

CROSS-BORDER UTC OF VOLYN: SOCIO- GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUNDS OF TOURISM AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Local authorities have been given significant powers, resources, and responsibilities as a result of government reform. Cross-border cooperation is one of the tools for solving the specific economic and social problems of the peripheral border united territorial communities, overcoming their lower level of competitiveness, attracting, implementing and using the best practices of foreign countries in different spheres of public life. Tourism and environmental trends of such cooperation are the main modern priorities. The resource potential of border communities are the following: favorable natural conditions, richness of protected areas, significant historical and cultural heritage, preserved traditional architecture, traditional folk crafts, original customs and rituals are a prerequisite for their development. Taking into account the existing conditions and resources, the article analyzes and substantiates the most appropriate types of tourism and recreational activities of the Western and Northern Volyn border area: recreational tourism for recreation and rehabilitation; ecological, green, agrotourism, which involve traveling in ecologically clean areas, mainly in rural areas, studying rural life and traditions; pilgrim, religious for searching in the sacred centers of physical and spiritual healing; sentimental – for the purpose of visiting for some reason but not forgotten family places, relatives and acquaintances. Local governments will greatly assist in the development of community development strategies, information support and promotion of available resources.

Keywords: *cross-border territory, border region, united territory community, tourism, tourist and recreation resources, Volyn Oblast.*

1. PROBLEM STATEMENT AND ITS CONNECTION WITH IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL TASKS

A transmission of powers and finance from the public authorities to the local authorities has continued since 2014. First of all, it is done to provide them with the ability to solve local value problems independently by using their own resources. Owing to reform, united territorial communities (UTC) received a great deal of powers, resources and responsibility. Almost every community faces a large set of problems: a low life quality of residents, poor

infrastructure, destroyed roads and absence of their lightening, worn out heat, sewage, water supply systems and housing stock, neglect of places for different cultural events, difficult demographical situation because of population ageing and migration processes, etc. The main tasks of UTC include mobilization of internal resources, engagement of potential investors and creation of new working places. Such problems are in full faced by the border communities of Volyn. A crucial aspect for them is the presence of state border, which creates an opportunity to use cross-border cooperation by border areas in order to establish backgrounds to engage best practices of foreign countries in different social areas, its fulfillment and usage. Cross-border cooperation is aimed at interaction between territorial communities or their representative organs, because community is a key link that implements local government and management, forms «basis» of region and state in general (Medzini, 2017). A background for the development of UTC is their qualitative composition: availability of resources, condition of infrastructure and potential for enterprise development. Development of tourism and recreation plays an important role in cross-border cooperation programs, because cross-border tourist market has significant competitive advantages: lower economic and cultural distances of making journeys within border regions of neighboring countries in comparison with the same in journeys to the other countries, relatively convenient transport routes because of beneficial geographical location at the intersection of transit international road, rail and air connections, absence of need of climate adaptation (Mihushchenko, 2016). There are two main factors that contribute to the development of cross-border tourism: a visa-free regime entry in Ukraine for citizens of the European Union (up to 90 days during 180 nights) and a possibility of a free border crossing of inter-state borders of Schengen area (agreement with the EU since 11 June 2017) by citizens of Ukraine, who have biometric passports. A rise of the meaning of cross-border regions all around the world, an increase of powers of local communities for the expansion of their cooperation with corresponding territories of neighboring countries, especially in touristic and recreation activity, gives grounds for socio-economic growth of these peripheral, relatively economically weakly developed territories. The cross-border cooperation today is an important element of the EU integration policy in Ukraine. Its further development will promote an involvement of investment goods, an advancement of infrastructural network, scientific, cultural, socio-economic development of border communities. Therefore, it requires substantive researches for the preparation of different directions for this cooperation development. There are some essential factors that should be taken into account for the effective solution of these modern challenges, development of local business and investment attractiveness of UTC: fluency in regulatory measures and active participation in cross-border cooperation programs; deep analysis and inventory of territorial resources, formation of personal community development strategy on their basis, taking into account priority and order of problem solution; informational promotion of this activity: creation of community web-sites, cartographic and advertising projects of investment offers.

2. ANALYSIS OF RECENT RESEARCHES AND PUBLICATIONS

There are a lot of works that have been devoted to the issue of cross-border cooperation in Ukraine. The authors of these works are P. Bielenkyi, V. Budkin, N. Mikula, Z. Herasymchuk, M. Dolishnyi, L. Korolchuk, S. Pysarenko, P. Lutsyshyn, S. Fedoniuk, V. Pyla, D. Stechenko, I. Artomov, I. Zhurba, A. Lavrenchuk, I. Strudennikov and other (Proskura and Fozekosh, 2018). The monographs «Euroregion Buh: Volyn Oblast» edited by B. Klimchuk, P. Lutsyshyn, V. Lazhnik (1997) and «Euroregion «Buh»:concept and strategy of development» (author's team: B. Klimchuk, N. Lutsyshyn, P. Lutsyshyn, 2002) are considered within Volyn Oblast as complex researches of backgrounds and history of creation, factors of formation and development, legislative provision of functioning, condition of natural resources

and environmental protection, environmental-economic situation of boarder areas of Ukraine, Poland and Belarus (Euroregion Buh: Volyn Oblast, 1997; Klimchuk and other, 2002). S. Fedoniuk, V. Lazhnik worked on issues of institutional and legal basis of cooperation with the European Union (EU) (Institutional and Legal Base for..., 2008), N. Belelia, N. Pavlikha worked on analysis of euroregion as a socio-geographical complex, peculiarities of its labour potential (Belelia and Pavlikha, 2009), I. Bobrovych studied the meaning of inter-State transport corridors within euroregion (Bobrovych, 2001). Z. Karpiuk, L. Chyzhevska, R. Kacharovskiyi, O. Antypiuk examined development prospects of tourist cooperation at the level of territorial communities of border areas of oblast (Karpiuk and other, 2019 a; Antypiuk and other, 2019; Kacharovskiyi and other, 2019)

3. FORMULATION OF OBJECTIVES AND TASKS OF THE RESEARCH

The objective of this work includes the analysis of specificity of development of Volyn border territories, geospatial resources placement: natural, natural-anthropogenic, historically-cultural, socio-economic, their sustainable usage problems; promotion of tourist-recreational potential of UTC for provision of increase of level of economic development of these peripheral territories; reasoning of types and forms of tourism and recreation that are the most promising for the growth of specific UTC taking into account available conditions and resources. The task of this publication includes review of the main state legal documentation and international initiatives, which contribute to the development of cross-border cooperation of border territories and level of their implementation; analysis of available tourist-recreational resources of UTC border territories and creation of corresponding mappings using such software as CoralDRAW X7, Adobe Photoshop CS 7; reasoning of promising directions for effective development of tourist-recreational activity. The materials of Volyn Oblast state administration and regional administrations, scientific, statistic, cartographic and personal researches of authors were used while examining and creating mappings of tourist-recreational resources of border UTC of oblast.

4. THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH AND THEIR REASONING

A state border of Volyn Oblast runs to the west with Poland and to the north with Belarus. The following urban communities were formed after the administrative-territorial reform as at 1 July 2019: Ustyluh urban community in Volodymyr-Volynskiyi region and four rural: Poromiv UC, Lytovezh UC in Ivanychi, Rivne UC, Vyshniv UC in Liuboml region; on the border with Belarus – four: three with centers in Shatsk, Zabolotia, Liubeshiv, and one rural – Samary UC (Territorial communities of Volyn region, 2019) (table 1).

A number of legal documents, which regulate relationships in the sphere of decentralization of power and cross-border cooperation, contribute to their formation and development, deepening of relations between neighboring countries and effective solution of common problems. These are laws of Ukraine: «On Cooperation of Territorial Communities» (No. 1508-VII from 17 June 2014), «On Principles of State Regional Policy» (No. 156-VIII from 05 February 2015), «On Voluntary Association of Territorial Communities» (No. 157-VIII from 05 February 2015), set of laws about expansion of power of local authorities and optimization of provision of administrative services. Law of Ukraine «On Cross-Border Cooperation» (No. 1861-IV from 24 June 2004) (Law of Ukraine «On Cross-Border Cooperation», 2019) regulates actions directed at making and deepening of economic, social, scientific, technological, ecological, cultural and other relations between territorial communities, their representative organs, local executive authorities of Ukraine and

corresponding entities and participants such relationships from neighboring countries within competence, which is defined by their national legislation.

Table 1. Border united territorial communities of oblast

Name of UTC	Date of creation	Area, km ²	Population, persons	Population density, pers/km ²	Number of human settlement in UTC	Center of community
<i>Ukraine-Poland border UTC</i>						
Ustyluh UC	25.10.2015	413,7	7551	18,2	26	Ustyluh
Rivne UC	29.10.2017	333,17	5620	16,8	17	Rivne
Vyshniv UC	30.04.2017	455,3	7090	15,6	18	Vyshniv
Poromiv UC	11.12.2016	110,09	5811	52,8	10	Poromiv
Lytovezh UC	11.12.2016	122,42	4190	34,22	6	Lytovezh
<i>Ukraine-Belarus border UTC</i>						
Shatsk UC	27.03.2016	307,45	8648	28,1	11	Shatsk
Samary UC	30.04.2017	257,2	5508	21,4	19	Samary
Zabolotia UC	18.02.2016	253,72	9546	37,6	4	Zabolotia
Libeshiv UC	29.10.2017	1108,96	28758	25,9	37	Liubeshiv

Source: *Territorial communities of Volyn region, 2019*

A participation of tourism and recreation in the implementation of cross-border projects is an important form of cross-border cooperation, since tourism is a strategic sphere of regional development. Since 29 September 1995 Volyn Oblast is a part of Euroregion «Buh», which united the borders of three countries: Belarus, Poland (Lublin Voivodeship), and Ukraine (Volyn Oblast, and Sokal and Zhovkva districts as associate members). The Poland-Belarus-Ukraine cross-border cooperation program has been supporting the development of the Polish-Belarusian-Ukrainian border through the financing of various projects for more than two decades in order to increase its competitiveness and investment attractiveness. In 2014, the Cross-Border Cooperation Strategy was adopted to coordinate activities in the period of 2014 to 2020 (the decision of the Volyn Oblast Council No. 25/32 from 15 May 2014), a network of cross-border cooperation was created for the transfer of the best European practices, including some at regional and local levels and realization of common cross-border projects of these three countries (Karpjuk and other, 2019 a). Most contacts at the level of regional cooperation are made by oblast-level authorities, lower-level authorities and local authorities with relevant EU bodies and institutions – much less (Proskura and Fozekosh, 2018). To date, border communities put into practice the following: 1) infrastructure project (LIP|0018) «Improvement of ecological situation in Shatsk National Natural Park through the establishment of sewage system in human settlements around Lake Svitiaz» (Grant agreement PLBU.03.01.00-UA-0018/17-00 about the realization of Europroject (2018–2020), which was signed on 20 August 2018 in Warsaw within cross-border cooperation «Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014–2020» and which includes the realization of construction of sewage network in the western part of Shatsk and Melnyky, and construction of sewage treatment facilities in Shatsk, sewage networks and treated waste water systems in Svitiaz and Pulmo of Shatsk district, which will largely solve the problem of preservation of the Western Buh River ecosystem at the border-crossing areas of three counties and Lake Svitiaz); 2) the Belarus-Ukraine Territorial Cooperation Program – an EU initiative aimed at supporting cross-border cooperation of local communities of Ukraine to enhance their ability to develop and implement common cross-border projects, as well as to deepen political cooperation and economic integration; 3) «E-Governance for Accountability and Participation» (EGAP) program, which is aimed at using the latest information and communication technologies to improve the quality

