



# МІЖНАРОДНІ ЕКОНОМІЧНІ ВІДНОСИНИ

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## CHINA'S TRADE RELATIONS WITH UKRAINE

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## ТОРГОВЕЛЬНІ ВІДНОСИНИ КИТАЮ ТА УКРАЇНИ

***Formulation of the problem.*** The trade relations between China and Ukraine have a rich historical background. The evolution of the relationship dates back to the Soviet era, when Ukraine, as an important member of the Soviet Union, established a degree of trade cooperation with China. However, the truly remarkable changes occurred after the collapse of the Soviet Union, when Ukraine gained independent status and China rapidly emerged as a globally important economy at the end of the 20th century. Ukraine underwent a major political and economic transformation after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The state has implemented market-oriented economic reforms, gradually opened the domestic market, and promoted privatization and trade liberalization. These moves have created opportunities for economic cooperation with other countries, including trade relations with China.

China's rise has had profound consequences in the global economy. China became the world's largest exporter and second-largest economy. China has actively promoted opening-up, strengthened economic ties with other countries in the world, and sought new trading partners and markets. China's growing demand, covering a wide range of sectors from machinery and equipment to agricultural products, offers great potential for Ukrainian exports. Ukraine, as a country on the European continent, has abundant agricultural, mineral and energy resources. Ukraine is geographically connected between eastern and Western Europe and thus has a strategic position in geopolitics. Ukraine has an important position in global agricultural and energy markets, especially in food, steel, natural gas and coal.

Trade relations between China and Ukraine have experienced remarkable development in recent years. The cooperation between the two sides has not only deepened bilateral relations, but also had a positive impact on the global economic landscape. This paper aims to deeply study and analyze the trade relations between these two countries in order to better understand their development dynamics, cooperation potential and challenges. The trade relationship between China and Ukraine is not only of great significance to the economies of the two countries, but also has a wide impact on international trade and the global economy, so it is worthy of in-depth research and discussion.

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**Analysis of recent research and publications.** The problems of economic and trade relations between Ukraine and China researched many scientists. In particular, Oliinyk Yuliia [1] focused research on trade of mechanical and electrical products between China and Ukraine; Yao Shujie and Wang Jiefei [2] researched Ukrainian crisis impact on China's agricultural products trade and food safety; Shtelmakh Liliia [3] focused research on problems and countermeasures of Ukraine's trade development with China; Kuryk Maryna [4] researched on bilateral economic and trade relations between Ukraine and China.

Many researchers elaborated the prospects for bilateral trade between China and Ukraine: Joyce Huang [5] analyzed the bilateral trade between China and Ukraine situation and future trade prospects; Ustenko Daryna [6] studied the impact of China's direct Investment in Ukraine on bilateral trade; Kushnir Alina [7] researched the trade potential between China and Ukraine; Onishchenko Anna [8] focused on the influencing factors and potential of bilateral trade between China and Ukraine.

A study on trade between China and Ukraine under the Belt and Road Initiative developed: Wang Jiaqi [9] researched economic and trade cooperation between China and Ukraine under the background of the Belt and Road Initiative; Zhang Yicheng and Zhou Xingyu [10] focused the study on trade between China and Ukraine under the Belt and Road Initiative; Zhu Haihua and Yang Yifan [11] analysed global food supply chain security under the Ukraine crisis: based on the analysis of countries along the Belt and Road.

However, a number of issues in trade and economic relations between Ukraine and China remain unresolved, requiring further research.

**Setting objectives.** The purpose of the article is the study of trade relations between China and Ukraine, the analysis of the volume of bilateral trade and the product structure between trading partners, as well as the outline of challenges and opportunities for the development of future trade cooperation.

**Summary of the main research material.** Through this comprehensive analysis, our research objectives have the following aspects: First, we will trace the history of trade between the two countries and explore how trade relations between China and Ukraine have evolved and developed since the collapse of the Soviet Union. This will help to understand the development dynamics of trade relations, as well as the accumulation of experience in the field of trade on both sides. Secondly, we will focus on the important characteristics of the two sides in the field of trade cooperation. This includes an analysis of the main traded goods, industries and areas of the two sides to determine which areas are important for economic cooperation between the two sides. Understanding these key areas will help identify the economic complementarity and potential for cooperation between the two sides.

Third, we will conduct an in-depth analysis of the challenges facing China's trade relations with Ukraine, including trade barriers, geopolitical factors and cultural differences. This will help policy makers and the business community to understand the barriers that need to be overcome in promoting bilateral trade cooperation and develop corresponding strategies to address these challenges. Finally, our research will look at opportunities for cooperation, including areas where both parties can expand further and measures that can be taken to promote cooperation. In particular, under the framework of China's Belt and Road Initiative, the two sides are likely to strengthen cooperation in the fields of infrastructure construction, energy cooperation and agriculture, which will help promote mutually beneficial cooperation opportunities.

By delving into the trade relationship between these two countries, we aim to provide insightful insights to policy makers, scholars, and businesses on how to better promote economic cooperation between the two sides. This will help push forward trade cooperation between China and Ukraine, promote economic growth, increase the international competitiveness of both sides, and contribute to the stability and prosperity of the global economy.

