

Summary

Subject of the thesis: The European vector in the foreign policy of Russia.

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The research issue relevance is conditioned by the fact that relation development between Russian Federation and The European Union are prioritized in Russian foreign affairs. Russia regards The EU as a natural strategic partner that is linked by the economic complementarity, centuries-old experience of trade and economic relations, common socio-cultural roots, civilization approaches and values, the history and the possible joint future. The influence of Russia in Europe, its security, the ability to provide national interests of the country largely depends on the nature and degree of partnership with international organizations that solve problems of international level, such as The EU. The efficient cooperation system of Russia with this association is called upon to enhance the role of Russia in solving security problems of the continent related to terrorism, uncontrolled and illegal migration, ecological problems, organized crime.

At the same time, relations between Russia and The EU are going through a difficult period due to sanctions and constant pressure of Washington. In this regard, it seems that the imperative of a joint work in the short term must be enhancement of the interaction quality between Russia and The EU at all levels, its conversion into true partnership principles. Herewith, it is necessary to make it impossible to return relation building stereotypes to the principle of “leading – driven” and proceed from the expediency of pragmatic perception of each other.

The object of research is Russia's foreign policy

The subject of research are Institutional factors of Russia's current foreign policy in the European area.

The purpose of the work is to analyze current trends in Russian foreign policy towards the European Union and the identification of prospects for its further evolution.

Research objectives:

- to explore the concept and essence of the foreign policy of the modern state;
- to analyze basic foreign policy implementing systems of modern states;
- to identify the principal stages in the European direction evolution in Russian foreign policy;
- to bring out the main directions of Russian foreign policy towards the European Union.

The structure of the study is determined by the purpose, tasks and internal logic of the researched problem and consists of introduction, two chapters that include two paragraphs each, conclusion, bibliographic list that includes 139 sources including 62 in foreign languages (English, German), and also 5 attachments. The common workload is 89 typescript pages.

Summary. Despite all the difficulties there are in Russian-European relations, the EU remains the most important partner of Russia. One the one hand, The EU keeps its first position in trade turnover indicators, whereas Russia is only fourth in the list of the EU. On the other hand, the state of mutual trust is lost at the present stage, as well as there is no comprehensive cooperation on a wide range of issues.

In turn, the "American factor" has a significant influence on the further development of relations between the EU and Russia. Despite the declarative statements that Brussels independently formulates its foreign policy goals and priorities, it is obvious that today the formation of the foreign policy of the European Union is greatly influenced by the United States.

Nevertheless, the prospects for the normalization of relations between Russia and the European Union remain, and Moscow pays close attention to relations with Brussels and is ready to jointly find ways to normalize them, provided that they fully match with Russia's national interests. In the short term, Russia and the EU should focus on promoting the Syrian political settlement. It is advisable for Russia and the EU to unite cooperation in fighting against Islamist terrorism, represented both by ISIS and other radical organizations. Finally, even now, Moscow and Brussels could launch a systemic dialogue on migration issues and begin coordinating their steps in the field of migration policy and the integration of the Muslim population. Russia and the EU are facing similar challenges here, and sharing experience and coordinating migration and integration policies would turn out to be quite useful.

Russia is interested in deepening cooperation with the European Union as the main trade-economic and important foreign-policy partner, stands for strengthening cooperation, stressing the urgency of the task of forming four common area: economic; freedom, security and justice; external security; scientific research and education, including cultural aspects.