III міжнародна науково-практична конференція учених та студентів
«Цифрова економіка як фактор інновацій та сталого розвитку суспільства»

6-7 грудня 2022 р

## *Секція 1. Теоретичні та прикладні аспекти розвитку цифрової економіки*

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## SMART COOPERATION OF EUROPEAN CLUSTERS IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE: PARTNERSHIP FOR BUSINESS INTEGRATION AND RECOVERY

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## SMART СПІВРОБІТНИЦТВО ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКИХ КЛАСТЕРІВ ДЛЯ ПІДТРИМКИ УКРАЇНИ: ПАРТНЕРСТВО ДЛЯ БІЗНЕС-ІНТЕГРАЦІЇ

Nine months of Russian military aggression against Ukraine demonstrated the indomitable spirit and unprecedented unity of Ukrainians not only on all fronts of hostilities, but also in all spheres of business and humanitarian activity to support the defense stability of our army and the unity of business-government-local communities for a joint victory over the enemy. In view of this cohesion and stability in countering the enemy, the international business community of many countries of the European Union demonstrates its support and willingness to help in the recovering of Ukraine.

***The purpose*** of the article is to systematize scientific approaches to applying and deepening  the policy of smart cooperation and cluster EU-UA interaction for the recovery  of the Ukrainian economy during and after the war.

In the EU in 2018, new directions of cluster policy were presented, which were announced e.g. under the cohesion policy for 2021-2027. These include: greater support for the creation of pan-European clusters in priority areas for the economy (big data technology, bioeconomy, resource efficiency, access to internet -based mobility or advanced production technologies) (European Commission 2018) [1].

The Ukrainian Cluster Alliance (UCA) is a multi-sector nationwide union of enterprises, business associations, clusters and cluster organizations of Ukraine that strive to increase their competitiveness by implementing the principles of cluster cooperation, industrial, digital and green automation innovations and effective interaction with the state. UCA is the leading and largest formal association of the cluster movement of economic clusters of Ukraine - currently the Alliance includes 48 clusters and cluster-type associations. UCA was founded on March 24, 2022 on the basis of the *Clusters4Ukraine* initiative, which emerged from the cluster committee of the Industrial and Hi-Tech Sector Platform *Industry4Ukraine* [2].

In June 2022, the Ukrainian government published a recovery plan for the country. Besides the main lines for rebuilding Ukraine, it describes economic challenges in energy, infrastructure, manufacturing, logistics, and closer business relations with the European Union. In this context, the *European Cluster Collaboration Platform*, on behalf of the European Commission, DG GROW, organized the EU Clusters Talk "Ukraine: How can clusters support business integration and recovery?" on 19 October 2022, to learn about the Ukrainian recovery plan, discuss project proposals with Ukrainian partners, and speak about collaboration opportunities between Ukrainian and European businesses and clusters [3].

Ukrainian clusters and business have affirmed their economic capacities and their willingness to work on integrated UA – EU value chains. Ukraine can hold interesting business opportunities for European enterprises and clusters. The development and application of digital

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platforms for cluster interaction of Ukrainian business structures with network structures and clusters in EU member states, digital tools for smart partnership and convergence of local, cross-border and international innovation clusters will contribute to strengthening national security and defense capability of the Ukrainian economy.

**Literature**

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