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# CLUSTERS IN THE STRATEGY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE AND ITS REGIONS

## ABSTRACT

The 21st century was characterized by significant changes in the world economy under the influence of globalization of all aspects of socio-economic relations, a special place in these processes is occupied by regional integration, which led to the emergence of new, globally oriented national strategies and models of regional development. The purpose of the article is to study clusters in the economic development strategy of Ukraine and their impact on innovation processes. There was a need for a scientific understanding of the essence of clusters from the point of view of a holistic system of knowledge about their formation, functioning and management. Clusters as integrated formations of enterprises are a global phenomenon. The article examines the works of scientists regarding the clustering of Ukraine, identifies the advantages of the cluster approach, notes that the trends of the modern world economy outline a large number of changes, both progressive and regressive, contradictory, but on the contrary, harmonious, which accelerate the development of a new economic model. It is a cluster. A model of the new cluster economy was built and the number of clusters in the regions of Ukraine and their sphere of activity were analyzed. On the basis of the conducted research, recommendations were proposed to speed up the development of cluster initiatives, and to ensure the effective functioning of innovation clusters, it is necessary to activate the activities of innovation infrastructure facilities (technology parks, business incubators, innovation technology centers, technology transfer centers, etc.), which are important structural elements of clusters.

**Keywords:** clusters, innovation, stimulation, development, enterprise, direction, activity, competitiveness

**JEL Classification:** O10, G17

## INTRODUCTION

The uneven development of different countries and regions requires scientists to use approaches that could analyze different objects, according to the state of their economic development and take into account the features of the social or financial condition of certain objects. It is in this context that the theory of clusters acquires particular relevance.

Concepts of national economy clusters depend on many factors of economic, political, social, and legislative orientation. Modern business conditions in which the Ukrainian clusters operate, forced to adapt to the consequences of the pandemic, which led to the collapse of the global economy. In modern economic conditions. It is extremely important for Ukraine to create conditions in which different regions and industries would develop evenly, which would provide the prerequisites for restoring the competitiveness of the whole country, even in conditions of uncertainty. Ukraine is on its way to optimize and modernize its economy to form a positive image in the international arena and accelerate positive developments in the context of European integration. It is quite clear that all regions of the state cannot have the same potential and the same state of economic development, so the analysis of the cluster distribution and taking into account the characteristics of each cluster in the design of directions for their further development is a necessary condition for economic growth.

The state needs to stipulate the development of cluster processes by creating conditions for the association of small, medium, and large enterprises in a cluster, which is a platform for the cooperation of different entities in specific territories in the direction of research and development. technology and innovation. Clusters perform the functions of the distribution of economic decisions; the mechanism for implementing such decisions; project initiatives that mobilize the efforts of the private state to improve the structure of the economic environment. For the cluster policy, they are a dynamic tool for the development and promotion of strategic directions of industry specialization, and the cluster policy acts as a system of state guarantees to support cluster initiatives. Operated physically and morally obsolete fixed assets do not allow to produce competitive products, so today there is no more urgent task than the search for ways to modernize the technological base of industrial enterprises. The problem is not even about implementing something better. It is about the principles of the revival of a competitive industry, able to enter the world economic system on an equal footing. First of all, we need to get to grips with technology. There are names of various technologies in the arsenal of industrial enterprises, from the equipment of the third process stage to the most modern high-precision machines and flexible production systems, but it is impossible to recognize the modern production complex. What is needed is a sustainable industrial policy of the state, based on a long-term strategy of building competitive production. It is necessary to solve the problem of search and organization of optimal market relations according to Pareto between participants of cluster formations, the state, and consumers. These and other issues require additional research.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

To date, the issue of clustering is very relevant among domestic and foreign scientists, for example, scientist Samijlenko (2019) modern industrial clusters are a qualitatively new spatial formation in the national economy, contributing to the development of partnerships between economic entities, government, and science. The experience of the successful functioning of industrial clusters in developed countries of the world leads to the need for their creation in Ukraine. Specialist Potapenko (2018) in his work emphasis is made on the fact that in the modern literature, the theories of clustering are widespread. At the same time, world experience indicates that in most countries economists are focused on a significant diversification of clusters, as it will allow to take into account the specifics of the development of certain companies and form the prerequisites for the realization of their existing potential. Consideration of cluster distribution in the formation of development strategies will allow more balanced and rational planning of all tactical activities and respond faster to changes in the external or internal environment. At the same time, taking into account the cluster distribution will make the management process at the micro- or meso-economic level more transparent and flexible (Tiutiunyk et al., 2021).

