



UDC 349:339

DOI: 10.31548/law/3.2024.85

Legal nature of parallel imports in Ukraine: The problem of certification and environmental standards

Iurii Storozhuk*

Postgraduate student

Research Institute of Public Law

03035, 2-A G. Kirpa Str., Kyiv, Ukraine

<https://orcid.org/0009-0005-1588-2004>

Article's History:

Received: 30.04.2024

Revised: 13.07.2024

Accepted: 15.08.2024

Abstract

The study focused on the legal aspects of the recognition of European conformity certificates in Ukraine and their impact on the imported products market, with the purpose of assessing the possibility of simplifying import procedures and strengthening Ukraine's market position. The methodology included an analysis of the current Ukrainian and EU regulations on product certification, a comparative legal analysis of conformity assessment systems, which helped to analyse the possible financial implications and legal consequences of labelling in Ukraine. The study identified the risks associated with differences in quality control standards and market surveillance mechanisms and stated the need for gradual harmonisation of Ukrainian legislation with EU technical regulation, considering the specifics of the national market and consumer safety requirements. Concrete steps were proposed to introduce a system for the recognition of European certificates, including the creation of a system for rapid response to identified non-compliances and strengthening cooperation with European conformity assessment bodies. The analysis also covered the implications of the recognition of European certificates for environmental standards in Ukraine. It was shown that the adoption of European norms can contribute to higher

Suggested Citation:

Storozhuk, Iu. (2024). Legal nature of parallel imports in Ukraine: The problem of certification and environmental standards. *Law. Human. Environment*, 15(3), 85-102. doi: 10.31548/law/3.2024.85.



*Corresponding author

Copyright © The Author(s). This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

environmental requirements for imported products, potentially improving the state of the environment in the country. The results indicate the need to create an effective system for monitoring and controlling compliance with environmental standards when importing goods. The study's findings underscore the significance of the balance between simplifying import procedures, ensuring high quality and safety standards, and promoting sustainable development of the Ukrainian economy

Keywords: quality control system; technical regulation; consumer protection; European integration; customs clearance

Introduction

In the context of Ukraine's European integration, the issue of legal regulation of parallel imports is of particular relevance. Parallel imports, which involve the importation of original goods without the express consent of the trademark owner, substantially affect competition, pricing, and the availability of goods to consumers. An essential aspect that requires further research is the interaction between legal protection of trademarks and general principles of market competition. The relevance of addressing these issues is driven by the need to simultaneously ensure free access to the market and support innovation, which underpins sustainable economic development. Furthermore, the adoption of international practices and the development of unified approaches to certification and compliance with environmental standards can minimise risks to consumer health and ensure environmental safety. In this regard, it is necessary to create a unified regulatory approach that would strike a balance between the interests of rights holders, consumer protection, and compliance with international environmental standards.

The issue of parallel imports lies at the intersection of various branches of law, including civil, commercial, customs, and intellectual property law. This complexity creates further challenges for legal regulation and requires a comprehensive scientific analysis. The issues of product certification

and compliance with environmental standards in parallel imports are particularly acute, as they directly affect consumer safety and the environment.

Many researchers have investigated various aspects of parallel imports. Specifically, J. Ishikawa *et al.* (2020) studied the economic aspects of parallel imports and their impact on public welfare, proving that permitting parallel imports can lead to lower prices in the internal market due to increased competition between formal and informal distributors, which positively affects consumer welfare. M. Reisinger *et al.* (2019) explored the legal aspects of regulating parallel imports in the context of intangible assets law, focusing on the relationship between parallel imports and the innovation activities of pharmaceutical companies. M. Ikram *et al.* (2020) analysed the environmental aspects of international trade and their impact on the competitiveness of products. The researchers found a positive correlation between compliance with environmental regulations and the success of companies in international markets. L.V. White *et al.* (2021), studying the problems of emissions certification in international hydrogen trade, substantiated the need to create a unified international system of certification and verification of environmental standards, which is especially relevant in the context of parallel imports of energy-intensive products and

compliance with the environmental obligations of importing countries.

In the context of Ukraine, M. Derevyanko *et al.* (2021) considered the adaptation of legal norms in the field of engineering legal regulation and conformity assessment to EU norms. The researchers substantiated the need to implement a modular approach to conformity assessment and developed a roadmap for harmonising Ukraine's technical regulations with EU directives. O. Dniprov *et al.* (2020) investigated the issue of guaranteeing the protection of Ukraine's borders in the context of parallel imports, proposing the introduction of an automated risk management system and strengthening interagency coordination to improve the effectiveness of customs control of the originality of goods.

Despite the considerable amount of research in the field of parallel imports, a series of issues are still understudied, especially in the context of Ukrainian reality. Specifically, there is no comprehensive analysis of the legal nature of parallel imports in Ukraine, which would cover both aspects of product certification and compliance with environmental standards. The issue of mutual acceptance of quality documents between Ukraine and the EU in the context of parallel imports has also been under-researched.

The purpose of this study was to determine the specific features of legal regulation of parallel imports in Ukraine through the lens of certification requirements and compliance with environmental standards. To fulfil the stated purpose, the following tasks were formulated:

- 1) to investigate the situation with legal control of simultaneous importation in Ukraine;
- 2) to determine the specific features of compliance with environmental standards in the context of parallel imports;
- 3) to develop recommendations for improving the legislation in the field of parallel

importation, considering the requirements of certification and environmental standards.

Materials and Methods

The research methodology was based on an approach that included formal legal analysis and comparative legal analysis. To examine the legal framework, the key documents of Ukrainian legislation were analysed, including the Law of Ukraine No. 124-VIII (2015), the Law of Ukraine No. 1023-XII (1991), the Customs Code of Ukraine (2012), Association Agreement (2014), the Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine for the Period up to 2030 (2019). The study focused on the provisions of these regulations on technical governance of import operations, conformity assessment procedures, customs clearance of goods, mutual recognition of quality certificates between Ukraine and the EU, and environmental requirements for imported products.

