

MODALITIES OF EUROPEAN REGIONALIZATION AND INTEGRATION INTERRELATION

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Abstract. *The features of interrelation between the processes of European regionalization and integration are observed. The terms «region», «regional integration», «integration in the EU» as well as the basic approaches to their definition are outlined. Conceptual and historical foundations of the phenomenon of regionalization and in particular the «Europe of regions» and the «Assembly of European regions» as manifestations of European regionalization on the background of the EU integration characteristics are indicated. The key role of regionalism regarding the maintenance of the EU integral unity via the alleviation of member-states' separatism threats are outlined.*

Key words: *regionalization, integration, EU, interregional cooperation, Europe of regions.*

Within the context of global political shifts and on the background of the continued post bipolar system international system transformation, it becomes obvious, that processes taking place on any level thereof are getting more crucial. In this regard the research of international interaction on the European continent as one of the main global transaction center allows one to figure out the dynamics and peculiar features of modern global politics. Moreover when it comes about the phenomena of regionalization and integration within the EU. That happens for the international political and scientific community's need to determine the correlation of those processes in contemporary realities. To that end hereunder it will be proposed to take them up as mutually complementing elements on the way of consolidating the actions, directed on the reaching of the EU's stability and prosperity.

The relevance of the present research is characterized by the exceptional importance of the European integration on the background of international processes' transformation, in particular by the stirring up of regionalization and consequently regionalism phenomena in global politics. The attempt of generalizing the notions under the research regarding such crucial issues of European political landscape as further consolidation, connections' deepening, and, on the other hand, separatism, constitute scientific importance of the research. Thus the aim of the research lies with the determination of existing interrelation between the processes of European integration and regionalism. The tasks of the present research are as follows. Firstly, it is to define the peculiarities of the notions under the examinations such as «region», «European integration», «regionalism» etc. Secondly, it is to observe the main approaches thereto. Thirdly, it is to figure out historical dynamics of those processes. And fourthly, it is to show the dependency and non-confrontational character thereof on the European political landscape.

Thus, for the purpose of the present research one should agree upon the fact, that what constitutes the EU today is the result of more than fifty year long integration activity. It's a common knowledge, that in its basics it has the European Communities, established in the middle of the XX century under the effect of a range of factors of exclusively historical, economic and political order. There's no doubt that all of them were mostly related to the ongoing developments,

in particular, with the end of the Second World War. The conditions established on the verge of the Versailles-Washington international system have made the West European countries to strive for the creation of a new Europe, which is recognized to be the start of modern European integration processes [1, p.15]. Therefore, it becomes obvious that integration per se was the only possible answer found by the European actors in order to face the challenges of the international order existing. Especially, taking into account that integration was directed at solving the current crucial problems such as: reaching peace and security, economic revival and welfare, peaceful settlement between Germany and France as the region's leading economies, and, for sure, maintaining the existing political and economic status quo on the global arena.

With this in view, the questions of integration and regionalism within the scope of the present article will be examined from the position of the Neo-functional approach, formulated and developed in the 50's of the XX century by American political scientist E. Haas.

Supporters and revisionist of the theory abovementioned, among whom we one can find the names of P. Taylor, F. Shmitter and L. Lindberg, define cooperation in the economic and welfare needs as a key the basis for constructive political cooperation. To these end joint efforts is the best counterweight regarding, for instance, nationalism expressions [2, p. 34]. In a way Neo-functionalism is closer to classical federalism than to functionalism of, say, D. Mitrani. For it considers regional integration to be intertwined with political process that includes (which was considered by the Federalists) finding ways of social reconciliation and balancing conflicting interests of all societies.

