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KIELCE /ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE AND VINNYTSA REGIONS – PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION FROM PERSPECTIVE PAST DECADES.

Гжеля Дж., Ющик А. Партнерська співпраця між м. Кельце (Свентокшинское воєводство) і Вінницьким областю у світлі останніх десятиліть. У статті представлені основні, а також правові основи співпраці, покладеної в 1950 році між Кельце (Свентокшинское воєводство) і Вінницьким регіоном. Незважаючи на перетворення, що проходять в обох країнах, це співпраця як і раніше актуально в умовах нового міжнародного стану. У статті висвітлена низка заходів, практичне застосування яких буде корисне для ряду регіонів, округів, що виявляють цікавість до цієї співпраці.

Гжеля Дж., Ющик А. Партнерское сотрудничество между г. Кельце (Свентокшинское воеводство) и Винницкой областью регионом в свете последних десятилетий. В статье представлены основные, а также правовые основы сотрудничества, положенного в 1950 году между Кельце (Свентокшинское воеводство) и Винницким регионом. Несмотря на преобразования, проходящие в обеих странах, это сотрудничество по-прежнему актуально в условиях новой международной обстановки. В статье освещен ряд мероприятий, практическое применение которых будет полезно для ряда регионов, округов, проявляющих интерес к этому сотрудничеству.

Grzela J., Juszczyk A. Kielce /Świetokrzyskie and Vinnytsa Regions – Partnership and Cooperation From Perspective Past Decades. The aim of this article is to show the way the cooperation between the two regions has come. It presents the formal and the legal bases of the cooperation. These are both the bases that lay at the heart of the beginning of cooperation in the 1950s and the bases that have been in effect since the time the political transformations occurred in both countries and are still valid in the new international situation. Attention to the practical dimension is the reason that a whole range of various undertakings is shown. These undertakings can be conducted in a situation when regions, counties, communes or various institutions show interest in cooperation.

Introduction. Ukraine is a strategic, economic and political partner of Poland. It has set its priority goals with the ongoing socio-economic changes. Poland's experience in aspiring for European Union accession and its help to Ukraine in that matter are not without significance. Poland – by supporting Ukraine's pro-European ambitions – follows the EU policy, since transfrontier connections are considered an element of political integration by the European Union. Both countries cooperate on various planes. The cooperation's character is international, as well regional and local. Among numerous interregional contracts and agreements, the cooperation of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast is particularly noteworthy. It is characterized by different scopes and levels of the intensity of mutual connections and undertakings. The cooperation involves local government units, non-governmental organizations, economic entities and higher education institutions. Here, the cooperation of the two main cities of Świętokrzyskie region and Vinnytsia Oblast is especially distinctive.

The aim of the authors of the article – who had been, at different points in time, managing members of the voivodeship authorities, and thus have had an influence on the course of the cooperation – is to describe the variety of forms of contacts between both partners.

The idea and the legal basis of the international cooperation of territorial selfgovernment units. The changes that occurred at the turn of the 21st century in the countries of East-Central Europe brought about a new political, military, social and economic situation.

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Unrestricted international cooperation became possible, not only at the national level but also at the level of regional and local communities. Attempts to establish various relations, to exchange scientific and cultural achievements, to eliminate economic gaps and to break mutual stereotypes and prejudices, resulted in advanced forms of interregional cooperation. Regions which cooperate internationally play an important part in the development of Europe, as they directly support the process of communication and integration of communities, institutions and enterprises. Their aim is to create international activity areas for the economy and service sector and to turn country borders into administrative boundaries. The most common aims of the cooperation are: development of economic relations, protection of the environment and elimination of ecological hazards, expansion of transport and communication infrastructure, spatial development, development of connections in the fields of education, science, culture, health care, sport and tourism, as well as elimination of potential threats, risks and effects of natural disasters. Both local self-governments and central government bodies are involved in the cooperation.