The comparative legal analysis was performed based on the following criteria: terms and procedures for product certification, labelling requirements, market surveillance mechanisms and liability for violation of technical regulations by comparing Ukrainian legislation with the regulations of the European Union (EU), including Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 765/2008 (2008) and Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU (2011). To analyse the judicial practice, the study examined the Resolution of the Kyiv Commercial Court of Appeal No. 910/14972/17 (2018) and the Resolution of the Supreme Court Composed of the Panel of Judges of the Commercial Court of Cassation in Case No. 910/4947/18 (2019), which concerned disputes over the legality of parallel imports and protection of intellectual property rights.

The study prioritised the principle of exhaustion of intellectual property rights and its impact on the possibility of parallel imports in Ukraine. The comparative analysis method was employed to investigate the issues of product certification and compliance with environmental standards. This helped to compare the requirements of Ukrainian legal norms with foreign standards and practices, specifically with EU norms for determining the consistency and environmental safety of products. The economic aspects of parallel imports were analysed using the data presented in the studies by T. Major (2020) and S. Massini *et al.* (2023). This helped to determine the probable impact of parallel import liberalisation on the competitive environment and pricing in the Ukrainian market. To study the environmental aspects of parallel imports, the study analysed the provisions of the Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine for the Period up to 2030 (2019) and European regulations, namely Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU (2011). This helped to establish key environmental requirements for products and assess their impact on parallel imports.

Results

Theoretical and legal basis of parallel import in Ukraine. The legal nature of parallel imports in Ukraine is characterised by a complex combination of civil, commercial, and customs law. A review of the existing legal provisions suggests a lack of a clear interpretation of the term 'parallel import' in the regulations of Ukraine. The legal regulation of this phenomenon takes place through the principle of termination of powers over intangible assets.

The study of the legal framework revealed a contradiction between the desire for European

integration and the existing regulation of parallel imports. The Association Agreement (2014) stipulates the harmonisation of intellectual property legislation, which requires updating the methods of regulating parallel imports. This is especially apparent in the application of the various exhaustion of rights principles: Ukraine has a national principle that limits parallel imports to the territory of the state, while the EU applies a regional exhaustion of rights principle that ensures the free movement of goods throughout the European Economic Area (Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2015/2436, 2015). This difference creates substantial barriers to Ukraine's integration into the EU single market and requires legislative changes to ensure compliance with European standards.

The study of law enforcement in Ukrainian courts demonstrates the ambiguity of the interpretation of the rules on parallel imports. In case No. 910/14972/17 (2018), the Kyiv Commercial Court recognised the parallel import of products as lawful, as they were put into civil circulation outside Ukraine directly by the rights holder or with their permission. The court also noted that the rights holder had not proved that their exclusive rights to the trademark had been infringed, and the goods were original and legally purchased abroad. In contrast, in case No. 910/4947/18 (2019), the court banned parallel imports, as the importer did not receive direct permission from the right holder to import the goods, and could not confirm the origin of the products and compliance with special conditions of their transportation and storage, which could affect the quality of the goods. Furthermore, the court also took into consideration that there was already an official distributor of these products in Ukraine, which performed the necessary quality control and after-sales service. This

ambiguity underscores the need to develop clear legal mechanisms for regulating parallel imports that would accommodate both the interests of rights holders and the needs of consumers and importers. Some steps in this regard were made in the Law of Ukraine No. 3860-IX “On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on the Parallel Import of Medicinal Products” (2024).

The legal control of parallel imports in Ukraine reveals a series of major gaps that need to be addressed through legislation. The key issue is to establish the position of a parallel importer in the context of consumer protection. The Law of Ukraine No. 1023-XII “On Protection of Consumer Rights” (1991) imposes responsibility for the quality of goods on the seller. However, in the case of parallel imports, there is ambiguity regarding the division of obligations between a legal distributor and a parallel importer, especially in terms of warranty service and repair.

The impact of parallel imports on the competitive environment is also an important aspect of its legal regulation. The Law of Ukraine No. 2210-III “On Protection of Economic Competition” (2001) aims to maintain a competitive market. Parallel imports potentially contribute to increased competition and lower prices for consumers. However, potentially negative consequences for official distributors investing in brand development and service infrastructure should be factored in.

Certification and compliance with technical regulations are critical issues in the context of parallel imports. The Law of Ukraine No. 124-VIII (2015) establishes safety requirements for products placed on the market in Ukraine. In the case of parallel imports, there are difficulties in confirming the conformity of goods, especially if they are intended for other markets. This necessitates the development of mechanisms to ensure compliance with safety standards while

simplifying procedures for parallel importers. Legislative regulation of the customs aspects of parallel imports also requires detailed elaboration. The Customs Code of Ukraine (2012) does not contain any special provisions on parallel imports, which creates legal uncertainty in the customs clearance of such goods. Specifically, there are aspects related to the determination of the customs value of goods imported in the context of parallel imports, and the application of preferential customs rates and other issues.

Environmental standards are another significant aspect of the legal regulation of parallel imports. The Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine for the Period up to 2030 (2019) stipulates that environmental requirements for products must be increased. In the context of parallel imports, the question arises of mechanisms to ensure that imported goods conform to national environmental standards, especially when these goods were originally intended for markets with other environmental requirements. The legal regulation of parallel imports is closely linked to Ukraine’s international obligations. The Association Agreement (2014) mandates the harmonisation of intellectual property and trade legislation. This requires a review of the existing rules on the exhaustion of intellectual property rights and the development of innovative approaches to parallel import regulation that would be consistent with European standards and practices. Legal uncertainty creates a situation where this issue is regulated at the ministerial level, particularly by the Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 281 (2020).

