

CONCEPTUAL FOUNDATIONS AND EVOLUTION OF STATE REGULATION OF FOOD INDUSTRY ENTERPRISES IN UKRAINE

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Introduction. The food industry plays a crucial role in Ukraine's economy by supplying the domestic market with food products and having significant export potential. At the same time, government regulation of this sector is a complex and multifaceted process requiring the coordination of various aspects such as product safety and quality, support for domestic producers, stimulation of innovation and modernization, as well as regulation of imports and exports. There is a need for a deep understanding of the conceptual foundations of government regulation to ensure the effective functioning of the industry and to address potential issues. This research aims to uncover the essence and effectiveness of the mechanisms used by the state to regulate the activities of enterprises in the food industry. The connection with important scientific and practical tasks lies in the fact that effective state regulation of the food industry can help solve such tasks as ensuring food safety, supporting sustainable development of the sector, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, harmonizing with international standards, and ensuring fair competition.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The essence and features of state regulation in the modern economy have been explored in the works of O. Lozychenko [1] and V.V. Melnyk [2]. H.I. Ianenkova and V.V. Samarska [3] have examined the issues of state regulation of small businesses in Ukraine. Theories, scientific-conceptual foundations, and methodological principles of state regulation of Ukraine's economy have been studied by R.V. Lohosha [4], D.O. Kotelevets [5], V.A. Tkachuk, and O.V. Miroshnychenko [6]. Problems and prospects for the development of Ukraine's food industry have been investigated by O.H. Rymar and I.O. Mazurkevych [7], S. Maistro and O. Voloshyn [8], and V.I. Khrypiuk [9].

Objectives of the article. The purpose of the study is to systematize and analyze the conceptual foundations, as well as to study the stages and features of the evolution of state regulation in the food industry in Ukraine. It also aims to formulate recommendations for further improvement of the state regulation system to ensure the stability and competitiveness of food industry enterprises in the modern market environment.

The research methods used in the article include literature review, historical method, legislative analysis, comparative analysis, and a systematic approach. These methods help to explore the problem from different perspectives and to form an objective view of the conceptual foundations and evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises.

The main material of the study. State regulation in Ukraine involves the establishment and implementation of a set of measures aimed at ensuring the stable development of the economy, social protection of citizens, environmental protection, and fulfilling other important state functions. This process encompasses the regulation of economic relations, support for investments, promotion of entrepreneurship, control over labor and financial markets, as well as ensuring compliance with legislation in various sectors.

The chronology of the evolution of state regulation in Ukraine includes the following stages: 1. The beginning of independence (1991–1999). 2. Reform and legal stabilization (2000–2013). 3. Legal crisis (2014–2019). 4. Modern legal regulation (since 2020) (Figure 1).



Figure 1. The evolution of state regulation in Ukraine

Source: formed on the basis of sources [4; 6; 10; 12–21]

According to the data presented in Figure 1, it can be concluded that throughout the entire period of Ukraine's independence, from 1991 to the present, a significant legislative and regulatory framework has been developed aimed at regulating economic and social processes in the country. Laws on entrepreneurship, business registration, and state enterprise are fundamental legal foundations for business development and the formation of market relations in Ukraine. The period of reform and legal stabilization (2000–2013) contributed to improving the business environment and supporting entrepreneurship. The crisis years (2014–2019) necessitated the adoption of laws aimed at protecting consumer rights, stimulating competition, and developing local self-government. In the modern era (since 2020), new laws are being adopted to regulate energy, public procurement, and financial services to ensure stability and development of the economy and society.

In defining the concept of "state regulation," it is essential to rely on the main provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the CU) [21], specifically:

1. Article 8 of the CU proclaims the principle of the rule of law and condemns any form of dictatorship, including economic.

2. Article 13 of the CU defines the principles of the separation of powers into legislative, executive, and judicial branches, establishing a system of balanced control mechanisms that enable state regulation.

3. Article 42 of the CU guarantees the right to property and states that property entails obligations to use it in accordance with its social purpose.

4. Article 44 of the CU establishes the right to entrepreneurship and the state's obligation to create conditions for the development of entrepreneurship.

5. Article 46 of the CU guarantees the right to work and provides for social protection of workers.

6. Article 55 of the CU stipulates those citizens and legal entities are obliged to comply with the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, which forms the basis for state control and regulation.