General legislative framework of the international cooperation is defined in the documents passed by the Council of Europe, that is: European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities and Authorities passed in Madrid on May 21, 1980 (called Madrid Convention) along with two Additional Protocols, European Charter For Border And Cross-border Regions passed in November of 1981 (modified on December 1, 1995) and European Charter of Local Self-government passed on October 15, 1985. Similar qualifications in relation to the regions, giving them the power to conduct regional foreign policy, were outlined in the European Charter of Regional Self-government, passed by the Congress of the Council of Europe in 1997. [1]

The legal basis of the cross-border cooperation of the Polish regions constitutes of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland and bilateral agreements [2] which provide an overall framework for undertaking international activity on regional and local level of a given country. In the field of foreign policy, the authorities of our country, since the beginning of the 1990s, have been aiming at creating conditions for regional and local centres to effectively cooperate with selected international partners [3]. The achievement of these goals was undoubtedly favoured by the central government reform in Poland, decentralization of power, development of the idea of territorial autonomy and the new administrative division of the country.

The acts on voivodeship self-government and on government administration in the voivodeships - passed on June 5, 1998 - have had a direct influence on the subsequent development of the cross-border and interregional cooperation. Both the self-government reform and the reform of the administrative division of the country introduced a new subject of this cooperation, i.e. voivodeship self-governments. New voivodeships present themselves in a much more favourable light in terms of economic strength, cultural potential or social potential. This makes them capable of conducting regional policy and intensive relations of a cross-border character, for they have also been granted considerable powers in international cooperation. On September 15, 2000 the Sejm of the Republic of Poland has also passed the Act on the principles of joining international organizations of local and regional communities by territorial selfgovernment units [4]. This law gives the self-government units of all levels the power to conduct international cooperation, in a broad sense, within their own competence and the Polish law.

An outline of the history of the cooperation of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnvtsia Oblast. The relations between Poles and Ukrainians became lawfully regulated on May 18, 1992, when the Treaty of Good Neighbourship and Friendly Cooperation was signed between the Republic of Poland and Ukraine. In the treaty both countries declared that they would support the development of direct relations between regions, administrative-territorial units and cities of the Republic of Poland and Ukraine, which would strengthen the relations between Poland and Ukraine. Building construction, spatial development, transport, public utilities, industry, trade, agriculture, wildlife conservation and environmental protection, education and vocational training, teaching Polish and Ukrainian as a second language

(especially in border regions), culture and art, health care, tourism and sport, exchange of information in case of disasters or catastrophes (epidemics, floods, fires, transportation disasters and transport incidents) and other fields of mutual interests have all been indicated as possible aspects of the relationship between the governments and between self-governments [5].

However, the beginning of the relationship between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast dates back to a much earlier time. The beginning constituted of both the letter from KW PZPR (Provincial Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party) in Kielce of April 2, 1958 to the Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine in Vinnytsia, regarding the proposal for establishing a cooperation, and the positive answer to that letter from its addressee of August 9, 1958. The letter and the answer served as an impulse for a two-way exchange of delegations of various kinds. It was, however, always organized through party authorities in the voivodeship. The following numbers prove the intensity of the relations. In the course of 16 years, 44 delegations and work groups, with roughly 430 participants, were sent to Vinnytsia from Kielce Voivodeship. From Vinnytsia, in turn, there came 30 delegations with 370 people [6].

A measurable material outcome of the relations were the two restaurants opened in Kielce and Vinnytsia – "Winnica" restaurant in Kielce (opened in 1974) and "Kielce" restaurant in Vinnytsia. After the political transformations, both in Ukraine and in Poland, the character of mutual relations has changed. One can say that the relations had been freed of ideology. At the moment they develop both on the regional and local level. The relations, in their new formula, began in 1995 when representatives of the Regional Office in Kielce signed an appropriate contract with the representatives of the Vinnytsia Oblast.

