



The Republic of Kazakhstan in the System of International Regional Integration Associations

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays the Republic of Kazakhstan is a member of many international and regional economic and political organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Customs Union, the Eurasian Economic Community customs union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and so on. Kazakhstan is a country ready to cooperate and participate in regional integration with neighboring states. Kazakhstan in the region of Central Asia is an initiator and leader of all integration processes, is ready to a constructive dialogue with regional and international political and economic partners. Experience of the development of integration processes in various countries with adequate answers to many important problems, the collective effectuation of sovereignty is the most optimal way of assurance of national interests and real independence in the modern interconnected world. Participation of smaller, less developed and militarily powerful states in regional integration associations furnishes them a guarantee and real chance to counteract a policy of dictate, pressure and violence more effective. Therefore, the prevention of threats to national security is the key priority in security in the region of Central Asia.

Keywords: Integration Processes, Regional Integration, Economic Cooperation, Central Asia

JEL Classifications: F02, F15, O53, N85

1. INTRODUCTION

The subject is devoted to a place and role of Kazakhstan in the world community, and also to interaction of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and Kazakhstan both prior to and during taking chair in 2010. The relevance of this paper is in the need for accurate assessment of a place and role of Kazakhstan in the world community and also its interactions with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Over 22 years of independence under the authority of the first President, the leader of the Nation N.A. Nazarbaev Kazakhstan has achieved impressive foreign policy progress in the world arena, become an authoritative responsible member of the world community. The principles of balanced multiple-vector foreign policy

proclaimed by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the rise of independence have confirmed solvency and became an uncontested basis of interaction with the international community. Today the republic successfully and fruitfully cooperates with the countries representing absolutely different regions of the world (Tupchienko, 2013). Diplomatic relations with 147 states of the world are established.

Practical value is defined by reliability of the outcomes of research that is confirmed by a reference apparatus, its efficiency of setting of a number of scientific problems. In general, the materials of the paper can be used in integrating researches on the history of domestic and foreign policy of Kazakhstan and special courses for humanists.

2. THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN- THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (SCO)

Since first days of its independence the Republic of Kazakhstan was actively integrated to the system of economic relations for the purposes of the steady progressive socio-economic development of the state. The modern period is characterized by increased international authority of Kazakhstan, its increased regional and world importance, increased constructive role of Kazakhstan and the President N.A. Nazarbaev personally in initiation and materialization of much positive undertakings directed to the transformation of the multipolar world of competition and opposition to stability and growth. Expressing an opinion concerning this matter, the President of Kazakhstan has repeatedly emphasized that in the modern conditions the world cannot be unipolar and the concept of multi-polarity demand the revision and qualitatively new soundings (Komissina and Kurtov, 2005).

The multiple-vector Kazakhstan policy pursued by the President of Kazakhstan is a policy directed to “the regime of trust and strategic dialogue.” Qualitatively new sounding of the concept of multi-polarity is, first of all, connected with the transition from the policy of force and confrontation to the policy of harmony and partnership. N.A. Nazarbaev in his research works and speeches proclaims the policy of tolerance and international, interethnic, and interfaith harmony, expecting modern realities. Today such a policy is quite urgent, and its implementation is very effective.

The importance of Kazakhstan integration into the world community and aiming of the Republic at the preservation of stability all over the world and in the region in particular was repeatedly emphasized within strategic documents of Kazakhstan. Thus, in the Strategy of Kazakhstan to be a top 50 countries of the world “...” it is one of the key priorities, we consider our country as a responsible international member of the world community where Kazakhstan fulfills geopolitical stability and safety functions (Vesna et al., 2014). The further realization and of a balanced and responsible course considering the interests of Kazakhstan and the dynamics of the regional and world development is one of the seven key priorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan is located between two integration groups being already developed in West Europe within the EC and only being formed in the Asia-Pacific region within the APEC. Therefore, in the development strategy of Kazakhstan in the XXI century there is the need to use its unique geo-economic situation, rich intellectual and resource potential, possibilities of international integration to strengthening the positions of Kazakhstan in the world as an intensively developing actively trading country.

