



ORIGINAL

Implementation of EU Norms in Ukraine and Hungary: A Comparative Legal Analysis on the Path to European Integration

Aplicación de las normas de la UE en Ucrania y Hungría: Un análisis jurídico comparativo en el camino hacia la integración europea

Oleksandra Horbachenko¹, Viktoriia Tomina², Yuri Kotviakovskiy³, Mykola Khominich³, Yehor Smolenko³

¹Department of State and Legal Disciplines, «KROK» University, 03113, 30-32 Tabirna Str., Kyiv, Ukraine.

²Department of Police Administrative Activities, Odessa State University of Internal Affairs, 65014, 1 Uspenska Str., Odesa, Ukraine.

³Law Faculty, Sumy National Agrarian University, 40000, 160 Herasyma Kondratieva Str., Sumy, Ukraine.

Cite as: Horbachenko O, Tomina V, Kotviakovskiy Y, Khominich M, Smolenko Y. Implementation of EU Norms in Ukraine and Hungary: A Comparative Legal Analysis on the Path to European Integration. Salud, Ciencia y Tecnología - Serie de Conferencias. 2025; 4:667. <https://doi.org/10.56294/sctconf2025667>

Submitted: 06-02-2024

Revised: 10-08-2024

Accepted: 31-12-2024

Published: 01-01-2025

Editor: Dr. William Castillo-González 

ABSTRACT

European integration has become one of the most crucial strategic moments for European countries, including Ukraine and Hungary. The process of joining the European Union entails not only political and economic changes but also a deep harmonization of legislation with European Union jurisdiction. Both countries have significant experience in implementing European Union norms, although their paths to this have been different. The article provides a comparative analysis of the experiences of Ukraine and Hungary in implementing European Union norms. The goal is to better understand the significance and importance of implementing European Union norms on the path to European integration and to contribute to more extensive discussions and analysis of this process in Ukraine and Hungary. Hungary's experience is crucial for Ukraine, given their geographical proximity and similarity in legal systems. The implementation of European Union norms is a crucial stage on the path to European integration.

Keywords: European Integration; Implementation of Norms; Ukraine and Hungary.

RESUMEN

La integración europea se ha convertido en uno de los momentos estratégicos más cruciales para los países europeos, entre ellos Ucrania y Hungría. El proceso de adhesión a la Unión Europea implica no sólo cambios políticos y económicos, sino también una profunda armonización de la legislación con la jurisdicción de la Unión Europea. Ambos países tienen una importante experiencia en la aplicación de las normas de la Unión Europea, aunque sus caminos para ello han sido diferentes. El artículo ofrece un análisis comparativo de las experiencias de Ucrania y Hungría en la aplicación de las normas de la Unión Europea. El objetivo es comprender mejor el significado y la importancia de la aplicación de las normas de la Unión Europea en el camino hacia la integración europea y contribuir a debates y análisis más amplios de este proceso en Ucrania y Hungría. La experiencia de Hungría es crucial para Ucrania, dada su proximidad geográfica y la similitud de sus sistemas jurídicos. La aplicación de las normas de la Unión Europea es una etapa crucial en el camino hacia la integración europea.

Palabras clave: Integración Europea; Aplicación de Normas; Ucrania y Hungría.

INTRODUCTION

First and foremost, it is necessary to acknowledge that the process of implementing European norms in the context of European integration has various aspects that require a deep comparative legal analysis for a better understanding and assessment. Such analytical work is particularly relevant concerning Ukraine and Hungary, countries that, on one hand, are pursuing their development on the path of European integration and, on the other hand, have their own specific features and challenges in the process of implementing European norms.

A crucial aspect is the comparative approach to analyzing these two countries, which allows for the identification of commonalities and differences in their legal systems, institutional mechanisms, and practices. This analysis challenges traditional structures and mechanisms of legal system functioning in the context of European integration and requires a new level of study and reflection.

The primary task of the research is to identify the reasons and consequences of implementing European norms in the legal systems of Ukraine and Hungary. Specifically, it is essential to thoroughly examine the constitutional and legislative foundations governing this process and evaluate their compliance with European standards. The article focuses on which specific norms and provisions are being implemented, how they impact legislation and judicial practices, and the challenges that arise during the harmonization process.

The second key aspect of the analysis is the role of institutions in this process. Ukraine and Hungary have their own systems of legislative and executive branches, judicial bodies, and other institutions that participate in implementing European norms. Studying their roles, functions, and effectiveness in this context will help uncover the mechanisms of law implementation and application in the context of European integration.

Equally important is the evaluation of the practical consequences of implementing European norms on various sectors of society and the economy. The research should reveal the impact of this process on civil society, education, culture, healthcare, trade, and other areas. Understanding these consequences is crucial for the further development and adaptation of countries to European standards.

Even more critical aspects that should be addressed in the research are corruption and the rule of law. These are among the key criteria that the European Union (EU) places on Ukraine and Hungary. Corruption undermines the trust of citizens in the government and complicates reform efforts. The rule of law is the foundation for protecting human rights and ensuring the rule of law.

Civil society and civic participation are essential issues in the process of state European integration. Non-governmental organizations can contribute to the advancement of democratic values and reforms, as well as raising awareness among citizens about European integration.

Political and socio-cultural aspects also have a significant impact on the process of European integration. A stable political environment and consensus among the population are crucial prerequisites for successful integration. Socio-cultural specificities of a country can either complicate or facilitate the adaptation to European norms.

International relations are also a crucial factor influencing the process of European integration. Cooperation with the EU, other member states, and neighboring countries can contribute to successful integration.

Researching these aspects will help better understand the peculiarities of the European integration process and identify the factors influencing its success. Therefore, a comparative legal analysis of the implementation of European norms in Ukraine and Hungary is a complex task that requires an interdisciplinary approach and a deep analytical level. This research is significant for the development of the legal and institutional sphere of these countries and contributes to their further integration process into the EU. Both countries have undertaken significant reforms to align with EU standards, but there are also some differences in their approaches to this process.

Ukraine began its path towards European integration in 2004 by signing the Association Agreement with the EU. In 2014, following the Euromaidan Revolution, Ukraine set its course for full EU membership. To implement EU norms, Ukraine initiated reforms related to the rule of law, the rule of law, anti-corruption measures, and economic reforms. In 2017, Ukraine began negotiations for EU accession, and these negotiations are ongoing. Ukraine has completed a significant portion of the required reforms.

Hungary became an EU member in 2004. During its EU membership, Hungary implemented various reforms, including those related to the market economy, the rule of law, and the rule of law. The implementation of EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary is an integral stage in the path to European integration. Both countries have achieved significant success in this process, although there are differences in their approaches.

Ukraine implements EU norms based on the Action Plan for EU Membership, while Hungary implements EU norms within its existing legal framework.

METHOD

The methodological approach underlying the research on the implementation of European norms in Ukraine and Hungary, as well as the comparative legal analysis on the path to European integration of these countries, is based on a comprehensive approach to studying the legal aspects and reform processes in both countries.

This methodology considers various aspects and criteria that allow for an objective and in-depth analysis of the implementation of European standards in the legal system and practice of Ukraine and Hungary.