After the administrative division reform – having taken over the competence regarding international cooperation - the Office of the Marshal renegotiated the agreement signed previously by the voivode (governor of the voivodeship). It has been done at a Polish-Ukrainian Self-Government Forum in June, 1999, which was dedicated to, among other things, exchange of experience in administrative reforms introduction, European integration, and cooperation between regions of Poland and Ukraine. The agreement on cooperation between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast was signed on September 23, 1999. The scope of cooperation includes: transfer of technologies between enterprises, companies and institutions related to or working in this field, support for cultural exchange programs, creation of mutual contacts between scientific, cultural and educational institutions, support for medical cooperation programs, exchange of information, experience and technologies in the field of environment protection, among other things. Direct contacts between economic organizations, banks, production companies, trade and service companies and cultural and scientific institutions have been acknowledged as a basis for cooperation. The important thing is that it was emphasized that the cooperation would be carried out in accordance with the internal legislation of both parties [7].

The forms and the scope of relations since 2000. The relations between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast at the turn of the 21st century were successively intensified. Today, the cooperation between regions is characterized by different scope and intensity of mutual relations and undertaken projects. Communes (Polish: *gminy*), counties (Polish: *powiaty*), NGOs, economic entities and higher education institutions are all partners in the cooperation.

In 2000, the 1st Forum of Partner Cities Poland-Ukraine took place and was dedicated to acquainting the Ukrainian partners with experiences related to the process of how Poland's administrative structure had been reformed. Two years later, in February 2002, Poland-Ukraine Economic Mission was organized; during the Mission a cooperation on the level of economic self-governments between Staropolska Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Vinnytsia Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been established [8].

Following the guidelines of the Polish Year in Ukraine, in 2004 Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship carried out the Regional Cultural-Economic Program of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship in Vinnytsia Oblast. Its aim was, among other things, to develop a detailed and specific schedule of fulfilling the Agreement on cooperation between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast in 2005, to give a multidimensional presentation of the Świętokrzyski region and to enable the companies and organizations of both regions to build relations with one another.

One year later – in June 2005 – a group of representatives of different levels of the executive branch, self-government organizations and the media from Vinnytsia Oblast stayed in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship. Representatives of the Oblast were acquainted with rules of use of the structural funds in our region and the scope of competence that different levels of self-government have at their disposal. The theoretical knowledge has been backed up with practice during the two days that the representatives spent visiting the communes, counties and cities of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship.

In 2006 a project was realized under the name "Drawing up a strategy for cooperation of partner territorial units of the Vinnytsia Oblast and Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship". The Polish part of the project was co-funded by the Stefan Batory Foundation, as part of the East-East Program "Partnership without borders". The Ukrainian part of the project was co-funded by the Soros Foundation. As a result of the project, a model text of the strategy of further cooperation between territorial self-governments of both regions was drawn up. Moreover, each partner prepared their own strategic documents [9]. Thanks to that project, a cooperation between the Podolian Center of Human Rights and The Foundation in Support of Local Democracy has been established.

In 2006 Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship participated in the "Raising the capability of regional administration of Ukraine in terms of strategic region management" project, realized by the Polish Business And Innovation Centers Association. Help in the Świętokrzyskie part of the project consisted of organizing a study visit to Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, including theme meetings for the representatives of Vinnytsia Oblast.

In 2006 the Voivodeship was also a partner of the Vinnytsia Oblast in a project by the Ukrainians named "Development of local self-governments through partnership of territorial units" (a necessary subsidy was granted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland).

On August 24, 2007, the Marshal of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and the governor of Vinnytsia Oblast signed the "Plan of fulfillment of the agreement on cooperation between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast for 2008". The plan aimed at Kielce-Vinnytsia cooperation in organizing an economic mission, accompanied by a presentation of offers submitted by different companies and conferences on the investment and commercial possibilities. Another aim was to organize a "Week of culture and art of Świętokrzyski region" in Vinnytsia and to hold Sport Championships with Świętokrzyski and Vinnytsia regions as 'participants'.

The events of 2008 are certainly worth discussing – it was then that the anniversary of 50 years of cooperation between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast was solemnly celebrated. The motto of the 50th jubilee year celebrations was "Świętokrzyskie – Winniczyzna, dwa regiony – jedno serce" ("Świętokrzyski – Vinnytsia, two regions – one heart"). That period was filled with many celebrations, events and undertakings. One of the more important events, a ceremonial session of the Świętokrzyskie Regional Council, was attended by highest-ranking authorities of the Vinnytsia region, accompanied by a large group of Ukrainian reporters. The participants of the meeting discussed the tradition of both regions' and both countries' mutual friendship, as well as their cultural and emotional bonds [10]. The meeting also served as an opportunity for both parties' reporters to talk and share experience.

