

# List of Projects

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### **How to dovetail Ukraine's reconstruction with EU integration and accession**

*Bertelsmann Stiftung*

*January 2023 - July 2023*

The reconstruction of Ukraine and its accession to the EU constitute one of the biggest challenges for the international community, the EU and the country itself for many decades. Ukraine received candidate status from the EU in 2022 and could open negotiations even this year. Meeting the Copenhagen Criteria for EU accession, however, will be a monumental task. A joint assessment released in March 2023 by the Government of Ukraine, the World Bank Group, the European Commission, and the United Nations, estimates that the cost of reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine has grown to US \$411 billion (€383 billion). The costs are expected to be spread out over 10 years, and to use a mixture of private and public money. This research team argues that these two historic processes—reconstruction and EU integration—and how to further develop Ukraine as a functioning market economy capable of meeting the demands of EU internal market competition must be thought together to achieve the best possible outcomes - for the EU and Ukraine alike. Shedding light on what exactly the main challenges are, how Ukraine compares with previous joiners, and what can be learned from the successful EU accession of EU-CEE countries, is the ultimate ambition of this report. Within a series of research reports and policy briefs a group of economists from wiiw, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Kiev-based Growford Institute and the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting analyse in detail five key and complementary areas of economic reconstruction: trade and FDI, regional policy, infrastructure, demographics, finance. They also investigate how these reconstruction areas can be structured as part of the EU accession process, and provide policy proposals for Ukraine and the EU.

### **EU interconnectivity with its neighbouring regions**

*Bertelsmann Stiftung*

*November 2021 - February 2023*

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has marked the start of a new geo-economic era for the EU. Against this background, this study aims to gain a better understanding of the geo-economic challenges that the EU faces in its neighbourhood. It set out to measure the interconnectivity between the EU and its neighbouring countries and to compare these interconnections with those of the EU's peers and rivals: the US, China and Russia. The authors seek to identify and measure the extent of these interconnections in five key areas (trade, finance, technology and know-how, infrastructure and labour mobility), to draw out the key geo-economic implications for the EU, and to propose a set of policy recommendations for the EU's future engagement with its neighbourhood. The study was undertaken jointly by wiiw and Bertelsmann Stiftung.

### **Challenges and implications of the DCFTA agreements between the EU and Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine**

*Bertelsmann Stiftung*

*July 2016 - September 2017*

In a joint research project of the Bertelsmann Stiftung and the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies A. Adarov and P. Havlik analysed the benefits and costs of the DCFTAs between the EU and Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine and proposed recommendations for the European Neighbourhood Policy. The analysis suggests that the net benefits are highly asymmetric along the time dimension (high costs in the short and medium run - benefits accruing mostly in the longer run), as well as across regions and economic sectors (less competitive sectors and regions will face particularly onerous adjustment costs). In the light of the macroeconomic and geopolitical

challenges the DCFTA countries have been facing, this may jeopardise progress of reforms.