The problem of protecting intangible assets in the context of parallel imports also continues to be the subject of active debate. The Civil Code of Ukraine (2003) and special laws in the field of intellectual property establish general

principles of protection of rights holders' rights; however, the specifics of parallel imports require the development of more flexible mechanisms that would balance the interests of rights holders, importers, and consumers. The development of e-commerce creates new challenges for the legal regulation of parallel imports. The Law of Ukraine No. 675-VIII (2015) establishes general rules for electronic transactions but does not consider the specifics of cross-border trade in the context of parallel imports. There is a need to develop special rules that would regulate the specifics of parallel imports through online platforms, including aspects of intermediary accountability and consumer protection when purchasing goods from foreign online stores.

Certification of products under parallel import: current state and problems. Product certification for parallel imports is one of the principal aspects of ensuring the proper level and harmlessness of products on the Ukrainian market. The Law of Ukraine No. 124-VIII (2015) establishes general requirements for conformity assessment procedures. However, in the context of parallel imports, certain difficulties arise stemming from the specifics of placing goods on the market. Specifically, parallel importers often face difficulties in proving the conformity of goods with Ukrainian technical regulations, as the products may be originally intended for other markets.

The current state of certification for parallel imports is characterised by the absence of specialised procedures that address the specifics of such imports. According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 95 (2016), the existing conformity assessment modules do not differentiate between procedures for official distributors and parallel importers. This places an added burden on parallel importers, who must undergo the full conformity assessment

procedure even if the product is already certified in the country of manufacture.

The problem of mutual acceptance of quality documents between Ukraine and other countries, especially the EU, becomes particularly acute in the context of parallel imports. The Association Agreement (2014) stipulates the harmonisation of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures. However, in practice, the recognition of European certificates in Ukraine is still complicated and time-consuming, which creates extra barriers to parallel imports and potentially reduces their economic efficiency.

One of the principal challenges in product certification for parallel imports is to ensure that conformity assessment procedures are open and efficient. The Strategy for the Development of the Technical Regulatory System for the Period (2015) emphasises the significance of ensuring transparency and predictability of conformity assessment procedures, as this will help reduce technical barriers to trade. This provision is of particular significance for parallel imports, where the complexity and opacity of procedures can become a major obstacle to doing business. The issue of the reliability of product information also requires attention. According to the Law of Ukraine No. 1023-XII (1991), the buyer is guaranteed the right to receive necessary, understandable, truthful, and up-to-date information about the product. In the context of parallel imports, ensuring this right can be difficult due to the lack of direct links between the manufacturer and the importer. This necessitates the development of mechanisms for verifying information about products imported in parallel.

Environmental aspects of certification for parallel imports also require special attention. According to L.V. White *et al.* (2021), it is increasingly important to integrate environmental

criteria into certification processes to ensure sustainable development and environmental protection. This requires the development of effective mechanisms for assessing the conformity of products not only to technological but also to environmental standards of Ukraine.

The absence of specialised legislation, limited recognition of European certificates, and inadequate harmonisation with EU norms create major obstacles for parallel importers and may

adversely affect the competitiveness of imported products. As presented in Table 1, parallel imports in Ukraine face a series of challenges that must be addressed, including legal uncertainty, duplication of certification procedures, and lack of transparency of origin. Overcoming these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that includes reforming the regulatory framework, simplifying conformity assessment procedures, and integrating environmental criteria.

Table 1. Certification of products for parallel imports in Ukraine

Certification aspect	State	Issues	Potential solutions
Legislative framework	No special regulation of parallel imports. General rules apply to all types of imports.	1. Legal uncertainty of the status of parallel importers. 2. Difficulties in interpreting the existing rules on parallel imports.	1. Development of special legislation on parallel imports. 2. Amendments to existing laws to accommodate the specifics of parallel imports.
Conformity assessment procedures	Uniform procedures for all types of imports. No special procedures for parallel imports.	1. Additional financial and temporal burden on parallel importers. 2. Duplication of conformity assessment procedures for goods already certified in the EU.	1. Development of simplified conformity assessment procedures for parallel imports. 2. Implementation of the 'single window' mechanism for parallel importers.
Recognition of European certificates	Limited recognition of EU certificates. Most products require re-certification in Ukraine.	1. Duplication of certification procedures. 2. Increased cost and time to bring products to market. 3. Reduced competitiveness of imported goods.	1. Expansion of the recognition of Conformité Européenne (CE) marking. 2. Signing of agreements with the EU on mutual acceptance of conformity assessment conclusions. 3. Creation of 'fast-track' procedures for goods with European certification.
Market oversight	The market oversight system is not sufficiently adapted to the specifics of parallel imports.	1. Challenges with quality control of parallel imported goods. 2. Risks of dangerous or low-quality products appearing on the market. 3. Insufficient transparency of the origin of goods.	1. Introduction of a risk-based approach to controlling parallel imports. 2. Creation of specialised units to oversee parallel imports. 3. Strengthening of cooperation with EU market supervisory authorities.
Responsibility for product quality	Uncertainty regarding the distribution of responsibility between the manufacturer, official distributor, and parallel importer.	1. Risks to consumers in case of product defects. 2. Challenges in obtaining warranty service. 3. Potential legal disputes between market participants.	1. Clear definition of the liability of parallel importers in the legislation. 2. Establishment of liability insurance mechanisms for parallel importers. 3. Development of special consumer dispute resolution procedures for parallel imported goods.

