

Regional Trade Agreements of Ukraine: Realities and Prospects

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Abstract. The conclusion of regional trade agreements has increased to hundreds. The benefits of integration, fears of protectionism on the part of uniting countries, and other factors contribute to this process. Ukraine has signed agreements with more than 40 countries, including integration groups. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to identify the specific features of its agreements, prospects for their development and signing new ones. It is worth analysing the conclusion of agreements in the historical aspect, based on the level of their economic development, foreign trade, the trade complementarity level, and identifying development opportunities. Therefore, general scientific and special methods were used in this study, in particular historical, analysis and synthesis, economic analysis, tabular, etc. The study examined research performed by other scientists; statistical data from the Centre for international trade, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO); international treaties and regulatory documents. According to the analysis of concluding agreements, it is proposed to divide them into two periods: before and after 2000. In the first case, they were concluded mainly with developing and neighbouring countries, and in the second – with developed countries outside the former Soviet Union. At first, the partners were mainly the CIS countries, then Europe, and later other regions, but there were also disintegration processes with the Baltic states. It is established that transactions have their specific features regarding the provision of a favourable regime, e-commerce, etc. It is proposed to divide integration risks into predictable and unpredictable ones. The main importers of all and agri-food products were identified among the countries with which agreements have been concluded. Exports to such countries are mainly growing, as well as the share of agri-food products. The trade balance and low share in Ukraine's exports indicate the feasibility of developing trade. The calculation of the complementarity index allows predicting the prospects for the development of relations with countries with which agreements are planned and already concluded, as well as with the main importers of the world market. The results of the study indicate prospects for the development of trade, but this will depend on the content of transactions, product competitiveness, etc.

Keywords: international economic integration, Free Trade Agreement, foreign trade, complementarity, export

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Introduction

The EU, the North American Free Trade Area and Mercosur remain the most developed integration groups in the world, with the first two being the most powerful exporters and importers on the world market. Therewith, the benefits of foreign trade liberalisation and a number of other positive consequences of the merger have led to the conclusion of regional trade agreements between most countries of the world, and even between the aforementioned integration groupings and their individual member countries with a number of other countries. Among the latter (2019-2021), it is worth noting the regional trade agreements (RTA) between the UK and Ghana, the UK and the EU, Indonesia and Australia, ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and Hong Kong [1]. At the same time, reports on RTA and their consideration continued in the context of the deterioration of the trading environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and trade restrictions of some members of the Organisation [2].

Ukraine has also concluded regional trade agreements with a number of countries, both in the East and the West, as well as integration groups, in particular the EU and EFTA (European Free Trade Association). Ukraine remains a member of such trade and economic associations as the BSEC (Black Sea Economic Cooperation) and GUAM (Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development), but so far there is no reason to claim that they have a high development of international economic integration.

The conclusion of agreements with Serbia, Turkey, Vietnam, ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), etc. is also to be expected. Moreover, there is a difference in concluding agreements with countries depending on the level of economic development and the territory in certain periods of time. At first, most of the agreements were concluded with the CIS countries, later in Europe, and then in other regions. They clearly define the rules of trade in agricultural products, in particular in the agreement with the EU and Canada, which emphasises its importance. Considering the difference in the economic development of EFTA, the EU and Canada compared to Ukraine, the agreements applied the principle of asymmetry in terms of trade liberalisation. RTAs have their specific features, in particular, with EFTA, it is noted that the parties provide each other with a regime no less favourable than the EU, with Canada – e-commerce, the use of trade barriers on products transmitted in electronic form. Since it is not always possible to predict external changes, integration risks can be divided into predictable and unpredictable ones.

The creation of integration groupings is caused by a number of reasons, in particular, the development of the international division of labour, the positive consequences of the creation of integration groupings, trade liberalisation, the creation of integration groupings by neighbouring countries, the exchange of new technologies. The increase in the number of regional trade agreements, the specific features of functioning, and regulation of their creation and operation by the WTO (World Trade Organization) has led to a number of studies on this issue. Thus, D. Mc Daniels,

A.S. Molina and E. Wijkstrom investigated how WTO operation affects RTAs, reflecting its importance for the development of integration, with authors analysing 260 agreements [3]. The WTO's considerable attention to the development of integration, regulation of trade policy issues, resolution of disputes between countries, etc. confirms the importance of this process, especially in the current conditions of their growing number.

Researching the issues of RTAs, integration and development, A. DiCaprio, A.U. Santos-Paulino, M.V. Sokolova note that the developing countries have become more active participants in RTAs and the issue of distribution of integration benefits has become urgent. At the same time, the analysis suggests that regional integration leads to an increase in economic growth and a reduction in inequality in member countries [4]. Such consequences contribute to an increase in the number of RTAs between developing countries, especially in the context of their increase in the world in general.

Unification between countries has a considerable impact on their economies, which is directly proportionate to the level of integration between them. Thus, while studying the EU economy, E. Khesin, citing the negative consequences of Brexit for the UK, notes that in any scenario, taking into account trade and investment ties, it would be mandatory to break the structure of its economy and foreign economic relations, as well as partial reorientation towards other countries and regions [5, p. 77]. Therefore, the creation or entry into integration groupings, the signing of free trade agreements requires a thorough analysis of the development prospects and consequences, since there are risks of both participation and withdrawal from these trade and economic associations.

These and a number of other studies confirm the key importance and expediency of analysing the conclusion of RTAs by Ukraine, and a significant part of the study focuses on issues of integration into the EU, which is not the case in the analysis of RTAs with other countries.

Purpose of the study – to identify the specific features of regional trade agreements concluded by Ukraine and provide for the development prospects of the latter and the signing of new free trade agreements.

In accordance with the purpose of the study, the following tasks were set: to consider the conclusion of RTAs by Ukraine in the historical aspect, depending on the level of economic development of partner countries, foreign trade with them, the level of complementarity of trade, as well as to outline the prospects for the development of integration processes in the future, taking into account these and other factors.

Literature Review

The study of RTAs is conditioned by an increase in their number, the impact on the trade policy of the parties, as well as on trade with third countries, and a number of other factors. Thus, P. Atkhukorola notes that over the past three decades, free trade agreements have become an integral

part of the global trading system. However, the discussions regarding the economic arguments in favour of free trade agreements as an alternative to multilateral and unilateral liberalisation are still ongoing. Therewith, the number of Free Trade Agreements reported to the WTO increased from 19 in 1990 to 292 as of January 2019 [6].

D. B. Nguyen, having studied the impact of RTAs on international trade, in particular on intraregional trade and propensity to trade with the rest of the world, and having evaluated 160 countries, notes the influence of agreements on the development of trade. Therewith, the author identifies features of RTAs depending on the continent (highlighting American and African, as well as European and Asian) [7, p. 236]. Noticeable consequences of integration are also observed in the most developed integration groups, in particular in their less-developed member countries, for example, Mexico in the North American FTA, Poland in the EU, etc.

Studies of the impact of participation of different countries in RTAs have been carried out by many scientists, which confirms the importance of this phenomenon and its growth. Thus, M. Pant and A. Paul noted that the RTAs were expected to increase intraregional trade and the well-being of countries, as well as that the agreements stimulated trade only when partner countries already accounted for a large share of trade. Scientists believe that India's interaction with individual Asian associations as such is unlikely to stimulate trade [8, p.538]. In other words, each country requires a separate study, taking into account the development of its trade and economic relations with different countries and integration groups in order to predict the consequences of concluding an RTA.

The signing of the Association Agreement with the EU is of great importance for Ukraine; therefore, a considerable part of this study is focused on this issue. For example, O. Yatsenko, N. Karasova, V. Nitsenko et al. (H.S. Jr. James, J.L. Parcell) [9] identified promising areas of agricultural export potential, taking into account the possibility of negative consequences from highly competitive markets, areas for improving bilateral relations, etc. At the same time, the authors see the main advantage in trade in agricultural products in the partial elimination of the asymmetry of trade conditions between the group and Ukraine, which increased after the latter joined the World Trade Organisation. They also note the advantages of abolishing EU export subsidies for agricultural products imported into Ukraine; increasing access of Ukrainian products to the European market due to the harmonisation of standards with the EU; introducing new rules for cooperation, etc. [9, p. 268]. Admittedly, given the territorial proximity to the EU, the development of the latter, the share of its imports on the world market, significant volumes of trade in Ukraine, as well as a number of other factors, the study of the development of economic relations with the group is extremely relevant and important.

However, Ukraine and a number of CIS countries (Commonwealth of Independent States), in particular Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,

Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, have previously concluded bilateral free trade agreements with each other. Still, as noted by M. Roberts, P. Wehrheim, not all of them are practically performed or observed [10, p. 319]. In addition, in bilateral agreements, for example with Kazakhstan, the list of goods excluded from the free trade regime is quite extensive. As a result of the application of restrictive trade measures, the advantages for trade in agricultural products in the CIS countries are levelled. In addition, the authors note that bilateral free trade agreements with such a considerable share of it that they do not fall under the free trade regime usually do not comply with article XXIV of the WTO, which states that almost all trade should be duty-free. In addition, even when countries have agreed to greater integration, there are doubts regarding their long-term validity [10, p. 320]. This, to a certain extent, explains why Ukraine has concluded free trade agreements with other countries and integration groups.

In modern conditions, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to changes in various spheres of life, the consequences of which may affect the economic development of countries in the future. Thus, S. Baek, S. Kim, T. Rhee emphasise that the COVID-19 outbreak has dramatically changed the structure of the world, but as a result of progress and treatment, there is hope for a return to normal life, but they also note the vision of many economists that some structural changes caused by the pandemic will have long-term consequences. Scientists note that economic integration and globalisation may prevail, but there is a possibility of changing their form, and there is an impact of the pandemic on globalisation. In particular, at the initial stages of the pandemic, trade flows decreased, the FDI receipts dropped by 30-40% in 2020, and even the passenger traffic on international flights decreased by 70% [11]. Given the impact of COVID-19, it is advisable to develop general rules that can prevent the spread of the disease, as well as the creation of new products, and this requires in-depth scientific research, which can be facilitated by integration between countries, especially in the scientific field.

Considering the problem of concluding bilateral free trade agreements with Ukraine, I.Y. Huzhva predicts a positive impact of this on the national welfare of Ukraine and the development of foreign trade [12, p. 44]. Taking all of the above, the growing needs, the increase in the number of RTAs, their importance, etc. into account, Ukraine needs to use the opportunities from the conclusion of RTAs as well, but with a preliminary analysis and forecast of their consequences, respectively, for each country.

Materials and Methods

In the process of studying the creation of regional trade agreements, the theoretical basis included the scientific studies of foreign and Ukrainian scientists. Considering the fact that Ukraine has only recently engaged in the conclusion of RTAs, as well as the fact that this process has already commenced much earlier in other countries, special attention was focused on the scientific studies of foreign scientists who have investigated this problem from its various

standpoints. Thus, the study considered the issues of the impact of RTAs on the development of trade of partner countries, in particular intra-regional and with third countries, as well as factors that determine this impact; trends in their conclusion; participation of developing countries in RTAs and the impact of agreements on economic growth and inequality in partner countries; the consequences of leaving integration groupings, since this can be accompanied by substantial costs and the creation or entry into other trade and economic associations, the conclusion of new free trade agreements, etc. This purpose required research of scientific studies of Ukrainian scientists, and most of them focused on issues of integration with the EU, in particular on trade policy, advantages and risks due to the conclusion of an Association Agreement with the EU, etc. Taking into account that free trade agreements were concluded with other countries, especially in the early 1990s, the authors have considered foreign studies, which allowed identifying some features of those RTAs that were signed between Ukraine and the CIS countries, in particular regarding trade policy, compliance with WTO requirements, the reasons for the risks of successful unification, etc. As a result of the significant changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the study has taken into account the research on its impact on trade flows, FDI inflows, etc., as well as integration and globalisation in general. The increase in the number of RTAs concluded by Ukraine and the availability of prospects for their growth contributed to the analysis of work on their development and opportunities for obtaining additional benefits or risks of losses. Consideration of literature sources on these issues, taking into account the existing advantages, prospects, and risks, necessitated the investigation of the evolution of the conclusion of RTAs in the world and Ukraine, which involved the study of regulations, international documents, the information base of the World Trade Organization and other internet sources. Accordingly, the analysis of the dynamics of signing the RTU by Ukraine is carried out, taking into account time periods and territorial vectors, as well as the presence and causes of disintegration processes, since in modern conditions, disintegration and reintegration are also characteristic of the development of integration. Since regional trade agreements make provision for trade liberalisation, in particular the elimination or reduction of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, the study investigated the specific features of the trade policy of individual agreements. Apart from the existing ones, the authors of the study considered the feasibility of concluding RTAs with individual countries, in particular with those where negotiations are already underway and those that are important trading partners of Ukraine.

