



25 YEARS

**OF RESEARCH, IMPACT,
AND CHANGES**

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FROM THE BOARD

The Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting is a unique phenomenon. It appeared in 1999 as a response to a specific request of the time – an urgent need for an unbiased analysis of the economy in the context of the development of a market economy. The market transformation was, without exaggeration, the civilizational choice of the country, which determined the future vector of IER development – to deal with the most urgent and complex problems of economic reforms.

Later, when the market economy was built, the Institute began to actively deal with the problems of its further development, the effective integration of Ukraine into the system of world economic relations, and the search for solutions to urgent internal and external economic problems that the Ukrainian economy and its sectors face. Today, these are problems of economic stability in conditions of war, reconstruction, and gaining membership in the EU.

The history of our work is closely connected to the history of the formation and development of the Ukrainian economy. The country learned, and the Institute learned. We are proud that our team helped and is helping the country move forward.

Igor Burakovsky,
Chairman of the Board





01

A society based on economic freedoms and the right to free expression is the ideal that Ukraine aspires to after a long experience of lack of freedom in empires and totalitarian regimes. For 25 years, the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER) has been analyzing and guiding the country's movement toward economic prosperity. Despite the crisis and challenging business climate, a new private business has emerged in Ukraine, which has become the basis of economic stability and has shown incredible resilience during the war.

Ukraine's European integration requires the rapid implementation of reforms that will significantly affect the business environment and require the adaptation of business culture. This creates new challenges for entrepreneurs and citizens but, at the same time, opens the way to the advantages that EU membership provides. To ensure the effectiveness of reforms, it is necessary to convey their essence and benefits to businesses and citizens, maintaining a constant dialogue based on mutual trust.

IER, as an independent think tank, has already gained the trust of key stakeholders, promoting transparency and trust in society. This requires accurate data on the state of the business environment and the mood of entrepreneurs and citizens. IER still has a lot of work ahead because the path to the EU is just beginning!

Oksana Kuziakiv,
Chief Executive Officer



FROM THE BOARD

01

A challenge that is only sometimes considered in our society today is the need to maintain broad support for European integration within Ukraine. For the European integration process to be successful, more than support from business associations, civil society, and the expert community, which systematically engages in dialogue with the government, analyzes processes, and sees long-term benefits, is needed.

”

Maintaining a positive image of Ukraine's future membership in the EU is also necessary among the Ukrainian population and small and medium-sized businesses.

Given the current level of support for European integration, which, according to polls, exceeds 90%, there may seem to be no problems, but this is not. Society needs a general understanding of the process. Of course, this does not mean that all citizens understand every adopted law or regulatory act; this is impossible. But people's expectations must be managed: What will the move to the EU give us, and what should not be counted on?

For more than a decade, the Institute has supported the Ukrainian government in integrating into the world economy. Integration into the EU is another super-task that faces the country as a whole, including us researchers. It is an honor to be part of this fateful process for Ukraine.

Veronika Movchan,
Academic Director



ABOUT US

02

On December 17, 1999, the German Advisory Group on Economic Reforms and more than a dozen prominent Ukrainian scientists and politicians founded the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER). Over 25 years of work, we have gone from a project supported by German consultants providing technical assistance to a powerful Ukrainian independent analytical institution.

Our mission is to propose and promote solutions for Ukraine's prosperity and sustainable development based on the principles of a market economy, freedom, and open dialogue.

Key tasks of the IER by 2026

- 1** To make a significant contribution to the formation of economic policy in Ukraine
- 2** To contribute to achieving the goals and objectives of the negotiation process on Ukraine's accession to the EU
- 3** To be an initiator and active platform for dialogue between the authorities, business, and civil society
- 4** To promote the dissemination of analytical approaches in civil society
- 5** To be an advocate for Ukraine in the world

IER is politically independent and has been ensuring the impartiality of its recommendations and preventing manipulation of research results for 25 years. The Institute actively cooperates with political decision-makers to implement recommendations in practice.