### **Presentation of the main research material.**

#### **The history of trade between China and Ukraine**

**1. Overview of trade History.** The history of trade between China and Ukraine has many important periods, stretching from the Soviet era to the present day. Here's an overview of the trade history of the relationship:

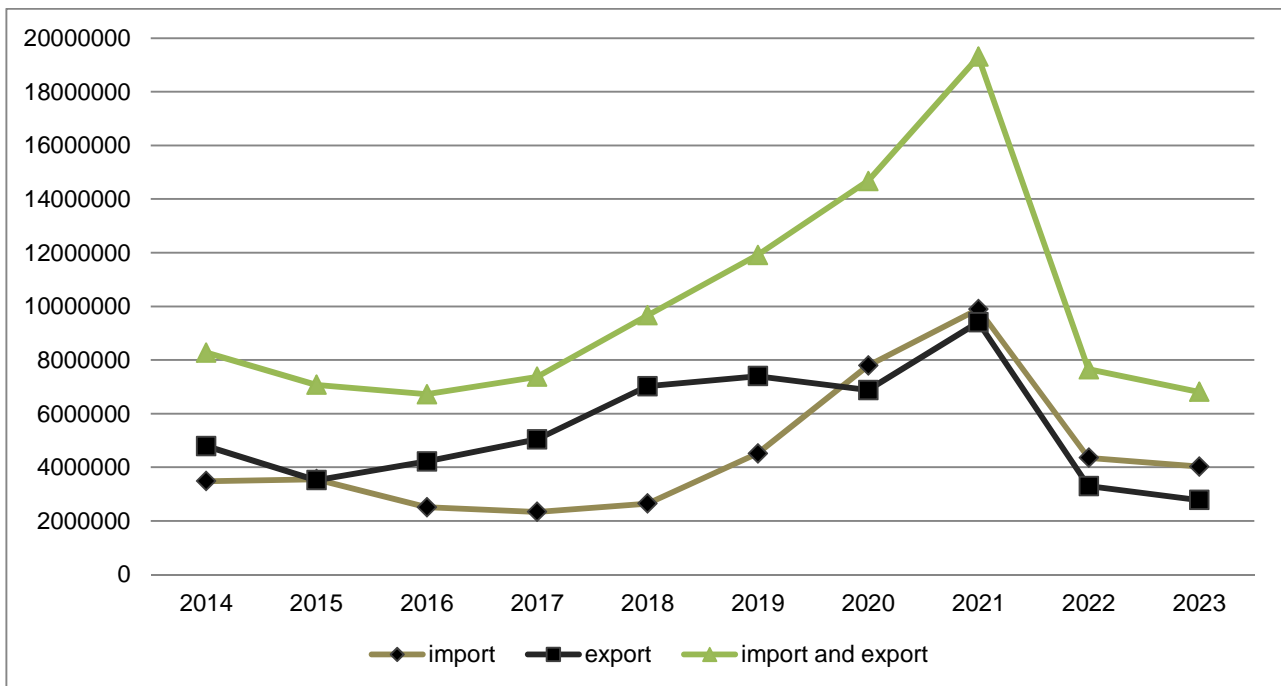
**Soviet Era:** During the Soviet era, Ukraine was an important economic component of the Soviet Union and also had some degree of trade links with China. However, under the planned economy of the time, trade was mainly dominated by inter-government trade and was restricted by central planning. During this period, the scale of trade was relatively limited, dominated by a small number of goods and technical exchanges.

**After the collapse of the Soviet Union:** With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Ukraine gained independent status. During this period, Ukraine underwent political and economic changes, including market economy reforms and measures to liberalize international trade. These changes have provided more opportunities for Ukraine-China trade relations, prompting both sides to actively seek to expand trade cooperation.

**Early 21st century:** Trade between China and Ukraine began to grow significantly in the early 2000s. This growth has benefited from a variety of factors, including the economic rise of China, the opening of the Ukrainian market and the active promotion of the two governments. China became one of Ukraine's key trading partners, and Ukraine began exporting more goods to China.

**Growth of trade cooperation:** Trade cooperation between China and Ukraine covers a variety of areas, including machinery and equipment, electronic products, agricultural products, chemical products and energy resources. China exports a large amount of machinery and equipment, electronic products and consumer goods to Ukraine, which meets the needs of the Ukrainian market. At the same time, Ukraine has supported China's economic growth by exporting grain, mineral resources and chemical products to China. Trade cooperation in this period reflected the interdependence between China and Ukraine, which complemented each other in the economic sphere. China's manufacturing prowess and Ukraine's resource richness make them ideal trading partners. Over time, this relationship has been further consolidated, contributing significantly to the evolution of the economic growth and international trade pattern of the two countries [9].

Since 2019, China has been Ukraine's largest trading partner. In 2021, Ukraine's trade with China will even reach 20 % of Ukraine's total domestic trade. When the war in Ukraine breaks out in 2022, China's total trade with Ukraine will still be \$7.65 billion. The total trade volume in 2023 also reached 6.81 billion US dollars, accounting for 12.7 % of Ukraine's total imports and exports, so China will remain Ukraine's largest trading partner (see fig. 1).