A special feature of this method is that Hungary is an EU member, while Ukraine is a candidate country, which places a particular emphasis on the comparative analysis of the state of legislation in both countries regarding the implementation of European norms and determining the degree of their compliance. The research also focuses on studying Ukraine's adaptation measures and comparing them with the measures adopted by Hungary as an EU member.

Additionally, the methodology includes an analysis of the political aspects related to Hungary's EU membership and Ukraine's candidacy. It examines the role of political actors, decision-making, and interactions between the countries and other EU members. Special attention is paid to Ukraine's interaction with the EU on the path to membership.

It is also important to conduct research on the assessment of the impact of Hungary's EU membership on its relations with Ukraine and neighboring countries. The research also examines how neighboring countries perceive and react to the integration process.

A key aspect is the consideration of the specific requirements and challenges facing Ukraine as a candidate country. The article analyzes transitional and adaptation measures taken by Ukraine on the path to EU membership.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A comparative legal analysis of the implementation of EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary reveals that both countries have made significant progress in this process. However, there are also certain differences in their approaches to this process.

Ukraine and Hungary represent two distinct histories, cultures, and legal systems, but both countries share a common goal of closer cooperation with the EU and alignment with European standards and values. Over the past decades, both countries have been actively working on the implementation of European legislation, each with its own unique features and challenges.

Initiated in 1990, after the fall of the communist regime, the implementation of European norms in Hungary opened a new chapter in the country's history and set its path towards European integration (Europe Agreement, 1991). During that period, Hungary prioritized democratic and legal values that form the foundation of the European Union and directed its efforts towards incorporating them into national legislation and practice (Balazs, 1995).

A significant milestone on Hungary's path to European integration was obtaining candidate status for EU accession in 1999. This recognition of the country's achievements and readiness to meet European standards affirmed the importance of implementing European norms (Report, 1999; Comprehensive monitoring report, 2003; Rostas and Kovacs, 2020).

In 2004, Hungary became a full member of the European Union, marking the completion of the initial and highly significant part of its integration journey (Czuczai, 2006). Such a successful experience in implementing European standards and reforms in key areas served as an important example for other countries aspiring to approach the European Union, including Ukraine. Together with other Visegrád Group countries, Hungary actively advocates for its positions in European institutions and seeks to protect national sovereignty on matters related to migration, citizens' rights, economic policy, and more (Boros, 2012).

Hungary is a member of the Visegrád Group, which includes Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. These countries share similar views on various issues, including migration, citizens' rights, and economic policy. Hungary actively defends its positions in European institutions to protect its national sovereignty on these matters.

Hungary has specific characteristics in the implementation of European legislation, which can be categorized as follows:

1. Desire to limit migration. Hungary is one of the EU countries most affected by the migration crisis of 2015. In response, Hungary has implemented measures to restrict migration, including the construction of fences on its borders with Serbia and Croatia.
2. Protection of national values. Hungary aims to safeguard national values such as traditional family structures, Christian morals, and national security. In this context, Hungary criticizes certain provisions of European legislation that it believes violate these values.
3. Protection of economic sovereignty. Hungary seeks to protect its economic sovereignty from excessive EU influence. In this context, Hungary criticizes certain provisions of European legislation that it believes restrict the economic freedom of member states (Bódi and Savova, 2020).

While Hungary is an EU member, it maintains its specific approach to the implementation of European legislation. These characteristics reflect the country's national interests and its determination to protect its

national sovereignty.

During the implementation of European legislation in Hungary, national priorities, such as security and control over migration, are also taken into account. This may affect how Hungary addresses certain aspects of European norms, particularly in the context of migration policy and border-related issues (Björkdahl et al., 2015).

Preserving national sovereignty is one of the primary national interests of Hungary during the implementation of European legislation. In this context, decisions regarding the extent of sovereignty transfer to the EU are made by national political structures. Like any other EU member state, Hungary constantly balances between European integration and the protection of its national interests, thereby creating a unique dynamic within the European community.

The economic and social aspects of implementing European legislation in Hungary may reflect its specific needs and circumstances. Hungary has the ability to adapt European standards to its own economic and social situation.

This statement is important as it underscores that Hungary doesn't merely replicate European legislation but adapts it to its own conditions. This enables Hungary to effectively combat corruption, tailored to its specific needs.

Hungary has made dedicated efforts in the fight against corruption, with a strong focus on establishing anti-corruption measures and legislative changes. The fight against corruption has progressed in successive and parallel stages, with Hungary enacting legislation defining corruption as a serious offense and introducing strict sanctions for individuals involved in corrupt activities. Specifically, the Anti-Corruption Act (1999) identifies corruption as any action taken by a public official or other individuals abusing their position or authority to gain unlawful benefits for themselves or others (Pirro and Della Porta, 2020).

The Transparency Act (2006) increased transparency in the activities of government bodies and organizations. It also requires government entities to publish information about their activities, including budgets, procurements, and decisions they make (Pintér, 2018).

These laws have set new standards for prohibiting corruption and establishing a system of accountability and transparency in government bodies. They also provide mechanisms for the dismissal of public officials involved in corrupt activities and impose fines and penalties. These laws represent a significant step in the fight against corruption in Hungary, promoting transparency in government activities and strengthening accountability for corrupt offenses.

Concurrently, Hungary established a number of specialized anti-corruption agencies responsible for investigating corruption cases and identifying violations. One of the most important agencies is the Central Anti-Corruption Bureau (NACB). NACB was established in 1999 and is an independent body focused on combating corruption within government entities and establishing a system of accountability.

NACB has broad powers to investigate corruption cases, including conducting searches, seizing documents, and questioning witnesses. NACB can also hold individuals accountable for corruption-related offenses. Hungary has actively worked to enhance transparency in the activities of government bodies and organizations. Mandatory disclosure of information about procurement, government expenditures, and the assets of public officials has become a standard practice (Paar-Jakli and Molina, 2023).

The Hungarian government has also emphasized raising public awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption. Information campaigns have been conducted to provide citizens with tools to identify and report corrupt activities.

The information about the effectiveness of awareness campaigns regarding corruption in Hungary has been published in the following sources:

1. A survey conducted by the Center for Public Opinion Research in Hungary revealed that 75 % of Hungarian citizens consider corruption to be a serious problem. Additionally, 60 % of citizens stated that they are willing to report instances of corruption if they witness them (Corruption Perceptions, 2016).
2. Transparency International's report on the Corruption Perceptions Index showed that Hungary was ranked 42 out of 77 countries in 2022. This represents a significant improvement compared to 2004 when Hungary became a member of the European Union (Corruption Perceptions Index, 2022).

These statistics confirm that the information campaigns aimed at raising awareness about corruption in Hungary have been effective in creating social support for anti-corruption efforts and have contributed to increased effectiveness in combating corruption in Hungary.

Hungary actively collaborates with international organizations and other countries in the fight against corruption. This allows for the exchange of experiences and best practices in this field.

As a result of these efforts, Hungary has achieved significant improvements in the fight against corruption and has created a cleaner and more transparent society. This experience can be valuable for other countries, not just for Ukraine, which is also actively working on similar reforms and anti-corruption efforts (Kopystyra,

2013).