The 50-years-of-cooperation celebrations, which commenced with the aforementioned session of the Regional Council, lasted a few months and were filled with a number of cultural, scientific and sporting events, which were held both in Świętokrzyski region and Vinnytsia Oblast.

A rare event took place during a conference named "Świętokrzyski – Vinnytsia regions. 50 years have passed – experiences, financial ability and plans for the future", held in Kielce on June 11, 2008 (the conference was another part of the celebrations of 50 years of cooperation between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast). An agreement between The Jan Kochanowski University of Humanities and Sciences in Kielce and Vinnytsia Institute of Trade and Economics was signed. The directions of cooperation mentioned in the agreement are: joint scientific research, applying for European funds and exchange of research personnel and students.

That year, a number of important economic events took place and the Vinnytsia region entrepreneurs' Economic Mission in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship has to be mentioned here. The project was organized by the Office of the Marshal, together with the Staropolska Chamber of Industry and Commerce. At the same time, the "Prospects for development of business tourism in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, with regard to eastern markets" conference was held.

A visit to Vinnytsia Oblast, organized by representatives of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship self-government was another important part of the 50-years-of-cooperation celebrations. The authorities of the Świętokrzyski region participated in the jubilee celebrations of Ukraine gaining her independence. One of the key points of the visit was the conference entitled "Obstacles and barriers to the development of self-government and to the reform of administration and self-government – Polish and European experience", during which Świętokrzyskie self-government representatives shared their experience in terms of the reform, as well as self-government development, local self-government unit management and using EU funds by Polish local self-governments.

It is also worth emphasizing that the jubilee itself was kind of a summary of the longstanding cooperation, which resulted in a number of successful initiatives, undertakings and programs, as well as in creation of close relations of economic, business, scientific, administrative, cultural and sporting nature, exchange of young people and so forth, on all the levels of local self-government administration [11]. It all shows that the 50-years-of-cooperation jubilee, celebrated that year, was not just a customary celebration but that there really was... something to celebrate [12]. Subsequent years brought about more initiatives and joint programs concerning both business cooperation and cooperation, investment and cultural abilities.

Thus, in 2009, the Office of the Marshal of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship has filed a project with the Polish foreign aid program of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project was filed under the name of "Agrotourism – a chance of development for Vinnytsia Oblast". The project' aim was to support the development of rural tourism in Vinnytsia Oblast and was positively appraised and granted the sum of subsidy it applied for. It had been realized by the end of 2009 and concluded with a study visit – in December 2009 – in Świetokrzyskie Voivodeship for 40 beneficiaries who conduct agrotouristic activity or want to initiate such an activity.

In July 2010, as part of the project by the International public organization "Ukraine – Poland - Germany", conducted under the name "The European experience in civil society building through the eyes of reporters", a group of 22 representatives of the media and the authorities of Vinnytsia stayed in Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship. Also in that year, during a seminar "Small Eastern Partnership", which took place on October 12 and October 13 in Brussels, Belgium, the representatives of our region presented their experience from over half a century of cooperation with the partner region of Vinnytsia Oblast. The year 2011 was very rich in jointly organized events.

In February, we had a guest delegation from Vinnytsia Oblast visit the region; the delegation participated in a training with Polish agricultural reform as its topic. In May, representatives of the authorities of the self-government of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship went to Vinnytsia, where they participated in an international conference called "A reform of territorial self-governments - national and international experience". Also in May, a delegation from Świętokrzyski region took part in solemn celebrations of the Europe Day held in Vinnytsia. At the end of May and the beginning of June, the newly-appointed councillors of Vinnytsia Oblast

Council and of regional councils stayed in Świętokrzyski region. They were acquainted with the functioning of communal self-governments, county slef-governments and the voivodeship self-government. In July, there were two visits, during which our partners became acquainted with the best practices in energy production through biomass combustion and assessed the market in the Świętokrzyski region for fuel granule, made in Ukraine, which is used for energy purposes. They also learned good practice in terms of self-government development and enterprise development and became acquainted with investment projects and pro-innovation projects. Our guests from Ukraine were also shown how municipal and construction enterprises and companies function and what the labour market policy realized by the voivodeship self-government and county self-governments is.