The key problem of Eurasian economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan is an adaptation of the socio-economic strategy to parallel integration cooperation with the countries of the West and East. Considering this matter and also national interests, the government of Kazakhstan creates the optimal external strategy

focused on balance of geopolitical interests of these parties in the region, the creation of favorable internal and external conditions to strengthen independence and exuberance of the country. An idea of Eurasianism stimulates integration processes in the region, approach harmonization of sovereign states to economic partnership on the basis of cooperation, complementarity and peaceful development.

Today Kazakhstan is an undisputed leader in integration processes not only within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) but also in the whole Euroasian space. The role, image and influence of Kazakhstan in Central Asia have grown over the last years. Astana has proved that in certain critical situations (a change of power in Kyrgyzstan) it can practically on equal terms to participate in the resolution of regional crises. The reasons for increasing international weight of the Republic of Kazakhstan were in obvious economic progress of the country by implemented reforms and elite consolidation, and, in general, the national rise of the society, an unfavorable internal political economic and international situation of regional neighbors.

With the formation of the SCO there was an attempt to create of the modern multilateral mechanism of regional security and economic cooperation made. Since 1996 this structure played a quite significant strengthening the measures of trust in Central Asia and prevented the expansion of conflicts. Stupendous work carried out over the first five years has promoted the creation of the SCO that is the international structure of a new type on 16 June 2001 at the meeting of the heads of six states such as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russia, and the People’s Republic of China to be claimed. The countries of the SCO possess a considerable part of the Eurasian continent and a quarter of the world’s population. This is a macro-regional association within which a wide range of the issues concerning from security to the objectives of the economic development (Movkebaeva, 2013).

Thus, analysis of the development of various cooperation directions of the countries which are members of the SCO has showed the existence of considerable potential for the further growth and deeper interaction, possibilities only to integration expansion to all areas but its high-quality improvement, the transition to higher forms of integration construction. As to Kazakhstan, it is a fair assumption to say that activity conducted by the SCO the key tendencies of its development is directly in Kazakhstan’s national interest. The further development of the SCO and participation of Kazakhstan in the organization promotes deeper regional cooperation for the purposes of control over stability in the region and seamless integration of Kazakhstani economy to the regional and world economic systems.

3. THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN AND THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)

One of the key directions in foreign policy of Kazakhstan is cooperation of Kazakhstan with the region of Southeast Asia

where there is steady economic growth and serious demands for being a global player. In this direction the activation of cooperation of Kazakhstan with the ASEAN is not without interest. This integration association, formed in 1967 which purpose is regional cooperation in economic, cultural, social, technical and research spheres directed to strengthening peace and stability.

The ASEAN is on the lookout for the situation in the CIS countries and, in particular, in Central Asia, and also objectively notes regional top position of Kazakhstan showing the great results keeping economy, financial and social and others spheres informed. Therefore, among the countries of Central Asia as a possible strategic partner the ASEAN considers, first of all, Kazakhstan (Zainal-Abidin, 2000). The Association is ready to consider any offers of Kazakhstan on cooperation establishment and does not exclude the entry of the Republic to this international organization.

Kazakhstan, in its turn, also has often supported cooperation activation with the ASEAN up to affiliation. For the purposes of strengthening integration processes Kazakhstan is set to expand cooperation both with the countries which are the members of the ASEAN and with the Association in general that will promote the further economic growth of the Republic. Besides, being the members of the ASEAN, Kazakhstan is permitted to be an equal player on trade and economic space of Southeast Asia.

