

## FOREIGN POLICY OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AS A FACTOR IN SHAPING A NEW GEOPOLITICAL REALITY

## ЗОВНІШНЯ ПОЛІТИКА КРАЇН ЄВРОПИ ЯК ЧИННИК ФОРМУВАННЯ НОВОЇ ГЕОПОЛІТИЧНОЇ РЕАЛЬНОСТІ

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**Abstract.** *The article examines the foreign policy of European countries as a key factor in shaping a new geopolitical reality amid the war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. It reveals the transformation of European states' approaches to security, defense, integration, and international cooperation after 2014, when the annexation of Crimea began, and especially following the full-scale invasion in 2022. It is noted that the initial caution and selectivity of actions were gradually replaced by a consolidated position aimed at supporting Ukraine, strengthening sanctions against the aggressor, expanding military assistance, and intensifying diplomatic initiatives within the EU and NATO. Based on the analysis of political decisions, official documents, sociological studies, and statistical data, it is shown that European policy has gradually acquired a strategic character focused on ensuring regional stability, strengthening the system of collective security, and protecting democratic values. The article emphasizes the significant role of public support in EU countries, which enhances the legitimacy of government decisions and contributes to strengthening international solidarity with Ukraine. It has been proven that the interaction between state institutions, civil society, and international organizations forms a new model of European security, in which Ukraine occupies a central place as a partner and guarantor of stability on Europe's eastern flank. It is determined that modern European foreign policy combines instruments of diplomacy, sanctions pressure, humanitarian support, and military assistance, creating the prerequisites for a long-term transformation of the European security space. The results of the study have scientific and practical significance for developing recommendations on Ukraine's further integration into European structures, increasing the effectiveness of international partnerships, and improving the state's foreign policy strategy in the context of current global security challenges.*

**Keywords:** *foreign policy, European countries, geopolitics, international relations, security, integration processes, new geopolitical reality*

**Анотація.** У статті досліджено зовнішню політику європейських країн як ключовий чинник формування нової геополітичної реальності в умовах війни російської федерації проти України. Розкрито трансформацію підходів держав Європи до питань безпеки, оборони, інтеграції та міжнародної співпраці після 2014 року, коли почалася анексія Криму, і особливо після повномасштабного вторгнення у 2022 році. Зазначено, що початкову обережність і вибірковість дій поступово замінила консолідована позиція, спрямована на підтримку України, посилення санкцій проти агресора, розширення військової допомоги та активізацію дипломатичних ініціатив у межах ЄС і НАТО. На основі аналізу політичних рішень, офіційних документів, соціологічних досліджень та статистичних даних показано, що європейська політика поступово набула стратегічного характеру, орієнтованого на забезпечення регіональної стабільності, зміцнення системи колективної безпеки та захист демократичних цінностей. Підкреслено значну роль суспільної підтримки в країнах ЄС, що підвищує легітимність урядових рішень і сприяє зміцненню міжнародної солідарності з Україною. Доведено, що взаємодія між державними інституціями, громадянським суспільством і міжнародними організаціями формує нову модель європейської безпеки, у якій Україна посідає центральне місце як партнер і гарант стабільності на східному фланзі Європи. Визначено, що сучасна зовнішня політика Європи поєднує інструменти дипломатії, санкційного тиску, гуманітарної підтримки та воєнної допомоги, що створює передумови для довгострокової трансформації європейського безпекового простору. Результати дослідження мають науково-практичне значення для розроблення рекомендацій щодо подальшої інтеграції України до європейських структур, підвищення ефективності міжнародного партнерства та вдосконалення зовнішньополітичної стратегії держави в контексті сучасних викликів глобальної безпеки.

**Ключові слова:** зовнішня політика, європейські країни, геополітика, міжнародні відносини, безпека, інтеграційні процеси, нова геополітична реальність.