It should be noted that up until now, the authorities of Vinnytsia Oblast and Świętokrzyski region have participated in important events for both countries, year by year [13].

Kielce – **Vinnytsia** – **an example of model cooperation.** Among the more than 30 contracts and agreements between local governments of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and Vinnytsia Oblast that were mentioned before, cooperation of Kielce and Vinnytsia is particularly noteworthy. Its beginnings date back to 1975. The systemic transformation carried out in both countries in the 1990s brought about a new opening in cross-border contacts, including also the contacts between the two main cities of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship (Kielce) and Vinnytsia Oblast (Vinnytsia). The then president of Kielce and mayor and president of the City Council of Vinnytsia, during the time that a Ukrainian delegation visited Kielce, signed a letter of intent concerning the cooperation between both cities on August 10, 1993. The parties agreed to create advantageous economic relations between companies from Kielce and Vinnytsia, create favourable conditions for exhibitions and shows and to sign trade agreements. The cooperation was also to be concerned with cultural exchange, sport exchange and tourism exchange [14].

A new agreement on partnership and mutual cooperation was signed on October 25, 2003 by the president of Kielce and the mayor of Vinnytsia. Since then, the relations of both cities have included various initiatives and undertakings on many fields. The most important ones are worth mentioning and are as follows:

• in 2004 the 1st Millennium Gate Economic Forum took place;

• in 2006 a new mayor of Vinnytsia paid a working visit to Kielce. During a meeting with the president of Kielce prospects of cooperation of the cities and ways to intensify economic relations were discussed. The Ukrainian party was interested in the organizational structure and the quality policy implemented in the Municipal Council of Kielce. The Vinnytsian party also put forward an idea of creating a consulate of the Republic in Poland in Vinnytsia and asked the authorities of Kielce to support that idea; [15]

• the officials from City Council in Kielce, during their visit Vinnytsia in September 2008, instructed the Ukrainian partners on procurement of external funds for accomplishing various objectives and on how to attract investors; [16]

• in 2009, a trip for representatives of the Voivodeship Polyclinic Hospital in Kielce (Polish: *Wojewódzki Szpital Zespolony w Kielcach*) to Vinnytsia was organized. During their stay in Ukraine, the specialists from Kielce performed 10 stent insertion surgeries. The materials essential for performing the surgeries and the work time needed to perform them was a gift from the Voivodeship Polyclinic Hospital in Kielce to the residents of Vinnytsia; [17]

• also in 2009, a delegation from Vinnytsia visited Kielce to attend the "Święto Kielc" (*Kielce Festival*). The intense cooperation of self-governments of Kielce and Vinnytsia was expanded by cooperation in the field of vocational education. The visit of the delegation from Vinnytsia led to a partnership agreement being signed between two schools: Higher Vocational School of Services Industry in Vinnytsia and Food Industry School Complex in Kielce;

• in 2010 the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland was opened in Vinnytsia. This event was attended by Poland and Ukraine's Deputy Ministers of Foreign Affairs, diplomats, representatives of Vinnytsia Oblast and the city of Vinnytsia, Polish people living in Ukraine and members of the local self-government of Kielce. It was repeatedly emphasized that part of the credit for the opening of the consulate goes to good cooperation between both cities and their huge involvement in the cause. The Polish consular office (sixth in Ukraine) covers Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr and Khmelnytskyi Oblasts, an area with the largest population of Polish descent;

• in 2011, the executive committee of the Polish organization in Vinnytsia – "Konfederacja Polaków Podola" (*Confederation of Polish people of the Podolia region*) – which cooperates with Kielce, visited the main city of the Świętokrzyski region. Kielce provide material support for the activity of the association through donation of books, textbooks, writing materials and so on;

• also in 2011, an exchange of university students between Kielce and Vinnytsia (which had already become a tradition) took place. The students from Kielce, while staying at their Ukrainian peers' homes, had the opportunity to learn the rich Ukrainian culture and visit the places of Podolia region (Vinnytsia, Nemyriv, Kamianets-Podilskyi and Khotyn) that reflect the history that Poland and Ukraine share. Thanks to the support of Kielce City Hall and the City Council of Vinnytsia, student exchanges have been organized regularly since 2003 [18].

