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## WORLD GEOPOLITICS AND THE NEW SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN REGION: TURNING POINTS AND TRENDS

**Abstract.** In such a difficult period, when the world is faced with difficult situations that have not happened in the past centuries, the Central Asian region is also experiencing long-term, pan-regional, and large-scale changes in the power of influence. This is mainly due to the strategic adjustment and regulatory policy of the United States of America for the Central Asian region, concern about the weakening of Russia's influence in this region, China's desire to use its demographic and economic power, Turkey's fraternal activity, the religious propaganda of the Arab-Islamic world, India's activity in the region in recent years, as well as the change of power of some states in the region, especially in leading countries such as Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. It is no coincidence that the situation in the Central Asian region has undergone such changes. In particular, it is a direct result of the interaction of various trends and factors, both international and regional. Also, this trend, in turn, will have a decisive and large-scale impact on the future of Central Asia and the general situation there. As the main *goal* of the study, in this article we tried to comprehensively consider new trends in the Central Asian region as a whole and the reasons for their formation and directions of further development. In the course of achieving this goal, the authors were set the following *tasks*: to analyze the impact of these circumstances on the countries of Central Asia, reviewing various changes and turning points in the context of political, economic, security, mutual competition and other issues of modern world geopolitics. In the process of writing the research work, *methods* of comparative analysis, system-structural, induction, retrospective, chronological scientific research were used. The *novelty* of the study is to consider the possibilities of comprehensive development of the region, analyzing the role of the Central Asian region in the current changing world process. The *results* of the study allow a deeper understanding of the relationship of CA countries with world giants, the role and features of the region in increasing its integrity and sustainable development, and these results can be useful for political scientists, regional scientists, as well as specialists in the field of foreign policy and diplomacy.

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### Introduction

It is no secret that the Central Asian region (CAR) as a whole has long been a unique playground for the world's giant Empires. It is known that even in the near future (XXI century), England in the far also reaches took some active steps to influence this region (Wang, 2007: 112). Since recent times, Central Asia has initially become an important region for Russian and English expeditions. Since the end of the nineteenth century, researchers from Germany, France, Japan, the United States and other Western powers have also flocked in, making life even more boiling over in the then inhospitable Inner Asian region far from civilization (Ding, 2009: 24). And in recent years, the situation in the CAR, in general, can be said to be stable. *From a political point of view*, all countries

in the region are actively looking for a path of development that meets their state conditions. At the same time, the promotion of their political reforms, striving for stability and strengthening stability, making stability a prerequisite and the main goal, has become the national ideal of each country in the region. *In economic terms*, the countries of the region are actively blocking the decline in the economy and strive to improve the well-being of the population as much as possible. At the same time, Central Asian countries began to adopt medium-and long-term development strategies, focusing on long-term development. In order to sustainably promote structural reforms and counter external challenges, they have severely blocked their development opportunities in the region. *In terms of security*, in order to maintain stability in the region, all countries in the region share the opportunity to engage major powers in the region for the sake of national interests, jointly fighting extremist and foreign forces. *From the point of view of competition from major powers*, external forces such as the United States, China, Russia, Turkey, India, and the Arab-Islamic world have already formed a competitive position in influencing Central Asia. As a result, a multi-vector policy is becoming more and more active in the region. However, it is not difficult to see that the competition of the great powers to the region is growing every day. *From the point of view of political interests*, these superpowers, after all, do not want to see chaos and instability in the CAR. The countries of the region, on the other hand, hope that the major powers will form a healthy competitive situation in Central Asia, a foreign policy aimed at peaceful coexistence. In general, over the past three decades, significant changes have also taken place in *international politics*. “The beginning of the XXI century was marked by the intensification of the fight against international terrorism, as a result of which the United States and NATO countries deployed military bases in a number of Central Asian countries. Despite the fact that the invasion of Afghanistan by the Western coalition was supported by the world community, an era of geopolitical maneuvering between the powers began for the region” (Koshkimbayev, Auelbayev, 2021: 87).