Since the Constitution of Ukraine does not provide a direct definition of "state regulation," based on the provisions of Articles 8, 13, 42, 44, 46, and 55 [20], state regulation can be defined as a system aimed at achieving balanced economic and social development of the country, protecting the rights and interests of citizens, and ensuring the stability and security of society [20]. Other interpretations of the essence of "state regulation" by Ukrainian researchers are presented in Table 1.

According to the data presented in Table 1, Ukrainian researchers such as Surmin Yu. P., Bakumenko V.D., Mykhnenko A.M. [21], Maistro S., Voloshyn O. [8], Voznesenska O.A. [22], Tkachuk V.A., Miroshnychenko O.V. [6], Kravchenko O.M. [23], and Stechenko D.M. [24] note that state regulation is a targeted influence of the state on economic and social processes to achieve specific goals, but from different perspectives. The main differences in their interpretations lie in emphasizing various aspects such as economic stabilization,

the organization of social relations, ensuring legality, and public interests. This indicates the diversity of approaches to understanding the role of the state in regulating social processes and defining management strategies.

Let's examine the evolution of state regulation in the food industry in Ukraine (see Figure 2).

Table 1

Scientific approaches to the definition of «state regulation» by Ukrainian researchers

№	Definition of «state regulation»	Source
1	State regulation is a set of targeted forms, methods, and directions of influence applied by state management bodies to organize the system of socio-economic relations in order to stabilize and adapt the existing socio-political system to changing conditions.	Surmin Yu. P., Bakumenko V. D., Mykhnenko A. M. (2010). Encyclopedic dictionary of public administration [Encyclopedic dictionary of public administration]. Kyiv: NADU. P. 820 [21]
2	State regulation is the targeted influence of the state on objects and processes by establishing rules of conduct for economic entities to achieve stable economic development or changes in a direction necessary for society.	Maistro S., Voloshyn O. (2015). Mekhanizmy derzhavnoho rehulivannia alternatyvnoi enerhetyky: teoretychni pidkhody do vyznachennia ta zmistu [Mechanisms of state regulation of alternative energy: theoretical approaches to definition and content]. <i>Efektivnist derzhavnoho upravlinnia</i> . Vol. 43. P. 36–43 [8]
3	State regulation is the purposeful activity of authorized state bodies, their officials, and individual non-state entities, which consists of implementing comprehensive measures aimed at the practical realization of state policy.	Voznesenska O. A. (2010). Mekhanizm derzhavnoho rehulivannia v haluzi audiovizualnykh zasobiv masovoi informatsii [Voznesenska O. A. Mechanism of state regulation in the field of audiovisual media]. <i>Chasopys Akademii advokatury Ukrainy</i> . Vol. 7. P. 1–6. [22, c. 6]
4	State regulation is the influence of the state, represented by state bodies, on economic objects and processes and the individuals involved in them.	Tkachuk V. A., Miroshnychenko O. V. (2015). Metodolohichni osnovy derzhavnoho rehulivannia [Methodological foundations of state regulation]. <i>Ahrosvit</i> . Vol. 5–6. P. 47–52. [6, p. 49]
5	State regulation is carried out to give processes an organized character, to coordinate the actions of economic entities, and to ensure compliance with laws, state, and public interests.	Kravchenko O. M. (2009). Teoretychni pidkhody do vyznachennia poniattia «mekhanizm derzhavnoho upravlinnia» [Theoretical approaches to the definition of the concept of «mechanism of state management»]. <i>Derzhavne upravlinnia: udoskonalennia ta rozvytok</i> . Vol. 3. [23]
6	State regulation is the influence of the state on reproductive processes in the economy using appropriate means to guide economic entities and individual citizens towards achieving the goals and priorities of state policy for social development.	Stechenko D. M. (2007). Derzhavne rehulivannia ekonomiky: navch. Posibnyk [State regulation of the economy: education. manual]. K: Znannia. P. 271 [24, p. 5]

Source: formed on the basis of sources [6; 8; 21–24]

As seen from the data in Figure 2, the evolution of state regulation of enterprises in the food industry in Ukraine has undergone significant transformations, from establishing fundamental principles to integrating with international standards. Despite the achievements, challenges remain that require further efforts to enhance regulation efficiency, ensure product safety and quality, and support producers in meeting modern market demands. State regulation of the food industry focuses primarily on raising product safety standards, transparency in production processes, and producer accountability. The Ukrainian food industry is gradually adapting to international standards such as ISO and HACCP, which helps increase the competitiveness of Ukrainian products in global markets. Therefore, state regulation of the food industry in Ukraine shows an evolution from centralized planned control to integration into the international regulatory system, emphasizing quality, safety, and product competitiveness. This process reflects the broader trends of globalization and Europeanization, as well as the specifics of the Ukrainian context.