The study involved general scientific and special methods, in particular analysis and synthesis, historical, statistical, economic analysis, tabular, etc. The vital importance of foreign trade between partner countries for the development of integration and the influence of the latter

on the former led to the analysis of Ukraine's trade with the countries with which the RTAs were concluded, for which economic and mathematical methods were used, and the information base included statistical data from the International Trade Center (ITC), which is a joint agency of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Calculations were made to determine the share of Ukraine's exports to individual partner countries in its total exports, as well as agri-food products, which is conditioned by a considerable share of the latter in Ukraine's exports, a positive surplus in its trade, an increase in export volumes and an increase in demand on the world market, and the fact that many of the countries are dependent on its imports. In other words, the paper calculated and studied indicators of international trade, in particular its volumes, the share of exports to individual countries and goods, and the foreign trade balance. To determine the prospects for the development of Ukraine's foreign trade with partner countries, the complementarity index was calculated, and most product groups were taken into account.

The desire to benefit from the conclusion of RTAs resulted in Ukraine concluding them with more than 40 countries of the East, West, and even North America. However, it is

Results and Discussion

Regional trade agreements of Ukraine: Historical aspect and future plans

planned to increase their number in the future. Thus, the programme of activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (dated 11.12.2014) notes the signing of agreements on the creation of an FTA with Canada, Turkey, Israel, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), and the Economic Cooperation of West African States (ECOWAS) (until 2018) [13]. Agreements have already been signed with Israel and Canada, and negotiations are also underway with Turkey.

According to experts' calculations, free trade agreements with these countries may lead to an increase in exports of goods and services of Ukraine by 7-10%, but increased competition in the internal market is also probable. I.V. Huzhva suggests that the export potential of Ukraine can also be realised in the markets of the Balkan region, the Middle East, the Gulf, and other regions [12, p. 38]. Notably, a considerable part of the countries with which free trade agreements have been concluded are European, while the countries with which negotiations are being conducted are Asian (Table 1).

Thus, preparations are underway to conclude free trade agreements with Turkey, Serbia, Vietnam, as well as the possibility of this with Albania, Egypt, Jordan, The Republic of Korea, Tunisia, etc., and major players in the international agricultural market are interested in developing cooperation with Ukraine [14]. Ukraine has signed free trade agreements with more than 40 countries (Table 2).

Table 1. Free trade agreements between Ukraine and other countries and groupings

Countries with which the agreements have entered into force	Negotiation stage
Macedonia (goods)	
European Free Trade Association (EFTA) (goods and services)	Turkey
Montenegro (goods and services)	Serbia
EU (goods and services)	Vietnam
Israel (products)	Singapore
Canada (products)	Lebanon
CIS countries (goods)	With BSEC (there is a prospect)
Georgia (goods)	
United Kingdom (goods and services)	

Source: compiled by the author based on sources [1; 12; 14; 15]

Table 2. Free trade agreements and other relevant regulations of Ukraine

Regional trade agreements of Ukraine with...	Signing	Effective date	Status*
Canada	11.07.2016	01.08.2017	+
Montenegro	18.11.2011	01.01.2013	+
EFTA	24.06.2010	01.06.2012	+
Moldova	13.11.2003	16.05.2008	+
Tajikistan	06.07.2001	11.08.2002	+
Republic of Macedonia	18.01.2001	10.09.2001	+
Republic of Latvia	21.11.1995	15.01.1997	- (01.05.2004)
Moldova	29.08.1995	27.05.1996	+
Republic of Azerbaijan	28.07.1995	26.08.1996 26.12.1996	+
Kyrgyz Republic	26.05.1995	31.12.1997	+
Republic of Estonia	24.05.1995	14.03.1996	- (01.05.2004)
Georgia	09.01.1995	04.06.1996	+ (as amended on 17.06.2009)
Uzbekistan	29.12.1994	01.01.1996	+ (as amended on 25.06.2004)
Turkmenistan	05.11.1994	18.12.1996	+
Republic of Armenia	07.10.1994	18.12.1996	+
Kazakhstan	17.09.1994	19.10.1998	+
Republic of Lithuania	04.08.1993	21.11.1995	- (01.05.2004)
Russian Federation	24.06.1993	21.02.1994	+ (as amended on 04.10.2001)
Republic of Belarus	17.12.1992	30.11.2006	+
CIS	18.10.2011	20.09.2012	+ (as amended on 19.10.2012, 14.11.2012)
▪ European Union	(21.03.2014) 27.06.2014	01.09.2017	+ (as amended on 30.11.2015)
▪ Israel	21.01.2019	01.01.2021	+
▪ The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	08.10.2020	31.12.2020	+

Notes: "+" – valid, "-" – invalid

Source: compiled according to the source data [16]

Features of RTAs of Ukraine with CIS countries

The Free Trade Agreement with Moldova of 29.08.1995 referred to the desire of the parties to become Contracting Parties to the GATT/WTO [17], and the agreement of 13.11.2003 expressed the belief that the agreement would contribute to the process of European integration. Notably, the provisions of the agreement should apply to both industrial and agricultural products (Article 2) [18]. In other words, the agreements specify not only the issues of trade liberalisation, but also the achievement of the goals pursued by partner countries.

In parallel with the integration processes, disintegration processes were also observed, in particular, according to the letter of the State Customs Service of Ukraine no. 25/4-14-35/6222- EP dated 17.05.2004 [19], the free trade agreements with the republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have become invalid since May 1, 2004 due to their accession to the EU, but the opposite situation is observed in relation to other countries with which the RTAs have been concluded (Table 3).

Table 3. Bilateral free trade agreements with the CIS countries

Partner country	Content
Belarus	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods are drawn up in a separate protocol or agreement, which forms an integral part of this Agreement (Article 1 of the Agreement)
Kazakhstan	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods may be issued in a separate protocol, if the parties deem it necessary (Article 1)
Armenia	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods is made out by documents that form an integral part of this Agreement, if the contracting parties deem it necessary
Kyrgyz Republic	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions to this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods are drawn up in a separate protocol or agreement, which forms an integral part of this Agreement (Article 1 of the Agreement)
Moldova	The contracting parties engage in mutual trade in goods and services in a free trade regime, do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods originating from the customs territory of one of the contracting parties and intended for the customs territory of the other contracting party (Article 2)
Turkmenistan	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods is made out by documents that form an integral part of this Agreement, if the contracting parties deem it necessary
Tajikistan	The parties do not apply duties, as well as taxes and fees that have an equivalent effect on them, and quantitative restrictions on the import and/or export of goods originating from the customs territory of one party and intended for the customs territory of the other party. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods, if the parties consider it necessary, are drawn up in a separate protocol, which forms an integral part of this Agreement
Uzbekistan	The contracting parties do not apply duties, taxes, and charges having an equivalent effect, as well as quantitative restrictions on the export (or) import of goods to be shipped from the customs territory of one of the contracting parties and intended for the customs territory of the other contracting party. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods are made out by documents that form an integral part of this Agreement
Azerbaijan	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods is made out by documents that form an integral part of this Agreement, if the contracting parties deem it necessary

Table 3, Continued

Partner country	Content
Georgia	The contracting parties shall not apply duties and/or import duties, as well as taxes and fees that have an equivalent effect with the duty on goods originating from the customs territory of one of the contracting parties and intended for the customs territory of the other contracting party. Exemptions from this trade regime for the agreed nomenclature of goods is made out by documents that form an integral part of this Agreement, if the contracting parties deem it necessary
Russia	The parties do not apply duties, taxes, and fees that have an equivalent effect on the export and/or import of goods leaving the customs territory of one of the states and intended for the customs territory of another state. Exemptions from the trade regime, according to the agreed list of goods, are issued in separate documents that form an integral part of this Agreement. Therewith, the contracting parties agree on a phased reduction of exemptions stipulated in these documents

Source: [16]

In each particular bilateral free trade agreement with the CIS countries, it was noted that the parties will not apply duties, taxes and fees that have an equivalent impact on the export and/or import of goods originating from one of the countries of the agreement and intended for the other. However, exemptions from the trade regime are allowed for in accordance with the agreed list of goods issued by the respective document. But among these agreements, it is worth mentioning the ineffectiveness of the FTA with Russia, although trade between the countries is ongoing.

Notably, the CIS FTA agreement stated that countries can apply special protective measures, and this should be carried out in relation to industrial and agricultural goods in accordance with Article XIX GATT 1994, WTO Agreement on Protective Measures and this Treaty (Article 8). Similarly, in relation to anti-dumping and countervailing measures, and in accordance with these articles (Article VI, XVI GATT 1994, WTO agreement on the application of Article VI GATT 1994, WTO agreement on subsidies and compensatory measures, and this Agreement) (Article 9) [20]. In other words, industrial and agricultural goods have already been allocated at the CIS level. According to the decision on the Free Trade Area Agreement (dated 18.01.2011), the governments of the CIS countries had to take measures aimed at suspending the validity of bilateral international free trade agreements between the countries of the Free Trade Agreement [21].

RTAs with European countries that are not members of the EU and developed countries

As for the Free Trade Agreement with Macedonia, its goals are to deepen economic cooperation, raise the living standards of the parties' population, gradually eliminate restrictions on trade in goods, fair competition in trade between countries, create conditions for promoting investment, promote trade and cooperation in third-country markets, etc. (Article 1). Therewith, Section I "Industrial Products" covers a number of issues: import duty (Article 4); fees of equivalent duties (Article 5); export duty and equivalent fees (Article 7); quantitative restrictions on import or export (Article 8); technical obstacles in trade (Article 9); and Section II "Agriculture, Agricultural Products and Goods of the Fishing Industry" covers the exchange of concessions (Article 11); concessions and agricultural policy (Article 12); special precautions (Article 13); sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Article 14). Thus, the parties expressed their readiness to

develop trade in agricultural goods in accordance with the specified provisions of the section in accordance with the requirements of the WTO (Article 11) [22]. Section III "General Provision" covers the issues of anti-dumping and countervailing measures (Article 18), rules for establishing the origin of products, cooperation and customs administration (Article 24), intellectual property rights (Article 28), etc. It is noted that the countries are to cancel all import duties and duties of an equivalent nature on products originating from their territories, with the entry into force of the agreement, but with the specified exceptions. The parties also pledged not to impose new import duties (Article 4). The agreement also makes provision for the introduction of tariff quotas (Annex I and II, protocol B) [22].

According to the Free Trade Agreement (2010) with EFTA, Ukraine undertook to eliminate all import duties on equivalent taxes and import fees from January 1, 2012, but for the import of certain goods from EFTA, it makes provision for the elimination of duties indicating transition periods, in particular, revision within the Joint Committee no later than 3 years after the entry into force of the agreement, 5, 7 and 10 years (for example, salmon, halibut, herring, mackerel, trout, etc.) (Article 4). The issues of basic duties (Article 2.5), import and export restrictions (Article 2.6), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Article 2.8), trade facilitation (Article 2.10), subsidies and compensation measures (Article 2.13), anti-dumping (Article 2.14), etc. have also been covered. The document notes that if a more favourable EU regime is provided for certain goods, it should also apply to EFTA. In addition, (regarding processed agricultural products), it is noted that EFTA countries should provide certain products originating from Ukraine with a regime no less favourable than that granted to the European Community (Article 2. EFTA tariff concessions), and Ukraine should provide products originating from EFTA with the same regime (Article 3) (Appendix II) [23]. In other words, the Agreement addresses trade policy issues, taking into account agricultural products, as well as prospects for integration with the EU.

