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REGIONAL ANTI-CRISIS POLICY IN THE CONDITION OF MACROECONOMIC INSTABILITY

In the article measures of the regional anti-crisis policy aimed at achieving the strategic goals of sustainable development of the state in the conditions of macroeconomic instability have been developed, based on the results of the analysis of the level of socio-economic development of the regions. The regional anti-crisis policy should be oriented towards the achievement of strategic goals of sustainable development of the State on the principles of reduction of interregional imbalance, decentralization and increase of competitiveness under the condition of ensuring socio-ecological and economic balance.

Key words: regional anti-crisis policy, regional development, anti-crisis management, interregional imbalance, macroeconomic instability, decentralization, regional competitiveness.

A. A. Олешко, О. І. Трохимець. Регіональна антикризова політика в умовах макроекономічної нестабільності

Негативні наслідки регіональних криз поширюються на національну економіку та призводять до просторової дестабілізації соціально-економічного розвитку країни. Низький рівень керованості регіональних кризових процесів призводить до поглиблення міжрегіональних диспропорцій, урбанізації та депопуляції сіл, еміграції робочої сили, браку фінансових ресурсів, невідповідності виробничої структури з постіндустріальними потребами суспільства. У цьому контексті в умовах макроекономічної нестабільності необхідним є вирішення проблеми ефективного державного антикризового управління з урахуванням особливостей соціально-економічного становища регіонів.

Метою статті є розробка теоретичних та практичних засад регіональної антикризової політики в умовах макроекономічної нестабільності.

Дослідження базується на економічному аналізі показників соціально-економічного розвитку / депресивності регіонів. У процесі розробки пріоритетів регіональної антикризової політики використано функціональний підхід.

У статті на основі результатів аналізу сучасного стану соціально-економічного розвитку регіонів виявлено регіони з випереджаючими темпами зростання та високим антикризовим потенціалом. Дослідження показали, що найбільш ефективним є використання превентивних методів антикризового управління, спрямованих на попередження кризових ситуацій, передбачення можливих негативних наслідків та їхнє усунення до моменту настання кризи.

Доведено, що регіональна антикризова політика повинна бути орієнтована на досягнення стратегічних цілей сталого розвитку держави, що передбачає зменшення міжрегіональних диспропорцій, децентралізацію та підвищення конкурентоспроможності за умови забезпечення соціо-еколого-економічного балансу.

Ключові слова: *регіональна антикризова політика, регіональний розвиток, антикризове управління, міжрегіональні диспропорції, макроекономічна нестабільність, децентралізація, регіональна конкурентоспроможність.*

Introduction. In the context of crisis processes escalation, the growth of their frequency, the depth of their running and the reduction of control make it necessary to form an effective anti-crisis policy at the national and regional levels.

Current issues of regional development arise (are connected), first of all, with the growing gap in the levels of social and economic development of the administrative and territorial units of Ukraine, urbanization and depopulation of villages, emigration of the labor force, lack of financial resources, noncompliance of the production structure with the post-industrial needs of the domestic and foreign markets, and weak public institutions (public authorities).

There are 64 indicators which are the criteria for the development / depression of the socio-economic status of the regions of Ukraine. These indicators are divided into 12 groups: «Economic and social unity», «Economic efficiency», «Investment and Innovation Development and Foreign Economic Cooperation», «Financial self-sufficiency», «Small and Middle Business Development», «Labor market efficiency», «Infrastructure Development», «Renewable energy and energy efficiency», «Access to education services and their quality», «Access to public health services and their quality», «Social protection and security», «Rational use of natural resources and quality of the environment» [4].

According to the results of the ranking of social and economic development of the regions conducted by the Ministry of Regional Development and Housing and Communal Services of Ukraine, in 2017 the five most developed regions included the city of Kyiv, and Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Rivne and Chernivtsi regions. The last five places took Luhansk, Donetsk, Mykolaiv, Odessa and Chernigov regions.

Significant erratically development of territories and the growth of interregional social and economic disproportions lead to regional crisis processes escalation. Regional crises deepen the gap in the indicators of Gross Domestic Product per capita between developed and depressed regions. Crisis phenomena cover all areas of life support of the region and may deepen as a result of ineffective state policies.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The following scientists devoted their scientific papers to the study of spatial development and its management within national economies:

W. Isard, V. Vorotin, Ya. Zhalilo, O. Granberg, P. Krugman, J. Harvey. Anti-crisis approaches to the regional development management are considered in the papers of M. Dolishniy, S. Gazarian, T. Zhelyuk, O. Tyshenko. The abovementioned research is a scientific basis for the formation of an integral system of the state anti-crisis management of regional development taking into account current situation.

