

INTEGRATION OF THE DOMESTIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM INTO EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

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Today, the problem of integration of Ukraine's transport system into the European Union has been widely discussed. It is a subject of the National Transport Strategy of Ukraine up to 2030 [1]. The transport sector of Ukraine is a significant and important segment for the country's economy, because the efficient and coordinated operation of the entire transport system is a driving force for the overall development of the country. The development of integration processes and the growth of competition in the market of transport services requires new approaches to the development of transport relations, the creation of new technologies and improving the quality of services.

The level of development of the transport system of the state is one of the most important signs of its technological progress and civilization. The need for a highly developed transport system is further enhanced by integration into the European and world economy, the transport system becomes the basis for Ukraine's effective entry into the world community and occupying a place in it that corresponds to the level of a highly developed state [2].

Despite the unique geographical location of Ukraine at the crossroads of trade routes, which potentially allows to get more benefits from globalization in the case of dynamic development and realization of transport infrastructure potential, Ukraine still does not have a sufficiently extensive system of transport and communication links and lags far behind in creating its own transport corridors, which negatively affects the formation of the country's competitiveness.

The main problems of integration of Ukraine's transport system into the EU include:

- Operational incompatibility of transport networks. For example, due to the difference in the track gauge of the railways of the former USSR (1520 mm) and Europe and Asia (1435 mm), there are complex systems for transferring locomotives and rolling stock of trains from gauge to gauge at the borders between states, there is a need to reload goods at border crossings, which significantly reduces the efficiency of railway transport, in particular in time.

- Lack of effective cooperation in the management of different modes of transport. The need to transport goods over long distances contributes to the development of intermodal transportation involving different modes of transport. This,

in turn, requires the establishment of clear interaction and coordination between companies belonging to different modes of transport.

- Outdated technical condition of vehicles, infrastructure facilities, material and technical base, low level of mechanization of reloading works. For example, the average age of merchant ships is more than 15 years, and some ports in Western countries prohibit the entry of ships with such a service life. Port infrastructure is not designed for new technologies of port operations, which significantly reduces the productivity of both ports (up to 50% of the productivity of ports in Western countries) and other modes of transport (especially railways) related to cargo handling.

- Non-compliance of roads with European standards on many indicators, such as: speed, axle load, provision of modern road signs and markings, etc.

- Restrictions in the conditions of operation of transport infrastructure facilities.

- Inefficient system of financing the development of transport infrastructure [3].

Today, in order to effectively cooperate and ensure the gradual integration of Ukraine into the European and world transport systems, it is necessary:

- to harmonize the national legal framework with European legislation by creating a single regulatory framework for regulating the transport system;

- to expand and strengthen cooperation within international transport organizations and in the implementation of interstate agreements in the field of transport;

- to develop and implement measures to ensure technical and technological convergence of rolling stock and transport network of Ukraine with the European transport system;

- to bring and introduce technical, technological and ecological standards and requirements in the field of transport closer to European ones;

- to constantly monitor changes in the international transport and economic situation and adjust the strategy for the development of international transport communications within Ukraine in accordance with them.

Gradual purposeful integration of the transport complex of Ukraine into the European and world transport system will enhance the European integration of the country, economic development and increase competitiveness in international markets of transport and logistics services, increase in traffic and exports, improve the standards of transport services and the level of transport safety, modernization and improvement of transportation technologies and transport infrastructure of the country as a whole.

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