

UDC 339.9:330.101.541

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37332/2309-1533.2026.1.2>

JEL Classification: F52, F55, O25, P16

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ECONOMIC NATIONALISM AS A COMPONENT OF UKRAINE'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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ЕКОНОМІЧНИЙ НАЦІОНАЛІЗМ ЯК СКЛАДОВА МІЖНАРОДНИХ ВІДНОСИН УКРАЇНИ

Formulation of the problem. The current stage of development of international economic relations is characterized by intensified geoeconomic competition, fragmentation of global value chains, and an increasing role of the state in ensuring economic security. Traditional models of liberal globalization, based on the principles of maximum market openness and minimal state intervention, are gradually losing their effectiveness, necessitating the search for new approaches to the formation of national economic policy.

In the context of a full-scale war and profound structural transformations of Ukraine's economy, the issue of ensuring economic sovereignty, resilience to external shocks, and effective integration into the global economy becomes particularly relevant. At the same time, contemporary international relations are increasingly shaped by nationally oriented development strategies, within which states seek to protect critical industries, ensure technological autonomy, and strengthen their positions in global production networks.

In this context, economic nationalism acquires new meaning, transforming from a protectionist policy into a comprehensive instrument for implementing national interests in international economic relations. Its application allows for combining economic openness with active state policy aimed at supporting strategic sectors, developing domestic value chains, and enhancing the competitiveness of the national economy.

At the same time, for Ukraine, the issue of determining the boundaries and forms of implementing economic nationalism remains relevant in the context of integration into the European economic space and compliance with international obligations. This creates the need to reconcile nationally oriented economic policy with the requirements of an open economy, which requires theoretical understanding and scientific substantiation.

Thus, there is a need to study economic nationalism as a component of Ukraine's international relations, particularly its role in shaping effective foreign economic policy, ensuring economic security, and implementing a post-war recovery strategy.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The issue of economic nationalism and its role in international economic relations is actively studied in both foreign and domestic scientific literature. The theoretical foundations of economic nationalism were laid in the works of F. List, who substantiated the need for state support of national industry and formulated the concept of "infant industry protection" [4]. These ideas were further developed in the works of modern economists, in particular P. Dicken, who analyses transformations in the global economy and the role of states in shaping competitive advantages within global production networks [9], as well as D. Rodrik, who emphasizes the limitations of unconditional liberalization and the necessity of prioritizing national institutions in ensuring economic resilience [12].

Institutional aspects of the interaction between the state and economic development are revealed in the works of D. Acemoglu and J. Robinson, who demonstrate the decisive role of inclusive institutions in ensuring long-term growth [7]. At the same time, Ha-Joon Chang shows that most modern developed countries used instruments of economic nationalism as part of their industrial policy and technological development [8].

In contemporary academic discourse, economic nationalism is increasingly viewed not as a form of isolationism but as a tool for ensuring economic sovereignty, innovative development, and enhancing state competitiveness under conditions of global instability [10–11]. In particular, attention is paid to its role in shaping national strategies for integration into global value chains and protecting critical sectors of the economy.

In domestic academic literature, the study of economic nationalism is mainly carried out in the context of economic security, foreign economic policy, and Ukraine's post-war recovery. Ukrainian scholars emphasize the need to form a nationally oriented development model that combines integration into the global economy with the protection of the state's strategic interests [1; 3; 5; 6].

At the same time, despite a significant number of scientific works, the issue of economic nationalism as a component specifically of Ukraine's international relations remains insufficiently explored. Most studies focus either on the domestic economic aspects of this policy or on general issues of globalization and economic integration. Instead, a comprehensive analysis of the mechanisms for implementing economic nationalism in the state's foreign economic activity, as well as its impact on Ukraine's positioning in the global economy, requires further scientific substantiation.

Setting objectives. The purpose of the article is to provide a theoretical substantiation of economic nationalism as a component of Ukraine's international economic relations and to determine its role under conditions of war and post-war economic transformation. To achieve this goal, the study aims to analyze the evolution of approaches to understanding economic nationalism in the context of international economic relations, to define its essence as an instrument for implementing national interests in the state's foreign economic policy, to examine the mechanisms of its influence on the country's positioning in global economic processes, to characterize the features of its implementation in Ukraine under wartime conditions, and to substantiate its role in ensuring post-war recovery and the long-term competitiveness of the national economy.

