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Preventive Diplomacy And Governance Processes Between Central Asian States

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ABSTRACT

This article describes the concept of preventive diplomacy, its practical implementation, preventive diplomacy in all spheres of relations between the Central Asian states and its importance for the countries of the region, cooperation between the Government of Uzbekistan and neighboring countries based on historical and scientific sources.

KEYWORDS

Preventive diplomacy, cooperative relations, mutual understanding, agreed relations, stable environment, promising relations.

INTRODUCTION

As a result of the efforts of the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov,

the issue was to create an environment of spiritual

stability not only in the country, but in the entire Central Asian region. "Our society is now at a historic crossroads. We need to develop our own path of national-state, socio-economic and spiritual development of the republic. This is a complex and responsible phase. Not only the fate of those who live now, but also the fate of their children, grandchildren and future generations will depend on it." said I.A.Karimov. [1]

Central Asia is not only a geographical and geopolitical, but also a unique cultural space with common values. The peoples living in the region are united by common spiritual values and a past, similar national traditions and customs, a mentality formed over the centuries. [2]

As a result of the right policy, we have come to a bright and peaceful time with a bright face. The reason is that the fruits of the prudent and just policy pursued by the Government of Uzbekistan today have become the basis for the formation of a spiritually stable environment in the Central Asian region.

The XXI century is characterized by the fact that to this day, the epicenter that defines the total existence of mankind has passed from economics, politics to spirituality. Because it is spirituality that has become the consensus that determines all the parameters of human existence. [3]

THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The current cooperation between the Central Asian states is to provide a spiritually stable environment between the countries of the region through mutual understanding, agreement and conciliation, that is, through preventive diplomacy, to deepen our rich history and spiritual values and enrich them with mutually acceptable principles.

LITERATURE VIEW

The main source in the study of this area are the works of the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov and the current President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev. Also, local scientists R.Alimov, E.Yusupov, S.Otamuratov, A.Ochildiev, Sh.Pathutdinov, M.Kakhkhorova, Sh.Khaydaraliev, H.Tuychieva, foreign scientists Z.Brzezinski, E.Toffler, F. Scholars such as Fukuyama, S. Huntington, A.D. Toynbee, E. Rakhmatullaev, R. Jeenbekov, Ch.U. Kim have studied and expressed their views.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The article used methods such as scientific, historical, comparative, systematic approach, philosophical-logical thinking, philosophical analysis, logic and study of expert opinions.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In order to ensure security and stability in Central Asia by establishing "Preventive Diplomacy" at the international conference "Central Asia: common history and common future, cooperation for sustainable development and progress" [4] held in Samarkand in 2017 at the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoyev noted that practical cooperation could be further strengthened. We will not compete with our neighbors, but will continue to work together ... We believe that their peaceful and prosperous life is a guarantee of peace and stability in our entire region. [5] The policy pursued by the head of our state is based on preventive diplomacy.

Preventive diplomacy is diplomatic action aimed at preventing the emergence of disagreements between the parties, preventing the escalation of existing disagreements and limiting the spread of existing conflicts. [6]

The idea of preventive diplomacy was first put forward in 1950 by the third UN Secretary-

General Doug Yalmar Agne Carl Hammaraskjöld. Since the emergence of the idea of preventive diplomacy, it has evolved to take into account the new circumstances of a changing world. After the end of the Cold War, the seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, formulated the concept of preventive diplomacy in his July 2, 1992 speech.

Thus, the idea of preventive diplomacy emerged. It's hard to imagine UN Secretary-General Doug Hammaraskjöld offering anything unnatural or untrue, despite being a busy official in world politics, being an administrative official under the UN Charter. Hammaraskjöld's view was not to completely eliminate the conflict, but to prevent it from disintegrating by limiting it and to prevent the interference of other forces. It was assumed that this would prevent the escalation of the Cold War, as well as increase the role of the UN in resolving conflicts over the interests of the hegemon states. [7]

It is associated with the classic version of the former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who was involved in the formation of the concept of preventive diplomacy. According to him, a) implementation of confidence-building measures, b) early warning with the collection of information, whether formal or informal, c) preventive placement measures, d) the establishment of demilitarized zones. In fact, Boutros-Ghali was one of the first to demonstrate preventive diplomacy not only as a form of peacekeeping, but also as a form of preventive diplomacy. [8]