Hence, one faces the fact that Neo-functionalists (primarily E. Haas) saw the criterion, determining the formation of regional political community and its dominance over nation-state, in rather subjective factor of loyalty to the central institutions on the side of various social groups. The foundation of the respective loyalty shifts is a realization of specific pragmatic interests, inherent for each individual. Therefore, in conditions, where because of various reasons social groups feel that their interests can be better implemented on a regional or global level than at the national level, they innately start putting pressure on national governments in order to form appropriate alternative centers of power, whereto they will be ready to subordinate. So according to this view of the European Commission, it should have become the core of the European political union in which the Commission was to be perform a key executive role. In this regard the Neo-functionalism is somewhat close to the positions of classical federalism as for the readiness of peoples of Europe to accept the supranational level structures. The only difference to be found is in the fact that the former theory mentioned such readiness not as an inherent need for integration, but as integration per se. The latter, in its turn, shows a relatively long-term dynamics of gaining enough positive knowledge and mainly experience of communication of separate social and political groups with the central institutions of integration union.

Moreover, within the study of the integration phenomenon, the Neo-functionalism supporters attain a noticeable effect to external factors. Joseph Nye was one of the first to outline its impact on the process of political integration, which was further reflected in Neo-functionalism theory. In a series of his writings a concept of «active» and «passive» external factors promoting regional integration is set forth. And F. Shmitter, in his turn, introduced to the abovementioned theory the externalism notion, that unites both favorable and unfavorable external factors that somehow affect the integration process, and their taking into bath has a prominent importance for the explanation of integration changes. Particular attention was paid by F. Shmitter to the analysis of negative external factors [2, p. 43]. He claimed that integration could cause reverse negative response of the states not members of an integration union, which, consequently, will make regional grouping to move towards new, more complex forms of cooperation.

That's why, given the approach direction we have chosen to describe the integration phenomenon within the European space, we understand that its dynamics depends on the sophisticated interaction between state actors and their communities as integral structural components. The latter, as a result, determine the following key points in the process of political and economic consolidation of the EU as: loyalty, intensity and quality dimension of interaction, generation of a common position as for a number of issues arising for the international community.

With this in view, it is necessary now to outline the notion of European regionalization and its organic relationship with the integration within the EU. The organic connection hereinafter is understood as interdependence and complementarity of specified phenomena in the context of historical dynamics. First, let's define the notion of the region per se. It is necessary to be aware of the fact, that according to the achievements of modern science, today we are dealing with multiple modalities as for the definition of this phenomenon. And this is due to the issue that the «region» does not stand as a unified interpretation in various sciences and therefore is often treated differently. Thus the term «region» is central only for geography, but also for all the sciences relating to spatial or territorial research. However, one should admit that the term «region» appears later than the «area», which can be connected with the development of the regional economy as one of the directions in economy itself [3]. It is known that in Latin the term means «part of territory, district, area». For example, in the former USSR there were isolated macro-regions or zones that included regions. And regions thus were marked as a large part of the country with similar natural conditions and inherent direction of productive forces development through a combination of natural resources complex and material and technical base, altogether with industrial and social infrastructure. This allows us to classify the approaches to the concept of the region in the following manner.

Thus, according to the territorial approach, region may be formed: firstly, within the local administrative area; secondly, it may combine several territorial units; thirdly, it can initially be a part of administrative units; fourthly, it can combine directly the territories of several countries or parts thereof. Meanwhile, economic approach identifies the region solely as a part of the national economy, characterized by the completeness of the reproductive process and ensuring in its toll national economy's integrity. At the same time, according to the socio-economic approach, a region forms the system creating a social community. And the administrative approach considers the region only as a unit of administrative and territorial structure of a country.

Thus, based on the foregoing, the term «region» nowadays can be applied in order to outline:

1. Internal administrative units (such as, for example, Wales, Corsica, Florida) and is understood as a sub-region within the state;
2. To refer to a group of states (Asia-Pacific, North American Region, European Region, etc.) and is seen as a macro-region;
3. The concept of «region» is equated with the concept of «state», which, according to this logic, can be defined as mesoregion.