Presentation of the main research material. In the context of ongoing transformations in the global economy, economic nationalism is increasingly interpreted not as an isolationist development model, but as a strategic tool for managing integration processes. The traditional understanding of economic nationalism as a protectionist policy is gradually giving way to its new interpretation – as a mechanism for ensuring national interests within an open economy [11].

Contemporary studies show that even within a globalized economy, the state retains a key role in shaping competitive advantages and regulating a country's participation in international economic relations. In this context, economic nationalism acts not as an opposition to globalization but as a form of its adaptation, which involves selective integration into global markets, taking into account the strategic priorities of national economic development.

The concept of "managed integration" reflects the modern essence of economic nationalism, under which the state does not abandon participation in the international division of labour but, on the contrary, actively shapes the conditions of such participation. This involves purposeful integration into global value chains with a focus on increasing the technological level of production, developing domestic production linkages, and maintaining control over critical sectors of the economy [10].

An important aspect is ensuring a balance between economic openness and the need to protect national interests. Excessive liberalization may lead to increased dependence on external markets and loss of control over strategic resources, while excessive protectionism limits access to technologies, investments, and international markets. In this regard, economic nationalism emerges as a tool for finding an optimal balance between these two extremes, simultaneously ensuring integration into the global economy and strengthening domestic economic potential.

Thus, within the system of international relations, economic nationalism performs the function of regulating the state's participation in global processes, allowing the combination of openness with the implementation of national priorities. This approach is particularly relevant for Ukraine, which, under conditions of war and European integration, is compelled to form a model of economic policy that ensures both external integration and internal economic resilience.

Economic nationalism in modern international relations is implemented through a system of state policy instruments that ensure the protection of national interests while simultaneously facilitating the country's integration into the global economy. These instruments include trade, investment, and industrial policy, as well as mechanisms for participation in global value chains, forming a comprehensive model of the state's foreign economic strategy.

One of the key instruments is trade policy, which allows the state to regulate access conditions to the domestic market and support national producers. In modern conditions, it goes beyond classical protectionism and includes the use of tariff and non-tariff measures, technical standards, export incentives, and free trade agreements. As noted by D. Rodrik, effective trade policy should take into account national institutional features and strategic development priorities, which helps to avoid the negative consequences of excessive liberalization [12].

An important area is investment policy, which involves both restrictions and incentives for capital movement. On the one hand, the state may impose restrictions on foreign investors' access to strategic sectors related to national security, critical infrastructure, or high technologies. On the other hand, instruments are used to stimulate investment in priority sectors, in particular through tax incentives, state guarantees, and public-private partnership mechanisms. This approach allows combining the attraction of external resources with maintaining control over key elements of the economic system [8].

A special place is occupied by localization policy, which involves stimulating the placement of production facilities within the country and the development of domestic value chains. Localization can be implemented through requirements for local content in production, preferences in public procurement, support for national producers, and the creation of industrial clusters. International experience shows that such measures contribute to increasing the technological complexity of the economy, job creation, and strengthening economic sovereignty.

No less important is participation in global value chains, which under conditions of economic nationalism acquires a selective character. The state focuses not only on integration into global production but also on moving into more technologically advanced segments of these chains. As noted by P. Dicken, a country's position in global production networks determines its ability to generate value added and ensure long-term economic growth [9]. In this context, economic nationalism is aimed at creating conditions under which national enterprises integrate into the global economy not as suppliers of raw materials or low-tech products but as participants in high-tech production.

The main instruments of economic nationalism in Ukraine's international economic relations are summarized in Table 1. These instruments include trade, investment, and industrial policies, as well as mechanisms for participation in global value chains. The implementation of economic nationalism in Ukraine has a comprehensive nature and combines various directions of state policy aimed at strengthening the national economic potential.

Table 1

Instruments of Economic Nationalism in Ukraine's International Economic Relations

Instrument	Content	Manifestation in Ukraine	Expected Effect
Trade policy	Regulation of exports and imports	Reorientation toward the EU	Market expansion
Investment policy	Regulation and stimulation of investments	Support of critical sectors	Growth of domestic capital
Localization of production	Promotion of domestic production	Defense industry, mechanical engineering	Reduction of import dependence
Global value chains	Integration into international production	IT sector, agriculture	Increased competitiveness

Source: compiled by the author based on [1; 5; 10]

Thus, the instruments of economic nationalism in foreign policy form a comprehensive system of state influence on international economic processes. Their coordinated application ensures a balance between economic openness and the protection of national interests, creating the preconditions for enhancing the country's competitiveness and strengthening its position in the global economy.

