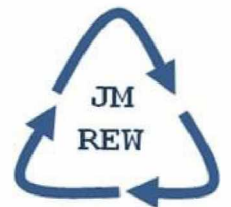




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AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE  
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OF FOOD TECHNOLOGIES  
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EUROPEAN STUDIES PLATFORM



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## CONTENT

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</b> .....	11
<i>Igor Yakymenko, Sergiy Kyrylenko, Anatoli Giritch</i> CURRENT CHALLENGES OF EUROPEAN SUSTAINABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS .....	12
<i>Zhanna Klishchova, Carlos Godinho de Abreu, Hanna Laiko, Oleh Primakov, Serhii Mishchenko, Victor Satler Pylro, Sergiy Kyrylenko</i> SOIL MICROBIAL DIVERSITY UNDER CONTINUOUS CULTIVATION OF INDUSTRIAL HEMP ( <i>CANNABIS SATIVA L.</i> ) .....	13
<i>Diana Bogueva, Dora Marinova</i> FOOD POLICIES AND SUSTAINABILITY: EUROPEAN LESSONS FOR TRANSFORMING AUSTRALIA'S FOOD SYSTEMS .....	14
<i>Dmitry Nikolaenko</i> THE LONG-TERM PATTERN OF ECOLOGICAL DISASTERS RESULTING IN CRUCIAL DEPOPULATION OF A ONCE WELL-DEVELOPED AREA (CASE OF UKRAINE) .....	15
<i>Larysa Gorodianska</i> EUROPEAN PRINCIPLES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN UKRAINE .....	16
<i>Olena Kuznietsova, Mykhailo Baranovskyy, Iryna Korniienko, Larysa Yastremska</i> THE PACKAGING WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE EU IN THE CONTEXT OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY REQUIREMENTS .....	17
<i>Vlas Berezovyi, Viacheslav Kharchenko</i> HARMFUL STEREOTYPES REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF GREEN SPACES IN THE SCOPE OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT .....	18
<i>Oksana Hutsalenko</i> FROM CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) TO ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG): AN ETHICAL RESPONSE TO ECOLOGICAL CRISIS BY UKRAINIAN KERNEL .....	19
<i>Oksana Salavor, Nataliya Bublienko, Oksana Nychyk, Yevhen Lukashevich, Yuliya Voytenko Palgan</i> ECO-FRIENDLY PROCESSING OF ORGANIC WASTE IN UKRAINE: POTENTIAL AND PROSPECTS .....	20

<i>Olena Mitryasova, Vadym Chvyr, Viktor Smyrnov, Andrii Mats</i> EDUCATIONAL COURSE «EUROPEAN GREEN DIMENSIONS» IN PREPARATION OF ECOLOGISTS .....	21
<i>Svitlana Madzhd, Oksana Nychyk, Igor Yakymenko</i> ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AS AN INDICATOR OF ECOSYSTEMS RELIABILITY .....	22
<i>Oleksandr Pylypenko</i> ECOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD PRODUCTS .....	23
<i>Olena Mitryasova, Ruslan Mariychuk</i> BACHELORS-ENVIRONMENTALISTS EDUCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE EXAMPLE OF UKRAINE AND SLOVAKIA .....	24
<i>Tetiana Suleiko, Olena Semenova</i> BIOCENOSIS OF AEROBIC ACTIVATED SLUDGE OF THE MAIN STRUCTURE OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OF A FOOD INDUSTRY ENTERPRISE ....	25
<i>Yefym Tahizada</i> PRODIGIOSIN: AN INNOVATIVE BACTERIAL PIGMENT WITH UV-PROTECTIVE FUNCTION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COSMETIC TECHNOLOGIES .....	26
<i>Serhii Yakymenko, Bohdan Pashchenko</i> SMART AUTOMATION FOR LEAN FOOD MANUFACTURING: REDUCING WASTE AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY .....	27
<i>Yulia Vashchuk, Olena Oleshko, Ruslana Stavetska</i> INTEGRATION OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS INTO URBAN ECOSYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTS THEIR ADAPTATION TO NEW CLIMATE REALITIES .....	28
<b>ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<i>Tetiana Sobolieva</i> LEVERAGING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FOR SUSTAINABILITY: CHALLENGES AND RATIONALE FOR INTEGRATION .....	30
<i>Oksana Makovoz, Serhii Makovoz</i> STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT BY SETTING GOALS .....	31