Clusters with the innovation centers will constitute is one step out of a large list of steps facilitating the creation of the enterprises' value on the basis of the realization of the innovative development principles. The formation of clusters with the high efficiency of synergistic connection in Ukraine will provide for the creation of new technological platforms with a high level of innovative partnership (Kuznyetsova, Zherybylo, Klipkova, & Kozmuk, 2019).

When successful and developing, clusters become centers for attracting investment, better human resources, and related services (Shpak, 2020). Ukraine should focus on tools that increase the durability and competitiveness of domestic businesses. Among such tools, an important place belongs to cluster policy, effective management of which will have a positive impact on the creation, development, and support of clusters. Developing a cluster-based economy is competitive and investment-attractive and ensures a high level and quality of life of the population (Glasov, 2018).

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the article is to substantiate the expediency of dividing economic entities into clusters and directly conduct a cluster analysis of the regions of Ukraine to determine the potential of their innovative development.

The study aims to:

- explore the essence of cluster activities;
- specify the trends of distribution into clusters;
- determine the number and sectoral affiliation and economic specificity of each cluster;
- recommend steps for the development of cluster initiatives.

## METHODS

The subject of the study is the clustering of economic entities to understand the characteristics and specifics of their functioning and development. It is possible to achieve the goal of the work by using such methods of research as:

- methods of research of dynamics of development of clusters and the sphere of their activity;
- method of comparing the number of innovation clusters by regions of Ukraine.

Specific methods used in the work are the methods of cluster analysis and partitioning elements of clusters into subgroups, which allows to group objects into groups according to certain characteristics and form homogeneous clusters, which can be characterized and systematized by the selected set of criteria.

## RESULTS

The experience of the leading successful and stable economies of the world shows that the governments of these countries took into account the economic, natural, territorial, and infrastructure features of their territories and formed development strategies for them in such a way as to maximize their positive features, to realize the potential and give an opportunity to develop these areas, which are strategically important, and ensured qualitative transformations in individual regions. All this proves that clustering can be the basis for important and effective management decisions.

between stakeholders. In most countries of the world, an important role in the development of clusters is played by central or regional authorities interested in technological development and restructuring of the economy. Clusters are the most important factor of EU regional development.

If in the process of cluster analysis, there is a specificity of certain clusters, focused on innovative development, the state can use instruments of influence on the subjects of these clusters, which will stimulate the creation of a focused economy of the whole state. Experience of the European Union indicates the use of such ways to stimulate innovative development; approaches to institutional support of clusters oriented to innovative development are used, which gives results. The European Union is quite large in size and consists of states with very different economic potentials and abilities to develop and implement innovations. However, the European Union has developed a system of experience exchange, as a result of which the countries with less powerful economies (such as Romania, Lithuania, Latvia) can study and apply in practice the experience of more powerful economies (in particular, Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, Finland, and France). It is already yielding its results, and Lithuania, for example, has been actively developing innovative technologies in recent years and has all perspectives to take a place in the cluster of countries quickly implementing experience of innovative development of other countries in the near future. Among the countries which already actively use and develop the strategy of competitiveness and innovative activity of clusters, one can mention Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Finland. Governments of these countries create preconditions for the development of innovative technologies in the business environment, as a result of which more than a third of companies in these countries are innovative and not only implement the latest technologies but also carry out their development.

The main role of clusters since the end of the last century has been to strengthen value-added chains (VACs). Strong VARs are the basis of a prosperous and strong economy. According to UNIDO, without strong internal VARs, it is difficult to talk about integration into external VARs. To do this, cluster organizations are created to distinguish themselves from other business associations, such as industry associations (Bila knyha, 2022).

