

**APPLICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MODERN APPROACHES
AND VIEWS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

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Abstract.

Introduction. *The article discusses the essence and main new trends of the regional foreign policy of Uzbekistan in modern conditions. New trends in regional cooperation in the foreign policy of Uzbekistan revealed from the second half of 2016. Based on the analysis of the works of Uzbek political scientists, researchers, as well as specialists, the continuity of forms, methods, and mechanisms for ensuring stability in the Central Asian region is analyzed. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in his Address to the Oliy Majlis on December 29, 2020, noted that in the face of today's complex geopolitical processes, the coronavirus pandemic and the global economic crisis, Uzbekistan is actively pursuing an open and pragmatic foreign policy. He noted that as a result of our efforts, the prestige of the country is growing, and priorities for the implementation of foreign policy for 2021 have been outlined.*

Research methods. *The article uses systematization, comparative, problem-chronological scientific research.*

Results and discussions. *The foreign policy of Uzbekistan is, first of all, a course aimed at ensuring vital tasks, primarily for the state and society. Uzbekistan's foreign policy strategy is primarily aimed at ensuring integration into the world community. The deepening of the country's integration into the world community in the current difficult conditions of international relations is an important task facing the foreign policy of Uzbekistan. The conceptual idea of foreign policy and foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the indivisibility of security and joint and partnership actions to ensure it. The problem of national and regional security occupies an important place in Uzbekistan's foreign policy. One of the main tasks in the foreign policy of Uzbekistan was the formation of a system of regional security, which is necessary both for the republics of Central Asia and for the vast geographical area bordering the region. Another advanced idea for Uzbekistan's foreign policy is the postulate that the problems of the Central Asian region should be solved without the intervention of external forces and only by the countries of the region. Given all this, the cornerstone of Uzbekistan's foreign policy remains the non-use of force and the threat of force, and the maintenance and observance of peace. The article examines the changes occurring in the foreign policy of Uzbekistan, their regulatory consolidation, guidelines for the short, medium and long-term perspective, and on the basis of this, a number of scientific conclusions and practical recommendations are given.*

Conclusion. *The article shows that in a historically short period of time, the Republic of Uzbekistan has done decades of work to establish and develop international relations. Uzbekistan is known throughout the world for its peace-loving, good-neighborly policy and mutually beneficial cooperation, has taken its rightful place in the world community, and its position is strengthening year by year. The foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is of great importance for the strengthening of its national independence, political and economic freedom, sovereignty and the successful solution of acute socio-political problems. Uzbekistan's nearly thirty years of experience in international relations show that pursuing an independent foreign policy, defining the direction and priorities of interstate relations, its further development, stabilization of the principles of peaceful coexistence, equal relations and mutually beneficial cooperation, solving small and foreign problems.*

Keywords: *foreign policy, foreign policy activities, security, non-use of force, ensuring peace, region, doctrine, concept, principle, UN, CIS, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan.*

Introduction. The relevance of the study is due to the positive activation of Uzbekistan's foreign policy activities since 2016. Strengthening regional cooperation in order to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region is one of the important directions in the foreign policy of our state. In recent years, Uzbekistan's foreign policy has undergone fundamental changes in matters of regional cooperation. Uzbekistan pursues a more open policy with neighboring states, establishing mutually beneficial, friendly, bilateral and multilateral relations with neighboring countries in the political, economic, transport and communication, etc. spheres.

Research methods. Theoretical and methodological, historical and impartiality, the principles of political analysis and forecasting, as well as systematic analysis, political-comparative and synthesis methods were used in writing the scientific article.

Results and discussions. August 31, 1991, the day of the official declaration of independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan, became the starting point of a new historical period for our country - free, sovereign development, striving for a great future, peace and prosperity. Uzbekistan's centuries-old isolation from the outside world has been eliminated. The whole world has seen and appreciated the huge potential, endless opportunities and prospects of Uzbekistan. As stated in the statement of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan on state independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan: "The Republic of Uzbekistan is a full member of the international community and participates in international relations as a sovereign state, a subject of international law ..." [1.p.96].

Article 17 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan states that its foreign policy is based on the principles of sovereign equality of states, non-use or threat of force, inviolability of borders, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and other universally recognized norms and principles of international law [2.p.6].

The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Basic Principles of Foreign Policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan” adopted on December 26, 1996 paved the way for the formation of [3.p.122] independent foreign policy doctrines. According to this document, maintaining stability in the world, ensuring its own security and conditions for sustainable development are the highest national priorities for Uzbekistan.