**Fig. 1. Trade volume between China and Ukraine from 2014 to 2023 (USD 1000)**

Source: Authors by data source of National Bureau of Statistics of China – database Trade

**2. Trading partners and Major commodities.** Trade cooperation between China and Ukraine is accompanied by the exchange of major commodities between the two sides, covering a number of key areas, which is of great significance to the economic development of the two countries. The following is a detailed description of the main trading partners and main commodities between China and Ukraine.

**2.1. Major commodities exported by China to Ukraine:**

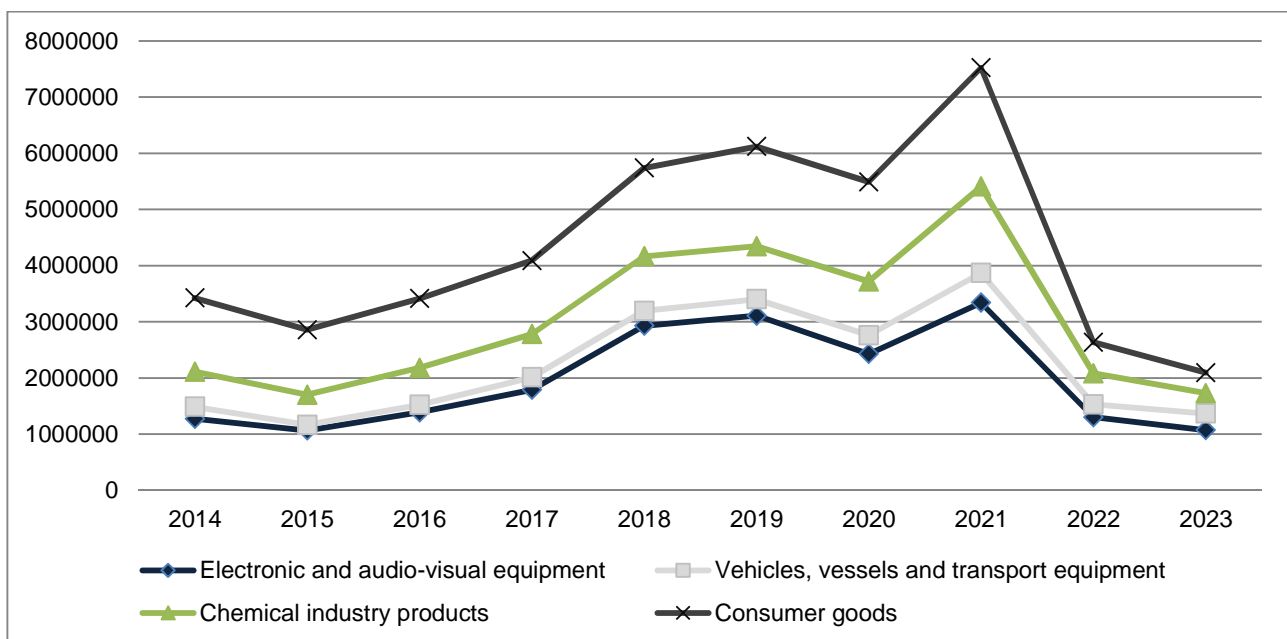
**Electronic and audiovisual equipment:** As the world's largest manufacturing power, China exports a large amount of electronic, audiovisual equipment and its parts to Ukraine. This equipment includes construction machinery, agricultural machinery, boilers, mechanical appliances, electromechanical, electrical, audio and video equipment and their parts, and consumer electronic equipment. Chinese electronic products are competitive in the Ukrainian market, providing Ukrainian consumers with diversified choices. This trade cooperation contributed to the economic growth of Ukraine, introduced advanced technology and production levels, and promoted the development of the Ukrainian electronics industry. The introduction of these products has also improved the quality of life of Ukrainian consumers, providing them with more high-quality, practical choices. In addition, the import of electronic audio and video equipment has facilitated Ukraine's transition to a digital society, boosting the development of areas such as digital entertainment, online education, and e-commerce. Such cooperation has also promoted cultural exchanges between China and Ukraine, making Ukrainians more aware of Chinese culture and art by introducing more cultural and entertainment content [1].

**Vehicles, ships and transport equipment:** China exports railway vehicles to Ukraine; Orbital device; Signal equipment, vehicles and their accessories, except railway vehicles, aircraft, spacecraft and their parts,

ships and floating structures and other industrial automation equipment. The export of such equipment contributes to the infrastructure construction and industrial modernization of Ukraine. This cooperation has not only improved the efficiency of transportation in Ukraine, promoted the development of the transportation system, but also facilitated maritime and water transportation, and promoted trade with other countries. At the same time, the export of construction and construction machinery helps to promote the process of infrastructure construction and urbanization, improve the efficiency of urban operation, and is of great significance to enhance the competitiveness of the country.

**Chemical industry products:** China's export of chemical industry products to Ukraine mainly includes chemical raw materials, fertilizers, plastics and rubber products. This includes various organic and inorganic chemicals, basic chemical products, as well as plastic sheets, pipes, rubber products, etc. This trade cooperation has yielded multiple benefits for Ukraine. First of all, the import of chemical products and plastic and rubber products from China has provided Ukraine with advanced production technology and raw materials, promoted the development of domestic manufacturing industry, and created conditions for economic growth and employment opportunities. Secondly, the import of chemical fertilizers improves the production efficiency of Ukrainian agriculture, increases the output and quality of agricultural products, meets the needs of domestic and foreign markets, and is of great significance to the agricultural economy. In addition, the extensive application of plastic and rubber products in the field of infrastructure construction and engineering promotes infrastructure construction and urban development in Ukraine [1].