of administrative services, increase the efficiency of work of local executive bodies and local self-government bodies in order to promote social innovations in Ukraine; 4) «Developing a Course on Strengthening Local Self-Government in Ukraine» (PULSE) project (2016–2020), implemented to improve the legal field for decentralization in Ukraine, to ensure the contribution of local governments to the formulation and implementation of decentralization policies, to increase local government resources and enhancing the capacity of local governments to manage them effectively. The activities of this project are aimed at raising public awareness and understanding of the content of local government reform by preparing libraries as communicators of reforms in cooperation with public organizations, involving local media to spread information about the reform and local initiatives. The cooperation at the level of UTC with border territories of neighboring countries is implemented through the fulfillment of provisions of international treaties: agreements and contracts in the sphere of economic, trade, scientific, technological and cultural development, health-care, nature conservation, development of tourism, tourist infrastructure and communication accessibility: between Lytovyzh UTC and Szczuczyn of Podlaskie Voivodeship, Poland («Cooperation Agreement», 16 May 2015), between Lytovyzh UTC and Hrubieszów County of Lublin Voivodeship («Cooperation Agreement», 16 January 2016), between Lytovyzh UTC and gmina (commune) Dołhobyczów of Lublin Voivodeship («Partnership Agreement», 14 April 2016), between Shatsk district State administration and Włodawa County of Lublin Voivodeship («Declaration on Joint Projects Implementation within the Cross-border Cooperation Program Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014–2020», 9 November 2016) (Register of Interregional Agreements on Trade..., 2019). Through the implementation of cross-border cooperation projects at various levels, certain results have been achieved that contribute to the development of border regions. A good example is the partnership agreement «Improvement of access to the «Zilava Valley» tourist region and partner communities at the border of Poland, Belarus and Ukraine» between Zabrody village council of Patne district and gmina Rossosz, gmina Jabłoń, gmina Podedwórze, gmina Sosnówka, gmina Wisznice in Poland and Stradech in Belarus (7 June 2013). Within the project, three human settlements of Ratne district: Luchychi, Zabrody and Yakushi got new paving roads, reconstructed obstetric and midwife stations, modernized house of culture in Yakushi, a new museum is created in one of the school rooms in Zabrody, on the basis of which it is planned to open an information center for the study of common Ukrainian-Polish history, renovated school yard and restored children's playground. Current projects are helping to improve the border infrastructure and lay a foundation for the further cooperation and strengthening of potential of local communities for the implementation of future international programs.

The attractiveness of the territory for successful tourist and recreational activities depends on many factors, especially on the availability of resources. The development of certain types of tourism is impossible without their identification, study and evaluation. Natural tourism resources include: climatic, aquatic, geological, soil, phytotherapy and landscape; natural-anthropogenic – objects of natural reserve fund that have comfortable conditions and can be used for tourism activities. Historical and cultural tourist resources are a set of monuments of material and spiritual culture: monuments of archeology, history, architecture and urban planning, artistic and ethnographic monuments, which are created in the process of historical development of a society in a certain territory. The state of the material and technical base of tourism and infrastructure industries are the socio-economic backgrounds for tourism development (Kuzyk, 2010).

The natural conditions of the border area of oblast are favorable for the organization of tourist and recreational activities during a year. The climate is continental with mild winters, unstable frosts and warm wet summers. The winds are moving in a westerly and north-westerly

direction in winter and summer with approximate speed of 4 m/s. The average annual temperature at the western border is +7,5 °C, at the northern – +7,1 °C. January is the coldest month of the year, the air temperature within the territories of UTC in the west of oblast is -4,4 °C, in the north – -3,4 – -5 °C. July is the hottest month of the year with temperatures of +18,4 °C and +18,5 – +18,8 °C., respectively. The average annual relative air humidity does not exceed 76–78 % in the west, and 78–80 % in the north. During the year, 500–560 mm of rainfall occurs in the border areas with Poland, 550–600 mm with Belarus, 70 % of which fall during the warm period. Almost 150 days are expected to be with precipitation almost every year. Permanent snow cover appears in December, its height varies from 2–3 to 7–13 cm in the west and from 15 to 39 cm in the north (Zuzuk and other, 2012). The border territories of oblast, which are located within the PoLesyan Lowland and the Volhynian Upland, are clearly distinguished by features of modern terrain. The surface of Polissia part is a lowland plain with an average height of 150-200 m, divided by wide, shallow, undistinguished river valleys with wetlands, where aeolian forms of terrain are widespread: sand dunes, hills, and barchans. The terrain of Western Buh is flat with minor hills and trenches. The river valleys of the Volyn erosion height have distinct terraced slopes, a dense grid of beams and ravines that divide the inter-river territories, giving them a wavy or hilly appearance (Zuzuk and other, 2012). The UTC territory of border area belongs to the Prypiat River basin (the most part of it) and to the Western Buh basin. The density of the river network is 0,22–0,33 km/km² (the Prypiat River basin is 0,25–0,47 km/km², and the Western Buh basin is 0,22–0,35 km/km²). The rivers have a slow current of 0,1–0,2 m/s and their slope is 0,27–0,40 m/km. The water regime of rivers is marked by distinct spring floods and winter and summer backflows, which are interrupted from time to time by summer and winter freshets (Zuzuk and other, 2012). The Western Buh River flows on the western border (220 km long within oblast), its right tributaries are: Bystriak, Vydranka, Neretva, Zolotukha, Studianka, Izivka, the biggest of which is Neretva. The riverbed of Western Buh is twisting, with a large number of river branches, oxbow lakes, islands. The average river width is 50–80 m, the depth is 4–6,5 m, the current velocity is 0,3–0,6 m/s. The lakes of this territory have different genesis: glacial, floodplain, karst, the largest among them are Velyke, Hushchanske, Yagodynske (Klimchuk and other, 2002 ; Zuzuk and other, 2012). The Prypiat River flows through the territory of the North Polissia UTC over 172 km, the water collection area is 10 699 km², the slope is 0,08 m/km. The width of floodplain in the upper current is 2–4 km, in the lower current – 10 – 15 km. The riverbed, with a large number of branches and low swampy sloping banks, is twisting, the width in the upper current can reach 40 m, in the middle – 50 – 70 m, in the lower current – 100 – 250 m, the depth ranges from 0,3 to 4,0 m. The right tributaries are Turia, Stokhid, Styr, Tysr. Significant swamp areas of territories of water collection of the Prypiat River are classified as wetland of international importance, which belongs to the list of «The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat»: «Shatsk Lakes» (year 1995 – 13 039 hectares; year 2002 – expanded to 32 850 hectares), «The Floodplain of the Prypiat River» (12 000 hectares), «The Floodplain of the Stokhid River» (10 000 hectares) (The Order of the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers No. 935 from 23 December 1995). The lakes of this territory have different genesis: karst, the largest of which is Svitiaz, glacial – Luky, PISOCHNE, Turske, floodplain – Liubiaz, Volianske and Bile (Zuzuk and other, 2010). The natural vegetation along the Ukrainian-Polish border is diverse. Clear pine forests are widely spread in the north and in the south they are mixed with *Quercus robur*, *Betula pendula*, *Picea abies*, *Carpinus betulus*, oak and oak-hornbeam. *Salix caprea*, *Populus alba*, *Ulmus laevis*, *Alnus glutinosa* grow at the floodplains and swampy lowlands. Significant areas near the Western Buh stream bed are occupied by perpetual meadows, at the same time, upland meadows are prevail at hills, slopes and pine-forest terraces. Rare plant species, which are included in international and national conservation lists, are *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*, *Cephalanthera rubra*, *Neottia nidus-avis*,