Why do clusters work better with VLDs than other structures? There are several reasons, let us list the main 3 (Bila knyha, 2022):

1. Clusters consciously focus on gaps in internal LDS in their strategies and daily activities and try to fill them through targeted actions to establish internal industrial cooperation.
2. These measures aim at the close cooperation between enterprises of the same or related industries in the same territory in order to obtain additional benefits. To achieve this type of connection, cluster initiatives must be supported and focused on the creation of cluster organizations, using the whole arsenal of tools such as networking, dream creation, innovative intermediation, etc. Clusters consciously, deliberately and professionally develop these tools and create special programs to support and develop industrial cooperation and innovation in LDS.
3. Clusters also use other tools to influence the integrity and longevity of value chains, such as better use of common resources, assistance in developing professional quality and training standards, organizing export support and internationalization programs, linking the main chain actors with local innovations. the like.

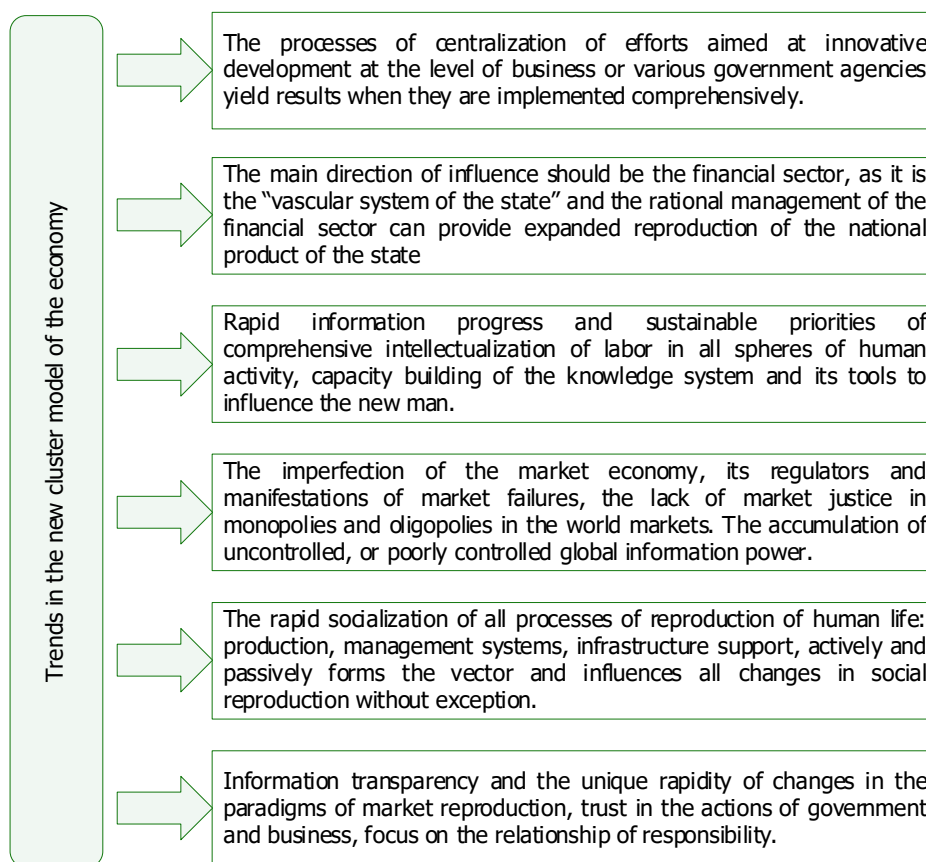
The cluster approach has such advantages over other forms of business organization (Bezus, Sychova, and Shafranova, 2019):

- functioning of the cluster as a system makes it possible to achieve a synergy effect, which manifests itself in a significantly greater economic effect from the functioning of the cluster compared to individual enterprises;
- significant simplification of access to resources by enterprises participating in the cluster;
- increased efficiency of sales of products through the creation of more stable logistical links between the enterprises included in the cluster;
- significant reduction of financial and credit risk;
- simplification of planning and forecasting capabilities in terms of innovation implementation;
- increasing the stability and predictability of cash flows;
- the cluster approach makes it possible to determine the enterprises that can be attributed to this or that cluster, the contribution of each enterprise to the creation of the final product, and the overall economic effect;
- possibility to determine how the investments attracted in one or another cluster affect the formation of the regional budget.

Despite all the advantages of creating economic clusters, it is associated with a number of risks (Bezus, Sychova, and Shafranova, 2019):

- a large number of enterprises participating in the cluster creates difficulties in their coordination and management;
- the motivation of enterprises to modernize decreases due to the lack of competition within one cluster;
- unsatisfactory results achieved by the enterprises-participants reduce the efficiency of the entire cluster.

