SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: US-Mexican relations at the present stage

Author: Zabolotneva Darya

Academic Adviser: Gukasov A., Professor, PhD, Political Science

Organization: School of International Relations, Chair of International Relations, World Economy and International Law, Pyatigorsk State University.

Topicality of the research issue is due to the fact that today the US is a state that has colossal cumulative power and has a significant impact on the evolution of the world political system as a whole, as well as its regional subsystems. In this context, a special interest is the study of US-Mexican relations, the nature of which is very controversial, and sometimes even conflicting.

In turn, the clear superiority of the United States in almost all qualitative indicators over Mexico shows the asymmetry of these relations. However, it should be noted that geographical proximity, coupled with the presence of an extensive land border, forces the US and Mexico to find ways to build constructive dialogue.

It should be emphasized that with the advent of D. Trump, the question of the future of US-Mexican relations has become one of the most pressing issues on a regional scale. In this context, it is not just about the dynamics of bilateral relations between the US and Mexico, but also about the prospects for NAFTA, which is directly related to the intentions of the US president to review the terms of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

However, it is important to note that in the case of stagnation of bilateral relations, neither the US nor Mexico will be able to avoid adverse consequences for themselves, since the destabilization of the internal situation in one country will immediately affect the other. Moreover, the United States is aware that the growth of crime and drug trafficking in Mexico, as well as an increase in the flow of illegal migrants from this country, poses a real threat to their national security. Accordingly, in this vein, the US will seek to stabilize the situation inside Mexico.

Thus, the above argumentation makes it possible to assert that the problem considered in the framework of the final qualifying work, in addition to the scientific-theoretical one, also has practical significance, which in many respects determines the choice of this topic.

The purpose of the study is to identify the main areas of modern American-Mexican relations and determine the prospects for their development.

Research objectives:

− to explore the actors of modern international relations and identify the main trends in their development;
− to prove that the state remains the main actor of modern international relations;
− to analyze the state and the main problems in the US-Mexican relations at the present stage;
− to identify the prospects for the development of US-Mexico relations.

Scientific novelty: A comprehensive study of US-Mexican relations was conducted and it was revealed that in the short and medium term, Mexico would accept the conditions for the further development of relations put forward by the United States.

Structure: The structure of the study is determined by the purpose, objectives and internal logic of the problem under investigation and consists of an introduction, two chapters comprising two paragraphs each, conclusions, a bibliography of the literature used, containing 140 sources, of which 44 in English, 7 in Spanish, as well as 2 applications. The total amount of work is 68 pages of typewritten text.

Summary: Congress has maintained significant interest in Mexico, an ally and top trade partner. In recent decades, U.S.-Mexican relations have been strengthened through cooperative management of the 2,000-mile border, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and security cooperation under the Mérida Initiative. Relations have recently been tested, however, by President Donald J. Trump's shifts in U.S. immigration and trade policies.

From Mexico, it is worth noting the fact that President Enrique Peña Nieto is in the final year of his six-year term. During 2013, Peña Nieto shepherded significant structural reforms through the Mexican Congress, including a historic energy reform that opened Mexico's energy market to foreign investment. He has since struggled to implement some of those reforms, and to address human rights abuses and corruption. But the possibility of a U.S. withdrawal from NAFTA may have hindered investment, growth, and consumer confidence. Political attention in Mexico is increasingly focused on presidential and legislative elections scheduled for July 1, 2018. Some observers are concerned that the change of power can mean a complete change in the historically investor-friendly policies and cause friction with the United States.

As for the United States, the hallmarks of President-elect Donald Trump's "America first" approach, which would put the United States in a defensive crouch against others and deeply divide it internally, has been his antagonistic perspective on Mexico as a source of violent crime and illegal immigration, as well as a prime reason for job loss in the United States. As 2017 unfolds, the Trump administration should move beyond the campaign slogans and divisive rhetoric and work with Mexico in a cooperative spirit.

In any case, there is a significant asymmetry in the relations of these states, which it is not possible to overcome in the foreseeable future.