Let's consider the main elements of the evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine (see Figure 3).

According to the data in Figure 3, the main elements of the evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises reflect various aspects of management that ensure the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of this

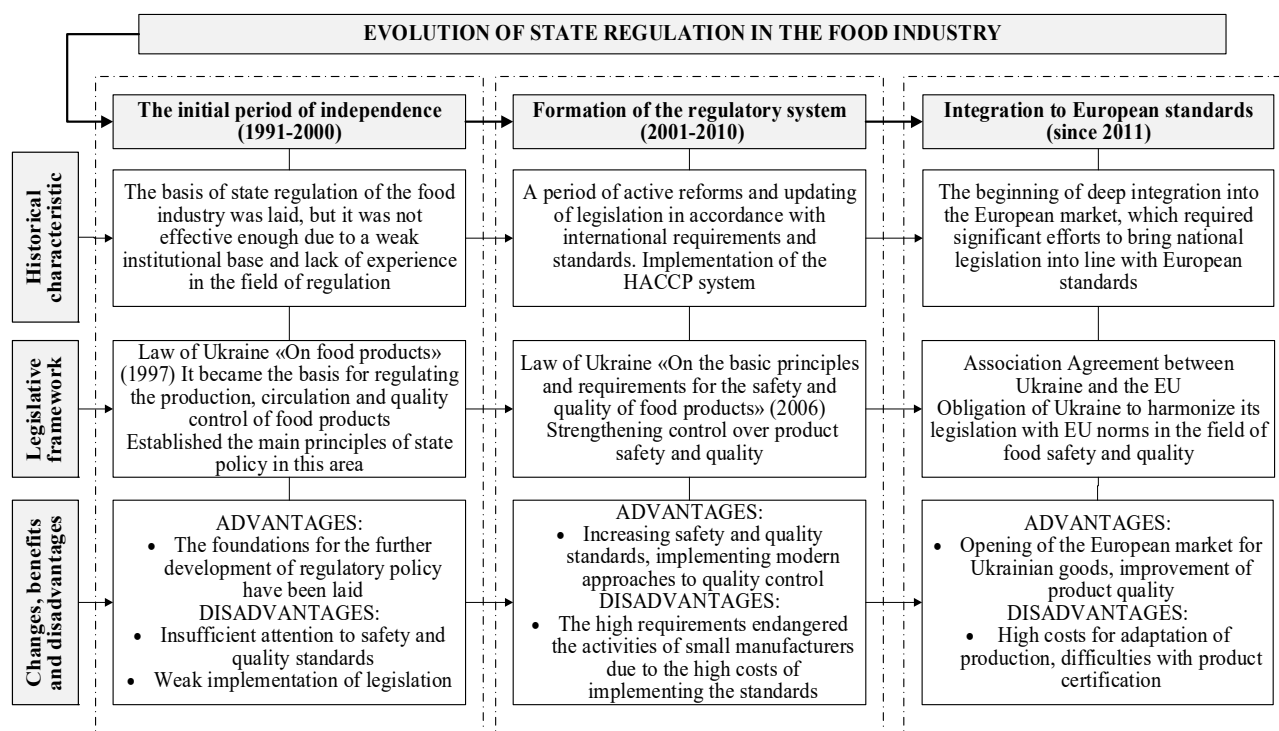


Figure 2. Evolution of state regulation in the food industry in Ukraine

Source: formed on the basis of sources [3; 6; 9; 24–26]

industry. This includes the regulatory framework covering standards, sanitary and epidemiological norms, and trade rules. State funding and investments contribute to the development of the industry through subsidies, tax incentives, and investment programs. Quality monitoring and control ensure the implementation of HACCP systems, laboratory control, and product traceability systems. Technological development focuses on innovations, environmentally friendly technologies, and product safety. International integration supports the harmonization of standards, participation in international organizations, and regulation of export-import operations.

Consumer protection involves product labeling, protection against misleading advertising, and complaint handling mechanisms. Environmental policy focuses on waste disposal, environmentally friendly production, and environmental standards. Social responsibility encompasses community support, decent working conditions, and the responsible use of resources.