**Introduction.** The war in Ukraine, which began with the annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation in 2014 and escalated into a full-scale invasion in 2022, has triggered a prolonged transformation of the international relations system and created a new geopolitical reality in Europe and worldwide. At the initial stage, European countries adopted a cautious stance, limiting themselves to diplomatic statements, economic sanctions in response to the occupation of Crimea, and partial support for Ukraine. This restraint was explained by the need to assess risks, economic and energy dependencies on Russia, as well as the desire to avoid direct military escalation on the continent.

From 2014 to 2021, support for Ukraine remained predominantly political and economic, whereas in 2022, following the full-scale invasion, European countries significantly intensified their actions. Europe's response manifested in the implementation of comprehensive sanctions against Russia, the provision of military, economic, and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, the strengthening of strategic alliances within NATO and the EU, as well as the coordination of joint measures to enhance regional security. This gradual evolution of foreign policy demonstrates that Europe combines caution in the early stages with a subsequent consolidated and active response strategy aimed at protecting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The study of the foreign policy priorities and actions of European states allows not only an assessment of their contribution to supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity but also the identification of trends in the formation of a new balance of power in Europe. Analyzing the impact of European policies on global security, economic processes, and international law makes it possible to understand how the foreign policy decisions of specific states can contribute to regional stabilization or, conversely, create new challenges for the international community.

The relevance of this topic is reinforced by the need to develop scientifically grounded recommendations for shaping an effective Ukrainian state policy in the field of international relations, particularly regarding integration into European security and economic mechanisms, strengthening diplomatic positions, and engaging international partners in the process of restoring peace and stability. Thus, the study of European countries' foreign policies as a factor in shaping the new

geopolitical reality is highly pertinent for assessing contemporary transformations of the global order and determining Ukraine's development prospects in the context of war.

**The purpose of the study.** The objective of this study is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the foreign policies of European countries and their impact on the formation of a new geopolitical reality in the context of the war in Ukraine, as well as to determine the role of European states in supporting Ukraine's sovereignty, stabilizing the region, and transforming the international security system.

**The methods.** The study employs a combination of theoretical and empirical methods. An analysis of scientific and normative literature was conducted to synthesize contemporary approaches to the study of European countries' foreign policies and geopolitical processes. The comparative method was used to juxtapose the foreign policy strategies of different states in the context of the war in Ukraine, while the systems method allowed for a comprehensive examination of the impact of foreign policy on the formation of a new geopolitical reality. To assess the effectiveness of European countries' actions, the expert evaluation method was applied. Additionally, a content analysis of official documents, publications, and strategic declarations of the European Union, NATO, and individual European states was conducted.

**Main results of the research.** This study is grounded in contemporary theories of international relations, particularly the neorealist and liberal approaches, as well as theories of geopolitics and concepts of global security. Special attention is paid to the works of Ukrainian scholars analyzing the foreign policies of European countries, mechanisms for alliance formation, integration processes, and the impact of state decisions on international stability. For instance, I. Hrytsiak examines the common foreign, security, and defense policy of the EU and its significance for establishing resilient strategic priorities (Hrytsiak, I., 2023). I. Zaitseva-Kalaur and I. Onyshchuk focus on the transformation of EU security policy in the context of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, emphasizing the role of solidarity and integration processes in countering external threats (Zaitseva-Kalaur, I., Onyshchuk, I., 2024). L. Hubytskyi and H. Melnyk investigate Poland's military assistance to Ukraine, reflecting the pragmatic aspect of interstate support and its influence on regional security (Hubytskyi, L., Melnyk, H., 2024).

All these scholarly works allow for the identification of key factors shaping the foreign policies of European countries, including security priorities, strategic alliances, and humanitarian aspects, as well as the assessment of their impact on the formation of a new geopolitical reality under contemporary conditions. However, despite significant interest and attention from scholars, Russia's military aggression against Ukraine has radically altered the geopolitical landscape of Europe and created new challenges for the international relations system, highlighting the need for further in-depth study of this issue. European countries, both EU members and non-aligned states, have been compelled to adapt traditional approaches in foreign policy to the conditions of the new security and humanitarian reality. In this context, the European Union serves as a key integrative actor, coordinating the common foreign policy of member states and implementing collective security mechanisms, while, as noted by I. Zaitseva-Kalaur and I. Onyshchuk, Russia's full-scale invasion acted as a catalyst for revising the EU's foreign and security policy (Zaitseva-Kalaur, I., Onyshchuk, I., 2024). Studying these processes holds significant practical value for Ukraine, as it enables the identification of effective strategies for foreign policy and security interaction with European countries in the context of contemporary challenges.