Table 1. Continued

Certification aspect	State	Issues	Potential solutions
Information support	Limited access to full information on products imported in parallel.	1. Challenges in verifying information on the origin and characteristics of goods. 2. Risks of providing consumers with incomplete or inaccurate information. 3. Difficulties in tracking the supply chain.	1. Creation of a unified information system for parallel imports. 2. Implementation of blockchain technology to ensure transparency of the supply chain. 3. Development of standardised forms for providing information on parallel imported goods.
Environmental aspects of certification	Insufficient integration of environmental criteria into conformity assessment procedures for parallel imports.	1. Risks of non-compliance of imported goods with national environmental standards. 2. Challenges with the disposal and recycling of imported products. 3. Potential adverse environmental impact.	1. Introduction of mandatory environmental criteria in the conformity assessment for parallel imports. 2. Development of special environmental labels for parallel imports. 3. Development of a mechanism for monitoring the environmental impact of parallel imports.
Compliance with EU provisions	Incomplete adaptation of Ukraine's legal system to EU standards in the field of technical regulation.	1. Differences in standards and technical requirements between Ukraine and the EU. 2. Challenges for Ukrainian producers in entering the EU market. 3. Barriers to the free movement of goods between Ukraine and the EU.	1. Acceleration of the harmonisation of technical regulations with EU standards. 2. Ukraine's accession to European standardisation bodies. 3. Implementation of the 'industrial visa-free regime' with the EU.

Source: compiled by the author of this study based on O. Bondar-Podhurska *et al.* (2020), R. Lupak *et al.* (2021), L.V. White *et al.* (2021), M. Derevyanko *et al.* (2021), T.M. Prylipko *et al.* (2021), L. Yang (2024), T. Zubko (2024), Law of Ukraine No. 124-VIII (2015), Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 95 (2016), Association Agreement (2014), Law of Ukraine No. 2735-VI (2010), Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU (2011)

An essential aspect of product certification for parallel imports is the issue of obligations regarding the reliability and harmlessness of products. According to the Law of Ukraine No. 3390-VI (2011), the responsibility for the quality of products lies with their manufacturer or the person who imported the products into the territory of Ukraine. In the case of parallel imports, this provision creates legal uncertainty, as the parallel importer may not have direct contractual relations with the manufacturer.

The problem of recognition of test results and certificates issued abroad stays relevant for parallel imports. The issue of product

labelling for parallel imports also needs to be addressed. According to the harmonisation of Ukraine's regulatory framework with the EU standards in food labelling and marking requirements, it is emphasised that information about food products must meet the criteria of accuracy, reliability, and be understandable to the consumer (Order of the State Committee of Ukraine on Technical Regulation and Consumer Policy No. 457, 2010). In the context of parallel imports, ensuring that the labelling meets Ukrainian requirements can be problematic, especially if the product was originally intended for another market.

In the context of product certification for parallel imports, the issue of recognition of European certificates of conformity in Ukraine deserves special attention. A considerable share of goods imported in parallel, especially in the consumer electronics market, already has a European certificate of conformity (CE mark). This means that the manufacturer has assessed the conformity of its product for the EU market. Considering Ukraine's aspirations to integrate with the EU, it would be a logical step to accept CE certificates of conformity, which certify that products meet EU safety requirements for customs clearance of goods in Ukraine. This approach could substantially simplify the import procedure and reduce importers' costs (European Commission Notice No. 2022/C 247/01, 2022). According to experts, 'the recognition of European certificates can reduce certification costs by up to 30% and shorten the time to market by 20-25% (Bondar-Podhurska *et al.*, 2020). This can lead to a reduction in the cost of goods and an expansion of the assortment of products on the Ukrainian market.

However, the implementation of such a system requires amendments to Ukrainian legislation. Specifically, it is necessary to develop mechanisms for verification of European certificates and ensure their compliance with Ukrainian safety standards. According to the Association Agreement (2014), the parties are strengthening their cooperation in the areas of technical regulation, common standards, market surveillance, authorisation, and conformity assessment. The goal of this cooperation is to improve mutual understanding between the respective systems and facilitate access to the respective markets. The implementation of this provision could become the basis for the recognition of European certificates for parallel imports.

Environmental standards and their compliance in the context of parallel imports. Environmental standards are essential in the regulation of parallel imports, ensuring environmental safety and consumer interests. In Ukraine, the basic environmental strategy is set out in the Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine for the Period up to 2030 (2019). This document sets out the priority areas of environmental policy, among which the introduction of environmental standards and requirements in various import-related sectors of the economy plays a significant role.

In the context of parallel imports, compliance with environmental standards is crucial, as goods may come from many different countries with distinct environmental requirements. Products imported into the customs territory of Ukraine must meet the environmental harmlessness standards introduced by the Customs Code of Ukraine (2012). This provision creates a legal basis for controlling environmental aspects of parallel imports. It is particularly worth focusing on electronic and electronic products. The EU has Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU (2011), which in Article 4(1) sets maximum content of lead (0.1%), mercury (0.1%), cadmium (0.01%), hexavalent chromium (0.1%), and other hazardous substances. In Ukraine, while the Regulation reproduces the general provisions of the RoHS Directive, there are some discrepancies in Article 2 regarding the list of exemptions from restrictions for specialised equipment and Article 8 regarding conformity assessment procedures, which does not stipulate a simplified mechanism for recognising test results conducted in the EU. This creates additional barriers for parallel importers who are forced to retest their products in Ukraine.

The issue of disposal and recycling of imported products in parallel also requires special attention in the context of environmental standards. The Law of Ukraine No. 2320-IX “On Waste Management” (2022) sets out general requirements for waste management, including electronic and electrical waste. However, in the case of parallel imports, further challenges arise due to the lack of direct links between the manufacturer and the importer, which can complicate the recycling of products at the end of their service life. In the EU, this issue is regulated by Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2012/19/EU (2012), which obliges importers to either join existing producer compliance frameworks or create their dedicated collection and recycling system. Japan has a comparable practice, where parallel importers can enter into agreements with authorised recycling centres, while in the US, the system is organised through a network of certified e-waste recyclers, which all importers have access to regardless of their status (Guidance on WEEE treatment standards..., 2022).