At the same time, we must recognize that the unstable and unrealized factors of the situation in Central Asia are accumulating and increasing every day. We would not be wrong to describe this as changes and turns are growing in the “womb” of stability. We believe that today's difficult situations, the protracted, pan-regional, difficult turns of influence that the CAR is facing, have a special impact on geopolitical trends in the CAR in the present and future, and should be given maximum attention. After all, considering the role of Central Asia in modern world processes, the Kyrgyz scientist, Professor U.K. Saralayev said that today it is “a region that is being reopened to the outside world. Its development has just begun. The region's promising wealth and communication opportunities make it an object of geopolitical interests of many countries of the world, respectively, the region becomes a place of conflict between the interests of world and regional power centers” (Saralayev, 2005: 4).

To see the impact of global geopolitics on the CAR and the turning points in the region, we will have to pay attention to the following trends.

### **Research materials and methods**

Official documents of state significance, reports and proposals of heads of state, national plans were considered as the material basis of this research work. In addition, articles and news in Kazakh, Russian, English, Chinese, published in mass media and social networks, statistical data were used, and these materials were systematized using institutional, comparative-historical, value-normative approaches. In particular, in the discussion of issues on the topic, various information and opinions were selected using the institutional method of scientific research, their analysis was carried out and the final result was summed up. On the basis of the comparative-historical method, the historical and current conditions of the world's superpowers, the countries of the CA were compared chronologically, as well as in terms of mutual differences. The policies pursued by the different countries considered in the study, the positions and reports of the country's leaders, the opinions and views of politicians and etc. were objectively discussed through a value-normative approach.

### Discussion

*New trends in the Central Asian region.* In virtual comparison, the current situation in the CAR is experiencing three major turning points, which are unprecedented in the region, contributing to the fate and prosperity of the region.

First of all, in general, the CAR in recent years has become an object of competition from such leading world powers as the United States, Russia, China, Turkey, India... to pull into the orbit of their influence and gain control over the natural resources of the region, primarily their oil and gas reserves. Each of these states began to consider the CAR as an important point of its strategic interests. The relationship between the major powers that want to influence the CAR is going through a process of major changes. It is mainly reflected in the radical change of the US strategy in Central Asia. In particular, if earlier the United States was engaged only in restricting and restraining Russia from this region, now it is characterized by efforts to limit Russia and China at the same time, especially to completely exclude Chinese influence in the region. At the same time, it should be noted that the major powers in their influence in the region have moved from the previous competition in the field of politics and security to a comprehensive competition with equal attention to politics and economics. Thus, a new round of fierce geopolitical rivalry between the major powers has already begun in the CAR.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the CAR became an important playing field for the desire to exert the influence of major powers, especially the United States, Russia, China, and Turkey. In particular, the United States, using its superpower, actively intervenes in the life of the CAR countries, pushing away the interests and influence of Russia and China, trying to keep the countries of the region under its influence as a whole. Russia, on the other hand, wants to keep the CAR countries in a handful, using the socio-economic, military, political, cultural, etc. factors that have historically developed in the region. The PRC, meanwhile, wants to take advantage of the low economic potential of the CAR countries, the need for financial and investment support, and at the same time, using its borders with some of the countries of the region, its economic power and demographic potential, to gain the CAR's influence. As you know, most of the CAR countries are Turkic-speaking Republics. The Republic of Turkey, on the other hand, aims to influence the countries of the CAR region (except Tajikistan), in most cases by establishing ethnic-blood and kinship relations. On the other hand, although the CAR countries write in their constitutions that they are “secular states”, the population of the region as a whole is Muslim peoples who profess Islam. In part, we cannot deny the tendency of Arab-Islamic countries (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, Oman, Iran) to seek to influence CAR countries in terms of religious beliefs.