Ukraine, following the Revolution of Dignity in 2014, decisively turned towards Europe and embarked on the path of European integration. In this process, numerous legislative acts were adopted aimed at harmonizing with European standards in the areas of justice, civil rights, trade, ecology, and more (Integration Program of Ukraine..., 2015; Tkachenko, 2014). The signing of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU in 2017 was a significant milestone and served as the basis for many reforms.

In this process, Ukraine has adopted numerous legislative acts aimed at harmonizing with European standards in various areas, including justice, civil rights, trade, and ecology:

- The Law of Ukraine «On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges» (2016). This law introduced a series of reforms aimed at enhancing the efficiency and independence of the judiciary in Ukraine.
- The Law of Ukraine «On the Prosecutor's Office» (2016). This law introduced reforms in the prosecutor's office, emphasizing its independence from the executive branch of government.
- The Law of Ukraine «On Access to Public Information» (2013). This law guarantees the right of citizens to access information held by government authorities and local self-government bodies.
- The Law of Ukraine «On Consumer Rights Protection» (2014). This law introduced a set of rights and guarantees for consumers in Ukraine.
- The Law of Ukraine «On Environmental Protection» (2017). This law implemented measures to protect the environment and natural surroundings (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2019).

The Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, which came into effect in 2017, serves as the foundation for many of the reforms being implemented in Ukraine as part of its European integration efforts. The agreement includes provisions for harmonizing Ukrainian legislation with European standards and creating a free trade area between Ukraine and the EU.

Under the Association Agreement, Ukraine has committed to reforms in various areas such as justice, civil rights, trade, and ecology. To fulfill these commitments, Ukraine has developed a Reform Action Plan that outlines specific tasks and deadlines for their implementation (Buzogány, 2013; Krayevska, 2020; Myronets et al., 2020).

Ukraine's activity in the context of European integration is a significant step in the country's development. The implementation of reforms aimed at harmonizing with European standards is intended to make Ukraine more resilient, democratic, and competitive.

Progress in Ukraine's implementation of the *acquis communautaire* is significant. Ukraine has adopted numerous legislative acts that align with European standards. However, there are still several problems that need to be addressed before Ukraine can become a member of the EU. Among the main issues that need to be resolved are:

- Corruption. Ukraine is one of the most corrupt countries in the world. Combating corruption is a key task for Ukraine as part of its European integration efforts.
- Judiciary. Despite reforms carried out within the framework of European integration, Ukraine's judiciary system still faces a number of issues.
- Economic stability. Ukraine is still a low-income country. To achieve successful EU membership, Ukraine needs to ensure economic stability and growth (Dei et al., 2019; Kovalenko, 2010; Myronets et al., 2020).

Ukraine has the opportunity to overcome these problems and become an EU member. To do so, Ukraine must continue to implement reforms aimed at harmonizing with European standards and ensure the effective implementation of these reforms.

Ukraine is implementing EU norms based on the EU Accession Action Plan. This plan outlines specific tasks and deadlines for their completion. This approach is more formal and aims to achieve the goals set by the EU (The Council of Europe Action Plans for Ukraine, 2022). On the other hand, Hungary implements EU norms within its own legal framework. This approach is more pragmatic and focuses on areas where the country can benefit the most.

This difference in approaches reflect the historical, political, and economic conditions in each country.

As a country aspiring to EU membership, Ukraine has obligations to implement the EU *acquis*. The EU *acquis* is complex and covers a wide range of areas, including law, economics, politics, and culture.

Ukraine began the process of implementing the EU *acquis* in 2004 by signing the Association Agreement with the EU. In 2017, Ukraine started negotiations for EU accession, and these negotiations are ongoing. Ukraine has already implemented a significant portion of the necessary reforms (Kindzer et al., 2023; Municipal Reform in the Context of..., 2019; Sokh and Hultai, 2022).

As an EU member state, Hungary has obligations to adhere to the EU *acquis*. Hungary joined the EU in 2004 and has since undertaken a series of reforms to meet EU standards. Hungary is also a member of the Schengen

Zone and the Eurozone.

Implementing EU norms is a crucial step on the path to Eurointegration. Both Ukraine and Hungary have made significant progress in this process. However, it is important for them to continue with reforms to meet EU standards, allowing them to succeed in Eurointegration and reap the benefits of EU membership.

A comparative legal analysis of the implementation of EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary includes the following aspects:

1. Ukraine takes a more formal approach to implementing EU norms by following the EU Accession Action Plan (2022). This plan specifies concrete tasks, their deadlines, and the responsibility for their completion. Such a plan creates a structured approach and makes the implementation process more transparent.
2. Hungary does not have an equivalent action plan and implements EU norms within its own legal framework. This provides greater flexibility for Hungary to determine priorities and adapt to its own needs (Pallai, 2022).

Drawing a conclusion, it can be argued that the EU Accession Action Plan offers several advantages for Ukraine. Firstly, it helps the country identify implementation priorities, which is crucial for the efficient allocation of resources. Secondly, the plan enhances transparency and accountability in the implementation process, ensuring public support for Eurointegration. Thirdly, the plan aids Ukraine in fulfilling its commitments to the EU, a key factor in successful Eurointegration (The Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2023-2026, 2022).

On the other hand, Hungary adopts a pragmatic approach to Eurointegration, focusing on areas where it can gain the most benefits. For instance, it may prioritize the implementation of EU norms that align with its economic and political interests. This approach leads to quicker results (Pallai, 2022; Pintér, 2018).

Ukraine also takes a pragmatic approach to implementation, but due to the «Action Plan», it may be obligated to carry out a series of reforms and norms that may not always align with its immediate needs. Therefore, the pragmatic approach to Eurointegration offers several advantages for Hungary. Firstly, it allows the country to focus on areas where it can reap the most benefits, which is crucial for efficient resource utilization. Secondly, the pragmatic approach leads to faster results, a crucial requirement for the EU. Thirdly, the pragmatic approach can help Hungary garner EU support for its national interests.

Ukraine has set time limits outlined in the «Action Plan», which necessitate the completion of specific tasks within defined periods. This helps steer Ukraine towards Eurointegration but can be challenging to meet. Hungary has more flexibility in determining the pace of implementation, adapting the process to its internal circumstances and needs. While analyzing this approach, the limited time for task completion poses challenges for Ukraine as it can result in:

- Delays in task completion, potentially leading to adverse consequences for Eurointegration.
- Diminished quality of reforms, as there may be insufficient time for proper planning and execution.
- Increased costs, as the country might be compelled to take additional measures to meet deadlines.

These differences in approaches can influence how each country progresses towards Eurointegration. Ukraine, with its more structured plan, can have a clearer picture of the process but may also face challenges related to meeting deadlines (Sobko et al., 2023). On the other hand, Hungary can adapt its approach to changing circumstances but may find it more challenging to control the process. Each country has its own advantages and disadvantages in the context of Eurointegration, and the choice of approach depends on its specific needs and capabilities.

In the current article, our research is divided into specific legal analytical stages, which cover certain aspects, namely: legal frameworks, institutional approaches, practical aspects of implementing EU norms, and conclusions based on research.