The Technical Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals and Preparations (REACH), which is harmonised with the relevant EU regulation, is of immense importance in the field of chemical safety of imported products. It sets the maximum concentrations of hazardous substances: for carcinogenic substances – no more than 0.1%, for toxic substances – no more than 0.3%, for substances causing irritation – no more than 1%. A comparative analysis with Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (2006) showed differences in registration procedures: whereas in the EU, chemicals are registered centrally through the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Ukraine does not have a centralised registration authority, which complicates

control over the parallel import of cosmetics and household chemicals. Furthermore, the Ukrainian technical regulations do not contain provisions on the specifics of chemical safety control during parallel imports, while the EU clearly regulates the responsibilities of all supply chain participants, including parallel importers.

A key element of compliance with environmental standards in parallel imports is the energy efficiency of products. According to the Law of Ukraine “On Energy Efficiency” (2021), imported products must meet the established energy efficiency requirements. This creates additional challenges for parallel importers, especially when it comes to household appliances and electronics, which may have differing energy efficiency ratings depending on the destination market. In the EU, this problem is being addressed through a unified energy labelling system under Regulation (EU) No. 2017/1369 (2017) of the European Parliament and of the Council, which introduces a standardised scale from A to G and mandatory labelling of all products regardless of the import channel.

Ensuring compliance with environmental standards in parallel imports is intricately linked to the issue of product labelling. Ukrainian law sets out requirements for food labelling, including information on environmental characteristics. In the case of parallel imports, there is a problem of adapting labelling to the requirements of Ukrainian legislation, especially when the goods were originally intended for other markets. An essential aspect of compliance with environmental standards is the control of the content of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in products imported in parallel.

Environmental certification of products is also a vital tool for ensuring compliance with environmental standards. Ukraine has a system of environmental certification and labelling based

on ISO. According to researchers, “environmental certification helps to increase the competitiveness of products and expand export opportunities” (Antiushko *et al.*, 2022). In the context of parallel imports, this opens opportunities to increase consumer confidence in imported products, but at the same time requires that importers make extra efforts to obtain the relevant certificates.

Increased focus should be given to compliance with environmental standards while importing products containing ozone-depleting substances. According to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (2007), strict restrictions on the import of such substances are set. The Law of Ukraine No. 376-IX “On Regulation of Economic Activity with Ozone Depleting Substances and Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases” (2019) sets the maximum content of ozone-depleting substances: for HCFC refrigerants – no more than 0.1%, for CFC substances – a complete ban on their use. Comparison with Regulation (EC) No 1005/2009 (2009) of the European Parliament and of the Council revealed differences in the control system: the EU has implemented an electronic import licensing system (ODS Licensing System) and a single register of certified importers, while Ukraine lacks a centralised monitoring system. The EU also stipulates detailed verification procedures for parallel importers, including the possibility to use the results of laboratory tests conducted in EU accredited laboratories. In contrast, Ukrainian legislation requires repeated testing in Ukrainian laboratories, which creates more barriers to parallel imports.

The problem of cross-border movement of waste is also relevant in the context of parallel imports. The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (1989) sets out the rules for such movements. The Law of Ukraine No. 2320-IX

“On Waste Management” (2022) implements these requirements into national legislation. Parallel importers should consider these regulations, especially when importing goods that may contain hazardous components or become hazardous waste after use.

Thus, in Ukraine, this phenomenon is still under-regulated in legal terms, which creates a series of problems for participants in foreign economic activity, consumers, and the country overall. In the context of the current economic and legal environment, Ukraine’s integration into the European legal framework requires increased attention to the adaptation of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights protection, especially in cases of parallel imports. Insufficient legal regulation of this phenomenon in Ukraine creates a considerable risk for bona fide importers and complicates consumer protection.

Discussion

The issue of recognition of European certificates of conformity in Ukraine deserves special consideration. The analysis showed that the introduction of a mechanism for the recognition of CE marking could greatly simplify the import procedure and reduce importers’ costs. This finding correlates with the systematic data of L. Yang (2024) regarding the significance of harmonisation of standards for reducing trade barriers. At the same time, the study found that the adaptation of the national standardisation system to EU requirements is accompanied by certain challenges, including a possible reduction in the degree of supervision over the standards of imported products.

The analysis of the environmental aspects of parallel imports showed an immediate need to improve the mechanisms for monitoring compliance with environmental standards when importing goods. This confirms the conclusions of

A. Mook and C. Overdevest (2021) on the value of integrating environmental criteria into international trade certification processes. While their study found a 15% increase in compliance with environmental standards with the introduction of an integrated certification system, the current analysis supports the opinion that the existing control mechanisms in Ukraine are much less effective, especially in the field of imports of electronic and household appliances.

An essential aspect identified during the study was the impact of parallel imports on the competitive environment in Ukraine. Studies and international practices suggest that liberalisation of parallel imports can help reduce prices for consumers and expand the variety of goods on the market. This is consistent with the findings of T. Major (2020), who noted the positive impact of parallel imports on competition in the digital economy. At the same time, the present study identified concrete risks for official distributors. According to court case No. 910/4947/18 (2019), parallel imports led to the loss of 25% of the market share of the official distributor due to the inability to compete with the lower prices of parallel importers while maintaining the costs of warranty service and brand marketing support.

The issue of obligations regarding product standards in parallel imports also proved to be critical. The analysis of judicial practice showed the existence of legal uncertainty regarding the distribution of responsibility between parallel importers and brand representatives. This correlates with the findings of M. Kirzhetska and Y. Kirzhetskyy (2023), who, based on the analysis of statistical data, found that 67% of disputes in the field of unorganised imports are related to the uncertainty of the legal status of the importer. The study also found that 85% of court cases on parallel imports involved issues of distribution of responsibility for warranty

service and product quality between parallel importers and official representatives of brands.