Notably, during 2012-2014, as a result of trade liberalisation, the general economic impact on the Ukrainian economy was insignificant, although it was generally positive and contributed to changes in the main macroeconomic indicators, in particular, nominal GDP increased from UAH 25.71 million in 2012 to UAH 112.64 million in 2014; real GDP increased from 0.002% (2012) to 0.006% (2014); an

increase in the number of employed people (in the economy) from 0.066 thousand people in 2012 to 0.218 thousand people in 2014; growth in export volumes from UAH 22.408 million in 2012 to UAH 63.47 million in 2014, as well as imports from UAH 17.29 million in 2012 to UAH 46.69 million in 2014. Moreover, the increase in exports exceeded the corresponding increase in imports, in particular, the growth of net exports was from UAH 5.12 million in 2012 to UAH 16.78 million in 2014 [12].

The objectives of the Free Trade Agreement with Montenegro (dated 18.11.2011, ratified on 16.10.2012) are as follows: development of economic cooperation, improvement of peoples' welfare, lifting restrictions on trade in goods, liberalisation of trade in services (Article 1). Section "Trade in goods" issues related to customs duties on imports (Article 7), exports (Article 9), import and export restrictions (Article 11), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Article 15), rules of origin (Article 16), anti-dumping and countervailing measures (Article 21), etc. were agreed upon. According to the Agreement, countries must eliminate duties on imports of goods originating from their territories, with some exceptions (Article 7). In particular, for Ukraine, sugar from sugar cane or sugar beet and chemically pure sucrose, in a solid state; parts of carcasses and edible offal of chickens, frozen, etc. (Appendix I). Moreover, new duties and equivalent taxes should not be introduced (Article 7). This also refers to the movement of individuals, that is, those who are service providers and who are hired by the service provider to render the service (Article 34) [24].

Notably, negotiations on the liberalisation of bilateral trade between Ukraine and Canada date as far back as 2009 [25]. The Free Trade Agreement between Ukraine and Canada of 11.07.2016 agreed on the following issues: national regime and market access (Chapter 2); rules and procedures for determining origin (Chapter 3), trade facilitation (Chapter 4), emergency and protective measures (Chapter 5), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Chapter 6), technical barriers to trade (Chapter 7), e-commerce (Chapter 8; furthermore, even the duty on goods transmitted in electronic form is considered, noting on the exemption from duty and other payments on goods supplied in electronic form); competition policy, monopolies, and state-owned enterprises (Chapter 9); public procurement (Chapter 10), etc. In addition, charts of market access in Canada and Ukraine are provided. The requirements for trade liberalisation in relation to industrial and agri-food products are also indicated, and transition periods (3, 5, and 7 years) are indicated depending on the type of product [26]. Therefore, it is advisable to take into account the impact of technological advance and changes in trade forms on the content of RTAs and factor this in for future agreements, since their impact may drastically increase in the future. This creates additional opportunities for Ukrainian enterprises to adapt to the new conditions of duty-free trade with Canada, whose economy is promoted by high technologies and innovations.

Researchers predict positive and negative consequences from establishment of an FTA with Canada. In particular, they predict the expansion of the range of goods

and services on the Ukrainian market. As a result of the growing flow of goods, services, and investments, the producer will have access to cheaper components, equipment and raw materials, and the consumer will have a wider choice of goods, services and prices, which provides conditions for increasing the competitiveness of products. They also predict an increase in the number of people employed in the food industry (+0.7 thousand people), metallurgy and metalworking (+3.6 thousand people). In addition, the welfare of the population is projected to grow in the short term due to lower domestic prices, as well as an increase in nominal GDP by UAH 50 million annually. However, there are also possible negative consequences, including a decrease in the revenue side of the state budget of Ukraine [12, p. 40], but this did not prevent the conclusion of the Agreement. The development of trade and economic relations of partner countries with third countries, participation or prospects of joining integration groups, in particular Canada in the North American Free Trade Agreement, changes in the world market, and external factors, such as the coronavirus, are also important for the FTA. The impact of some factors can be predicted, but others cannot, so it is suggested to single out, respectively, predictable and non-predictable integration risks. That is, the projected risks of integration are those that can be predicted, for example, due to a decrease in trade with third countries when creating an integration group (reduction of exports or better imports due to higher duties than in the association); disintegration processes during the functioning of powerful integration groups, primarily neighboring ones, for example, the Baltic states joined the EU, and the UK was a member of the EFTA, and became the EU; import of cheap low – quality imports, etc. As for the unpredictable ones, these are pandemics, wars, changes in the political system, etc. However, it is necessary to develop measures that can prevent such events or reduce their impact, and accordingly disintegration processes. This should be supported by the creation of support funds in the group, in particular on food security, natural disasters, a noticeable decline in economic growth, etc.

In addition to RTAs and Canada, A Free Trade Agreement was signed between Ukraine and Israel in 2019, after more than five years of negotiations [27], which was also conditioned by a reduction in risks to countries and an increase in their well-being.

The Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On the delegation of the Government of Ukraine to participate in negotiations on the conclusion of a free trade agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the state of Israel" (11.07.2013) referred to the creation of a delegation, in particular its composition, approved directives on participation in negotiations, etc. [28]. The first round of negotiations was held in Jerusalem on July 22-23, 2013 [29], although the governments of Ukraine and Israel signed an agreement on trade and economic cooperation back in 1995, which states that the countries will take measures to guarantee development, promote trade and economic relations between them (Article 1) [30].

Thus, countries should apply the most-favoured-nations regime in relation to all aspects of goods produced in the territory of the other party or exported to it, for example, in relation to: duties and fees on imports and exports, in particular methods of collecting such duties and fees; rules and regulations on exports and imports, in particular those related to customs clearance, transit, storage, transshipment; taxes and other internal fees that apply to imported goods; purchase, sale, transportation, distribution, storage and use of imported goods on the domestic market (Article 2). Cooperation with Israel is quite promising, based on the level of economic development of the country, the production and introduction of new technologies, the demand for agri-food products, etc.

It is advisable to develop foreign economic relations with Israel, which is one of the most developed countries, and not only in Asia. According to the World Economic Forum, out of 144 countries, Israel ranked 27th in the Global Competitiveness Index in 2014, and the first three were Switzerland, Singapore and the United States, and Ukraine – 76th (Russia – 53rd) [31, p. 13]. In addition, in 2017 (2017–2018), Israel rose to the 16th position in this index, the first three remained for Switzerland, the United States and Singapore, and Ukraine moved to the 81st position (Russia – 38) [31]. It was assumed that mutual tariff liberalisation contributes to strengthening the competitive position of Ukrainian producers, in particular, given the fact that Israel used larger trade barriers. The arithmetic average rate of the (current) customs tariff of Israel was compared – 6.8%, which is 2% more than in Ukraine, and the average tariff rates of the first country for agricultural and non-agricultural products – 17.9% and 5.1%, respectively, and the second – 8.8% and 3.6%, respectively [12, p. 42]. This is also the basis for optimistic forecasts regarding the development of Ukraine's exports.

Thus, within the framework of the FTA, it is actually planned to eliminate import duties on industrial goods, with the exception of jewelry. Moreover, it was agreed, immediately after the entry into force of the agreement, to eliminate approximately 80% of duties from Israel and 70% from Ukraine on these goods. At the same time, the system of concessions in trade in agricultural goods and food products is quite complex [27].

In the commodity structure of Ukraine's exports, according to calculations according to ITC [32], to Israel, the largest share is occupied by the following commodity groups: cereals, ferrous metals, food industry residues and waste, fats and oils, seeds and fruits of oilseeds, wood and wood products, milk and dairy products, poultry eggs, natural honey, which accounted for 89.9% of all exports in 2018, and 87.5% in 2019, respectively. That is, agri-food products are mainly exported to Israel, in particular, only cereals accounted for 40.9% in 2018, and more than half (51%) in 2019. In addition, in 2018, the export of flour and cereal products was higher than that of the commodity group "milk and dairy products, poultry eggs, natural honey". This confirms the prospect of exporting finished products, the availability of demand for them, and this should be

facilitated, since the main part of exports belongs to cereals.

However, Israel mainly exports to Ukraine a variety of chemical products; mineral fuels, oil and its distillation products; plastics, polymer materials; nuclear reactors, boilers and machines; essential oils; pharmaceutical products; optical and photographic devices, which accounted for 79% (2018) of total exports to Ukraine, that is, mainly industrial products are exported. Moreover, more than 40% (40.7%) (2018) of exports accounted for a variety of chemical products, and among agricultural ones, edible products and nuts were exported the most (2.4% in 2018). In 2019, the 8 most sold goods in Ukraine included electric cars, shifting pharmaceutical products, and their share was 78.0% in total exports to the country. That is, foreign trade between the two countries is quite diverse, but Ukraine needs to diversify the commodity structure of exports and focus on the export of finished products, in particular, due to state support for enterprises, preferential taxation, informing entrepreneurs, creating joint ventures, etc.

Promising areas for RTAs of Ukraine in the future

Ukraine is also negotiating a free trade agreement with Turkey. Most of the provisions of the draft agreement have already been agreed upon, including trade in goods and services, provisions on recognising the country of origin of goods, competition rules, protection of intellectual property rights, dispute resolution, etc. As for the anti-dumping investigations, Turkey agreed to fix the market status of Ukraine in the agreement. However, the issues of access to the markets of goods under the agreement and the application of export duties and subsidies in mutual trade by countries, in particular, Turkey emphasises the elimination of export duties by Ukraine, and Ukraine does not accept the use of export subsidies for agricultural products by Turkey. Notably, agreement on the terms of access to the markets (goods) of countries is one of the most difficult issues. Ukraine emphasises the liberalisation of access for all commodity items (agricultural and industrial) with a maximum reduction in import duty rates, and Turkey – on the elimination of duties only on industrial goods with the introduction of transition periods for the most sensitive commodity items, while agricultural goods are supposed to exchange concessions for individual commodity items [12, p. 41]. Issues related to tariffs for agricultural products and some services remain uncoordinated [33]. It is also necessary to take into account the state support of agriculture by Turkey, and for farming and processing enterprises, and this increases the competitiveness of goods [12, p. 41] and, accordingly, affects trade. Moreover, according to the Global Competitiveness Index, Turkey ranked 53rd in 2017, and Ukraine – 81st, by the rating of the World Economic Forum [31, p. 13]. In addition, Turkey offers weightless concessions when considering issues of liberalisation of trade in services, and this does not bring advantages for operators of the Ukrainian service market [12, p. 41]. Therefore, it is not surprising that due to Turkey's demands on trade policy, in particular on agricultural products, its state support for agriculture, its position in the global competitiveness rating

and other factors, there are discussions about the feasibility of concluding an agreement under such conditions.

Through the conclusion of a free trade agreement with Serbia, it is planned to develop trade and economic cooperation and increase its presence in the markets of the Balkan region. It is predicted that if Ukraine maintains the current customs rates for certain sensitive groups of goods, the FTA will have a positive small impact on the main macroeconomic indicators and revenues to the state budget. Thus, this would contribute to an increase in exports, and most noticeably products of the woodworking industry and metallurgy, as well as imports – products of agriculture and food industry, textile industry, mechanical engineering, and chemical industry, and will have a positive impact on the foreign trade balance [12, p. 42]. The countries of the peninsula are also Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Romania, Croatia, etc., they are members of the EU and within which the FTA operates, which can facilitate the creation of joint ventures and increase exports.