Such a multifaceted strategy ensures a comprehensive approach to regulating the food industry, promoting sustainable development and meeting societal needs.

Let's define the conceptual foundations of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine (Figure 4).

As seen from the data in Figure 4, the conceptual foundations of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine demonstrate the structure of the state regulation mechanism with several interconnected components that form a comprehensive approach to state regulation in the food industry. Firstly, product safety and quality are ensured through the implementation of control systems such as HACCP, regular monitoring and auditing of production processes, and compliance with established standards. Secondly, support for producers is provided through tax incentives, subsidies, access to credit, as well as training programs and consulting services. This helps producers develop and enter new markets. The third direction concerns the stimulation of innovation and modernization. State funding for research and development in food technologies, attracting foreign investments, and creating innovation clusters contribute to the development of the industry. Finally, import and export regulation involves harmonizing national legislation with international standards, concluding international agreements to promote exports, and customs regulation to protect the domestic market. Thus, regulation of the food industry in Ukraine serves as a key tool for ensuring safety, supporting innovation, stimulating development, and balancing internal and external interests in the context of the global market.

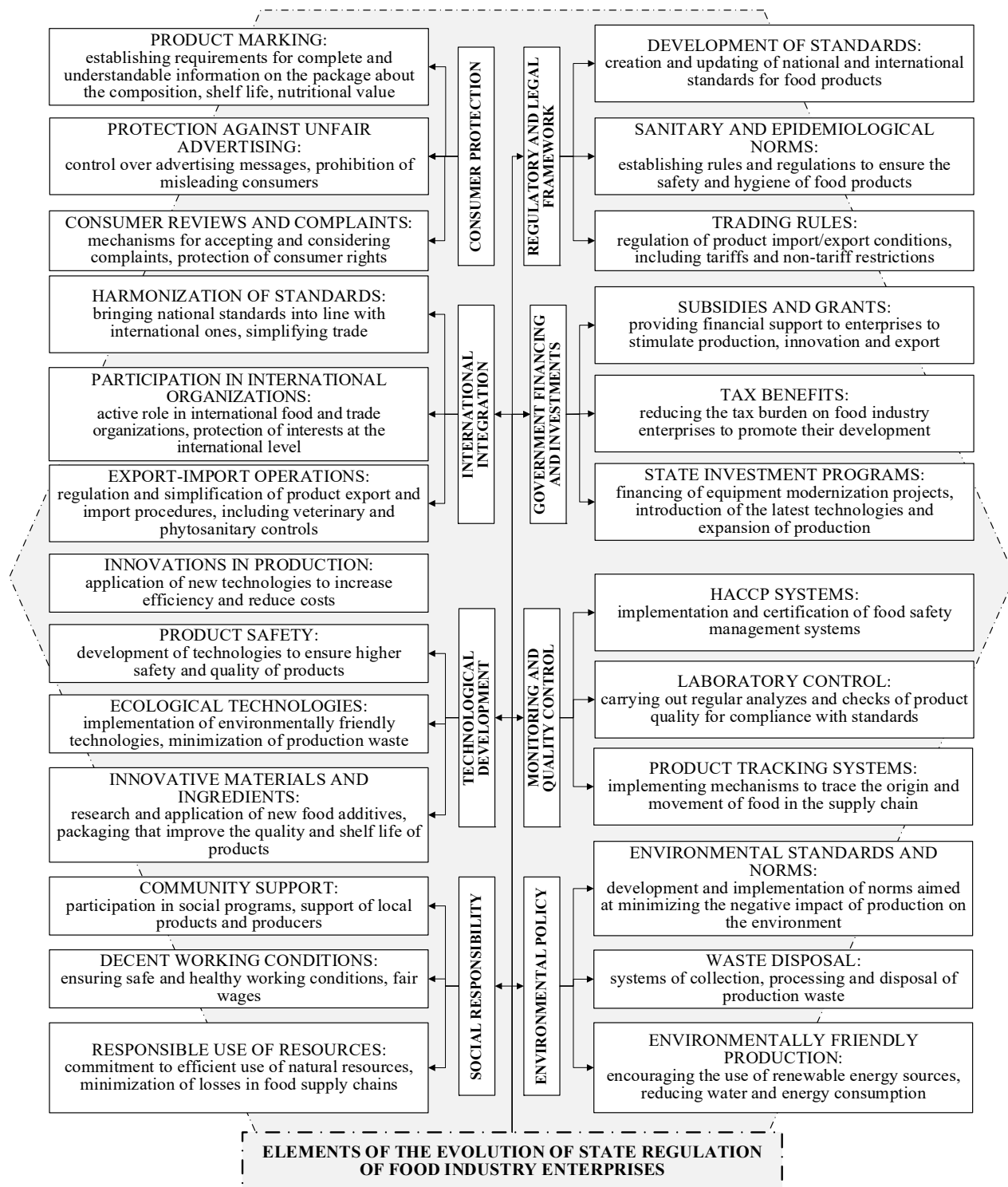


Figure 3. The main elements of the evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine

Source: formed on the basis of sources [1–3; 6-9; 20–26]

Let's consider the key shortcomings and ways to improve state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine in Figure 5.

According to the data in Figure 5, state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine has several shortcomings that may hinder the effective development of the industry. Bureaucratic obstacles complicate access to state support, insufficient funding limits the development of small and medium enterprises, and high standards create barriers for small producers. The lack of a unified coordination structure also leads to difficulties in addressing industry issues.

