

# The impact of globalisation on constitutional processes in Ukraine: Social consequences of the adaptation of legislation of Ukraine to European standards

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this study was to examine how globalisation has influenced the transformation of the legal system of Ukraine and to identify the social consequences resulting from the adaptation of national legislation to European standards. The study primarily focused on analysing how the integration of European norms has affected the development of legal consciousness and social interaction in Ukraine and the strengthening of democratic institutions and civil liberties. The study methodology employed includes comparative analysis to juxtapose the legislation of Ukraine with that of the European Union and a systemic approach to assess the complexity of legal integration. The findings indicate that the adaptation to European standards has contributed to enhanced transparency in public administration, improved legal protection for citizens, and a reduction in corruption levels. The study was emphasised that these processes have significantly influenced the development of civil society, increased legal awareness and citizen engagement, and strengthened national identity within the context of integration into global processes. Particular attention was given to issues concerning the social adaptation of the population to new legal realities associated with the adoption and

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implementation of European norms and standards. A crucial aspect of this study is the investigation of the impact of globalisation on the role of the state in legal regulation and the enhancement of interaction between state institutions and society. The study highlights key aspects of the transformation of constitutional processes under the influence of globalisation trends, particularly with regard to the integration of Ukraine into the European legal framework. It also addresses the social consequences of adapting national legislation to European standards, which have manifested in changes to legal culture, the strengthening of human rights protection mechanisms, and the advancement of democratic institutions

**Keywords:** human rights protection mechanisms; democracy; civil society; integration; national identity; globalisation

## Introduction

The impact of globalisation on the development of national legal systems is manifested, in particular, in the necessity of harmonising legislation with international and regional standards. In Ukraine, this influence has accelerated the adaptation of national legislation to European norms, driven by the country's aspirations for European integration and the need to ensure high standards of legal protection for citizens. However, the implementation of European norms into Ukrainian legislation faces numerous challenges, including the unreadiness of the legal system, socio-economic inequalities, and limited access to legal services. Official EU reports confirm obstacles in the implementation of European norms within Ukrainian legislation. For instance, the Report on the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union for 2023 highlights issues related to the insufficient preparedness of the legal system, socio-economic disparities, and restricted access to legal services, particularly in rural areas. These problems necessitate in-depth research, as their resolution is a prerequisite for ensuring social stability and the democratic development of the country. Concurrently, the introduction of new legal norms requires active public engagement, fostering an increase in legal awareness among the population and ensuring effective communication between state institutions and civil society.

M. Treshchev and A. Munko (2022) emphasise that integration with the European Union and the adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to European standards represent not merely a legal process, but also have social consequences that must be considered in the context of state policy. Specifically, the researchers draw attention to two key aspects. The first is the reduction of social inequality through the establishment of equal access to legal and administrative services for all citizens, including the most vulnerable segments of the population. The second aspect concerns the necessity of adapting the labour market to new European standards, which entails enhancing the qualifications of workers and altering the requirements for their professional training. V. Barskyi and D. Dvornichenko (2019), in turn, underscore the importance of preserving national identity during the harmonisation of Ukrainian legislation with European norms. A similar conclusion was reached by L. Guiso *et al.* (2019), who emphasised the necessity of considering national specificity when implementing European standards, indicating that failure to consider these aspects could lead to social tension.

The impact of globalisation on normative and imperative institutions is a prevalent focus within contemporary humanities research (Zlahoda & Polian, 2024). M. Caselli *et al.* (2021) examined the effect of new legal norms on the social structure of Italian society, noting that legislative changes are accompanied by the formation of new social norms and values. The researchers also address numerous challenges associated with the implementation of European standards into national legislation. The study by

D. Rodrik (2021) and G. Scheiring *et al.* (2024) covers the technical and social barriers faced by Ukraine in its efforts to adapt its legislation. D. Rodrik emphasised the necessity for the modernisation of the legal system to successfully integrate new norms, while G. Scheiring *et al.* (2024) highlighted the importance of considering the social consequences that may arise during this process, particularly potential conflicts between established and new legal norms.