The modern world economy is developing unevenly, which once again actualizes the practical application of the cluster model of research of different countries and regions. Figure 1 shows the trends of the new model of cluster economy.



**Figure 1. Trends in the development of clusters in the economy of Ukraine.** (Source: Yevstakhevych, Paryzkyi, Tomchuk-Ponomarenko, Yarova, Yatsykovskyy, & Chukhlib, 2021).

In the fall of 2022, an important event took place, namely the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Association of Industrial Automation Enterprises of Ukraine (AIPAU) and the Zaporizhzhia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ZCCI), also involved in this event was the National University "Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic", whose goal was to form entrepreneurs who will facilitate the practical training of students for their future employment in the most in-demand professions. Such cooperation involves various activities aimed at transferring experience from business representatives to students pursuing higher education. Around the same period as a result of cooperation between APPAU and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH the GS "Zaporizhzhia cluster "Engineering-Automation-Karpenko2" was created, aimed at developing technologies in the industrial sphere.

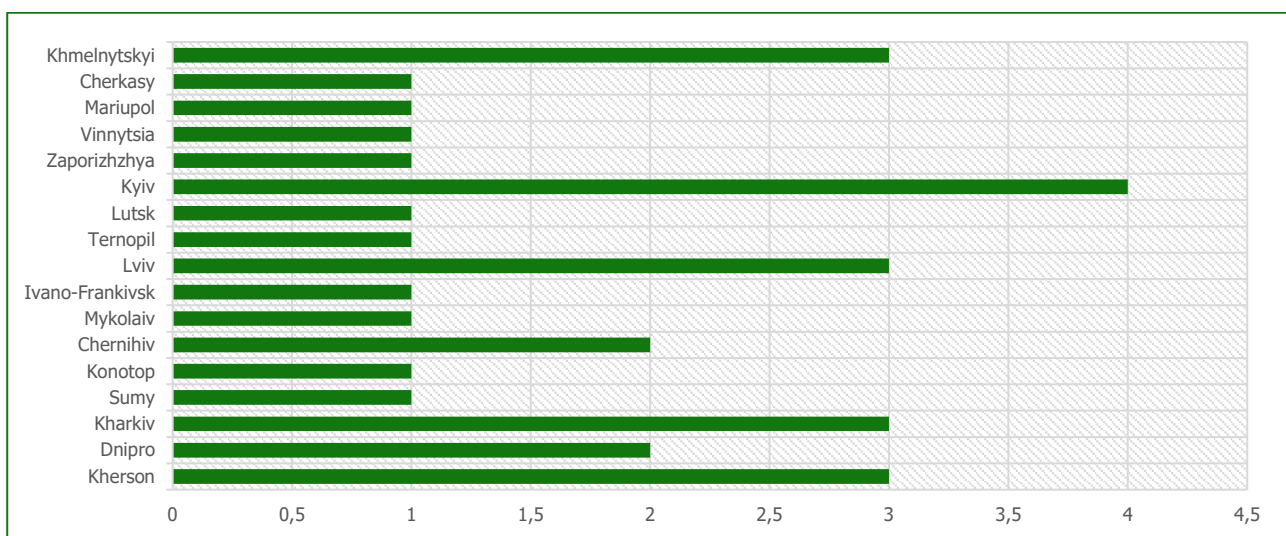
The development of clustering and the choice of different development vectors for different clusters, including the Zaporizhzhia cluster "MAM", leads to positive shifts in the economic environment, namely:

- an increase in the amount of funds allocated for research work, on the development of clusters;
- financing the creation and development of information and analytical hubs, whose activities are focused on conducting an in-depth analysis of the current state and development potential of cluster formations;
- development and implementation of programs aimed at promoting inter-cluster and international integration of enterprises critical to their clusters;
- formation and implementation of strategies and tactics of the comprehensive development of clusters.