If we analyze the competition for influence of the major powers in the CAR, it is easy to see that this competition is very active mainly between the countries of the United States, Russia, China. In 2005, when Kyrgyzstan refused to build US troops, then US Defense Minister Donald Rumsfeld, at a meeting of one of the CIS countries, said: “China and Russia are pushing Kyrgyzstan to such a step” (Jin, 2015: 137). It is well known that the words of D. Rumsfeld are not unfounded. This situation is explained by the Russian politician D.A. Zhironov: “Russia and China play the most important role in the Shanghai process. There are objective reasons for this... There is no doubt that at the present stage of multilateral negotiations, due to the striking disparity of the geopolitical, military, economic and diplomatic potential of Moscow and Beijing, on the one hand, Dushanbe, Astana, Bishkek and Tashkent, on the other, Russia and China continue to play the role of a locomotive in the Shanghai process” (Zhironov, 2002: 206). Even the competition between these “triple” continues at such a level that it has a decisive impact on the development of the entire region and the regional situation and the overall scale. This vision was expressed by the outstanding Indian politician Shahnawaz Qadri in the book “Central Asian integration and regional development. The Great Central Asian view” fully confirms the opinion: “Thus within cooperation among China and Russia over the geo-politics of oil and energy is growing a deep conflict over Greater Central Asian region due to great powers desire

wanting to influence the region (Shiping Tang, 2000). The net configuration has been a camp division of U.S.-West on one side and the Russia-China on the other side. Seen within the GCA approach great powers invest in the Greater Central Asia (Central Asian and South Asian-Afghanistan countries) signifies a fight leading to conflict. Whereas the regional players like Russia, China play a cooperative role at least to block U.S. expansion leads to conflict. India's role of using the GCA approach has tried to integrate borders and economy of Central Asia and South Asia leading to greater regional development" (Qadri, 2017: 51).

However, due to the critical decline of both Russia's economy and its authority in the world geopolitical arena in recent years, there is an active struggle for political influence in the CAR, competition between the United States and China. It is no secret that the United States is especially worried about the fact that China is becoming more and more powerful. In this regard, Chinese politicians believe that the United States is creating obstacles, using economic, social and diplomatic approaches to prevent China's further development and increasing influence (Li, Liu, 2008: 280). During the years when Trump came to power in the United States, there were significant turns in US foreign policy. In particular, for the first time, the United States saw China as its "strategic competitor" and for the first time put the "Chinese threat" in front of the "Russian threat". At the same time, it began to put China under comprehensive pressure. It is at this point that the US authorities have also made major changes to their CAR strategy. This US policy was also clearly reflected in China's policy of limiting and displacing its influence in the CAR. At the same time, the United States has made every effort to prevent China from implementing the "One Belt and One Road" program in Central Asia. In particular, in order to curb and displace China's "One Belt, One Road" program, the United States has established a strategic infrastructure investment dialogue mechanism with some European countries led by Japan, Australia, India and the United Kingdom, and has actively negotiated with countries in Eurasia, the Pacific region to coordinate their respective infrastructure investments. Thus, with the program "One Belt, One Road" he created a "mighty alliance", which could stand up for all-round competition. As Trump said, during the years when the United States was in power, the official Beijing began to arrest representatives of local Muslim peoples (Uyghur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Uzbek, etc.) in Xinjiang under the slogan "Fight against three different forces" (religious extremism, separatism, terrorism). Although the official authorities of the CAR countries did not openly protest this action by official Beijing, this liveliness of the Chinese authorities, which was previously described as a "Friend country, good neighbor", caused a strong anger of ordinary residents of the countries of the region, representatives of the intelligentsia. Residents of CAR countries held mass protests, raising the question of abandoning Chinese investments and even relations with the PRC. This situation, of course, was a joy for Western countries, led by the United States, equivalent to "what they wanted from heaven was found on earth". Using this moment wisely, the US authorities, taking the situation in Xinjiang to the world stage in terms of protecting human rights, implemented a strategy of differentiation against China and further exacerbated relations between China and the Central Asian countries. Not only that, the US Senate passed the "Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2019" on September 11, 2019 in connection with the situation in China's Xinjiang region. These steps by the US authorities have strengthened the sense of gratitude of the CAR countries to the United States and other Western countries.

