

The war in Ukraine has a serious impact on the world. The agricultural business is particularly sensitive to this situation.

As for the Ukrainian Polish cooperation itself, although it is not huge in almost any of the industries, Poland is still a fairly large importer of sunflower and soybean oils from Ukraine and an equally important exporter of dairy products. Approximately 11% of Polish cheese exports were sent to Ukraine.

Ukraine's inability to ship its products in full due to port closures increases the importance of substitute markets. For example, the United States, which previously bought a huge amount of apple juice in Ukraine (the fifth largest exporter of apple juice in the United States), is now forced to readjust to more affordable Polish analogues. Similar trends can occur in other markets, such as livestock or berry growing. However, these are excellent opportunities for Poland to expand its importance as an exporter of agricultural products. Poland is unlikely to be able to greatly expand its production, but with the departure of major players, it has a great chance to expand its market share and, consequently, attractiveness for investors. The problem was and most likely will remain the energy component. However, within a certain time, Poland will be able to completely switch to fertilizers from other markets, for example, from Uzbekistan, with which Poland is already strengthening cooperation in this area. It is important to note that Poland and Europe as a whole in food terms, according to the Minister of Agriculture of Poland - Krzysztof Cieciora, nothing threatens. On the other hand, at present, there is a sense of concern among representatives of the agricultural sector about the prices of such important things as gasoline, which greatly hampers their business, and ordinary people with food prices, which began to occupy a large share of the costs for a large segment of the country's population, although not to a critical extent. In the coming months, and maybe years, Poland will be more engaged in solving the food issue.

Post-war Ukraine is expected to become one big construction site. According to independent experts, Polish companies will enter into competition with Arab, British, American, German companies, including in the agricultural production market. On the one hand, this is an excellent step for both sides, in which Poland will receive income, but on the other hand, Ukrainian products can become very competitive for Poland in markets in which Poland has only recently become an important player.

Summing up, it is worth saying that the war in Ukraine has become a strong shock for all sectors of the economy in many countries of the world. This even affected the relatively independent (in addition to imports of fuel and fertilizers) food market in Poland.

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, the situation of farming has deteriorated greatly, but already now there is a stable situation of moderate severity. In the medium term, Poland may even benefit in some markets if it can deal with the import of valuable resources for this industry. As for the post-war period, it is quite difficult to calculate anything, although there is a possibility that Poland can become an important exporter of food products and, as a result, a competitor to Ukraine.