

Thus, after analyzing the integration experience of the Polish Republic, we can offer the following recommendations for Ukraine:

- Start highly qualified specialists training in adapting of Ukrainian legislation to the EU legislation in the nearest future;
- Consider a rigid and effective tactics of Poland's negotiations, without expecting any first steps from the EU structures;
- Implement amendments which would allow us to come closer to the Copenhagen criteria, particularly in the economic, judicial, and social spheres;
- Improve already existing mechanisms of institutional support for European integration, and establish a supreme Coordinating Body similar to the Polish Committee for European Integration;
- Ukrainian leadership needs to establish closer contacts within the integrative entity, and cooperation with individual member countries [2, p 126].

The importance of European integration course for Ukraine in the light of the dynamics of international relations determines necessity of

further research of specifics of Euro-integration process of Poland and other countries of Central-Eastern Europe.

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