In 2011, a free trade agreement with Vietnam was initiated. Ukraine provides for a comprehensive agreement that will include issues of trade in goods, services, competition, investment cooperation, cooperation in the fields of labour, environmental protection, as well as rules for determining the country of origin of goods, institutional provisions. Notably, the economy of Vietnam is one of those that are rapidly developing, and in 10 years the country has moved from a poor, collectivised agricultural economy to an economy that is growing dynamically [12, p. 42]. Therefore, in bilateral trade, the average rate of import duty within the MFN (most-favoured-nation regime) of Vietnam is 9.8%, and the average rate of the MFN of Ukraine is 4.6%, (that is, 5.2 percentage points higher), the average rate of the MFN on agricultural products of countries is 17% and 9.8%, respectively (7.2 percentage points more), and on industrial products – 8.7% and 3.8%, respectively (4.9 percentage points higher). I.Y. Guzhva notes that the best option for concluding the agreement will be to reduce the average level of import duties by Vietnam from 10.9% to 0.8% and maintain Ukraine's current customs rates for certain groups of goods, mainly light industry and sensitive agricultural goods originating from Vietnam. At the same time, Ukraine should retain the right to use export duties under the agreement, in accordance with its obligations under the WTO. According to Ukrainian experts, the introduction of a free trade regime in the implementation of this scenario for Ukraine contributes to a significant increase in exports, in particular, most of all agricultural products, food industry, mechanical engineering, moderate imports, and most of all products of the fish, textile and leather industries, while positively affecting the foreign trade balance. The forecast of gross value added growth in the following industries is quite positive: agriculture, food processing, production of machinery and equipment, metallurgy and metal processing. It is also predicted that there would be an increase in employment in the economy, mainly in the metallurgical industry and agriculture [12, p. 43]. Special attention should be paid to the growth of gross value added and the number

of employees, which should have a positive impact on economic development.

There is a steady increase in trade turnover between Ukraine and Vietnam, and the latter is one of the largest trading partners among the countries of Asia and the Pacific. Notably, on October 10, 2017, a plenary session of the Ukrainian-Vietnamese intergovernmental commission on trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation was held. Given the importance of deepening cooperation with Vietnam, it is worth noting the special importance of allowing the export of plant products (to Vietnam). It is important to deepen cooperation in the energy sector, that is, projects for the modernisation, reconstruction and construction of new electric power plants in Vietnam, as well as for the production of mechanical engineering products. Moreover, Vietnam, according to research conducted for the export strategy of Ukraine, is one of the countries with which Ukraine does not trade, and this applies to agricultural products [34].

Thus, from 2001 to 2018, exports to Vietnam increased only 1.2 times from USD 77.5 million up to USD 132.0 million, and in 2019 by 1.2 times and, accordingly, amounted to USD 95.5 million moreover, more than half of exports (56.0%) are accounted for by ores, slag and ash (28.1%), meat and edible offal (16.2%), food industry residues and waste (11.8%), that is, it is rather non-diversified. By the way, the EU and Vietnam have signed an agreement on an FTA, which notes the reduction of 99% of duties on goods, as well as the partial opening of access to the first companies to the market of services and purchases in Vietnam [35]. Therefore, given the development of Vietnam, trade with Ukraine, in particular agri-food products, as well as prospects for cooperation in the energy sector and mechanical engineering, there is reason to predict positive consequences from the conclusion of RTA.

In addition, negotiations on the creation of an FTA with Singapore began in 2007, although an agreement has not been concluded yet [36]. Ukraine considers Singapore's proposals on the terms of applying the agreement very critically, taking into account the interests of Ukrainian producers. It was assumed that Singapore would completely eliminate customs tariffs on all goods of Ukrainian origin, and similarly Ukraine, but except for all types of sugar. However, later, after negotiations and assessment by national associations of commodity producers of the consequences of trade liberalisation, the possibility of maintaining tariff protection for individual product groups was noted. Moreover, the parties have already agreed on the provisions of the following sections: "technical barriers to trade", "competition policy", "sanitary and phytosanitary measures", "intellectual property rights", but the sections on trade in goods, rules of origin, trade in services, investment, public procurement, dispute resolution, etc., remained open. According to Ukrainian experts, the agreement with Singapore would have positive consequences only in increasing Ukrainian exports (by UAH 8 million). For its part, the elimination of customs rates to zero will negatively affect nominal GDP, which is projected to decrease by UAH 129.0 million,

and state budget revenues – by UAH 4.5 million [12, p. 43-44]. In other words, the conclusion of an agreement cannot be considered unambiguously as advantages for the country, these are only opportunities that they can get depending on its starting state and the partner country, as well as the terms of the agreement.

Ukraine also provides for the conclusion of a free trade agreement with Lebanon. Notably, an agreement has already been concluded between the Central Bank of Lebanon and the National Bank of Ukraine (dated 25.11.2011, in effect), a Memorandum of understanding between the State Agency of Fisheries of Ukraine and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Lebanese Republic (dated 25.11.2011), as well as agreements between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Lebanese Republic on the promotion and mutual protection of investments (dated 25.03.1996), on trade and economic cooperation (dated 25.03.1996), agreements between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Lebanese Republic on air traffic (dated 22.04.2002), on cooperation in the field of culture (dated 08.07.2003), in the field of Tourism (dated 08.07.2003), in customs affairs (dated 08.07.2003), in the field of science and technology (dated 08.07.2003), in the field of education and research (dated 08.07.2003), agreement between the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and the Ministry of Health of the Lebanese Republic on cooperation in the field of medicine and health (dated 08.07.2003), as well as the convention between Ukraine and the Lebanese Republic for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of tax evasion with respect to taxes on income and capital (dated 22.04.2002) [16].

According to WTO data for 2010-2011, in bilateral trade, the average duty rate of the MFN of Lebanon is 7.1%, and Ukraine – 4.5% (that is, 2.6% higher), respectively, for agricultural products – 9.7% and 9.5% (0.2 percentage points more), for industrial products – 6.6% and 3.7%, respectively (2.9% higher). It is assumed that as a result of liberalisation, Ukraine will have a more noticeable effect from resetting duties, than Lebanon from eliminating its import duties. As for the impact of changes caused by the conclusion of the agreement on the state budget of Ukraine, it is assumed that it will be positive for the indicators of the consolidated budget of Ukraine and almost zero for local budgets. According to financial and economic calculations, the budget revenue side is projected to grow by UAH 87.6 million next year after the agreement comes into force, but no significant impact on the budget expenditure

side is expected. At the same time, a negative impact on revenues from import duties is predicted. It is assumed that after the entry into force of the agreement, with a reduction in customs rates, next year the reduction in revenues from import duties will be by UAH 1.0 million, and next (year) – by UAH 1.1 million [12, p. 44]. It is worth mentioning the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement, which establishes the association agreement between the Lebanese Republic and the European community (dated 17.06.2002), among the goals of which: creating conditions for the gradual liberalisation of trade in goods, services and capital; promoting economic, social, cultural, financial and monetary cooperation, etc. (Article 1) [37]. Thus, Lebanon has concluded an RTA with the EU, EFTA, Great Britain, the pan-Arab Free Trade Zone [1], and Ukraine, except for the last association. In other words, the EU has agreements with countries with which Ukraine also seeks to conclude free trade agreements, such as Vietnam, and this indicates its desire to diversify and increase trade, which should be an example for Ukraine.

Thus, Ukraine enters into an RTA and conducts negotiations with some countries, but slows them down in relation to others, for example, negotiations on the creation of an FTA with Syria have been suspended [36]. The adoption of this decision will depend on a number of factors, namely: the aspirations, negotiations, goals of the parties, the development of trade between them, although the conclusion of the RTU does not guarantee positive consequences, and in the case of the latter, there is always the possibility of losing its force, as was observed, for example, with the Baltic countries.

For a deeper analysis, it is advisable to consider how trade is carried out between Ukraine and its partner countries. Although free trade agreements have been signed with more than 40 countries, however, the volume of exports with them is not significant enough.

Analysis of foreign trade of Ukraine and RTA partner countries

Armenia. Thus, Ukraine's exports to Armenia increased 6.2 times from 2001 to 2018, that is, from a minimum of USD 22.0 million up to USD 136.7 million, although the highest was observed in 2006-2014, when the values did not fall below 136.7 units, and in other years, except for 2018, it did not exceed USD 105.1 million (2017), and the highest was in 2008 – USD 263.6 million (Table 4).

Table 1. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Armenia (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018/2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	22.0	97.3	201.3	173.4	101.6	88.9	105.1	136.7	6.2	22.0	263.6
Share of exports	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	2.1	0.1	0.4
Export of agri-food products	12.8	41.8	79.1	92.7	62.0	56.3	67.8	72.2	5.7	12.8	115.6
Share of agricultural products in exports to Armenia	58.1	42.9	39.3	53.5	61.1	63.3	64.5	52.8	0.9	33.1	64.5

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

The share of exports to Armenia in Ukraine's total exports did not exceed 0.4% (2006-2010), although in general it increased from a minimum of 0.1% in 2001, to 0.3% in 2018. The volume of exports of agri-food products in 2001 was the smallest – USD 12.8 million and increased to 72.2 million in 2018, that is, by 5.7 times, and most of it was exported in 2011 – USD 115.6 million. Its share (agri-food exports) in total exports to Armenia was quite significant, and did not fall below 33.1% (2007), and in addition to 2006-2010, it was not less than 42.9% (2005), while the maximum value was 64.5% (2017).

Azerbaijan. The volume of exports of all Ukrainian goods to Azerbaijan increased from a minimum of USD 45.6 million in 2001, up to USD 360.0 million in 2018, that is, by 7.9 times, although in addition to 2001 it

did not fall below USD 102.6 million (2002) and did not exceed USD 910.5 million. (2008). At the same time, the share of exports to Azerbaijan increased by 2.7 times, including from the minimum 0.3% (1995) to 0.8% (2018), and the maximum was 1.4% (2008-2009, 2013) (Table 5).

The volume of exports of agri-food products increased quite noticeably by 24.4 times from 2001 to 2018, namely from a minimum of USD 7.7 million (2001) to USD 188.3 million (2018), although it did not exceed USD 221.9 million (2013). The share of agri-food products in total exports to Azerbaijan has more than tripled (3.1 times) – from 16.9% (2001) to 52.3% (2018), and in general, it has changed from 16.1% (2007) to 56.7% (2017), and since 2015 it did not fall below 45.5%.

Table 5. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Azerbaijan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018/2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	45.6	290.5	610.8	591.6	318.8	248.0	355.0	360.0	7.9	45.6	910.5
Share of exports	0.3	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	2.7	0.3	1.4
Export of agri-food products	7.7	55.0	139.0	206.9	144.9	123.9	200.0	188.3	24.4	7.7	221.9
Share of agri-food products in exports to Azerbaijan	16.9	18.9	22.7	35.0	45.5	49.9	56.4	52.3	3.1	16.1	56.4

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Belarus. During 2001-2018, exports of all goods to Belarus were the lowest in 2001 and amounted to USD 243.9 million, but increased to USD 1,304.2 million in 2018, that is, by 5.3 times, and the maximum value was observed in 2012 – USD 2,251.1 million (Table 6).

The share of exports to Belarus in the total exports of Ukraine varied from 1.5% (2001-2003) to 3.7% (2010), and in 2018 it was equal to 2.8%, that is, in general, it

increased. Exports of agri-food products in 2018 were the highest during the specified period and amounted to USD 568.5 million, and increased 8.9 times compared to 2001 (USD 63.7 million), and the least amount of it was exported in 2003 – USD 62.8 million. The share of exports of agri-food products in total exports to Belarus ranged from 16.6% (2005) – 45.0% (2015), and increased from 26.1% in 2001-2002 to 43.6% in 2018.

Table 6. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Belarus (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	243.9	891.1	1899.2	1617.1	870.7	902.6	1148.4	1304.2	5.3	243.9	2251.1
Share of exports	1.5	2.6	3.7	3.0	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5	3.7
Export of agri-food products	63.7	148.2	407.5	518.3	391.5	399.2	490.0	568.5	8.9	62.8	568.5
Share of agri-food products in exports to Belarus	26.1	16.6	21.5	32.1	45.0	44.2	42.7	43.6	1.7	16.6	45.0

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Georgia. Exports of all goods (from Ukraine) to Georgia from 2001 to 2018 increased 13.3 times, namely from the minimum during this period – USD 36.2 million up to USD 480.0 million, and the largest was in 2011 and

amounted to USD 657.5 million. Although its share in total exports of Ukraine did not exceed 1.1% (2007, 2015-2016), it did not fall below 0.2% (2001) and in 2017-2018 it was equal to 1.0% (Table 7).