An intention of Kazakhstan to activate economic cooperation of the Association of the states of Southeast Asia assumes inclusion of the Republic of Kazakhstan not so much to be the members of the ASEAN as to institutions of the ASEAN which conduct an international dialogue. That is why, at the meeting of the Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mukhtar Tleuberdi with the Secretary-General of the ASEAN Ong Keng Yong in July 2005 in Jakarta Kazakhstan has expressed an intention to be engaged to work of the ASEAN Regional Forum. Ong Keng Yong has expressed his support and noted that the countries which are the members of the ASEAN consider Kazakhstan as a possible strategic partner in Central Asia. In the course of the talks the parties have agreed to make consolidated efforts on the development of interregional cooperation and establishment of a political dialogue between the ASEAN and Central Asia.

On the issues of the entry to the ASEAN Regional Forum Kazakhstan banks upon support of Japan. In the course of briefing on the results of the talks with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Japan Katsuya Okada the Secretary of State-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kanat Saudabaev has pointed out: "We are pleased for Japanese support for our international initiatives and hope for their support in the entry of Kazakhstan to corresponding structures of the ASEAN" (Chia and Plummer, 2015). Moreover, Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Philippines express their readiness to support Kazakhstan to be a member of the ASEAN.

4. KAZAKHSTAN AS A PARTICIPANT OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERACTION AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING IN ASIA (CICMA)

Making for the first time a historical announcement for the first time from a rostrum of the 47th session of the General Assembly in 1992, the President of the RK N.A. Nazarbaev has offered to create the CICMA. In prospect the forum is had to be the effective multilateral on Asian security. The Head of Kazakhstan has offered to start with easy and practical steps on a piecemeal basis. So there was a start to the process of the CICMA.

Kazakhstani diplomats, taking part in the start of the conference, now note at that time few people believe in success of this foreign policy project. Nevertheless, over the last nineteen years the forum was not only realized as the project, but was considered as the regional accredited structure on security with great participation of states, also as a tool of "preventive diplomacy" (Bridges, 2014). The conference includes twenty three countries, seven states and three organizations such as the UN, OSCE, and LAS have the status of an observer.

Since 1999 there were three successful summits and three meetings of Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs conducted. At the third summit of the CICMA on 8 June 2010 in Stamboul there were important decisions made. In particular, a composition of the forum has expanded; there was the first in the history of the conference rotation of the position of the chairman. Turkey has filled a position being one of the most active participants.

There are regular the Committee of Senior Officials meetings that promote effective solution of actual and urgent tasks. Since 2007 the participating states began to conduct meeting of experts in the concrete directions for the development of working papers on implementation of confidence-building measures. On a platform of the CICMA the participating states not only carry out an intensive dialogue on the questions concerning security but also work over deeper practical interaction between the states of Asia including economy. These efforts promote strengthening stability and revival of the peoples occupying the Asian continent.

In its activity the CICMA, first of all, considers peculiarities of the development of the countries of the region and Asia in general. The conference considers peculiarities of this region by determination of the policy and acceptance of adequate acts.

On space where Europe is crossed with Asia its inhabitants throughout three centuries of the expiring millennium were influenced by modernization regardless of its results. When energy and domestic resource like shagreen skin were depleted, there was so called period of the nation revival. However, the Western model of adaptation to changing conditions was always an external irritant under which influence there were reforms conducted (Kainazarov, 2014). These are boundary outlines of a cyclical nature of the history in the Eurasian continent in the center of which there are now representatives of approved democracies of the world.

5. THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN AND THE OSCE

The summit meeting of the OSCE in Astana has become a historical reality of space between four oceans which geographical scale covers the distance from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

The victory parade for 74 delegates in the person of the heads of states' representatives within the hour by following the protocol by the President N. A. Nazarbayev has proved that big matters become real. The Head of state has expressed both personal respect to quests and delegates, great understanding, and high vision of values of the modern world.

The understanding of problems of the broken world, active and empathic participation in the process of its unification, the resolution of conflicts and an aspiration to fill life of the Earth with the new content. These are the first results of presidency of Kazakhstan of the OSCE. Each of these parameters demanded real actions, hard work which will be further done.