The US authorities have not limited themselves to this, but have blocked China's multilateral regional cooperation policy as much as possible and blocked its plans to create an interested, fateful regional community. In 2019, the United States twice conducted a dialogue with the CAR countries within the framework of "C5+1". During the dialogue, the United States openly denounced China and announced plans to impose sanctions on China. At the same time, the United States has also openly expressed a deadlock game, surrounding China in the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea.

Secondly, the CAR is currently experiencing very large-scale and significant turning points within itself. This is especially evident in the change of power in large countries in the region, such as Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. It can be said that this situation has a special impact on the trends and



situation of the countries in the region, which gives evidence that the entire region has entered a new stage of development. In the fall of 2016, Sh. Mirziyoyev was elected the new head of Uzbekistan and boldly implemented a policy of reforms and openness, which caused a strong hunt and influence in Uzbekistan, and even in the entire Central Asian region. His reform and policy of openness far exceeded the expectations of the outside world in terms of intensity, scale and depth. The policy of Sh. Mirziyoyev not only opened a new era in the development of Uzbekistan, but also had a huge impact on the political situation in the entire region. In addition, in 2019, the transit of higher powers began in Kazakhstan. After N. Nazarbayev's sudden announcement of his resignation on March 19, 2019, K.K. Tokayev became interim president and was officially elected as the second president of Kazakhstan through the national elections held on June 19 of the same year, thus opening the curtain of a new era of Kazakh political development. The major changes that have taken place in two key regional countries, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, are unprecedented in the process of development of Central Asian countries after independence. It is no secret that these changes have influenced other countries in the region to a certain extent, beyond the scale of the two countries. A striking example of this is the situation in Turkmenistan and Tajikistan. In particular, G. Berdimuhamedov transferred power to his native son Serdar Berdimuhamedov, and E. Rakhmon brought his native son Rustam Emomali to the presidency of the Senate of the Republic of Tajikistan. Experts believe that the appointment of Rustam Emomali as speaker to the Senate of the Republic of Tajikistan is a preparation for a change of Power (Ryskulova, 2020).

*Reasons for new changes in Central Asia.* Changes in the situation in Central Asia are not accidental, it has a deep and complex historical background. From the point of view of changes in relations between major powers, a radical change in the policies of the United States, Russia and China in Central Asia is being carried out in the context of major changes in the International and regional situation. This shows that these empires are rooted in deep-rooted and long-term strategic intentions.

At the same time, the rivalry of the major powers in the CAR is clearly reflected in the policies of restraining each other's influence and interests in the region.

For example, Russia has had the most significant influence in Central Asia since the beginning of the nineteenth century and continues to do so in the years after independence.

Many residents of Central Asia still speak Russian, Russian television is available in many parts of Central Asia, and, since the collapse of the USSR, millions of labor migrants work in Russia, not only helping their families in their homeland, but also sending money transfers that help support the economies of some Central Asian countries.

Moscow has military bases in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, many of which, including the governments of some Central Asian countries, consider them a guarantee of security in the region. The return of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan allowed the Kremlin to convince the Central Asian governments that Russia will provide assistance in the military sphere and threats, as well as to strengthen Russian influence in the region. After the occupation of Afghanistan by the Taliban, Russia strengthened its activities with the member states of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO): Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In early September last year, the CSTO conducted exercises in Kyrgyzstan, and in the second half of October in Tajikistan, where the Armed Forces of Kazakhstan also took part. Uzbekistan was previously a member of the CSTO, but is currently not part of the organization, and although Tashkent opposes the Kremlin's call to join the CSTO again, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev took part in the CSTO virtual summit on August 23. In early July 2021, when the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan was in full swing, Uzbek and Russian troops conducted military exercises in Uzbekistan. In mid-August, a few days before Taliban forces took control of Kabul, Russian units conducted military exercises with Tajik military forces in Tajikistan. During the "January events" that took place in Kazakhstan in 2022, the CSTO troops were called to the territory of Kazakhstan for peacekeeping.

In short, Russia and a number of CAR countries have close cooperation in the field of security. Some of Russia and CAR countries are members of the CSTO, some are members of the EAEU. The departure of the United States from Afghanistan and the arrival of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan in recent years may increase the relevance of military-political interaction between Russia and the CAR countries both in terms of Economic Cooperation and on the scale of the CSTO.