**Consumer goods:** China also exports a wide range of consumer goods to Ukraine, including textiles and clothing, shoes and hats, and household goods (see fig. 2).



**Fig. 2. Main commodities exported from China to Ukraine, 2014–2023 (US \$)**

Source: Authors by data source of National Bureau of Statistics of China – database Trade

China's export of various consumer goods to Ukraine, including clothing, footwear and household goods, has brought multiple benefits to the Ukrainian market. The popularity of these goods in the Ukrainian market enriches the variety of goods in the Ukrainian market, provides high-quality and practical choices, meets the needs of Ukrainian consumers for fashion and quality of life, and improves the overall standard of living. Second, the price competitiveness of Chinese goods makes these consumer goods more affordable in Ukraine, enhancing the purchasing power of consumers and promoting the prosperity of the domestic retail industry.

## 2.2. Main commodities exported by Ukraine to China:

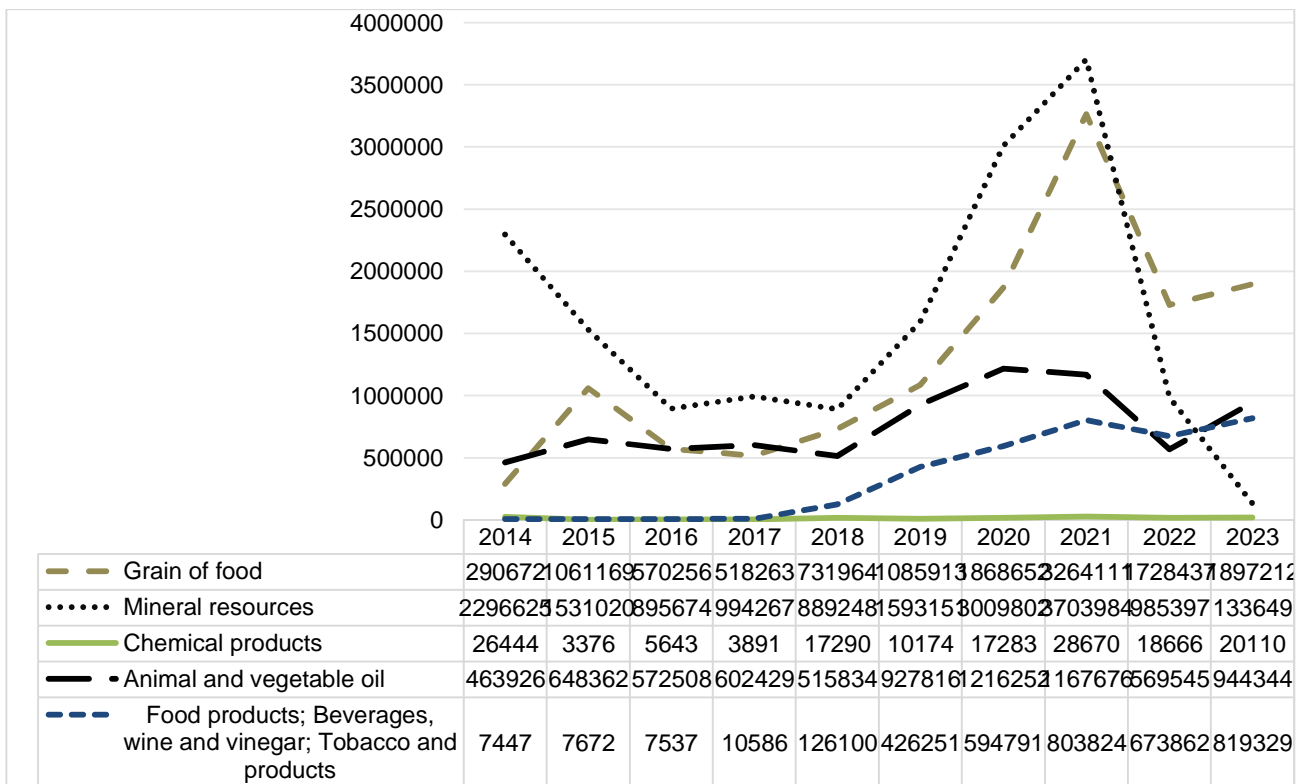
**Food:** Ukraine is one of the major food producers in the world, exporting large quantities of wheat, corn, soybeans and other agricultural products. These agricultural products supply China's grain market, meet the food needs of China's huge population, and provide stable support for China's food security. Such exports not only provide a market for Ukraine, but also bring high-quality food resources to China, which is of great significance to China's agriculture and food processing industry. This trade cooperation has strengthened the economic complementarity between China and Ukraine, promoted the economic development of both sides, increased bilateral trade volume, and provided Ukraine with export and economic growth opportunities [12].