In order to proceed with the examination of the organic interrelation of the processes of European integration and regionalization, it is time to define with understanding thereof in the context of the present research. Thus, the first term is considered to be a model for conscious and active participation nations and groups, communities thereof in the global stratification. Whereby regionalization is usually seen in the following dimensions. Firstly, as a development and strengthening of economic, political and other links between areas or countries, belonging to the same regional formation. Secondly, as a process of power competences division, the transition of power functions from national to regional levels established and the formation of the al-

ternative institutional units, suiting the regions' brand new role in the process of decision-making on the national and supranational levels.

For this reason, the processes taking place in the EU (from the West European integration up to the projects of pan-European cooperation and security system) constitute a textbook regionalization example [5, p. 104]. It is worth mentioning that the characteristic features of a relatively high level of formalization, a large number of institutions and agencies of cooperation, and for sure, pluralization of the regional system formation per se, through the existence of very differentiated factors of regionalization in the area, and collision of inherently different projects region formation.

It is noted by P. Hirst in his research that given the historical retrospective, it is reasonable to discuss such manifestations of European regionalism as: formal regionalism, regional regionalism, bioregionalism and city regionalism [5]. But in fact it can be argued that regionalization in the EU international space per se is embodied in the «Europe of regions» program implementation, which provides that sub-regions are the main actors both in management ensuring the EU's development.

Further examination will focus on the abovementioned project as on the example of organic and complementarily relationship of the processes of European regionalization and integration. And firstly it is necessary to outline the features of the project within the European integration space. «Europe of Regions», as already noted, is a form of European regionalism and cross-border cooperation and integration on the continent. It is believed, that for the first time it was introduced in the work of the French scientist Vidal de la Blansh called «Eastern France» (1917). The researcher proposed a non-conflict idea of converting the disputed boundary lands of Alsace and Lorraine into the French and German mutual cooperation area.

Finally, the project was the result of processes of regionalization in the EU. Its purpose was to respond to the growing role of regions in Europe and define their place therein. That's because the EU considers regionalization to be a transition to a new, better qualitative level of the European integration space. Integration is thus transferred to the level of sub-national regions, i.e. one, which is close to the citizens of Europe. And, as it was figured out in the present research, that is exactly the communities' role according to the Neo-functionalism approach which stands out as one of the fundamental factors in the consolidation of the European space. The subjects are both sub-regions, legitimized by many countries' administrative and territorial division (e.g. departments in France, federal lands in Germany, the districts in Italy, the counties in the UK and Norway and the cantons in Switzerland etc.) and regions formed as a result of cross-border cooperation [4]. Motivation for regional cooperation arises in such case from the common problems and interests, and the collaboration allows for the better use of each region engaged potential. In the case of remote areas cooperation group interests as for both national and European institutions may be added to the above.

The inception of the modern transition process from the «Europe of states» to the «Europe of regions» was took place in the late 60's as a part of the search for new institutionalized forms of integration interaction, which led to the emergence of intergovernmental commissions on regional and cross-border cooperation, which took up the creation of inter-regional structures, the so-called «border working community». The foundation thereof is considered to be established in 1976, in the form of the Belgian-Dutch-German territorial entity «Meuse – Rhine», which obtained the status of «International Community of cross-border cooperation» in 1991 [3].

Against this backdrop, the provision of the Declaration of the Assembly of «On European Regions» (1996), may also be seen as determining one for the European regionalism. In particular, it stipulates that the regions are the most important and indispensable element of the construction of Europe and the European integration process.

Therefore, in 2002, there were about 130 border and cross-border regions and 14 major inter-regional associations in Europe. 90 European regions were members of the Association of European Border Regions.

A Euroregions today are divided into the following types:

1. Euroregions which do not have legal status (so-called «working» community, community of interests);
2. Euroregions based on private law;
3. Euroregions based on public law.

