## ROUTES TO A RESILIENT EUROPEAN UNION, EDITED BY ANTONINA BAKARDJIEVA ENGELBREKT, PER EKMAN, ANNA MICHALSKI, AND LARS OXELHEIM. PALGRAVE MACMILLAN, CHAM. XI, 262 pp.

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## Abstract

At the present stage of geopolitical confrontation, the resilience of the political system of the EU is based on the position that the formation of a single social and institutional space allows EU member states to compete more successfully within the global economic system. In the practice of supranational regulation of economic integration, a set of methodological approaches has developed today, where the central place is occupied by the principles of removing barriers to trade within the integration bloc and to the implementation of agreed economic specialization. The most important competitive advantage of regional economic integration is the growth of the global competitiveness of the most efficient enterprises and sectors of the economy of the EU member states due to the spatial expansion of sales markets and the growth of trade.

This book summarizes that the only way to integrate in the current conditions remains integration at different speeds, with an individual approach to each new participating country. The end result of the concept of Europe at different speeds is the accession of all participating countries to the leading group, since all members of the integration group pursue common goals and wish to achieve them by common efforts. The sooner all participating countries find themselves in the same plane of economic and political coordinates, the sooner the set goals will be achieved and key tasks will be solved.

Keywords: European Union Politics, Societal Resilience, European labour markets, Ageing in Europe, EU Climate Policy, Coronavirus 19 Pandemics.

The resilient effect of the considered factors led to the creation of the EU, which is a key actor in the global market. At present, the EU is a single market space functioning through a common supranational system of institutional regulation of the processes of social and economic sustainable development. As the main feature of the European

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experience of foreign economic integration, one can single out the fact that, on the basis of the initial coordination of trade policy measures, integration in the political, social and other spheres has become largely possible. It should also be noted the diversity of trade regulation tools in the EU and the presence of certain specifics of their application in relation to certain groups of countries, including new member countries.

The integration process, according to the theory of the security community, takes place in the economic plane, including certain stages of economic integration, starting with the customs union and ending with monetary and political unions. Within the framework of this theory, the issues of improving integration mechanisms are put on the agenda in order to equitably distribute not only certain benefits received by the participants in the integration process, but also various kinds of costs that arise for states in connection with the entry into new political and economic realities caused by integration. The relevance of this problem is due to the fact that the integration of states is considered by various experts as a dual phenomenon, containing both positive and negative consequences for the countries participating in this process. The most common view is that developed countries often experience negative consequences from integration with less developed countries. While the latter, in turn, benefit from rapprochement with more economically successful countries. However, today there is still no consensus on this issue, which remains open and is of interest for study in the framework of the study of the mechanisms, ways and processes of integration, takes place in the economic plane, including certain stages of economic integration, starting with the customs union and ending with monetary and political unions. Within the framework of this theory, the issues of improving integration mechanisms are put on the agenda in order to equitably distribute not only certain benefits received by the participants in the integration process, but also various kinds of costs that arise for states in connection with the entry into new political and economic realities caused by integration. The relevance of this problem is due to the fact that the integration of states is considered by various experts as a dual phenomenon, containing both positive and negative consequences for the countries participating in this process. The most common view is that developed countries often experience negative consequences from integration with less developed countries. While the latter, in turn, benefit from rapprochement with more economically successful countries. However, today there is still no consensus on this issue, which remains open and is of interest for study in the framework of the study of the mechanisms, ways and processes of integration.