Liparis loeselii, *Oxycoccus microcarpus*, *Lilium martagon*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, etc (Zuzuk and other, 2012; Karpiuk and other, 2018 a). The natural vegetation of the North Pollisia UTC territories is formed by forest, meadow, coastal-water, water and swamp grouping. Common in this area are pine moss forests, rarely lichen, in the ecotopes of which grow species from the European Red List – *Silene lithuanica* and from the Red Data Book of Ukraine – *Daphne cneorum*; there are areas of oak-pine forests, where the growth sites of *Lilium martagon* and *Platanthera bifolia*, which are entered in the Red Data Book of Ukraine, have been identified; spruce forests, in the preserved ecotopes of forms its large population *Lycopodium annotinum* (Red Data Book of Ukraine); black alder forests, where *Hydrocotyle vulgaris* (Red Data Book of Ukraine) was found (Priadko and other, 2008). The vegetation of the lakes is diverse in terms of coenotic and floral composition. Groups of *Nymphaea candida*, which are entered in the Green Paper of Ukraine, and *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*, which grows in the shallow waters of Lake Rohizne and Lake Luky, are widely spread on the water mirror of the floodplain lakes. The most common swamp ecosystems are eutrophic sedge ecosystems (Priadko and other, 2008). A lot of animal species of the region's preservation natural complexes are protected nationally and internationally. *Carassius carassius*, *Bombina bombina*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Lacerta vivipara*, *Coronella austriaca*, *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Crex crex*, *Gallinago media*, *Acrocephalus paludicola*, *Lutra lutra*, *Castor fiber*, *Ciconia nigra*, *Pandion haliaetus*, *Circus cyaneus*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Tetrao urogallus*, *Grus grus*, *Numenius arguata*, *Bubo bubo*, *Lanius excubitor*, *Dryomys nitedula*, *Muscardinus avellanarius* and other are entered in the European Red List, IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and Red Data Book of Ukraine (Priadko and other, 2008).

Particular role in the development of tourism and recreation belongs to the sites of the natural reserve fund of oblast – the centers of the best preserved in the natural state landscapes and their biodiversity. According to the data of the Department of Ecology and Natural Resources of Volyn Oblast State Administration, as of 1 January 2018, there are 25 NRF local-level sites on the territory of the Ukrainian-Polish border; 33 territories and NRF objects of oblast, four of which are considered as nationally important, are located on the territory of the northern border (table 2; figure 1, 2).

In the reserves of western border – landscape: «Bystriaky», «Zastavnenskyi», zoological: «Buh», «Ishivskyi», «Ustyluzkyi», «Prybuzhia» and hydrological «Luha» – the parts of the floodplains of Western Buh and its right tributary Luh with oxbow lakes, swamps, meadows, fluvial terraces, shrubs, pine-oak forests are fully protected. Planting with dominance of *Quercus robur*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Picea abies*, *Larix decidua* are used as silvicultural in botanical reserves: «Liuboml'skyi», «Henerychnyi rezervat sosnu» and botanical sanctuaries of nature: «Hriada-1», «Hriada-2», «Hrupa dubiv zvychaynykh», «Dilianka dubovoho lisu», «Deviate», «Korokorovets», «Yalya», «Modryna». Swamp-forest complexes, pine, birch-alder-pine medieval and arriving plantations are protected by nature reserves: landscape «Zamlynshchyna», botanical «Mosyrskyi», protected tract «Huta». Age trees *Quercus robur*, which are protected by botanical sanctuaries of nature «Pamiat Dulibiv» and «Dub Boleslava Prusa», grow on the territory of Rivne and Vyshniv UTC. *Quercus robur* trees are over 600 and 400 years old, with trunks of 30,0 meters and with girth of 6,0 and 4,5 meters (Karpiuk and other, 2018 a; Karpiuk and other, 2019 a).

Typical and rare natural complexes of Volynian Pollisia are remained in national natural parks of northern border «Shatskyi» and «Prypiat–Stokhid». The territory of SNNP is the nucleus of the Ukrainian part of the trilateral biosphere reserve «Zakhidne Pollisia», established on 28 October 2011, which confirms the unique natural value of this territory and its importance in the conservation and restoration of European biodiversity. The territories of WST lie within the Polissia latitude migration route and serve as a layover for waterfowl and near-

water birds during their annual flights (up to 100 000 birds annually). Preserved landscape complexes of the reserve of national importance «Chakhivskyi» cover the lake of karst origin Chakhove (37,0 hectares), swamp of the sphagnum type (1,8 hectares), alder-birch massif (34,1 hectares) at the age of 95 years; sanctuaries of nature «Ozero Sviate» – a lake of karst origin (44,4 hectares, maximum depth – 15,9 m), surrounded by high-grade plantations of *Pinus sylvestris*, *Quercus robur*, with age over 120 years old. Wetland ripe and medieval marsupials, birch trees and pine trees are protected in the forest reserves «Biloozerskyi», «Dolskyi», «Pnivenskyi». Here also rare species of plants, which are entered in the Red Data Book of Ukraine, can be met, for example *Lycopodium annotinum*, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, *Cypripedium calceolus* and some animals, which are entered in national and international conservation lists: annexes of the Washington (1973), Bonn (1979), Bern (1979) conventions – *Tetrao urogallus*, *Circaetus gallicus*, *Ciconia nigra*. Karst lakes (Velyke and Male Pishchanski, Sviate) and glacial lakes (Brono, Volianske, Velyke Orikhove, Orikhovets, Zasviatia) with coastal meadows and forest lands are protected in 16 hydrological reserves of local importance; swamps, including sphagnum type, and wetlands of Prypiat and Stokhid, covered with marshy vegetation, shrubs and open woodlands; in the protected tract «Ozero Tur» there is a flooded Lake Turske with the levee – a place of residence and breeding of numerous species of waterfowl and near-water birds. Rare on the Volyn territory *Pinus resinosa* and *Pinus strobus* are under protection in the botanical sanctuaries of nature «Viazivnenska» and «Sosna veimutova». Interesting natural creatures – trees of different species *Pinus sylvestris* and *Quercus robur*, which have grown up among themselves, can be seen in «Sosna i dub – 1», «Sosna i dub – 2». A park, founded in the nineteenth century, where more than 80 species of trees grow (*Fraxinus excelsior*, *Tilia cordata*, *Acer platanoides*, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, *Carpinus betulus*, *Populus alba*, *Viburnum opulus* and others), is under state protection in the park of landscape gardening art «Liubeshivskyi».