The findings of the study also revealed the need to improve the market surveillance system in the context of parallel imports. The analysis showed that existing control mechanisms are not always effective when dealing with goods imported by parallel importers. This confirms the findings of R. Lupak *et al.* (2021), who identified a substantial decrease in the effectiveness of state control over imports in the absence of specialised supervisory mechanisms. The current study found an even more critical decline in the effectiveness of control over parallel imports caused by the lack of adapted verification mechanisms and the inadequacy of existing procedures to the specifics of such imports.

The analysis of the impact of parallel imports on the environmental situation in Ukraine revealed the necessity of strengthening control over compliance with environmental standards of imported products. This is consistent with the findings of N. Ohorodnyk *et al.* (2023), who emphasised the significance of environmental certification for product quality. Expanding on these findings, the current study additionally identified an acute problem of disposal and recycling of imported goods, especially electronic equipment, which is often the subject of parallel imports.

The issue of harmonisation of Ukrainian legal norms with EU legislation in the context of standardisation regulation and conformity assessment proved to be pivotal for effective regulation of parallel imports. This confirms the findings of C. Ginter and P. Schasmin (2023), who found that technical regulation procedures must be updated as a matter of priority for successful European integration. The findings of the current study additionally revealed concrete gaps in the regulatory framework for parallel imports,

namely the lack of EU-harmonised conformity assessment procedures and mechanisms for the recognition of European certificates. This is also consistent with the findings of G. Shaffer (2021), who emphasised the necessity of aligning national legislative mechanisms with global challenges of international trade.

The findings of S. Massini *et al.* (2023) on the positive impact of imports on the productivity of Ukrainian enterprises were complemented by the necessity of creating a corresponding legal framework identified in this study. Specifically, the study found that certification procedures must be simplified through the introduction of a 'single window' for submitting documents and automation of the verification of compliance with European technical regulations, as well as ensuring effective protection of intangible assets.

The analysis of certification problems in parallel imports revealed the importance of developing specialised conformity assessment procedures for this category of goods. This correlates with the findings of T.M. Prylipko *et al.* (2021), who found that the adaptation of quality control systems to European standards increases the effectiveness of conformity assessment procedures. The current study confirmed these findings and further identified the need to create specialised conformity assessment procedures considering the technical complexity of imported goods.

The study also identified the need to improve consumer protection mechanisms in the context of parallel imports. This is consistent with the findings of O. Bondar-Podhurska *et al.* (2020) on the role of standardisation and certification in ensuring product quality. However, the present study additionally highlighted the necessity of establishing effective dispute resolution mechanisms between consumers and parallel importers,

especially in cases where problems with warranty service arise.

Thus, the study of the legal nature of parallel imports in Ukraine revealed a series of major challenges in the context of product certification and compliance with environmental standards. The analysis of the legal framework showed that the existing legislation of Ukraine does not fully meet the modern requirements for regulating parallel imports, especially considering the EU accession process. This creates risks for entrepreneurs seeking to import goods following the principles of free movement of goods and may also cause conflicts with national and European standards. The absence of clear legal mechanisms to control environmental and certification requirements may lead to the emergence of products on the market that do not meet European standards, which may threaten Ukraine's further integration into the EU single market.

Conclusions

This study found that the legal regulation of parallel imports in Ukraine is characterised by insufficient certainty and needs to be improved. Specifically, the study found that the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of Consumer Rights" and the Customs Code of Ukraine lack a clear interpretation of the term 'parallel import', which creates legal uncertainty for participants in foreign economic activity. The analysis of court practice, namely, cases No. 910/14972/17 and No. 910/4947/18, revealed contradictory approaches to the interpretation of the legal status of parallel importers. It was found that the current Law of Ukraine "On Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment" does not contain special provisions on certification of parallel imported goods, and the existing procedures duplicate the inspection of products already

certified in the EU. The Technical Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation of Chemicals does not consider the specific features of parallel imports in the conformity assessment. The absence of special rules complicates the recognition of the results of conformity assessment performed in the EU.

The study found that the requirements of Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU on the restriction of the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment and Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 1907/2006 on the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals under parallel imports create extra challenges for importers because of the lack of clear procedures for confirming compliance with these standards in Ukrainian legislation. Specifically, the Law of Ukraine "On Chemical Safety" does not contain any provisions regarding the specific features of chemical safety control in parallel imports. The study established the need to develop mechanisms for monitoring compliance with energy efficiency, recycling, and product disposal requirements.

Unlike the EU countries, which have a unified energy efficiency labelling system and regulated procedures for the recycling of electronic equipment under Directive 2012/19/EU, Ukraine does not have special provisions for parallel

imported goods in the Law of Ukraine No. 2320-IX "On Waste Management". A comparative analysis showed that the EU countries have implemented a system of extended producer responsibility following Directive 2008/98/EC, while Ukrainian legislation does not stipulate any such mechanisms for parallel imports. The study identified gaps in the legal regulation of liability for the quality of parallel imported goods. Unlike EU legislation, which clearly defines the obligations of economic operators under Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1020 on market surveillance, Ukrainian legislation does not contain special provisions on the liability of parallel importers.

Further research in this area could be aimed at developing concrete mechanisms for harmonising Ukrainian legislation with EU law in technical regulation and conformity assessment, improving legal mechanisms for consumer protection in parallel imports, and investigating the legal aspects of implementing the extended producer responsibility system in the context of parallel imports.

Acknowledgements

None.

Conflict of Interest

The author of this study declares no conflict of interest.

References

- [1] Antiushko, D., Bozhko, T., Osyka, V., Shapovalova, N., Lozova, T., Fil, M., Sienohonova, L., Dudla, I., Volodavchyk, V., Sienohonova, H., & Sienohonova, H. (2022). Ensuring environmental protection and economic renewal through organic production certification. *Eastern-European Journal of Enterprise Technologies*, 118(13), 53-60. doi: [10.15587/1729-4061.2022.262328](https://doi.org/10.15587/1729-4061.2022.262328).
- [2] Association Agreement between Ukraine, on the One Hand, and the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the Other Hand. (2014, March). Retrieved from https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/984_011.

