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Comparative Analysis Of Geopolitical Interests In The Caspian Region: Research, Conclusions And Mechanisms For Their Protection

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ABSTRACT

The article deals with the characteristic features of the Caspian region. The article analyzes the geopolitical understanding of the history of Russia's relations in the Caspian region in the context of the Eurasian geopolitical school. The evolution of the Russian approach to determining the international legal status of the Caspian Sea is determined, and the main mechanisms of Russian diplomacy in the region are studied based on the analysis of dissertation studies of foreign scientists.

KEYWORDS

Geopolitics, region, relations, diplomacy, law.

INTRODUCTION

The relevance of the problem.

The political relations of the countries of the Caspian region are one of the most important and complex problems of modern geopolitics. Recently, many new questions have been raised in scientific publications about the Caspian region regarding the direction of its development, possible scenarios, and factors determining its development. There is an urgent need for a deep rethinking of the situation, conducting its comprehensive

geopolitical analysis, studying the political mechanisms, means and methods of Russia's struggle in conducting a foreign policy course that meets the interests of the country in the Caspian region, its role and the place assigned by Russian diplomacy in the future

The subject of the study is the mechanisms of conducting political and diplomatic relations between Russia and the Caspian countries on the problems of the Caspian region.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The methodology of the research is a systematic, comparative and structural-functional analysis.

The importance of the Caspian region on a global scale is determined primarily not by its resources, but by its special geographical location, which has made it one of the most important global geopolitical nodes. Thus, regional scientists V. A. Dergachev and J. B. Vardomsky consider the "Big Caspian" as part of the world's geopolitical regions. According to their analysis, we see that oil is the largest geo - economic problem of the Caspian Sea, around which there is a struggle for geopolitical influence in the region. On the one hand, remote from the world's largest consumers, such as the United States, EU countries, Japan, as well as from the dynamically developing countries of East and Southeast Asia, the Caspian region is surrounded by them, and it has become a node in which these interests are intertwined. As a politically young, consisting of countries with economies in transition, not distinguished by a high level of socio-economic development, the Caspian region has many different problems. Therefore, we decided to analyze the problems and prospects of the Caspian region for dissertation research.

For example, in his doctoral dissertation scientific work Zhiltsov, Sergey Sergeevich gives answers to these and many other questions of the modern development of the Caspian region. Here we see how the dissertation analyzed literary sources as the author relies on the latest monographic studies of Baburin S. N. (1997), Gadzhiev K. S.

(1997), Dugin A. G. (1997), Zyuganov Ga. (1997), Ilyin V. V. (1994), Moiseev N. N. (1996), Panarin A. S. (1994), Pozdnyakov E. A. (1995), Tikhomirov V. B. (1992). It is important to emphasize the factual richness of the works of the neo-Eurasian Dugin A. G., the methodological value of the research of Panarin A. S., Zyuganov G. A. In addition, a significant volume of articles by both the above-mentioned and other authors in periodicals has been used on this problem (Glazyev S. Yu., Dubnov A. P., Samuilov SM., Sorokin K. E., Ushkov A.M., Khachaturov V., Tsygankov P. A., etc.). From translated works, the subject of attention and use are books, sections and articles by historians and classics of Western European geopolitics: Makinder X., Haushofer K. et al., as well as Attali J. (1993), Brzezinski J. (1997), Wallerstein I. (1997), Morro-Defarzha F. (1996), Pipsar. (1993), Toynbee A (1995), Hantangtona S (1997).

Having studied the author gives his conclusions that the significance of the Caspian region in the context of the changing geopolitical situation at the present stage is analyzed by the author taking into account a wide range of domestic and foreign studies devoted to its general theoretical, conceptual and practical aspects. One of the first major Russian works in which the problems of the Caspian region were considered in a complex was the study of I. S. Sonn. The "Caspian Memorandum" (1997), in which he analyzed the main trends in the geopolitical development of the Caspian region, determined the approaches of Russia and the Caspian states to key issues.

The need to study the geopolitical, geostrategic, geo-economic and political-territorial aspects of public life in this region is

due to the dynamics of Russia's geopolitical position in the global balance of forces of the last decade (the geopolitical challenge of the West), new geostrategic realities in international relations within the post-Soviet space, the increasing role of the territorial principle within the Russian Federation.

Political relations in the Caspian region is one of the most important and complex geopolitical problems of modern international relations. The Caspian region was and is of particular importance from the point of view of Russia's state interests.

S. Zhiltsov's dissertation is devoted to the analysis of the mechanisms of interaction between the countries of the Caspian region in the 90s of the XX century, the struggle for which was conducted by political, economic and military means for centuries by the Caspian countries with the participation of the leading world powers. The Caspian region is of great importance from the point of view of Russia's state interests. This is primarily due to the country's geopolitical interests and their fundamental components.

It is important that significant results have been achieved by Russian and foreign researchers in the field of studying the legal status of the Caspian Sea, which has become one of the most important elements of geopolitics.

And in this we see the analysis of the current state of the issue of the international legal status of the Caspian Sea is considered in the studies of such authors as: Akimov A.V. (1996), Barsegov Yu. G. (1998), Bugaev A.M. (1998, 1999), Valenyan A. L. (1995), ST. Vinogradov (1998), Gumilev L. N. (1996), Sonn I. S. (1999),

Sklyarov L. E. (1995), Fedorov Yu.E. (1996), Kalchina E. V. (2002), Urnov A. Yu. (2000), Kulagina L. M. (1998), Dunaeva E. V. (1998), Mammadova D. (2002), who in their research considered the problem from a legal point of view. But still, the peculiarity of S. Zhiltsov's research works is that such documents as the Information Security Doctrine of the Russian Federation (2000), the Concept of Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation (2000), the Fundamentals of the policy of the Russian Federation in the field of naval activities for the period up to 2010 (2000), etc. are analyzed, which increases the scientific and practical significance of the work.