M. Treshchev and O. Khokhba (2023) focused on the impact of globalisation on national identity and state sovereignty in Ukraine. They explored how globalisation, accompanied by integration with the European Union and other international structures, influences the development of constitutional law and political stability in the country. Their study reveals how the adaptation of national legislation to European standards affects social structure, particularly in relation to changes in socio-economic conditions, levels of rights and freedoms for citizens, and institutional reforms. M. Treshchev and O. Khokhba (2023) also drew attention to the risks of losing national identity amid globalisation and the necessity of preserving sovereignty during constitutional reforms.

A review of existing research indicates a need for the development of effective strategies and tools that would enable the successful implementation of changes in the country's legal system (considering its specific conditions and functional requirements) following European standards. However, there is a need for a more thorough analysis of the impact of these changes on various aspects of social life, such as social justice, access to justice, the effectiveness of public institutions, and the overall level of legal protection.

The purpose of the study was to identify the main difficulties arising from the adaptation of legislation to the standards of European social policy and to analyse the problems and opportunities that emerge during the integration of the Ukrainian legal environment into European norms.

## Materials and methods

The study comprised several key stages, each aimed at examining different aspects of the adaptation of national legislation to European standards. The first stage involves defining conceptual approaches and theoretical foundations for legislative adaptation. During this phase, international instruments are analysed, such as the Association Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine (2014) and the Council of Europe Action plan on strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (2016). This stage is critically important for establishing a comprehensive understanding of the legal requirements and principles that Ukraine should adhere to in harmonising its legislation.

The second stage of the research focused on identifying key conceptual approaches to legislative adaptation. Employing methods of systemic analysis and comparative jurisprudence provided a foundation for assessing the current

regulatory framework of Ukraine in terms of its alignment with European standards and international practices. This stage involves the examination of international conventions and directives, including the European Convention on Human Rights (1950) and the Accession Criteria (Copenhagen Criteria) (n.d.).

The third stage consisted in a thorough examination of regulations governing the implementation of European standards into Ukrainian legislation. This phase primarily concentrates on analysing regulations and strategic documents that delineate the areas for adapting national legislation to the requirements of the European Union. Of particular importance is the analysis of regulations aimed at introducing key European standards and norms, such as Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 119/2021 “On the National Human Rights Strategy” (2021), Law of Ukraine No. 1667-IX “On Stimulating the Development of the Digital Economy in Ukraine” (2023), Law of Ukraine No. 1264-XII “On Environmental Protection” (1991), and Law of Ukraine No. 2136-IX “On the Organisation of Labour Relations under Martial Law” (2022). Legal analysis methods are employed to conduct a detailed examination of the specific norms and provisions within these regulations. This stage also utilises comparative methods, allowing for parallels to be drawn between the norms of Ukrainian legislation and the provisions of European law.

In the final stage of the study, the data obtained from all previous phases is integrated, facilitating the synthesis of findings and providing a comprehensive understanding of the status and prospects of adapting national legislation to European standards. This stage involves the systematisation of the information collected from the review of national regulatory documents and the outcomes of the comparative analysis of legal systems. All stages of the research are grounded in legal analysis and a comparative approach, enabling an in-depth examination of the current state of national legislation and its conformity with European standards. The utilisation of legal analysis is vital for identifying deficiencies and gaps within Ukraine’s legal framework to facilitate its full harmonisation with European Union requirements.

## Results

The integration of European standards often encounters challenges primarily due to the insufficient readiness of the legal system for new requirements and a lack of public understanding of these changes. This inadequate preparation leads to increased legal uncertainty and social tension (Miller, 2019). In the context of globalisation, Ukraine’s legal framework is undergoing substantial transformations aimed at harmonisation with European standards, which is crucial for the integration into the European legal space. Legislative changes affect all levels of the legal system, including the adaptation of legal norms and principles to European standards. However, this process is far from straightforward, accompanied by numerous challenges that may impact social stability and citizens’ legal confidence.