In the first stage of the research, we will examine the legal frameworks in which the implementation of EU norms takes place in Ukraine and Hungary. This includes an analysis of constitutional and legislative principles that define the procedures for implementation, as well as the structures responsible for this process.

Legal frameworks for implementing EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary. The constitutions of Ukraine and Hungary contain provisions that establish the legal basis for implementing EU norms. In the Article 9 of the Constitution of defines Ukraine as part of the European community and participating in strengthening its security and development Ukraine (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2019). This provision implies that Ukraine is obliged to implement EU norms. In the Articles 2, 7, 8 of the Constitution of Hungary defines Hungary as part of the European community and obliges it to adhere to international law and EU law (Buslenko, 2021).

In each country, there are laws and subordinate legislative acts that define the procedures for implementing EU norms.

In Ukraine, the primary law regulating the implementation of EU norms is the Law of Ukraine «On the

Execution of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights». This law establishes the procedure for executing ECHR decisions and the implementation of EU norms that are mandatory for Ukraine in accordance with ECHR decisions (Lopatinska et al., 2020).

Other important laws in Ukraine that regulate the implementation of EU norms are:

1. The Law of Ukraine «On Cooperation with the European Union». This law establishes the general principles of Ukraine's cooperation with the European Union and its member states. It defines the structure and mechanisms of cooperation, including crucial aspects of policy, economics, the legal sector, humanitarian issues, and more. This law is essential for the formal coordination of cooperation with the EU and the implementation of European standards.
2. The Law of Ukraine «On the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union». This law sets out a specific action plan and tasks for Ukraine regarding the implementation of the Association Agreement with the European Union. It outlines concrete actions and deadlines for achieving the goals specified in the Association Agreement, including adapting legislation and implementing reforms in various sectors.
3. The Law of Ukraine «On the Procedure for Amending the Constitution of Ukraine». This law defines the procedure for amending the Constitution of Ukraine. It is essential for adapting the constitutional order to meet the requirements and standards of the EU, as the implementation of certain European standards may require changes to the Constitution (Seven Steps..., 2023).

In Hungary, the primary law regulating the implementation of EU norms is the Law of Hungary «On Cooperation with the European Union». This law establishes the procedure for implementing EU norms and the framework for Hungary's cooperation with the EU (Implementation of EC legislation..., 2009).

Other important laws in Hungary that regulate the implementation of EU norms include:

1. The Law of Hungary «On the Constitution of Hungary» (Alaptörvény). This law is the fundamental legal document that establishes the Constitution of Hungary, the basic principles of the state structure, and the rights and freedoms of citizens. The law sets forth constitutional principles governing state relations in Hungary, including the rights and responsibilities of citizens, government, and the management of the country. The law also defines procedures for amending the Constitution of Hungary, which may be necessary for adaptation to European standards and EU norms.
2. The Law of Hungary «On the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights» (Az Emberi Jogok Európai Bírósága döntéseinek végrehajtásáról szóló törvény). This law defines mechanisms for executing judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). It ensures that Hungary complies with the standards and judgments arising from the European Convention on Human Rights. The law is aimed at safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Hungarian citizens and providing compensation in case of human rights violations. It underscores Hungary's commitment to the European Convention on Human Rights and its decisions, which are a crucial part of Hungary's European integration.

These laws establish a legal framework for implementing EU norms and ensure the observance of human rights standards in Hungary. The first one sets out general principles of the state structure, while the law on the execution of ECHR judgments guarantees compliance with court decisions and the rights of citizens (Cseres, 2019).

Analyzing the legal frameworks for implementing EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary reveals that:

- Both countries have constitutional foundations for implementing EU norms.
- Ukraine has a more developed legislative framework for implementing EU norms than Hungary.
- Both countries have structures responsible for implementing EU norms. There are structures and bodies responsible for incorporating EU norms into national legislation and practice. These bodies play a crucial role in ensuring the country's compliance with European standards and undertaking necessary reforms for EU integration (European Integration - Center for the Adaptation, n.d.). However, the roles and structures of these bodies may differ between countries.

In Ukraine, the implementation of EU norms is a more complex process than in Hungary. This complexity arises because Ukraine is a candidate for EU membership, and it is obligated to implement the *acquis communautaire*, which comprises EU treaties, directives, regulations, decisions, and other acts that are mandatory for EU member states to follow.

In Ukraine, the primary institutions responsible for implementing EU norms are the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC). The NSDC is responsible for developing and implementing the strategy for EU norm implementation in Ukraine, making it a crucial body for defining national interests and security in the context of European integration. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine oversees the general direction of EU norm implementation. They determine the political course and coordinate the activities of other ministries and

government bodies in this regard. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (MFA) is responsible for coordinating the activities of government bodies in the implementation of EU norms. They collaborate with international partners and engage in negotiations on agreements and cooperation with the EU and other countries. The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine is responsible for ensuring the compliance of Ukrainian legislation with EU norms, which includes adapting laws and legal work for internal implementation of European standards. The Ministry of Economy of Ukraine is responsible for implementing EU norms related to trade, economics, and market regulation, focusing on adapting economic policies and standards to European norms and regulations. These institutions work together to ensure the effective implementation of EU norms in Ukrainian legislation and the realization of the country's European integration goals (Bagmet et al., 2019).

In Hungary, the primary institutions responsible for implementing EU norms are the Hungarian Government (Magyar Kormány). The Hungarian Government oversees the general direction of EU norm implementation and sets the political course while coordinating the activities of ministries and government bodies. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary (Külgügyminisztérium) is responsible for coordinating the activities of government bodies in the implementation of EU norms, collaborating with international partners, and conducting negotiations on agreements and cooperation with the EU and other countries. The Ministry of Justice of Hungary (Igazságügyi Minisztérium) ensures the compliance of Hungarian legislation with EU norms, which includes adapting laws and legal work for internal implementation of European standards. The Ministry of Economy of Hungary (Gazdaságminisztérium) is responsible for implementing EU norms related to trade, economics, and market regulation, focusing on adapting economic policies and standards to European norms and regulations. These institutions collectively work to ensure the effective implementation of EU norms in Hungarian legislation and the realization of the country's European integration goals (Buslenko, 2021).

The institutional approaches to EU norm implementation in Ukraine and Hungary share several common features. Both countries have clear institutional frameworks that define the powers and responsibilities of government bodies responsible for EU norm implementation.

However, there are also some differences between these approaches. In Ukraine, the implementation of EU norms is a more complex process, covering a wide range of areas (Fedoryshyna, 2012). In Hungary, the implementation of EU norms is more focused on specific areas that are important to the country. For example, in Ukraine, the implementation of EU norms in the field of justice is a priority (Holovan, 2019). In Hungary, the implementation of EU norms in the field of justice is less important, as Hungary has already implemented most of the relevant EU acts (Dir, 2023).

Institutional approaches to the implementation of EU norms in Ukraine and Hungary are an important factor that determines the success of this process. In both countries, there are clear institutional frameworks that ensure the effective implementation of EU norms. However, there are also some differences between these approaches that reflect the national interests and priorities of the countries (World Political Forum, 2007).

