

ZEMĚDĚLSTVÍ UKRAINY NA CESTĚ DO NOVÉ STRATEGIE

AGRICULTURE OF UKRAINE: ON A WAY TO NEW STRATEGY

СІЛЬСЬКЕ ГОСПОДАРСТВО УКРАЇНИ: НА ШЛЯХУ ДО НОВОЇ СТРАТЕГІЇ

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Anotace:

V příspěvku je zdůrazněna nezbytnost vypracování nové strategie rozvoje zemědělství Ukrajiny. Je provedena analýza předchozích vypracovaných strategií. Jsou zde uvedeny souvislosti mezi paradigmatem, koncepcí a strategií. Struktura strategie je orientována na vstup do Evropské unie.

Klíčová slova:

Strategie, paradigma, koncepce, zemědělství, Ukrajina

Abstract:

The necessity of development of new Ukraine of agriculture strategy is well-proven. The analysis of previous attempts of development of strategy is done. Connection is marked between a paradigm, conception and strategy. The structure of strategy and orientation is offered on entering into European Union.

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Key words:

Strategy, paradigm, conception, agriculture, Ukraine

Анотація:

Обґрунтована необхідність розробки нової стратегії розвитку сільського господарства України. Зроблено аналіз попередніх спроб розробки стратегії. Зазначено зв'язок між парадигмою, концепцією та стратегією. Запропоновано структуру стратегії та її орієнтацію на вступ у Європейський Союз.

Ключові слова:

Стратегія, парадигма, концепція, сільське господарство, Україна

INTRODUCTION.

Ukraine is a large agricultural country, which has a considerable potential for its development. In the past it played a great role on the agricultural market of Europe. For a long time agriculture of Ukraine within the economic system of the former Soviet Union was isolated from the European agrarian market, free economy and private property. After receiving independence agriculture of Ukraine underwent systematic transformation. Slowly, but confidently it approaches market principles of free economy. The question 'what strategy of Ukraine's agriculture will be' is important for many European countries. But the most complicated it is for Ukrainian agriculture itself.

AIM AND METHODOLOGY.

The aim of this paper is to investigate strategic development of Ukrainian agriculture, main problems and contradictions, caused by forming such a strategy.

The investigations are based on author's investigating conditions and results of development of agrarian reforms and agrarian policy in Czech Republic,²⁰ participation in Pro UNO working groups and Ukrainian agrarian confederation drafting Conception of agrarian policy development,²¹ and on preparing documents concerning reforming the system of state support of agriculture and rural area.²²

RESULTS.

"... Completing the state of spontaneous social dynamics"²³ takes place in Ukraine. The formation of strategy of economic development is important for many reasons, especially taking into consideration harmful influence on the economy and its budget sector, the so-called 'political cycle of competition', determined by famous Polish economist L. Baltserovich. As he states, the influence of politics on economy is very negative, and prompts to "cyclic non-stability of the society, creates political cycle of competition" ("*political business cycle*")²⁴. During the last years home economy and state management felt harmful influence of "political cycles" and irrational system of state power. Another important condition of economic development, which has been recently consolidated by law, is the necessity to prognosticate state policy and economic regulation.²⁵

Institutional support and normative adoption of development strategy are known to be rather imperfect in Ukraine. That's why a great deal of problems of development depend not only on the force, that won the elections. Very often it depends on certain personalities and their vision of the future. The influence of business on politics is still substantial, we failed to avoid a lot of other negative influences (nepotism, corruption, pressure of criminals, etc.). But it is evident that to direct the development of economy to a certain strategic course is an objective necessity. It is also necessary to change agrarian policy, which in the full sense of the term only now began to form according to new principles.

Consistent and anticipated agrarian policy must be based on certain sources, heredity and systematic character, it can have such an hierarchy, in particular (Fig.1)

²⁰ Губені Ю. Е. Аграрна реформа в Чеській республіці: від «оксамитової революції» до європейської інтеграції. Приклад гідний наслідування. – Л.: Українські технології, 2002.

²¹ Draft Outline of Agricultural Policy Blueprint. – Kiev: UNDP CO & UAC, 2004

²² Про Основні засади реформування системи державної підтримки розвитку сільського господарства та сільської території / проект Указу Президента: матеріали Робочої групи – К.: 2006

²³ Жаліло Я. Економічна стратегія як категорія сучасної економічної науки // Економіка України, 2005, № 1, с.19

²⁴ Бальцерович Л. Свобода і розвиток. Економія вільного ринку. – Львів: Б-ка журналу "І", 2000, с. 34-36.

