

European and International Law Master Programme Development in Eastern Europe



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## EU ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS: THE CASE OF UKRAINE

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The Union may conclude with one or more third countries or international organisations agreements establishing an association involving reciprocal rights and obligations, common action and special procedure (Article 217 of the TFEU. Formerly Article 238 of the TEC)

- The legal basis for their conclusion is Article 217 TFEU (ex Article 310 TEC);
- Intention to establish close economic and political cooperation (more than simple cooperation);
- Creation of paritary bodies for the management of the cooperation, competent to take decisions that bind the contracting parties;
- Offering Most Favoured Nation treatment;
- Providing for a privileged relationship between the European Union and its partner;
- Since 1995 the clause on the respect of human rights and democratic principles is systematically included and constitutes an essential element of the agreement;
- In a large number of cases, the association agreement replaces a cooperation agreement thereby intensifying the relations between the partners

(Criteria of the EU External Action Service <a href="http://eeas.europa.eu/association/">http://eeas.europa.eu/association/</a>)

#### **Concepts of Association**

#### CUSTOMS UNION (Manfred Fitz)

LIMITED MEMBERSHIP TO THE ECONOMIC UNION WITHOUT POLITICAL MEMBERSHIP

(Hallstein's Memoranda) TRANSITIONAL FORM OF COOPERATION

> (Birkelbach Report)

#### Ratio behind (prospective) Association

Eurosphere (ACP, Central America, Chile, South Africa, Mercosur)

> Greater Europe (Middle East, North Africa, Russia)

> Wider Europe (Balkan states, Belarus, Moldova Transcaucasia States, Turkey)

> > EU

Interstate cooperation

Interstate cooperation with limited integration

Deeper integration with the prospective of EU membership

# **UKRAINE'S INTEGRATION PROCESS**

**Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (1994) Common Strategy on Ukraine (1999)**  Joint EU–Ukraine Action Plan (2005) EU Eastern Partnership (2009) EU-Ukraine Association Agenda (2009) **Action Plan for Visa-Free Agreement (2010)** EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (2014)

### EU-UKRAINE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

**POLITICAL PART** (signed on March 21, 2014)

- Political dialogue;
- Justice, freedom and security;
  ECONOMIC PART (signed on June 27, 2014)
- Trade and trade-related matters;
- Economic and sector cooperation;
- Financial cooperation.

# **POLITICAL PART**

- Development of political dialogue;
- Strengthening democracy and the rule of law;
- Convergent defence and security policy;
- Reform of judiciary and combating corruption;
- Combating illegal migration and human trafficking;
- Cooperation in combating international crime, money laundering and terrorism;
- Implementation of visa free regime.

## ECONOMIC PART

#### Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area

- Liberalization of movement of goods, services, capitals and partial liberalization of movement of persons;
  - Adoption of EU trade regulations into the Ukrainian legislation;
- Adoption of the EU standards in public procurement and competition policy;
- Elimination of technical barriers;
- **Implementation of the EU Policies**
- Implementation of the EU customs policies;
  - Implementation of the EU energy, transport, environmental,
  - industrial, agricultural, taxation, tourism and audiovisual policies;
  - Deep cooperation in healthcare, scientific, educational and cultural matters.

# RATIFICATION AND ENTRY INTO FORCE

- Ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the European Parliament on September 16, 2014;
- Ratified by Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Slovakia;
- Will enter into force upon ratification by 28 EU-Members, European Parliament and the Euroatom.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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