Table 2. Territories and objects of the UTC natural reserve fund (Note. Selected objects of natural reserve fund are considered as nationally important.)

№	Category	Type	Name	Area, hectares	Date of creation
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Polish border</i>					
1	Reserves	landscape	«Berezovyi hai»	36,7	17.03.1994
2			«Bystriaky»	488,0	20.12.1993
3			«Zamlynshchyna»	687,0	07.03.2001
4			«Zastavnenkyi»	156,8	12.12.1995
5			«Mochyska»	127,0	20.12.1993
6		zoological	«Buh»	3556,6	12.12.1995
7			«Ishivskyi»	152,0	26.05.1992
8			«Prybuzhia»	1182,1	03.03.1993
9			«Ustyluzkyi»	295,0	26.05.1992
10		hydrological	«Luha»	2181,4	30.05.2000
11		botanical	«Henetychnyi pezervat sosny»	3,8	31.07.2014
12			«Liubomlskyi»	8,2	04.10.1985
13			«Mosyrskyi»	307,0	26.11.1984
14	Sanctuaries of nature	botanical	«Hrupa dubiv zvuchainykh»	0,2	11.07.1972
15			«Hriada-1»	6,0	20.12.1993
16			«Hriada-2»	5,6	20.12.1993
17			«Deviat»	9,2	20.12.1993
18			«Dilianka dubovoho lisu»	2,1	31.07.2014
19			«Dub Boleslava Prusa»	0,01	04.11.2011

20			«Korokorovets»	8,9	20.12.1993
21			«Modryna»	0,5	28.11.2008
22			«Pamiat Dulibiv»	0,01	04.11.2011
23			«Yalyna»	5,3	28.11.2008
24		hydrological	«Ozero Nevydymka»	2,2	26.05.1992
25	Protected tract		«Hyta»	435,9	21.06.2012
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Belarusian border</i>					
26	<i>National nature parks</i>		«Prypiat-Stokhid»	39 315,5	13.08.2007
27			«Shatskyi»	48 977,0	28.12.1983
28	Reserves	<i>landscape</i>	«Chahivskyi»	72,9	10.12.1994
29		forest	«Biloozerskyi»	276,5	25.07.2003
30			«Hirnytskyi»	1,1	26.07.1983
31			«Dolskyi»	73,6	25.07.2003
32			«Pnivenskyi»	10,3	25.07.2003
33		zoological	«Lypyne»	3294,0	26.05.1992
34		ichthyological	«Somynets»	46,0	26.07.1983
35		hydrological	«Berezychivskyi»	6,3	18.03.1982
36			«Birkivskyi»	850,0	04.09.1985
37			«Brono»	67,0	17.03.1994
38			«Vetlivskyi»	600,0	23.11.1979
39			«Hirkivskyi»	400,0	23.11.1979
40			«Hirnytske boloto»	120,9	17.03.1994
41			«Zalukhivskyi»	839,4	03.03.1993
42			«Orikhivskyi»	824,0	16.10.1996
43			«Pohiznenskyi»	610,2	09.12.1998
44			«Pishchanskyi»	420,5	23.11.1979
45			«Prypiatskyi-1»	340,0	04.09.1985
46			«Prypiatskyi-2»	220,0	04.09.1985
47	«Prypiatskyi-3»		320,0	04.09.1985	
48	«Sedlyshchenskyi»		350,0	23.11.1979	
49	«Tsytskyi»		210,0	23.11.1979	
50	«Yamno»	218,3	25.07.2003		
51	Sanctuaries of nature	botanical	«Viazivnenska»	0,1	09.12.1998
52			«Sosna veimutova»	0,5	09.12.1998
53			«Sosna i dub 1»	0,01	27.12.1972
54			«Sosna i dub 2»	0,01	27.12.1972
55			«Dub-veleten-1»	0,01	27.12.1972
56		<i>hydrological</i>	«Ozero Sviate»	44,0	14.10.1975
57	Protected tract		«Ozero Tur»	1346,0	23.11.1979
58	Park of landscape gardening art		«Liubeshivskyi»	12,0	11.07.1972