The state should attach great importance to the development of cluster policy. To develop an effective modern cluster policy, it is necessary to conduct an in-depth study of regional economies to identify areas of specialization, promising for the formation and development of clusters, since not all sectors may be necessary for the formation of clusters. Prospects for the implementation of cluster policy depend on strategically important national and regional projects with the participation of clusters, capital investment from the budget at various levels, and the creation of conditions for effective support of investment projects. The effect of native start-ups can be cluster associations. Thus, cluster policy helps to stimulate innovation and startups, supporting the development of cluster initiatives that help to enter global markets in cooperation with other stakeholders.

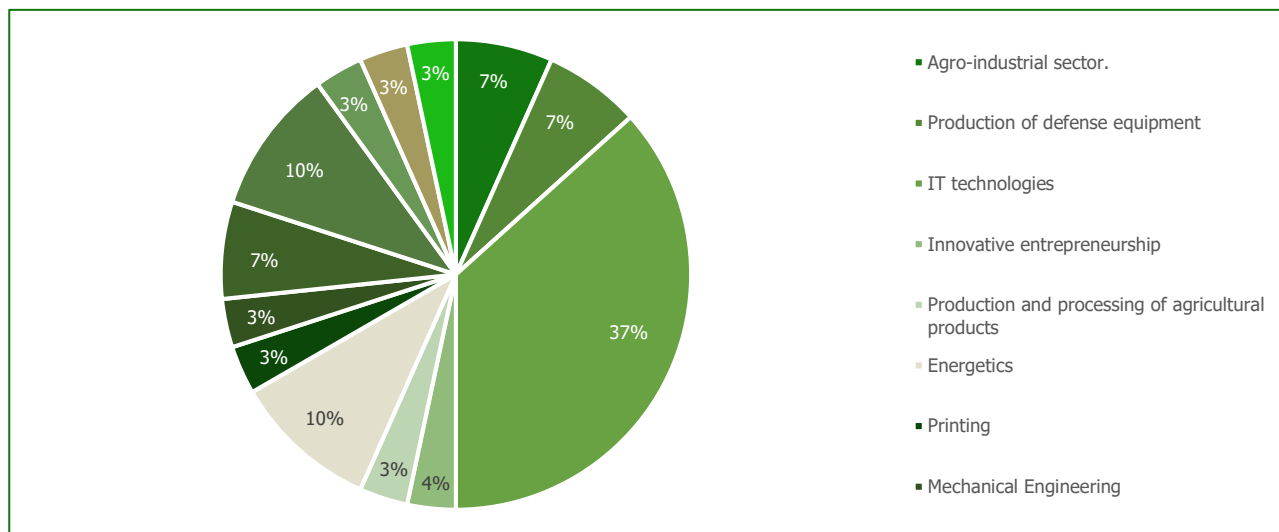
The value of the cluster division for the economy is that they create an association of enterprises capable of performing powerful tasks, implementing major investment projects, which most enterprises are unable to implement. At the same time, clusters significantly increase the competitiveness of the economy as a whole, since they are usually focused on intensive innovative development. Another advantage of clustering is that enterprises can unite according to their level of development and potential, rather than according to a certain sectoral affiliation so that they create prerequisites for the gradual development of different spheres and industries. At the same time, the state is also interested in the development of clusters at the regional or branch level, so the development of cluster development programs is one of the newest tools of state regulation.

It should be noted that there are currently 30 clusters in Ukraine, their geographic location is shown in Figure 2:



**Figure 2. A number of clusters by region.** (Source: Yevstakhevych, Paryzkyi, Tomchuk-Ponomarenko, Yarova, Yatsykovskyy, & Chukhlib, 2021).

Until now, the most scientific clusters in Ukraine are located in Kyiv, Lviv, Kharkiv and Kherson, the first two cities belong to the scientific and industrial centers, to the full-scale invasion by Russia, a large number of scientific clusters were based in Kharkiv, but now their functioning is very complicated (Yevstakhevych et al., 2021). It should be noted that stimulating the development of the cluster economy has a positive impact on the investment climate of the territorial community, which in turn increases the demand for education and contributes to an increase in jobs, with subsequent employment and the development of its innovative and intellectual potential (Yevstakhevych et al., 2021)



**Figure 3. Study of clusters by industry.** (Source: Yevstakhevych, Paryzkyi, Tomchuk-Ponomarenko, Yarova, Yatsykovskyy, & Chukhlib, 2021).

