



Central Asia: International Relations As A Factor Of Regional Stability And Integration

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ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the issues of interethnic relations in Central Asia, the need for integration and cooperation between states, external influences, information impacts on the peoples of the region, border issues, overpopulation, ethnic issues and their impact on the stability of the region.

KEYWORDS

Interethnic relations, interethnic conflicts, regions, Central Asia, security, stable development, information impact, ethnic and border conflicts.

INTRODUCTION

Today in Central Asia, interethnic relations and related cross-border conflicts are becoming more relevant and problematic for the entire region. They have become decisive and have a great influence on integration processes for 30 years now. During this period, interethnic conflicts and clashes have occurred in the region several times and they have left a large

negative footprint for stable development, security, for free movement of the population, for the prosperity of the economy and integration of the region.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The heads of state and government, as well as authoritative experts and specialists, always emphasize that the solution of these problems requires, first of all, socio-political cooperation [1-7]. All the nations and ethnic groups of the region are currently experiencing great difficulties associated with nationalist characteristics in the case of crossing state borders for doing business, trade or other economic needs. They need integration or friendships and good human relations more than ever. The unstable political situation in Afghanistan and the Middle East, the threats of terrorism, extremism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, drug trafficking, and environmental problems have become urgent problems for ensuring security and further development for all Central Asian states.

In addition to them, the non-coordinating and uncoordinated policy of all countries on the use of water and other natural resources, transport infrastructure, transboundary disputes, etc. is of serious importance. Many experts and specialists in Central Asia are inclined to believe that in the future the situation may be greatly aggravated by the factors that the population of all countries will inevitably grow and providing them with vital resources will become a heavy burden for all.

By their own nature, they are new phenomena for the peoples of Central Asia, since for thousands of years they have lived side by side, have never experienced hatred for each other. Always lived peacefully and calmly intervening and geographically and ethnically. They were never divided by nationality or ethnicity. Such negative tendencies not inherent in the peoples of Central Asia on their division by national and ethnic characteristics appeared only at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. It is already becoming clear to whom it was beneficial to divide and rule the peoples of the region [8,9].

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the collapse of the great empire was the beginning of a new wave of various ethnic contradictions in the region, and many experts were then inclined to believe that some forces or states, in order to maintain their own geopolitical ambitions and dominant position, comprehensively contributed and continue to contribute to the development of conflicts and incite disagreements of an interethnic and interethnic nature. Since the countries of the region did not rally around the idea of a free and prosperous Turkestan, they were interested in the spread of controlled conflicts among the states of Central Asia [10].

According to statistics, about 130 nations and ethnic groups live in Central Asia and this state of affairs provides great opportunities for the development of friendly relations with the world community, for the preservation of national and ethnic colour, and also places great responsibility on the governments of the region to ensure the integration of peoples based on regional interest.

It is known from world experience that the residence of different nationalities and ethnic groups in the same region or state has its vulnerabilities and difficulties. These qualities are that it is very difficult in the conditions of globalization and under the pressure of various information flows, it is difficult to ensure interethnic harmony and friendship.

The Central Asian states collide just today. All states of the region should jointly and in a coordinated manner pursue a policy aimed at establishing interethnic and interethnic harmony. Since they have a common history and a common future, they must be recognized by all governments and the public in the region. Unfortunately, such a policy or a conscious public approach is sometimes lacking.

Also, everyone knows that Central Asia is in a difficult geopolitical situation and, as we

mentioned above, there remains a high probability of exacerbation of interethnic relations under the influence of global and other players in world politics and international relations [11].

This is also facilitated by globalization, characterized by the uncontrolled spread of various information. The region has become for many states that have geopolitical goals in it and for various destructive forces due to its large human and natural resources and geographical location.

And the population, as a ready-made “naive audience,” absorbing a large flow of information, based on a low economic and everyday situation, falls under the influence of their distributors. It is such information that can produce a big explosion of an interethnic and ethnic character, an already dangerous situation [12].

The socio-political situation is also not very stable, due to many factors, among them unemployment occupies a special place, that is, a large number of working-age people do not have a permanent job and this affects their mood. People without a permanent job have been leaving for many countries for seasonal work as guest workers for more than twenty years. And there those who work legally and illegally are still subjected to various attacks and discrimination from the population, sometimes even from the state, and such cases occur frequently.

As a result, discontent appears in their psychology from both their country and the host. They will even be ready to avenge the atrocities that they have committed against them. And this is usually used by extremists and their propagandists since this is “tasty and easy” prey, food for them. This is one of the main factors in the spread of radicalization among young people and public discontent, which in the future takes place for the stability of the region. Many of them have already joined extremist groups from Syria and

Afghanistan and are fighting on their side. There are many main reasons, but among them, the main ones are the absence of a condition for a normal existence in their countries and the religious illiteracy of the population.

Several factors are complicating or exacerbating the situation on this topic. Among them, a special place is occupied, such as border problems associated with claims to fertile lands by the peoples of the countries of this region. These problems, with great regret, often arise and will lead to incitement of interethnic conflicts of different sides [13].

It is land problems that are inherent in the characteristics of all nationalities of the region and they will not lose their relevance in the future, since the land is limited, and the population is growing at a rapid pace. Under the inadequate delimitation of the territories of the republics (clumsy division) by the Soviet authorities, he meant geopolitical goals, and this is no longer a secret to anyone. It was carried out without taking into account the interests of nationalities, ethnic groups and despite the social behaviour, culture and characteristics of the population and was aimed at inciting interethnic and interstate contradictions. And enclaves can be the most dangerous bombs in this regard. And this innovative policy today bears fruit for those players as a goat for participation and preservation of influence in the life of the region [14].

As noted above, different information also plays an “important role” in the life of the peoples of Central Asia. The population's demand for land and water is constantly growing. To meet their needs, the countries of the region are constantly increasing their agricultural crops and expanding the sown area. And due to limited land resources, territorial disputes often arise between the populations of neighbouring countries and these disputes escalate to border conflicts. Another sore point in the region is water

problems. The scarcity of water resources and the constant increase in demand creates new and new threats for the entire region. It has a significant negative impact from the relationship of the state to the everyday life of the population of the problem. This is also facilitated by the uncoordinated policy of the states of the region and the failure to introduce modern or innovative resource-saving technologies. In turn, it has a significant impact on the interstate and interethnic relations.

Also, the region lives under constant information pressure from destructive forces, supported by certain states and various extremist organizations, and all states of the region are increasingly facing these security challenges since information factors have become a global problem for all of humanity.

It is as a result of information processing that the influence of radical Islam is strongly felt in Central Asia, in comparison with other states of the post-Soviet space, due to the strong influence of radical Islamism on the local political process. And the position of fundamental Islamism in the region is rapidly spreading by the advanced information methods of radicals. This phenomenon is associated with the fact that the situation with the radicalization of Islam in the countries of Central Asia was complicated by the rapid accumulation of a critical mass of internal problems, which were actively used by the local religious underground to discredit the ruling regimes and their leaders, and state authorities.

CONCLUSION

It must be admitted that it has not yet been possible to resist such powers, since the countries of the region have so far not been able to establish themselves as a powerful state and some of them are outwardly vulnerable. And integration and strong relationships would create a fourth force that the above actors would have to reckon with. Many experts quite rightly believe that

regional integration may not be beneficial to all Central Asian countries, given their incomparable weight. As we noted above, the constant growth in the number of the population poses new and new tasks for each state to resolve this issue, since it has become vital for everyone. A problematic and ecologically important point is the development of new and new lands for the development of the agrarian sector and the provision of the population with food and crops. Further development requires resources, primarily water, technology, investment, government support and qualified specialists.

To our great regret, recently all states of the region have been faced with a shortage of qualified specialists and water resources. And water resources in recent decades have become an acute subject of disagreement between the states of the region, even of a conflict-generating nature. While labour is abundant, there is a shortage of investment in agricultural innovation. For these and other reasons, food security remains more relevant than ever. At the same time, today there is a certain disproportion in the socio-economic policy of the countries of the region in providing food to the population. It was especially manifested in a pandemic.

In recent years, there has been a tendency for the states of the country to come closer to overcome differences in foreign policy and interstate contradictions. The leaders of the countries met several times and discussed various issues of rapprochement, solutions to regional problems. The unity of history and the similarity of culture are the main pivot of the integration of the peoples of Central Asia.

Also, the objective reasons hindering integration are not as serious as they seem, and surmountable. The obstacle is primarily a subjective factor, expressed in the inertia of thinking. Nevertheless, in the public opinion of the peoples of Central Asia, there is no vivid hostility towards the indigenous ethnic groups

of the region, and there is a clear disposition to recognize the need to develop fraternal relations between them and their development. In other words, the natural foundation for the integration of the Asian region is the historical socio-cultural closeness of its peoples.

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