The Association Agreement (2014) with the EU required Ukraine to adapt its legislation to European standards in the field of environmental protection. At the time of signing, relevant EU standards included the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2008/50/EC “On Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe” (2008), the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2000/60/

EC “Establishing a Framework for Community Action in the Field of Water Policy” (2000), and the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2010/75/EC “On Industrial Emissions (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control)” (2010). However, despite the adoption of new laws, their practical implementation encountered numerous issues. For instance, the establishment of a waste collection and recycling system does not always meet European standards due to a lack of appropriate infrastructure and organisational difficulties. European environmental standards, particularly directives concerning emission reduction and waste recycling, are notably stricter compared to Ukrainian requirements. For example, the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2008/98/EC “On Waste and Repealing Certain Directives” (2008) establishes a waste management hierarchy, prioritising waste prevention, recycling, and recovery over disposal. In contrast, Ukrainian environmental legislation at the time of adaptation had more lenient requirements, particularly regarding the use of landfills for waste storage, which significantly exceeded European norms (Kovach *et al.*, 2024). These standards aim to transform waste management practices and reduce the harmful impact on the environment.

The implementation of European legal standards in Ukraine is a substantial step towards European integration, particularly in the areas of human rights, justice, and administrative law (Kyrychok *et al.*, 2024). This process has indeed contributed to improving human rights protection and enhancing trust in the judicial system. For instance, although Ukraine ratified the European Convention on Human Rights (1950), implementation and adaptation of the Convention to Ukrainian legislation began much later. Amending legislation has become an integral part of this adaptation. Specifically, the number of complaints concerning human rights violations submitted to the European Court of Human Rights has decreased following the introduction of specific changes to national legislation (Surzik, 2022). The Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 119/2021 “On the National Human Rights Strategy” (2021) outlined the key areas and measures for improving human rights protection in Ukraine, aligning national policies with European standards. Similarly, the Law of Ukraine No. 1667-IX “On Stimulating the Development of the Digital Economy in Ukraine” (2023) includes provisions that promote the protection of digital rights and freedoms in accordance with the European legal framework. The Law of Ukraine No. 1264-XII “On Environmental Protection” (1991) was amended to enhance environmental protection in line with European environmental standards. Moreover, the Law of Ukraine No. 2136-IX “On the Organisation of Labour Relations under Martial Law” (2022) was adopted to ensure the protection of workers’ rights in the specific conditions of war, consistent with international human rights standards.

According to a study by the European Commission, reforms within the justice system, particularly judicial reforms, have contributed to increased judicial independence and the improvement of administrative services. This is reflected in Ukraine’s improved ranking in the Rule of Law Index (2023). For example, in the 2021 ranking, Ukraine received a score of 0.45 (on a scale from 0 to 1), which was an improvement compared to 0.42 in 2019. By 2022, Ukraine’s score had risen to 0.47, indicating positive developments in the justice system and the enforcement of the rule of law. It

was important not only to implement legal changes but also to actively promote social and informational initiatives that support these changes and ensure their effective integration into society. Such campaigns were launched in Ukraine with EU support under the “Justice for All” programme (International Online Conference..., 2023).

The reform of the judicial system, focused on European models, provides for increasing the independence of judges and improving their qualifications, which leads to a reduction in corruption in the judicial system and an increase in the efficiency of judicial processes. Independent and qualified judges ensure fair decisions, which, in turn, strengthen the rule of law and uphold justice. The adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to European norms in the areas of human rights protection, environmental standards, and economic policy aims to create a stable legal environment that enhances the legal security of citizens, improves environmental conditions, and stabilises economic policy. This process aligns with the recommendations of the Action plan on strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (2016), which is focused on reinforcing the independence and impartiality of the judiciary. Special attention is given to the Accession Criteria (Copenhagen Criteria) 1993 (n.d.) and European Union directives, which set the standards for evaluating the conformity of national legal systems with European requirements. These criteria provide a foundation for the comprehensive review and improvement of Ukraine’s legal mechanisms to meet high standards of human rights protection, ensure environmental safety, and support stable economic development. European standards impose stricter requirements on human rights protection and environmental preservation compared to Ukrainian legislation, which often tends to be less detailed and imposes lower standards.

The European Convention on Human Rights (1950) establishes clear standards for the protection of citizens from violations of rights, including the right to a fair trial, freedom of expression, and protection from torture. The implementation of these norms has been reflected in reforms to the judicial system, such as the introduction of the independent High Council of Justice. However, the Ukrainian legal system still falls short of ensuring full judicial independence, which has drawn criticism from international organisations.