<b><i>Oleg Osadtsiv</i></b> MANAGING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ESG CONCEPT IN A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY .....	32
<b><i>Inna Sytnyk</i></b> DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND ITS IMPACT ON ECONOMIC GROWTH .....	33
<b><i>Mykhailo Arych</i></b> GENETICS IN INSURANCE: IMPLICATIONS FOR LIFE INSURANCE UNDERWRITING IN UKRAINE .....	34
<b><i>Larysa Strashynska</i></b> INNOVATION AS A PRIORITY AREA OF STRUCTURAL POLICY .....	35
<b>SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PUBLIC HEALTH .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b><i>Iryna Druzhkova</i></b> INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND ACCESS TO MEDICAL INNOVATION – CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....	37
<b><i>Otto Stoyka, Andrij Skipalskyi, Tetyana Bondar</i></b> THE PROBLEM OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE USE BY SCHOOLCHILDREN ON THE EXAMPLE OF TEENAGERS IN KYIV .....	38
<b><i>Oksana Liashenko, Olga Demianiuk</i></b> SOCIAL PREFERENCES AND RESPONSIBLE CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR AS DRIVERS OF SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION: A BEHAVIOURAL ECONOMICS PERSPECTIVE .....	39
<b><i>Olga Kyrylenko</i></b> HOW A MODERN PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM SHOULD WORK TO ACHIEVE THE AMBITIOUS GOALS OF THE AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ..	40
<b><i>Anastasiia Hirina, Natalia Gregirchak</i></b> FUNCTIONAL FERMENTED BEVERAGES AS A TOOL FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PUBLIC HEALTH .....	41
<b><i>Khrystyna Shevchuk, Olga Kyrylenko</i></b> PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACHES TO THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SYSTEMIC DISEASES TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY .....	42

<i>Nataliia Glushanytsia</i> SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS FOR A CHANGING WORLD .....	43
<i>Liliya Morska</i> PEDAGOGICAL ASPECT OF A HIGHER EDUCATION SUSTAINABILITY .....	44
<i>Iryna Sahaidak, Tetiana Chorna</i> OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF CONSUMER SAFETY THROUGH RAPEX AND RASFF NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS .....	45
<i>Tetyana Tarnavska</i> USING TECHNOLOGIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....	46
<i>Natalia Zhuravel, Liliya Baranovska</i> AUSTRALIA'S EXPERIENCE IN SHAPING THE QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN UKRAINE .....	47
<i>Iryna Simkova</i> IMPLEMENTATION OF NEURODIVERSITY PARADIGM FOR CLASSES WITH INTERNALLY DISPLACED STUDENTS .....	48
<b>ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<i>Anatoli Giritch</i> EXPANDING THE ARSENAL OF ANTIMICROBIALS: BACTERICIDAL PROTEINS ...	50
<i>Sergiy Kyrylenko, Zhanna Klishchova, Oleh Primakov, Gustavo Henrique D. Tonoli</i> INDUSTRIAL HEMP AS A SOURCE OF NEW NANOMATERIALS .....	51
<i>Hanna Bondar, Viktoriia Krasinko</i> OPTIMIZED SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD FOR THE RAPID DETERMINATION OF IRON CONTENT IN YEAST .....	52
<i>Vsevolod Herasymenko, Viktoriia Krasinko, Margarita Lomberg</i> PROSPECTS FOR USING MEDICINAL BASIDIOMYCETES IN PREVENTING BACTERIAL INFECTIONS AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE .....	53

