



STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN ORDER TO ENSURE SECURITY AND STABILITY IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN REGION

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ABSTRACT: - This article is devoted to international cooperation of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of security, trade and economic relations. Initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to ensure stability and sustainable development of the Central Asian region. Political, economic and regional factors of the formation of a sustainable security belt in the region.

KEYWORDS: Region, stability, security, threat, sustainability, initiative, trade and economic, sustainability, factors.

INTRODUCTION

The entry of humanity into a new stage of the development of civilization, which exacerbated the problems of its survival. This is due to a number of global problems generated by modernity or inherited from the past. By their nature, the global problems of our time are different: from the threat of nuclear war, environmental catastrophe and to various epidemics. From the growing split of the world into "rich" and "poor" countries

to the prospect of depletion of traditional and the need to find new sources of energy.

Strengthening regional and international cooperation in order to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region. The General Assembly, guided by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, which encourages the adoption of measures to establish regional cooperation to promote the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

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Recognizing the important role of the Republic of Uzbekistan in ensuring peace, stability and sustainable development in Central Asia, as well as in promoting regional and international cooperation, taking into account the current challenges and threats faced by the countries of Central Asia. Regional and international initiatives of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the field of security, stability and sustainable development as a guarantor of the entire region.

METHOD

The article uses chronological and systematic periodic data, comparative and quantitative methods. More than ten scientific papers on this topic are used to explain "Strengthening regional and international cooperation in order to ensure security and stability in the Central Asian region". In addition, the researchers used various materials to collect data related to the study.

THE MAIN PART

The historical experience of the late twentieth century shows that the stability, security, development of a country and its future largely depend on its potential and ability to recognize the threat that may threaten this country.

As noted by a prominent Uzbek political scientist Sh. I. Pakhrutdinov, there were some very powerful states that soon became confused as a result of a calm, indifferent attitude to the threat or complete ignorance about it, and the fate of such states took a tragic place on the pages of history. Conversely, there are States that anticipate the threat and respond to it in a timely manner. These threats are large or small, dangerous or relatively safe, internal or external, as well as distant or close in terms of

space, in general, regardless of how they are treated [1: p.43.].

Based on the opinion of the political scientist, it should be noted that the acceleration of globalization processes has an impact on the world community, exacerbating global problems.

In this context, international cooperation is of great importance for ensuring stability and sustainable development of countries. The process of globalization, as N.A.Mukhamedyarova points out, is accompanied by the fact that with its positive processes it brings unprecedented prosperity to humanity. Improving the level and quality of life, new jobs, broad and free access to information, improving mutual understanding between different cultures and civilizations, as well as negative (existing global problems are further aggravated) due to the fact that modern society is in the structure of the traditional model of development [2, p.43.].

The key to solving global problems is to increase the level of organization and manageability of the world community. This process is based on the transition from the traditional model to sustainable development.

In these conditions, an important aspect is the effective political activity and initiatives of States in order to reduce the severity of global problems on the basis of their political and socio-economic analysis, ensuring international cooperation. An important role in this process should be played by international organizations, in particular, the United Nations, a unique international institution within which the policy of transition to sustainable development is implemented. These, in our opinion, are the main objective factors that determine the need for international cooperation in order to solve the

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global problems of our time. This determines the role of the UN in the formation and implementation of the policy of transition to sustainable development as vital for all mankind. At the same time, it should be noted that the priority measures are a factor in the implementation of ensuring the transition to sustainable development should be decisions and actions related to reducing consumption, finding ways to use new resources for economic growth, the development of science, education, and management improvement.

In this regard, there is a need to improve the system of global management of the transition to sustainable development, within the framework of the United Nations.

In his speech, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly emphasized that there has not been a planetary disaster of this magnitude in the last hundred years. It demonstrated the vulnerability of all mankind to such global threats. The current difficult and tense situation has proved the interconnectedness of all States and peoples of the world, the special importance of regular dialogue, trust and close cooperation.

We are all deeply aware of the need to consolidate the efforts of Governments, parliaments and civil society, strengthen the principles of shared responsibility, close coordination in the development of international partnership, enhance the status and potential of the World Health Organization and expand its powers. Our goal is to jointly form a fair global system that will ensure the fundamental rights and freedoms, health and well-being of every person. Proceeding from the initiative of the Head of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the United Nations

plays a special decisive role in combining the efforts of international cooperation in order to form and implement a policy of transition to sustainable development.