Judicial reform in Ukraine includes improvements to the functioning of the High Anti-Corruption Court and the enhancement of mechanisms for handling corruption cases in line with European standards. One such standard is the assurance of judicial independence, as enshrined in the Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe No. CM/Rec (2010) 12 “Judges: Independence, Efficiency and Responsibilities” (2010). According to these recommendations, member states must guarantee judicial independence, thereby fostering impartial and objective judicial processes. Another important standard is adherence to the principle of the rule of law, as reflected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2000) (Article 47), which enshrines the right to a fair trial.

The economic implications of adapting to European standards include the integration of Ukraine into a single European economic area and the regulation of business and investment. One of the key aspects is the harmonisation of Ukrainian legislation with EU requirements, which has created a favourable business environment by simplifying

regulatory procedures, as outlined in the Association Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine (2014) (Chapter 6, Section 4). A crucial task is the implementation of corporate governance standards in accordance with the Directive of the European Parliament and of Council No. 2014/95/EU “Amending Directive 2013/34/EU as Regards Disclosure of Non-Financial and Diversity Information by Certain Large Undertakings and Groups” (2014), which requires transparency in non-financial reporting, thus enhancing trust in Ukrainian companies. The measures implemented have facilitated access to European markets, increased investment inflows, improved legal protection for investors, and promoted competition and innovation across various sectors of the economy. The impact of these standards is reflected in the fluctuations in foreign direct investment (FDI) in Ukraine in recent years: a decline of 91.0% in 2022, followed by significant growth of 575.0% in 2023, and another decline of 54.2% in 2024 (Foreign Direct Investment..., 2024).

The reform process towards European standards has also had a substantial effect on social integration in Ukraine. A key example of this is the improvement of access to social services for vulnerable groups through the introduction of inclusive policies based on European practices. This is evidenced by the harmonisation of social security, which aims to better integrate persons with disabilities and other marginalised groups into society. The implementation of European initiatives, such as the European Disability Strategy, has contributed to creating conditions for equal access to education, healthcare, and employment for persons with disabilities.

The development of civil society is another critical aspect of Ukraine’s adaptation to European standards. This process has been underpinned by support for civil society organisations and initiatives. For instance, the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2013/11/EU “On Alternative Dispute Resolution for Consumer Disputes and Amending Regulation (EC) No. 2006/2004 and Directive 2009/22/EC” (2013) provided for the involvement of citizens in decision-making processes by establishing mechanisms for public discussion and the participation of civil society organisations in policy formulation. An example of the implementation of European standards in the development of civil society in Ukraine is the Law of Ukraine No. 4572-VI “On Public Associations” (2013). It introduced legal guarantees for the operation of public organisations, enhancing their role in decision-making processes at both national and local levels.

Notably, outside Ukraine, the implementation of European standards in various sectors has led to more influential and visible changes. The adaptation to EU standards in human rights and justice, such as the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. (EU) 2016/343 “On the Strengthening of Certain Aspects of the Presumption of Innocence and of the Right to be Present at the Trial in Criminal Proceedings” (2016), has improved the protection of citizens’ rights and enhanced judicial independence in countries such as Poland and Ukraine. These reforms have provided greater legal security and fairness within the judiciary. The integration of national minorities in accordance with anti-discrimination norms, such as the Directive of European Council No. “On the Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment of Persons Regardless of Racial or Ethnic Origin” (2000) and the Directive of European Council No. 2000/78/EC “On Establishing a General Framework for Equal Treatment in Employment and Professional

Activities” (2000), has reduced social tensions and improved equality in countries such as Sweden and Germany. These standards have facilitated the greater integration of national minorities and ensured equal access to social services.

The integration into the European Single Economic Area through the implementation of economic directives, such as the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2006/123/EC “On Services in the Internal Market” (2006), has had a positive impact on the economic development and stability of Romania and Bulgaria. It has improved the investment climate and reduced economic imbalances. Educational and cultural changes, particularly through exchange programmes like Erasmus+, and the alignment of cultural practices with European standards, have enhanced educational integration and cultural exchange in Spain and Finland, leading to improved educational quality and support for cultural exchange. The support for civil society organisations and initiatives based on European standards, such as Regulation 2012/29/EC on the rights of crime victims, has increased civic engagement in Austria and France, strengthening democratic institutions and enhancing the role of civil society in these countries (Erasmus+ ..., 2015).