Uninvestigated parts of general matters defining. Regional anti-crisis policy as a component of the state anti-crisis policy is characterized by certain features that determine peculiarities of regional development and mechanisms of crisis management. Firstly, regional development is closely related to the natural and climatic factor and depends on available raw materials and geopolitical location. Secondly of all, as a rule, regional economy, with the self-reproduction process, has a specialization based on the territorial division of labor and excludes the balance of the production structure that causes economic crises, especially in sector-specific regions. Thirdly, the regional social and economic system has a certain level of autonomy and financial independence and at the same time is a subsystem of the national economy, which requires the implementation of regional policy within the framework of the national strategy for sustainable development.

Obviously, the solution of the problems of the regions of Ukraine, taking into account the peculiarities of their development and the elimination of regional disparities in the conditions of global uncertainty and macroeconomic instability requires effective crisis management.

The aim of the article (the objective of the article) is to develop the theoretical and practical principles of regional anti-crisis policy in the conditions of macroeconomic instability, which involves the implementation of management decisions, priorities, methods and tools within the framework of the national strategy of the regional development.

Results. The reform of decentralization and local self-government and the reform of regional policy are integral parts of the Strategy for Sustainable Development «Ukraine – 2020» [6]. In the medium-term, the decentralization is going to be carried out, which involves the creation of a modern system of local self-government and territorial organization of governmental authorities taking into account Ukrainian peculiarities and traditions based on European values of the development of local democracy, formation of united territorial communities and ensuring adequate financing of their development [7].

The strategy of regional development of Ukraine for the period up to 2020, along with the increase of competitiveness and territorial social and economic integration and spatial development of regions, the strategic goal of the state regional policy is determined by the effective state administration in the field of regional development [5].

Obstacles to the implementation of the mentioned strategic imperatives of regional development are crisis phenomena and processes that are objectively presented in any social and economic system and, depending on the kind, have a certain level of controllability [2].

The criterion of depression of member countries of the EU is the value of GDP per capita – below 75 %. Ukrainian scientists recommend to implement the mentioned approach to the regions of Ukraine [1]. 16 regions of Ukraine had gross regional product (GRP) per capita below 75 % of the average in Ukraine in 2016 (excluding the Crimea and part of the occupied territories). Moreover, the ratio between the maximum value of GRP per capita in Kyiv (UAH 191736) and the minimum - Chernivtsi region (UAH 23365) was 8.2 times.

The reduction of the gap in the levels of economic growth of the depressed regions of Ukraine is possible to the outperforming growth rates of the GRP and the population's

disposable income. In the crisis period, a new background of the preconditions for further economic development is formed, therefore, the depth of the economic downturn and the rate of transition of regions of Ukraine to positive macroeconomic dynamics is one of the basic characteristics of a successful post-crisis recovery of the regional social and economic system.

Ranking of the regions of Ukraine at outperforming economic growth makes it possible to identify regions of Ukraine with a high level of anti-crisis potential and real opportunities to overcome depressive trends. In this regard, the outperforming growth of depressed territories and ensuring sustainable social and economic development of all regions of Ukraine provides for the implementation of an effective system of state crisis management of regional development through the introduction of a set of focused actions of state authorities aimed at preventing crisis situations, and in case of their occurrence – elimination and minimizing the negative consequences for the social and economic system in the region.

The implementation of the state anti-crisis management of regional development is provided according to the purpose and determined on the basis of three mutually agreed priorities. This is reduction of interregional imbalances, decentralization and increase of competitiveness.

First of all is a reduction of interregional imbalances which provides for an outperforming growth of depressed territories on the basis of state regulatory influence on processes of social and economic development. In this context, it is important to implement the political principle of the European Regional Development Policy, according to which developed regions must ensure solidarity with depressed regions, and low levels of production or high unemployment in poor regions are a loss of potential for the country in general [9].

For Ukraine, in the context of the crisis and post-crisis recovery of the regions' economy, the following areas of policy of reducing interregional imbalance such as deurbanization and revival of rural territories, reduction of labor emigration, formation of regional clusters, growth of regional investments, employment, production and social and infrastructural support are urgent and important.