Given the above, it can be argued that the «Europe of regions» project is conceptualized in three main ways:

1. Radical – as the nation state's «withering away» and the formation of a united Europe of two levels – national and regional .
2. «Europe of regions» as the intensification of regional cooperation – horizontal integration by abolishing the old borders within the EU;
3. «Europe of regions» as a three-stage or three-tier Europe: EU – nation state – regions (i. e. it is expected to be a kind of vertical integration).

Furthermore it is needed to say that border and regional cooperation in Europe is based on the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities Concerning Euro regional cooperation Groupings (ECGS), signed on 21 May 1980 in Madrid and the Additional Protocol signed on 9 November, 1995 in Strasbourg, as well as the second the Protocol to the Convention, signed 5 May 1998 in Strasbourg. According to this convention under is defined cross-border cooperation as any joint action directed at strengthening and encouraging good neighbor relations between territorial and administrative units or authorities within the jurisdiction of two or more Parties to the Convention, and the conclusion of relevant agreements or agreements *inter se* [4]. Border cooperation is carried out within territorial and administrative units or within the jurisdiction of regional authorities, in accordance with the local law.

In this context it is worth mentioning such a project as the Assembly of European Regions – an association of around 300 regions across Europe, including the CIS, which closely cooperates with the Council of Europe and the institutions of the European Union, and possesses a constant communication channel with other interregional associations. It was established in 1985 under the name of the Council of European Regions. The Charter thereof defined its main purpose as achieving the status of «political voice of the regions of Europe». Programs of regional cooperation were actually outlined as a general component of its activity. Among the objectives of the AER promoting regionalization and support for the principles of subsidiary and complementation between local, regional and national levels, as well as supra-national (i. e. pan-European) [8].

It is known, that the EU documents state that region is a body of operational and institutional basis of the Community. In this regard, in December 1991 in Maastricht in the EU Committee of the Regions was established. In essence, as a «consultative body composed of representatives of regional and local autonomy», which is aimed at the regional policy conduct and respective coordination at the all-European level. Germany, France, Italy and the UK each assigned 24 representatives, while the rest of the member States – 12 representatives. The Committee of the Regions also has the right of political initiative. It can't be excluded, that in the further development of the Committee's legal activities framework it will become, along with the common triad – the Council, the Commission and the Parliament, one of the main institutions of the European Union [9].

However, the complexity of regional policy in the EU goes with the fact that European regions differ significantly from each other. Territorial and administrative unit of Belgium and Germany, Italy and Spain have broad experience of regional self-administration. Meanwhile in France, the Netherlands and Denmark the legislation considerably limits the powers of local authorities, and this applies to an even greater extent to the cases of Greece, Portugal and the UK. However, if we look at these areas not from a legal point of view, but in terms of financial autonomy and the availability of resources they possess, the classification may change [9].

The main task of that same Committee of the Regions, therefore, is to ensure the development of EU legislation that would ensure the achievement of common European objectives at the regional level, while maintaining the inherent differences between regions, federal states, provinces, communes, municipalities.

It should be noted that the ideas of cross-border cooperation grow in importance with time. The idea of such way of collaboration appeared in the past centuries, when in 1875 France and Spain created the so-called bilateral cooperation commission in the region of the Pyrenees. After the Second World War, the Italian – Austrian treaty in 1949 became the first experience of the implementation of cross-border cooperation in post-war Europe, aiming to facilitate mutual trade in goods and products, locally connecting the Italian province of Alto Adige and the Austrian Tyrol and Vorarlberg lands.

1972 saw the foundation of the Inter-Regional Association of the Central Alps, which included the Alpine regions of Italy, Austria, Switzerland and Germany. The purpose of the association was the environmental protection, regional planning, improved living standards and stabilizing the employment rates, coordinating transport routes for tourism, preservation of local traditions and cultural cooperation. This Association showed itself as a model of cooperation between the Euroregions. In 1977 there was another inter-regional organization – the Adriatic Alps Association, which first included, in addition to Western European counties, some regions of Yugoslavia.

