

# **Challenges of Economic Reforms in Ukrainian Society with Reference to Russia**

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***Abstract:** This paper explores the economic reforms undertaken by Ukraine and their impact on the Ukrainian civil society. How Ukraine managed its economy after the epochal change of the USSR disintegration, the repercussions it had on society and what influence have EU on one side and Russia on the other, in a big country always contended between West and East should be very interesting questions to point out by taking as reference Russia. Quantitative research will be applied in this work. Data will be collected through the related books, papers, periodicals and different articles as well as statistical data from the official documents. Furthermore, recent events and current political situation will also be evaluated using the most recent sources of the newspapers and internet. The first part of the paper is devoted to a description of the reforms towards the economic capitalist system of Ukraine, its legacies from the centrally planned economy of USSR and the reforms in agriculture as a vital sector of Ukraine's economy. The second part portrays how society was reshaped with the advent of capitalism, the increased economic inequalities, unemployment and the brain drain phenomenon. The third part concerns Ukraine's place in the global economy and its role and engagement in the International Organizations. Finally, this paper endeavors to evaluate the very delicate situation of Ukraine and its dilemma's between strong supporters of European Integration in the occidental part and those of further economic and political integration into the East Bloc led by Russia in the oriental part.*

***Keywords:** Ukraine, Economic Reforms, Society, Russia, EU Integration*