The summit meeting in Astana has proved the increasing role of the OSCE as an arbitrator not only in Europe-wide but also in global affairs. If up to now the OSCE was considered as an effective and developed channel of interaction of the Central Asian region with Europe, the process of presidency and the Summit in Astana have showed that Kazakhstan became an idea provider and competent subject of the OSCE in prevention and dissolution of new calls for stability in the world.

Speech of the President of the Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev has meant the need for activation the OSCE activity by strengthening of regional integration (Mindlin et al. 2016), development of preventive measures for opposition to calls and the most important thing concerns potential revision. Kazakhstan by its presidency in the OSCE has carried its weight to statement and strengthening of a role of an international organization not only Europe-wide but also important for Eurasia. The creation of the Asian system of Security (CICMA) affords an opportunity for increasing coordination of two structures on security in the Eurasian subcontinent in the future.

As the Secretary of State Hilary Clinton has noted that for the first time the Summit of the OSCE was conducted in the Asian country. It is no coincidence that at the meeting with representatives of non-governmental organization before it there were the questions concerning women's rights in the Asian countries that is the perennial one for the East.

Not for nothing the OSCE is considered the largest regional organization among existing ones dealing with the issues on security and conflict prevention. The countries of the Eurasian continent, Transcaucasia, Central Asia and North America refer to the region of the OSCE. The organization closely cooperates with its partners from the Mediterranean and Asian states. Thus, the OSCE unites the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian community on geographical space from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

The key principle of the OSCE is a wide and comprehensive approach to security with ensuring close interrelation of the three primary activities of the OSCE of so called "baskets," in particular, military-political, economy and humanitarian ones. The protection of fundamental rights and freedoms of man, partnership in the area of economy and environmental protection are considered as important components of peace and stability (Zaviyalova et al., 2015).

Today the OSCE is the unique and only one Europe-wide organization being the main tool of early warning and resolution of conflicts and also post-conflict rehabilitation in Eurasian space.

With participation of the OSCE in Kazakhstan the projects on improvement of the institutions of Human Rights Commissioner, electoral legislation, judicial system reformation, counter-trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, terrorism financing and laundering of criminal income, increasing role of civil society in life of the country, mass media independence ensuring.

The demand of Kazakhstan for presidency in the OSCE is an expression of a consecutive course of the country on accelerated economic, social and political modernization, a responsible and balanced approach to ensuring of international and regional stability, security and development.

The entry and further presidency of Kazakhstan in the OSCE were caused by objective historical factors among which are the geographic situation, ethnosocial make-up of population, the level of development of national economy. That is why, the nation's leadership leaders has made a decision that, first of all, well-reasoned foreign policy, one main of the main directions of which also was the entry through the UN, the OSCE and other international organizations to international relations and processes, introduction to achievements of the world civilization in political, economic, social, humanitarian, research, and educational areas, connection of the world community with problems of the transitional step of the Kazakhstani society from administrative-planned to free market relations and provision of necessary assistance will be the key means of the achievement of Kazakhstani strategic objectives. The entry of Kazakhstan to the OSCE in January 1992 was supported by an aspiration to be an active member in Europe-wide processes allowing to develop and apply the principles of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 and other documents of the OSCE.

The main external fact was that, by recognition of the OSCE leadership, cooperation of the Organization with the countries of Central Asia became one of the most promising channels of interaction between Europe and the region. At that, within the organization there was increasing understanding of the matter that a wide range of problems (terrorism, extremism, drug traffic, international crime, environmental matters) which Central Asia faces Central can potentially destabilize the situation not only in this region but also in the whole region of the OSCE.

At the stage of development of relationship with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe the OSCE has laid

the groundwork for cooperation with the organization. In this with participation of the OSCE experts there were reviews of the economic situation in the Central Asian region under the conditions of the transition to the market system conducted, the recommendations to carrying out economic reforms, the issues concerning regional security, protection of rights and freedoms of man developed (Vasilev et al. 2013; Osadchy and Akhmetshin, 2015). On December 1998 there were memorandums of mutual understanding between the government of the RK, the OSCE and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights signed and the OSCE Center in Almaty opened.