Further on the timeline the Madrid Convention in 1980 presented local authorities with an opportunity to develop legal basis for the interaction on economic, social, environmental and cultural issues, regardless of national boundaries. The term «cross-border cooperation» it was proposed to understand all the coordinated measures of administrative, technical, economic, social and cultural character, aimed at strengthening and developing friendly relations among the regions from both sides of the border and the conclusion of respective agreements. It also envisioned the creation of special bodies which would coordinate the activities of cross-border regions and would be funded by the States concerned. Convention recommended that a thorough examination of existing national legislation from the viewpoint of cross-border interaction. Particular attention was paid to the improvement of tax and customs rules, terms of trade and capital transfer procedures.

In 1994, the Council of Europe established a permanent representative forum of local and regional authorities in 32 member states – Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe. During the first European conference of cross-border regions, hold by the latter, which took place in 1990, special attention was given to the harmonization of policies related to the arrangement of cross-border regions.

Currently there are more than 30 such regions in Europe united by the Working Group on the border regions. In particular, there is «Program of Mediterranean Integration» in action, according to which the French region of South Pyrenees develop joint initiatives with Northern Portugal, and Catalonia with Lombardy. German-Dutch «Euregions», which includes over one hundred cities with nearly million people, has its own executive and advisory bodies set up on

a parity basis. In addition to the aforesaid, the «Regio Bazilensis» project operates on the grounds of appropriate agreements between Switzerland, France and Germany.

The most major Euroregions, which can be regarded as classic examples, it is also possible to include «Bavarian Forest – Bohemian Forest / Shumava» (Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, 1994), «Elbe – Labe» (Germany, Czech Republic, 1992), «Maas – Rhine» (Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, 1976), «Pomerania» (Denmark, Germany, Poland, Sweden, 1995) and «Trier» (Germany, France, Switzerland, 1995). In 1988, the regions with the center in Stuttgart, Barcelona, Lyon and Milan, founded the so-called «motor Quartet» (Four Motors Association) [5]. According to the initial design, the «Quartet» had become a kind of locomotive for European industrial development. However, now this organization is primarily engaged in the coordination of regional policy of the EU institutions. Thus showing the shift from regionalization formation to the supporting element of further integration process.

In 1991 the «Alpine Convention» was signed in Strasbourg with the status of an international legal instrument. Signatory states divided their responsibilities as follows: Italy was responsible for the drafting of alpine agriculture, energy and water resources, France – for the tourism and territorial administration, Switzerland – for the transport issues, Germany – for environmental protection and soil improvement, Austria – for preservation of mountain forests. In addition to that, the Council intends to assist in the development of international and bilateral programs of technical and organizational, financial and legal assistance in the case of long-term development of certain regions of Eastern Europe, located in the so-called «unfavorable areas» [7].

The principle of solidarity requires the interests of the wealthiest regions to respect the regions less provided with resources and financially. However, in implementing this principle the central government as well as supranational structure play more important role. In particular, the special funds of the European Union provide assistance to those regions that result from economic activities produce no less than 90% of the average value of GDP of all regions [8]. So in fact it can be said that Euroregions as the element of the EU policy are aimed at the promotion of sustainable development in most areas of public life. That's why, again, the practice demonstrates that the regionalization of the European integration space finds its manifestation in the «Europe of regions» project. Since, according to the latter, the sub-regions become the main actors in the management as well as in ensuring the development of the European Union. Hereby the issue of overcoming problems of nationalism growth in the EU is also meant. In particular, it is about separatist sentiments within the borders thereof as extreme and radical manifestation of the mentioned phenomenon. According to the works of G. Friedman, one of the famous modern American researchers, the extreme expressions of nationalism are caused by severe socio-economic conditions people live in. Feeling the harsh constraints and experiencing significant difficulties as for the access to necessary goods, people are more inclined to turn to national sentiment as the last guarantor of their individual and group identity. Thus, when closer groupings and links are created on a national basis, it is easier to defend and protect their own interests. Ultimately, this leads to contradictions and struggle on the political arena [12]. And, subsequently, in its most radical manifestations, to separatism aspirations as such. That is why today we can regard the process of European regionalism as an indispensable and important complementary element furthering integration. For the EU, the optimal solution for now on is to continue creating the sub-national regions in order to consolidate the European political space. And also, which is most crucial, for the purpose to avoid discrepancies in the direction of the EU policy, which constantly occur during the negotiations between nation-states. While the «Europe of Regions» project per se provides the so-called vertical order in which the states are forced to cooperate in the same way as in managing communitarian processes of supranational institutions, as with each other and also, which is significant, with sub-national regions.