OUR ACTIVITIES

03

We work on the most important issues on our country's agenda: macroeconomic stability and economic growth, EU integration and international trade, a favorable business climate and a competitive labor market, the development of structurally important economic sectors (energy, agriculture, transport), the economy of regions, and strengthening the capacity of civil society.

But our main goal has always stayed the same: to contribute to improving the well-being of Ukrainians. After all, the ultimate beneficiaries of our work are the residents of our country. That is why, in recent years, we have been actively developing our own media resources, which are already read by over twenty thousand people, including such Telegram channels as "Honest Customs", "Democracy Nearby", "Economy of Ukraine", "From Sanctions to Reparations", and "World Economy".

Analysis of the economy and economic policy

- macroeconomic analysis;
- analysis of economic development trends;
- trade policy;
- development of the business environment;

- fiscal policy;
- social policy;
- monetary policy;
- labor market;
- regional development;

- structural reforms;
- agriculture, industry, energy;
- food policy;
- development of financial markets;
- infrastructure development.

We at IER have developed a toolkit for short—and medium-term forecasting and modeling of economic processes. Therefore, IER specialists use modern mathematical and statistical methods and tools to assess the impact of various shocks on Ukraine's economy, such as changes in trade regimes, prices, and other conditions of economic activity. One of IER's flagship analytical products is the **Monthly Economic Monitoring of Ukraine (MEMU)**, which we have produced since 2000. MEMU provides a comprehensive overview of the state of the Ukrainian economy and includes our assessment of GDP dynamics.

Today, during times of war, the GDP assessment by IER experts is a significant source of information for other researchers, the media, state authorities, and other political decision-makers.



Business Surveys

IER has specialized in conducting surveys of businesses, experts, and citizens for several decades. These surveys are an essential source of information for developing policies that promote economic growth and increase the population's well-being.

For example, the “Business Survey” project on the sentiment of manufactural enterprises, launched in 1995 by the Swedish economist Anders Åslund, has been part of IER for 22 years. Today, this project has the most extended data series in Ukraine for constructing early warning indicators of changes in economic trends in the industrial sector (leading indicators).

For all these years, we have conducted quarterly surveys on business sentiment — both in industry and in the service sector (financial, hotel, and other areas). However, when most of the statistical data on the state of the Ukrainian economy became unavailable during the war, we switched to a monthly survey format. Thus, the “New Monthly Business Survey” has become an essential data source for assessing the state of the Ukrainian economy and business sentiment during the war.

The survey questionnaire consists of about four dozen questions that are asked to companies monthly and quarterly/annually. Each month, more than 500 enterprises of all sizes from all territories controlled by Ukraine are included in the survey.

OUR ACTIVITIES

03

Promoting the integration of Ukraine's economy into the world economy

On May 16, 2008, Ukraine became a full member of the World Trade Organization. This event was preceded by many years of diplomatic and analytical work by government officials, politicians, experts, and the business community.

We are sincerely glad we had the honor of joining Ukraine's movement into the world trading community. Since 2003, our experts have provided the Ukrainian government with analytics and relevant calculations on the benefits of our country's accession to the WTO. In 2008, the Ukrainian government thanked the IER team for this work.

However, WTO membership is only part of our analytical work to promote the integration of the Ukrainian economy into the world economy. The next milestone is Ukraine's integration into the European Union.

Ukraine has been a candidate for EU membership since June 23, 2022. Still, long before this date, IER has become a permanent analytical partner of our government and the European Union as we comprehensively and deeply analyze the economic component of Ukraine's accession to the EU.



One of IER's most influential projects in the European integration direction has been the seven-year project "Understanding the Association Agreements between the EU and Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia" with the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS, Belgium), think tanks of Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia, as well as EU institutions, the Government of Ukraine and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The central coordinator of the project was the well-known European economist Michael Emerson from CEPS.