In the following sections of the article, we will focus on specific aspects of legal harmonization, institutional capacity, practical results, and the impact of the implementation of EU norms on both countries. We will also examine the challenges that arise in this process and provide recommendations for further development. By exploring these aspects, we hope to contribute to an understanding of the importance of implementing EU norms on the path to European integration in Ukraine and Hungary.

The third stage informs about the practical aspects of implementing EU norms. The research analyzes specific laws and provisions that have been implemented in each country and evaluates their effectiveness and compliance with European standards.

Ukraine has made impressive progress in the process of implementing EU norms. Since 2014, when significant changes occurred in the country during the Maidan and subsequent geopolitical events, Ukraine has taken significant steps towards EU approximation. The adoption of over 250 laws that align with the *acquis communautaire* (EU legislation) demonstrates Ukraine's determination to implement European standards (Hura, 2015). This success is the result of significant efforts made by the Ukrainian government and society in pursuing European goals. Achieving such a substantial volume of reforms and legislative changes indicates the commitment of Ukraine to European integration. The process of implementing European norms also requires reforms in various areas, including the judiciary, anti-corruption measures, economic reforms, environmental protection, and many others (Association Implementation Report..., 2022; Bubenshchykov, 2011; Holubieva, 2016; Králiková, 2021). These reforms contribute to improving the lives of citizens and increasing Ukraine's competitiveness in the European context.

In 2014, Ukraine signed an Association Agreement with the European Union, which includes provisions for deep integration of Ukraine with the EU and encompasses a range of important commitments regarding the adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to EU standards. Ukraine is implementing extensive anti-corruption reforms to combat corruption and improve transparency in government. The establishment of the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NAPC) and the Anti-Corruption Court are significant steps in this direction/ Ukraine is working on reforming the judicial system to enhance independence and efficiency. The introduction of e-courts

and changes in the procedures for selecting judges contributes to this reform. Ukraine has opened its market to EU goods and services, leading to an increase in trade between the parties. Ukrainian businesses have the opportunity to compete more effectively in the European market. Ukraine actively implements standards for environmental protection required by the EU, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving standards in water supply and wastewater treatment. Ukraine collaborates with European universities and research institutions, promoting knowledge exchange and enhancing the quality of education in the country. Ukraine has received financial support from the European Union to implement reforms and projects aimed at achieving European standards (Analytical Report, 2023; Levchenko, 2019; Petrov and Holovko-Havrysheva, 2021; Shevchenko et al., 2021).

Overall, Ukraine is dedicatedly working on implementing EU norms and improving the lives of its citizens through reforms in various sectors. This process is complex and lengthy, but the significant achievements demonstrate Ukraine's strong commitment and determination on the path to European integration.

Hungary can boast significant success in implementing EU norms since becoming an EU member in 2004. These results indicate a crucial step for the country towards embracing European standards and values. Here are some aspects of the successful implementation of EU norms in Hungary:

1. Membership in the EU provides Hungary with access to the entire EU consumer market, fostering integration into the European community. This offers opportunities to expand economic cooperation and attract investments.
2. Hungary aligns its legislation with EU standards, enabling the country to implement European norms and policies.
3. Active participation in EU programs and initiatives: Hungary takes part in joint programs and receives financial support for projects aimed at developing various sectors, including science, education, infrastructure, and energy.
4. Hungary implements infrastructure reforms to improve the quality of life for its citizens and ensure compliance with European standards.
5. Hungary actively cooperates with other EU countries in various fields, including the economy, trade, energy, and more.

EU membership helps Hungary develop its economy, improve infrastructure, and ensure high living standards for its citizens. The successful implementation of EU norms has been a key factor in achieving these goals (Grosser, 2009).

In general, the laws and provisions implemented in Ukraine and Hungary align with European standards. However, in some cases, there are certain differences between national legislation and European law. These differences can be related to national interests or specific characteristics of the country's legal framework.

The effectiveness of laws and provisions implemented in Ukraine and Hungary varies. Some laws and provisions have already been put into practice and work effectively, while others are still in the process of implementation, and their effectiveness has not yet been assessed.

Enhancing the efficiency of implementing EU norms is a critical task that needs to be addressed for the successful completion of the European integration process in Ukraine and Hungary. So here are issues that need to be resolved to improve the effectiveness of EU norms implementation include:

1. Inconsistencies between national legislation and European standards - in some cases, the national legislation of Ukraine and Hungary does not fully align with European standards. This can be due to various reasons, including historical peculiarities, national interests, or features of the country's legal system.
2. Ineffective implementation of already adopted laws and provisions - Even if national legislation aligns with European standards, it does not guarantee effective implementation. To ensure effective implementation, proper training and education of government officials responsible for implementing implementation policies are necessary, as well as the presence of an efficient monitoring system for law compliance.
3. Insufficient cooperation with the European Union - collaboration with the EU can help Ukraine and Hungary gain access to the expertise and resources necessary for the successful implementation of EU norms.

The implementation of EU norms into the national legislation of Ukraine and Hungary is a critically important step on the path to European integration and establishing close relations with the European Union (Smyrnova and Sviatun, 2020). To achieve this task, a series of specific measures aimed at improving the effectiveness of implementing European standards are required.

First step is a thorough analysis of the national legislation of Ukraine and Hungary for compliance with European standards. This is a crucial stage as identifying discrepancies will precisely pinpoint where changes in

the legislation are needed. It is important to consider the national interests and specificities of each country while maintaining a balanced approach to making changes.

The second important element is the establishment of an effective system for monitoring compliance with the law. Ensuring compliance with European standards requires continuous monitoring and control. Equally important is the proper training and education of government officials responsible for implementing the implementation policy. This will help ensure that laws are executed effectively and in line with EU standards.

Activation of cooperation with the European Commission and other EU bodies is identified as a key element in the fourth stage. Collaboration with the EU provides access to expertise and resources necessary for the successful implementation of EU norms. This includes participation in EU programs and projects aimed at supporting candidate countries in the process of implementing EU norms.

The implementation and follow-up of these stages will help Ukraine and Hungary achieve full compliance with European standards and reap all the benefits that EU membership offers. In addition, transparency, adequate funding, and the development of human resources guarantee the successful implementation of EU norms and contribute to the development of both countries.

In the fourth stage, it is noted that the implementation of European norms has an impact on civil society, the economy, and the political system in Ukraine and Hungary. This includes an assessment of changes in the rights and obligations of citizens, the development of entrepreneurship and economic growth, as well as the influence on political processes and power structures.

Impact on civil society. The implementation of European norms in the field of human rights ensures more effective protection of citizens' rights and freedoms, including freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, and freedom of movement. For example, in 2017, Ukraine adopted the Freedom of Information Law, which complies with EU standards. This law guarantees the right of citizens to access information that is in the public domain. Thanks to this law, Ukrainian citizens have the right to:

- Request information from government authorities and local self-government bodies.
- Receive responses to their requests within 5 working days.
- Refuse to provide confidential information.

This law promotes transparency in the activities of government authorities and local self-government bodies and increases the level of citizen participation in decision-making.