**Mineral resources:** Ukraine is rich in mineral resources, including iron ore, coal and other mineral products, which are key to China's industrial production and infrastructure construction. As the world's largest consumer of mineral resources, China needs vast quantities of raw materials to meet its industrial and construction needs, making Ukraine's supply of mineral resources crucial to China's economic growth. At the same time, this trade cooperation also provides Ukraine with the opportunity to export resources, promotes the development of the domestic mining industry, increases the export revenue, and contributes to the economic growth of Ukraine [12].

**Chemical products:** The Ukrainian chemical industry is also a key export area, covering fertilizers, plastic products, inorganic chemicals and organic chemicals. These chemical products provide important support to China's agricultural and industrial production. China, one of the world's largest markets for chemicals, is critical to Ukraine's chemical supplies. Such trade cooperation not only meets the demand of the Chinese market, but also brings export opportunities for Ukraine, promotes the development of its own chemical industry and increases export revenue [12].

**Animal and vegetable oils:** Ukraine is rich in animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes; Refined edible oil and natural gas resources, which is of strategic importance to China's energy needs. Ukraine exports natural gas to China, adding diversity to China's energy supply. This trade cooperation has provided China with a high-quality and stable source of oils and fats to meet the demand for vegetable oils in the Chinese market. At the same time, Ukrainian exports provide an export market for the country, promote the development of the agricultural economy and increase export earnings.

**Food, beverages, wine and vinegar, tobacco and products:** Ukrainian exports of food, tobacco and alcohol products to China are of great significance to the trade between the two countries. As an exporter of food and tobacco products, Ukraine offers a diverse range of products, including beverages, wines, tobacco products, etc. This trade cooperation has provided China with high-quality and diverse food options, while also increasing the supply of tobacco and alcohol to the Chinese market. For Ukraine, this export brings export opportunities for the country's agricultural and liquor industries, promotes the increase of export revenue and strengthens economic development (see fig. 3).



**Fig. 3. China's imports of major commodities from Ukraine, 2014–2023 (US \$)**

Source: Authors by data source of National Bureau of Statistics of China – database Trade

Those goods form the core of China's trade relationship with Ukraine. Cooperation between the two sides in these areas not only meets their respective needs, but also strengthens bilateral relations and provides important support for the economic growth and development of the two countries. At the same time, such cooperation also helps maintain the balance of global trade and promote the stability of the international economy.

### 3. The field of trade cooperation

**3.1. Agriculture and Food Industry.** Agriculture and food industries play an important role in trade cooperation between China and Ukraine, as they represent complementarity and potentially huge market opportunities for the two countries.

**Agricultural Advantages of Ukraine:** *Rich agricultural resources:* Ukraine has fertile land and a suitable climate for the production of a variety of agricultural products. This includes staples and agricultural products such as wheat, corn, soybeans, rapeseed, sugar and cereals. *Global food producer:* as one of the major food producers in the world, Ukraine has great potential in food exports. Its high-quality agricultural products are highly sought after in the international market. *Modern agricultural production:* agricultural production in Ukraine has been modernized with advanced agricultural technologies and equipment, including mechanized operations, precision agriculture, and high-tech cultivation methods, which have led to an increase in both the quality and yield of agricultural products [2].

**Demand and Opportunities in China:** *Food security:* the Chinese government has been emphasizing food security and ensuring food supply for the domestic market. China's huge population needs a lot of food, and Ukraine can provide China with a reliable supply of food. *Diversified consumer demand:* consumers in China are increasingly focusing on diversified diets and have a higher demand for grain and food products in the international market. Ukrainian agricultural products can meet the needs of the Chinese market for different tastes and qualities. *Potential for cooperation:* China and Ukraine can further strengthen cooperation and explore areas such as processing and quality improvement of agricultural products and cooperation in agricultural technology. This will help increase the added value of Ukrainian agricultural products and meet the demand for high-quality products in the Chinese market. *Trade facilitation:* the two sides can take measures to simplify trade procedures, reduce trade barriers and promote the flow of agricultural products. This will help increase the volume of trade, reduce costs, and improve efficiency [7].

By strengthening cooperation in the field of agriculture and food industry, China can obtain high-quality grain and food products from Ukraine, while providing export opportunities for Ukraine's agricultural industry and injecting vitality into its economic growth. This cooperation not only helps to ensure the stability of food supply, but also improves food quality and contributes to the agricultural economies of both countries. In addition, such cooperation also helps to strengthen the economic ties between the two countries and promote mutual benefit and win-win results. Through deeper cooperation, China and Ukraine can give full play to their respective advantages and achieve a win-win situation.

**3.2. Energy cooperation.** Energy cooperation is one of the areas of great potential between China and Ukraine. Ukraine is rich in energy resources, including natural gas and coal, while China is a country with increasing energy demand. Here is a detailed description of this area:

**Energy Resources of Ukraine:** *Natural gas:* Ukraine has large natural gas reserves, one of the largest in Europe. This gives Ukraine the potential in terms of gas supply, which can meet the demand for gas in the Chinese market. *Coal:* Ukraine is also a coal producer and has abundant coal resources. This resource can be used for power generation and industrial production, in line with China's demand for coal. *Energy needs and Opportunities in China:* as China's economy grows rapidly, its demand for energy continues to expand. China is urgently seeking to diversify its energy supply to meet its growing industrial and urbanization needs. The Chinese government's emphasis on energy diversity is aimed at reducing dependence on a single supplier and mitigating the risk of energy imports. At the same time, China's energy cooperation with Ukraine provides a strategic opportunity to address this demand.

