

*Vasilyuk V.\**

## COLLABORATION OF UKRAINE AND FRANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

Ukraine is a young independent state, which is looking for its way in the system of the international cooperation. Proceeding from national interest, geopolitical realities, diplomats and politicians form a foreign policy of our state. The elected political vector will provide the world and stability, economic prosperity, the international recognition and esteem. Russia and the European Union, the Southern direction and the USA, the policy of a neutrality and GUAM - all these vectors are considered as the important directions of the Ukrainian diplomacy. However, in the Ukrainian society more and more develops the opinion about the priority of the European direction of cooperation [11].

The European Union (the EU) - integration merger which unites 27 states of Europe with the most advanced level of democracy, the highest economic parameters, perfect legal systems where observe the rights and freedom of the person and the citizen. In order to become a member of this organization it is not enough to have the high parameters of economic development, it is necessary to execute a lot of obligations which will allow to join the EU. Each country of the European Union - the full subject of the international relations who aspires to influence world politics, proceeding from own national interests. In this context Ukraine gives great value to bilateral cooperation with all countries - members of the EU. Among them special interest is allocated to a problem of development of the concept of attitudes of Ukraine with France - to one of the leading states, the leader of the European Union. France has the powerful economic potential, makes more than 5 % of universal volume of gross national product (the fourth place in the world), carries out approximately 6 % of global trading operations (the fourth place in the world), are taken the second place in the world on volume of export of services and agricultural products and the fourth - on volume of export of the industrial product. Ukraine counts development of relations with France a priority direction of foreign policy, bathing on the euro integration aspiration. The countries aspire to deepen the political dialogue and economic cooperation, realize a number of projects in sphere of defense, culture and science [3, 8].

France has recognized the independence of Ukraine on the 27 of December, 1991. Diplomatic relations have been established on the 24 January, 1992. The France Embassy was opened in 1992, the Ukrainian Embassy in Paris - in 1993 [5].

The political relations, between France and Ukraine is divided into three periods:

- The first period - 1991-1996 – the forming of relations;
- The second period - 1997-2004 - the intensification of a dialogue;
- The third period - 2005г. - .... - the new level of the cooperation.

In 1992-1996 the relations between two countries were not intensive. The French political elite thought that Ukraine as a country would not exist for a long time. That is why it will not advisable to built relations. Ukraine remained for Europe «the zone of the nearest abroad» for Russia. The positive had shifts begun from the middle of 90th, when France had started to estimate the place and role of Ukraine in the system of the European safety. Ukraine was a new priority of the French foreign policy. France has acted with understanding of importance of ex-

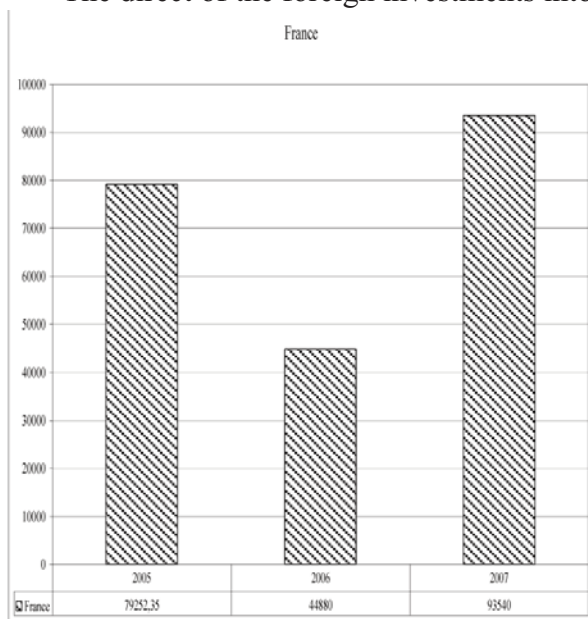
\* студентка 4 курсу відділення «міжнародні відносини» Дніпропетровського національного університету  
Науковий керівник: доц. Кондратюк Л.Ф.

istence of independent Ukraine for the European geopolitical space, stable and economical prosperity, as important factor of new institute of the European safety.