In Ukraine, the implementation of European standards has yielded mixed results. Despite some improvements in the protection of citizens’ rights and the quality of administrative services, challenges remain within the judiciary, particularly due to insufficient judicial independence and high levels of corruption (Zarosylo *et al.*, 2018). According to EU reports (Ukraine: EU report..., 2022), Ukraine has faced difficulties in judicial reforms, especially concerning the selection of Constitutional Court judges and the fight against corruption. In the Ukrainian context, such reforms require more effective implementation and external support to achieve comparable outcomes (Holovaty, 2015; European Commission, 2023).

Georgia serves as an example of a successful judicial reform, which included the upskilling of judges and the reorganisation of judicial bodies. These measures have helped reduce corruption and increase the efficiency of judicial processes. According to data from Transparency International and the World Bank, reforms in Georgia’s judicial system, which involved the establishment of an independent anti-corruption bureau and the modernisation of the justice system, have led to a reduction in corruption levels and an increase in public trust in the judiciary (European Commission, 2023). Moreover, according to a European Union report, judicial reforms in Georgia have produced significant results in improving the transparency and accountability of judges, contributing to more efficient case handling and increased judicial independence (European Commission, 2022).

Slovakia has also undergone similar reforms, which have positively influenced the efficiency of its judicial system. In particular, the implementation of standards in line with the EU, such as Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. (EU) 2016/343 “On the Strengthening of Certain Aspects of the Presumption of Innocence and of the Right to be Present at the Trial in Criminal Proceedings” (2016), has enhanced the transparency of judicial processes, ensured the right to a fair trial, and improved access to justice. Meanwhile, in the Czech Republic, new environmental protection regulations were adopted, notably under Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2008/98/EC “On Waste and Repealing Certain

Directives” (2008), which set out fundamental principles for waste management, including reduction, reuse, and recycling. The enhancement of standards in waste management also strengthened the legal protection of citizens, providing them with greater safeguards against the negative impacts of waste.

Thus, globalisation is characterised by integrating countries into global economic, political, and cultural networks, which brings about changes in all aspects of life. International agreements and the exchange of cultural and economic achievements have become part of global trends that affect the internal affairs of nations. Central and Eastern Europe, including Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria, has undergone substantial transformations following their accession to the European Union (Mikhnevych *et al.*, 2023). Integration has impacted the legislative systems of these countries, resulting in the harmonisation of their national regulations with European standards. For instance, Poland, which joined the EU in 2004, implemented substantial reforms in justice, anti-corruption, and economic policy, adapting its laws to the requirements of European directives. Similar processes have taken place in other Central and Eastern European countries due to their integration into the European legal framework, particularly in relation to the judiciary, state governance, and new rights and freedoms for citizens.

In Poland, a series of laws regulating the Constitutional Court were introduced, strengthening judicial independence. For example, amendments to the Law of Poland No. 1064 “On the Constitutional Court” (2015) aimed to limit political influence in the appointment of judges and establish transparent criteria for their selection. Ukraine would benefit from adopting similar legislative mechanisms to ensure the independence of judges in its Constitutional Court and prevent political interference. Romania’s experience in combating corruption is also of particular importance. The Law of Romania No. 78/2000 “On the Prevention, Detection and Sanctioning of Corruption” (2000) has been regarded as a successful reform, thanks to the independence of its anti-corruption body and its broad powers. Despite the existence of anti-corruption bodies in Ukraine, their effectiveness remains a challenge (Kostiushko, 2024). Thus, the legislative framework of Romania could serve as a model for improving the anti-corruption system of Ukraine. In Hungary, a law was adopted to regulate the activities of civil society organisations and their influence on politics (Law of Hungary No. CLXXV, 2011). This law has strengthened the role of civil society by increasing the transparency of funding and accountability of non-governmental organisations. Ukraine would benefit from implementing similar mechanisms to support the work of civil society organisations and ensure their active participation in the reform process.

The absence of necessary legislative changes in Ukraine, particularly in relation to the independence of the Constitutional Court and the fight against corruption, hinders progress in the legal sphere and democratic development. Poland, Romania, and Hungary demonstrated successful reforms that have strengthened judicial independence, established effective anti-corruption bodies, and improved oversight mechanisms for civil society organisations. Ukraine needs to adopt similar legislative initiatives to ensure the effectiveness of its reforms and strengthen its state institutions.