China and Ukraine can jointly explore the development of Ukraine's abundant energy resources and the establishment of corresponding energy infrastructure, including pipelines and power plants. Such cooperation will not only improve energy cooperation between the two countries, but also help ensure that China can obtain stable and reliable energy supplies from different countries and reduce its dependence on a single source of supply.

In the framework of China's Belt and Road Initiative, Ukraine's geographical location becomes a strategic location for energy transportation and infrastructure construction. By strengthening cooperation in the field of energy, Ukraine is not only able to play a key role in the initiative, but also provides a new growth driver for its economy. This mutually beneficial cooperation not only gives China access to reliable energy supplies, but also provides Ukraine with the opportunity to develop and export its abundant energy resources, driving its economic growth.

In addition, this energy cooperation will help deepen our strategic partnership and support more sustainable economic growth and development for both countries. Such cooperation also plays a positive role in maintaining the stability of the global energy market. Through joint efforts, China and Ukraine can achieve mutual benefits and lay a solid foundation for economic growth and sustainable development of both countries.

### 4. Challenges and opportunities

**4.1. Trade Barriers.** Despite the booming trade cooperation between China and Ukraine, there are still some trade barriers, and these challenges may have a certain impact on the cooperation between the two sides. Here's a closer look at these trade barriers:

**Uncertainty over trade rules.** An important challenge is the uncertainty of trade rules between the two sides. The two countries have different legal systems and regulations, which could lead to trade disputes. In addition, international trade rules and trade policies are constantly evolving, so it may be difficult for firms to predict the future trading environment. The key is to establish transparent, stable, and predictable trade rules to ensure that trading partners can conduct business in compliance with the law [6].

**Cultural Differences.** Cultural differences are another potential barrier to trade. China and Ukraine have different cultures, values and business practices. This can lead to misunderstandings or conflicts in business negotiations and cooperation. To overcome this challenge, the two sides can enhance cultural exchanges and training to better understand each other's cultures and promote more effective communication and cooperation.

**Language barrier.** Language barriers are also a potential problem, especially in business communication. Although English is common in international trade, Ukraine may use Ukrainian more in bilateral trade, while China uses Chinese. This can lead to communication difficulties and misunderstandings. To solve this problem, companies can hire translators or use modern communication technologies to overcome language barriers [8].

**Opportunities to address challenges.** Despite these challenges, trade cooperation between China and Ukraine remains full of opportunities. Here are opportunities to address trade barriers [13]:

1. Bilateral agreements and consultations: Bilateral agreements and consultations are important ways to resolve the uncertainty of China-Ukraine trade rules. By establishing clear bilateral trade agreements, both sides can clarify each other's rights and responsibilities and reduce uncertainty about trade rules. In addition, regular consultations will help resolve possible disputes in a timely manner, ensure that both parties conduct business in a fair and transparent trading environment, and enhance the predictability of cooperation.

2. Training and cultural exchange: In terms of training and cultural exchange, by providing professional training, enterprises can enable employees to have a more comprehensive understanding of each other's culture, values and business habits, so as to better adapt to the cooperation environment between the two parties. By organizing cultural exchange activities, enterprises can deepen mutual understanding between the two parties, reduce misunderstandings and communication barriers caused by cultural differences, and thus improve the efficiency of business negotiation and cooperation.

3. Technology application: Technology application is another effective means. Enterprises can use modern communication technology and translation tools to overcome language barriers. By using advanced translation software and real-time communication tools, companies can achieve smoother cross-language communication and ensure accurate transmission of information, thus promoting closer cooperation between both parties [6].

4. International organizations: Seeking the support of international organizations is also an important strategy, especially in resolving potential trade disputes and obtaining trade legal advice. The expertise and neutrality of international organizations can provide strong support to both parties, ensuring that cooperation always follows the framework of international law and rules. By proactively seeking the assistance of these organizations, both sides can build a more robust and sustainable trade relationship. It will also help strengthen economic cooperation between China and Ukraine and make positive contributions to the stability and sustainable development of the global trading system.

In general, although trade barriers exist, the two sides, through active cooperation and solutions, can overcome these challenges, promote trade relations between China and Ukraine, and achieve a mutually beneficial and win-win situation. This will help strengthen cooperation between the two countries, drive economic growth, increase international competitiveness, and contribute to global economic stability and prosperity.

**4.2. Geopolitical factors.** Geopolitical factors play an important role in China's trade relations with Ukraine. Ukraine's special geographical location, in a region of geopolitical tension, could have implications for its trade relations with China. Here is a detailed description of the problem [5].

**The particularity of geographical location.** Ukraine is located in Eastern Europe, close to Russia and bordering European countries. This location puts Ukraine in a geopolitical tension zone, especially after the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Geopolitical tensions could lead to international sanctions or expressions of concern about the political situation in Ukraine.