Most of the clusters in Ukraine operate in these areas. The main threats to cluster development are quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 epidemic and military actions that resulted in a decline of the economy in Ukraine, acceleration of inflation, decrease in domestic demand, and significant weakening of external demand for Ukrainian export goods. An important risk to the formation of clusters is insufficient support from the state. Clusterization of the economy is poorly supported by the state, although the number of clusters in Ukraine is growing.

The problem of the development of clusters in Ukraine is the lack of their enshrined legislative status. In the normative legal acts of the state, insufficient attention is paid to the problem of state stimulation of cluster development. For example, the Commercial Code of Ukraine considers various types of associations of enterprises, but clusters are not represented among them.

«If we compare these forms of association of enterprises with such form of association as a cluster, we can conclude that a cluster can be a separate form of association of enterprises. Therefore, it is advisable to supplement the Commercial Code of Ukraine with a new organizational and legal form of associations of enterprises – clusters» (Prokopenko, O. V. 2011). «In general, three different approaches to clustering have appeared in recent years. Both are usually created and managed by economic or regional development agencies» (Popovich & Lopashchuk, 2022):

- clusters of national importance, represented by large companies or organizations, whose tasks are to solve organizational and infrastructural issues, in relation to clusters and cluster division;
- clusters of regional significance focused on the development of the industry of the most important and in-demand in certain territories. In the development of regional clusters attention should be focused on the formation of a favorable environment for industrial development, strengthening of links between enterprises and state authorities, as well as maximization of intra-cluster support between enterprises;
- clusters of commercial significance, focused primarily on trade relations and infrastructural development.

In its ninth month of the war, Ukraine faces difficult military and economic challenges. October victories on the military fronts have returned with massive enemy attacks on critical infrastructure. Frequent power outages have complicated an already difficult situation for businesses defending the economic front. Exports in October fell by 8% compared to September, and the overall year-end GDP drop is estimated at 40% (Bila knyha, 2022). Domestic manufacturing companies are facing problems they have never faced before on this scale. The rapid collapse of domestic markets in most sectors of the economy, logistical problems due to the blockade of sea routes, other restrictions on export activities, both financial and the ban on men going abroad, the destruction of domestic supply chains, loss of personnel, today also power outages,

etc. - all of these factors have their own negative dynamics and impact. But more important for understanding the situation is that these factors act together, and their strength and interconnection make countermeasures and neutralization strategies much more difficult (Bila knyha, 2022).

The UKA (Ukrainian Cluster Alliance) - a multi-sectoral nationwide association of enterprises, business associations, clusters, and cluster organizations of Ukraine, seeking to improve their competitiveness by implementing the principles of cluster cooperation, industrial innovation, digital and green automation, and effective interaction with the state - is currently operating in Ukraine. UKA is the leading and largest formal association of economic cluster movement in Ukraine – currently, the Alliance unites 48 clusters and cluster associations. UKA was established on March 24, 2022, on the basis of the Clusters 4 Ukraine initiative, which emerged from the cluster committee Industrial Sector Platform and Hi-Tech Industry 4 Ukraine. The main driving force of the Ukrainian cluster movement in different formats is the Association of Industrial Automation Enterprises of Ukraine.

With the beginning of a full-scale war between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the cluster committee called for clusters to unite and mobilize to strengthen the economic front and help the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The original initiative Clusters 4 Ukraine in March 2022 receives active support from many clusters and cluster organizations in Ukraine. Apart from IAM, these are the Ukrainian Association of Furniture Makers, the Ukrainian Automobile Cluster, the Khmelnytskyi and Lviv Shivali clusters, the Dniester 1362 agro-tourist cluster, and the Agro-Food Cluster initiative from the Poltava region and many others. Hundreds of enterprises from the above clusters united under wartime conditions into the Ukrainian Cluster Alliance.

Based on the study the following steps should be proposed, which can accelerate the development of cluster initiatives and stimulate the development of the Ukrainian economy (Yevstakhevych et al., 2021):

1. Creation of business incubators on the basis of research institutions;
2. Using modern marketplaces and financial technologies to stimulate cluster development as quickly as possible;
3. Introduction of Ukrainian clusters in the international financial system;
4. Creation of a common digital market with European Union countries to stimulate the development of established clusters;
5. Improvement of tax legislation, which will reduce the financial burden on clusters and help them quickly enter international markets.

