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«Russia & World: Scientific Dialogue»

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF FORWORD

Dear readers!

We present to you a new issue of our journal with the research results by leading Russian and foreign scientists. The materials of the journal give an idea of the role of Russia in the processes taking place in different regions of the world.

The section "International, Global and Regional Processes" presents studies of general and specific issues of the formation of a new world order, the development of a large Eurasian space and bilateral relations between Russia and foreign countries.

The change in the world order and its geopolitical, geoeconomic and cultural-humanitarian consequences for Eurasian integration are considered in the article by V.V.Sutyryn "Reassembling Post-Soviet Eurasia: Russia's Leadership Potential in Conditions of External Pressure". The analysis of the transformations of the post-Soviet space shows the main risks and challenges for the countries of the region. Medium-term challenges for integration processes are associated with the problems of energy transition, the information and communication revolution, the policy of the United States and other Western countries to contain and slow down the technological progress of Russia, China and other non-Western countries. According to the author, on the one hand, there is a threat of consolidating post-Soviet Eurasia on the periphery of world development processes, on the other hand,

prerequisites for accelerated integration arise. The author recommends strengthening and making the main direction of Eurasian integration of countries in the field of scientific and technological interaction based on mutual benefit and trust with Russia playing a leading role.

I.A.Kononov examines Russia's interests in the Asia-Pacific Region in his article "Transformation of Post-Soviet Russia's Interests in the Asia-Pacific Region". The challenges that Russia faced after the collapse of the USSR contributed to the transformation of its interests in this region, economic diversification, development of joint infrastructure projects and strengthening of military-strategic cooperation with Asian partners and, above all, with China and the ASEAN and APEC countries. Russia's desire to strengthen economic ties with the countries of the Asia-Pacific Region is systemic and covers many areas. Examining these areas and specific cooperation projects in the Asia-Pacific Region, the author concludes that Russia's strategic reorientation to the Asia-Pacific Region is becoming an important element of its foreign policy doctrine, but Russia should "continue to seek a balance between strengthening national security and developing economic ties".

The article by P.M.Sugonyaev "Pragmatism and Ideology in Russian-German Energy Relations" analyzes historical and current aspects of bilateral relations, their features, and the results of the energy policy pursued by Germany. The author notes that the policy of economic pragmatism in recent years in Germany has been replaced by an ideological policy in relations with Russia, which leads to

the loss of sovereignty in the energy supply sphere. The article contains statistical data on energy cooperation between Russia and Germany and the dynamics of German energy. The author believes that Germany's position on the world stage is declining as a result of the reduction in economic power due to the refusal of energy supplies from Russia, and the increased vulnerability of Germany's political system to external influences.

The complex issue of the Arab countries' interests in Eurasian integration is considered in the article by I.A.Matveev, "Arab Countries' Interest in Integration in Eurasia: Tactics or Strategy?". In the context of growing resistance from the Global South to Western policy, Russia proposes that its Arab partners form relations based on a fair consideration of mutual interests. The Arab world perceives Russia as a state-civilization that is the driving force behind the integration of the Non-West. Of particular interest is the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as a platform for coordinating the actions of power centers – India, China, and Russia – and as an organization that Iran, a regional rival of Saudi Arabia, has joined. The author concludes that the Arab countries' interest in integration in Eurasia, including cooperation with Russia, is predominantly strategic.

Of scientific and practical interest is the article by M.O.Nessar "Features of Afghanistan Governance in the Period 2021-2024", which examines the dynamics of the development of the situation in the country after the Taliban movement came to power. The article analyzes the factors of stability in modern Afghanistan, establishes the dependence of stability in the country on the volume of foreign aid and predicts a deterioration in the situation in Afghanistan in the event of a reduction in foreign aid. The author assesses the level of risks and challenges emanating from the territory of Afghanistan and believes that after the Taliban came to power (with relative stabilization of the situation inside the country) instability began to shift towards Pakistan and Iran.

Security issues in the South Caucasus region are considered in the article by

I.B.Sanakov "The Republic of South Ossetia in the Context of Regional Security Threats". According to the author, the existing challenges, risks and threats to South Ossetia are growing both at the local (the country is in a state of latent conflict with Georgia) and at the regional level. The article provides proposals for the creation of a sustainable security system for South Ossetia in order to prevent violent methods of resolving contradictions.

For the first time, our journal publishes materials on the analysis of scientific research on Russia in the post-Soviet space. N.Dzh.Abaloova, Y.F.Troitsky, A.M.Pogorelskaya, K.A.Kudayarov in the article "Russia as an Object of Scientific Studies in Kyrgyzstan" analyze scientific works of a social and humanitarian nature in the areas of "Russian language and literature", "political science", "history", "economics" and "law". The authors identify the content, direction and intensity of research on Russia in Kyrgyzstan and come to the conclusion that Russian studies are of the greatest interest to Kyrgyz researchers. Research in other areas is insignificant, the scope of scientific research is limited to historical, political and economic relations between the two states. The study showed that, in general, the ideological positions of local experts regarding Russia are positive or neutral, although there are isolated works that have a negative assessment of Russia and Kyrgyz-Russian relations.

The section "Changing Society" examines the issues of changing values in the era of change, the role of integration projects and institutional matrices, and raises issues of training specialists in the field of artificial intelligence, which is one of the factors of the international subjectivity of countries.