Contemporary foreign policy of European countries demonstrates that their actions go beyond mere responses to crises and actively shape a new geopolitical reality on the continent. State decisions regarding the provision of military, economic, and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, the implementation of sanctions against Russia, the strengthening of strategic alliances within NATO and the EU, as well as the intensification of diplomatic efforts, together constitute a comprehensive mechanism influencing the regional security balance. At the same time, public support for these measures among European citizens enhances the legitimacy of state policies and provides feedback that facilitates the adaptation of strategies to changing international circumstances. Thus, the foreign policy of European countries in the context of the war in Ukraine serves as a key factor in shaping the new geopolitical reality, combining institutional state decisions, collective actions within integrative structures, and active participation of civil society in supporting Ukraine. This creates a

foundation for stabilizing regional security, strengthening international alliances, and defining Europe's strategic priorities in the twenty-first century.

Russian aggression has demonstrated the need for more consolidated measures and joint strategic decisions both by the EU and individual European states. As I. Hrytsiak notes, «Russia's armed attack on the sovereign state of Ukraine has created new challenges and threats to European security and acted as a catalyst for revising the EU's foreign and defense policy» (Hrytsiak, I., 2023). This situation has shown that effective counteraction to aggression requires close coordination among member states, strengthening mechanisms of collective security, and rethinking strategic approaches to ensuring peace on the continent.

In this context, a particularly notable development was the adoption by the European Union in October 2025 of the 19th package of sanctions against the Russian Federation and organizations cooperating with it, including in India and China (European Union, 2025). As of 2025, their measures include the imposition of economic sanctions, provision of military and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, activation of integrated security mechanisms within the EU and NATO, and the development of diplomatic strategies to create a unified front against the aggressor. Following the onset of Russia's full-scale aggression in 2022, European countries have significantly intensified political, military, and financial efforts to support Ukraine. The most visible indicator of this intensification has been the sharp increase in defense spending: while in 2022 the average level of EU countries' expenditures was 1.3% of GDP, by 2024 it reached 1.9%, and in 2025 it is expected to rise to 2.1% of GDP. Poland has become the leader among NATO countries in terms of defense spending, approximately 4.1% of GDP in 2024, with plans to increase it to 4.7% in 2025. Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania also demonstrate growth dynamics (from 2.7% to 3.5% of GDP), while Germany established a special fund of €100 billion for the modernization of the Bundeswehr, following constitutional amendments adopted in 2025. In total, 23 of 32 NATO countries have already reached or exceeded the 2% of GDP benchmark, indicating a revision of Europe's security paradigm (Council of the European Union, n.d.; European Commission, 2024/2025).

A key platform for coordinating international military assistance has become the «Ramstein Initiative» (Ukraine Defense Contact Group), which has brought together over 50 countries worldwide. During its operation, more than 30 meetings have been held, resulting in Ukraine receiving support totaling over USD 145 billion. This format has effectively established a new mechanism of collective security outside the traditional NATO structures (European Commission, 2023).

In addition to collective decisions, individual leadership of certain state leaders has been notable. The Baltic countries and Poland have consistently demonstrated a «hawkish» policy, advocating for maximal support to Ukraine. Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk have provided a moral and political benchmark for other states. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, by initiating the «Zeitenwende» political course, launched a review of Germany's defense policy and large-scale deliveries of air defense systems, while French President Emmanuel Macron has evolved from cautious dialogue to a more resolute position against the aggressor, stimulating discussion on broader allied participation (Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, NAS of Ukraine, 2023).