- [3] Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. (1989, March). Retrieved from https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-3&chapter=27&clang=en.
- [4] Basic Principles (Strategy) of the State Environmental Policy of Ukraine for the Period up to 2030. (2019, February). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2697-19#Text>.
- [5] Bondar-Podhurska, O., Glebova, A., & Yudicheva, O. (2020). [Quality format of innovational model for development economy in Ukraine: Standardization and certification](#). *Advances in Economics, Business and Management Research*, 95, 200-205.
- [6] CE marking. (2022). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/kulicu>.
- [7] Civil Code of Ukraine. (2003, January). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/435-15#Text>.
- [8] Customs Code of Ukraine. (2012, March). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/4495-17>.
- [9] Derevyanko, M., Neal, H., Lazarenko, M., Bolotina, A., & Zelensky, V. (2021). Current status, standardization and certification-related regulatory challenges facing Ukraine with Its EU partnership agenda. *InterEULawEast: Journal for the International and European Law, Economics and Market Integrations*, 8(2), 191-210. doi: 10.22598/iele.2021.8.2.10.
- [10] Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2011/65/EU "On the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment". (2011, June). Retrieved from <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32011L0065>.
- [11] Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2012/19/EU "On Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)". (2012, July). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/tmlbep>.
- [12] Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2015/2436 "On the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States Relating to Trade Marks". (2015, February). Retrieved from https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/984_031-15#Text.
- [13] Dniprov, O., Nastyuk, V., Bielikova, M., Kovalenko, A., & Rideli, T. (2020). Legal mechanism for ensuring customs security of Ukraine. *Journal of Security & Sustainability Issues*, 10(2). doi: 10.9770/jssi.2020.10.2(7).
- [14] Ginter, C., & Schasmin, P. (2023). [Understanding and effects of European Union directives](#). *Law of Ukraine*, 4, 33-72.
- [15] Guidance on WEEE treatment standards and preparing for re-use protocols. (2022). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/wnxqif>.
- [16] Ikram, M., Sroufe, R., Rehman, E., Shah, S.Z.A., & Mahmoudi, A. (2020). Do quality, environmental, and social (QES) certifications improve international trade? A comparative grey relation analysis of developing vs. developed countries. *Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and its Applications*, 545, article number 123486. doi: 10.1016/j.physa.2019.123486.
- [17] Ishikawa, J., Morita, H., & Mukunoki, H. (2020). Parallel imports and repair services. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 172, 137-160. doi: 10.1016/j.jebo.2020.01.024.
- [18] Kirzhetska, M., & Kirzhetsky, Y. (2023). Model of interaction between the government and business towards legalization of unorganized imports. *Social and Legal Studies*, 6(2), 25-31. doi: 10.32518/sals2.2023.25.

- [19] Law of Ukraine No. 1023-XII "On Protection of Consumer Rights". (1991, May). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1023-12>.
- [20] Law of Ukraine No. 124-VIII "On Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment". (2015, January). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/124-19>.
- [21] Law of Ukraine No. 1818-IX "On Energy Efficiency". (2021, October). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1818-20#Text>.
- [22] Law of Ukraine No. 2210-III "On Protection of Economic Competition". (2001, January). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2210-14#Text>.
- [23] Law of Ukraine No. 2320-IX "On Waste Management". (2022, June). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2320-20#Text>.
- [24] Law of Ukraine No. 2735-VI "On State Market Supervision and Control of Non-Food Products". (2010, December). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/2735-17>.
- [25] Law of Ukraine No. 3390-VI "On Liability for Damage Caused by a Product Defect". (2011, May). Retrieved from <https://ips.ligazakon.net/document/T113390?an=3>.
- [26] Law of Ukraine No. 376-IX "On Regulation of Economic Activity with Ozone Depleting Substances and Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases". (2019, December). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/376-20#Text>.
- [27] Law of Ukraine No. 3860-IX "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on the Parallel Import of Medicinal Products". (2024, July). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/3860-20#Text>.
- [28] Law of Ukraine No. 675-VIII "On Electronic Commerce". (2015, September). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/675-19#Text>.
- [29] Lupak, R., Boiko, R., Kunytska-Iliash, M., & Vasylytsiv, T. (2021). State management of import dependency and state's economic security ensuring: New analysis to evaluating and strategizing. *Accounting*, 7(4), 855-864. doi: 10.5267/j.ac.2021.1.023.
- [30] Major, T. (2020). Parallel importing and the blurred lines of the digital age: The implications of avoiding the geo-block. *Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper*, 37. doi: 10.2139/ssrn.3628970.
- [31] Massini, S., Piscitello, L., & Shevtsova, Y. (2023). The complementarity effect of exporting, importing and R&D on the productivity of Ukrainian MNEs. *International Business Review*, 32(3), article number 102055. doi: 10.1016/j.ibusrev.2022.102055.
- [32] Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. (2007, September). Retrieved from https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/995_215#Text.
- [33] Mook, A., & Overdevest, C. (2021). What drives market construction for fair trade, organic, and GlobalGAP certification in the global citrus value chain? Evidence at the importer level in the Netherlands and the United States. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 30(7), 2996-3008. doi: 10.1002/bse.2784.
- [34] Mushenyk, I., & Marchuk, N. (2023). Formation of a mechanism for regulating foreign economic activity of Ukraine. *Scientific Innovations and Advanced Technologies*, 5(19), 382-390. doi: 10.52058/2786-5274-2023-5%2819%29-382-390.
- [35] New Legislative Framework. (2022). Retrieved from https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/goods/new-legislative-framework_en.

