

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: The U.S. foreign policy in the post-soviet space.

Author: Kunizheva Marianna

Academic Adviser: Suchkov M., Assistant Professor, PhD, Political Science

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

Relevance of the research issue: Today there is growing interest of the United States to strengthen its geopolitical, economic and other. positions in the post-soviet space. There are a lot of reasons: - the US policy, dictated by ideas of energy security, strengthening their hegemonic position in the region, the creation of the number of pro-american political elites in the countries of former USSR. Due to the increase of strategic importance of the region as a crossroads of military transport and energy transit communications in post-bipolar world, the post-soviet space has become a special place in the general system of the US foreign policy interests.

After the end of the Cold War the essence of the russian-american dialogue on regional issues has significantly changed. The Soviet Union and the United States supported the dialogue particularly in order to prevent the escalation of regional conflicts with participation of ideological allies of Moscow and Washington and prevent direct confrontation between soviet and american armed forces, which could lead to a thermonuclear catastrophe.

In the 1980-1990 years after de-escalation and resolution of a number of regional conflicts with participation of allies of Moscow and Washington (Central America, Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, and others.), as well as the withdrawal of Russian troops from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, a direct clash of Russian and American troops as a result of regional conflict has become technically impossible. Thus, the differences between the two powers on regional issues are no longer an ideological tilt-yard between the ideological «communism» and «capitalism». These differences are more like traditional struggle between great powers for the expansion and preservation of spheres of influence. Moscow did not hide his concern about the US penetration into regions, which are considered as traditional zone of vital interests of Russia (and especially the post-soviet space). Washington, in its turn, noticed a tendency for expanding of russian presence in the neighboring countries, that's meant «The Empire Strikes Back». In recent years, american establishment is increasingly perceived conflict with Russia as a «zero-sum game», where Western «democracy» opposed «Russian neo-imperialism». Be that as it may, analysis and monitoring of the US interests in the post-soviet space is a necessary component of development of a balanced polical line towards to the United States and the countries of former Soviet Union.

The purpose of the work is to outline key directions of the US foreign policy in the post-soviet space, to reveal the basic mechanisms of their implementation and to evaluate the prospects of further development.

Research objectives:

- prove that the U.S. transatlantic policy is the basis of establishing the «safe space» in Eurasia;
- identify the doctrinal and ideological background of the American policy in the post-Soviet space;
- to systematize the instruments of implementation of the U.S. foreign policy in post-soviet space;
- outline specifics of foreign-policy imperatives of the U.S. in the region under study and assess the prospects of their development

Scientific novelty:

- it's proved that the US transatlantic policy is considered by current US administration as an ideological justification of «forming a security space» in Eurasia and is implemented in two planes;
- it's described the key instruments of the US foreign policy interests in the post-soviet space during the presidency of Obama Administration.

Structure: the two chapters, containing two paragraphs each, the conclusion and a 103-reference bibliography (64 of which are in foreign languages) and the 6 appendixes. The total volume is 75 pages.

Summary: American policy in the post-Soviet space is a projection of several interconnected lines of foreign and security policy of the country and pursue at least two strategic imperative. First, the United States consider its own military presence in Europe, with its extension in the post-Soviet space as a inherent element of American global strategy to deter potential threats. Second, an important component of this policy is to create a coherent system of political socialization and ideological orientations of elites and societies in the post-Soviet states, similar models of political thinking and practical positions, particularly this applies to the key issues for the US of world politics. Both ideologies restrict Russian initiatives in the region and pose a threat to Russia's interests in the post-Soviet space.

Since coming to power of President Barack Obama, in the US foreign policy in the post-soviet space «soft power» began to spread: a) the organizational and financial support to non-governmental foundations and «pro-democracy organization» on the part of government institutions has increased; b) increased the quota for students, academic and professional exchanges for the citizens of the former Soviet republics; c) there is a practice of ambassadorial appointments to senior positions of people with extensive experience of the «non-violent regime change»; d) have come to occupy a special place programs to build fiber-optic systems for high-speed Internet and the subsequent training of groups of civil society organizations working with social media - a potential new tool organizing the protests.