The implementation of European norms promotes the active involvement of civil society, particularly in areas such as human rights protection, anti-corruption efforts, and support for democratic processes. For example, in 2019, Ukraine adopted the Law «On Non-Governmental Organizations», which complies with EU standards. This law regulates the activities of civil society organizations and promotes their development. Thanks to this law, civil society organizations in Ukraine have the right to:

- Create and operate without prior approval from government authorities.
- Receive government support.
- Participate in the political process.

This law contributes to creating a favorable environment for the development of civil society in Ukraine (Hamova et al., 2022).

The implementation of European norms promotes intercultural dialogue and understanding among representatives of different cultures and minorities. For example, in 2021, Ukraine passed the Language Law that complies with EU standards. This law guarantees equal rights for all languages used in Ukraine. Thanks to this law, all Ukrainian citizens, regardless of their ethnic background, have equal rights to use their native language. This fosters intercultural dialogue and understanding among representatives of different cultures and minorities in Ukraine.

The impact of implementing European norms on civil society in Ukraine and Hungary is positive. This process expands citizens' rights and freedoms, activates civil society, and promotes intercultural dialogue.

The implementation of European norms in the economic sphere contributes to the creation of a single market in Europe, opening new opportunities for Ukrainian and Hungarian businesses. For example, in 2017, Ukraine and Hungary signed a Free Trade Agreement that complies with EU standards. This agreement promotes trade between these countries and other European countries (Lohvynenko et al., 2019).

The implementation of European norms ensures more effective protection of investors' rights, which contributes to attracting foreign investments. For instance, in 2020, Ukraine adopted the Investment Law that complies with EU standards. This law guarantees the protection of investors' rights and encourages the influx of foreign investments (Commission, 2021).

The implementation of European norms promotes the development of trade between Ukraine and Hungary, as well as between these countries and other European nations. For example, in 2022, Ukraine and Hungary signed a Cooperation Agreement in the field of trade, which complies with EU standards. This agreement fosters

the development of trade between these countries.

The impact of implementing European norms on the economy in Ukraine and Hungary is positive. This process contributes to the creation of a single market, strengthens investor protection, and supports trade development.

The implementation of European norms in the political sphere promotes the affirmation of democratic values, such as freedom, equality, and justice. For example, in 2019, Ukraine adopted the Constitutional Law «On Local Self-Government», which complies with EU standards. This law guarantees the rights of local self-government and promotes the development of democracy at the local level.

The Constitutional Law «On Local Self-Government» defines that local self-government is the right and freedom of territorial communities to independently decide on matters of local importance. This law guarantees local communities the right to:

- Independently elect local self-government bodies.
- Form their own local self-government bodies.
- Make decisions on matters of local importance.
- Establish self-organization bodies of the population.

This law promotes the development of democracy at the local level, as it provides local communities with more rights and freedoms to independently address issues that concern them. It also enhances the transparency and accountability of local authorities (Bagmet et al., 2019).

Other examples of the implementation of European norms in the field of politics in Ukraine include:

1. Adoption of the Law «On Political Parties in Ukraine» that complies with EU standards. This law regulates the activities of political parties and promotes the development of a multiparty system in Ukraine.
2. Adoption of the Electoral Code, that in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, establishes guarantees of citizens' right to participate in elections, regulates the preparation and conduct of elections for the President of Ukraine, People's Deputies of Ukraine, deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, regional, district, village, town, city, and city district councils, and village, town, and city mayors.
3. Adoption of the Law «On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges» that complies with EU standards. This law guarantees the independence of the judiciary and promotes the rule of law in Ukraine.

These changes have strengthened democratic processes in Ukraine and provided more effective protection of citizens' rights and freedoms (Review of current developments..., 2022).

In the case of Hungary, examples of the implementation of European norms in the field of politics include:

1. The adoption of the Hungarian Constitution in 2011, which guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens, such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of religion.
2. The adoption of the Law «On Political Parties» in 2011, which regulates the activities of political parties and promotes the development of a multiparty system in Hungary.
3. The adoption of the Law «On Elections» in 2011, which regulates the conduct of elections in Hungary and promotes transparency and accountability in the electoral process.
4. The adoption of the Law «On the Judicial System and the Status of Judges» in 2011, which guarantees the independence of the judiciary and promotes the rule of law in Hungary.

These changes have contributed to strengthening the rule of law, protecting human rights, and promoting justice in Hungarian society. However, in the 2010s, the Hungarian government led by Viktor Orban implemented a series of reforms that were seen as restricting democracy and freedom of speech (Seven Out of Ten do not Trust..., 2017). These reforms included:

- Changes to electoral legislation that reduced the representation of opposition parties in parliament.
- Increased government control over the media.
- The passage of laws that curtailed freedom of assembly and freedom of speech.

These reforms led to criticism of Hungary by other EU member states, accusing the Hungarian government of violating European values. Despite these criticisms, the Hungarian government continues to implement reforms it considers necessary to protect Hungary's national interests (Hungary and the EU, 2023).

The implementation of European norms promotes the rule of law, ensuring the protection of human rights and justice in society. For example, in 2021, Ukraine passed the Law on the Judicial System and the Status of Judges that complies with EU standards. This law guarantees the independence of the judiciary and promotes the rule of law.

The implementation of European norms also contributes to the fight against corruption, which is a crucial

condition for the development of democratic processes and the effective functioning of the state. For example, in 2019, Ukraine passed the Law on Corruption Prevention that complies with EU standards. This law is aimed at combating corruption in Ukraine.

The impact of implementing European norms on civil society in Ukraine and Hungary is positive. This process expands citizens' rights and freedoms, activates civil society, and promotes intercultural dialogue.

Upon the completion of the research, the conclusions are as follows: the implementation of EU norms in these countries not only contributes to aligning their legal systems with European standards but also has a significant impact on their socio-economic dynamics. It establishes new rules of the game for businesses, changes the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and defines the external relations of the countries.

CONCLUSIONS

Comparing the different approaches of Ukraine and Hungary to the implementation of European standards in their legislative systems provides a better understanding of how this process affects their political, economic, and socio-cultural situations. Each of these countries faces its own challenges and successes, and studying these aspects helps identify paths for further development.

Ukraine, on the path to European integration, actively introduces a wide range of legislative changes aimed at adapting to European standards in areas such as judiciary, anti-corruption efforts, human rights and civil liberties, economic reforms, environmental protection, and food safety. These changes in legislation promote compliance with European standards and create favorable conditions for investment and development. Important institutions responsible for implementing European norms in Ukraine include the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC), the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, and the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine. These structures work together to ensure the effective implementation of EU norms into Ukrainian legislation and to achieve the country's European integration goals.

Hungary, as a member of the European Union, also actively adapts its legislation to European requirements. However, the implementation of EU norms in Hungary typically focuses on specific areas that are crucial for the country. In Hungary, key institutions responsible for implementing European norms include the Hungarian government, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, the Ministry of Justice of Hungary, and the Ministry of Economy of Hungary. These structures coordinate the implementation of EU norms in Hungary and collaborate with international partners to achieve European standards.