A generalized representation of the interrelationship between economic nationalism, its implementation instruments, and outcomes within the system of international economic relations is presented in Figure 1. The proposed model demonstrates that economic nationalism functions as a comprehensive mechanism in which state policy, regulatory instruments, and participation in international economic processes form an integrated system for ensuring economic resilience and structural modernization.

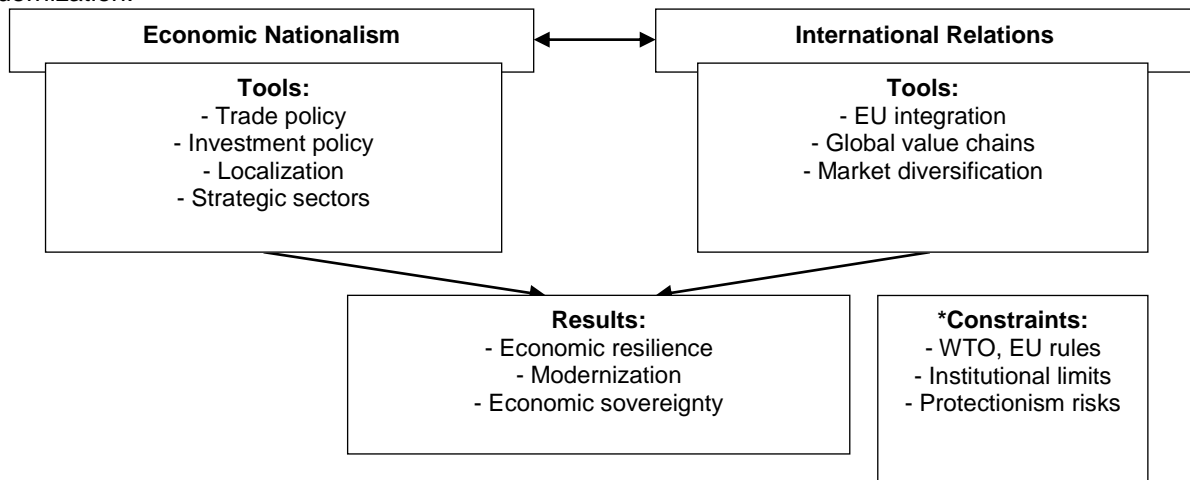


Figure 1. Model for the Implementation of Economic Nationalism in Ukraine's International Economic Relations

Source: developed by the author

Economic nationalism is implemented through a system of interconnected instruments that influence the nature of international economic relations and ensure the achievement of strategic economic outcomes. It is important to emphasize that the instruments of economic nationalism do not function in isolation but are realized through the mechanisms of international economic relations, in particular through integration into the European economic space, participation in global value chains, and diversification of external markets. These theoretical provisions find their practical reflection in Ukraine's contemporary economic policy.

The current stage of development of Ukraine's international economic relations is shaped by the impact of the full-scale war, which has become a decisive factor in transforming foreign economic policy and reorienting economic ties. Under conditions of disrupted traditional logistics routes, loss of part of the production potential, and increased security risks, the state has been compelled to intensify the use of economic nationalism instruments to ensure economic resilience and maintain participation in the global economy.

One of the key manifestations of these processes has been the reorientation of Ukraine's foreign economic relations toward the countries of the European Union. The EU has gradually transformed from an important trading partner into a dominant center of economic interaction, as evidenced by the growing share of Ukrainian exports directed to European markets, the adaptation of national legislation to European standards, and the deepening of institutional integration [6]. Such reorientation not only compensates for the loss of traditional markets but also creates preconditions for structural modernization of the economy through integration into more technologically advanced economic spaces.

At the same time, integration into the European market is accompanied by the need to maintain a balance between openness and the protection of national interests. In this context, economic nationalism manifests itself in the state's efforts to retain control over strategic sectors, stimulate domestic production, and support national producers in adapting to the competitive environment of the EU [3]. This approach helps to avoid the risks of deindustrialization and preserve the potential for long-term economic growth.

An important direction for the implementation of economic nationalism in Ukraine is the support of strategic sectors of the economy that determine its economic security and competitiveness. First and foremost, this concerns the defense-industrial complex, whose development has become critically important under wartime conditions. State policy in this area is aimed at expanding domestic production, localizing technologies, and reducing dependence on imports of critical resources and components.

