

in the right direction must be discussed with German partners. For example, Germany attached great importance to the topic of energy efficiency — in this context, Ukraine has started to go the right way. Another important issue is decentralization. It is possible that the issue of decentralization became interesting for Germany in the context of the Minsk process. Therefore, there is a risk that once the conflict progress to frozen, it would be the subject of less interest for Berlin.

Conclusion. Thus, there is a number of risks in bilateral relations between Ukraine and Germany. It is important to stress upon them in order to prevent erosion of relations and misunderstanding between the parties.

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THE YEAR OF UKRAINE IN THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND: NEGOTIATIONS, RESULTS, CULTURAL EVENTS (2005)

Introduction. The study examines Ukrainian-Polish relations through the context of “The Year of Ukraine in the Republic of Poland”: the large-scale series of joint actions, celebrations and negotiations hosted by Poland and Ukraine in 2005 in honor of the strategic partnership between the two countries. In addition to detailing a number of celebrations, especially those that influenced the diplomacy of the two countries at the highest level, the study lists specific results of certain agreements that were signed or implemented in the framework of the Year of Ukraine. The primary sources for the research are bilateral agreements between Ukraine and the Republic of Poland (for example, the “Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

and the Government of the Republic of Poland on mutual academic recognition of documents of education and equivalence of degrees”), memorandums, as well as information from media sources.

That is, **the objective of the paper** is to discuss the peculiarities of Ukrainian-Polish relations in terms of the Year of Ukraine organized in the Republic of Poland in 2005 focusing on the results, negotiations and cultural events arranged.

During the meeting of the President of Ukraine Victor Yushchenko and the President of the Republic of Poland Alexander Kwasniewski in Warsaw, on April, 2005, “The Year of Ukraine in the Republic of Poland” was proclaimed (respectively, “The Year of Poland in Ukraine”, which was held under the slogan “Poland and Ukraine together in Europe”, was proclaimed in 2004). The program of the events of the “Year of Ukraine” had two components: cultural and economical. During the April negotiations, several documents were signed, aimed at expanding both the trade-economical and scientific-cultural ties between Ukraine and the Republic of Poland. Analyzing these documents, let’s look at the cultural-educational and scientific components of the cooperation specifically.

Signed on April 11, 2005, the “Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Poland on academic mutual recognition of documents on education and equivalence of degrees” became one of the most important treaties of 2005-2007 in the field of education and science. As a result of the agreement, the certificates of full secondary education issued in Ukraine, and maturity certificates issued in the Republic of Poland, granted the right to enter higher education institutions of both countries. In addition, Ukrainian and Polish universities got the right to recognize, in accordance with the current legislation, the states of certain credits of study, practice classes, exams and passed courses, with the condition for eliminating differences in the curricula by passing the corresponding credits and exams [1].

With the Republic of Poland’s reformation of its own educational system for it to be closer to the standards of other EU countries and signing the Bologna Declaration by the Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Stanislav Nikolayenko on behalf of the states in Bergen, 2005, Ukraine and the Republic of Poland began joint efforts to progress on the path of the Bologna process, which had to be implemented by 2010. Ukraine and Poland also cooperated in order to preserve the conditions for continuing education in educational and scientific research institutions for citizens of both countries. The resolution of controversial issues concerning the implementation of the agreement was entrusted to the joint Ukrainian-Polish commission of experts. During 2005 – 2010, the commission carried out updating of the lists of scientific and research institutions authorized to provide degrees and higher educational institutions of Ukraine and Poland in general; exchanging information on changes in the educational systems of both countries.

However, the lion’s share of the provisions of the agreement was supposed to be implemented by the efforts of the higher educational institutions themselves, and not by the intergovernmental commission of experts. The important tasks were up for the universities of Ukraine and Poland to implement, including the adaptation of the

scientific and educational system to the new standards stipulated by the Bologna Convention on Education. The required reforms were the standardization of education in accordance with the transfer system of credits, ensuring student mobility, the introduction of doctoral programs in line with the Western PhD and certain other elements that Poland and Ukraine would have to introduce for use in their educational systems by 2010. By that time Poland has seen educational reforms carried out for more than a decade, in order to bring the system closer to those of the countries of Western Europe, with one of the most important steps in reforming the structure of higher education in Poland being the introduction of the standardization of education with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

On the other hand, Ukrainian experience became of use for the Polish education workers in the field of introducing the special European-brand “Diploma Supplement” according to the Bologna Declaration, which informed of the courses studied at higher educational institutions, along with the specialization which was received by a specialist. The Ministry of Education and Sports of Poland planned to implement the Supplement in 2005, but the implementation of the resolution was not widespread and received no attention from the non-state universities.