<b><i>Maksym Kryvosheiev, Roman Hryshchenko, Andrii Forsiuk</i></b> INTEGRATION OF ESSENTIAL SUSTAINABLE ELEMENTS INTO UKRAINE'S RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT .....	54
<b><i>Tetiana Plachynda</i></b> PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH HEALTH-PRESERVING EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES .....	55
<b><i>Yevhenii Shapovalov, Viktor Shapovalov, Stanislav Usenko, Maksym Klymenko, Sergey Zhadan</i></b> INTEGRATING AI IN EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: INSIGHTS FROM K-12 AND HIGHER EDUCATION .....	56
<b><i>Oksana Skrotska, Pavlo Holubiev</i></b> POSSIBILITIES OF USING BAKER'S YEAST <i>SACCHAROMYCES CEREVISIAE</i> FOR GREEN BIOSYNTHESIS OF METAL NANOPARTICLES: INTEGRATION INTO EUROPEAN PRIORITIES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND NANOSAFETY .....	57
<b><i>Natalia Stetsenko, Galyna Simahina, Iryna Goyko, Alla Bashta</i></b> TECHNOLOGIES FOR AMARANTH COMPLEX PROCESSING FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HEALTHY FOOD PRODUCTS .....	58
<b><i>Oleh Vysotsky, Viktoriia Krasinko</i></b> DYNAMICS OF CORN WASTE ENSILING FOR POTENTIAL BIOGAS PRODUCTION: UKRAINIAN AND GLOBAL PRACTICES .....	59
<b><i>Viacheslav Shopinskyi, Liudmyla Butsenko</i></b> ANTAGONISTIC ACTIVITY OF ENDOPHYTIC ISOLATE E11 FROM SCOTS PINE SEEDS .....	60
<b><i>Natalia Stetsenko</i></b> COMPARISON OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY CONCEPTS AND THE PRACTICE OF THEIR APPLICATION .....	61
<b><i>Alla Bashta, Natalia Stetsenko, Svitlana Bazhay-Zhezherun</i></b> USE OF NON-TRADITIONAL PLANT-BASED RAW MATERIALS IN THE INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY OF HEALTH PATE .....	62
<b><i>Mykhailo Baranovskyy, Olena Kuznietsova, Larysa Yastremska, Iryna Korniyenko</i></b> CLEANE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY: THE EU EXPERIENCE AND PROSPECTS FOR UKRAINE .....	63

<i>Serhii Yakymenko, Oleksandr Chepeliuk, Maksym Zhukov</i> SUSTAINABLE ENERGY STORAGE THROUGH BIOMASS-DERIVED CARBON: A NEW PARADIGM? .....	64
<i>Yuliia Biliavska, Oleksandra Mykolaïenko</i> TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS AS A TOOL FOR MANAGING THE AVIATION INDUSTRY .....	65
<i>Valentyn Biliavskiy, Daria Horodnycha</i> ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE LABOR MARKET ....	66
<i>Larysa Hopkalo, Liudmyla Bovsh</i> DIGITALIZATION OF HOTEL SERVICES: THE EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE .....	67
<i>Serhii Yakymenko, Denys Zhukov</i> GREEN-BY-DESIGN: USING DIGITAL TWINS FOR LIFECYCLE SUSTAINABILITY IN INDUSTRY 5.0 .....	68
<i>Svitlana Litvynchuk, Alina Siryk, Olga Yevtushenko</i> ULTRASONIC PROCESSING OF FOOD PRODUCTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF LABOR SAFETY AS A DIRECTION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY .....	69
<i>Yevhenii Lazorenko, Tetiana Sylchuk, Vita Tsyrułnikova, Vira Zuiko</i> USE OF MILLET FLOUR IN THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....	70
<i>Iryna Korniienko, Olena Kuznietsova, Larysa Yastremska, Mykhailo Baranovskiy</i> THE CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY AND ADVANCED WASTE TREATMENT BIOTECHNOLOGIES IN THE CONTEXT OF UKRAINE’S EU ACCESSION PATH .....	71
<i>Sofiia Zherdiieva, Viktoriia Khmurova</i> THE ROLE OF DIGITAL PLATFORMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY .....	72
<i>Olha Chekan, Viktoriia Khmurova</i> DIGITAL TRADE AS A CATALYST FOR GREEN ECONOMY TRANSFORMATION ...	73
<b>EUROPEAN STUDIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<i>Igor Yakymenko, Yevhenii Shapovalov, Natalia Hrehirchak, Svitlana Madzhd, Maria Galaburda, Anatoli Giritch</i> EUROPEAN STUDIES ON ACADEMIC PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR UKRAINIAN PHD STUDENTS .....	75