The project resulted in preparing the manual "Deepening EU-Ukrainian Relations: What, why and how?" in English, Ukrainian, Moldovan, and Georgian. Subsequently, these works were republished, and their electronic versions were downloaded over 50,000 times. In Ukraine, the manual trains government officials and students in "international economics".



OUR ACTIVITIES

03

Development and support of civil society

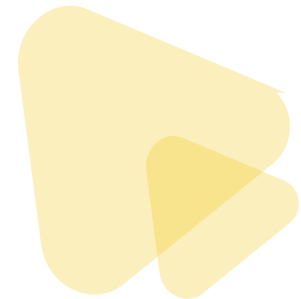
Thanks to the support of Swedish and American donors, this direction became part of our organizational development plan, which lasted from 2012 to 2014. It very organically fit into our work. After many years of activity, we have accumulated much knowledge, which we now share with other civil society organizations.



Since 2016, we have provided over 1,300 grants to hundreds of public organizations from all over Ukraine. Also, in the first two years of a full-scale war, with the assistance of the EU and other donors, we supported several dozen public organizations that were forced to refocus on humanitarian aid to the population. We are proud that as a result of this work, more than 18 thousand internally displaced persons received various kinds of assistance.



Currently, the direction of civil society development within the framework of the IER focuses on the following areas: monitoring costs for the reconstruction of social infrastructure facilities (the project “Recovery Watchdog”), the work of the Public Initiative “For Transparent and Honest Customs”, institutional support for the association of over 150 public organizations within the framework of the Ukrainian platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum.



