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**CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE LEGAL SUPPORT
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
CARPATHIAN EUROREGION**

In this article were analyzed the main international legal instruments, aimed at sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, legal regulation, sustainable development, Carpathian Euroregion.*

The relations between Ukraine and European Union are strategic for both, which largely depends on mending of cross-border cooperation in Europe that is traditionally perceived as competence of regional and local authorities, and is reflected in the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities in 1980.

According to the Article 2 of the document, ‘cross-border cooperation’ means any mutual actions directed on strengthening and deepening good neighborly relations among territorial communities and authorities, that are under the jurisdiction of two or more Contracting Parties and on conclusion of any necessary treaties or arrangements. The cross-border cooperation is carried within the ambit of territorial communities and authorities defined by domestic legislation.

For these goals there are Euroregions in Europe, that function as a form of cross-border cooperation, which promote not only strengthening and deepening of good neighborly relations, but act as a kind of instrument for European integration of any country. This is especially important for Ukraine in due to recent extension of the EU.

The Euroregions can also be considered as a possible means of regulation territorial problems of the two countries, as they relieve

tension regarding possible territorial claims. In addition, this format of cooperation allows solving problems related to the position of national minorities, which is kind of proving ground for approbation of unified legislation of different countries and legal systems.

To increase the efficiency of cross-border cooperation primarily by optimizing management is designed indexing system and monitoring of cross-border cooperation in Europe (ISM) as a complex of theoretical, organizational and practical measures to ensure the correct analysis and comparison of common and distinguishing features as well as the development tendencies of cross-border cooperation in various regions of Europe. ISM is an universal model of analysis and optimization control of cross-border cooperation each of on the new eastern border in general, and in its individual segments.

Ukraine signed the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities and gradually is increasing the experience of functioning European regions in the country. In 1993 Ukraine began creation of the first Carpathian Euroregion, that consists of four regions of Ukraine (Transcarpathia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi regions) and boundary regions of Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania. From an economic point of view, it is precisely the Euroregion is the most perspective.

A series of projects of transboundary character were implemented during the existence of “Carpathian Euroregion”. There are four projects, which act within in the framework of the Neighborhood “Ukraine-Slovakia-Hungary” and are financed from Transcarpathian region on 2.75 million euro, namely: “Development of Beregovo transboundary polder system in Tisza river basin” - 0,72 million euro, “Clean Water” - 0.6 million euro, “Cross-border development opportunities of logistics” - 0.54 million, “Improving cross-border road traffic through the construction of a bypass road around Beregovo” - 0.9 million. Within this programme in region will be implemented 6 projects jointly with Hungarian partners.

As V. Hymynets notes, the most important for the Carpathian Euroregion is the cooperation with the European Union and usage of opportunities associated with this collaboration. The realization

of the concept of sustainable development, on his opinion, will promote the practical implementation of the basic principles of national environmental policy in the context of economic and social development of Ukraine and its integration into the European Union. The intense interest in the EU, he explains, appeared when the delegation from Euroregion Meuse-Rhine arrived on the territory of Carpathian region. It was for the first time when Western European and Eastern European Euroregions began to cooperate. Nowadays it's the most important Western European partner for the Carpathian Euroregion.

The cross-border cooperation programme on the external border of the EU in boundary line of Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine supports economic and social development, people to people cooperation and helps to build strong borders and solve common tasks (environmental defense, flood protection, protection from disasters, and fight against organized crime). These tasks lie in the base of sustainable development, which should be built due to proper legal maintenance of all elements of regional development - economic, social and environmental.

It should be noted that today the legal groundwork of development the Carpathian Euroregion are: the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities Declaration of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, "Cooperation of peoples inhabiting the territory of the Carpathian Euroregion" Agreement about creation of the Interregional Association "Carpathian Euroregion", Charter of the Interregional Association "Carpathian Euroregion" and other instruments, that determine development perspectives of cross-border cooperation.

At the same time, it should be noted the presence of a series of international legal instruments, the direct object of which is the maintenance of sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion. In particular, on 26-28 October 2010 during the 19th session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, Resolution 315 (2010) about "Sustainable development of mountain regions and experience of the Carpathian Mountains" was adopted, which explains

that most of mountain regions in Europe are peripheral areas, where weather conditions are severe. This situation requires the elaboration of special, complex and comprehensive policy to guarantee the population the right to live and work in mountains for saving their habitat and living level abreast of rural and urban areas. In accordance, the elaboration of policy should include the basic elements of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. At that, the social cohesion should be in centre of this policy because it will allow responding to the challenges relative to the necessity to maintain employment, the provision of basic services and for the record of demographic changes. Another focal point of this policy has also to become the protection and development of cultural and linguistic heritage of European mountain regions, ensuring respect and preservation of social and cultural identity and traditions.

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe encourages by this document also local and regional authorities, in particular, local and regional authorities in the Carpathian Mountains to:

a. implement effective regional governance, emerging from an overall vision of the future of the massif mass, which extends beyond the administrative and geographical boundaries, observing the principle of subsidiarity;

b. encourage the participation of local in decision-making, particularly in relation to spatial planning, protection and utilization of natural resources of the mountains;

c. recognize that environmental sustainability and sustainable development of mountain regions can not be achieved in isolation but require enlargement and deepening of formal and informal cross-border and interregional cooperation. Regional authorities should encourage the cross-border cooperation and interaction, using the experience and the best practice in this field;

d. implement practical politics to combating against social isolation in these sparsely populated areas, taking into account the problems of migration, especially migration of young people and the necessity to maintain essential services;

e. stimulate the economy and improve the situation in the employment field due to encouraging and financial support of development of such activities, which ensures sustainable utilization of natural resources that are located in mountainous regions, as well as stable tourism and renewable energy;

f. to the full, usage the potential of Information and Communication Technologies for support of local services, including administrative, educational, medical and social services.

The particular attention in the Resolution is focused on Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, which is an important basis for the future development of the region and includes obligations of the parties regarding a comprehensive policy and collaboration for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians the purpose of which is improving quality of life, strengthening of local economies and communities, and conservation of natural values and cultural heritage.

Thus, today the cohort of international legal acts generated on the European regional level, which in successful realization at national level in Ukraine should promote the development of effective policies for ensure sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion.