

TRENDS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Abstract

The methods for resolving and preventing political conflicts differ significantly from other forms of conflict resolution. When the territorial principle is prioritized over the specifics of the conflict in interpersonal disputes, applying this approach to political conflicts can lead to greater societal instability, victimization, and negative changes in relations between states. However, when the interests of social groups are aligned, political disputes can be more easily and amicably resolved. In such cases, the most effective approach is the use of preventive diplomacy at both the international and state levels.

Keywords Preventive diplomacy, ethnic and religious conflicts, political will, security, political conflicts, international associations.

INTRODUCTION

Although the roots of international relations date back to ancient times, the concept of diplomacy was first introduced as a formalized practice in 1645 [1].

The term “preventive diplomacy” was first used by the United Nations during the Cold War. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld began using the phrase to describe the organization’s tasks in the context of a bipolar world. In 1995, on the occasion of the UN’s 50th anniversary, Boutros Boutros-Ghali presented a supplement to the “Agenda for Peace.” He spoke about the challenges of preventive diplomacy and peacekeeping, and said he had created a Political Affairs Department to monitor political processes around the world to provide early warning of impending conflicts. But, according to him, such efforts face serious obstacles. The most important

of them is not a lack of information, analytical skills or ideas about possible UN initiatives, but the unwillingness of one or the other side of the conflict to receive assistance from the UN. Every year, in his annual report, the Secretary-General emphasizes the importance of preventive diplomacy and peacekeeping. In 1996, Boutros Boutros-Ghali announced that he was in favor of replacing the term “preventive diplomacy” with the term “preventive action” to include not only diplomatic measures, but also preventive deployment, disarmament, humanitarian action, and peacebuilding [2].

THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

The legal framework for the implementation of prevention in conflict escalation or prevention processes is reflected in the United Nations Charter. Preventive missions are more effective

than post-conflict measures. Peace is a common value and a basic condition for the existence of any state. In the past, every country considered survival and establishing peace as an important category of state management. The situation in this field has changed significantly today [3].

The United Nations has long been involved in conflict prevention, but its effectiveness could be enhanced with adequate funding and better organization. Tools for conflict prevention mentioned by the Secretary-General include preventive diplomacy, the preventive deployment of military or civilian police forces, preventive humanitarian intervention, and preventive peacebuilding—defined as “large-scale political and socio-economic activities to support fragile states or rebuild devastated ones.” Preventive diplomacy can be conducted by the Secretary-General, senior officials, specialized agencies and programs, as well as regional organizations, in cooperation with the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the broader United Nations system [4].

According to the “Agenda for Peace”, the operations of the United Nations in crisis areas were usually carried out after the beginning of the conflict. For example, in the event of a national crisis, preventive deployment may be carried out at the request or with the consent of the government or all interested parties. In the event of an interstate conflict, such a deployment can be made when both countries believe that a United Nations presence on either side of their borders can help prevent hostilities. Additionally, if a country perceives a threat and requests that the UN be involved only on its side of the border, pre-emptive deployment can be implemented [5].

Interstate and internal conflicts in Africa reflect the problems of modern African life. They arise due to the complex interrelationship of various conflict factors - ethnic and religious conflicts, socio-

economic and political contradictions, the consequences of the collapse of totalitarian regimes, as well as the costs and difficulties of social changes [6].

After the historic meeting of the United Nations Security Council on January 31, 1992, for the first time, when its members were held at the level of heads of state and government, the process of gradual institutionalization and legitimization of preventive diplomacy in UN resolutions and documents began, although until now it has been occasionally ignored in academic research is increasingly cited as one of many options for conflict prevention. A number of structures of the United Nations Organization began not only to officially engage in preventive work, but they gradually rose to the level of main tasks in the official UN strategy. It was believed that the main rules of preventive diplomacy can be implemented by the UN Secretary General or his personal representatives specially appointed by him [7].

The concept of preventive diplomacy was further developed in the works of former UN Secretary General K. Annan. K. Annan paid attention to preventive diplomacy in his report on the activities of the UN in 2000. He stated that his “central objective is to ensure that early warning and conflict prevention become the daily work of the United Nations both at headquarters and in the field” [8]. The lack of a sense of interests and requests in people leads not only to disintegration, but also to the emergence of new hidden sources of conflict, because they create a sense of futility, internal anxiety and tension in society. This tendency of the social mentality of the majority of society members makes it difficult to find points of conflict between the interests of different political forces, and political conflicts in such cases have the character of confrontation. Then it becomes impossible to resolve the conflict using traditional methods [9].

The countries of the Central Asian region face a number of threats that cause conflicts, such as terrorism and extremism, drug trafficking and organized crime. In this context, it seems logical to appeal to the UN's "good offices", given its extensive tools for responding to such threats and its experience in resolving various conflicts. For this purpose, a new international structure - the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (PDCA) appeared in Ashgabat. There are few regions in the world where countries are as closely connected as in Central Asia. Despite the presence of old and new threats to security, Central Asian countries have managed to avoid open conflict, which is a sign of the political will to engage in dialogue and prevent conflict in the region. At the same time, there are common threats and threats that require joint response and cooperation in the interests of regional stability. Action program project for 2009-2011 prepared by the center, it describes in sufficient detail the forms, methods and means of their implementation, taking into account the capabilities of the UN and regional characteristics [9].

CONCLUSION

About ninety percent of international conflicts are caused by misunderstandings and disagreements between neighboring countries. This is proved by the bloody conflicts of the neighboring states that we are currently witnessing. Therefore, prevention of any interstate conflict is a matter of great international importance. For this reason, the United Nations Organization has been conducting a number of studies on preventive diplomacy and has developed many measures for the implementation of preventive diplomacy in various countries and regions, and continues to implement works related to their application. A scientific approach to preventive diplomacy, conducting in-depth scientific research on it is a requirement of

today's international relations. Based on this demand, a number of problems are studied in the dissertation. In this, the existing problems between the countries of the Central Asian region will be studied, finding solutions to them, and measures to prevent possible problems will be studied.

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