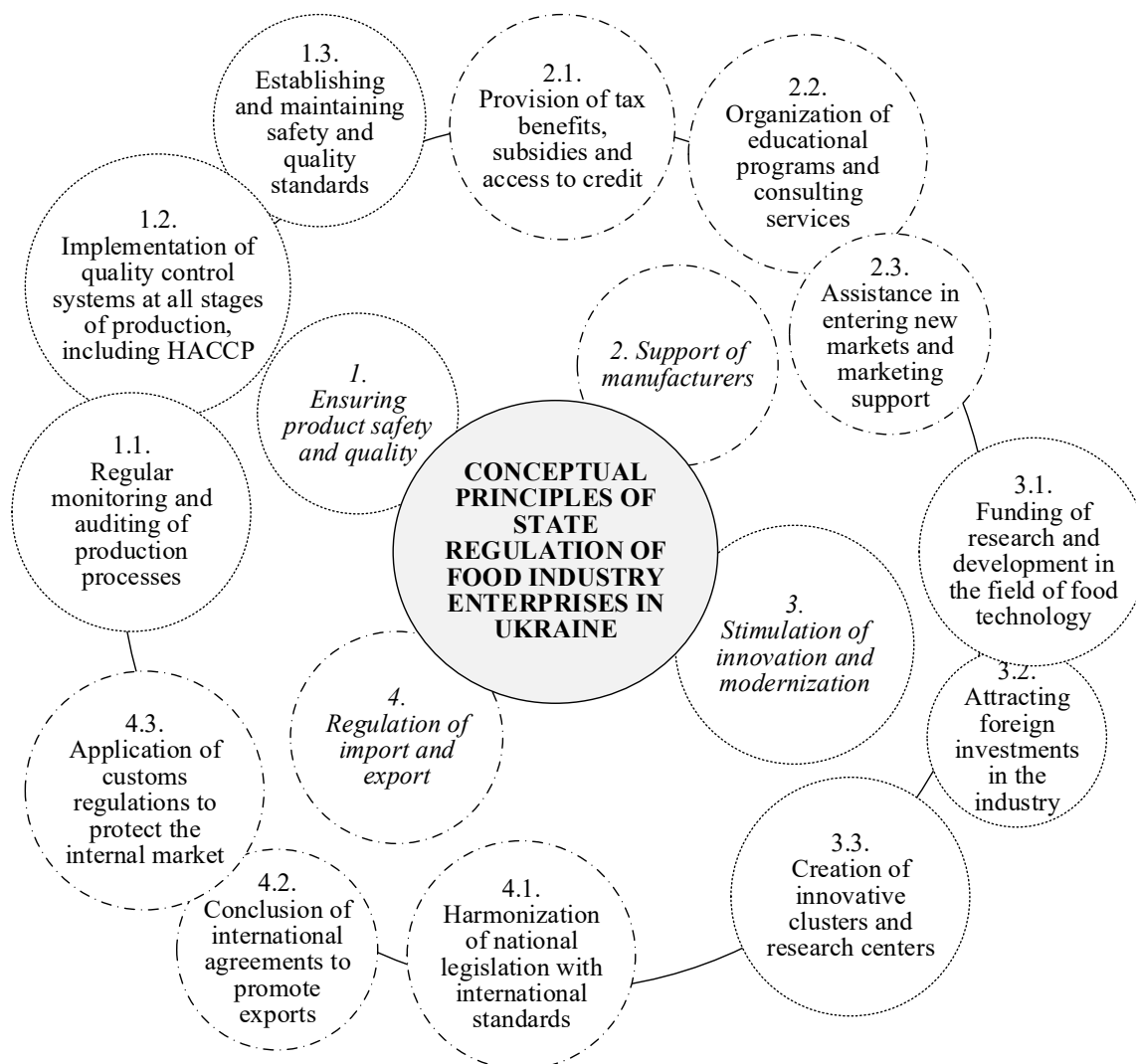


Figure 4. Conceptual foundations of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine

Source: formed on the basis of sources [1–3; 6–9; 20–26]

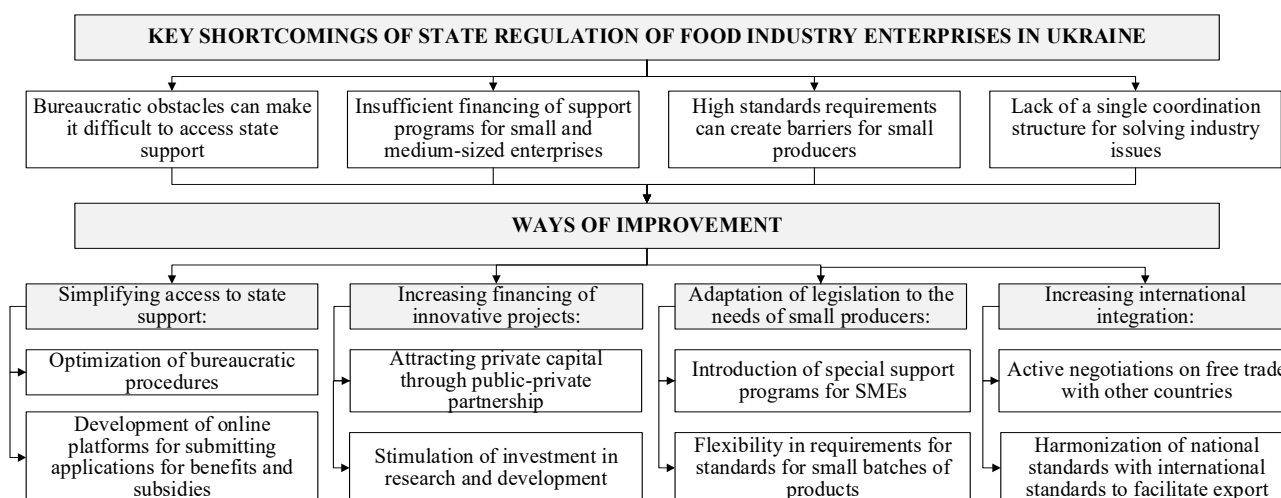


Figure 5. Key shortcomings and ways to improve state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine

Source: formed by the author based on the results of his own research

Improvement measures (see Figure 5) include simplifying bureaucratic procedures, increasing funding for innovative projects, adapting legislation to the needs of small producers, and enhancing international integration. This may involve optimizing access to state support through online platforms, stimulating private investment, introducing special programs for small and medium enterprises, and actively negotiating free trade agreements with other countries. Such steps can ensure more effective and favorable regulation for food industry enterprises. The identified measures will contribute to the further development and efficiency of state regulation in Ukraine's food industry, providing a balanced approach to supporting both large and small producers.

Let's outline the prospects for the development of conceptual foundations and the evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine (see Figure 6).

According to the data in Figure 6, the prospects for the development of state regulation of food industry enterprises focus on several key areas that will shape its future. Digitalization and automation are the main driving forces. The integration of digital technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence, and blockchain creates opportunities for more efficient supply chain management and quality control. Automation allows for cost reduction and improved productivity in the manufacturing and logistics processes of the food industry.