An analysis of the concepts of Central Asia's geographical, economic and political aspects shows that the region has always been a place of history, religion, as it has been renewed and developed as a victim of historical periods or a conflict of interests of other hegemonic states, will continue relations with its neighbors in all spheres with the same

customs and traditions, as enshrined in the agreements of eternal friendship and strategic partnership. [9]

Not only the countries of the region, but also the United Nations are interested in the use of preventive diplomacy in the period of integration of Central Asian states. To this end, the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) is a special political mission of the United Nations, established in 2007 at the initiative of the governments of the five Central Asian states and based in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. The main task of the Center is to assist Central Asian states in identifying and eliminating existing threats to peace and security in the region. In addition, the Center promotes partnerships between Central Asian states in cooperation with regional and international organizations.

The establishment of the Regional Center was prompted by several years of consultations between the United Nations and Central Asian governments, which were successfully completed in 2007. In May of this year, the UN Secretary-General informed the Security Council of his intention to establish a center, noting that five Central Asian governments had reached an agreement in Ashgabat to establish a UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. According to the five Central Asian states, the positive image of the UN as an impartial organization capable of creating a favorable environment for negotiations and reaching agreements that take into account the interests of all states in the region has become a decisive factor in this process.

The official opening of UNRCCA took place on December 10, 2007 in Ashgabat. In proposing the establishment of a Center for Preventive Diplomacy, regional governments have taken into account many of the threats facing Central Asia, including international terrorism

and extremism, drug trafficking, organized crime, and environmental degradation. [10]

The Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia is communicating between the governments of Central Asian countries in addressing emerging challenges and threats; maintains regular contacts with international organizations operating in the region in promoting peace efforts and initiatives; coordinates and exchanges information on joint conflict prevention efforts; cooperates with other UN agencies working in the field of sustainable development and conflict prevention.

The UN Center adheres to the position of impartiality in its activities. It does not require the use of existing models of problem solving, but seeks to facilitate the development of local models that are tailored to the specific characteristics of the Central Asian region.

The Center implements joint initiatives aimed at addressing regional challenges for peace, security and development in the framework of action programs developed in consultation with the governments of Central Asian countries. The Center's action plan for the last 2021-2025 focuses on five main priorities in accordance with the Center's mandate:

- (1) Promoting preventive diplomacy among the Governments of Central Asia;
- (2) Monitoring and early warning in support of conflict prevention;
- (3) Building partnerships for prevention, including with regional and sub-regional organizations;
- (4) Strengthening the United Nations preventive diplomacy in Central Asia;
- (5) Encouraging cooperation and interaction between Central Asia and Afghanistan.

- 1) promotion of preventive diplomacy in relations between the governments of Central Asia;
- 2) Monitoring and warning in order to prevent conflicts;
- 3) Establish cooperation to prevent conflicts, including with regional and sub-regional organizations;
- 4) Strengthening the UN's prevention efforts in the region;
- 5) Encourage cooperation and interaction between the Central Asian states and Afghanistan. [11]

On October 29, 2018, the Institute of Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in cooperation with the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia held the first meeting of the Central Asian Expert Forum in Tashkent.

Distinguished participants from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan discussed the current state and prospects of cooperation between the Central Asian states, as well as the historical and dynamic changes in the development of regional cooperation in recent years. - noted that a clear strategic partnership has been established in the humanitarian sphere.

Central Asian countries are striving for a common goal, such as building a sustainable future, said Abdullah Rahnomo, head of the foreign policy analysis department at the Center for Strategic Studies under the President of Tajikistan. - There is a political will on both sides to combine opportunities in this area, exchange experiences and views, unite around a single idea. Representatives of think tanks and research institutes involved in the development of their country's policy and integration concept have gathered today to pursue common interests. I am convinced that

the meeting in the new format will play an important role in conducting regular political consultations between our countries, developing and implementing a clear strategy. [12]

In an article titled “Uzbekistan Comes in From the Cold” published on Stratfor Worldview said, “For years, isolationism guided Uzbekistan's interactions with the wider world. Now, however, reforms stemming from a political succession in Central Asia's most populous country are reverberating far beyond Tashkent. As part of its political evolution, Uzbekistan has strengthened cooperation within Central Asia while also becoming an increasingly attractive partner for Russia, China, and the United States as they engage in a strategic competition for influence and investment in the region. The opening presents significant opportunities for Uzbekistan to expand its economic and security outreach to its neighborhood, yet the changes also pose risks, as the competition among these larger powers could pull the country in directions it doesn't want to go....” [13]