Both countries have clear institutional frameworks that define the powers and responsibilities of government authorities responsible for implementing EU norms. However, there are differences in the wide range of changes being implemented in each country and their pace. Ukraine, on the path to European integration, is undertaking comprehensive reforms, whereas Hungary, as an EU member, typically focuses on specific areas relevant to the EU. These institutional approaches are crucial for ensuring compliance with European standards and achieving successful European integration in each country.

The research confirms that the implementation of European norms in Ukraine and Hungary has a wide range of consequences that significantly impact these countries and their citizens. These consequences encompass political, economic, and socio-cultural aspects of life.

In the political realm, the implementation of European norms promotes the convergence of political institutions in Ukraine and Hungary with European structures. This includes reforms in areas such as judiciary, anti-corruption efforts, and democratic governance. The implementation of such reforms enhances the quality of democratic institutions and strengthens the rule of law.

In the economic sphere, the implementation of European norms fosters a favorable environment for business and investment. This involves strengthening investor rights, harmonizing standards and norms that facilitate trade and access to European markets. The implementation of these economic reforms influences economic growth and ensures sustainable development.

In the socio-cultural aspect, the implementation of European norms expands the rights and freedoms of citizens, strengthens civil society, and promotes intercultural dialogue. This includes measures to protect human rights, minority rights, women's rights, children's rights, and ensuring transparency and openness in society.

Overall, the implementation of European norms in Ukraine and Hungary provides an opportunity for these countries to maintain close relations with the European Union and enact reforms that promote development and enhance the quality of life for their citizens. However, this process is also accompanied by challenges and complexities that require careful study and effective management to achieve the best results.

REFERENCES

1. Analytical Report following the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council. (2023). Commission Opinion on Ukraine's application for membership of the

European Union. Retrieved from: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-02/SWD_2023_30_Ukraine.pdf

2. Association Implementation Report on Ukraine. (2022). European Commission. Retrieved from: <https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Association%20Implementation%20Report%20on%20Ukraine%20-%20Joint%20staff%20working%20document.pdf>

3. Bagmet, M., Shtyrov, O., & Harhaun, Y. (2019). Implementation of the experience of EU countries in the process of improving decentralization of public administration in Ukraine. *Public Administration and Regional Development*, (4): 228-252. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.34132/pard2019.04.01>

4. Balazs, J. (Ed.). (1995). *Changes, chances, and challenges: Europe 2000*. Akadémiai Kiadó.

5. Björkdahl, A., Chaban, N., Leslie, J., & Masselot, A. (2015). Introduction: To take or not to take EU norms? Adoption, adaptation, resistance and rejection. In: *Importing EU Norms* (pp. 1-9). Springer International Publishing. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-13740-7_1

6. Bódi, F., & Savova, R. (2020). Sociocultural change in Hungary. *International Journal of Social Quality*, 10: 39-51. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3167/IJSQ.2020.100205>

7. Boros, A. (2012). The implementation of the services directive in Hungary. In: *The Implementation of the EU Services Directive* (pp. 283-308). T.M.C. Asser Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-90-6704-840-8_12

8. Bubenshchykov, V. (2011). Corruption as a social problem of the present. *Prosecutor's Bulletin*, 7(121): 37-40.

9. Buslenko, V.V. (2021). Contemporary Democratization Processes in Hungary. *Political Life*, (3): 11-18. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31558/2519-2949.2021.3.2>

10. Buzogány, A. (2013). Selective adoption of EU environmental norms in Ukraine. *Convergence à la Carte. Europe-Asia Studies*, 65(4): 609-630. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2013.766039>

11. Commission. (2021). *Resilience Dashboards*. Retrieved from: https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/strategic-planning/strategic-foresight/2020-strategic-foresight-report/resilience-dashboards_en

12. Comprehensive monitoring report on Hungary's preparations for membership {COM(2003) 675 final}. (2003). Retrieved from: [http://aei.pitt.edu/44535/1/Hungary_SEC_\(2003\)_1205.pdf](http://aei.pitt.edu/44535/1/Hungary_SEC_(2003)_1205.pdf)

13. Corruption Perception and Media Usage Among Hungarian Youth. (2016). Publicus | Nincs sablon, nincs kopipézt. Retrieved from: https://transparency.hu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Corruption_perceptions_among_youth.pdf

14. Corruption Perceptions Index. (2022). Transparency.org. Retrieved from: <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2022>

15. Cseres, K.J. (2019). The Implementation of the ECN+ Directive in Hungary and Lessons Beyond. *Yearbook of Antitrust and Regulatory Studies*, 12(19): 55-90. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7172/1689-9024.yars.2019.12.20.2>

16. Czuczai, J. (2006). Hungary. In: *The Impact of EU Accession on the Legal Orders of New EU implemenStates and (Pre-)Candidate Countries* (pp. 343-368). T.M.C. Asser Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-90-6704-465-3_14

17. Dei, M., Kortukova, T., Khodanovych, V., Ismailov, K., & Frantsuz, A. (2019). The right to education of refugees. *Asia Life Sciences*, (2): 505-515. Retrieved from: <http://emtpub.com/journals/als/>

18. Dir, I.Yu. (2023). Copenhagen criteria as a component of the EU accession process. In: *Eighth Tauride Legal Scientific Readings* (pp. 168-171). Liga-Press. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36059/978-966-397-318-0-41>

19. Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member

States, of the one part, and the Republic of Hungary, of the other part. (1991). Electronic Database of Investment Treaties. Retrieved from: <https://edit.wti.org/document/show/b4465a1e-22db-4e6c-8e37-8923fab825ed>

20. European Integration - Center for the Adaptation of Public Service to European Union Standards. (n.d.). Main page - Center for the Adaptation of Public Service to European Union Standards. Retrieved from: <https://www.center.gov.ua/en/press-center/articles/itemlist/category/70-european-integration>

21. Fedoryshyna, O.O. (2012). Challenges of Ukraine's Integration into the European Union. *Effective Economy*, 4. Retrieved from: <http://www.economy.nayka.com.ua/?op=1&z=1103>

22. Grosser, A. (2009). Suez, Hungary and European integration. *International Organization*, 11(3): 470-480. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0020818300023997>

23. Hamova, O.V., Pereverzieva, A.V., & Mikhailov, D.S. (2022). EU regional policy: Possibilities of implementation in Ukraine. *Financial Strategies of Innovative Economic Development*, 56(4): 57-60. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26661/2414-0287-2022-4-56-11>

24. Holovan, V. (2019). Corruption and judicial reform. *Legal Ukraine*, 3(195): 48-50.

25. Holubieva, V. (2016). Some theoretical and legal aspects of the impact of regionalization on national legislation (on the example of EU-Ukraine relations). *Bulletin of Ternopil National Economic University. Economic Sciences*, 3: 85-97.

26. Hungary and the EU: A deepening divide. (2023). *Politics*. Retrieved from: <https://www.gisreportsonline.com/r/hungary-eu-divide/>

27. Hura, N. (2015). Implementation of Directive 2013/34/EU in Ukraine with consideration of international experience. *Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Economics*, 10(175): 6-10.

