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«Russia & World: Scientific Dialogue»

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FORWARD

Dear readers!

The main content of the 1st issue of the 2023 journal presented to you is devoted to communicative regimes in the various countries of the post-Soviet space: Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus and Azerbaijan. It also presents the results of research on the theory and history of international relations and world politics.

The issue opens with a series of four articles on international relations in the context of global and regional processes.

Komleva V.V. presented the results of monitoring the friendliness of communication regimes in the post-Soviet countries and the rating of the friendliness of these countries for 2022. The article on the monitoring results for 2022 is preceded by an introductory speech by the director of the National Communications Development Research Institution (NIIRC) V.I. Gasumyanov «Time to synchronise our watches». Such monitoring is carried out in accordance with the concept of communication regimes elaborated by the NIIRC in 2020, and since then 14 countries have been regularly monitored. And since then regular monitoring has been conducted in 14 countries. Over a period of three years, research methodologies have been improved, the number of interested experts has been expanded and research sites have been established in foreign countries. Over the years, the Institute has held dozens of scientific discussions, the materials of which have been published on the pages of this journal. In 2022, the group of friendly communication regimes includes 8 countries, relatively friendly – 2 countries and unfriendly – 4 countries.

Arshakyan G.M. and Safaryan A.V. presented the results of their research on the nature and dynamics of Russian-Turkish relations in the post-Soviet period. The authors state that “the Turkic-speaking countries of the South Caucasus and Central Asia are interested in cooperation between Russia and Turkey in this large region”. Both Turkey and Russia are important actors influencing the countries of the region, while preserving their traditional zones of influence. Russia, with the assistance of Turkey and Iran, can effectively promote the processes of pacification, security and stability in the South Caucasus.

A.A. Khidirbegishvili, A.A. Khotivishvili, I.P. Goryunov addressed current issues of Russian-Georgian humanitarian relations. One of them is the issue of historical memory of Russia and Georgia. The authors noted that our ancestors left us a huge legacy of positive examples of common history and shared past. But for the last 30 years the West has been trying through all means to impose its own values, to erase common historical past of Russia and Georgia, to break ties between the two states. And if historical memory of their mutual relations is still alive among the generation over 50 years old, the youth is losing it. They have little understanding of Russia, its values, population, culture and educational programmes.

The article by T.V. Marmontova, A.T. Tajibayev, I.M. Shamsiyeva, L.S. Mahmuthodjayeva, S.B. Kozhirova is devoted to cooperation between Russia and Central Asian countries and the opportunities and constraints in building their joint future. Using Rapid Foresight tools (forecasting, design, programming and projection), the authors draw conclusions about the importance of Russia's position as a regional player in Central Asian foreign policy. The paper argues that Russia's position is still strong, but not uncontroversial. The authors

draw attention to the zone of frontier communicativeness formed by the Kazakhstan-Russia border, a unique resource that can be exploited in the future.

R.N. Huseynov, A.B. Krylov, R.B. Mobili presented the results of a study of the conditions and factors in the development of inter-country communications between Azerbaijan and Russia. The authors drew attention to the reasons for complementarity between the peoples of Russia and Azerbaijan. Without this, it is difficult to build sustainable communication between the people of both countries in modern conditions. The authors offered the results of their research on the reasons for the interest in the Russian language, education and culture in post-Soviet countries, which are discussed in Azerbaijani society. It is important to identify «the clichés replicated in the media space, social networks, which bring negativity into relations between our countries». This will facilitate the identification of mechanisms to influence the «identified irritants» and to develop approaches that help to reduce the negative background and to create positive trends in the interests of the societies of both countries.

The «Changing Society» section is represented by articles on communication regimes in different post-Soviet countries.

D.S. Ayvazyan, A.B. Krylov, G.A. Poghosyan and V.V. Krivopuskov devoted their article to the friendliness of Armenia's communications regime, from the perspective of media and societal attitudes. The authors note the traditionally positive attitude of Armenian society towards Russia and Russians, especially taking into account the fact that Russia currently hosts the largest Armenian diaspora, which maintains ties with their relatives in Armenia. At the same time, the authors also note the appearance of a recent negative trend, anti-Russian moods, which can be traced in media materials, which are not promptly counteracted by the Armenian authorities, and the pro-Russian information resources have limited influence. This complicates bilateral relations, which have become more difficult to maintain in the face of information opposition from Western media resources. The authors propose measures to form a more stable information background for bilateral relations between Russia and Armenia.

G.D. Dzhunushalieva, P.I. Dyatlenko, A.V. Kulikovskiy, A.B. Moldokeeva addressed the role of Russia in the media and public space of modern Kyrgyzstan. The authors present a common trend in post-Soviet states: the formerly unified socio-cultural space is gradually losing its unity, and each republic of the former Soviet state has now defined its own foreign policy guidelines and vectors of further development. The authors note similar processes in post-Soviet countries: the influence of non-profit organisations, anti-Russian trends and changes in attitudes towards the Russian language and culture. The positive role of the media resource RT is noted. At the same time, 40-50 percent of Kyrgyzstan's population speaks Russian, but this is mostly the older generation. The authors propose Russia to change existing trends, taking into account the ever-increasing US funding of various programmes for the youth in Kyrgyzstan. The authors propose to strengthen the research potential of scientific cooperation between the two countries by expanding research topics in favour of topics from our common past that show the positive interaction between our peoples.

N.P. Gribin presented an article on the communication regime in the Republic of Belarus, its state, challenges and threats. The author's analysis of national and foreign informational and communicational resources relevant to the Belarusian society gave him grounds to point out priority areas, to increase the level of counteraction to informational and psychological attacks against Russia and the Republic of Belarus by unfriendly countries.

The history of international relations and foreign policy is the subject of A.V. Taigildin's article on the processes in the evolution of the US Democratic Party in the 1840s and 1850s. The author paid special attention to the «Young America» movement, which originated among young and ambitious politicians, who promoted infrastructure development and the idea of expanding borders. This idea was later referred to as «the idea of predestination».

The editorial board of the journal hopes that the materials of the issue will arouse your interest and that you yourself will become one of our authors in the future.

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