Special attention has been paid not only to Uzbekistan, but also to preventive diplomacy around the world. In this regard, the preventive diplomacy pursued by the President of Uzbekistan in relation to Central Asia is yielding positive results. By 2020, it can be said that preventive diplomacy, such as good neighborliness, mutual understanding, compromise and treatment, has been used several times in relations with neighboring countries. For example, during the first coronavirus pandemic in 2020, Mirziyoyev was in regular contact with the leaders of neighboring countries in the region and sent humanitarian aid to them and other countries to report their situation to China (February 12, 2020, Iran). -12.03.2020, to Kyrgyzstan on 02.04.2020 and 15.11.2020, to Russia on April 18, 20 and 23, 2020, to Tajikistan on 30.05.2020, etc.). At the same time, diplomatic

relations were established based on the principle of good neighborliness.

Then, on May 1, 2020, a natural disaster at the Sardoba Reservoir in the Syrdarya region caused significant inconvenience not only to the population of the Syrdarya region, but also to the population of the neighboring Republic of Kazakhstan. By mutual agreement of the two leaders, the head of the Government of Uzbekistan, Advisor to the President immediately went to the territory of the neighboring state, which suffered losses. All resources were involved and Uzbekistan provided as much assistance as possible to its citizens in Kazakhstan. If there were no diplomatic relations based on the principle of mutual understanding in this situation, both sides would have a long argument, and the already tense situation could have worsened.

The latest example is the conflict between Uzbek and Kyrgyz citizens on June 1, 2020 in the enclave of Uzbekistan in Kyrgyzstan, Sokh (enclave) district of Fergana region. This time, the immediate sending of the Prime Minister to the scene, talks with representatives of the Kyrgyz government, telephone conversations between the leaders of the two countries prevented the escalation of the situation. If the conflict had been ignored, the peaceful disappearance of these two states would have meant the interference of other states or organizations in the problem to be resolved between them. It is difficult to say that the conflict in Sokh (enclave) district has ended completely, but it has prevented the escalation of the conflict. This is preventive diplomacy based on the above-mentioned principle of compromise and treatment.

It is in the above examples that the spiritual environment in the Central Asian region is being stabilized through preventive diplomacy.

By the way, John McGregor, OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, said: “The

leadership of Uzbekistan has applied best international practices in conflict prevention. It has become an excellent example for the OSCE region and the world."

Helena Fraser, UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan, said: "It is noteworthy that the leadership of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan took an immediate and constructive approach to yesterday's painful incident in the Sokh enclave. That is the way to a lasting peace." [14]

Chapter 2 (military-political aspects of the Doctrine), Section 3 (Defense Policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan), paragraph 10 of the "Defense Doctrine of the Republic of Uzbekistan" [15] approved by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 458 of January 9, 2018 "The main criterion of our policy in all spheres in our country is to create a spiritually stable environment not only for our country, but also for the peoples of the region". This can be seen in the "Concept of the Development Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2035". [16]

It is no secret that the armed forces of our country are the leaders in the region in terms of numbers. In particular, in the Global Firepower.com ranking of the world's countries "Military Power-2021", the Uzbek army is the strongest in Central Asia, ranking 51st out of 139 countries (in 2015, Uzbekistan-54 out of 126 countries). Our neighboring countries in the region are Kazakhstan-62 (80 in 2015), Turkmenistan-86 (90 in 2015), Kyrgyzstan-93 (78 in 2015) and Tajikistan-99 (81 in 2015). [17] These indicators, in turn, play an important role in overcoming the security problem in the region and ensuring a stable environment.

All Central Asian states pursue the interests of their countries in their relations, cooperation and ties. In the words of Professor S. Otamurodov, "The world is ruled by interests." [18] Common interests, on the

other hand, shape interstate relations and encourage joint action. In particular, Uzbekistan has a unique strategic position in solving regional problems. This is due to the following factors:

- Uzbekistan is located in a geographically convenient location and is the geopolitical core of the region;
- The state is independent in terms of raw materials and energy, has many raw material resources needed for the consumer market;
- Uzbekistan is a strategically important military-political region;
- The existence of strong spiritual centers that affect the entire region;
- Cultural and historical achievements, and they serve to bring the peoples of the region closer to each other.