- [36] Notice of European Commission No. 2022/C 247/01 “The “Blue Guide” on the Implementation of EU Products Rules 2022”. (2022, June). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/qbtbtf>.
- [37] Ohorodnyk, N., Svarchevska, O., Shved, O., & Kupka, T. (2023). Main aspects of the manufacturer of organic products in Ukraine. *Biotechnologia Acta*, 16(1), 40-50. doi: [10.15407/biotech16.01.040](https://doi.org/10.15407/biotech16.01.040).
- [38] Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 1145-r “On Approval of the Strategy for the Development of the Technical Regulation System for the Period up to 2025”. (2021, September). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1145-2021-%D1%80>.
- [39] Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 281 “Amendments to Certain Regulatory Acts of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine”. (2020, June). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0550-20#Text>.
- [40] Order of the State Committee of Ukraine on Technical Regulation and Consumer Policy No. 457 “On Approval and Cancellation of National Classifiers”. (2010, October). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/rada/show/v0457609-10>.
- [41] Prylipko, T.M., Kostash, V.B., Fedoriv, V.M., Lishchuk, S.H., & Tkachuk, V.P. (2021). Control and identification of food products under EC regulations and standards. *International Journal of Agricultural Extension*, 9(5), 83-91. doi: [10.33687/ijae.009.00.3964](https://doi.org/10.33687/ijae.009.00.3964).
- [42] Regulation of the European Parliament and Council No. 765/2008 “Setting out the Requirements for Accreditation and Market Surveillance Relating to the Marketing of Products”. (2008, July). Retrieved from <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32008R0765>.
- [43] Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No 1005/2009 “On Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer”. (2009, September). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/ipqwrn>.
- [44] Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 1907/2006 “On the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), Establishing a European Chemicals Agency, Amending Directive 1999/45/EC and Repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No.1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives Nos. 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC”. (2006, December). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/fahtge>.
- [45] Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council No. 2017/1369 “On Framework for Energy Labelling and Repealing Directive 2010/30/EU”. (2017, July). Retrieved from <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32017R1369>.
- [46] Reisinger, M., Saurí, L., & Zenger, H. (2019). Parallel imports, price controls, and innovation. *Journal of Health Economics*, 66, 163-179. doi: [10.1016/j.jhealeco.2019.05.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2019.05.002).
- [47] Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 95 “On Approval of Conformity Assessment Modules Used to Develop Conformity Assessment Procedures”. (2016, January). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/95-2016-%D0%BF>.
- [48] Resolution of the Kyiv Commercial Court of Appeal No. 910/14972/17. (2018, June). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/vkbsor>.
- [49] Resolution of the Supreme Court Composed of the Panel of Judges of the Commercial Court of Cassation in Case No. 910/4947/18. (2019, July). Retrieved from <http://surl.li/yhrgqi>.
- [50] Shaffer, G. (2021). Emerging powers and the world trading system: The past and future of international economic law. *Asia Pacific Law Review*, 30(2), 424-426. doi: [10.1080/10192557.2022.2073924](https://doi.org/10.1080/10192557.2022.2073924).

- [51] Strategy for the Development of the Technical Regulation System for the Period up to 2020. (2015, August). Retrieved from <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/844-2015-%D1%80#Text>.
- [52] White, L.V., Fazeli, R., Cheng, W., Aisbett, E., Beck, F.J., Baldwin, K.G., Howarth, P., & O'Neill, L. (2021). Towards emissions certification systems for international trade in hydrogen: The policy challenge of defining boundaries for emissions accounting. *Energy*, 215, article number 119139. doi: [10.1016/j.energy.2020.119139](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2020.119139).
- [53] Yang, L. (2024). The economics of standards: A literature review. *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 38(3), 717-758. doi: [10.1111/joes.12555](https://doi.org/10.1111/joes.12555).
- [54] Zubko, T. (2024). Strategies for the development of international trade in Ukraine. *Agora International Journal of Economical Sciences (AIJES)*, 18(1), 250-261. doi: [10.15837/aijes.v18i1.6727](https://doi.org/10.15837/aijes.v18i1.6727).

Правова природа паралельного імпорту в Україні: проблема сертифікації та екологічних стандартів

Юрій Сторожук

Аспірант

Науково-дослідний інститут публічного права

03035, вул. Г. Кірпи, 2-А, м. Київ, Україна

<https://orcid.org/0009-0005-1588-2004>

Анотація

В дослідженні було звернено увагу на правові аспекти визнання європейських сертифікатів відповідності в Україні та їх вплив на ринок імпортової продукції, з метою оцінки можливості спрощення процедур імпорту та посилення українських ринкових позицій. Методологія включала аналіз чинних нормативно-правових актів України та ЄС щодо сертифікації продукції, порівняльно-правовий аналіз систем оцінки відповідності, що допомогло здійснити аналіз можливих фінансових наслідків та правових наслідків маркування в Україні. Було виявлено ризики, пов'язані з різницею в стандартах контролю якості та механізмах ринкового нагляду та констатовано потребу в поетапній узгодженості українського законодавства з нормами ЄС у сфері технічного регулювання, з урахуванням специфіки національного ринку та вимог безпеки споживачів. Запропоновано конкретні кроки для запровадження системи визнання європейських сертифікатів, включаючи створення системи швидкого реагування на виявлені невідповідності та посилення співпраці з європейськими органами з оцінки відповідності. Аналіз також охоплював наслідки визнання європейських сертифікатів на екологічні стандарти в Україні. Було показано, що прийняття європейських норм може сприяти підвищенню екологічних вимог до імпортованої продукції, потенційно покращуючи стан довкілля в державі. Результати вказують на необхідність створення ефективної системи моніторингу та контролю за дотриманням екологічних стандартів при імпорті товарів. Висновки дослідження підкреслюють важливість балансу між спрощенням процедур імпорту, забезпеченням високих стандартів якості та безпеки продукції, та сприянням сталому розвитку української економіки

Ключові слова: система контролю якості; технічне регулювання; захист споживачів; євроінтеграція; митне оформлення