## Discussion

The findings of this study on the impact of globalisation on constitutional processes in Ukraine highlight the critical importance of a systematic approach to adapting national legislation to European standards to ensure social stability and legal harmonisation. The study indicates that the absence of a consistent strategy in this process could lead to social challenges, such as legal uncertainty, social tensions, or even the alienation of certain segments of the population. Legislative adaptation involves the integration of European norms and standards while preserving national legal traditions, ensuring a gradual and stable modernisation of the legal system of Ukraine.

The results of this study align with the conclusions of several other researchers who have examined similar processes in different countries. For example, M. Gora (2023) emphasises that the adaptation of national legislation to European standards is a complex and multifaceted process, accompanied by substantial social challenges. One of the key aspects highlighted by the researcher is legal uncertainty, which arises as a result of rapid changes in the legal system since citizens are not always prepared for such changes and may perceive them as a threat to their rights and freedoms. The findings are consistent with the analysis of the technical aspects of integrating European standards into Ukrainian legislation, which revealed that the changes may pose certain difficulties related to the adaptation of existing systems to new requirements.

The conducted study corroborates the findings of S. Kryvoshlykov and O. Tereshchuk (2022), who argued that insufficient preparation for legislative changes could lead to distrust in the legal system. S. Kryvoshlykov and O. Tereshchuk (2022) asserted that adaptation to European standards should not only involve technical adjustments but also an active information campaign to raise public awareness. The study confirms that, without proper communication with the population, reforms may be perceived as imposed, increasing the risk of social instability and adversely affecting democratic processes. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure both technical adaptation and effective communication for the successful implementation of reforms.

Similar conclusions regarding the impact of globalisation on constitutional processes are confirmed by studies such as those by D. Riznyk *et al.* (2024), who analysed European integration in Ukraine. Their work emphasises that harmonising national legislation with European standards often faces difficulties during implementation. D. Riznyk *et al.* (2024) particularly stressed the importance of considering national legal traditions and cultural peculiarities when adapting European norms. They argued that successful reform implementation is only possible if these specificities are thoroughly understood and considered, thereby avoiding conflicts and legal uncertainties. This is crucial to ensure harmony between the new standards and the national legal system.

The present study identifies similar challenges in Ukraine. It was established that the implementation of European standards in ecology, economics, and justice is accompanied by difficulties, particularly due to differences in legal traditions and cultural contexts. These challenges require special attention to national contexts to ensure the effective adaptation and implementation of reforms. The findings of other researchers highlight that the harmonisation of legislation encounters issues similar to those observed in Ukraine. Con-

sequently, the approaches of these researchers may be valuable in developing strategies that help overcome adaptation difficulties and ensure the effective integration of European standards into national legal systems, which is particularly important for countries undergoing European integration.

The study examined the global impact on constitutional processes in Ukraine and compared these with similar developments in other countries. These aspects resonate with the study by V. Zinchenko (2020), who conducted an in-depth analysis of the implementation of European standards in the legal system of Ukraine. Zinchenko emphasised that this process is pivotal to European integration, as legal reforms and the harmonisation of Ukrainian law with European legislation are key to bringing Ukraine closer to the European Union. V. Zinchenko (2020) also further highlighted that the adoption of European norms improves the quality of legal regulation, particularly in human rights protection, democratic freedoms, and transparency within the judicial system. Therefore, this study confirms the key role of legal reforms in strengthening constitutional foundations and democratic institutions, which are essential for the successful integration of Ukraine into the European legal community.

Notably, the proposed analysis aligns with the findings of other researchers. This study, therefore, confirms the institutional challenges involved in adapting Ukrainian legislation to European standards. Given the problems associated with this adaptation and implementation, as highlighted in the studies discussed, the new norms have had a rather limited impact on the Ukrainian state and society.

## Conclusions

Globalisation has acted as a powerful catalyst for transformations in many countries, and Ukraine is no exception. The changes driven by European integration have affected not only economic and cultural aspects but also the legal sphere, which has directly influenced constitutional processes. The adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to European standards has proven to be a complex and multifaceted process with potentially far-reaching social consequences. However, it has required political will, a revision of existing legal norms, and, in some cases, substantial amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine – steps for which the Ukrainian parliament and government were not fully prepared.