The foreign policy of Uzbekistan is a course aimed primarily at ensuring the following vital tasks for the state and society: ensuring reliable security, progressive and sustainable economic development, increasing the standard of living of the population, strengthening the foundations of the constitutional system, the harmony of citizens, creating the most favorable conditions for the protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens [4.p.147].

The conceptual idea of the foreign policy and foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the indivisibility of security and only joint and mutual action to ensure it. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev Speaking at an international conference on Afghanistan entitled "Peace Process, Security Cooperation and Regional Partnership", Mirziyoyev reiterated the conceptual idea of our foreign policy: "Security is one and indivisible and can only be achieved through joint efforts" [5].

The issue of national and regional security plays an important role in Uzbekistan's foreign policy. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev Speaking at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly, Mirziyoyev said, “Uzbekistan today gives priority to the Central Asian region in its foreign policy. This is a well-thought-out path. Located in the heart of Central Asia, Uzbekistan has a direct interest in making the region a region of stability, sustainable development and good neighborliness. A peaceful, economically developed Central Asia is the most important goal and the main task we are striving for. Uzbekistan is a strong supporter of dialogue, practical cooperation and strengthening good neighborliness” [6].

One of the main tasks of Uzbekistan's foreign policy is to create a system of regional security, which over the years has been very important for both the Central Asian states and the vast geographical area bordering the region. Relying on the basic principle of indivisibility of security, Uzbekistan has consistently acted and continues to intensify the role of international organizations, especially the UN, the OSCE in preventing and neutralizing transnational threats that threaten peace in Central Asia and destabilize global stability.

The foreign policy strategy of Uzbekistan is primarily aimed at ensuring the country's integration into the world community. By joining the world community we mean joining the world economic and political systems on the basis of mutual interests, the supremacy of economic interests over ideological considerations, the supremacy of international law over domestic law, participation in the world system in accordance with the basic principles of international law.

Thus, based on the principles of mutual interest, Uzbekistan should join the whole set of global development trends and institutions of the international system.

In 2001, a new edition of the Military Doctrine of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted. It takes into account all aspects of our time, makes appropriate

amendments to the sovereignty of our country in connection with the aggression of religious extremists and international terrorists.

By 2017, “based on the principles of flexibility and openness of our foreign policy, and most importantly, the development of friendly and practical relations with neighboring countries, strengthening the sovereignty and independence of our country, the Defense Doctrine of our country has been qualitatively updated. For the first time, the meaning of this doctrine became clear. This demonstrates the openness of our defense policy. The doctrine defines the principal approaches to the defense policy of Uzbekistan, the basis for their application, the tasks facing the Armed Forces, as well as promising areas for the further construction and development of our national army [7].

On August 29, 1997, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Approval of the National Security Concept of the Republic of Uzbekistan” was adopted, and in 2018, this Concept was revised. This Concept is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, defines the basis of the general state policy in the field of national security, based on universally recognized norms and principles of international law. Sh. Mirziyoyev said that, "in this concept, first of all, the strengthening of good neighborly relations, friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation with neighboring countries is a priority" [8].

At present, both the Military Doctrine, the Concept of National Security and the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan are undergoing a very serious examination due to the elements of international terrorism and the resolute struggle of the world community against it. Uzbekistan strongly condemns international terrorism and said that religious extremists should be dealt with in accordance with international law, documents adopted by the United Nations and its Security Council.

It is no exaggeration to say that 2012 was a truly historic year for the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In the same year, the Law "On approval of the Concept of foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted by the Oliy Majlis and entered into force. This law can be considered as a very important document that determines the long-term foreign policy strategy of our country.

It should be noted that the Concept of Foreign Policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan states: “Globalization and the rapidly changing situation in the world, changes in the location of political and economic forces, threats in the region and around Uzbekistan and improving the conceptual framework of the state's foreign policy in order to respond in a timely and appropriate manner to regional realities. First of all, it is necessary to create the most favorable external conditions for further strengthening national security, maintain high economic growth, ensure balanced and sustainable development, build an open democratic state based on a socially oriented market economy, and continue successful civil society development [9.p.239].

It should be noted that the Concept of Foreign Policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted at a very important stage for the foreign policy of independent Uzbekistan. First of all, it is important to create the most favorable external conditions for further strengthening national security, to ensure further high economic growth, to successfully continue consistent efforts to build an open democratic state based on a socially oriented market economy [10.p.256]. The

Concept of foreign policy is based on the generalization of national experience in foreign policy accumulated in the country over the years of independent development, as well as the in-depth study of the experience of advanced foreign countries.

In the current complex environment of international relations, further deepening the integration of our country into the world community is an important task facing the foreign policy of Uzbekistan. In this regard, the Concept of Foreign Policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, based on the analysis of the past, lists the current challenges in this area. To this end, the Concept emphasizes the expediency of further developing bilateral and multilateral relations with international organizations, international regional organizations, developed and developing countries.

The Concept of Foreign Policy of Uzbekistan reflects a number of principled and progressive ideas:

First, the Republic of Uzbekistan retains the right to form alliances, join and leave alliances and other interstate structures in accordance with the highest interests of the state, the people, their welfare and security, the priorities of modernization of the country, the current national legislation and international obligations;

Second, the Republic of Uzbekistan shall take political, economic and other measures to prevent its involvement in military conflicts and crises in neighboring countries, as well as prevent the deployment of foreign military bases and facilities on its territory;

Third, Uzbekistan pursues a peaceful policy, does not participate in military-political blocs, and reserves the right to withdraw from any interstate structures in the event of their becoming a military-political bloc;

Fourth, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Law "On Defense" and the Military Doctrine, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan are formed only to protect state sovereignty and territorial integrity, protect the peace and security of the population and do not participate in peacekeeping operations abroad [11.p.239].

It should be noted that a number of foreign policy principles set out in the Concept, including consideration of the interests of other states, openness to cooperation, peace and security, sovereignty, respect for territorial integrity, peaceful settlement of disputes, universally recognized international law. The fact that the norms take precedence over the internal norms of the state, and the existence of a number of similar principles, further increases the effectiveness of the foreign policy of our state. On this issue, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 43rd session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Mirziyoyev said: The most important task is to achieve our goals," [12].

The concept enumerates the priorities of the foreign policy of our country, and the main priority is the Central Asian region and of course this is not in vain.

In recent years, the Central Asian region has become an object of serious attention in the international arena due to its geopolitical and geostrategic importance, large amounts of mineral and raw materials resources. It is here that the strategic interests of the major countries of the world intersect, and at some point even collide.

The ongoing tension and resistance in Afghanistan for more than thirty years is a clear proof of our thinking. Therefore, the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev Speaking at the International Conference on the topic of "peace process, cooperation in the field of security and Regional Partnership" on Afghanistan, Mirziyoyev put forward a concerted idea that "security of Afghanistan is the security of Uzbekistan, the entire vast Central and South Asian region is the guarantee of stability and development" [13], and in his speech at the 72nd session of the UN General advanced [14].

It should be noted that another progressive idea for our foreign policy is that "the problems of Central Asia should be solved by the countries of the region themselves without the intervention of external forces" [15.p.239]. Admittedly, this is a very principled approach, which means that Uzbekistan supports the solution of all current political, economic, environmental and other issues in the region on the basis of universally recognized norms of international law, taking into account mutual interests. In other words, the existing problems and issues in the region must be resolved by the peoples of Central Asia through mutual understanding and compromise, and no one from abroad can solve these problems for us. It is no exaggeration to say that this idea constitutes the quintessence of our foreign policy.

CIS countries, Russia, USA, European countries, Asia-Pacific countries, People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, South Asia, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan, Middle East countries, and even geographically Further development of comprehensive and mutually beneficial relations with the leading countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and the African continent, as well as with a number of international and regional organizations can be noted as a priority of our foreign policy. In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev Speaking at a meeting on the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies of our country in foreign countries, Mirziyoyev said: "We have significantly strengthened our cooperation with Russia and other CIS countries, China, the United States, South Korea, Turkey, as well as a number of countries in Europe and Asia. Our partnership with the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and other influential international structures and financial institutions has reached a qualitatively new level. We have established cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank on a new basis" [16].

Strengthening the independence and sovereignty of the state, further strengthening the place and role of the country as a full-fledged subject of international relations, joining the number of developed democratic states, creating a belt of security, stability and good-neighborliness around Uzbekistan is the most important priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy [17]. From the first days as President, Sh.M. Mirziyoyev determined the building of constructive and mutually beneficial ties with closest neighbors, strengthening regional security and stability as the main priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy.

As the Head of State noted, “close cooperation with foreign states, primarily with neighboring countries, will be carried out at the level of modern requirements, based on the principles of mutual trust and consideration of mutual interests” [18].

The choice of Central Asia as a priority is a natural, sincere desire of Uzbekistan to establish good-neighborly mutually beneficial relations with its closest neighbors. Uzbekistan is ready for reasonable compromises with the countries of Central Asia on all issues without exception [19].