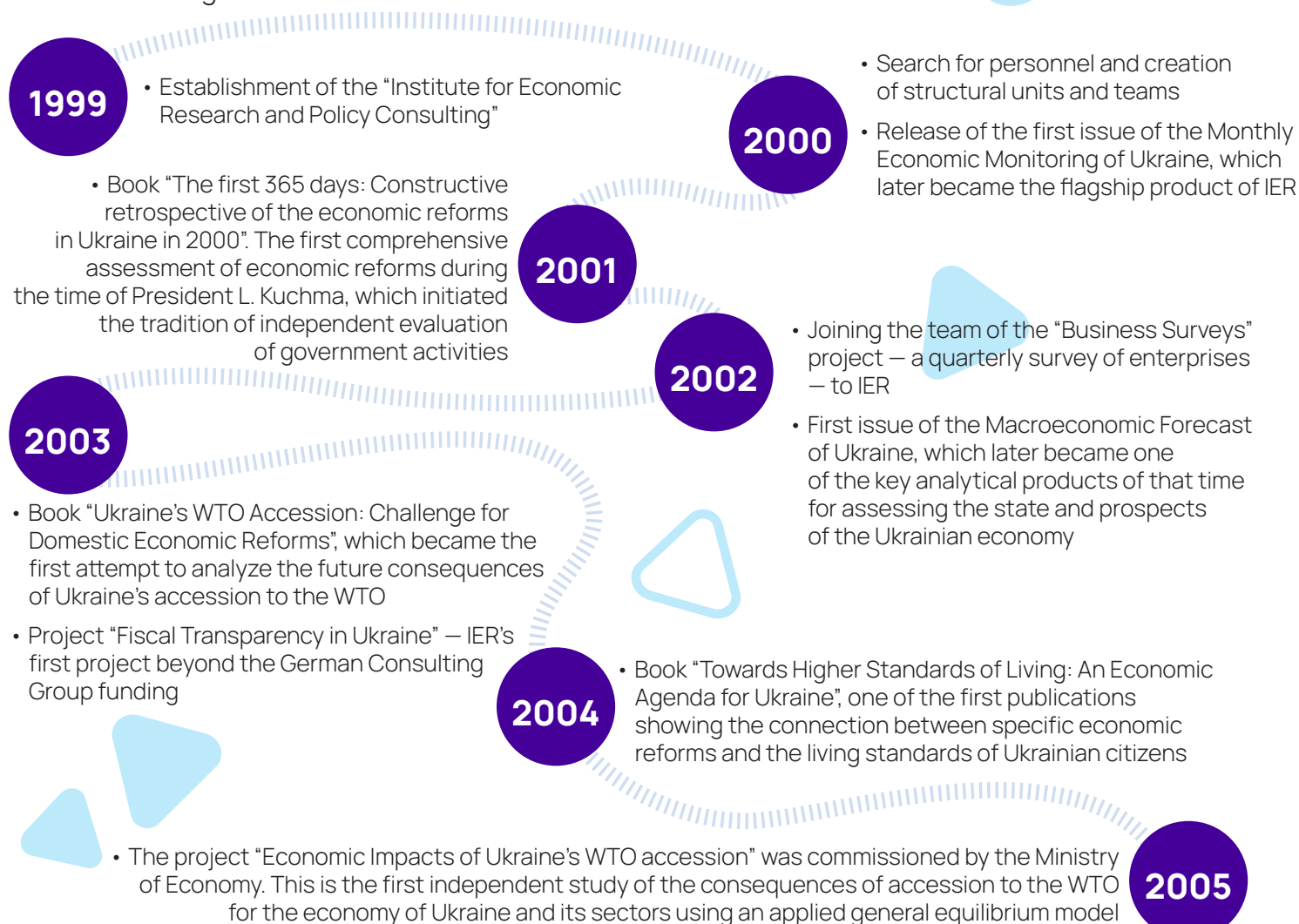




WE ARE PROUD

04

For 25 years, IER has been researching, analyzing, and recommending ways to improve economic policy in Ukraine and make every Ukrainian wealthier and the state more potent and efficient. See the most significant milestones below.



2008

- Analytical report “How to overcome the impact of international financial crisis: the search for adequate policy”. It became the first comprehensive attempt to analyze the anti-crisis actions of governments of different countries and evaluate the Ukrainian anti-crisis policy

2009

- Preparation of analytical materials for the Memorandum of Economic Development of Ukraine from the World Bank
- The book “Policy of Ukraine in the Field of Agriculture, Bioenergy and the Food Industry” is the first publication within the framework of the project “German-Ukrainian Agrarian Dialogue”, the partner of which was IER

2007

- Membership in the Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Survey (CIRET) — an organization that since 1953 has promoted the exchange of knowledge on theoretical and practical aspects of business cycle research and unites leading global institutions engaged in business and/or consumer surveys

2010

- Comprehensive assessment of the social consequences of mine closures in Lviv, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Luhansk regions and study of the attitudes of the local population and entrepreneurs

2011

- Assessment of our country's medium-term development needs for the USAID strategy in Ukraine. This work allowed for a comprehensive analysis of the country's current state, needs, and possible development directions.
- Analytical report “Ukraine and the UEFA Euro 2012 — how to secure its economic potential”. The first work on the connection between sports competitions and economic development
- The book “Costs and Benefits of FTA between Ukraine and the European Union” initiated the advocacy activities of the IER in favor of Ukraine's accession to the EU

2006

- Analytical report “Coalition Agreement in the New Parliament — the View of Independent Think Tanks” — the first attempt in Ukraine to shape the agenda of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by a coalition of non-governmental think tanks
- The book “New Challenges for Economic Policy in Ukraine: Proposals for Immediate Action”, which contained recommendations for revitalizing reforms

WE ARE PROUD

04

- The project “Land Reform Barometer”. This was the first in Ukraine to measure the attitude of the population and small businesses toward land reform.
- Project “Independent analysis of the healthcare reform progress in Ukraine” using the example of pilot regions to develop recommendations for further implementation of the reform

2012

2013

- Analysis of the impact of the deep and comprehensive FTA between Ukraine and the EU, migration processes depending on the visa regime
- Information support to the Ministry of Economy on opportunities related to WTO membership: information seminars for businesses in all 27 regions of Ukraine