**Political uncertainty.** Geopolitical tensions can lead to uncertainty in political factors, which has potential effects on trade relations. Political conflict, international sanctions, or trade restrictions can be destabilizing to bilateral trade. The trade cooperation between China and Ukraine may be disturbed by external political factors, which will have a negative impact on the trade relations between the two sides.

**Dynamic changes in international relations.** Dynamic changes in international relations may also have an impact on trade relations. Trade cooperation between China and Ukraine may be affected by international relations, such as the relations between China and other countries, changes in the international trade situation, etc. Political decisions, the signing or withdrawal of international agreements and other factors may affect the trade cooperation between the two sides [3].

**Opportunities to address challenges.** Although geopolitical factors may create uncertainties for trade relations, both sides can take steps to mitigate these effects and challenges. In order to reduce the dependence on specific trading partners, both sides can consider establishing trade relations with other countries to reduce the impact of geopolitical factors on trade. The government can actively engage in diplomacy to resolve geopolitical tensions through dialogue and consultation and reduce uncertainty about trade relations. At the enterprise level, risk management strategies can be adopted, including diversifying supply chains, paying attention to international political dynamics and timely adjusting business plans to accommodate uncertain factors. Seeking the support of international organizations is also an effective means to ensure that trade cooperation complies with international law and rules, which can help mitigate the negative impact caused by geopolitical factors. Geopolitical factors are a complex challenge in China's trade relations with Ukraine, but through active cooperation and risk management, the two sides can jointly address these challenges and ensure the stability and sustainability of trade cooperation. This will help strengthen economic ties between the two countries, drive economic growth and increase international competitiveness, while also contributing to global trade and geopolitical stability.

**4.3. Cooperation Opportunities.** Despite some challenges, the trade relationship between China and Ukraine is still full of great potential. Below is a detailed description of some of the cooperation opportunities that could drive economic growth and foster a closer partnership on both sides [4].

**Multi-field cooperation.** China and Ukraine can strengthen cooperation in many fields, including agriculture, energy, science and technology, and infrastructure construction. Such multi-field cooperation will help both sides give full play to their respective advantages and achieve mutual benefit and win-win results. For example, cooperation in developing Ukraine's agricultural industry could meet China's growing food demand while increasing the added value of Ukrainian agricultural products. Cooperation in the energy sector can increase the stability of energy supply and provide China with more energy options.

**Trade Facilitation.** By simplifying trade procedures, reducing trade barriers, and improving trade convenience, both sides can promote more trade flows. The adoption of modern trade technology and digital platforms can improve trade efficiency, reduce costs and make trade more convenient. In addition, the two sides can further enhance trade facilitation by negotiating bilateral trade agreements.

**Two-way investment.** China and Ukraine can strengthen cooperation through two-way investment. Chinese enterprises can invest in Ukraine and promote its economic growth, while establishing production bases in Ukraine to meet the demand of the European market. Ukrainian companies could also seek Chinese investment to diversify and modernize their economy.

**Belt and Road Initiative.** China's Belt and Road Initiative provides important opportunities for cooperation between China and Ukraine. Ukraine is located in one of the strategic corridors of the Belt and Road, which creates opportunities for infrastructure construction, logistics, trade and people-to-people exchanges [13]. By participating in the Belt and Road Initiative, the two sides can jointly promote regional economic integration, improve trade convenience and promote bilateral cooperation.

**International Market Opportunities.** Cooperation between China and Ukraine can not only increase bilateral trade, but also bring Ukrainian products and services to the wider international market. By cooperating with China, one of the world's largest exporters, Ukraine can expand the international market share of its products and improve its competitiveness [14].

In general, despite the challenges, trade cooperation between China and Ukraine has a wide range of cooperation opportunities. Through multi-field cooperation, trade facilitation, two-way investment, the Belt and Road Initiative and international market opportunities, the two sides can achieve mutual benefit, drive economic growth, strengthen strategic partnership and contribute to global economic stability and prosperity. These opportunities will help deepen cooperation and enhance the international competitiveness of both sides, while also contributing to the stability of the global economic landscape.

**Conclusions from the conducted research.** Trade relations between China and Ukraine are an area full of potential and have made remarkable progress in recent years. This relationship has important implications for the economic growth of both sides and the global economic landscape. The conclusion of this paper will summarize the key points discussed earlier, emphasizing the importance of cooperation, while presenting a vision for the future.

China's trade relationship with Ukraine dates back to the Soviet era, but it has experienced significant growth since the collapse of the Soviet Union. China has become one of Ukraine's important trading partners, with an increasing trade volume. Ukraine's exports to China are mainly agricultural products, mineral resources and chemical products, while China exports machinery, electronics and consumer goods to Ukraine. However, trade relations between China and Ukraine still face some challenges. Trade barriers, geopolitical factors, and political uncertainty can all adversely affect cooperation between the two sides. Still, there are many opportunities for greater cooperation. Multi-field cooperation, trade facilitation, two-way investment, the Belt and Road Initiative and international market opportunities have all brought potential economic benefits to both sides.

**Future Outlook.** Trade relations between China and Ukraine should continue to be closely watched and studied. The two sides should actively address trade barriers, strengthen policy coordination and



improve trade convenience to ensure the stability and sustainability of trade relations. In terms of cooperation, multi-field cooperation will bring more business opportunities to both sides, and there is potential for cooperation in many fields from agriculture to energy. Through cooperation, the two sides can achieve mutual benefit and win-win results, promote economic growth and increase international competitiveness.