In his Message to the Oliy Majlis, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev identified the main directions of development in key areas, paying special attention to the foreign policy aspects of the country.

In particular, it was noted the need to intensify cooperation with the countries of the world, including on regional and international platforms, to effectively confront regional and global challenges and threats to security. Following the chosen course, our Republic is currently implementing more than 25 programs to further enhance cooperation with international institutions of various levels. Thus, constructive activities are expanding within the framework of the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States and other multilateral structures.

It should be emphasized that in 2020, for the first time in many years, Uzbekistan assumed the chairmanship of the Organization of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), which once again testifies to the desire of the republic to intensify cooperation within the Commonwealth. In addition, Uzbekistan's membership in the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States provides new opportunities for the republic. During his speeches in the CIS, the SCO, and the second Consultative Meeting of the heads of Central Asian states, the President of Uzbekistan promotes initiatives aimed at improving the stability and resilience of the region to external threats.

One of the key directions of these initiatives of Uzbekistan's foreign policy is the

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transformation of Central Asia into a zone of stability, sustainable development and good neighborliness. Speaking at a joint session of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, Shavkat Mirziyoyev said: "The main priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy is the Central Asian region, with which the national interests of our country are connected. We have always remained committed to pursuing an open, friendly and pragmatic policy towards our closest neighbors - Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In the future, the President of the Republic, by his decree of February 7, 2017, approved the "Strategy of Actions on five priority areas of the country's development in 2017-2021", in which one of the important directions is the creation of a belt of security, stability and good-neighborliness around Uzbekistan, strengthening its international image[3: p.8].

An analysis of the current state of interstate practice in Central Asia (CA) shows that, along with the distribution of water and energy resources, the resolution of the Afghan crisis and countering modern security challenges, one of the most pressing international legal problems preventing the creation of the necessary conditions for mutually beneficial cooperation in the region, border and territorial issues remain unresolved. An analysis of the current state of interstate practice in Central Asia (CA) shows that, along with the distribution of water and energy resources, the resolution of the Afghan crisis and countering modern security challenges, one of the most pressing international legal problems preventing the creation of the necessary conditions for mutually beneficial cooperation in the region, border and territorial issues remain unresolved [4 p.49].

Within the framework of the new regional policy initiated by the President of Uzbekistan,

a special place was taken by the solution of the following problems;

solutions to the problem of distribution of water and energy resources in the region;

settlement of border and territorial issues;

settlement of the Afghan crisis and countering modern security challenges.

The initiative of Shavkat Mirziyoyev to solve these problems in the Central Asian region creates the basis for a regional consensus on strengthening mutual trust and developing mechanisms for bilateral and regional cooperation.

Priority is given to the settlement on the basis of mutual consideration of the interests of the problems accumulated in the region, such as the demarcation and delimitation of State borders, the distribution of water resources and others.

An important mechanism for the development of regional cooperation was the holding of Consultative Meetings of the heads of Central Asian states on the initiative put forward by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in 2017 at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly. In November 2019, a second meeting in a similar format was held in Tashkent. It was attended by the leaders of all five countries of the region, which became possible for the first time in many years.

The decisions taken made it possible to give the summits of the heads of State a regular character and to reach an agreement on the establishment of annual consultative meetings. It should be noted that the strengthening of good neighborliness, friendship, mutual trust and mutual understanding in Central Asia has been declared a key priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy.

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The proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to consider Afghanistan as an integral part of Central Asia and to take a completely new look at this country is proof of this. At the same time, Afghanistan should begin to be viewed not as a country from whose territory peace and stability are threatened, but as a friendly partner and neighbor. Mutually beneficial cooperation with Afghanistan, peace and stability in this country will allow us to launch trans-regional projects in the field of transport, energy, trade and strengthen the relationship between Central and South Asia. This will become a powerful driver of the sustainable development of Central and South Asia, moreover, joint economic development programs will help to reach a consensus among interested parties on the need for long-term peace in Afghanistan.

