

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Modern foreign policy of Iran in the Middle East region.

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Relevance of the research issue: The Middle East has always been viewed as one of the most confrontational and tense regions of the world in political, social and military relations. Nowadays tensions in the Middle East are only increasing, impeding the normal political and economic development of the region, and also leading to an increase in the level of the terrorist and extremist threat.

Iran plays a special role in the Middle East. It is one of the most influential states in the region. Other states often regard Iran's foreign policy as a destabilizing factor in the Middle East. Nevertheless, the solution of the problems existing today in the Middle East region, largely depends on the nature of Iran's foreign policy activities. Moreover, today it is practically impossible to do without including Tehran in this process.

Iran does not belong to the states of the Arab world, nevertheless, the Iranian government regards the search for solutions to a number of problems, such as the Arab-Israeli conflict, the conflict in Iraq and Syria, as priorities for its own foreign policy activities. It should be noted that Tehran has its own vision of resolving these problems in the region, and it actively participates in these processes, influencing them.

The relevance of the topic is growing due to the fact that the US has announced its withdrawal from the nuclear deal with Iran and announced the resumption of sanctions against Tehran, which can significantly affect the situation in the Middle East. Thus, the study of Iranian foreign policy in the Middle East

region is topical for today, as peace and stability not only in this region but also in the whole world depend on Iran's relations with other regional states.

The above arguments allow us to assert that the problem considered in the framework of the final qualifying work, has not only scientific and theoretical importance but also practical one, which in many ways determines the choice of this topic.

The purpose of the study is to identify current trends in Iran's foreign policy in the Middle East region.

In accordance to the purpose of the study, the following **objectives** were posed:

- conduct a methodological analysis of the foreign policy of modern states;
- reveal the role of national interests in the foreign policy of modern states;
- determine the mechanisms for implementing the foreign policy of modern states;
- analyze the role of the religious and ideological factor in Iran's foreign policy;
- explore Iran's national interests in the Middle East region;
- identify the main directions of Iran's foreign policy in the Middle East.

Scientific novelty: It is determined that the nature of Iran's Middle East policy is significantly influenced by the American policy of "containment policy" and it is revealed that the US withdrawal from the nuclear deal over Iran will lead to even more destabilization in the Middle East region.

The structure of the work is determined by the purpose, objectives and internal logic of the problem under investigation and consists of an introduction, two chapters, each of which including three paragraphs, the conclusion and bibliographic list of used literature containing 116 sources, including 50 in foreign languages (English, Arabic) and the 6 appendixes. The total volume is 83 pages.

Summary: The emergence of Iran as the leading state in the Middle East region is the main task of realizing the historical mission of Iran. Tehran in

building its foreign policy strategy is aimed at ensuring its security and protecting its national interests.

IRI continues to oppose Washington and its policy of "systemic containment," despite the sharp actions of the US government, which cause new threats in the region. The policy of Iran today largely depends on the policy of the United States, which, having withdrawn from a nuclear agreement with Iran, can affect the relations of Iran not only with the Middle Eastern countries, but also with European countries, as well as the situation in the entire region.

Iran opposes the US and defends its national interests in the struggle for Syria in the Levant, in which Tehran understands that the loss of Damascus is a disaster for itself, because a hotbed of tension with a large army of radical Islamist groups is forming near its borders. The implementation of confrontation with Israel on the territory of Syria also comes to the forefront for Iran in this region today. In addition, in the Levant, Iran sees the need for the support of Hezbollah in Lebanon. Tehran is aware that the conflict circumstances that have developed near its borders play into the Persian Gulf states hands and, first of all, it applies to Saudi Arabia, with which Iran has a longstanding confrontation. In the current circumstances in Yemen, the confrontation between Tehran and Riyadh is intensifying. The leadership of Saudi Arabia will continue to use Yemen as a lever. In the Persian Gulf, IRI tries to strengthen its authority with the help of Shiites, raising waves of demonstrators in Bahrain and helping financially Husits fighting in Yemen against the coalition led by Saudi Arabia. If there is a war between Iran and Saudi Arabia, it will be greater than the regional one. Eurasian countries will be also involved in this war as supporters of Tehran , and the US will be on the opposite side. In the Maghreb, Iran seeks to establish relations with Algeria, Mauritania, Tunisia, primarily to counteract the activities of ISIL.