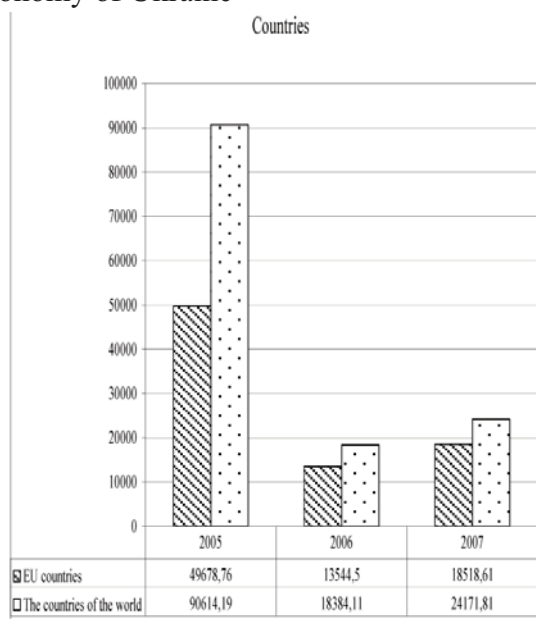
The rising of the political dialogue occurred after the Orange revolutions. The new governments in Ukraine and France are looking for the new vectors of intensification the political dialogue. France supports the wish of Ukraine to join the EU, thought thinks that it is early to become a member of the NATO [1, 7]. So, Ukraine is trying to find the new spaces of cooperation, but the important factor of this – political stability inside of our country. France wants to develop relations, but it needs gerancy of the Ukrainian desire [9].

The most perspective for Ukraine it is possible to count the further deepening of cooperation in economic area, first of all in two sectors – the power engineering and agriculture. In energy the special attention is allocated to the nuclear energy. Both countries are interested in realization a special program – increasing of the productivity and the number of cattle, introduction of modern technologies of cultivation grain, sugar beet, formation of the Ukrainian grain market. The important part of the cooperation is investment. France is the known investor in the world, but it is not the leader of investment in Ukrainian economy among the European countries (Picture 1, 2) [4].

The direct of the foreign investments into economy of Ukraine



Picture 1



Picture 2

It is seen, that in 2006 there is a decreasing of investment blast, because of the political crisis. In 2007 the situation was changed again. But, if we compare the amount of foreign investments in 2005 and 2007, it is possible to make a conclusion, that the blast capital is not the same. In 2005 it was higher. Another year is a period of investment crisis. In 2007 the level of 2005 was not driven, though the number of the investment was increasing.

Thus, it is necessary to note, that the further development of the Ukrainian - French relations is equitable to national interests of both states, demands on the complex approach to definition of ways, mechanisms and tools of rapprochement [2]. It is important to increase efficiency of existing kinds of cooperation, to create and realize new projects in the field of economy, sciences, technology.

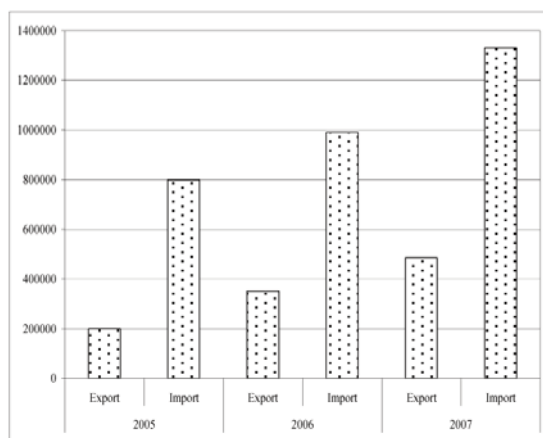
The leading European countries in investment are Cyprus (26 %), Germany (11 %), the Netherlands (11 %), England (19 %), Austria (7 %), Poland (4 %) (Table 1). Ukraine invests also in economy of the countries of EU, constantly increasing the volume of capital investments. Concerning France, in 2007 Ukraine invested 0,2 million of \$. It is rather insignificant sum, tak-

ing into account potential of the Ukrainian investor. It is planned, that at the end of 2008 this number will considerably increase, proceeding from programs of the governments concerning assistance of investment in both directions [6].

There are 133 enterprises registered with participation of the French investments, 76 from which – common enterprises of Ukraine and France. Investment contributions, mostly, are made in such areas: the finance, the credit, insurance and a provision of pensions, domestic trade, chemical and the food-processing industry [4].