²⁵ Про засади державної регуляторної політики у сфері господарської діяльності Закон України від 11.09.2003 № 1160-IV / Відомості Верховної Ради, № 16, 2003

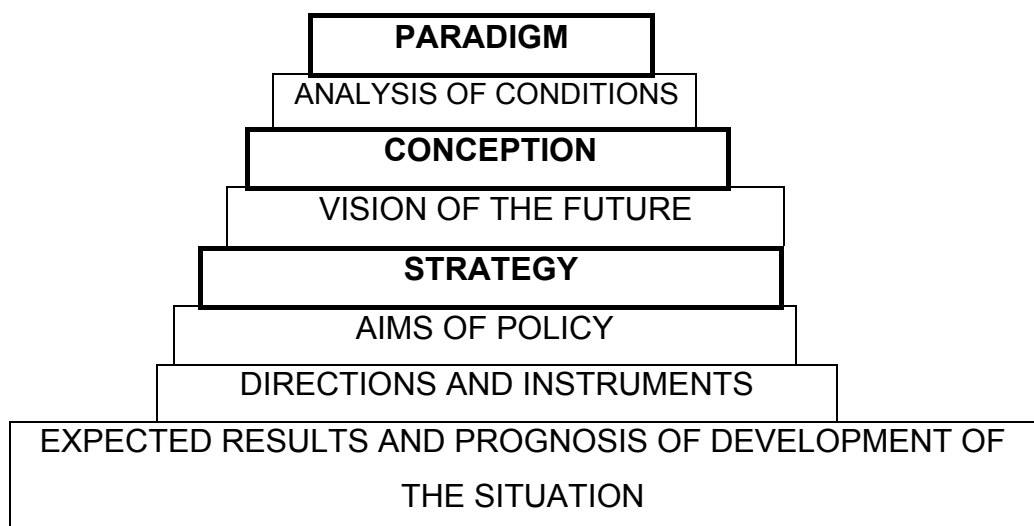


Fig.1. – **Scheme of forming the conception of strategic development of the agrarian policy – “Pyramid of policy”**

Almost all the former leaders of the agrarian branch of Ukraine admit in their own publications that not a single document has been officially adopted in Ukraine for a long time which would describe programmatic, conceptual or strategic directions of its development. In P. Sabluk's opinion, the absence of strategy causes that, "...one official builds people's capitalism, the second one builds state capitalism, and the third one builds socialism..."²⁶ I. Kyrylenko frankly indicates, that "...legal framework of reforms formed under the influence of emotions"²⁷. It is difficult to define the reasons that prompted to it.

The lack of proper skills, knowledge and practice definitely cannot be considered valid reasons, because the Soviet system of planning widely used strategic planning. On the other hand, the level of scientific researches and the number of specialists in strategic management (with foreign education including) is rather high. Maybe, in transition period many politicians considered vagueness "troubled waters" where they could fish better (*do sharp practice*). H. Kennedy, the head of British Council, mentioned: "Slow and indefinite transformations often are the source of their personal good, that's why they have no interest in the society reforming at a proper pace but existing in the state of vagueness, depending on these politicians".²⁸

One should be admonished of excessive attention to agrarian policy or agriculture strategy of development, in particular. Not branch but general economic policy has much greater influence on the state and development of agriculture. So, L. Baltserovich asserted, that "the situation with the agrarian branch first of all depends on the quality of the general economic policy, and only then – on "peculiarities of the branch policy".²⁹

A certain paradigm of the future for rural area and agriculture is known to form long before the strategy or its conception in the society. The paradigm reflects a certain system of opinions and assessments concerning more general and global changes. The paradigm is revealed in prevailing of a certain direction of the assessments, opinions and values and cannot be consolidated by a normative or programmatic document. It can be assumed that

²⁶ Саблук П. Т. Кардинальні напрями вирішення економічних проблем в АПК // Економіка АПК, № 5, 2005, с 4

²⁷ Кириленко І. Г. Аграрна реформа в Україні: надбання і проблеми // Економіка АПК, 2005, № 5, с. 10

²⁸ Кеннеді Гелена. Інвестори прийдуть лише до тієї країни, в якій поважають права людини / День, 2000, 26 квітня.

