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**TRENDS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRIES AND UKRAINE**

Taranenko Anna

Associate Professor of International Relations
and Tourism Department,

Candidate of Political Science (PhD),

Kyiv International University

Annotation: There is considerable potential for Ukraine's cooperation with Latin American countries. Ukraine needs to further strengthen its cooperation with the countries of Latin America and Caribbean Basin, in particular, regional leaders and states with considerable Ukrainian diaspora, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru. Ukraine also needs to pay attention to international organizations of the region such as OAS, CELAC, PROSUR, MERCOSUR, Pacific Alliance and Latin American Parliament.

Key words: Ukraine, Latin America and Caribbean Basin, international integration, Argentina, Brazil, international organizations, CELAC, PROSUR, MERCOSUR, Pacific Alliance

Latin America is one of the world regions that demonstrates dynamic economic and social growth. Latin America is one of the world's most urbanized fastest developing regions [1, p. 1]. Since the end of the Cold War, Latin American countries have been moving toward the concepts of multidimensional security and security of the individual and society, and away from the classical understanding of the security dilemma posed by an external threat to the state [2, p. 1]. The three largest countries, which account for almost two-thirds of the region's GDP - Argentina, Brazil and Mexico - are in G20, thereby these same countries belong to the group of «New Industrialized Countries» (NIC) characterized by high rates of economic growth [3, p.

24]. Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries are extremely rich in natural resources, especially minerals: the region is the 2nd largest in the world in terms of total oil reserves, and the 1st one in terms of superheavy oil, most of which is concentrated in the Orinoco Belt: (Venezuela, Brazil, Guyana, Mexico, Colombia) [3, p. 24]. In terms of aggregate economic potential, the region ranks third in the world after the United States of America and China [3, p. 24].

Ukraine has traditionally underestimated the potential of the Latin American region for its national interests and foreign policy. Given the current rate of LAC countries development, Ukraine needs to further strengthen cooperation with them. Ukraine's development of relations with the states in the region encourages identification of top priority groups of states in terms of diplomatic and economic cooperation advancement, in particular Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia and Chile [3, p. 27]. Thereby it is also advisable to pay attention to international organizations of the region, in particular, the Organization of American States (OAS), Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), Latin American Parliament, Pacific Alliance, Forum for the Progress and Development of South America (PROSUR), Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). Strengthening Ukraine's political and economic position in the LAC region should be seen as a strategic goal and it is necessary to significantly enhance Ukraine's information presence there [3, p. 27].

Ukraine is making efforts to enhance relations with regional leaders in Latin America. Argentina was the first Latin American country to recognize Ukraine's independence and in 2014 the Friendship Group with Ukraine was established in the Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine National Congress [4, p. 1]. In terms of trade development, the main export items are fertilizers, ferrous metals and machinery, while the main import items are fish, crustaceans, seeds, oleaginous fruits, tobacco and its substitutes [4, p. 1].

Regarding Ukraine's relations with Brazil, the latter recognized Ukraine as early as December 26, 1991 and diplomatic relations were established on February

11, 1992 [5, p. 1]. On April 23, 2014 the Commission on Foreign Affairs and National Defense of the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress of Brazil adopted a resolution in support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity [5, p. 1]. «Brazil-Ukraine» Parliamentary Group was formed in the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress of Brazil [5, p. 1]. President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky discussed a number of economic issues and initiatives with President of Brazil Jair Bolsonaro during his working visit to Japan, and the parties stressed that they wanted to expand trade between the countries [6, p. 1]. The parties also discussed the prospects of cooperation in space activities, in particular the Ukrainian party suggested restarting a joint space project using the Alcantara Launch Center [6, p. 1]. In terms of overall Ukraine's cooperation with the countries of the region, it is recommendable to create a number of electronic Spanish and Portuguese-language news portals, blogs, social networks groups; new contacts should be established with mass media in the region [3, p. 27].

As a conclusion, it should be noted that there is considerable potential for Ukraine's cooperation with Latin American countries. Ukraine needs to further strengthen its cooperation with the countries of Latin America and Caribbean Basin, in particular, regional leaders and states with large Ukrainian diaspora, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru. Ukraine also needs to pay attention to international organizations of the region such as OAS, CELAC, PROSUR, MERCOSUR, Pacific Alliance and Latin American Parliament.

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