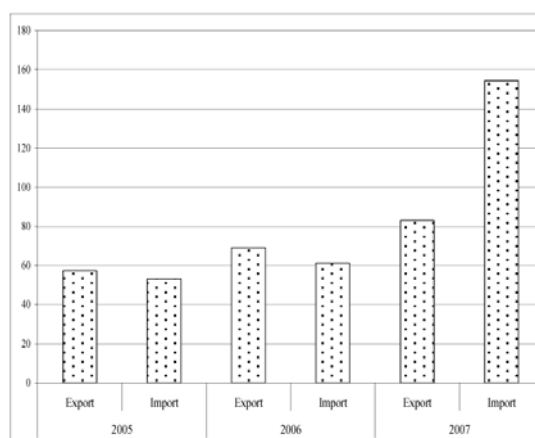
Trade and economic cooperation between Ukraine and the EU dynamically develops, the bilateral foreign trade turnover stably grows. The share of EU in total amount of external commodity circulation of Ukraine achieves 29,8 % - the one third of foreign trade activities of Ukraine is guided by this market, Russia - 29,12 % of total amount of commodity circulation. The commodity circulation between France and Ukraine in 2007 - about 18 mil. \$. The negative balance for Ukraine – 8,5 mil. \$ (Picture 3). The tendency of mutual granting of services is increasing, that are given by Ukraine to France (basically transport, that characterizes Ukraine as the transit state). Trade in services develops rather dynamically, however, in 2007 the negative balance for Ukraine-71,3 mil. \$. Though, the export in the last years of the Ukrainian services exceeded the import of France (Picture 4).

The trade between Ukraine and France:  
of goods



**Picture 3**

of services



**Picture 4**

So, the priority task is an intensification of the political dialogue on the highest level and the reinforcement of decisions at meetings of the heads of the governments and heads of the ministries and departments. France can be Ukrainian strategic partner in integration into the European economy. Ukraine has to use such mechanisms and tools for the all-round deepening of the relations with France:

1. Activization of work of the Ukrainian - French forum;
2. Increase of the overall performance of the Intergovernmental commission on economic cooperation;
3. Increase of efficiency of activity of parliamentary groups of friendship;
4. Expansion of inter-regional cooperation;
5. A deepening of scientific and inter university communications;
6. Assistance to mutual investment;
7. Acceptance of necessary law acts which will allow to involve the French enterprises in cooperation.

**Література**

1. Гетьманчук А. Франція: сторонники Саркази и его противники // Зеркало недели. – 2007. – № 16-17. – С.7.
2. Донченко Є. В. Розвиток українсько-французького співробітництва // Вісник Держ.академії керівних кадрів культури і мистецтв. – К., 2006. – № 4. – С. 113-117.
3. Изменить французов: [Президентские выборы во Франции] // Инвест. газета. – 2007. – № 17. – С. 18-22.
4. Круглик С. За принципом взаємного доповнення. Франція – торговий партнер України // Політика і час. – К., 2003. – № 12. – С.15-20.
5. Кульова В. «Дні України в Європі»: [в Парижі] // дем. Україна. – 2005. – 26 листопада. – С.9.
6. Лебедько С. Україно-французьке економічне співробітництво повинно обрести більший динамізм // Фінансова Україна. – К., 2007. – № 9, 1 апреля. – С. 24.
7. Манжолу В. А. Концептуальна модель відносин між Україною та Францією // Актуальні проблеми міжнародних відносин. – Вип.. 32 (Ч.1). – К., 2002. – С.3-12.
8. Манжолу В.А. Українсько-французькі відносини: від співробітництва до діалогу та партнерства // Київський національний університет. Вісник. Міжнародні відносини. – 2002. – № 21-24. – С.181-187.
9. Преображенская А. Французский политический пейзаж после выборов // Международная жизнь. – 2007. – № 6. – С. 16-17.
10. Чекаленко Л.Д. Українсько-французькі відносини // Чекаленко Л.Д. Зовнішня політика України. – К., 2006. – 142.154.
11. Табуї Г. Як я став комісаром Французької Республіки в Україні. Нотатки і спогади // Пам'ять століть. – К., 2007. – № 2. – С. 32-58.