The chosen model of industrial policy depends on the creation of competitive production and the implementation of programs of technological reengineering. This policy should take into account historical features of development and situation. The problem of choosing an effective policy model is quite complex and it is not always possible to solve it properly, as evidenced by international and domestic practice. In modern Ukraine, such a policy is situational and opportunistic, depends directly on the socio-economic ideology dominant in the country, is formed based on constant informal relations and rules of conduct between the state, business, and society, correctly determines the goals, overall strategy and specific means of industrial development.

## DISCUSSION

Processes of clustering, which are now inherent in the economy of Ukraine, entail a positive transformation, which cannot fail to understand the public authorities, as a result, there is an objective need to optimize policy formation and development of clusters in Ukraine. The correctness of the planned activities and the rationality of their implementation largely depends on the potential development of the Ukrainian economy in the long term.

As the scientist Fostolovich notes, (2019) clusters function as a certain scheme of ideal relations between its participants, united by common communication systems, management systems, marketing systems, common logistics, a common electronic platform of supply and demand, common infrastructure, information base, a single platform of supply and demand, certification. Interest in clusters in the world is constantly growing because in a market economy, they have become an effective driving force of production in the companies that have become their members. Ukraine as one of the major European countries should take into account in its development programs that all European countries already have their national cluster programs.

Avershin & Mekhovich (2021) noted in their work that the change of forms of ownership and the emergence of economic structures in a limited territory caused the weakening of regional management not only of the socioeconomic development of regions but also of the economic process in these structures. From the territorial division of labor, two opposing trends

arise the deepening of specialization and the need for integrated regional development. Under conditions of economic independence, it is necessary to overcome these contradictions in order to manage the region effectively. In the conditions of transition to a market economy, it is necessary to create conditions conducive to a rational combination of the integrated development of regions with independent enterprises located on their territory, independent of their subordination, organizational structures, and forms of ownership. The objective laws of social development determine the possibility of territorial management of production. Thus, the social division of labor, leading to the specialization of production (both sectoral and territorial), at the same time leads to a relatively stable functional relationship, thereby generating the need to strengthen relations in the management of individual productions and institutional formations. The need for territorial development stems from the need to coordinate the activities of the economic base, rational inter-sectoral and inter-regional relations, to solve the problems of socio-economic development of regions, as well as to increase production efficiency. These tasks are not performed automatically. Regional problems in general can be solved, first, by the development and implementation of regional policy, and second, by improving the existing systems of management of socio-economic processes in the region with the participation of all groups in the region on the terms of coordination. Samborskyi & Hlasov (2021) concluded that the priority is to create a favorable macroeconomic, informational and legal environment for the development of economic clusters. The situation with the solution of problems of cluster policy needs a systemic solution. Cluster policy should be able to introduce additional tools to support clusters to have the greatest impact on economic growth in the country today. Through stimulating activities, cluster policy will be able to influence the implementation of strategically important national and regional projects, to intensify innovative activities, financing, and investment of clusters. Prospects for the implementation of cluster policy in Ukraine tend to increase the potential of the cluster and its competitiveness in the period of economic growth and improvement of business sentiment.