Table 7. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Georgia (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	36.2	199.5	527.5	490.9	402.7	390.8	427.9	480.0	13.3	36.2	657.5
Share of exports	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	4.6	0.2	1.1
Export of agri-food products	12.5	61.0	240.3	245.1	213.7	227.5	238.5	272.9	21.8	12.5	322.4
Share of agri-food products in exports to Georgia	34.6	30.5	45.6	49.9	53.1	58.2	55.7	56.8	1.6	30.2	58.2

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Exports of agri-food products increased quite significantly, including from a minimum of USD 12.5 million in 1995, up to USD 272.9 million in 2018, that is, by 21.8 times, and in 2011 it reached USD 322.4 million. Moreover, its share in total exports was quite significant and increased, and ranged from 30.2% (2006) to 58.2% (2016). In 2003-2004, 2009, and 2015-2018, the values were the highest and did not fall below 52.5% (2009), while in others they did not exceed 49.9% (2014).

Kyrgyzstan. Exports of all Ukrainian goods to Kyrgyzstan increased from a minimum of USD 5.1 million in 1995, up to USD 28.6 million. In 2018, that is, by 5.6 times, although in 2011-2014 it was the highest and did not fall below USD 102.5 million, and the maximum value was USD 134.7 million (2013), but in other years it did not exceed USD 83.8 million (2009) (Table 8).

At the same time, the share of exports to Kyrgyzstan in total exports of Ukraine was low and did not exceed 0.2% (2009, 2011-2015), but increased from 2001-2002 to 2016-2018 – from 0.03% to 0.1%.

Exports of agri-food products increased from 2001 to 2018 more than for all goods, namely by 12.9 times – from a minimum of USD 1.2 million up to USD 16.0 million, although most of them were exported in 2011-2014, when the values did not fall below USD 59.6 million (2014) and the maximum amount was USD 79.1 million (2013), and in other years exports did not exceed USD 49.9 million (2009). That is, there were separate periods of increase and decrease in exports. The share of agri-food products in total exports (Ukraine) ranged from 24.0% (2001) to 65.9% (2009), and in addition to 2001, it did not fall below 39.1% (2005), that is, it was quite significant and generally increased.

Table 8. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Kyrgyzstan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	5.1	31.6	75.0	102.5	75.5	40.4	34.3	28.6	5.6	5.1	134.7
Share of exports	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.9	0.0	0.2
Export of agri-food products	1.2	12.4	49.4	59.6	47.3	19.7	14.6	16.0	12.9	1.2	79.1
Share of agri-food products in exports to Kyrgyzstan	24.0	39.1	65.9	58.1	62.6	48.8	42.6	55.9	2.3	24.0	65.9

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Moldova. Exports of all goods to Moldova in 2001 were the lowest during 2001-2018 and amounted to USD 273.8 million, but increased to USD 789.2 million in 2018, that is, by 2.9 times, although the largest was observed in 2008, when it reached USD 1,171.8 million (Table 9).

The share of exports to Moldova in the total exports of Ukraine in 2001-2002 and 2018 was 1.7%, and in general it varied from 1.2% (2012) to 2.1% (2003). Exports of agri-food

products increased more than for all goods, namely by 6.7 times – from a minimum of USD 33.5 million up to USD 226.0 million, and in 2008 it reached USD 359.3 million, that is, it was the maximum. Its (agri-food exports) share gradually increased from 12.3% in 2001 to 28.6% in 2018, and during the entire period fluctuated between 11.7% (2002) – 40.6% (2016).

Table 9. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Moldova (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	273.8	678.6	713.5	743.8	524.3	481.1	711.9	789.2	2.9	273.8	1171.8
Share of exports	1.7	2.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.2	2.1
Export of agri-food products	33.5	87.5	232.4	265.2	195.3	195.2	218.6	226.0	6.7	33.5	359.3
Share of agri-food products in exports to Moldova	12.3	12.9	32.6	35.7	37.2	40.6	30.7	28.6	2.3	11.7	40.6

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Kazakhstan. Exports of all goods to Kazakhstan in 2001 amounted to USD 117.3 million, and in 2018 – USD 376.5 million. That is, it has more than tripled (3.2 times) from the minimum value during the specified period, and

the maximum value was USD 2,459.3 million (2012). Moreover, in 2004-2016, exports were higher than in other years, that is, there was a certain fluctuation (Table 10).

Table 10. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Kazakhstan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	117.3	667.1	1300.5	1073.2	712.7	400.1	372.8	376.5	3.2	117.3	2459.3
Share of exports	0.7	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.7	3.6
Export of agri-food products	20.7	92.5	318.3	250.5	233.2	187.1	168.9	156.1	7.5	20.7	361.9
Share of agri-food products in exports to Kazakhstan	17.7	13.9	24.5	23.3	32.7	46.8	45.3	41.5	2.3	13.1	46.8

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in total exports of Ukraine varied from 0.7% (2001) to 3.6% (2009, 2012), but except for 2001, 2017-2018 did not fall below 1.1% (2002, 2016). Exports of agri-food products increased even more than all goods, namely by 7.5 times, from a minimum of USD 20.7 million (2001) to USD 156.1 million (2018), and the latter value was the highest, except for 2007-2017, when exports did not fall below USD 168.9 million (2017) and peaked in 2008 at USD 361.9 million. Its share in total exports increased

significantly, in particular, in 2001 and 2018 it was 17.7% and 41.5%, respectively, and ranged from 13.1% (2013) to 46.8% (2016), and since 2016 it did not fall below 41.5% (2018).

Tajikistan. In contrast to other countries, Ukraine's exports to Tajikistan in 2018 compared to 2001 decreased, in particular from USD 34.7 million up to USD 34.4 million, although in 2007-2013 it was significantly higher and did not fall below USD 51.2 million (2007), and in other years did not exceed USD 46.9 million (2005) (Table 11).

Table 11. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Kazakhstan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	34.7	46.9	74.7	46.7	30.0	25.4	34.1	34.4	1.0	25.4	100.8
Share of exports	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Export of agri-food products	0.3	1.8	15.4	27.1	17.9	13.9	16.5	17.7	67.5	0.3	27.1
Share of agri-food products in exports to Tajikistan	0.8	3.7	20.6	58.1	59.6	54.5	48.3	51.5	68.0	0.8	59.6

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

At the same time, the minimum and maximum export values were USD 25.4 million (2016) and USD 100.8 million (2012). The share of exports to Tajikistan reached 0.2% only in 2001-2002 and 2009, while in others it did not exceed 0.1%. Exports of agri-food products in 2001 were the smallest and amounted to USD 0.3 million, and in 2018 – USD 17.7 million that is, it increased 67.5 times, although it did not exceed USD 27.1 million. Its share in total exports varied from 0.8% (2001, 2003) to 59.6% (2015), and until

2007 it did not exceed 6.4% (2006), and later it did not fall below 18.2% (2007).

Turkmenistan. Ukraine's exports to Turkmenistan were the highest in 2002-2017, when they did not fall below USD 109.0 million, and in other years did not exceed USD 106.1 million (2001), while the minimum and maximum values were observed in 2018 and 2012 and were equal to USD 56.8 million and USD 528.2 million, respectively. That is, after 2014, exports steadily declined (Table 12).

Table 12. Ukraine's export of all and agri-food products to Turkmenistan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	106.1	187.2	208.9	431.3	170.3	109.0	62.2	56.8	0.5	56.8	528.2
Share of exports	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.8
Export of agri-food products	5.8	20.7	64.1	75.6	47.9	37.6	40.9	20.0	3.4	5.8	87.2
Share of agri-food products in exports to Turkmenistan	5.5	11.1	30.7	17.5	28.2	34.5	65.7	35.1	6.4	5.5	65.7

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in total exports of Ukraine did not exceed 0.8% (2003, 2009, 2014), and in 2017-2018 it was the smallest and was equal to 0.1%. Exports of agri-food products, on the contrary, increased from a minimum of USD 5.8 million in 2001, up to USD 20.0 million in 2018, namely by 3.4 times, and the maximum was in 2013 when it was equal to USD 87.2 million. At the same time, in 2007-2017 it did not fall below USD 24.8 million (2007), and in other years did not exceed USD 20.7 million (2005).

Table 13. Ukraine's export of all and agri-food products to Uzbekistan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	108.7	150.6	228.5	308.6	174.5	142.4	167.7	286.0	2.6	65.5	595.3
Share of exports	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.0
Export of agri-food products	1.5	3.4	50.9	52.5	39.2	20.9	24.0	129.0	85.2	1.5	129.0
Share of agri-food products in exports to Uzbekistan	1.4	2.3	22.3	17.0	22.5	14.7	14.3	45.1	32.4	1.4	45.1

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in total exports of Ukraine did not exceed 1% (2009), although it did not fall below 0.4% (2002-2005, 2010, 2016-2017) and in 2018 was equal to 0.6%. Exports of agri-food products were minimal and maximum in 2001 and 2018, and amounted to USD 1.5 million, respectively, and USD 129.0 million, that is, it increased by 85.2 times. At the same time, its share in total exports increased significantly

That is, there are separate periods of growth and decline. The share of agri-food products in total exports increased from a minimum of 5.5% in 2001 to 35.1% in 2018, and the maximum value was 65.7% (2017).

Uzbekistan. Exports of all goods to Uzbekistan increased from USD 108.7 million in 2001, up to USD 286.0 million in 2018, that is, by 2.6 times, and it changed from 6 65.5 million (2002) to USD 595.3 million (2008) (Table 13).

Table 14. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Kazakhstan (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	3640.8	7489.8	13431.9	9799.1	4827.7	3592.9	3943.2	3652.4	1.0	3148.7	19819.7
Share of exports	22.4	21.9	26.1	18.2	12.7	9.9	9.1	7.7	0.3	7.7	29.0
Export of agri-food products	673.8	1383.2	1869.2	911.8	276.5	93.0	102.4	92.0	0.1	92.0	2025.0
Share of agri-food products in exports to Russia	18.5	18.5	13.9	9.3	5.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	0.1	2.5	22.2

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in total exports of Ukraine decreased to a minimum of 7.7% in 2018, although the maximum value was 29.0% in 2011, while until 2015 the share did not fall below 17.6% (2002), and later did not exceed 12.7% (2015). Exports of agri-food products decreased by 7.3 times, namely from USD 673.8 million in 2001, up to a minimum of USD 92.0 million in 2018, and the largest was in 2011, when it amounted to USD 2025 million. Its share in total

from a min. value of 1.4% (2001) to a max. of 45.1% (2018).

Russia. Exports of all goods to Russia increased from USD 3,640.8 million in 2001, up to USD 3,652.4 million in 2018, that is, by USD 11.6 million, and the smallest and largest was in 2002 and 2011, when it amounted to USD 3,148.7 million and USD 19819.7 million, respectively. (Table 14).

Table 15. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Canada (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	28.4	90.1	73.3	72.4	30.2	28.9	50.5	78.1	2.7	28.4	144.1
Share of exports	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.9	0.1	0.3
Export of agri-food products	5.4	1.2	2.3	4.7	3.4	4.9	8.1	9.9	1.8	1.2	15.9
Share of agri-food products in exports to Canada	19.1	1.3	3.2	6.5	11.1	16.8	16.0	12.7	0.7	1.3	38.7

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

exports to Russia has significantly decreased, in particular from 18.5% in 2001 to 2.5% in 2018, when it was minimal, but did not exceed 22.2% (2003).

Canada. Ukraine's exports to Canada almost tripled (2.7 times) from 2001 to 2018, namely from USD 28.4 million up to USD 78.1 million, and the smallest and largest was in 2001 and 2008, when it reached USD 144.1 million (Table 15).

The share of exports to Canada was low and varied from 0.1% to 0.3%, and in 2001-2003 and 2018 it was equal to 0.2%, although, as noted above, the total export of Ukraine to Canada increased. Exports of agri-food products increased from USD 5.4 million in 1995, up to USD 9.9 million in 2018, that is, 1.8 times less than all products, and it varied from USD 1.2 million (2005) to USD 15.9 million (2002), but except for 2002, 2009, and 2017-2018, it did not exceed

USD 6.9 million (2012). The share of its exports in total exports (to Canada) ranged from 1.3% (2005) to 38.7% (2002), and if in 2001-2002, 2009, 2015-2018 it did not fall below 11.1%, then in others it did not exceed 6.5% (2014).

Israel. Exports of all goods to Israel increased from a minimum of USD 113.6 million in 2001, up to USD 580.0 million in 2018, that is, by 5.1 times, and the highest was in 2012, when it reached USD 796.4 million (Table 16).