An important component of support has been the issue of using frozen Russian assets. Approximately €210 billion of the Russian Central Bank's assets have been immobilized in EU countries. The European Commission has already initiated the process of transferring to Ukraine the revenues from these assets, primarily held in the Belgian Euroclear depository, to finance defense and reconstruction. Simultaneously, the EU and G7 countries are developing a mechanism to lend Ukraine up to €140 billion under guarantees from future earnings of these assets. Norway plays an active role in this process, implementing the five-year «Nansen Support Programme» (2023–2027) with NOK 75 billion and considering the possibility of providing guarantees for a pan-European loan to Ukraine (European Parliament, 2024).

Another notable aspect is the changed level of public readiness among Europeans to defend their countries. Sociological surveys reveal a significant gap between Eastern and Western European countries. Ukrainians exhibit the highest willingness to fight—over 60%—whereas in Western European countries this indicator ranges between 15% and 30%. The Czech Republic, Poland,

Romania, and the Baltic countries show relatively high levels, which correlates with their geographical proximity to the conflict zone and historical experience of threat. Thus, the defense potential of Ukraine and Central-Eastern European countries is shaped not only by state decisions but also by the high motivation of civil society, which is of key importance for regional security resilience (Razumkov Centre, 2022).

The research shows that the foreign policy of European countries serves not only as a tool for responding to crises but also as a factor in shaping a new geopolitical reality, in which the balance of power in the region and global strategic orientations are determined by collective decisions. Contemporary approaches to international cooperation, sanctions policy, and support for Ukraine's state sovereignty can be systematized and visually presented in a table demonstrating the scale of assistance and the activity of European countries. According to the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, against the backdrop of a slight increase in assistance from the United States (0.42%) in the first half of 2025, it was European countries that showed the greatest dynamics in increasing support for Ukraine (Kiel Institute for the World Economy, 2025), as reflected in Table 1.

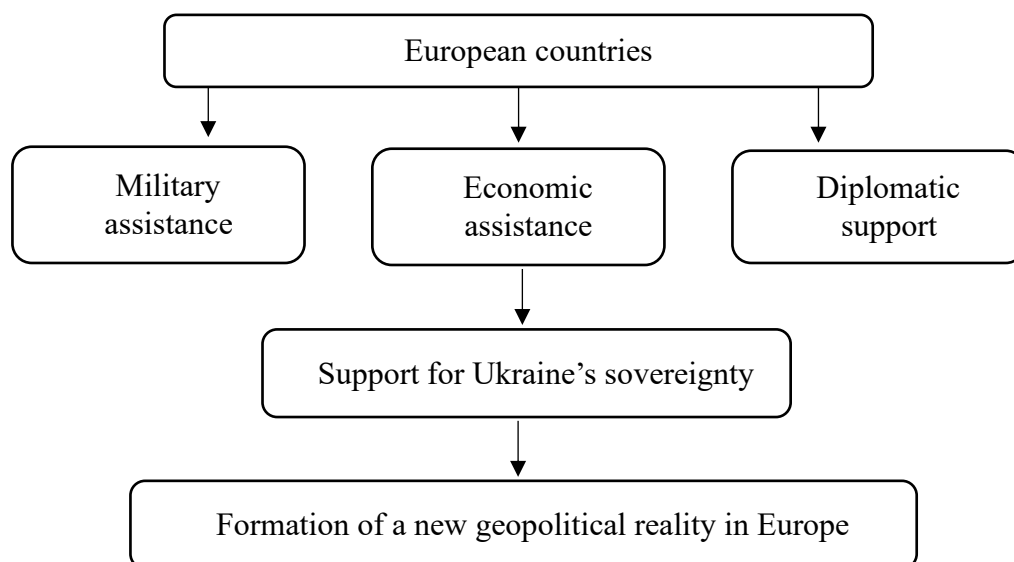
Table 1. Dynamics of Military and Total Support to Ukraine by European Countries (2024 – First Half of 2025)