The research of Mekhovych (2016) is characterized by a purely innovative approach to the analysis of cluster forms of industrial organizations. The main conceptual assumptions of his approaches are a combination of the advantages of well-known cluster models to ensure technological transformation and restoration of cooperative relationships. This approach takes into account the specifics of the institutional environment and the possibility of state influence on the development of inter-industry cooperation. In his opinion, the cluster should be considered a system-forming mechanism for the functioning of the institution of regional cluster policy. He proved that this institution should be treated as a development institution. The new model of the spatial development of Ukraine's economy should be aimed at integrating innovative industry, practice-oriented fundamental science, and relevant engineering companies on common technological platforms to ensure the competitiveness of its participants and regions. I proposed a new model of cluster construction – an innovation engineering industrial cluster. Its peculiarity is that the core of the cluster is high-tech industrial enterprises of the defense-industrial complex (DIC). High-tech companies in the defense industry are called “engines” of technological change. Participation in the processes of reengineering military-industrial enterprises gives a new impetus to the formation of objectives, content, and meaning of inter-industry relations. Structural formations of small and medium-sized enterprises are formed around the cluster core due to cooperation, the use of dual technologies, and the emergence of new production enterprises. This is of great importance for the economy of Ukraine since the main problems of its development consist precisely of the cessation of inter-industry ties. Mishchenko and Fadieiev (2021) in their work noted that the key to the revival of domestic industrial production is the application of innovative regional cluster policy, based on a sound strategy aimed at improving the competitiveness of enterprises at the regional, national, and international levels. Taking this into account, the cluster concept was updated, the content of which takes into account such important aspects as open, dynamic organizational and economic form, implementation of innovative projects, providing cluster participants with their own innovative profile of cluster functioning and development, which makes it possible to constantly expand and establish intercluster and interregional. relations and assess the impact of such formation on the efficiency and competitiveness of the region and the country as a whole. In modern conditions of crisis phenomena, uncertainty, and unpredictable threats, the emergence and development of regional industrial clusters are impossible without taking into account the manifestations of their innovativeness. The cluster approach as a set of tools for regional management should comprehensively solve the problems of the implementation of territorial strategy and the transition to an innovative model of regional development. The main objectives of cluster policy as an innovative form of territorial development are to increase the competitiveness of enterprises of the cluster and the cluster itself by introducing innovation and new technologies, as well as to reduce costs and increase the efficiency of relevant knowledge-intensive services due to various synergy effects in logistics, engineering, information technology, management; increase employment in the regions through reengineering and outsourcing; increase revenues to the provincial budget due to growth of added.



## CONCLUSIONS

Among the new approaches to the development of the domestic economy today, special attention is paid to the cluster development of various economic entities. Unification into clusters takes place according to certain criteria, which may include the ability to implement innovations, the formation, and implementation of innovative potential, technology development, etc. It should be noted that for the modern Ukrainian economy, the allocation of clusters precisely on the ability to innovative development is the basis for further development of economic activity in the state. To ensure the effective functioning of innovation clusters it is necessary to intensify the activities of innovation infrastructure facilities (technology parks, business incubators, innovation, and technology centers, technology transfer centers, etc.) which are an important structural element of clusters. This is already being implemented in some clusters, and some clusters need the introduction of such innovative technologies that contribute to further development.

Based on the results of the study, a specification of regional distribution trends into clusters within the state was carried out, which allows to identify the most potentially favorable regions for innovative development. In addition, the number, as well as sectoral affiliation and economic specificity of functioning of each of the clusters is determined, which also becomes the basis for further development directions of certain regions, united in one cluster.

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## КЛАСТЕРИ В СТРАТЕГІЇ ЕКОНОМІЧНОГО РОЗВИТКУ УКРАЇНИ ТА ЇЇ РЕГІОНІВ

XXI століття характеризувалося значними змінами у світовій економіці під впливом глобалізації всіх сторін соціально-економічних відносин, особливе місце в цих процесах посідає регіональна інтеграція, яка призвела до появи нових, глобально орієнтованих національних стратегій та моделей регіонального розвитку. Метою роботи є дослідження кластерів у стратегії економічного розвитку України та їхнього впливу на інноваційні процеси. Виникла потреба в науковому осмисленні сутності кластерів із точки зору цілісної системи знань про їх формування, функціонування та управління ними. Кластери як інтегровані утворення підприємств є глобальним явищем. У роботі досліджено наукові праці щодо кластеризації України, визначено переваги кластерного підходу; відзначено, що тенденції сучасної світової економіки окреслюють велику кількість змін, прогресивних, і регресивних; суперечливіх навпаки – гармонійних, які прискорюють розвиток нової економічної моделі – кластера. Побудовано модель нової кластерної економіки, проаналізовано кількість кластерів за регіонами України та сферу їхньої діяльності. На основі проведеного дослідження запропоновані рекомендації щодо прискорення розвитку кластерних ініціатив. Також для забезпечення ефективного функціонування інноваційних кластерів необхідно активізувати діяльність об'єктів інноваційної інфраструктури (технопарків, бізнес-інкубаторів, інноваційно-технологічних центрів, центрів трансферу технологій тощо), які є важливим структурним елементом кластерів.

**Ключові слова:** кластери, інновації, стимулювання, розвиток, підприємство, напрям, діяльність, конкурентоспроможність

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