Reduction of interregional imbalances can be achieved using decentralization tools. An important issue for Ukraine is the creation of amalgamated territorial communities. During 2015–2018, 699 amalgamated territorial communities have already been created in Ukraine. But necessary is the predominance of financial instruments, including budgetary and fiscal decentralization of the highly centralized mechanism for financing regional development. The implementation of the priority implies, on the one hand, increasing the effectiveness of the participation of the amalgamated territorial communities in the competition for infrastructure projects and the distribution of state subsidies, as well as improving the mechanism of intergovernmental fiscal relations at the state level.

The regional anti-crisis policy should be implemented the imperatives of state regulation of pricing of the products of social importance. It's necessary to mention that state regulation of pricing of the products of social importance was cancelled from July 1st, 2017 [3]. At the same time, in unstable economies and crisis situations, state regulation of prices for socially-oriented food products is necessary, as the absence of clear price ceilings may lead to the unjustified increase in prices [8]. This is confirmed by the results of empirical studies, which have found that, firstly, prices for different food products of social importance are not the same in the regions. Secondly, in all regions of Ukraine, the permanent uneven rise in prices for most food products of social importance is taking place. In the conditions of inflation rate increase in Ukraine is above

the established inflation target, state regulation of prices for socially important goods will ensure a reduction of basic inflation, an adequate level of food security and the prevention of social tension in the society.

Increase of competitiveness as a priority should be implementing within the global trend of formation of a post-industrial information economy, according to which the dynamic development of the digital economy is taking place, while simultaneously increasing the production of agricultural products (due to the world food crisis) in the condition of unprecedented increase in competition for domination in competition for domination in foreign markets.

Providing long-term economic development implies an active regional innovation and industrial policy and includes:

- effective use of local resource potential with the provision of favorable conditions for entrepreneurial activity, as well as the creation of competitive advantages of the regional economy sectors in the territorial division of labor;

- elimination of structural deformations and adaptation of production to the structure of market demand by ensuring an outperforming growth of output of branches of the fifth and sixth technological processes while maintaining the growth rates of other sectors;

- the creation of new and restructuring of existing enterprises in the territory of depressed regions, transfer of some production from places of excessive concentration of production to mono-structural cities and territories with high unemployment;

- the revival of innovation and investment activity in industry with the concentration of financial resources in key areas of science-intensive industries on the basis of program-target management method.

The effectiveness of regional anti-crisis policy is possible under the condition of ensuring socio-ecological and economic balance. The main imperative of socio-ecological and economic balance is ensuring maximum rates of economic growth while maintaining environmental protection, social protection and achieving high social standards.

Conclusion. The results of effective regional anti-crisis policy is the avoidance, reduction of the economy decline, the duration, scale and negative consequences of the crisis and post-crisis depression, increase of the level of anti-crisis potential, and increase the stability of the regional social and economic system to external and internal disturbances.

For social and economic development of the regions of Ukraine, the greatest threat is the risks of social and political instability, the shift of emphasis in the adoption of governmental decisions from the system to the situational approach, the adoption of legislative acts aimed at solving current problems of the economy.

Anti-crisis management should be oriented towards the achievement of strategic goals of sustainable development, which involves the priority of introducing long-term economic growth mechanisms over situational benefits of short-term influence. The priorities of the regional anti-crisis policy are the reduction of interregional imbalance, decentralization and increase of competitiveness under the condition of ensuring socio-ecological and economic balance.

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А. А. Олешко, Е. И. Трохимец. Региональная антикризисная политика в условиях макроэкономической нестабильности

В статье на основе результатов анализа уровня социально-экономического развития регионов разработаны мероприятия региональной антикризисной политики, направленные на достижение стратегических целей устойчивого развития государства в условиях макроэкономической нестабильности. Предложены ключевые направления реализации первоочередных приоритетов региональной антикризисной политики, к которым отнесены уменьшение региональных диспропорций, повышение уровня конкурентоспособности, децентрализацию и эффективное создание объединенных территориальных общин.

Ключевые слова: региональная антикризисная политика, региональное развитие, антикризисное управление, межрегиональные диспропорции, макроэкономическая нестабильность, децентрализация, региональная конкурентоспособность.

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