Country / Institution	2024	2025 (First Half)	Change, %
European Union (EU Institutions)	€48.9 bn	€63.2 bn	+29 %
France	€4.89 bn	€7.56 bn	+54.6 %
Belgium	€1.87 bn	€3.20 bn	+71.1 %
Sweden	€5.41 bn	€7.60 bn	+40.5 %
Finland	€2.71 bn	€3.27 bn	+20.7 %
Norway	€3.35 bn	€6.49 bn	+93.7 %
Estonia	€0.76 bn	€0.91 bn	+19.7 %
Lithuania	€1.11 bn	€1.26 bn	+13.5 %
Ireland	€0.18 bn	€0.29 bn	+61.1 %
Luxembourg	€0.27 bn	€0.29 bn	+7.4 %
Portugal	€0.23 bn	€0.30 bn	+30.4 %
Spain	€1.46 bn	€1.47 bn	+0.68 %
Austria (neutral)	€0.81 bn	€0.82 bn	+1.2 %
Iceland	€0.04 bn	€0.07 bn	+75 %
Military support of the EU and member states			~ €63.2 bn
Total support (military + economic)			~ €177.5 bn

Source: (Slovo i Dilo, 2025; European Commission, 2024).

As shown in Table 1, European countries have provided Ukraine with substantial military and financial support, indicating the active use of foreign policy as a tool to influence regional security and the balance of power in Europe. Specifically, Germany supplied modern artillery, air defense systems, and financial assistance to stabilize Ukraine's economy (Embassy of Germany in Ukraine, n.d.), while France provided armored vehicles, military equipment, and actively coordinated sanctions against Russia (Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, NAS of Ukraine, 2023). Poland ensured logistical support for ammunition supplies, reception of refugees, and training of Ukrainian military personnel (Hubytskyi, L., Melnyk, H., 2024), and the Baltic countries — Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia — facilitated the integration of NATO defense standards and trained Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel (Tsentralizovani strategichniy komunikatsii, 2023). Sweden and Finland provided heavy equipment, financial grants, and humanitarian aid (Holos Ameryky, 2024), while Italy and Spain supplied armored vehicles and supported the civilian population. The integration of these actions into a pan-European context demonstrates that assistance to Ukraine is not only a collective EU initiative but also the result of strategic decisions by individual member states, reinforced by public support and awareness of security risks.

Such detailed analysis allows for a clear assessment of how the foreign policy of the EU and its member states is combined with concrete practical actions to support Ukraine, forming a comprehensive system of security, diplomatic solidarity, and integration processes in the region. To provide a more visual understanding of how Europe's foreign policy shapes the new geopolitical reality and influences integration processes, it is appropriate to refer to a schematic representation of these interconnections in Figure 1. The figure illustrates how the combination of military, economic, and diplomatic support impacts regional stabilization, the balance of power, and the prospects for Ukraine's further integration into the European security and economic space.



**Figure 1. Diagram of the Impact of European Countries' Foreign Policy on the Formation of a New Geopolitical Reality**

*Source: compiled by the author*

As shown in Figure 1, the foreign policy of European countries, including EU member states, is aimed at strengthening regional security and supporting Ukraine in the war with the Russian Federation. Additionally, according to the Razumkov Centre, the perception of Ukraine in European countries has significantly changed since the onset of the full-scale invasion in February 2022. Public opinion surveys have shown that the majority of Europeans support providing military and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, approve of sanctions policy against Russia, and highly value Ukraine's efforts to integrate into European structures. These sociological data confirm that public support for Ukraine directly influences the foreign policy decisions of European countries and the EU, reinforcing collective actions and a consolidated strategy to counter the aggressor (see Table 2). Integrating these indicators together with Table 1 and Figure 1 provides a comprehensive picture of how political, economic, and social factors shape the new geopolitical reality in Europe.