As a result, the state retains its own integrity within the political integration organism of the EU, even having to share the leverages of power with the regions. At the same time, however, it is impossible to deny the positive impact of the following conditions. Regional initiatives are aimed at the reaching of regional development, and thereto sub-national entities coordinate their efforts to ensure the socio-economic progress and competitiveness of their regions, including the ways through the EU structural funds utilization [5, p. 107].

With this regard, there are various forms of local initiatives of regional, urban and regional institutions seeking independent planning and international contacts development. The executive bodies of the European Union and the European Council are moving towards establishing direct links with local authorities in an attempt to circumvent national inflexible bureaucratic structure.

Given on the entire above, one can draw on the following conclusions. The European integration is a sophisticated process, showing itself in strengthening the ties between the EU Member States and further expansion of the Union per se [9]. Integration processes within the EU constitute one of the key factors of regionalization in Europe. It is under their influence the structure of international relations is built, characterized not only by the high level of formalization within the Union, but also by the high formalization and integration outside of it. Therefore, in the present research features of the concepts of «European integration», «regionalization», «regionalism», «region» etc. were identified. Further having overlooked the main approaches thereto, the historical dynamics of those processes were mentioned. At the same time the conclusion was made that the processes of regionalization in their diversity and scale of manifestations lead to the establishment of the necessary transaction channels between the EU member states and sub-national units, which further develops the integration processes in the region. On this background, it is worth noting the following scenarios of European regionalism, which reflect different approaches to the vision and development of international transactions within the European political landscape. First, is the «Hundred of Flowers», which implies that the central governments' power in Europe due to the excessive bureaucracy continually increasing, which will be unable to respond effectively to the demands of society. As a result, most of its functions will be transferred to the regional and local communities. Regional and local self-administration will become the only effective mechanism of power and will appropriately overshadow the state. Secondly, it is the «Distributed Responsibility» scenario. It envisages that communities and states conclude a new agreement inter se «in the name of Europe», while the main idea will be to decentralize the governance at all levels, with broad as possible delegation of authority and responsibility from the central level of government to the regions. Regional policy, in its turn, will be based on a system of the so-called «regional contracts». The last one scenario to be mentioned herein is called «Victorious markets». The idea is based on winning the tenets of neo-liberal EU economy in which autonomous and externally active regions occupy a pivotal position. However, in this case, the regions will be largely deprived of primary support from the EU and the nation states. As for the most probable direction of developments to take place in reality, it is reasonable to expect a middle-land option. In particular, that the governments of nation-states, realizing the necessity to cope with numerous socio-economical challenges, will opt for giving broader powers to sub-national actors. Meanwhile that won't mean the precise decline of nation-states per se as they will stay the core of global cooperation at least in the mid-run. In addition to that, overcoming gradually the repercussions of the numerous crisis points occurring within the EU, the states will appreciate the favorable results of the further regionalization as it will save them at least from political collapses. That is because the benefits and growth of regions will dismiss the need for the further radicalization on the parts of national minorities, for their claims for better life conditions will be satisfied.