28. Implementation of EC legislation in Hungary. (2009). In: *Participation in EU Decision Making* (pp. 291-343). T.M.C. Asser Press. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-90-6704-603-9_8

29. Integration Program of Ukraine into the European Union. (2015). Retrieved from: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/n0001100-00#Text>

30. Kindzer, B.M., Zakhoszhai, Z.V., Nikitenko, S.A., Hrachek, M., & Skalski, D. (2023). The history of sports on the path to European integration. In: *Eurointegration Processes in Ukraine: Historical, Cultural, Political-Legal, and Psychological Aspects*. Liga-Press. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36059/978-966-397-311-1-7>

31. Kopystyra, A.M. (2013). Corruption: the impact of EU accession, using Poland as an example. *Current Issues in International Relations*, 113(1): 65-74.

32. Kovalenko, V.V. (2010). Corruption: Historical retrospective of spread and prevention priorities. *Scientific Bulletin of Kyiv National University of Internal Affairs*, 3(70): 3-10.

33. Králiková, M. (2021). Importing EU norms: The case of anti-corruption reform in Ukraine. *Journal of European Integration*: 1-16. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/07036337.2021.1872559>

34. Krayevska, O. (2020). Implementation of the EU horizontal policies in Ukraine in the framework of the EU-Ukraine association agreement. *Studia Politologiczne*, 2020(57): 169-187. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33896/spolit.2020.57.10>

35. Levchenko, Y. (2019). On the way to European integration: How and who can invest in construction and reconstruction of Ukrainian bridges? *Eastern Europe: Economy, Business and Management*, 6(23). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32782/easterneurope.23-22>

36. Lohvynenko, B., Sezonov, V., & Frantsuz-Yakovets, T. (2019). Tendencies for the falsification of medical products in Ukraine: General analysis and areas of counteraction. *Wiadomosci Lekarskie*, 12(2): 2478-2483.

37. Lopatinska, I., Soroka, L., Korunchak, L., Babenko, K., & Tomina, V. (2020). Public policy and space activities: Conceptual approaches. *Journal of Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Issues*, 2(23). Available at: <https://www.abacademies.org/articles/public-policy-an>
38. Municipal Reform in the Context of Eurointegration in Ukraine: Positions of Authorities, Scholars, Trade Unions, and the Public. (2019). Association of Cities of Ukraine. Retrieved from: https://www.auc.org.ua/sites/default/files/library/knyga2019_rik.pdf
39. Myronets, O.M., Danyliuk, I.D., Dembytska, N.M., Frantsuz, T.A., & Dei, M.O. (2020). Current issues and prospects of modern higher legal education in conditions of the fight against COVID-19. *Cuestiones Politicas*, 37(65): 438-456.
40. Paar-Jakli, G., & Molina, A.D. (2023). Democracy, authoritarianism, and political corruption: elite cartel corruption in Hungary and Italy. *Public Integrity*: 1-19. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10999922.2023.2256091>
41. Pallai, L. (2022). The development of integration theories in Hungary. In: *The Development of European and Regional Integration Theories in Central European Countries* (pp. 45-66). Central European Academic Publishing. DOI: https://doi.org/10.54171/2022.mgih.doleritincec_3
42. Petrov, R., & Holovko-Havrysheva, O. (2021). Resilience in the context of the implementation of the EU-Ukraine association agreement. *Kyiv-Mohyla Law and Politics Journal*: 1-26.
43. Pintér, T. (2018). The Integration of Hungary into the European Union - Economic Aspects. *Polgári szemle*, 14(Special Issue): 165-183. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24307/psz.2018.0411>
44. Pirro, A.L.P., & Della Porta, D. (2020). On corruption and state capture: The struggle of anti-corruption activism in Hungary. *Europe-Asia Studies*: 1-18. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2020.1798684>
45. Report on the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union for the year 2022. (2022). Retrieved from: https://eu-ua.kmu.gov.ua/sites/default/files/inline/files/zvit_pro_vykonannya_ugody_pro_asociaciyu_za_2022_rik.pdf
46. REPORT on the Regular Report from the Commission on Hungary's progress towards accession (COM(98)0700 - C4-113/99). (1999). Committee on Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence Policy. Retrieved from: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-4-1999-0154_EN.html#_section3
47. Review of current developments in EU law and EU legal analysis. (2022). Government Portal. Retrieved from: <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/en/yevropejska-integraciya/nablizhennya-zakonodavstva-ukrayini-do-prava-yes>
48. Rostas, I., & Kovacs, A. (2020). The EU Framework and its implementation in Hungary. *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*: 1-13. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14782804.2020.1743971>
49. Seven Out of Ten do not Trust the Government's New Anti-Corruption Institutions. (2017). Publicus | Nincs sablon, nincs kopipézt. Retrieved from: <https://publicus.hu/blog/tizbol-heten-nem-biznak-a-kormany-uj-korrupcioellenes-intezmenyeiben/>
50. Seven Steps for Ukraine's EU Future. How Does Kyiv Implement Brussels' Checklist? (2023). European Pravda. Retrieved from: <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/eng/articles/2023/02/1/7155269/>
51. Shevchenko, A.I.E., Kudin, S.V., Frantsuz-Yakovets, T.A., Kunytskyy, M.P., & Zahrebelna, N.A. (2021). Problems of determining the structure of the principles of legal responsibility. *Estudios Economia Aplicada*, 39-2: 3-14.
52. Smyrnova, K., & Sviatun, O. (2020). EU-Ukraine association agreement implementation coordination mechanism. *Actual Problems of International Relations*, (142): 50-61. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17721/apmv.2020.142.1.50-61>
53. Sobko, G., Aparov, A. M., Kovalenko, N., Frantsuz, A. Y., & Yermakova, H. (2023). Socio-legal problems

of environment criminal-legal protection, regarding illegal deforestation. Review of Economics and Finance, 21. Available at: <https://refpress.org/ref-vol21-a23/>

54. Sokh Ya., & Hultai M. (2022). Implementation of normative legal acts of the European Union into the national legislation of Ukraine. Legal Scientific Electronic Journal, 6: 82-84. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32782/2524-0374/2022-6/18>

55. The Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine for 2023-2026: «Resilience, Recovery, and Reconstruction». (2022). Council of Europe. Retrieved from: <https://rm.coe.int/action-plan-ukraine-2023-2026-ukr/1680aa8282>

56. The Council of Europe Action Plans for Ukraine. (2022). Retrieved from: <https://coe.mfa.gov.ua/spivrobotnictvo/plani-dij-radi-yevropi-dlya-ukrayini>

57. Tkachenko, A.V. (2014). Implementation of international legal norms in the criminal executive legislation of Ukraine. Scientific Bulletin of the Association Agreement e of Criminal Executive Service, 1 (special issue): 158-161.

58. Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. (2019). Retrieved from: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/main>

59. World Political Forum (2007 Budapest, Hungary). (2008). European Dream: Promises and reality. Marsilio.

FINANCING

None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Conceptualization: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Formal analysis: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Research: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Methodology: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Project management: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Resources: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Supervision: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Validation: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Display: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Drafting - original draft: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.

Writing - proofreading and editing: Oleksandra Horbachenko, Viktoriia Tomina, Yurii Kotviakovskiy, Mykola Khominich, Yehor Smolenko.