**Table 2. Attitudes of Citizens of European Countries towards Ukraine and Support for Its War Against Russia (2022, % of Respondents)**

Indicator	% of Citizen Support
Support for providing military assistance to Ukraine	68 %
Support for providing humanitarian assistance to Ukraine	82 %
Approval of sanctions against Russia	74 %
Positive attitude towards Ukraine's integration into the EU	61 %
Willingness to personally support Ukraine (donations, volunteering)	45 %

*Source: (Razumkov Centre, 2022)*

Thus, the presented data highlight that Europe's foreign policy is shaped not only by state institutions and alliances but also under the influence of public opinion. High public support for Ukraine reinforces the legitimacy of decisions regarding assistance, sanctions, and integration

processes, creating the prerequisites for the effective implementation of joint foreign policy by the EU and individual European countries (European Commission, 2023). Such a level of public support becomes a significant resource for state actors, who can justify their foreign policy decisions to voters and international partners. In turn, this creates a feedback mechanism: policy responds to public opinion, while public opinion reacts to policy and international dynamics. Table 3 below demonstrates specific indicators of public support in EU member states regarding assistance to Ukraine and its integration into the European Union.

Table 3. Public Support for Assistance to Ukraine and Its European Integration among Citizens of EU Member States (%)

Indicator	Percentage
Support for providing humanitarian assistance to Ukraine	89 %
Support for receiving Ukrainian refugees within the EU	84 %
Support for financial assistance to Ukraine	72 %
Support for economic sanctions against russia	72 %
Support for granting Ukraine EU candidate status	61 %
Support for supplying Ukraine with military equipment	60 %

*Source: (European Commission, 2023/2024; European Parliament, 2024)*

Analysis of Eurobarometer data and other sociological studies demonstrates a high level of support for Ukraine among citizens of European countries. The majority of respondents approve of providing humanitarian and financial assistance, supporting refugees, imposing sanctions against russia, and supplying military aid. Such public support creates an important foundation for implementing the joint foreign policy of the EU and individual European countries, enhancing the legitimacy of their decisions on the international stage. This confirms that public opinion is not only a social factor but also an active element in shaping the new geopolitical reality in Europe.

A comparison of contemporary support for Ukraine with other military conflicts demonstrates the evolution of Europe's foreign policy. For instance, during the conflicts in Yugoslavia in the 1990s and in Georgia in 2008, European countries acted much more cautiously, primarily limiting themselves to diplomatic initiatives and partial economic support. In the case of Syria (2011–2015), the EU's response was more comprehensive, including humanitarian aid and the reception of refugees, but without significant military supplies or large-scale sanctions.

At the same time, there has been a noticeable transformation in the rhetoric and scope of support for Ukraine from most European countries compared to the early stages of the full-scale war. Initially, the response of states was more emotional and demonstrative: countries actively supplied weapons, financial resources, and humanitarian aid, and their statements emphasized solidarity and moral support for Ukraine. Recently, despite the continued substantial assistance, the rhetoric has shifted to place greater emphasis on strategic and political priorities, while the pace and volume of new supplies have somewhat decreased. This change is associated with economic and domestic political challenges in donor countries, as well as the need to balance support for Ukraine with national interests. This evolution demonstrates that the foreign policy of the EU and individual states remains dynamic, shaped by international obligations, public support, and domestic political circumstances. This experience helps explain why contemporary support for Ukraine is unprecedented — combining economic sanctions, extensive military and humanitarian aid, and active diplomatic efforts, thus establishing a new standard for the EU and its member states' response to external threats.

The high level of support for Ukraine among EU citizens simultaneously serves as an incentive for active engagement of states in integration and security processes. Such interaction creates a feedback loop, within which state actors adjust their foreign policy strategies according to public expectations, while citizens perceive their influence on the EU's international actions (Serhienko, T., 2023). The comprehensive interplay of political, economic, and social factors establishes a new geopolitical reality in Europe, where solidarity with Ukraine becomes not only a moral imperative but also a key element of the region's strategic security (Optengegel, U., Andor, L., 2025).