An important practical contribution to the stabilization of the situation in the neighboring country was the international conference on Afghanistan, which was held in March 2018 in Tashkent on the initiative of the Presidents of the two states of Uzbekistan and Afghanistan – Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Ashraf Ghani (former President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan). At the same time, Uzbekistan is implementing specific projects to support the peace process in Afghanistan, creating the necessary foundation for the political, economic future and social stability in this country.

For example, one of the important projects is the construction of the Mazar–I–Sharif–Herat railway corridor, which in the future will provide jobs for 30 thousand Afghans and will allow Kabul to annually profit from transit in the amount of 400-500 million dollars. Another major infrastructure project is the Surkhan-Puli–Khumri power transmission line,

which will connect Kabul to the unified energy system of Central Asia. The transmission line will increase the supply of electricity from Uzbekistan to Afghanistan by 70% - up to 6 billion kW.h per year.

An educational center for Afghan citizens is successfully functioning in the city of Termez, where 130 students study. In the future, it is planned to increase the number of students to 250. Creation of an international logistics center with a customs terminal "Termez-Cargo Center", designed to increase export-import and transit cargo flows. On the basis of the Termez Free Economic Zone, it is planned to launch production for projects and programs implemented in Afghanistan.

In the era of globalization, trade and economic relations between countries are considered another important factor in the stability of the state.

The development of interregional trade is the most important condition for the stable functioning of the national economy and strengthening its economic security, taking into account the reduction of the negative impact of external factors on the dynamics of trade turnover between individual regions, the establishment of strong trade and economic ties between various economic entities located in various territorial entities, deepening cooperation and improving integration processes. Moreover, the Central Asian countries, entering as active members of the world economy, taking into account their national interests, have already outlined their geopolitical strategies for the near future. Now a new system of international relations is being formed in the countries of the Central Asian region. The geopolitical significance of the region is determined by its large territory, rich natural and demographic resources, the presence of strategic facilities, huge energy

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and agricultural potentials, as well as common borders with the main Eurasian geopolitical centers [5: p.3].

Meanwhile, the growing geo-economic and geopolitical vulnerability of the region predetermines the trends of the growing geopolitical and economic presence of the interests of the world's largest powers in it. A specific feature of the integration trends in Central Asia is the lack of free access to the main sea transport communications in almost all countries of the region. Moreover, the multi-confessional nature of the region's states pushes them to compete with a number of Muslim countries in order to expand their participation in the implementation of integration projects in the region. Deepening regional trade and economic cooperation in this area can have a stabilizing effect and significantly limit potential threats to the external environment.

The above-mentioned characteristics of the countries of the region largely determine the importance of studying the prospects of the regional integration process, the successful development of which in various forms can become an important part of the strategy of unification and control of the geostrategic space based on the expansion and deepening of interregional trade both at the level of subjects of national economies and on the scale of the entire region. That the deepening integration of the economies of the Central Asian countries is due to life itself.

Sustainable development and stable growth of production are possible on the basis of strengthening the common market, expanding cooperation and deepening the division of labor between the countries of the region. The need to study the problems of trade and economic integration in the context of the formation of market relations, the

development of mutually beneficial schemes of economic cooperation between Uzbekistan and other countries of the Central Asian region.

CONCLUSION

Thus, Uzbekistan demonstrates its determination to further enhance international cooperation to ensure regional security as an integral part of global stability.

The implementation of specific political, socio-economic projects is a problem not only of regional, but also of global security. In its regional policy, Uzbekistan is fighting not only for the future of the region, but also for common security, for a world without terrorism, fanaticism and violence.

Ultimately, Uzbekistan, following the example of its foreign, constructive policy, should become a guarantor of stability and tolerance to the threats of the entire region. The initiative of the President of Uzbekistan on the peaceful solution of the Afghan problem will provide Central Asia with access to maritime communications, diversify transport corridors and thereby open up new directions for the development of trade and economic development of the entire region, which fully meets the interests of all Central Asian states. Therefore, only by combining the efforts of each country, respecting international law and democratic values, effectively interacting on the basis of cooperation, harmony and justice, it is possible to create a single market and form a new architecture of the security belt. In this context, international cooperation for peace plays an important role.

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