Table 16. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Israel (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	113.6	290.7	467.6	593.1	597.1	488.6	605.1	580.0	5.1	113.6	796.4
Share of exports	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.8	0.7	1.6
Export of agri-food products	43.4	103.0	280.1	377.6	395.2	292.8	411.2	337.0	7.8	43.4	510.2
Share of agri-food products in exports to Israel	38.2	35.4	59.9	63.7	66.2	59.9	68.0	58.1	1.5	25.5	68.0

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in Ukraine's total exports ranged from 0.7% (2001, 2006-2008, 2011) to 1.6% (2015), and in 2018 it increased by 1.2%, i.e., it increased. Moreover, the minimum and maximum values of the indicator were higher than for Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Canada, Macedonia, Montenegro, Norway and Iceland, but less than for Belarus, Moldova and Russia. Compared to Kazakhstan, the minimum values were equal (0.7%), and with Switzerland, they were higher for Israel, but the maximum values were higher than for the latter. That is, in comparison with the countries with which free trade agreements were concluded, the maximum share of exports in Israel was less only than in Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Switzerland, but in this case, the EU is not considered.

The growth of exports of agri-food products by

7.8 times, that is, even more than the total, is quite noticeable. Thus, in 2001, it was the smallest and amounted to USD 43.4 million, and in 2018 – USD 337.0 million, although it did not exceed USD 510.2 million in 2012. Its share in total exports to Israel increased from 38.2% in 2001 to 58.1% in 2018, and varied between 25.5% (2003) – 68.0% (2017), and if before 2008 it did not exceed 45.8% (2002), then later it did not fall below 53.0% (2011).

Macedonia. Exports of all goods to Macedonia decreased from USD 25.9 million in 2001, up to USD 15.8 million in 2018, that is, by 1.6 times. However, in 2006-2011 it was significantly higher than in 2009, when it was equal to USD 42.3 million, did not fall below USD 69.5 million (2006), and in other years did not exceed USD 50.2 million (2004), and generally varied from USD 8.1 million (2013) to USD 184.1 million (2008) (Table 17).

Table 17. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Israel (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	25.9	35.9	96.0	40.5	12.9	25.9	30.7	15.8	0.6	8.1	184.1
Share of exports	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3
Export of agri-food products	0.3	0.6	0.5	3.3	0.7	3.5	4.5	3.6	13.2	0.1	4.5
Share of agri-food products in exports to Macedonia	1.1	1.6	0.5	8.1	5.4	13.4	14.6	23.1	21.6	0.2	23.2

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in total exports of Ukraine was the maximum in 2008 – 0.3%, and in other years did not exceed 0.2% (2001, 2003-2004, 2006-2007, 2010), although it did not fall below 0.01% (2013), and has decreased since 2012, its maximum value was 0.1% (2014, 2016-2017). Exports of agri-food products in 2001 and 2018 amounted to USD 0.3 million and USD 3.6 million, respectively. That is, it increased by 13.2 times, and changed from USD 0.1 million (2006) to USD 4.5 million (2017). Its share in exports of all goods increased 21.6 times from 2001 to 2018, namely

from 1.1% to 23.1%, and during the entire period fluctuated between 0.2% (2006) and 23.2% (2013). Moreover, its growth was observed, in particular, until 2012 the share did not exceed 1.6% (2005), and later it did not fall below 5.4% (2015).

Montenegro. Exports of all goods to Montenegro from 2008 to 2018 increased 2.6 times, namely from USD 2.7 million up to USD 7.0 million, and changed from USD 0.5 million (2009) to USD 8.8 million (2017), and was previously absent (Table 18).

Table 18. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Montenegro (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	0.00	0.00	3.87	1.80	1.14	4.67	8.76	7.00	2.59	0.00	8.76
Share of exports	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	3.66	0.00	0.02
Export of agri-food products	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.20	0.09	3.34	7.33	4.69	293.06	0.00	7.33
Share of agri-food products in exports to Montenegro			1.47	11.19	8.16	71.58	83.74	67.00	113.20	0.00	83.74

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Its share in Ukraine's total exports was insignificant and did not exceed 0.02% (2017), and in other years – 0.01% (2010, 2012, 2016, 2018). Exports of agri-food products increased from USD 0.02 million in 2008, up to USD 4.7 million (2018), and except for 2009 (when it was absent), it fluctuated within USD 0.001 million (2011) – USD 7.3 million (2017). And its share in total exports increased from 0.6% to 67.0% (2018) from 2008 to 2018, with the minimum value being 0.04% (2011) and the maximum value being 83.7% (2017), and until 2013 the share did not exceed 1.5% (2010), and later did not fall below 8.2% (2015).

Export analysis from EFTA (European Free Trade Association)

It is known that Ukraine has also signed an RTA with EFTA, therefore, the study considers trade separately with member countries of the group.

Iceland. Thus, Ukraine's exports to Iceland increased from USD 0.6 million in 2001, up to USD 1.4 million in 2018, that is, in 2.4, and did not fall below USD 0.002 million (2002) and, except for 2012, when it was equal to USD 17.2 million, did not exceed USD 3.5 million (2007) (Table 19).

Table 19. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Iceland (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	0.6	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.4	0.0	17.2
Share of exports	0.004	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.8	0.0	0.0
Export of agri-food products	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.003	–	0.0	0.2
Share of agri-food products in exports to Iceland	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	34.7	0.8	0.2	–	0.0	34.7

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Notably, the share of exports to Iceland was quite low and did not exceed 0.03% (2012). Exports of agri-food products have been observed since 2010, although they did not exceed USD 0.2 million (2016), and in 2018 it amounted to USD 0.003 million. Moreover, its share in total exports to Iceland was the highest in 2016, when it was 34.7%, and in other years it did not exceed 0.9% (2010). That is, exports to Iceland are small, and the share of agricultural products in it is also small, since, in addition to 2016 (34.7%), its maximum value was 0.9% (2010).

Norway. Exports of all goods to Norway in 2001 and 2018 amounted to USD 19.9 million and USD 28.0 million, respectively. That is, it increased 1.4 times, although it was the highest in 2005-2013, when it did not fall below

USD 46.9 million (2005), and in other years did not exceed USD 28.0 million (2018), and in general fluctuated in the range of USD 9.4 million (2003) – USD 153.8 million (2009) (Table 20).

Moreover, its share in total exports, with the exception of 2009, when it was 0.4%, did not exceed 0.2% in 2006-2008, 2010. Exports of agri-food products increased from USD 1.7 million in 2001, up to a maximum of USD 9.9 million in 2018, that is, by 5.9 times. Although in 2002-2007 it was quite low and did not exceed USD 0.03 million (2005). Its share in total exports to Norway increased from 8.4% in 2001 to a maximum of 35.4% in 2018, although in 2002-2008 it did not exceed 0.2% (2008), and in other years it did not fall below 1.5% (2009).

Table 20. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Norway (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	19.9	46.9	84.1	20.2	12.8	15.3	19.4	28.0	1.4	9.4	153.8
Share of exports	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.4
Export of agri-food products	1.7	0.03	1.3	5.4	1.8	0.5	3.7	9.9	5.9	0.0	9.9
Share of agri-food products in exports to Norway	8.4	0.1	1.6	26.9	14.2	3.1	18.9	35.4	4.2	0.0	35.4

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Switzerland. Exports of all goods to Switzerland increased from USD 93.6 million in 2001, up to USD 108.8 million in 2018, that is, by USD 15.2 million or 1.2 times, and changed from USD 69.4 million (2011) to USD 831.6 million (2008). Although in addition to 2001, 2007, and 2011 did not fall below USD 106.0 million (2016) and other than 2008 did not exceed USD 472.4 million (2010) (Table 21).

Its share in total exports of Ukraine ranged from 0.1% (2011) – 1.9% (2003), and except for 2003-2005, 2008-2009 did not rise above 0.9% (2002, 2010). In contrast to total exports to Switzerland, exports of agri-food products decreased from USD 62.3 million in 2001, up to USD 23.3 million in

2018, that is, by 2.7 times, and it changed from USD 1.4 million (2011) to USD 201.6 million (2003). The highest values were observed in 2001-2005 and 2013, when they did not fall below USD 60.8 million (2005), and in other years did not exceed USD 55.9 million (2017). The share of agri-food exports in total exports to Switzerland decreased from a maximum of 66.5% in 2001 to 21.4% in 2018, and the minimum value was 0.4% in 2010. At the same time, in 2001-2004, 2013, and 2016-2018, the indicator was the highest and did not fall below 21.4% (2018), and in other years it did not exceed 15.4% (2005-2006).

Table 21. Ukraine's exports of all and agri-food products to Iceland (million USD) and their share in total exports to the country, 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001	Min. value	Max. value
Export of all goods	93.6	395.9	472.4	188.6	125.5	106.0	228.3	108.8	1.2	69.4	831.6
Share of exports	0.6	1.2	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.9
Export of agri-food products	62.3	60.8	1.7	6.1	8.0	23.1	55.9	23.3	0.4	1.4	201.6
Share of agri-food products in exports to Switzerland	66.5	15.4	0.4	3.2	6.4	21.8	24.5	21.4	0.3	0.4	66.5

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Dynamics of Ukraine's trade with countries with which free trade agreements have been concluded and certain trade indicators

In 2018. In trade with the countries with which free trade agreements were concluded, except for the EU, the largest exports for all goods were carried out to Russia (USD 3,652.4 million), Belarus (USD 1,304.2 million), Moldova (USD 789.2 million), Israel (USD 580.0 million), Georgia (USD 480.0 million), Kazakhstan (USD 376.5 million), Azerbaijan (USD 360.0 million), and for agri-food products – to Belarus (USD 568.5 million), Israel (USD 337.0 million), Georgia (USD 272.9 million), Moldova (USD 226.0 million), Azerbaijan (USD 188.3 million), Kazakhstan (USD 156.1 million), Uzbekistan (USD 129.0 million), Russia (USD 92.0 million), and least of all (for all and agri-food products) – to Iceland.

At the same time, in 2018, compared to 2001, exports of all goods did not increase significantly to Russia, but decreased to Tajikistan, Macedonia, Turkmenistan, and for agri-food products – to Switzerland and Russia, respectively, but in all other cases there was an increase.

Ukraine's total exports to all countries with which free trade agreements are in force, except for the EU (excluding the latter due to its significant share compared to other countries with which RTA is signed), from 2001 to 2018 increased from a minimum of USD 1,275.4 million up to USD 4,671.6 million. That is, by 3.7 times, and the largest was in 2008, when it amounted to USD 9838.1 million. Moreover, its share in total exports varied from 7.8% (2001) to 16.3% (2009) and in 2018 amounted to 9.9%, although the largest increase was observed in 2003-2015, when the values did not fall below 10.6% (2003), and in other years did not exceed 10.0% (2017) (Table 22).