Source: Karpiuk and other, 2018 a

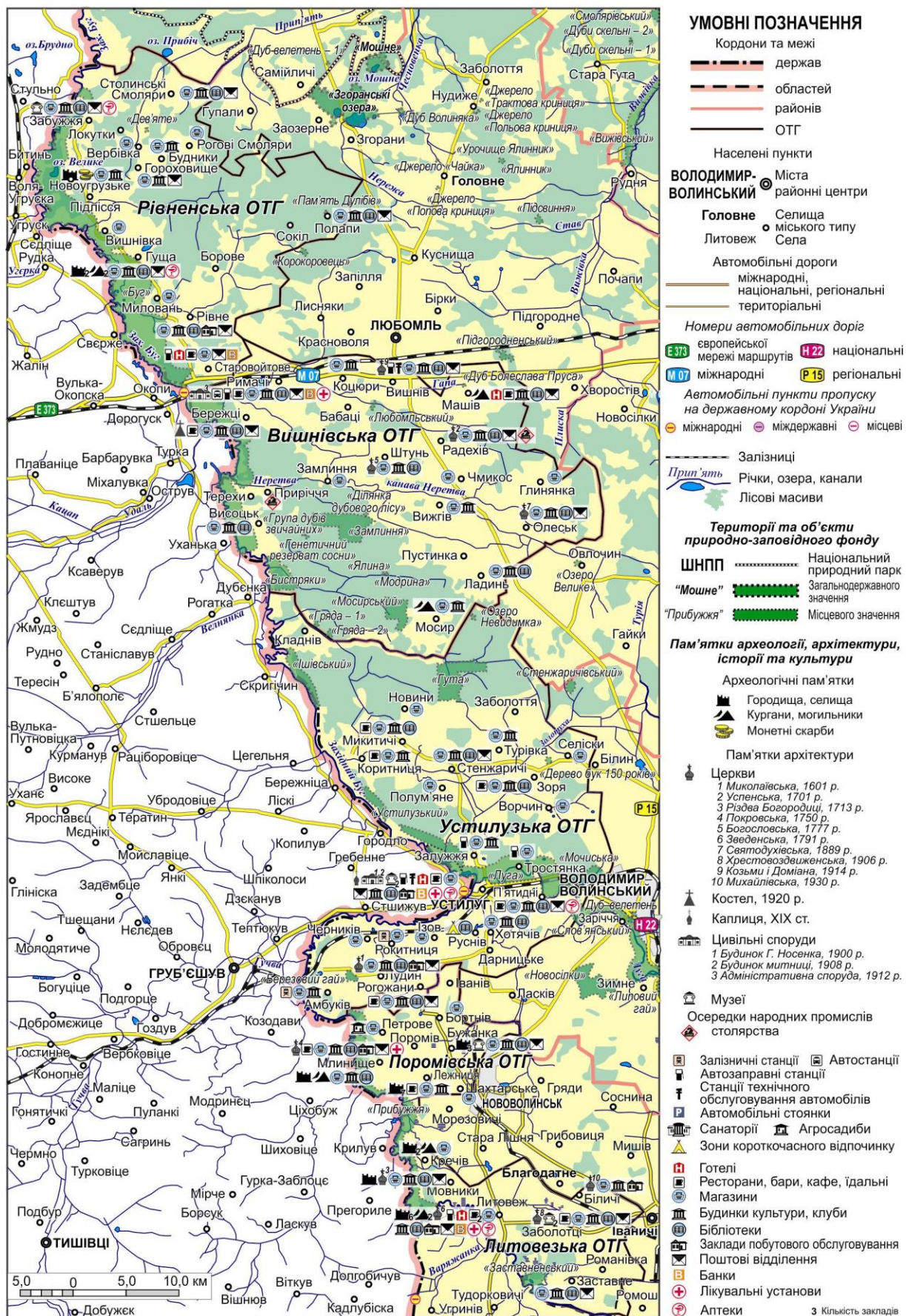


Figure 1. Resources of united territorial communities of Ukrain- Poland border

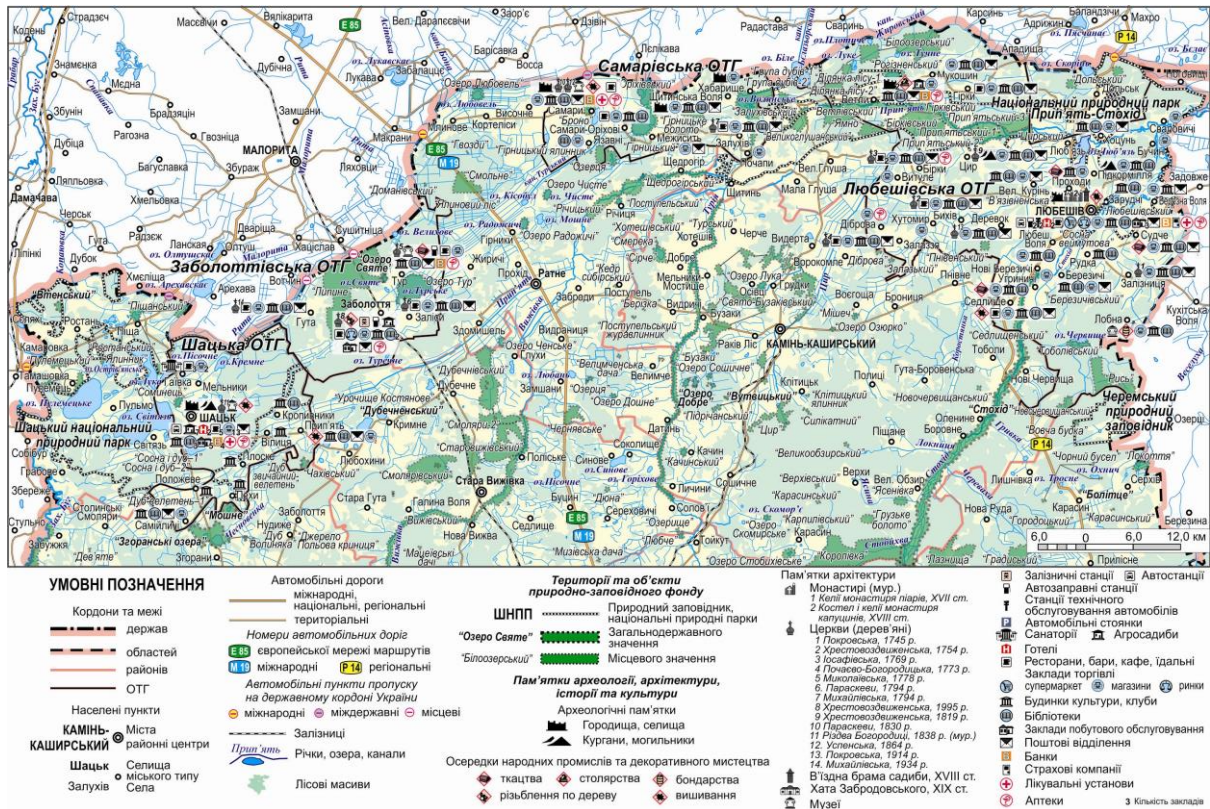


Figure 2. Resources of united territorial communities of Ukrain- Belarus border

Historical and cultural resources are in good condition: ordered, restored, protected, and may be decisive in forming the demand for tourist resources in the territories of border UTC, although they are currently in limited use. The border areas with Poland and Belarus are rich in historical and cultural heritage (table 3). Archaeological sites of the Neolithic period (VI–IV millennium BC) were found in the Western Buh basin – settlements of Linear Pottery culture (near Movnyky, Lytovezh); Eneolithic and Bronze Age (middle of the V – beginning of the 1st millennium BC) – settlement and burial of Corded Ware culture, Funnelbeaker culture, Globular Amphora culture, Lengyel culture and Volyn–Lublin cultures (Izov, Ambukiv, Rokytnytsia, Lezhnytsa, Lytovezh); Early Iron Age (IX–III centuries BC) – settlements of the Lezhnytska and Pomorsko-klushova cultures (Piatydni, Krechiv, Lezhnytsia); Old Slavic period (first half of the I millennium AD) – settlements of Przeworsk, Zubrytska and Wielbark cultures (Lytovezh, Lezhnytsa); Early Slavic period (VI–VIII centuries) – settlements and burials (Hushcha, Lezhnytsa, Lytovezh); Old Russian period (IX–XIV centuries) – villages, settlements, burials (Novouhruzke, Hushcha, Korytnytsa, Stenzharychi, Piatydni, Ustyluh, Izov, Buzhanka, Krechiv, Lytovezh) (Atlas of cultural history of Volyn Oblast, 2008; Karpiuk and other, 2019 a).