In 2003 for the first time Kazakhstan proposed as a candidate for position of the chairman of the OSCE in 2009. Up to now none of the countries of the USSR take chair not in this credible international organization and propose as a candidate for this position.

In 2009 the Madrid Meeting of Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs of the OSCE participants has imposed to Kazakhstan a great and responsible task on leadership in the OSCE in 2010. The Consensus of 56 countries of the world was determined by the whole course of historical events over the last years. Their trust and reasonable hopes, conflicts and contradictions, support and doubts took place. However, gave precedence to strong and balanced course of Kazakhstan and the President N.A. Nazarbaev for steady economic growth, increasing welfare of the people, systemic political reforms and the statement of the integrated model of Kazakhstani democracy. Now, an aspiration to the world standards of human dimensions, international and interethnic harmony, religious tolerance, respect for forefathers' traditions (Gurieva, 2015; Barmuta et al., 2015), peaceful co-existence and growth of civil consciousness are its bright peculiarities. The State and society in Kazakhstan interacts in equal dialogue and consensus.

The strategy of activity of the OSCE in the sphere science and education should consider the main tendencies of a new millennium. The first one consists in the matter that developed and separately developing countries consider capital investment to mentioned spheres, including mental capacity, as the key component of the strategy of economic development. Science and education in Kazakhstan are also focused on the priorities of industrial and innovative reform, socio-economic growth and progress. The other side of this problem is strengthened attention of the state, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic in particular, to the quality of talent scientific and technical density, an emphasis to its mobility and competitiveness.

The world community is interested in Kazakhstani vision of the OSCE prospects and Kazakhstani contribution to its further activity. In light of modern international relations and globalization processes the world needs new political breath that, first of all, will allow to encourage democratic processes (Frolova et al. 2016; Nikolaeva et al. 2015). Secondly, the OSCE should be changed in its current image in the structural and substantial content. Thirdly, the general process of improvement of the

organizational legal and regulatory base of the OSCE must be followed by strengthening trust immunity. Fourthly, there is the need to open the floodgates for revealing the full opportunities of the post-Soviet content of the OSCE space. Fifthly, Kazakhstan as the OSCE Chairman-in-Office must prove its authority and show its potential as a skilled player in the field of the global and European policy. Besides, Kazakhstan will follow traditions of the OSCE on participation of Kazakhstan to achievements of the world civilization in political, economic, social, humanitarian, research, and educational areas, connection of the world community with problems of the final stage of the transitional period of the Kazakhstani society from administrative-planned to free market relations and creation of the conditions for the entry into the world standards.

6. CONCLUSION

Day by day increasing role and value of the country in global policy and economy are noticeable. Kazakhstani diplomacy successfully realizes strategic foreign policy priorities pointed by the Head of state. This paper pays much attention to multilateral diplomacy which importance in the conditions of globalization and cardinal fundamental changes in the modern international system of coordinates has greatly increased.

Within a few short years of independence, the role and responsibility of the Republic of Kazakhstan in international affairs has also greatly increased. Kazakhstan has overcome a way from a young little-known state to authoritative regional superpower being an active participant in activity of the UN and authoritative international organizations. The entry into the UN on March 02, 1992 had a great political value for Kazakhstan. The head of state has determined this momentous event by the following words: "Kazakhstan became a full member of the UN. The value of this fact is great: We have just not only proved following the principles of international law, but also stand under the peculiar protection this quite influential organization dealing with great work on security on the planet." Today, the multilateral foreign policy activity of Kazakhstan is rich and multi-sided and covers all spheres of national interests the most urgent national problematics. Responsible and proactive policy in the sphere of global security has made Kazakhstan a leader of the movement for the nuclear-free world, demilitarization and non-proliferation of mass destruction weapon.

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