It is clear from the schedule presented above that the cooperation is not limited to the administration only but includes other organizations and social groups of both cities as well. The exchanges of school children and students between partnership cities are organized. Senior organizations also take part in the cooperation. The biggest benefit of these friendly and enthusiastic relations between Kielce and Vinnytsia is the fact that the situation of Polish minority, not only in the Vinnytsia region but throughout the Podolia, has improved considerably. It should be added that the city of Vinnytsia itself is inhabited by about 30.000 or 40.000 people of Polish origins, the number of whom amounts to around 300.000 in the whole Oblast.

Conclusion. The cooperation between Świętokrzyski region and Vinnytsia Oblast cannot be overestimated. At the moment the cooperation works in all the major fields of the sociocultural life of these subjects. An intensified economic cooperation is in progress. The construction of a production plant in Vinnytsia by one of the major entrepreneurs from Kielce serves as a powerful token of that cooperation. Many lesser entrepreneurs also have economic relations with companies from Vinnytsia, which clearly illustrates the fact that these relations function correctly, creating an appropriate atmosphere for the entrepreneurs to take investment initiatives.

Taking initiatives, with deepening of cultural and economic bonds in mind, plays a very important role from the perspective of the Poland-Ukraine cooperation in the international arena and the perspective of strengthening the relations between Poland and Ukraine. It is a known fact that the Polish-Ukrainian partnership is strategic for the foreign policy of Poland, especially with the current political line-up and events that take place on the contemporary political scene.

Building partnership relations on a wide scale between the regions of both countries, new participants becoming involved in the already existing partnership relations and the regional cooperation network being created make up an important effect of the Polish-Ukrainian relations. The character and the significance of these relations are reflected in governor O. Dombrovsky's words, spoken in 2008: "Half a century has passed since the moment we signed the first agreement on cooperation between Vinnytsia Oblast and Kielce Voivodeship. (...) Now our regions are united, not only by a partnership but by ties of blood. (...) Together we can be proud of the achievements of the first fifty-year period of our friendship. But, without any doubt, there are no limits to perfection and it is crucial that we examine and renew the efforts we put into the creation of 'bridges of agreement' between our lands in the next fifty-year period already. It is necessary to engage a new generation of people of good will, who are ready to live and work in accordance with the principle of inter-region cooperation." [19]

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2. Poland – at the onset of the changes in its internal policy – has established the basis for neighbourhood relations by concluding treaties of good neighbourship with the neighbouring countries. The existing borders have been accepted in these treaties, the mutual friendship has been emphasized and the main directions of the co-operation (economic, cultural and scientific) have been listed.

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6. E. Wójcik, July 1974. Więzy przyjaźni, Kielce

7. The agreement between Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship (Republic of Poland) and Vinnytsia Oblast (Ukraine) on interregional cooperation.

8. See: <u>http://www.sejmik.kielce.pl/strona,3,6281,start,0.html</u> [access on February 15, 2012]

9. See: <u>http://batory.webprovider3.kei.pl/pl/publikacje/sprawozdania-</u> <u>roczne/sprawozdanie-fundacji-batorego-za-2006-rok/program-wschod-wschod.html</u> [access on February 22, 2012]

10. See: "Nasz region. Informator Samorządowy" No. 14/2008.

11. As soon as autumn 2004, as a part of government program "Polish Year in Ukraine, Ukrainian Year in Poland" in Vinnytsia, a "Regional Cultural-Economic Program of Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship in Vinnytsia Oblast", consisting of a Presentation of the Region and the Economic Mission, was carried out. One of the results of the program was the establishment of cooperation between more cities and communes, e.g. between Busko-Zdrój and Chmielnik commune, Morawica and Baławianka commune, Zagnańsk and Strzyżawka commune and Piekoszów and Stadnica commune. At the moment, over 30 local self-governments of the Vinnytsia and Świętokrzyski regions have signed agreements on cooperation. For more, see: A. Potaczała, "Świętokrzyskie - wczoraj, dziś, jutro", No. 1/2008.