The international conference "Central Asia: One Past and Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity", which took place on November 10-11, 2017 in Samarkand, played a strategic role in the development and implementation of modern regional policy. The purpose of the conference was to discuss topical issues of strengthening peace and stability in Central Asia, the development of regional cooperation. In his speech, the President of Uzbekistan noted that “... The future of the region is shaped by each state of Central Asia. A strong foundation and guarantor of its sustainable development is the willingness and desire for cooperation, as well as the responsibility of all Central Asian countries for our future. "The main goal is to turn Central Asia into a stable economically developed region by joint efforts, the head of state said. “It is necessary to eliminate the reasons that feed the potential for conflict. We are looking for reasonable compromises in resolving issues related to borders, water use, transport and trade” [20].

As the President of Uzbekistan noted, “it is necessary to deepen practical interaction in order to ensure the security and stability of the region. It is important to understand here that: **firstly**, all countries equally face the threats of terrorism, religious extremism, transnational crime and drug trafficking. These challenges can only be effectively countered by working together. It is necessary to abandon the division of threats into "ours" and "others", in fact to adhere to the principle of the indivisibility of security. **Second**, today the prospects for development stability are inextricably linked with peace in Afghanistan. Uzbekistan will continue to participate in the country's economic recovery, the development of transport and economic infrastructure and personnel. **Thirdly**, the speedy and final completion of the process of delimitation and demarcation of state borders is also necessary. Solving border problems is a pledge of the foundation for expanding trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian cooperation between countries. By taking into account mutual interests, on the basis of reasonable compromises and equivalent exchange, it will be possible to resolve this important problem [21]. **Fourth**, the implementation of these tasks could be facilitated by the organization of regular consultative meetings of the heads of state of Central Asia. We proceed from the understanding that today in the region there is a real need for a joint search for ways to solve regional problems. President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev stressed: we are not talking about the creation of a new international organization in Central Asia or any integration structure with its own charter and supranational body. Its activities will be aimed exclusively at the "synchronization of watches" on key issues of regional development.

Fifth, it is important, following this event, to appeal to the UN General Assembly with an appeal to adopt a special resolution on strengthening regional and

international cooperation to ensure peace, security and sustainable economic development in the Central Asian region.

Sixth, despite the objective difficulties, it is necessary to ensure that the prospects for the national development of the countries of the region are combined with regional priorities, which will help build a truly stable and prosperous Central Asia.

Conclusion. In a historically short period of time, the Republic of Uzbekistan has done decades of work to establish and develop international relations. Uzbekistan is known throughout the world for its peace-loving, good-neighborly policy and mutually beneficial cooperation, has taken its rightful place in the world community, and its position is strengthening year by year. The foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is of great importance for the strengthening of its national independence, political and economic freedom, sovereignty and the successful solution of acute socio-political problems. Uzbekistan's nearly thirty years of experience in international relations show that pursuing an independent foreign policy, defining the direction and priorities of interstate relations, its further development, stabilization of the principles of peaceful coexistence, equal relations and mutually beneficial cooperation, solving small and foreign problems.

The small research conducted allowed to make the following practical suggestions:

1. In the field of the theory of international relations, current problems of modern international law and modern international relations. We believe that Mandela's ideas of nonviolence and non-use of force should be more widely covered within appropriate backgrounds and themes, and that these ideas should be widely promoted.

2. As the interference in the internal affairs of independent and sovereign states over the past decade increases and the use of force against them increases, we propose that the UN General Assembly adopt a declaration on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of non-violence and non-threat of violence in international relations. We have concluded that legal expertise and monitoring should be carried out under the auspices of the United Nations in terms of the compliance of States with the principles of non-use of force and non-threat of use of national security concepts.

Today, the Republic of Uzbekistan has achieved the adoption and implementation of breakthrough decisions on the settlement of state borders. The signing and real implementation of the Treaty on the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border [22] and the Treaty on the area of the interface between Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan [23], as well as the Treaty on certain sections of the Uzbek-Tajik border [24], became an important historical event in the political life of all Central Asian states. The results of the agreements also opened up wide opportunities for Uzbekistan in the development of trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian cooperation, public diplomacy, border trade, favorable conditions have been created in transport and communication spheres for citizens living in border areas. The creation of a permanent platform by organizing and holding meetings, events, conferences at the highest level, etc., at which topical issues of regional cooperation

and the development of mutually acceptable solutions are discussed, contribute to solving regional problems, taking into account national interests.

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