## TRADE INTEGRATION AS THE OPTIMIZATION TOOL FOR UKRAINE COOPERATION WITH THE EU

## Summary

At present, Ukraine needs to build an effective regional development model, in particular by taking advantage of the capabilities of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) between Ukraine and the EU. The implementation of the DCFTA offers new economic benefits to Ukraine and the EU. The paper presents statistical indicators of EU-Ukraine trade since 2014, which confirm the key role of the EU in bilateral trade of Ukraine with the EU. The main positive effects and challenges of DCFTA functioning by interest groups are presented.

<u>Keywords</u>: business, European Commission (EC), European Union (EU), Association Agreement (AA), Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), bilateral trade, trade integration.

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