The problem of the evolution of the system of traditional values in the era of fundamental changes is raised by A.I.Yakovlev in the article "Evolution of Value Systems in the 'Era of Great Changes': General Challenges and Problems". The author suggests considering value problems from the point of view of values of different levels: formational (characteristic of a specific social system and changing with it)

and civilizational (deep values, characteristic of the religious and cultural space and preserved in the system of ideals and norms of behavior of many generations). In the context of a changing world order, the search for new meanings of development, globalization, confrontation between the West and non-Western countries, conflicts of values of different levels arise in spiritual life. From this position, the author comes to the conclusion that non-Western societies adapt their value systems to changing conditions while maintaining the ideals and norms of their cultural and religious tradition, and not every civilizational challenge becomes a threat to traditional values.

The issue of the reasons for the formation of regional systems is raised in the article by P.A. Barakhvostov "Integration Projects and Institutional Matrices". From the author's point of view, regional orders are associated with a certain type of institutional matrices of integrating countries, and when integrating public systems, institutions complementary to those dominant in the institutional matrix are used to mitigate possible institutional imbalances. For countries with different types of institutional matrices, convergence is possible, but integration in this case will be limited to only certain areas. The article also examines a group of factors that block regional integration.

The article by S.E. Zhulikov and O.V. Zhulikova "Training Specialists in the Field of Artificial Intelligence at Russia and Central Asian Countries Universities: Ranking Positions and Cooperation Opportunities" raises the issue of the quality of training specialists in the field of artificial intelligence and the possibilities of cooperation between the countries of Central Asia and Russia in this area. According to the authors, despite the fact that Russia, according to international rankings, is not a world leader in training specialists in artificial intelligence, it has a serious technological research base, experience in fundamental physics and mathematics education, and strong programming schools. It is advisable for the countries of Central Asia to use this potential of Russia by building educational and scientific

cooperation with Russia, integrating into the Russian scientific and technological space.

The "Historical Retrospective and Modernity" section contains articles on the history and current state of Armenian-Syrian relations, the politics of memory in Kyrgyzstan, and an article on the mobilization of the Polish army on the eve of World War II. Despite the difference in topics, the central theme of all articles is the issue of historical objectivity and the need to turn to reliable sources in the modern interpretation of international processes.

In the article "Syrian-Armenian Relations: Historical Background and Current State" A.G. Petrosian provides a brief overview of the history of relations between Armenia and Syria, but focuses on the period after the declaration of statehood of the Republic of Armenia in 1991 and the beginning of the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Syrian Arab Republic. Highlighting a number of factors contributing to the development of Armenian-Syrian contacts, the author considers the most significant presence of the Armenian community in Syria. According to the author, the basis for deepening bilateral ties between countries is the positive experience of the history of relations between Armenia and Syria, the absence of obvious contradictions, and the role of Armenia in providing humanitarian assistance to Syria.

The article by Ia.Ia. Grishin and V.A. Letiaev "Against Whom was the Polish Army Actually Mobilized on the Eve of the 'September Catastrophe' of 1939?" is dedicated to the 85th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II and is relevant in the context of the confrontation between the West and Russia and the aggressive anti-Russian policy of modern Poland. Based on archival data and other sources, the authors analyze a number of facts related to Poland's preparation for a future war, consider the East ("Wschud") plan and the West ("Zahud") plan, the mobilization plans of the Polish army, and come to the conclusion that "the Polish army on the eve of the 'September catastrophe' of 1939 was mobilized against the USSR, that became a fatal

mistake of the Polish government, leading to a catastrophic result for it, and that also became the beginning of World War II".

The author's view on the role of legal norms in preserving historical memory, their contribution to the formation of national identity is presented in the article by B.S. Batyrbayev "The Politics of Memory in Kyrgyzstan: The Formation of National Identity in the Context of the Formation of the Kara-Kyrgyz Autonomous Region". Using a specific example, the author shows the influence of the politics of memory on legislation, cultural heritage and historical memory and reveals the role of legal norms and institutions in the formation of national identity. The author pays special attention to the impact of the new Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and the concepts of the country's development on the formation of a common civil identity.

The section "Power, Politics, State" presents research on political institutions, processes and technologies.

The article by V.N. Tabak "On the Issue of Symbolic Politics in Modern Moldova (1989-2023)" examines the evolution of narratives of symbolic politics in Moldova and identifies three modern narratives: "Russia as a threat", "European integration as a national idea" and the linguistic narrative of "the identity of the Romanian and Moldovan languages". According to the author, the policy of constructing a Romanian identity among Moldovans, reflecting the interests of ethnic minorities ("unionist Romanians"), provokes social disunity. As a result, the country is characterized by a highly competitive political process, a decrease in trust in the foreign policy vector of the republic (European integration) and, at the same time, a nationalistic ideological trend.

The results of foreign voting in the elections of the President of Russia are analyzed by Y.B. Bocharov "The Results of the President of Russia Elections in Foreign Countries in 2024 and the Fiasco of the Non-Systemic Opposition". The article contains a lot of statistical data, the author's analysis of the actions of the opposition to discredit

and disrupt the voting in the elections of the President of the Russian Federation abroad. The conclusion is made about the absence of a real influence of the non-systemic opposition (primarily the opposition located in the EU countries) on the electoral behavior of Russians living outside the Russian Federation at the time of the elections.

Summing up the review of this issue of the journal, I express my gratitude to our authors for the originality and novelty of their research approaches and the opportunity to introduce interesting authors and the results of their research to the Russian and foreign scientific community.

Until next time on the pages of our journal.

With sincere respect
to our readers and authors,
Academician of the Russian
Academy of Sciences
Vitaly Naumkin