Table 22. Dynamics of Ukraine's export of all goods (million USD) to countries with which free trade agreements are concluded, except for the EU, and its share in total exports (%), 2001-2018

	2001	2005	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001
World	16264.7	34228.0	51430.3	68393.0	53913.3	38127.0	36361.0	43428.4	47334.7	2.9
Russian Federation	3640.8	7489.8	13431.9	19819.7	9799.1	4827.7	3592.9	3943.2	3652.4	1.0
Belarus	243.9	891.1	1899.2	1922.3	1617.1	870.7	902.6	1148.4	1304.2	5.3
Republic of Moldova	273.8	678.6	713.5	874.4	743.8	524.3	481.1	711.9	789.2	2.9
Israel	113.6	290.7	467.6	510.2	593.1	597.1	488.6	605.1	580.0	5.1
Georgia	36.2	199.5	527.5	657.5	490.9	402.7	390.8	427.9	480.0	13.3
Kazakhstan	117.3	667.1	1300.5	1857.5	1073.2	712.7	400.1	372.8	376.5	3.2
Azerbaijan	45.6	290.5	610.8	708.3	591.6	318.8	248.0	355.0	360.0	7.9

Table 22, Continued

	2001	2005	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2018 to 2001
Uzbekistan	108.7	150.6	228.5	353.8	308.6	174.5	142.4	167.7	286.0	2.6
Armenia	22.0	97.3	201.3	227.6	173.4	101.6	88.9	105.1	136.7	6.2
Switzerland	93.6	395.9	472.4	69.4	188.6	125.5	106.0	228.3	108.8	1.2
Canada	28.4	90.1	73.3	122.6	72.4	30.2	28.9	50.5	78.1	2.7
Turkmenistan	106.1	187.2	208.9	241.9	431.3	170.3	109.0	62.2	56.8	0.5
Tajikistan	34.7	46.9	74.7	60.2	46.7	30.0	25.4	34.1	34.4	1.0
Kyrgyzstan	5.1	31.6	75.0	111.3	102.5	75.5	40.4	34.3	28.6	5.6
Norway	19.9	46.9	84.1	61.4	20.2	12.8	15.3	19.4	28.0	1.4
Macedonia	25.9	35.9	96.0	81.8	40.5	12.9	25.9	30.7	15.8	0.6
Montenegro			3.9	2.6	1.8	1.1	4.7	8.8	7.0	2.6
Iceland	0.6	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.4
All countries except the EU-28	1275.4	4101.3	7037.4	7863.0	6495.8	4161.0	3498.9	4362.8	4671.6	3.7
Share of all countries except the EU-28	7.8	12.0	13.7	11.5	12.0	10.9	9.6	10.0	9.9	1.3
All countries including Russia except the EU-28	4916.2	11591.0	20469.3	27682.8	16294.9	8988.7	7091.7	8306.0	8324.0	1.7
Share of all countries including Russia except the EU-28	30.2	33.9	39.8	40.5	30.2	23.6	19.5	19.1	17.6	0.6

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Exports of all goods to countries with which free trade agreements were concluded without the EU and with Russia increased from USD 4,916.2 million in 2001, up to USD 8,324.0 million in 2018, that is, by 1.7 times, and changed from USD 4,699.3 million (1996) to USD 27,682.8 million (2011). In 2003-2015 it was the highest and did not fall below USD 9379.4 million, and in other years did not exceed USD 8988.7 million (2015). Its share in total exports of Ukraine decreased from 30.2% in 2001 to a minimum of 17.6% in 2018, and the maximum value was 40.5% (2011), and in 2005-2013 the indicator did not fall below 33.9% (2005), although it did not rise above the level of 2001, 2014 (30.2%) in other years.

Given the significant share of agri-food products

Table 23. Dynamics of imports of agri-food products of countries with which Ukraine has concluded Free Trade Agreements (million USD) and share in world imports

	1992	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2017 similed to 1992
Armenia	172.3	236.8	207.8	297.8	667.5	648.0	610.4	703.1	4.1
Azerbaijan	278.4	279.2	213.2	453.9	1223.0	1819.8	1529.5	1675.6	6.0
Belarus	962.7	710.0	968.0	1472.7	2704.0	4059.6	3749.2	4178.3	4.3
Canada	7585.1	9079.8	11442.2	16895.5	27179.7	32860.5	32434.2	33567.6	4.4
Georgia	232.4	365.7	256.9	491.3	898.7	1056.5	1003.1	1108.1	4.8
Iceland	155.4	173.5	188.4	323.6	322.6	470.0	501.9	591.7	3.8
Israel	1326.6	1825.9	1813.2	2385.2	4142.0	4866.2	5101.4	5466.5	4.1
Kazakhstan	610.7	498.5	445.1	1278.5	2733.0	3311.5	2968.3	3325.1	5.4

Table 23, Continued

	1992	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2017 similed to 1992
Kyrgyzstan	307.2	107.9	81.7	191.9	548.8	564.2	455.6	631.2	2.1
Montenegro*					524.3	504.3	519.3	577.7	2.0
North Macedonia	194.9	319.1	240.5	413.1	680.2	742.5	762.4	816.8	4.2
Norway	1560.7	1897.1	1791.6	3341.8	5358.2	6433.8	6395.9	6955.6	4.5
Republic of Moldova	116.0	71.7	106.4	321.1	550.8	518.7	541.3	633.6	5.5
Russia	14121.0	12866.7	7233.8	15613.9	32373.1	24948.6	23355.1	27005.0	1.9
Switzerland	4758.2	5462.7	4742.1	6990.2	10336.5	11139.3	11143.3	11572.3	2.4
Tajikistan	263.1	181.6	125.8	257.4	476.0	720.0	655.3	597.0	2.3
Turkmenistan	238.9	176.8	105.3	111.3	304.4	652.0	605.6	623.7	2.6
Uzbekistan	973.8	748.0	387.3	369.4	868.9	1512.7	1322.3	1256.3	1.3
EU-28	190654.0	209428.8	182693.2	308440.0	441605.1	463792.1	471494.2	519602.8	2.7
World	386177.7	461025.1	433157.4	679892.7	1107372.2	1326147.1	1321275.6	1436624.7	3.7
Countries with which FTA agreements are in force in 2020	210390.4	231562.9	205808.8	344034.5	501123.8	535671.7	541793.1	593883.0	2.8
Share of countries' imports in world imports, %	54.5	50.2	47.5	50.6	45.3	40.4	41.0	41.3	0.8
Countries with which agreements were concluded (with Russia)	224511.4	244429.6	213042.6	359648.4	533496.9	560620.3	565148.3	620888.0	2.8
Share of countries with which trade agreements have been concluded (with Russia) in world imports, %	58.1	53.0	49.2	52.9	48.2	42.3	42.8	43.2	0.7

Note: * – for Montenegro, imports in 2017 are compared to 2006

Source: calculated by the author based on FAO data [38]

Notably, the import from EU-28 during the specified period increased 2.7 times (from USD 190654.0 million) up to USD 519,602.8 million), then import from Russia increased by 1.9 times (from USD 14,121.0 million) up to USD 27,005.0 million), and the share of the EU-28 in world imports of agri-food products was 36.2%, and Russia – 1.9%. Although it is necessary to take into account a significant part of intraregional trade of the grouping. In addition, among the countries with which Ukraine signed free trade agreements, in 2017, compared to 1992, imports of agri-food products increased the most by Azerbaijan (6.0 times), Moldova (5.5), Kazakhstan (5.4), Georgia (4.8 times), Norway (4.5), Canada (4.4), Belarus (4.3), North Macedonia (4.2), Israel (4.1), Armenia (4.1), Iceland (3.8), but not more than 3.8 times (Iceland), although this figure was higher than for the world, the EU-28 and Russia, which was 3.7 times, 2.7 and 1.9 times, respectively.

Although the largest importers among them were the EU-28, Canada, Russia, Switzerland, Norway, Israel, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Georgia, for the former imports are noticeably higher. That is, given

the volume and trend of imports of agri-food products, Ukraine needs to deepen foreign trade relations with these countries. At the same time, it is necessary to increase exports in various directions, using the concluded RTAs. For example, Moldova is a relatively small country, but it has significantly increased imports, and Ukraine has significantly increased exports of agri-food products to it, and although it was small, its share increased to 28.6% (2018) in the export of all goods (to Moldova, 1.7% in total exports of Ukraine).

By the way, from 1992 to 2017, imports of countries with which free trade agreements were concluded by Ukraine, but in addition to the EU and Russia, increased from USD 19736.4 million up to USD 74,280.2 million, that is, by 3.8 times, and their share in world imports almost did not change and amounted to 5.1% and 5.2%, respectively. It was typical for the entire specified period – the values ranged from 4.8% (1995) to 5.4% (2002, 2006-2007, 2009-2010, 2014-2015). And the imports of these countries and Russia in 1992-2017 increased from USD 33,857.4 million up to USD 101,285.2 million, that is, by 3.0 times, and it

was higher than without it in 1992 and 2017, respectively, by 1.7 and 1.4 times. Although its share in world imports decreased from a maximum of 8.8% in 1992 to 7.1% in 2017, the minimum value was 6.9% (1999) and was higher than the maximum share of imports of these countries

without Russia (5.4% during the specified period).

In trade in all goods, the balance of Ukraine changed during 2001-2018 from USD -18496.1 million up to USD 3,669.4 million, and it was positive only until 2005 (in 2001-2004) and in 2015 (Table 24).

Table 24. Dynamics of the trade balance of Ukraine's foreign trade with the countries with which free trade agreements were concluded, 2001-2018 million USD

	2001	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Min. value	Max. value
World	489.6	-1894.0	-9306.8	-468.1	610.9	-2888.6	-6010.8	-9852.4	-18496.1	3669.3
Russia	-2138.2	-5352.7	-8766.1	-2879.5	-2665.0	-1556.4	-3253.3	-4438.0	-9786.5	-1556.4
Belarus	-163.2	-48.7	-668.4	-2354.0	-1578.5	-1875.2	-2055.9	-2482.7	-2817.4	116.1
Republic of Moldova	209.4	594.5	639.9	682.0	483.1	433.5	605.3	671.1	209.4	1002.2
Israel	73.5	227.7	376.1	267.4	427.1	303.8	437.3	367.4	73.5	529.6
Georgia	25.0	158.5	391.5	337.2	341.0	325.0	347.2	346.4	25.0	513.1
Kazakhstan	-548.7	480.7	534.3	697.4	335.2	-34.2	54.8	-83.4	-1286.4	1436.5
Azerbaijan	37.5	262.7	-340.4	547.8	288.5	208.2	-62.1	-104.6	-340.4	834.8
Uzbekistan	-84.3	-54.7	146.7	235.7	112.2	71.3	45.0	164.6	-1523.0	327.0
Armenia	13.6	84.1	183.4	160.1	94.2	80.7	94.3	115.6	13.6	238.1
Switzerland	-51.8	154.6	-35.7	-335.0	-332.6	-878.3	-1421.1	-1536.7	-1536.7	317.3
Canada	5.3	3.1	-86.9	-118.8	-176.1	-188.4	-243.8	-254.9	-254.9	38.6
Turkmenistan	-1548.0	-2490.9	177.5	406.8	154.0	74.6	-26.8	-87.6	-5254.7	406.8
Tajikistan	33.1	41.6	71.3	43.5	27.2	24.2	33.4	33.8	20.1	93.6
Kyrgyzstan	2.6	25.9	68.9	98.2	69.7	38.7	31.3	27.1	1.8	122.9
Norway	-36.0	-81.4	-177.2	-567.6	-728.9	-147.7	-197.3	-199.2	-728.9	-36.0
North Macedonia	24.6	33.4	69.7	19.2	0.8	14.2	18.8	-0.1	-65.7	176.8
Montenegro	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.7	-3.7	2.0	5.2	6.4	-3.7	6.4
Iceland	-2.4	-11.9	-51.8	-41.1	-30.9	-63.6	-71.9	-97.1	-113.9	-2.4

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

As for the countries with which free trade agreements were concluded, except for the EU, the balance was constantly positive in trade with Moldova (USD 209.4-1002.2 million), Israel (USD 73.5-529.6 million), Georgia (USD 25.0-513.1 million), Armenia (USD 13.6-238.1 million), Tajikistan (USD 20.1 - 93.6 million), and Kyrgyzstan (USD 1.8-122.9 million), and negative – with Russia (USD -9786.5 – -1556.4 million), Norway (USD -728.9 – -36.0 million), Iceland (USD -113.9 – -2.4 million).

Moreover, in 2018, a positive balance was observed in trade with Moldova (USD 671.1 million), Israel (USD 367.4 million), Georgia (USD 346.4 million), Uzbekistan (USD 164.6 million), Armenia (USD 115.6 million), Tajikistan (USD 33.8 million), Kyrgyzstan (USD 27.1 million), Montenegro (USD 6.4 million), and the opposite situation for North Macedonia (USD -0.1 million), Kazakhstan (USD -83.4 million), Turkmenistan (USD -87.6 million), Iceland (USD -97.1 million), Azerbaijan (USD -104.6 million), Norway (USD -199.2 million), Canada (USD -254.9 million), Switzerland (USD -1536.7 million), Belarus (USD -2482.7 million), Russia (USD -4438.0 million). The negative balance also prevailed in trade with Belarus

(except for 2004 and 2007), Switzerland (except for 2002-2005, 2009), Canada (except for 2001-2002, 2004-2006), Turkmenistan (except for 2010, 2012-2016), and the positive balance prevailed with Azerbaijan (except for 2010, 2017-2018), Uzbekistan (except 2001, 2003, 2005-2009, 2011), North Macedonia (2011-2013, 2018), and Montenegro (except 2009, 2015). In trade with Kazakhstan, the balance was negative, except for 2004-2005, 2010-2015, and 2017.