²⁹ Бальцерович Лешек. Свобода і розвиток. Економія вільного ринку. – Львів: Б-ка журналу "І", 2000, с. 154.

modern agriculture is formed on the principles of agro-business and environmental paradigms reflecting specific views on agriculture as central element of agro-business and on the village as environment with universal and specific functions. The main component of economic paradigm is to extend market regulation to agriculture production, including agrarian sphere into “normal” economy. It can be observed that in spite of steady traditions of paternalistic approach, considerable influence of residual planned and administrative mentality, particular attitude towards agriculture, agro-business orientation is clearly outlined in Ukraine.

Together with forming paradigm a certain conception of development of agriculture and of the village is also outlined in the society. As it is known, a conception, in general, is a systematic complex of opinions, notions, interpretations that helps to estimate and understand a certain phenomenon and its dynamics. A conception determines the expected direction of development, acceptable ways of regulation and influence, desirable results and strategic aim much more clearly than a paradigm. A conception is often taken as a certain project, a system of assessments for perceiving the future. Unlike a paradigm a conception usually has a documental registration, often as a necessary regulatory act. As a rule, the principal strategic aim, main and minor tasks are distinguished, certain stages and expected results for each of them are outlined in a conception. A conception determines the mission – vision of the future development in a laconic expression. “The strategy of economic and social development of Ukraine for 2004-2015” though well –developed but not realized definitely put a mission – “On the way to European integration”.³⁰ We cannot say that the task is “forgotten” or lost urgency, but it is irrefutable, that the new President and Government will try again to form a strategic plan of their own.

There were several attempts in Ukraine to work out a strategy of agrarian policy. Moreover, there are even too many, some of them are rather interesting according to the contents, direction and essence. However, they practically are not up to at least basic requirements:

- normative and legislative registration and approval;
- unity and integrity with the general transformation of economic system;
- resource provision and action plan available;
- exact and structurized summary, programmatic character.

Special emphasis should be made on legislative consolidation of strategies of agriculture development and development of the village. Without legislative consolidation any strategy or conception is only analytical and constructive research. After legalization of the document to be executed (Law, Resolution of the Government, etc.) the strategy becomes valid. Many countries have such an experience .

That’s why based on the results of researches, a variant of the structure of the Strategy of development of agriculture of Ukraine (Fig. 2). Herewith we proceed from the statement that the home economic system must integrate into the European Union, and the country itself – into Europe in the wide sense of this notion. But unfortunately this statement is rather disputable in Ukraine. In our opinion, deviation from European direction of development as well as the attempts to look for its own way, the so called “third way”, “middle way” are groundless. Their currency is proved theoretically and practically.³¹

However, as we have noted already in previous publications,³² before forming the strategy of development of agriculture substantiated answers must be given to such questions:

³⁰ Шляхом європейської інтеграції. Стратегія економічного та соціального розвитку України на 2004-2015роки. – К. ІВЦ Держкомстату, 2004

³¹ Тарасович В., В. Лебедєва В. Про цивілізаційні передумови інтеграційної політики України / Економіка України, 2006, № 3, с. 47-49

³² Губені Ю. Е. Трансформація аграрних відносин в Чехії: загальний огляд та можливі уроки для вітчизняної аграрної політики // Економіка України, 2005, № 6, с. 79-83

- what orientation agriculture should have (satisfaction of inner demands and forming food security or forming export potential- the so called granary of Europe);
- on what principles agriculture will work (limited protectionism of European type or liberalism of American type), what regulatory mechanisms will be herewith involved;
- what is the desired structure of agriculture (“European pattern” of family farm or “American pattern” of latifundium type) and the corresponding pattern of village settlements (agrarian village or multifunctional settlement);
- which structural, institutional and functional changes are desired and what resources the state is ready to provide for their support;
- what integration processes (in the direction of the European Union or Common Economic Area) dominate and influence agrarian policy.

