

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Modern foreign policy of Belgium in the European direction.

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Relevance of the research issue is determined by the fact that external relations of the Belgian regions in the system of European relations are becoming increasingly important in the integration processes of the countries members of the EU and objective difficulties, which they are accompanied. Thanks to the joint efforts of cross-border cooperation in the second half of the twentieth century were able to develop and start the implementation of international programmes such as INTERREG (TRANS-European cooperation for balanced development), the program Euro-region and Permanent cross-border inter-municipal conference (COPIT). The need for the development of these programs was directly related to some inhibition of cross-border contacts in the absence of commonly understood and effective legal framework that is not contrary to the domestic law of participating countries.

The case of Belgium in the context of this research issue was chosen for several reasons.

First, Belgium is a multinational state in Central Europe, which is still disagreement on a national basis represent an acute problem.

Secondly, Belgium is one of the founding countries of the EU, which from the first days of the formation of the European Union defended the principle of European integration, seeing it as one of the outputs of the political and national crisis with which the country cannot overcome. When the participating countries, the EU has embarked on the development of cross-border cooperation, Belgium and its regions and communities that actively responded to this initiative, seeing in it a real instrument for the settlement of internal political, economic and, most importantly, national problems.

The purpose to identify key features of the formation of foreign policy of Belgium, as well as guidelines and instruments for implementation of foreign policy in the European Union.

Research objectives:

- to identify the conceptual basis for the formation of foreign policy decisions in the European Union;
- to determine the specificity of formation of the foreign policy of Belgium;
- to systematize key directions and initiatives of the modern politics of Belgium in the European Union;
- to reveal the specifics of foreign policy activity of the Belgian regions of Flanders and Walloon region.

Scientific novelty:

- it is highlighted the major initiatives of the Kingdom of Belgium in the European Union;
- it is systematized in detail dynamics of the external relations of the Belgian regions on a tiered basis: bilateral cross-border cooperation, multilateral cross-border cooperation, cross-border cooperation in the framework of international organizations;
- based on the concept of evolution strategy in global politics the author's approach was offered to the definition of the strategic orientations of the leading EU member States.

Structure: two chapters, six paragraphs, the conclusion, bibliography list of used literature from 116 sources, including 74 sources in foreign languages. The total volume is 74 pages.

Summary: External relations of the Belgian regions in the system of European relations are becoming increasingly important in the integration processes of the countries members of the EU and objective difficulties, which they are accompanied.

In particular, it is about enhancing the role of cross-border cooperation between the European countries at the regional level (on the example of multinational Belgium) as a instrument to overcome the current global crisis.

A fundamentally new dimension of cross-border cooperation received in the second half of the twentieth century as part of the development of integration processes of Western European countries have attempted to develop political and legal framework to promote a more harmonious cross-border cooperation. In this regard, a major role was played by the Council of Europe, institutions, and EU structural funds. Thanks to the joint efforts of the actors of cross-border cooperation in the second half of the twentieth century were able to develop and start the implementation of international programmes such as INTERREG (TRANS-European cooperation for balanced development), the program Euro-region and Permanent cross-border inter-municipal conference (COPIT).

The need for the development of these programs was directly related to some inhibition of cross-border contacts in the absence of commonly understood and effective legal framework that is not contrary to the domestic law of participating countries.

In addition, Belgium is a multinational state in Central Europe, which is still disagreement on a national basis represent an acute problem.

Belgium is one of the founding countries of the EU, which from the first days of the formation of the European Union defended the principle of European integration, seeing it as one of the outputs of the political and national crisis with which the country cannot overcome.

When the participating countries, the EU took a course on the development of cross-border cooperation, Belgium and its regions and communities have responded to this initiative, seeing in it a real instrument for the settlement of internal political, economic and, most importantly, national problems.