The agricultural sector also plays a crucial role, remaining one of the key drivers of exports and ensuring food security at both the national and global levels. In this context, state policy is focused on preserving export potential, diversifying logistics routes, and integrating into European agricultural markets, thereby strengthening Ukraine's position in the international division of labour.

The IT sector also holds significant potential for shaping a new model of economic development, demonstrating a high level of adaptability and integration into global markets. Supporting this sector through the creation of a favourable regulatory environment, development of human capital, and stimulation of innovation contributes to increasing the technological complexity of the economy and forming new competitive advantages.

Thus, Ukraine's contemporary practice demonstrates the formation of a model of economic nationalism that combines active integration into international economic relations with targeted state policy aimed at supporting strategic sectors. This approach not only allows adaptation to wartime conditions but also creates a foundation for post-war economic transformation based on innovation, resilience, and competitiveness.

Despite the significant potential of economic nationalism as a tool for ensuring economic resilience and protecting national interests, its practical implementation in Ukraine's international relations is accompanied by a number of substantial limitations and challenges.

One of the key factors is the need to comply with international obligations, particularly within the framework of the World Trade Organization and the Association Agreement with the European Union. These obligations impose restrictions on the use of protectionist measures, state aid, and discriminatory practices in trade and investment. Therefore, the implementation of economic nationalism requires the identification of instruments that do not contradict international rules while still enabling the protection of national interests and support for strategic sectors of the economy.

Another important challenge is ensuring a balance between protectionism and economic openness. Excessive use of protective measures may reduce economic efficiency, limit access to external markets and technologies, and worsen the investment climate. At the same time, insufficient state support for domestic producers increases dependence on imports and reduces the competitiveness of the economy. In this context, economic nationalism should be implemented as a flexible and adaptive policy combining elements of openness with targeted protection of the domestic market [12].

A significant constraint is also institutional weakness, manifested in insufficient coordination of state policy, limited effectiveness of public administration, and a low level of trust between the state, business, and society. Imperfections in the regulatory environment, corruption risks, and a lack of strategic planning

complicate the implementation of a comprehensive economic policy aimed at supporting innovation and structural modernization of the economy [2; 7].

In addition, an important challenge is the need to adapt economic nationalism to the conditions of a global economy characterized by a high level of interdependence. Participation in global value chains, integration into international capital and technology markets limit the possibilities for isolated development and require alignment of national economic interests with global trends.

Thus, the effective implementation of economic nationalism in Ukraine's international relations requires consideration of both external constraints and internal institutional challenges. Only through their comprehensive resolution can a balanced model of economic policy be formed that ensures both integration into the global economy and the strengthening of national economic potential.

Conclusions from the conducted research. The study has established that under modern conditions, economic nationalism is transforming from a protectionist model into a comprehensive instrument of state policy aimed at ensuring economic resilience, technological sovereignty, and the implementation of national interests in international economic relations. It has been substantiated that within the system of international relations, it performs the function of "managed integration," which involves combining economic openness with active state policy to protect strategic sectors and build competitive advantages.

The study has shown that the key instruments for implementing economic nationalism in foreign policy include trade, investment, and industrial policy, as well as mechanisms for participation in global value chains, which contribute to strengthening the state's position in the global economy. At the same time, it has been found that under conditions of full-scale war, Ukraine actively applies elements of economic nationalism, in particular through the reorientation of foreign economic relations toward the European direction, support of strategic sectors, and adaptation of economic policy to new security challenges.

At the same time, the implementation of this policy is accompanied by several limitations, among which the key ones are the need to comply with international obligations, ensure a balance between economic openness and protectionist measures, and address institutional problems that constrain the effectiveness of public administration. In this context, it has been proven that economic nationalism can become an effective foundation for Ukraine's post-war economic strategy, provided that it is combined with institutional reforms, the development of innovation potential, and deeper integration into the global economy on terms favourable to the state.

Future research should focus on the development of applied mechanisms for implementing economic nationalism in the context of Ukraine's European integration, assessing its impact on the formation of national value chains, and examining the effectiveness of state policy in supporting strategic sectors in the context of post-war economic recovery.

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ЕКОНОМІЧНИЙ НАЦІОНАЛІЗМ ЯК СКЛАДОВА МІЖНАРОДНИХ ВІДНОСИН УКРАЇНИ

Мета. Обґрунтування економічного націоналізму як складової міжнародних економічних відносин України та визначення його ролі в умовах війни і післявоєнної трансформації.