In conclusion, trade relations between China and Ukraine are of strategic importance and have a positive impact on both sides and the global economic landscape. By working together, solving challenges and capitalizing on opportunities, the two sides can continue to deepen cooperation and provide broader prospects for bilateral trade and economic growth. The development of this relationship will make an important contribution to international trade and regional cooperation, and contribute to the stability and prosperity of the global economic landscape. Therefore, China's trade relations with Ukraine will continue to be closely watched and studied for greater mutual benefit.

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**Зварич Р. Є., Лінхай В.**

#### **ТОРГОВЕЛЬНІ ВІДНОСИНИ КИТАЮ ТА УКРАЇНИ**

**Мета.** Метою статті є дослідження торговельних відносин між Китаєм та Україною, аналіз обсягу двосторонньої торгівлі і товарної структури між торговельними партнерами, а також окреслення викликів і можливостей щодо розвитку майбутньої торговельної співпраці.

**Методика дослідження.** У статті використано метод системного аналізу літератури для збору, порівняння та аналізу відповідних літературних матеріалів, включаючи дані про торгівлю та наукові дослідження двох країн за останні роки, для глибшого розуміння процесу розвитку двосторонніх торговельних відносин і їх структури між Китаєм та Україною. Водночас, використано метод теоретичного узагальнення для розуміння викликів і можливостей, що існують у торговельних відносинах між країнами; абстрактно-логічний метод – для напрацювання пропозицій щодо вирішення проблем і сприяння співпраці; графічний метод – для наочного представлення результатів дослідження.

**Результати дослідження.** Доведено актуальність дослідження торговельних відносин Китаю та України, систематизовано наявні дослідження та встановлено теоретико-методологічні прогалини з даної проблеми. Досліджено рівень торговельних відносин Китаю та України та проаналізовано обсяг зростання двосторонньої торгівлі. Обґрунтовано виклики і перешкоди торговельних відносин, зокрема: торговельні бар'єри, геополітичні інтереси та політична невизначеність. Запропоновано напрями торговельної співпраці між партнерами в різних сферах і на різних рівнях, що сприятиме економічному зростанню та міжнародній конкурентоспроможності.

**Наукова новизна результатів дослідження.** Всебічно та детально проаналізовано торговельні відносини між Китаєм та Україною, зосереджуючись на досягненні двосторонньої взаємовигідної співпраці та стратегії подолання викликів; напрацьовано пропозиції щодо майбутньої співпраці та практичного значення її перспектив.

**Практична значущість результатів дослідження.** Основні положення дослідження містять корисну довідкову інформацію для урядовців (розроблені пропозиції щодо стратегічного планування та торгової співпраці), бізнес-структур (аналіз ринкової ситуації та можливостей торгової співпраці може бути використаний для коригування бізнес-стратегії та розширення ринку) і академічних дослідників (методи дослідження та аналітична база можуть бути використані як довідкові матеріали для глибшого вивчення торговельних відносин між країнами).

**Ключові слова:** експорт, імпорт, ініціатива «Один пояс – один шлях», китайсько-українські відносини, торговельні бар'єри, торговельне співробітництво, торговельні відносини.

**Zvarych R.Ye., Linhai Wei.**

#### **CHINA'S TRADE RELATIONS WITH UKRAINE**

**Purpose.** The purpose of the article is the study of trade relations between China and Ukraine, the analysis of the volume of bilateral trade and the product structure between trading partners, as well as the outline of challenges and opportunities for the development of future trade cooperation.

**Methodology of research.** The article uses the method of systematic literature analysis to collect, compare and analyze relevant literary materials, including data on trade and scientific research of the two countries in recent years, for a deeper understanding of the process of development of bilateral trade relations and their structure between China and Ukraine. At the same time, the method of theoretical generalization was used to understand the challenges and opportunities that exist in trade relations between countries, the abstract and logical method – to develop proposals for solving problems and promoting cooperation; graphic method – for visual presentation of research results.

**Findings.** Through the analysis of the development process of trade relations, the situation of trade products, the challenges faced and the prospect of the future, this paper draws the following research results: trade relations develop rapidly, and the bilateral trade volume continues to grow; trade relations face challenges such as trade barriers, geopolitical factors and political uncertainties; the cooperation between the two sides has opportunities in various fields and at various levels, which can promote economic growth and international competitiveness.

**Originality.** Trade relations between China and Ukraine have been comprehensively and in detail analyzed, focusing on achieving bilateral mutually beneficial cooperation and strategies for overcoming challenges; proposals were developed regarding future cooperation and the practical significance of its prospects.

**Practical value.** The main provisions of the study contain useful reference information for government officials (developed proposals for strategic planning and trade cooperation), business structures (analysis of the market situation and opportunities for trade cooperation can be used to adjust business strategy and expand the market) and academic researchers (research methods and analytical base can be used as reference materials for a deeper study of trade relations between countries).

**Key words:** Belt and Road Initiative, China-Ukraine relations, export, import, trade barriers, trade cooperation, trade relations.