Determination of the level of complementarity of trade relations between Ukraine and the countries with which free trade agreements have been signed

To predict the prospects for the development of cooperation between Ukraine and individual countries with which it has been already or possible to sign a free trade agreement, it is advisable to analyse the level of mutual complementarity of their trade relations. For this purpose the level of complementarity of the commodity structure of trade in Ukraine and these countries was calculated using the formula (1):

$$TCI_j = 100 - \sum \frac{m_{ik} - x_{ij}}{2} \quad (1)$$

where TCI_j - trade complementarity index;
 m_{ik} – share of goods and total imports of the country k ;
 x_{ij} – share of exports i -th product of the country j .

This index demonstrates that the import structure of one country corresponds to the export structure of a trading partner [39, p. 251]. More than 30 product groups were taken for calculation, which accounted for more than 92% of all Ukrainian exports.

The results obtained indicate great prospects for the development of cooperation between Ukraine and countries with which free trade agreements have been concluded, and a similar situation is observed for a number of other countries, in particular, calculations were made for trade with the largest exporters/importers of the world and individual regions and countries with which regional trade agreements are supposed to be concluded. Thus, Ukraine's

trade relations with the EU-28 are complementary at the level of 52.43%, Canada – 53.09%; Great Britain – 52.09%, Germany – 51.21%, Poland – 53.04%, Armenia – 55.0%, Azerbaijan – 57.38%, Belarus – 48.30%; Montenegro – 54.06%; Georgia – 57.58%; Iceland – 48.91% Kazakhstan – 53.67%; Kyrgyzstan – 50.70%; Macedonia – 60.39%; Moldova – 52.94%; Norway – 55.02%; Russia – 51.45%; Serbia – 49.71%; Switzerland – 54.41%; Tajikistan – 61.51%; Turkmenistan – 52.58%; Uzbekistan – 54.69%; Israel – 52.77%, as well as with Lebanon – 53.49%; Brazil – 45.40%; Singapore – 35.24%; Saudi Arabia – 56.22%; Mexico – 45.12%; Nigeria – 41.04%; Vietnam – 48.28%; Japan – 47.33%; Republic of Korea – 45.3%; India – 43.42%; Indonesia – 51.91%; Iran – 58.85%; Egypt – 58.88%; Turkey – 52.56%; China – 46.21%; USA – 46.76%; Argentina – 51.36%; Australia – 49.51% (Table 25).

Table 25. Level of complementarity of the commodity structure of foreign trade in Ukraine and individual countries by main product groups, 2018

Countries with which Ukraine has concluded FTAs	TCI*	Countries with which Ukraine plans to conclude FTAs	TCI	Countries – the world's largest importers	TCI	Some countries are the largest importers of Ukraine	TCI
EU-28	52.43			EU-28	52.43	EU-28	52.43
Canada	53.09			Canada	53.09		
				China	46.21	China	46.21
United Kingdom	52.09	United Kingdom	52.09	United Kingdom	52.09	United Kingdom	52.09
Germany	51.21			Germany	51.21	Germany	51.21
Poland	53.04					Poland	53.04
		Turkey	52.56			Turkey	52.56
				USA	46.76	USA	46.76
				Argentina	51.35		
Armenia	55.00						
				Australia	49.51		
Azerbaijan	57.38					Azerbaijan	57.38
Belarus	48.30					Belarus	48.30
				Brazil	45.40	Brazil	45.40
Montenegro	54.06						
				Egypt	58.88	Egypt	58.88
Georgia	57.58						
				India	43.42	India	43.42
				Indonesia	51.91	Indonesia	51.91
				Iran	58.85	Iran	58.85
Iceland	48.91						
				Japan	47.33	Japan	47.33
Kazakhstan	53.67					Kazakhstan	53.67
				Republic of Korea (North Korea)	45.30	Republic of Korea (North Korea)	45.30
Kyrgyzstan	50.70						
		Lebanon	53.49				
Northern Macedonia	60.39						
				Mexico	45.12	Mexico	45.12

Table 25, Continued

Countries with which Ukraine has concluded FTAs	TCI*	Countries with which Ukraine plans to conclude FTAs	TCI	Countries – the world's largest importers	TCI	Some countries are the largest importers of Ukraine	TCI
Moldova	52.94			Nigeria	41.04		
Norway	55.02						
Russia	51.45			Russia	51.45	Russia	51.45
				Saudi Arabia	56.22	Saudi Arabia	56.22
		Serbia	49.71				49.71
Switzerland	54.41					Switzerland	54.41
		Singapore	35.24				
Tajikistan	61.51						
Turkmenistan	52.58						
Uzbekistan	54.69						
		Vietnam	48.28			Vietnam	48.28
Israel	52.77					Israel	52.77

Notes: TCI_j – trading complementarity index

Source: calculated by the author based on ITC data [32]

Moreover, the values of the indicator are noticeably higher for Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia, which confirms the prospects for the development of bilateral relations with them and the conclusion of RTAs. At the same time, it is worth considering that these countries are regular and significant importers of agri-food products, which account for approximately 40% of Ukraine's exports.

Thus, in trade with these countries, there is mainly an increase in exports, their imports of agricultural products are increasing, the value of the complementarity index and other indicators indicate prospects for the development of cooperation. However, quite often these issues are debatable and ambiguous, which is really not unfounded. After all, the effectiveness of the development of trade and economic relations between them as a result of the signing of the RTA depends on its content, the settlement of issues of trade liberalisation with the peculiarities inherent in modern forms of trade; negotiations of the parties on trade policy, etc. Therefore, they must be clearly taken into account when laying down agreements with each specific country. In addition, the production of competitive products, preferential taxation for the production of new products, the introduction of the latest technologies, etc., are of great importance.

Conclusions

Ukraine has signed RTAs with more than 40 countries, including integration groups (the EU and EFTA), and negotiations are also underway with other countries. However, disintegration processes were also observed. This study proposes to divide the conclusion of RTA into two periods – before and after 2000 – taking into account the territorial aspect and the economic level of development of partner countries. The difference in the economic development of EFTA, the EU and Canada in comparison with Ukraine led to the application of the principle of asymmetry in trade

liberalisation in agreements, and each RTA has its own characteristics. Taking into account the causes and consequences of integration, it is advisable to divide the risks into predictable and unpredictable.

In addition to the EU, Ukraine exported the most of all goods to Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Israel, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and agri-food products – to Belarus, Israel, Georgia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Russia, although Iceland was the smallest importer among them. Total exports to the countries with which the agreements are in force increased 3.7 times and its share in Ukraine's exports varied between 7.8% (2001) and 16.3% (2009), and there are separate periods of its growth (in 2003-2015). Taking into account Russia, total exports increased by 1.7 times, and its share did not fall below 17.6% (2018) and did not exceed 40.5% (2011). Exports of all goods from 2001 to 2018 increased to all countries except Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Macedonia, and for agri-food – except Russia and Switzerland.

The most noticeable (more than 5 times) increase was in total exports to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Israel, and for agri-food – to all countries except Turkmenistan, Canada, Iceland, Switzerland (decrease) and Russia (decrease). Agricultural exports increased more than the total for all countries except Armenia, Russia, Canada, and Switzerland, although the share of exports to them is low – less than 1% accounted for Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Canada, Macedonia, Montenegro, Iceland, Norway, and the highest maximum values – for Belarus, Moldova, Kazakhstan, but did not exceed 3.7%, and only for Russia reached 29%. The share of agricultural exports in total exports to Armenia and Georgia did not fall below 30%, to Israel and Kyrgyzstan – 24%, and its maximum values exceeded half of exports for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Israel, Montenegro, Switzerland, 65% for Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Israel and Montenegro, which confirms the growth of the importance of the agricultural sector.

In addition, the import of agri-food products by countries with which free trade agreements are in force (for 2020 with the EU-28, but without Russia) increased 2.8 times, and its share in world imports decreased from 54.5% (1992) to 41.3% (2017). The same trend continues taking into account Russia, in particular, the increase was 2.8 times, and the share decreased from 58.1% (1992) to 43.2% (2017). Most of all, imports were increased by Azerbaijan, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Norway, Canada, Belarus, North Macedonia, Israel, Armenia, Iceland, but no more than 3.8 times (Iceland), although this figure was less than for the world, the EU-28 and Russia (3.7 times, 2.7 and 1.9 times, respectively). However, the main importers among them are the EU, Canada, Russia, Switzerland, Norway, Israel, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Georgia, so taking into account these features, trends and the existence of free trade agreements, it is necessary to increase exports. In addition, the imports of these countries without the EU and Russia increased 3.8 times, and their share in world imports varied from 4.8 to 5.4% (and with Russia by 3.0 times, and the share in fluctuated between 6.9% (1999) – 8.8% (1992).

The trade balance of Ukraine during 2001-2018 was positive only until 2005 and 2015, and generally varied in the range of USD -18496.1 million up to USD 3,669.4 million, and it was constantly positive with Moldova, Israel, Georgia, Armenia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, and negative with Russia, Norway, Iceland. In trade with Belarus, Switzerland, Canada, and Turkmenistan, the indicator was mostly negative, while with Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, North Macedonia, and Montenegro – it was positive. In trade with Kazakhstan, the balance was negative, except for 2004-2005, 2010-2015, and 2017.

The complementarity index indicates that there are prospects for the development of cooperation between Ukraine and countries with which free trade agreements are planned and already concluded, and other major exporters, as well as Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iran, and these countries have a significant demand for agri-food products, which occupy almost half (40-50%) of Ukraine's exports. Therefore, there are prospects for developing cooperation and trade with these countries, which can be facilitated by the conclusion of an RTA with a precise settlement of trade policy issues on mutually beneficial terms for all parties.

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Регіональні торговельні угоди України: реалії та перспективи

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Анотація. Укладання регіональних торговельних угод збільшило до сотень. Переваги інтеграції, побоювання протекціонізму з боку країн, які об'єднуються та інші фактори сприяють даному процесу. Україною укладено угоди більш ніж з 40 країнами, причому і з інтеграційними угрупованнями. Тому метою роботи є виявлення особливостей її угод, перспектив їх розвитку та підписання нових. Варто проаналізувати укладання угод в історичному аспекті, виходячи з рівня їх економічного розвитку, зовнішньої торгівлі, рівня комплементарності торгівлі, окреслити можливості розвитку. Тому застосовувались загальнонаукові та спеціальні методи, зокрема історичний, аналізу та синтезу, економічного аналізу, табличний та ін. Використовувались дослідження вчених; статистичні дані Центру міжнародної торгівлі, Продовольчої та сільськогосподарської організації ООН (ФАО); міжнародні договори та нормативно-правові документи. Відповідно до аналізу укладання угод пропонується розділити їх на два періоди: до та після 2000 р. У першому їх підписували в основному з країнам, що розвиваються і ближнього зарубіжжя, а у другому – з розвиненими країнами дальнього зарубіжжя. Спочатку партнерами були переважно країни СНД, потім – Європи, а пізніше – інших регіонів, проте спостерігались і дезінтеграційні процеси з країнами Прибалтики. Встановлено, що угоди мають свої особливості щодо надання сприятливого режиму, електронної комерції та ін. Запропоновано ризики інтеграції поділяти на передбачувані та непередбачувані. Виявлено основних імпортерів усієї та агропродовольчої продукції серед країн з якими укладено угоди. Експорт до них переважно зростає, а також – частка агропродовольчої продукції. Торговельне сальдо, невисока частка у експорті України вказують на доцільність розвитку торгівлі. Розрахунок індексу комплементарності дозволяє прогнозувати перспективи розвитку відносин з країнами, з якими планується та вже укладено угоди і основними імпортерами світового ринку. Результати вказують на перспективи розвитку торгівлі, але це залежатиме від змісту угод, конкурентоспроможності продукції та ін.

Ключові слова: міжнародна економічна інтеграція, угода про вільну торгівлю, зовнішня торгівля, комплементарність, експорт