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OPENING REMARKS FOR THE CONFERENCE

The world economy is experiencing new challenges at the beginning of the 21st century. These challenges are connected with the geopolitical transformations predicted by some well-known political scientists and economists. The 21st century began with an incredible growth of unsecured lending to the population of the leading world countries, which subsequently caused the first destabilisation wave of the global banking system in 2008-2011. The economic crisis beginning with the collapse of the leading US banks affected many countries of the world that were closely connected with American capital and the securities market. It took the global economy more than 5 years to get out of the crisis and begin the recovery of the growing economy.

However, the second world economic crisis was not long in coming and appeared against the backdrop of the 2019-2021 Covid pandemic. It was caused by the forced isolation of states against the background of the threat of a sharp decline in the world's population and loss of production capacity. The crisis was aggravated by the lack of practical experience in effectively combating this kind of pandemic and the increased need for spending on medical treatment and prevention.

Despite the gloomy forecasts, the Covid pandemic did not bring down the world economy, although it caused a decrease in the gross domestic product of the leading countries. Basic goods were delivered to stores and many productions continued their work in a limited form. A positive impression that economic statistics would improve in 2022-2023 has begun to be created.

However, Russia's barbaric aggression on the territory of Ukraine, motivated by unfulfilled dreams of implementing the Minsk Agreements and the growing economy of the young state, brought down the stabilising processes of the world economy, plunging into a new economic depression the countries of the European Union, rushing to help economically destabilised Ukraine. Numerous sanctions against Russia, imposed by the European Union at the sacrifice of its own economic growth, and impressive economic assistance in the name of saving an independent Ukrainian state have become a fair price for the future of Europe.

Nowadays, despite the trials of war, bombing, blackout and heat, Ukraine is trying to develop its economy and orient it towards the European Union. This scientific conference is designed to show the growing level of Ukrainian economic thought and become an excellent discussion platform about the past, present, and future of the economy of the Republic of Ukraine.