2014

- Developing cooperation with Visegrad Four think tanks to support public debate on European integration issues and advocate for reforms
- With financial support from USAID, the Leadership in Economic Governance (LEV) program supported reforms for developing small and medium-sized businesses. The program provided for a direct partnership between IER, the Eastern Europe Foundation, the Kyiv School of Economics, CASE-Ukraine, and USAID

2016

- The first large-scale business survey (1000+ enterprises) to assess the procedures for simplifying foreign trade
- The launch of disseminating best practices in research, advocacy, and information to regional civil society organizations through sub-granting programs. The first two grant competitions – for the development of SME development roadmaps and promotion of reforms in the regions

2015

- The first Annual Business Climate Assessment within the framework of the LEV as a tool for identifying business environment problems and the cost of government regulations
- The launch of the project “Understanding the Association Agreements between the EU and Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia”: for seven years, as part of an international consortium, IER analyzed the progress of the implementation of the Association Agreement of three countries with the EU

2017

- SME development strategies, together with those of entrepreneurs, local governments, and regional administrations, were developed for six regions within the framework of the LEV project and were approved by the regional councils of each area.

2018

- Creation of the public initiative “For transparent and honest customs” to conduct public monitoring of the work of the customs
- Start monthly briefings for representatives of foreign embassies, international organizations, and government officials of other countries to explain the current economic situation, economic development forecast, and business climate

2019

- IER becomes one of the six strategic partners of the EU in Ukraine in the field of civil society development
- Introduction by the government of a business survey system on the work of the State Customs Service and the perception of corruption by businesses, which IER launched in 2015

2021

- 25th release of the information bulletin “Regions in Quarantine” on the 25th – monitoring the situation in different regions of Ukraine in the context of COVID-19
- The third edition of the manual “Deepening EU-Ukraine Relations” — a book for those who are interested in international economic issues
- Communications campaign aimed at dispelling myths about smuggling

2020

- Development and presentation of the first Ukrainian Cities Competitiveness Index — an analytical tool for assessing the local business climate and the effectiveness of economic governance

2022

Restructuring of the IER activities as a reaction to the war:

- Grant activities are being transferred to humanitarian tracks. Therefore, the IER grantees can provide aid to over 18 thousand internally displaced persons (for 2022 - 2024)
- Resumption of monthly GDP assessment and start of monthly business surveys
- Filling out questionnaires as part of the support of the European Integration Office for the accelerated start of Ukraine's membership negotiations with the EU. Based on this document, the European Commission recommended granting Ukraine candidate status
- International advocacy in support of Ukraine together with partners in the Resilience, Reconstruction, and Relief for Ukraine (RRR4U) consortium

2024

- Development of international cooperation and advocacy activities, assistance to the Government Office for the Coordination of European and Euro-Atlantic Integration
 - Four waves of grant competitions within the framework of the “Recovery Watchdog” project and the involvement of public organizations from eight regions of Ukraine in monitoring the recovery of Ukraine's social infrastructure

2023

- Launch of independent monitoring of Ukraine's implementation of obligations under the IMF Program and EU support (RRR4U)
 - The “Recovery Watchdog” project — independent monitoring of reconstruction costs together with the Center for Economic Strategy and the NGO “Technologies of Progress” with EU support

OUR TEAM

05

Today, IER is a close-knit and professional team formed throughout the Institute's history. This is one of our most substantial competitive advantages.



Igor Burakovsky, Head of the Board

Doctor of Economic Sciences,
Professor of Economics at the National University
"Kyiv-Mohyla Academy".
Professional interests: economic policy,
international economics, trade policy, research
design and scientific project management

Most of the key researchers
and managers of IER have been
working at the Institute for over
10 years. We also have many
young colleagues who are just
starting their research careers
but have already become
an integral part of our team.