The study demonstrated that the adaptation of legislation to European standards has had a significant impact on constitutional processes in Ukraine, manifesting in several key areas. The first of these is the detailed regulation of Ukrainian environmental standards. Specifically, the Law of Ukraine “On Waste Management” cannot be fully implemented due to the absence of additional regulations containing provisions analogous to the Directive of the European Parliament and Council No. 2008/98/EC “On Waste and Repealing Certain Directives” and No. 2012/19/EU. This indicates systemic gaps in Ukrainian legislation. European directives in the field of environmental protection are highly detailed and require a comprehensive approach to regulating various aspects of environmental policy. Translating these requirements into Ukrainian law necessitates substantial efforts to align with other regulations and implement extensive reforms.

Much more has been accomplished in the area of judicial reform, although public perception has not matched the actual outcomes. The reforms introduced to the structure of the judicial system, starting with the 2016 reform,

were intended to demonstrate a commitment of Ukraine to the principle of an independent judiciary. However, despite public attention and the establishment of the High Council of Justice and the High Qualification Commission of Judges, tasked with ensuring the integrity of judges, evaluation and selection of judges have not always been transparent. Comparisons with other Eastern Partnership and Eastern European countries suggest that corruption, which has been successfully tackled in countries like Georgia, the Czech Republic, and Poland, remains a key factor hindering the successful completion of long-standing reform efforts in Ukraine. Without addressing this, resolving the discrepancies between Ukraine's procedural law (civil, administrative, and criminal processes) and the requirements of the European Convention on Human Rights and other international agreements will not yield substantive results.

Lastly, this issue also applies to the adaptation of economic standards. The absence of a favourable investment climate has hindered active regulation in this area, which

explains the greater focus on judicial reform, a matter of particular interest to European partners. Against the backdrop of judicial reforms, economic changes have been largely confined to those envisaged by the Association Agreement with the European Union. As a result, numerous European standards concerning product quality and certification, along with targeted support programmes for small and medium-sized enterprises in adapting to these new standards, have been overlooked by the legislature.

Future studies should focus on identifying the challenges in implementing the already adopted legislation, including the organisational changes that have taken place in the field of oversight and enforcement of the new legal framework.

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## Conflict of interest

None.

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## **Глобалізаційний вплив на конституційні процеси в Україні: соціальні наслідки адаптації українського законодавства до європейських стандартів**

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**Анотація.** Метою статті було дослідити, як процеси глобалізації вплинули на трансформацію правової системи України та визначити соціальні наслідки, що виникли в результаті адаптації національного законодавства до європейських стандартів. У ході дослідження основну увагу було приділено аналізу того, як інтеграція європейських норм вплинула на розвиток правової свідомості та суспільної взаємодії в Україні, а також на зміцнення демократичних інститутів і громадянських свобод. Методологія дослідження включала застосування порівняльного аналізу для зіставлення українського законодавства та норм Європейського Союзу, системного підходу для оцінки комплексності правової інтеграції. Результати дослідження показали, що адаптація до європейських стандартів сприяє підвищенню прозорості державного управління, зміцненню правового захисту громадян та зниженню рівня корупції. У статті було підкреслено, що ці процеси мали суттєвий вплив на розвиток громадянського суспільства, підвищення рівня правової свідомості та активності громадян, а також на зміцнення національної ідентичності в умовах інтеграції до глобальних процесів. Особливу увагу приділено питанням, що стосувалися соціальної адаптації населення до нових правових реалій, пов'язаних із прийняттям та імплементацією європейських норм і стандартів. Важливим аспектом роботи стало дослідження впливу глобалізаційних процесів на зміну ролі держави у правовому регулюванні та на посилення взаємодії між державними інститутами та суспільством. Дослідження акцентувало увагу на ключових аспектах трансформації конституційних процесів під впливом глобалізаційних тенденцій, зокрема інтеграції України до європейського правового простору. Увага приділялася соціальним наслідкам адаптації національного законодавства до європейських стандартів, які проявилися у зміні правової культури, посиленні правозахисних механізмів та вдосконаленні інститутів демократії

**Ключові слова:** правозахисні механізми; демократія; громадянське суспільство; інтеграція; національна ідентичність; глобалізація