One of the first major Russian works that considered the problems of the Caspian region in a complex was the study of I. S. Zon 's "Caspian Memorandum" (1997), in which he analyzed the main trends in the geopolitical development of the Caspian region, determined the approaches of Russia and the Caspian states to key issues.

The dissertations analyze some modern problems of the development of the Caspian region, but they lack integrity and complexity in assessing the current events unfolding in the Caspian.

As the researcher notes, new independent Caspian states have appeared on the world map: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, which has led to a greater number of countries with which modern Russia needs to conduct a political dialogue on the problems of the Caspian region.

- The "new" Caspian states have an insignificant, by the standards of history, period of existence of their own

statehood. In this regard, Russia should take into account the likelihood of an escalation of tension in the Caspian countries of the region.

- One of the priority directions of Russia's policy in the region is to determine the status of the Caspian Sea, which would preserve it in common use and contribute to the preservation of the ecology of the Caspian Sea.

We agree that the dissertation gives his suggestions that, with the development of world production and international trade, we should expect a significant increase in the flow of commercial vessels through the Caspian Sea in the XXI century. Taking into account the environmental problems, it would be necessary to start developing domestic and international mechanisms for studying and solving the upcoming problems of commercial shipping in the Caspian region. Such measures may include the modernization of equipment for navigation, coastal equipment, the introduction of special customs rules for cargo transported across the Caspian Sea. Probably, it makes sense to think about the development of a new generation of vessels, taking into account the natural features and ecology of the Caspian Sea. According to the author, since 1994-1995, the situation with the legal status has acquired a dual character. Thus, the Caspian countries gathered to develop a common position. In accordance with the protocol of the first meeting of the Heads of Legal Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Caspian States on the legal status of the Caspian Sea, which was held in Tehran in June 1995, the definition of the legal status of the Caspian Sea included: issues of navigation; use of biological resources; environmental issues; issues of the

use of mineral resources; determination of the limits of sovereign rights and jurisdiction. At the same meeting, representatives of the Caspian littoral states agreed to create a permanent negotiating mechanism for developing the status. At the same time, the Caspian states continued to develop deposits, thereby creating prerequisites for the emergence of conflict situations.

According to the author, a new stage of Russian policy on the legal status of the Caspian Sea, which Kazakhstan was interested in, was the proposal to distinguish between neighboring and opposing states along a modified median line in order to exercise their sovereign rights to subsurface use. S. Zhiltsov's dissertation indicates that Turkmenistan, unlike Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan, and like Iran, initially believed that the Caspian Sea is an internal body of water-a lake to which the categories of maritime law and separate sections into national sectors cannot be applied. This position corresponded to the provisions of the indefinite Soviet-Iranian negotiations on the status of the Caspian Sea in 1921 and 1940. However, the position of Turkmenistan was the most flexible of all the Caspian countries. Thus, back in 1993, Turkmenistan was the first of all the Caspian countries, when adopting the Law on the State Border, established, according to the provisions of maritime law, a territorial sea with a width of 12 nautical miles and an exclusive economic zone, thereby extending its coastal jurisdiction to the vast territory of the Caspian Sea. Two years later, Turkmenistan changed its position, declaring a course according to which the Caspian Sea cannot be divided either by land or by water. However, two years later, in 1997, Turkmenistan again changed its approaches

and began to adhere to the same positions as Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, that is, it advocated a sectoral division of the Caspian Sea. But today it is already 2021 and a lot has changed, so we want to analyze these problems from today's point of view.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The scientific novelty of the article consists in the analysis of dissertations on the problems of determining the international legal status of the Caspian Sea as a key problem of the Caspian region along with the changing geopolitical situation. According to the dissertation research of scientists like S. Zhiltsov, the article attempts to generalize all scientific works and the concept of the "Caspian region". The concepts of the Caspian region proposed by various researchers over the course of a decade were characterized by an incomplete, fragmentary study. The paper defines the main components of this concept on the basis of geographical, cultural, civilizational, economic and geopolitical approaches. The Caspian region "is considered, first of all, within those countries that have direct access to the Caspian Sea.

CONCLUSION

A new point in the work is the analysis of the role of the Caspian subjects of the Russian Federation, which, after the appearance of new states in the Caspian Sea, came to the forefront of world politics, becoming the border territory of Russia in the south of the country. The status of the Caspian littoral entities, which began to conduct diplomatic activities within the framework of Russia's foreign policy, has also changed.

From the above, we can draw conclusions, for example, recently many new questions have appeared in scientific publications about the Caspian region regarding the direction of its development, possible scenarios, factors determining its nature of relations between the Caspian countries. There is an urgent need for a deep rethinking of the situation, conducting its comprehensive geopolitical analysis, studying the political mechanisms, means and methods of Russia's struggle in conducting a foreign policy course that meets the interests of the country in the Caspian region, its role and the place assigned by Russian diplomacy in achieving strategic goals.

The Caspian regions of the Russian Federation – the Republics of Dagestan and Kalmykia, the Astrakhan Region, according to the working version of the federal target program "Development of domestic and inbound tourism in the Russian Federation (2019-2025)" will become part of the new tourist project "Caspian", which will receive state support. According to the program, by 2025, 45 clusters will be created in 35 regions of the country, in which almost 28.6 thousand people will work. All these clusters form 15 major investment tourism projects, including the Caspian Sea. In accordance with the Concept, enterprises and organizations integrated into the general logistics scheme and engaged in the development, production, promotion and sale of tourist products, as well as activities related to tourism and recreational services will be concentrated on the territory of the cluster.

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