Finally, with the aforementioned in view, one should, however, remember, given the context of the interaction processes of regionalization and integration research, primarily about a number of crisis points in the European integration process, which actually have become a part and parcel thereof. That's why, while the early Neo-functionalism theory saw the possibility of crises and conflicts in an integration union only as temporary phenomenon, that characterized transition thereof to a new stage of development, the Neo-functionalist revisionism, in its turn, had to recognize not only the crisis in the development of the European Community, but declare it as an inherent feature of any political integration. However, it was still recognized that within integration processes and further complication of the features and deepening of problems thereof, the number of conflict points would not merely decrease, but would likely grow in number. Thereby the crisis will become an essential element of further integration development and its settlement – «the essence of the integration dynamics». It is during the search for compromise the sides reach common ground and shape a coherent policy on matters of common concern. And in this regard, the directly help will be driven from level of relations established and formed in the processes of regionalization, regardless of their scenarios.

In this manner the European regionalism demonstrates clear example of this effect, serving to save the integrative unity of the Union in the context of the struggle against separatism, produced directly by a number of Member States. The emergence of a better opportunity for the regions to find their place and gain a voice in the economic and political organism of the EU therefore reduces the need for attention to regional trends nurturing separatism. The ability of communities to negotiate with supranational bodies, bypassing the state, provides the former with the necessary policy and production maneuvers. Thereby making it possible to preserve formally their place within national borders. In this view regionalism is a unique project that plays essential consolidating and even saving role in relation to the European institutions per se. Because, finally, the unity, political and economic security of the Member States, as well as at least the very possibility of sustainable existence of supranational organizational structures (despite the relatively tight financial and economic situation) is being achieved.

Thus, the complementarity of the considered processes of European integration and regionalization becomes visible. However, further detailed study is hereby required with a view of the changes occurring in global, interior and inter-regional processes. The reason is that the changes to take place in economic and political, military and strategic areas in the Europe will respectively influence those phenomena of modern European politics that were examined in the present paper.

Here the question of how European regionalism can prove its own flexibility arises. And it will be necessary to observe and analyze whether it will be able to adapt eventually the integration processes of the continent in the context of the radical changes of the international environment.

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МЕТОДОЛОГІЯ ВЗАЄМОДІЇ ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКОГО РЕГІОНАЛІЗМУ ТА ІНТЕГРАЦІЇ

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Анотація. Досліджуються особливості взаємовпливу процесів європейської регіоналізації та інтеграції. Окреслюються терміни «регіон», «регіональна інтеграція», «інтеграція в рамках ЄС» та основні підходи до їх визначення. Розглядаються концептуально-історичні основи явища регіоналізації та зокрема «Європи регіонів», «Асамблеї європейських регіонів» і т. п. як основних проявів європейської регіоналізації на тлі особливостей інтеграції в межах ЄС. Окреслюються ключова роль регіоналізму у контексті збереження інтегративної цілісності сучасної Європи шляхом зняття загроз сепаратизму у межах держав-членів.

Ключові слова: регіоналізація, інтеграція, ЄС, міжрегіональне співробітництво, «Європа Регіонів».

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МЕТОДОЛОГИЯ ВЗАИМОДЕЙСТВИЯ ЕВРОПЕЙСКОГО РЕГИОНАЛИЗМА И ИНТЕГРАЦИИ

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Аннотация. *Исследуются особенности взаимовлияния процессов европейской регионализации и интеграции. Очерчиваются сроки «регион», «региональная интеграция», «интеграция, в рамках ЕС» и основные подходов к их определению. Рассматриваются концептуально исторические основы явления регионализации и в частности «Европы регионов», «Ассамблеи европейских регионов», и тому подобное как основных проявлений европейской регионализации на фоне особенностей интеграции в пределах ЕС. Очерчиваются ключевая роль регионализму в контексте сохранения интегративной целостности современной Европы путем снятия угроз сепаратизма в пределах государств-членов.*

Ключевые слова: *регионализация, интеграция, ЕС, межрегиональное сотрудничество, «Европа Регионов».*