At the same time, in Ukraine there was already a tradition of issuing supplements for diplomas with detailed information on all the study subjects of an educational program, the state of their credits in hours, along with the grades received by the student, and the specialization that he or she achieved. Subsequent practice, however, has led to the use of two versions of the Diploma Supplement in Ukraine: “national” and “European”. Either way, the exchange of experience on the reforms has positively influenced the implementation of the Bologna process in both Ukraine and Poland.

Activities in the fields of culture, education and science according to the “Year of Ukraine in Poland” were not being limited to the April negotiations and their results. On June 24, 2005, Viktor Yushchenko and Aleksander Kwaśniewski participated in the ceremony at the Lychakiv Cemetery in Lviv, where memorials were opened to the dead soldiers of both the Army of the Western Ukrainian National Republic and the “Eaglets” (young Polish militiamen who fought against troops of WUNR and later Soviet Russia in 1918 – 1921). In addition to this symbolic event, the representatives of Ukraine and Poland also held talks during June meetings regarding new bilateral treaties, some of which concerned issues of culture, tourism, and sports.

Among the signed documents, which were the indicators of the all-inclusive nature of interaction between the countries in the “Year of Ukraine in Poland”, was the “Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Physical Culture and Sports between the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and the Ministry of National Education and Sports of the Republic of Poland”. The signing of this memorandum signified the beginning of cooperation between the Ukrainian and Polish agencies on the exchange of experts, trainers and experience in the field of sports (including youth sports and sports for the disabled) [2].

In addition, during the June meeting, with the aim of promoting “the expansion of friendly ties between the peoples of Ukraine and the Republic of Poland, a better understanding of the life, history and cultural heritage of both nations”, the governments of the countries have adopted an agreement on cooperation in the field of tourism [3]. The document was necessary for the construction of a common contractual framework of Poland and Ukraine to strengthen the common position of the two countries in the context of European and global multilateral relations. Specifically, the governments of Ukraine and the Republic of Poland agreed to develop cooperation within the framework of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and other international tourism organizations.

In order to fulfill the terms of the agreement, a Working Group on Tourism was set up within the framework of the Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation of Ukraine and the Republic of Poland. This group coordinated and monitored cooperation in the field of tourism; identifying problems that hampered the development of cooperation, and took appropriate measures to address them [4]. Thanks to the commission’s work, proposals were made for further development of cooperation in the field of tourism.

Unfortunately, the period of activity of the original working group was limited by the cadence of governments at that time in, respectively, Ukraine and Poland, and did not become effective. But the working group established through this agreement was able to resume its activity more than ten years later in the framework of the cross-border cooperation of the two countries in 2017, when the Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine Mykhailo Titarchuk agreed with the Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Sport and Tourism of Poland Dawid Lasek. In the new format, the working group was assembled to develop a new concept of tourism development in the Carpathians, with the intent to invite representatives from Romania and Slovakia. In addition, the Ukrainian and the Polish agreed to cooperate in organizing tourist exhibitions UKRAINE UITM and TT Warsaw; with the Polish promising to help with the allocation of funds from EU to promote the tourism industry in the Carpathians [5].

In addition to negotiations, such events as festivals, cultural days, conferences were held. For example, as part of the Year of Ukraine in Poland, an exhibition called “Days of Ukrainian Science in Poland” was held in Krakow. Nearly four dozen Ukrainian classical and technical universities and scientific institutions participated in the event. The exhibition was possible due to the fruitful cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Informatization of the Republic of Poland and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. Ukrainian universities and scientific institutions came to Krakow with monographs, modern textbooks, and presentations of the latest scientific developments, such as holographic technologies [6].

Conclusion. Thus, the presented documents, actions and events clearly illustrate that even declarative agreements can get factual implementation after finding the “points of contact” between responsible officials, as well as how the Polish-Ukrainian relations over a decade of the European integration processes turned into a “chain”

that unifies multilateral cooperation between the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

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