Oksana Kuziakiv, Chief Executive Officer

Professional interests: business
climate research, survey-based
business sentiment analysis, project
and program design, management
of non-profit organizations



Veronika Movchan, Academic Director

Professional interests: international
trade and European integration,
modeling of economic processes, project
and program design, management of non-
profit organizations



Alina Dolya, Financial Director

Professional interests:
Management of non-profit
organizations

Research Fellows



Oleksandra Betliy

Leading Research Fellow / Project Coordinator.
Field of research: public finance and macroeconomic analysis



Iryna Kosse

Leading Research Fellow / Project Coordinator. Field of research: transportation, energy sector, telecom, IT



Vitaliy Kravchuk

Senior Research Fellow.
Research interests: monetary policy and macroeconomic analysis



Yevhen Anhel

Senior Research Fellow.
Research interests: SME development and support



Andrii Butin

Senior Research Fellow. Research interests: foreign trade, trade protection, promotion of SME internationalization



Anastasiia Kropova

Research Fellow. Research interests: international economic relations, European integration, international institutions



Stanislav Yukhymenko

Research Fellow. Manager of the Telegram channel "Economy of Ukraine".
Research interests: state digitalization



Iryna Fedets

Senior Research Fellow.
Research interests: business surveys, SME development, project evaluation and monitoring



Anastasia Gulik

Research Fellow. Research interests: business surveys, business climate



Vladyslav Baskov

Junior Research Fellow.
Research interests: data management, business surveys



Ivan Rozhkov

Junior Research Fellow



Daria Shapovalova

Junior Research Fellow. Research interests: business surveys, customs monitoring, quantitative and qualitative methods of collecting data



Sofiia Ovchynnikova

Junior Research Fellow.
Manager of Telegram-channel "From sanctions to reparations"

Project Management Group

Tetiana Blyzniuk, Project Coordinator.

Professional Interests: civil society development, social services provided by CSOs

Marina Gutgarts, Project Coordinator.

Professional Interests: eurointegration, democracy and civil society development

Kostiantyn Mykhailychenko, Honorary Director of Grants and Contracts of IER.
(deployed by the Armed Forces of Ukraine)

Mariia Neshcheret, Project Coordinator.

Professional Interests: civil society development, international cooperation

Olha Klymenko, Grants and Contracts Manager

Ganna Zayets, Grants and Contracts Manager

Communications Group

Victorya Zhovtenko, Government and Public Relations Manager

Olena Rubanik, Government and Public Relations Manager

Olena Shkarpova, Head of Communications

Nataliia Ditchuk, Social Media Manager

Sofiia Denysenko, Graphic Designer

Administrative Group

Svitlana Mazur, Chief Accountant, PhD in Biology

Ievgeniia Ovsianikova, Organizational Support

and Procurement Manager
Olha Sverdlova-Burzak, Financial Manager Assistant

Mykhaylo Zhelyabovskyy, Chief Software Specialist

Anton Kurbet, Database Administrator

Hanna Toyunda, Office Cleaner

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

06

Donors



Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine



INTERNATIONAL RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION



THE WORLD BANK



USAID
БІЛ АМЕРИКАНСЬКОГО НАРОДУ



ATLAS NETWORK



FRIEDRICH NAUMANN STIFTUNG Für die Freiheit.



Sida



UNDP



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Swiss National Science Foundation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Networks, Coalitions, and Associations



EASTERN PARTNERSHIP Civil Society Forum



4LIBERTY.eu ...freedom matters



ТОРГОВО-ПРОМИСЛОВА ПАЛАТА УКРАЇНИ
50 років разом із Європою створюємо Європу



CIRET
KOF



ACC
AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UKRAINE



REANIMATION PACKAGE OF REFORMS



RISE UKRAINE



RRR4U



UKRAINIAN NATIONAL PLATFORM
EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM

Government



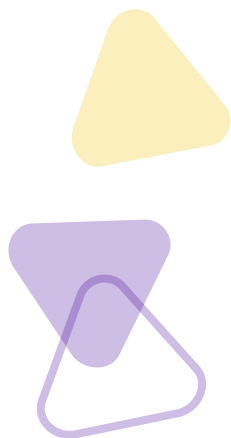
Міністерство фінансів України



EUWA



Державна митна служба України



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