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## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN GLOBALIZATION

Transformational processes in the global world economy, factors affecting them and inevitable consequences create the maximization of interest in these processes as areas of realization of the country's economic potential. Thus, the focus is on such important modern problems as ensuring the conflict-free coexistence of states and the development of effective cooperation, the functions and fate of the modern state, the interaction of politics and the economy. That is why integration processes are considered positive, given their ability to solve all these problematic issues [1; 4; 5; 8]. Various aspects of integration processes require a more detailed definition nowadays; however, the scientific literature does not provide a completely unambiguous definition of the concept of «economic integration». Economic integration is the process of internationalization of economic life, convergence, unification of the economies of a number of countries [1; 3; 5].

In economics, the term «integration» was first used in the field of industrial organizations to characterize the methods of combining firms: through agreements, through cartels, concerns or mergers [2; 6; 10]. International economic integration determines the cooperation between the national economies of different countries with their partial or complete unification, the destruction of obstacles to trade between states, the convergence of the markets of each country with the aim of creating a common, namely common, market. In the process of the formation of international economic integration, the main characteristics were clearly distinguished, such as a comprehensive and systematic approach, long-term interaction, scale, international regulatory mechanism. The result of such cooperation is rapprochement, strengthening of interrelationships, mutual adjustment and combination of different structures of national economies into one, this is how the international economic complex is formed [3; 8; 10].

Integration as a process is built on market principles, but at the same time requires purposeful, conscious, coordinated actions of countries. The objective reasons for international economic integration are: proximity of economic development and the level of market maturity of the integrating states; geographical location; sustainable economic ties; the presence of common problems that need to be solved; factors of the economic situation [4; 7]. The definition of integration as a process implies that its completion should be a certain stage at which all barriers between partner countries will be eliminated. However, with this approach, it is difficult to identify such a stage, and it is even more difficult to achieve it [5; 7; 9].

Having analyzed the main theoretical aspects of the definition of the concept of economic integration, its emergence and evolution, we can conclude that there is no single definition of economic integration. Approaches to defining the concept of international economic integration have changed over time, as the very essence of integration has evolved. In modern scientific literature, the main contradiction in the interpretation of the concept of international economic integration is its definition as a process of convergence of economies or a certain final state because of such convergence [6; 9]. Therefore, the analysis of current theoretical approaches to the interpretation of this economic category and taking into account the current state of development of integration processes made it possible to propose the following interpretation of international economic integration – it is a process of unification of

the economies of the integrating countries, the final result of which is a state of full economic integration, when political borders are no longer of economic importance. In addition, to distinguish between the concepts of «globalization» and «integration», it is worth noting that globalization is a broader concept that means integration on a global scale [8; 9].

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### **SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS IN UKRAINE AS A DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE'S SMART ECONOMIC SYSTEM IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD**

The most important feature of the development of the world economy is the unfolding of the processes of globalization, internationalization, transformation of productive forces, which significantly affect the system of international economic relations and determine the trends in the development of international business and national economies in general [1; 3; 8]. In Ukraine, international business needs significant help in the field of application of international and domestic smart technologies, which will facilitate the very process of conducting international business and ensure sustainable competitive development of the future smart economic system of our country [2; 5; 10]. Ukraine aspires to become a full-fledged partner in the world and European communities, and for this, it is necessary to constantly improve its international economic activity, to study the influence of factors on globalization and integration processes in the context of a smart economy [3; 6; 9].

Therefore, the support of international business in Ukraine as an element of the development of the smart economic system of the state in the post-war period is the basis of economic cooperation between countries and the integration of domestic enterprises into the European community. These transformational changes form a new understanding of the forms of international business under the influence of such factors as globalization, universalization,