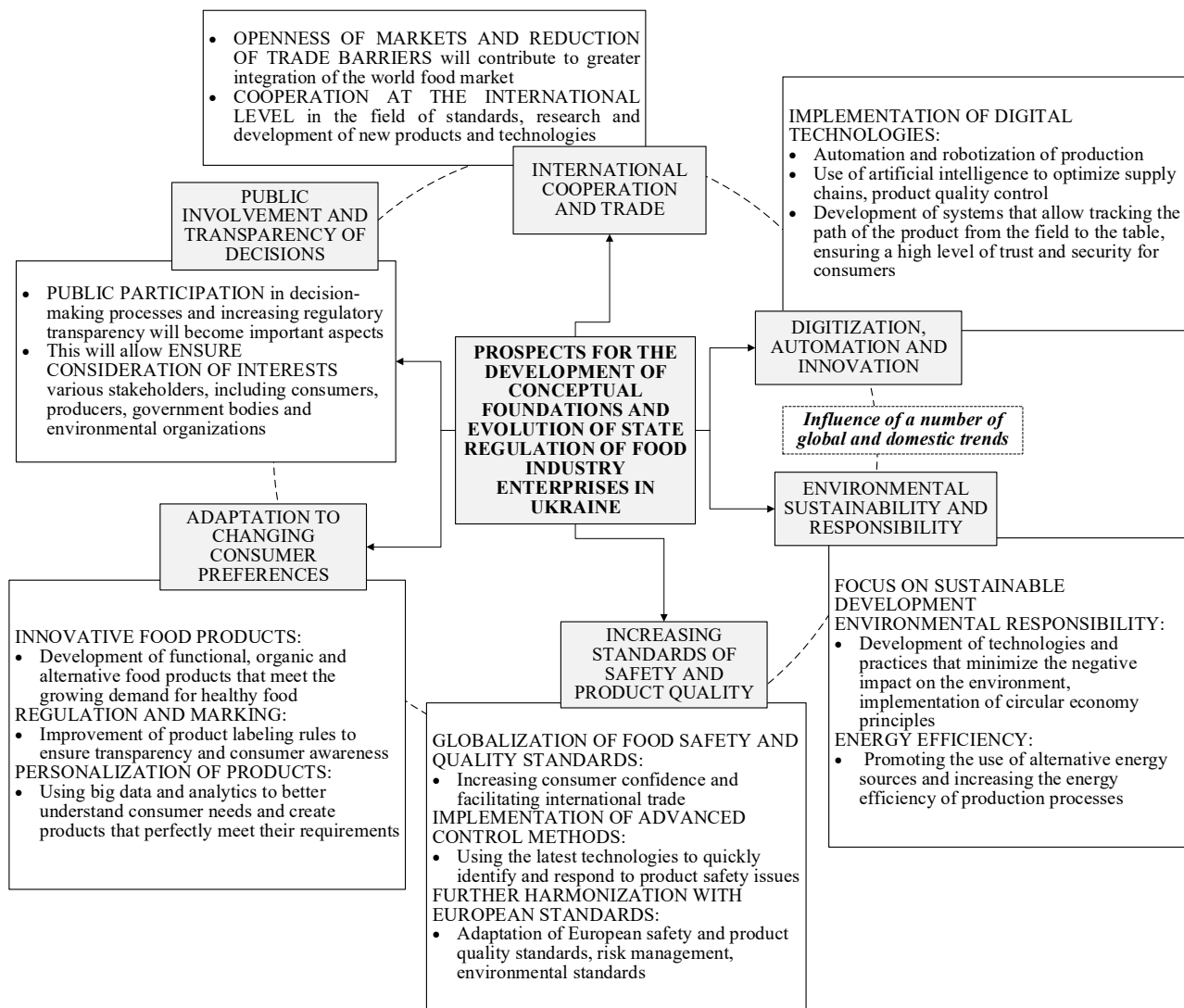


Figure 6. Prospects for the development of conceptual foundations and evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine

Source: formed by the author based on the results of his own research

Another important direction is environmental sustainability and responsibility. Food industry enterprises are increasingly investing in technologies that reduce environmental impact, such as lowering water consumption, energy consumption, and carbon emissions. The circular economy, which encourages the reuse of materials and waste minimization, is also becoming increasingly relevant. Product safety and quality are integral parts of regulation.