Thus, the collective actions of the EU and individual states, combined with the active participation of civil society, contribute to strengthening international mechanisms for supporting

Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The current situation confirms that contemporary European foreign policy is characterized by a high level of coordination, responsiveness, and comprehensiveness, making it an effective instrument for shaping the security balance and integration processes in the region. In addition to direct economic and military measures, the effectiveness of foreign policy largely depends on diplomatic efforts and information engagement. Shaping a positive image of Ukraine on the international stage, promoting its European integration, and coordinating actions with international organizations have become integral components of Europe's strategic influence on regional stabilization.

Thus, it can be argued that contemporary foreign policy of European countries is based on the interaction of three key components: state decisions, economic and military support, and public backing, which together create a comprehensive mechanism for shaping the security and political balance in Europe. The next logical step in the analysis is to examine the concrete outcomes of these actions in the context of integration processes and Ukraine's prospects for membership in European structures. The full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia in 2022 significantly accelerated Ukraine's integration processes within the EU. Under the influence of the war, a number of key steps were taken: granting Ukraine candidate status for EU accession in June 2022 (Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, 2022), initiating the negotiation process to align legislation and standards with European norms, and intensifying bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs in the fields of security, energy, and economy. The promotion of Ukraine's integration has received additional support from the public in European countries, reinforcing the legitimacy of political decisions and stimulating the acceleration of reforms in the country. Thanks to comprehensive assistance and the consolidated efforts of the EU and its member states, Ukraine's integration process has become not only a symbolic demonstration of European solidarity but also a practical mechanism for strengthening regional security and stability. The war has acted as a catalyst for reinforcing Ukraine's ties with European institutions and has elevated the priority of its European path on the EU's agenda.

The analysis of contemporary approaches to European foreign policy and the high level of public support for Ukraine allows for outlining the key directions for the further development of regional security and integration processes. In particular, the collective stance of the EU and individual member states creates preconditions for strengthening Ukraine's integration into European economic, political, and security structures. An important factor here is not only granting candidate status for EU accession but also implementing practical cooperation mechanisms, including the alignment of defense, energy, and public finance standards with European norms. At the same time, active support for Ukraine influences the formation of a new balance of power in Europe. The solidarity of member states and their citizens strengthens collective security mechanisms, enhances the effectiveness of sanctions policy, and contributes to regional stabilization. In this context, integration processes become not only an economic or political project but also a means of ensuring Europe's strategic security, with Ukraine serving as a key partner in countering aggression and establishing resilient international alliances. Thus, the further development of the EU's foreign policy and that of individual European countries will be directly linked to supporting Ukraine's integration, strengthening security mechanisms, and engaging civil society in the implementation of shared strategic objectives. This creates a foundation for shaping a new European agenda, in which political solidarity, economic cooperation, and public support function as interconnected elements ensuring stability and security on the continent.

**Conclusions.** The conducted research allows us to assert that the foreign policy of European countries during the period of Russia's war against Ukraine has become a decisive factor in shaping a new geopolitical reality on the continent. European states have demonstrated the capacity to consolidate efforts, reconsider security approaches, and move away from traditional policies of restraint in favor of active support for Ukraine. The unity of government positions, EU and NATO institutions, as well as strong public support for integration and security initiatives, has created preconditions for the transformation of the European political and security space. It has been revealed that contemporary European foreign policy is based on a combination of diplomatic, economic, sanctions, and humanitarian instruments aimed at strengthening regional stability and countering Russia's aggressive actions. Civil society also plays an important role, as through mechanisms of



public support it enhances the legitimacy of governmental decisions and contributes to reinforcing international solidarity.

Ukraine, having become the epicenter of European security, has transformed into a key partner of the EU in the process of shaping a new architecture of international relations. The results of the research confirm that the foreign policy of European states is increasingly acquiring a strategic and systemic character, aimed at ensuring long-term stability, democratic development, and the integration of Ukraine into the European political, economic, and security space.

Regarding further scientific research, it is advisable to focus on studying the evolution of the EU's common foreign and security policy, the mechanisms of Ukraine's adaptation to European standards of defense cooperation, as well as the analysis of the influence of public opinion in European countries on the formation of political decisions in the field of international security.

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