<i>Igor Yakymenko, Yevhenii Shapovalov, Natalia Hrehirchak, Oksana Skrotska, Anatoli Giritch</i>	
EUROPEAN STUDIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION FOR BACHELOR STUDENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND IN BIOTECHNOLOGY .....	76
<i>Liliya Baranovska</i>	
EUROPEAN STUDIES ON THE FORMATION OF CRITICAL THINKING FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE .....	77
<i>Viktoriia Anishchenko</i>	
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES AND PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PEDAGOGICAL CONDITIONS FOR ENSURING THE QUALITY OF TRAINING OF FUTURE OFFICERS OF THE SECURITY AND DEFENSE SECTOR OF UKRAINE .....	78
<b>RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE AS A THREAT TO EUROPEAN SUSTAINABILITY .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<i>Viacheslav Kharchenko, Bohdan Rudyk</i>	
THE IMPACT OF RUSSIAN AGGRESSION ON THE AIR COMPONENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT .....	80
<i>Tetyana Dyman, Ruslana Zadorozhna</i>	
CHANGES IN CONSUMER BEHAVIOR OF UKRAINIAN FOOD MARKET BUYERS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE WAR .....	81
<i>Olexii Varypaiev, Andrii Minosian</i>	
RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AND WESTERN STRATEGY: THE UKRAINIAN DIMENSION .....	82

## INNOVATION AS A PRIORITY AREA OF STRUCTURAL POLICY

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The economic structure inherited by Ukraine as an independent state was extremely deformed, capable of changing only at the initiative of a single center and in the case of using huge resources that were also redistributed through the center. It did not have internal, immanent sources of development and efficiency improvement. The motives for improving the structure through innovations were mostly rejected. The lack of freedom of entrepreneurship and competition made it impossible to produce high-quality goods on a significant scale, reduce costs, increase productivity and quickly respond to changing demand. To produce final products, it was necessary to spend a large amount of primary resources. Hence the hypertrophied development of raw materials industries. The raw materials direction in the structure of the Ukrainian economy had formed even earlier and was inherited from the past. Structural changes that have occurred in the economy over the years of transformational transformations indicate a reduction in the processing industries, an increase in the share in the creation of gross added value of agriculture, mining, as well as information and telecommunications. The structure of the national economy adapted to the requirements of domestic and external demand. In the absence of structural policy, structural changes were carried out spontaneously in favor of industries that satisfied demand in the domestic and external markets. With the transition to market methods of regulation, the real competitiveness of domestic enterprises and industries and the competitive advantages of the national economy were revealed. Due to the real competitiveness of enterprises and industries, the new structure of the economy removed the contradictions of the inherited structure and created the prerequisites for the transition to a cyclical form of the movement of industrial capital in the process of its reproduction.

Structural changes in the national economy affected the structure of enterprises. If they do not constantly seek innovations as a way to increase the efficiency of functioning capital, but compete for preferences from the government, they will not be able to ensure future development. Due to the lack of a structural industrial policy, labor productivity in the national economy lags behind the world growth rates by more than half. Competitiveness in the markets of finished goods should be defined as a goal of modernization, a large-scale national goal of a strategic nature, the achievement of which would allow Ukraine to take a worthy place in the world. The competitiveness of enterprises is characterized by an increase in labor productivity or total factor productivity. These indicators can become indicators of efficiency. Achieving high competitiveness is not possible without an active structural (industrial) policy.

The desired direction of structural policy is innovations associated with the adaptation of the technologies involved to operating enterprises. The world economy has modern methods of structural policy, but their application is accompanied by risks, corruption, rent-seeking behavior caused by state privileges and subsidies, which, naturally, do not increase the efficiency of capital at the expense of innovations. Structural policy is not a set of methods of state intervention, but a means of interaction between business and the state to increase the competitiveness and productivity of production factors. This requires significant institutional transformations that should ensure catch-up development in the post-war period.