The globalization of standards, such as HACCP, enhances consumer trust and promotes international trade. Adapting to European standards is also crucial, as it ensures that products meet the highest requirements. Innovation and the development of new products represent another important aspect. There is growing demand for alternative proteins, organic products, and other innovative solutions that cater to changing consumer preferences. State regulation should support these innovations while maintaining high product quality and safety. International cooperation and trade play a significant role in the industry's development. Market openness and the reduction of trade barriers facilitate greater integration of the global food market. Moreover, international collaboration in standards, research, and the development of new products enables the industry to advance. Public engagement and transparency in decision-making increase trust in regulation. Public participation in decision-making processes and considering the interests of various stakeholders, including consumers, producers, and environmental organizations, help create regulations that meet the needs of both society and business. These prospects will require food industry enterprises to be flexible, innovative, and ready to adapt quickly to changing market conditions and regulatory environments. State regulation will play a key role in stimulating these processes, providing a framework for sustainable development and protecting consumer interests.

Conclusions. Based on the analysis of the evolution of state regulation in the food industry in Ukraine, further development directions have been identified. This research is unique due to its comprehensive analysis of the evolution and conceptual foundations of state management in Ukraine's food industry. It provides a theoretical basis for further studies in this field, helping to reveal the main principles of regulation, its impact on product safety, and enterprise development. The practical significance lies in providing recommendations to regulatory bodies for improving legislation and supporting companies in this sector. The study results can be used to develop new policies aimed at stimulating innovation, protecting consumer rights, and supporting the competitiveness of producers in the international market. Future research could examine the impact of international standards, best regulatory practices, and the evaluation of innovations on this industry.

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Conceptual foundations and evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine.

The article examines the conceptual foundations and evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine. Within the framework of the conducted research, the evolution of state regulation in Ukraine was considered. Based on the main provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine, the analysis of scientific sources and publications, the definition of the concept of "state regulation" was formed. Information on the evolution of state regulation of the food industry in Ukraine has been systematized and presented. According to the results of the conducted research, the main elements of evolution and the conceptual foundations of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine were determined. The key shortcomings and ways to improve the state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine have been identified. The prospects for the development of conceptual foundations and the evolution of state regulation of food industry enterprises in Ukraine have been determined.

Key words: state regulation of food industry enterprises, conceptual foundations of state regulation, evolution of state regulation, food industry, regulation of entrepreneurial activity.

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Концептуальні засади та еволюція державного регулювання підприємств харчової галузі в Україні.

У статті досліджено концептуальні засади та еволюцію державного регулювання підприємств харчової галузі в Україні. В межах проведеного дослідження розглянуто еволюцію державного регулювання в Україні. Спираючись на основні положення Конституції України, проведеного аналізу наукових джерел та публікацій, сформовано визначення поняття «державне регулювання». Систематизовано та представлено інформацію щодо еволюції державного регулювання харчової галузі в Україні. За результатами проведеного дослідження визначено основні елементи еволюції та концептуальні засади державного регулювання підприємств харчової галузі в Україні. Визначено, що основні елементи еволюції державного регулювання харчової галузі в Україні охоплюють різноманітні аспекти управління, які сприяють безпеці, ефективності та стійкості галузі. Це включає нормативно-правову базу, державне фінансування, моніторинг якості, технологічний розвиток, міжнародну інтеграцію, захист споживачів, екологічну політику та соціальну відповідальність. Комплексний підхід забезпечує гармонізацію національних стандартів з міжнародними, підтримку виробників через податкові пільги та субсидії, стимулювання інновацій і модернізації, а також регулювання імпорту та експорту. Такий багатогранний підхід сприяє сталому розвитку галузі, задоволенню суспільних потреб і інтеграції в глобальний ринок. Виокремлено ключові недоліки державного регулювання підприємств харчової галузі в Україні: бюрократичні перепони, недостатнє фінансування, високі стандарти, та відсутність єдиної координаційної структури. Для подолання цих недоліків запропоновано наступні шляхи поліпшення: спрощення бюрократичних процедур, збільшення фінансування інноваційних проектів, адаптація законодавства до потреб малих виробників і підвищення міжнародної інтеграції. Впровадження таких заходів забезпечить більш ефективне регулювання, підтримуючи як великі, так і малі підприємства. За результатами проведеного дослідження визначено перспективи розвитку державного регулювання: цифровізацію, екологічну стійкість, безпеку та якість продукції, інновації та міжнародну кооперацію. Сформовано висновки та визначено, що кроки сприятимуть стійкому розвитку галузі, забезпечуючи захист інтересів споживачів та сприяючи інтеграції України у світовий харчовий ринок.

Ключові слова: державне регулювання підприємств харчової галузі, концептуальні засади державного регулювання, еволюція державного регулювання, харчова промисловість, регулювання підприємницької діяльності.