Методика дослідження. Для досягнення поставленої мети використано комплекс загальнонаукових і спеціальних методів, зокрема системний, структурно-функціональний, порівняльний та аналітичний методи. Системний метод дозволив розглянути економічний націоналізм як цілісну складову міжнародних економічних відносин. Структурно-функціональний метод застосовано для визначення основних інструментів його реалізації у зовнішній політиці держави. Порівняльний метод дав змогу проаналізувати особливості трансформації економічного націоналізму в умовах глобалізації та європейської інтеграції. Аналітичний метод використано для узагальнення сучасної практики України в умовах війни.

Результати дослідження. Визначено сутність економічного націоналізму як інструменту «керуваної інтеграції» у системі міжнародних економічних відносин. Проаналізовано основні інструменти його реалізації, зокрема торговельну, інвестиційну та промислову політику, а також механізми участі у глобальних ланцюгах створення вартості. Досліджено сучасну практику України, зокрема переорієнтацію зовнішньоекономічних зв'язків, посилення ролі Європейського Союзу та підтримку стратегічних галузей економіки в умовах війни. Виявлено основні обмеження реалізації економічного націоналізму, пов'язані з міжнародними зобов'язаннями та інституційними чинниками.

Наукова новизна результатів дослідження. Вперше обґрунтовано економічний націоналізм як складову міжнародних економічних відносин України в умовах війни та глобальних трансформацій,

що, на відміну від існуючих підходів, дає змогу розглядати його як комплексний інструмент поєднання інтеграційних процесів із захистом національних економічних інтересів; удосконалено підходи до визначення ролі економічного націоналізму як інструменту забезпечення балансу між відкритістю економіки та необхідністю збереження економічного суверенітету; набуло подальшого розвитку теоретичне обґрунтування моделі «керованої інтеграції» як сучасної форми реалізації економічного націоналізму.

Практична значущість результатів дослідження. Отримані результати можуть бути використані при розробці державної економічної та зовнішньоекономічної політики України, формуванні стратегії післявоєнного відновлення, а також у навчальному процесі при викладанні дисциплін з міжнародної економіки та міжнародних відносин.

Ключові слова: економічний націоналізм, міжнародні економічні відносини, зовнішньоекономічна політика, інтеграція, економічна стійкість, стратегічні галузі.

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ECONOMIC NATIONALISM AS A COMPONENT OF UKRAINE'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Purpose. The aim of the article is to provide a theoretical substantiation of economic nationalism as a component of Ukraine's international economic relations and to determine its role under conditions of war and post-war economic transformation.

Methodology of research. A complex of general scientific and special methods were used to achieve the set goal, including systemic, structural and functional, comparative, and analytical approaches. The systemic method made it possible to consider economic nationalism as an integral element of international economic relations. The structural and functional method was used to identify the key instruments of its implementation in foreign economic policy. The comparative method allowed for the revealing of the transformation of economic nationalism under globalization and European integration. The analytical method was applied to generalize Ukraine's current economic policy practices under wartime conditions.

Findings. The essence of economic nationalism as an instrument of "managed integration" in the system of international economic relations is determined. The main tools of its implementation, including trade, investment, and industrial policies, as well as participation in global value chains, are analysed. The study examines Ukraine's current practice, particularly the reorientation of its foreign economic relations, the growing role of the European Union, and support for strategic sectors under wartime conditions. The key constraints related to international obligations and institutional challenges are identified.

Originality. For the first time, economic nationalism has been substantiated as a component of Ukraine's international economic relations under conditions of war and global transformations, which, unlike existing approaches, makes it possible to consider it as a comprehensive instrument for combining integration processes with the protection of national economic interests; the approaches to defining the role of economic nationalism as a tool for ensuring a balance between economic openness and the need to preserve economic sovereignty have been improved; further development has been given to the theoretical substantiation of the "managed integration" model as a modern form of implementation of economic nationalism.

Practical value. The obtained results can be used in the development of Ukraine's state economic and foreign economic policies, in the formulation of post-war recovery strategies, and in the teaching of courses on international economics and international relations.

Key words: economic nationalism, international economic relations, foreign economic policy, integration, economic resilience, strategic sectors.

Дата надходження рукопису: 18.02.2026

Дата прийняття рукопису до друку: 20.03.2026

Дата публікації: 31.03.2026