12. A. Potaczała, "Świętokrzyskie - wczoraj, dziś, jutro", No. 1/2008.

13. For more, see: <u>www.sejmik.pl</u> [access on February 22, 2012].

14. On 23rd and 24th of June, 1999, a Polish-Ukrainian Self-Government Forum was held, with participation of the presidents of Ukraine and the Republic of Poland – Leonid Kuchma and Aleksander Kwaśniewski. Among the representatives of Ukraine was a delegation from Vinnytsia.

15. As a result of the actions taken by the authorities of Vinnytsia, Polish community organizations, with the support of Kielce self-government (on September 28, 2006 the City Council of Kielce adopted the resolution "Concerning the Minister of Foreign Affairs' decision", which allowed for the consulate of the Republic of Poland to be created in Vinnytsia), Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to the creation of Consular Information Point in Vinnytsia. The Information Point started its activity on March 20, 2007.

16. The instructions were part of the "Self-government Tigers of Europe" project, financed with the resources of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as a part of the Polish international aid program for 2008. Kielce received an over 100.000 PLN subsidy for development and intensification of the existing relations with the Ukrainian partner, through sharing of good practices developed in the Kielce self-government, among others.

17. A few months later – on November 16, 2009, a transport with medicine and surgical masks set out for Ukraine. These gifts were addressed to the Vinnytsia Oblast Children's Clinical Hospital.

18. For more on the topic, see: <u>www.kielce.pl/wspolpraca_z_zagranica/</u>. [access on February 25, 2012]

19. Olexander Georgievich Dombrovsky, in: "Świętokrzyskie – wczoraj, dziś, jutro", No. 1/2008.

Ключові слова: співробітництво, регіон, опит, міжрегіональний договір, угода, практичне застосування

Ключевые слова: сотрудничество, регион, опыт, межрегиональный договор, соглашение, практическое применение

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ПРОБЛЕМИ І ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ ІННОВАЦІЙНОГО РОЗВИТКУ ПІДПРИЄМСТВ АТОМНОЇ ЕНЕРГЕТИКИ

Костецький М. Р. Проблеми і перспективи інноваційного розвитку підприємств атомної енергетики. В статті розглянуто інноваційний розвиток підприємств атомної енергетики, як стабілізуючий і конкурентоздатний чинник, що сприяє енергетичній стабільності і незалежності економічного розвитку держави. На основі світового і вітчизняного досвіду, досліджено стан і перспективи впровадження інновацій на підприємствах атомної енергетики. Сформульовано принципи, методологічні підходи і пріоритети впровадження механізму інноваційного розвитку підприємств атомної енергетики.

Костецкий М. Р. Проблемы и перспективы инновационного развития предприятий атомной энергетики. В статье рассмотрены инновационное развитие предприятий атомной энергетики, как стабилизирующий и конкурентоспособный фактор, способствующий энергетической стабильности и независимости экономического развития государства. На основе мирового и отечественного опыта, исследовано состояние и перспективы внедрения инноваций на предприятиях атомной энергетики. Сформулированы принципы, методологические подходы и приоритеты внедрения механизма инновационного развития предприятий атомной энергетики.

Kostecki M. Problems and Perspectives of Innovation Development at the Nuclear Power Industry. The article deals with the development of innovative nuclear energy companies as stabilizing and competitive factor that promotes energy security and independence of the country's economic development, examines the state of and prospects for innovation in the nuclear power industry on the basis of international and domestic experience and formulates principles, methodological approaches and priorities for implementing the mechanism of innovation development of the nuclear power industry.

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