Uzbekistan's position as a guarantor of peace and stability in the Central Asian region is growing. [19]

In order to ensure a spiritually stable environment in the Central Asian region, which is important for all countries, we need to further develop our policy in the priorities set out in our foreign policy, and convince them that this is a foreign policy priority.

Due to the new foreign policy of Uzbekistan in Central Asia, the level of mutual trust in the region has significantly increased and a new political environment has been formed. A strong foundation has been laid for building constructive cooperation and strengthening good neighborliness. [20]

In particular, it is necessary to convince the countries of the region that such principles as vital signs for states, border inviolability, security of the territory, civil peace, trust and

mutual trust in relations are necessary. In this regard, it can be seen from the proposals and initiatives put forward by the head of our state at events at the state, regional and international levels, and his approval by the international community.

In particular, the proposals of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly in 2017:

- Holding Consultative Meetings of Central Asian Leaders;
- Holding a high-level international conference "Central Asia: common history and common future, cooperation for sustainable development and progress" to be held in Samarkand in November 2017 under the auspices of the United Nations;
- Adoption of a special resolution of the United Nations General Assembly to support the efforts of Central Asian states to ensure security and strengthen regional cooperation. [21]

Proposals at the International Conference "Central Asia: Common History and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Progress" in Samarkand in 2017;

- First, it is to create favorable conditions for the development of trade and economic relations and increase trade turnover and strengthen cooperation;
- Second, more efficient use of transit and logistics potential of the region and ensuring the rapid development of transport infrastructure;
- Thirdly, it is to further strengthen practical cooperation to ensure security and stability in Central Asia;

- Fourth, it is to complete the process of delimitation and demarcation of state borders quickly and decisively;
- Fifth, the issue of equitable use of water resources in the region should be addressed as soon as possible;
- Sixth, strengthening cultural and humanitarian ties, friendship and good neighborly relations between our countries and peoples. [22]

In order to study the important initiatives implemented by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the national movement "Yuksalish" conducted an expert survey in 2019 and identified the TOP-10. It is gratifying that 2 out of 10 important initiatives identified by 100 local and foreign experts, consisting of experienced economists, political commentators, leading scientists, cultural figures, prominent journalists, human rights activists and independent researchers, are reforms in the region.

According to him, 1st place. The most important initiatives are good neighborly relations, the opening of borders and the establishment of checkpoints. It was acknowledged that a constructive dialogue has been established with the Central Asian states on all issues - 96 votes;

10th place. Measures to ensure regional security, strengthening international dialogue on peace in Afghanistan - 57 votes. [23]

Proposals for the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in 2020:

- Opening a regional center for the development of transport and communications under the auspices of the United Nations;

- Holding an international conference on the results of the 10-year regional joint plan and future prospects;
- The ancient and rich cultural heritage of our region is of global importance. We plan to hold an international forum in 2021 in cooperation with UNESCO in the ancient city of Khiva on “Central Asia at the crossroads of world civilizations”. [24]

In the Appeal to the Oliy Majlis in 2020:

- We will pay special attention to further strengthening our relations with the Central Asian states in the spirit of centuries-old friendship and good neighborliness, strategic partnership and mutual trust, which are a priority of our foreign policy;
- The complex pandemic situation has once again demonstrated how interdependent and necessary we are. In order to study and further develop these positive processes, the Central Asian International Institute was established in Tashkent this year. [25]

In his speech at the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council in 2021:

- This year, we plan to hold a dialogue of leading women of Central Asia and a regional business forum for women in Uzbekistan.
- We are ready to assist in the creation of a regional human rights mechanism in Asia on the basis of a regular platform - the Samarkand Forum. [26]

It is clear from the proposals and initiatives of President Sh. Mirziyoyev that each proposal and initiative contains clear instructions on cooperation in the whole Central Asian region on the basis of preventive diplomacy, what

management technologies should be used for cooperation.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the above we can conclude that:

- Preventive diplomacy in Central Asia is effective for the countries of the region and has a positive impact on the development of the region,
- The friendly relations between the countries of the region, the good-neighborly relations of cooperation are not to the liking of some powerful countries around them, which seek to use the region for their own interests.
- It will therefore be possible to put forward the following proposals. In particular, the Central Asian states have taken steps to resolve their problems, in particular, to resolve issues by mutual consent, to act contrary to the interests of neighboring countries, to seek mutual assistance in regional meetings, such as the Central Asian Summit, by choosing a friendly path should demonstrate that it is a united force in the world community.

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