The architectural traditions of Ancient Russia have been preserved in this region, though they have changed over time under the influence of their own building technologies. The most ancient buildings of Volyn architectural type is St. Nicholas Church (1601) in Ludyn, Church of the Intercession (1750) in Poromiv, Church of the Nativity of the Virgin (1713) in Movnyky, Vedenska Church (1791) in Lytovezh, St. Michael's Church (1930) in Bilychi. The chapel (19th c.) in Ustyluh is an example of classicism, the Church of Saints Cosmas and Damian (1914) in Vyshniv was built in the pseudorussian architectural style, the Costel (1920) in Rymachi – in the style of constructivism, Nosenko's house (1900) – in the Art Nouveau style. The administrative building (1912) in Rymachi and Customs House (1908) in Ustyluh belong to the architectural monuments of the XX century (picture 1). Separate buildings of traditional

Polissia huts, barns, sheds, which have kept many archaisms in their architecture: pillar structures of walls, sokhas, roof overlaps, etc., have been preserved in the border (Atlas of cultural history of Volyn Oblast, 2008). Ihor Straviskyi Ustyluh National Museum, which was opened on September 29, 2013 in the composer's house, and school museums are functioning. Folk arts are developing: the center of embroidery in Vyshniv, weaving – in Lytovezh.

Table 3. Historical and cultural tourist resources of UTC

Name of UTC	Monument, <i>pieces</i>				Museums, <i>pieces</i>	Folk crafts, <i>centers</i>
	history and culture	archeology	architecture and town planning	monumental art		
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Polish border</i>						
Ustyluh	17	1	3	3	2	3
Rivne	2	2	–	–	2	1
Vyshniv	3	–	6	–	1	4
Poromiv	1	–	1	–	1	–
Lytovezh	3	2	4	–	3	1
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Belarusian border</i>						
Shatsk	7	2	2	–	1	3
Samary	3	3	3	–	1	1
Zabolotia	7	–	4	–	1	2
Liubeshiv	27	6	9	1	1	7

Note. Compiled according to the Department of Culture, Religious Affairs and Nationalities of Volyn Oblast State Administration.

Archeological sites are preserved in the basin of the Prypiat River – settlements of the Stone Age of the Mesolithic epoch (X – VIII millennium BC) in Samary and the Neolithic epoch of Volyn Neolithic culture (V – III millennium BC) in Shchytynska Volia. Settlements of the Bronze Age of The Corded Ware culture (the end of the III – the beginning of the II millennium BC) are found in Khabaryshche and Vetly. Settlements (Vetly, Tsyry, Shatsk, Liubeshiv), village (Lakhvychi), burials (Pidkormilia, Shatsk) of IX – XIV centuries belong to the Old Russian period. The most interesting architectural monuments of the territory of the northern border area are: the stone structures of cells of Piarists monastery (XVII century), the entrance gate of the estate in the Baroque style in Liubeshiv; Church of the Intercession (1745) in Zaliznytsia, Pochaievo-Bohorodytska Church (1773) in Zalazia, St. Nicholas Church (1778) in Tur, St. Paraskeva Church (1794) in Zalis, St. Michael's Church (1794) in Zalukhiv and Dormition Church (1864) in Samary, which belong to archaic type; Iosafivska Church (1769) in Birky, the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (1757) in Bykhiv, St. Michael's Church (1934) in Guta, which belong to Volyn wooden architecture type; St. Paraskeva Church (1830) in Samary, the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (1819) in Tsyry, which belong to house type; one of the youngest architectural monuments – the Church of the Intercession (1914) in Derevok is built in pseudorussian style (picture 2). The most distinctive for of the border with Belarus UTC folk crafts are: weaving (carpets, towels, burlap) in Prokhody, Uhrynychy, Sudche, Tur; wood decorating (cooperage, carpentry, decorative carving) in Zabolotia, Lobna and Vetly; embroidery, in which dominant is red color with addition of black

or blue and which is made of white threads in combination with delicate sewing, in Shatsk, Prypiat, Samiilychi, Samary, Sedlyshche (Atlas of cultural history of Volyn Oblast, 2008).

An important factor in the development of tourism is tourist infrastructure, which greatly contributes to tourist specialization and economic profile. Quality accommodation options are provided by hotels, catering, leisure and household services, communication, information support (table 4).

Table 4. Tourist infrastructure of united territory communities

Name of UTC	Objects of infrastructure, <i>pieces</i>							
	Means of location	Restaurants	Trading establishments	Entertainment venues.	Establishments of household services	Bank institutions	Post, communication	Petrol stations, inspection stations
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Polish border</i>								
Ustyluh	2	12	35	26	13	8	10	6
Rivne	1	1	10	11	2	3	2	8
Vyshniv	1	1	12	18	2	–	1	9
Poromiv	–	2	7	6	1	–	1	–
Lytovezh	1	4	13	10	4	2	2	1
<i>UTC of Ukrainian-Belarusian border</i>								
Shatsk	47	4	36	14	3	4	3	9
Samary	–	4	11	7	1	1	5	1
Zabolotia	1	4	6	13	1	2	3	1
Liubeshiv	6	11	59	47	9	5	21	4

Note. Compiled according to the data of the Department of Economics and European integration of Volyn Oblast State Administration.

The most famous accommodation facilities on the western border of oblast are the hotel «ABC-Inter» in Ustyluh, hotel and restaurant complexes «Try Bobry» (Lytovezh), «Mashivskiy Bir» (Mashiv), guest house «Petrivskiy Maietok» (Petrove), restaurant and hotel «Yahodyn» (Starovoitove), a set of cafes and bars in Zoria, Rohozhany, Mykytychi, Korytnytsia, Ludyn and others. To the accommodation facilities on the northern border belong hotels «Vodohrai», «Hrand Persona» (Shatsk), «Mria», sanatorium «Lisova Pisnia» (Haivka of Shatsk region). In addition, in the border UTC to this category we should include and agro farmsteads, most of which are located in Shatsk UTC – 45, seven of them in Shatsk, the most famous is «Lisova Kazka», «Pid Sosnamy», «Berizka», «Liutsymer», others – in Melnyky (the most famous are «Leleka», «Zatyshok», etc.). Vacationers have the opportunity to fish, swim, go boating, horse riding, taste home cooking dishes. The main catering and trade establishments are concentrated in community centers. Most hospitality facilities need reconstruction and reprofiling. A sufficient number of retail and service, banking and communications facilities are generally able to provide the necessary range of services for potential tourists.