Current trends in the economic development of the EU countries are largely determined by the processes of expanding and deepening the integration process in Europe, including in the field of domestic trade. Despite the principle of homogeneity that determines the regulation of the European economic space, which involves minimizing disproportions in the social and economic development of the leading EU countries and new member countries. In this context, the lines of the European center and periphery were formed (Bakardjieva Engelbrekt, Ekman, Michalski and Oxelheim 2022). Nevertheless, the study of the achievements of European integration and the experience of trade relations within the bloc is of great interest and is of scientific importance as a source of practical experience for the theoretical substantiation of the formation of the trade policy of the EaP countries in the context of expanding political,

social and economic integration processes. The need to improve the mechanisms of European political and economic integration actualizes the importance of a detailed study of modern world practice and adaptation to the post-Soviet specifics of the most effective instruments of foreign trade regulation in the form of a wide range of tariff and non-tariff measures. It is important that the EU, despite the aggravation of the foreign policy situation, remains the main trading partner of the EaP countries and the prospects for EU enlargement will certainly affect the structure of foreign trade between Russia and Turkey. Based on this, there is a need to study the trends and contradictions in the development of foreign trade relations of the new EU member states as a factor in the expansion of European integration (Elert and Henrekson 2022, 15-38; Bäckstrand 2022, 39-61).

In the era of global geopolitical changes, tense geo-economic situation, the viability of the EU will primarily be determined by the consistency of the processes of deepening and expanding integration, as well as the rational use of the concepts of 'center and periphery', as well as different-speed development, which ensure a balance within the integration bloc in the conditions of modern realities, due to historical background (Langlet 2022, 63-88). From the point of view of the geography of commodity flows, a certain asymmetric exchange is taking place: the 'old' countries of Western Europe, accepting 'new' EU member states on tough conditions, are expanding markets for their industrial products and high-tech services. For the population of the new EU member states, cheap consumer loans are considered as advantages, and for businesses, targeted investments in industries chosen by the EU governing bodies, as well as external effects from the implementation of infrastructure projects by Western European companies (Bengtsson 2022, 89-113; Mattsson 2022, 115-139).

A significant contradiction of the change in foreign trade specialization and the geography of commodity flows in Europe for the old EU members was the unlimited migration of labor within a single space. The unemployed citizens of the new EU member states work as unskilled specialists and laborers in the 'old' countries and transfer part of their earnings to their homeland. At present, the functioning of the pan-European labor market according to a similar scheme is causing increasing concern in the context of the admission of new candidate countries to the EU and the wave of refugees from the Middle East and Africa.

The development of the world economy remains a topical issue of transforming the sovereignty of states participating in the processes of globalization and integration. In particular, this problem is acute for the EU integration bloc, whose member countries transfer their powers to the supranational level. At the same time, there is an opinion according to which EU members do not renounce sovereignty, but only on the basis of their own decision in their own interests, they undertake to submit to EU institutions. At the same time, EU members implement the idea of united sovereignties, that is, they have the ability to control and jointly determine the decision-making process within the EU (Borevi, 195-218; Sjödin and Wadensjö 2022, 219-244). Further, in connection with the natural formation of influential elites, groups and the allocation of individual significant personalities within the European Communities, a political science approach to the study of the integration process in Europe was formed. Gradually, during the transformation of this theory, political and economic groups, social elites and individuals

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come to the fore as the main actors (Forssbæck 2022, 141-167; Bergström 2022, 169-193). Thus, the mechanism, degree and depth of integration are determined by the actors of the integration process and their political culture.

The theoretical significance of this book is to identify new trends in the political, social, trade and economic interaction of 'old' and 'new' EU member states. In this sense, the following are important: 1) in the theoretical substantiation of the consequences of EU enlargement for the foreign trade of Russia and Turkey; 2) in deepening knowledge about the theoretical aspects of European integration; 3) the main scientific conclusions can become the basis for further research into the forms and mechanisms of formation and regulation of foreign trade relations of countries within the integration bloc in the context of globalization.

The practical significance of this work lies in the fact that the theoretical substantiation of the resilient consequences of the EU enlargement for the foreign trade of the EaP countries is the basis for developing a system of practical recommendations for maximizing the positive and minimizing the negative consequences for the European integration of the EaP countries. In the context of the dynamics of the formation of a single European political, social and economic space, a comparative analysis is carried out and the main competitive advantages that form the strategic choice of potential EU member states are highlighted.

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