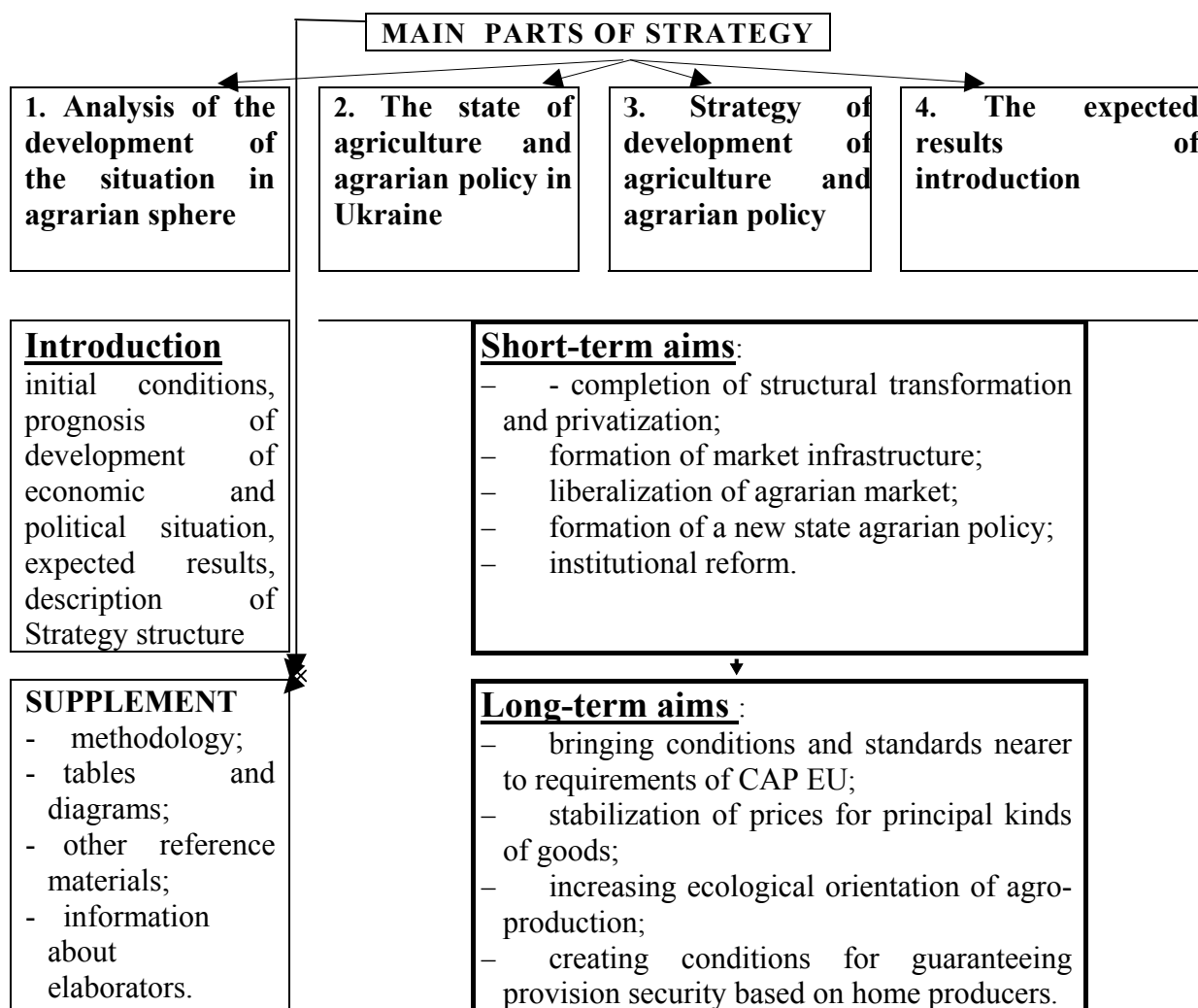


Fig. 2 – Draft structure of agriculture development for the period of preparation for joining the EU

CONCLUSION.

New political realities, new principles of forming government in Ukraine in particular, create preconditions for improving the situation. That's why the efforts of agrarian publicity, especially scientists, must be immediately directed to forming theoretical principles of the future agrarian policy. Because "...the experience of many countries in the world proves that

the first six months after... elections – are the most favorable period for successful introduction of the complex program of economic reforms.”³³

While elaborating the strategy of agriculture development the principles, methods, approved in other European countries should be used, wide public discussion should be promoted. The strategy of development of Ukraine's agriculture during preparation for joining the EU can become a base for wide scientific discussion and an argumentation of more profound and extensive scientific investigation.

Finally, the strategy of development of agriculture of Ukraine must receive legislative registration and further develop in governmental programmers and other normative documents.

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³³ Политэкономические параллели. – Украина и мир сегодня, № 41. – <http://www.harvard.kiev.ua>.