The transport network is formed by extensive system of highways and railways. The highways of international and national importance (Warsaw–Kovel–Kyiv, Ustyluh–Lutsk–Rivne) pass through the territory of western border. The railway connection is carried out in

the direction Kyiv–Lutsk–Volodymyr–Volynskiy–Hrubeshiv. Railway stations «Izov» (Rokytnytsia), «Ludyn» (Ambukiv), «Ustyluh» (Ustyluh), «Yahodyn» (Rymachi) of UTC have a strategic geographical position near the Ukrainian-Polish border, where two border crossing posts «Yahodyn–Dorohulsk» and «Ustyluh–Zosin» are located. The roads of international (Domanove–Kovel–Chernevtsi–Terebleche), regional (Lutsk–Kivertsi–Manevychi–Liubeshiv–Dolsk) and territorial significance pass through the territory of northern UTC. The railway connection is carried out in the direction Brest–Kovel–Lutsk–Chernivtsi through the railway station «Zabolotia». The checkpoints «Tur–Sushytnytsia», «Huta–Votchyn», «Samary–Dzvin» are functioning there (Volyn for tourists, 2012).

A lot of sacral monuments are located along the highways of international, national and regional importance: the Church of Saints Cosmas and Damian, 1914 (international highway M–07: Kyiv–Kovel–Yahodyn); Igor Stravinsky National Museum (national N–22: Ustyluh–Lutsk–Rivne), the cells of Piarists monastery, the entrance gate of the and the cells of Capuchin monastery XVII–XVIII centuries (regional R–14: Lutsk–Kivertsi–Manevychi–Liubeshiv–Dolsk), Vedenska Church, 1791 (regional R–15: Kovel–Volodymyr–Volynskiy–Chervonohrad–Zhovkva) and others (Volyn for tourists, 2012; Karpiuk and other, 2016).

In addition, festivals that attract a large number of participants and spectators have become known outside the region. The annual international festival of extreme water tourism «Poliska rehata», which runs through the Stokhid and Prypiat Rivers in the Prypiat–Stokhid National Nature Park, starts in July. A review-competition of family ensembles «Spivaie rodyna» and theatrical performance «Oi na Ivana, oi na Kupala» is also held within the framework of the festival. The European Days of Neighborhoods Kerchiv–Kyryliv «Kordon 835» is held annually in the border strip of Kerchiv of Ivanychi district, music festival «Stravinskyi and Ukraine» (Ustyluh, 17 June), etc.

Taking into account the resource provision of the territories of the border areas with Poland and Ukraine UTC, the practical task is to identify the perspectives for the development of tourism, since virtually each of them requires certain infrastructural support and appropriate organizational measures for its development. The considerable potential (rich historical and cultural heritage), centered on the border of Volyn, contributes to the development of cultural and cognitive tourism related to meeting the needs of the traveler in learning about the components of other peoples' cultures; pilgrim and religious – for the purpose of searching the spiritual centers of moral and physical healing. The perspective types of tourism in the territories of the border area, where the most valuable anthropogenically small-scale natural complexes, traditional farming, unique Volyn color, rituals, Polissia cuisine are fully preserved, are: recreational – trips for rest and recovery, which are possible because of usage of natural climate features, attractive landscapes, etc.; eco-friendly – includes travelling within clear areas, the demand for which is steadily growing, because of the increasing pace of urbanization and dynamic environmental changes; rural (green) – which involves spending leisure time as a stationary holiday in rural areas with small radial routes associated with the study of flora and fauna, rural life and traditions; agrotourism – a form of rural tourism, which is reduced to organizing recreation with the active involvement of its participants in traditional forms of farming in the village, ecoagrotourism – combines the use of agro-houses as the main object of accommodation for tourists involved in green tourism, using ecotourism programs. Considering the richness of the biodiversity of the preserved natural complexes, it is advisable to develop nowadays birdwatching, as there are many bird species in Volyn, which are included in national and international conservation lists. It is necessary to actively develop new active types of tourism like hiking – short (daily) developmental walks on rough terrain with the most necessary personal things in small backpacks.

In border areas, where historical boundaries have changed due to historical circumstances, there have been labor or political migrations of people or forced resettlement (for example, the

relocation of Germans in 1939 or the expulsion of Ukrainians at the end of World War II from Kholmshchyna, instead the resettlement of Poles and Jews to the territories of post-war Poland), the prerequisites for the development of sentimental tourism have been created – trips, the main motive of which is the «desire to return»: for visits with family and friends, visits to their native places, «finding of their roots». The beginning of German immigration to Volyn began at the end of the XVIII century, when the tsarist government of the Russian Empire granted the colonists considerable privileges. If in 1859 there were 35 colonies in Volyn with a population of 4825 people, then in 1914 – 600 colonies with a population of about 200 thousand people. German and Czech colonies were concentrated in the Volodymyr-Volynskyi and Lutsk counties. In the territory of Ustyluh there were German colonies Vandovolia and Vorchyn in 1905 with a population of more than 150 people, in the 20's and 30's of the XX century – more than 200 people of Czech nationality lived in Korytnytsia (Shybisty and Karpiuk, 2008 a, b, c). The development of the listed types of tourism will ensure the preservation of the rural cultural landscape, the established forms of agricultural production, the preservation of natural complexes, traditions, the increase in the number of jobs, the suspension of the wave of labor migration of young people abroad in search of work.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES FOR FURTHER RESEARCHES

The proximity to the border with the EU ensures the interest of foreign tourists, especially residents of the Republic of Poland and Belarus, to the tourist and recreational resources of the border UTC of Volyn for the purpose of short-term trips on weekends and holidays. Favorable natural conditions, richness of protected areas, a large number of historical and cultural sites, preserved traditional architecture, folk crafts, customs and rituals, local cuisine give grounds to consider these territories as promising for the active development of tourism and recreation. The results of the study, in our opinion, will help to change the tendency of stereotypes about the cognitive and health opportunities of these rural peripheral territories. Designed maps of tourist and recreational resources of UTC will promote their natural, historical and cultural values, and will increase their tourist opportunities. Local governments should effectively manage available resources, identify priority areas for community development, and actively collaborate in cross-border tourism projects to effectively organize their activities.

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