However, it cannot be ruled out that a number of contradictions exist between Russia and the CAR countries. It is also impossible to solve these problems immediately.

First of all, for historical reasons, the economic models of Russia and the CAR countries are becoming very similar. In this regard, there are almost no segments that can complement each other in Russia and the CAR countries. Meanwhile, we are talking not only about the hydrocarbon market, but also about non-primary exports. Going from this, the production companies of Russian and CAR countries will compete for a similar market. This competition, in turn, will negatively contribute to understanding and cooperation between Russia and the countries of the region.

Secondly, in Russia and the CAR countries, there are always conflicting views on the ideology of any historical events and their assessment. The official authorities of the countries of the region always keep their distance from opposing the United States. At the same time, the CAR countries show themselves as reliable economic partners of Russia, but in foreign policy they are mainly independent states with priorities tailored to the fate and future of their countries. Also, among the population of Central Asian countries, especially among young people, the national-patriotic ideology is increasingly growing. In many ways, this is clearly noticeable during the sharp comments of Russian politicians about the CAR countries. For example, in addition to the mass protest of ordinary residents in the official and unofficial media on the statement of the deputy of the State Duma of Russia V. Nikonov “the territory of Kazakhstan is a great gift from Russia”, the Ministry of foreign affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan officially handed over a note of protest to Russia. Also, the president of Kazakhstan Kassym-Zhomart Tokayev, who visited the International Economic Forum in St. Petersburg with a special invitation in June 2022, openly declared his non-recognition of Luhansk and Donetsk as “independent countries” in front of the world community and in front of the president of Russia – V. Putin. K.K. Tokayev also spoke about the irrational opinions of Russian figures led by V. Zhirinovskiy, G. Zyuganov, V. Nikonov about Kazakhstan: “using this podium, I want to complain about the words of a number of Russian deputies. Inappropriate words aimed at Kazakhstan, erroneous statements of journalists and even cultural figures. Vladimir Vladimirovich explained the position of the top leadership, the Kremlin in relation to other states, including my country. I thank him for that. Indeed, there is no such problem among our peoples as to provoke in different ways. [Such statements] harm the Russian Federation itself. These words are incomprehensible to me” – he openly expressed his dissatisfaction (Kazaknews.kz, 2022).

In general, we should not hide that the language policy is at the origin between Russia and the CAR countries. CAR countries are considered regions that are heavily influenced by the Russian language in the post-Soviet space. Despite this, Uzbekistan switched to Latin script decades ago, and Kazakhstan began to take care of the transition of the Kazakh language to Latin script. Also in the countries of the region in terms of the share of official document flow in state bodies, the weight of state languages is growing more and more (Lebedov, Kazantsev, Medvedova, 2021: 18). Thus, the CAR countries are independent countries with a special state language policy. However, many politicians and experts in Russia have not ceased to draw attention to this issue from time to time, making the official Kremlin despicable to the CAR countries.

In short, on the scale of the last ten to fifteen years, when Russia began to lose its strength and international authority, China's influence in the CAR began to slowly increase.

From the point of view of China's situation, official Beijing's diplomacy towards Central Asia has entered a new era on the scale of the last decade, as determined by the first proposal of Chinese President Xi Jinping on the “Economic Belt of the Silk Road” in Kazakhstan in September 2013. Taking the opportunity to jointly create “One Belt, One Road”, China and the countries of Central

Asia opened the way for a new rise in cooperation. Currently, China is the main economic and trade partner and source of investment of Central Asian countries. The Chinese market is also attractive for Central Asian countries. China's influence on the countries of Central Asia has reached unprecedented heights and expanses. In particular, China's implementation of the “One Belt, One Road” initiative will not only give a strong impetus to the economic development of Central Asia, but also increase its influence on the state and development trends of the entire region. As Beijing's “One Belt, One Road” program shifts to a more balanced strategic policy, China's economic influence in Central Asia is expected to increase further. At the same time, within the framework of the “One Belt, One Road” program, the CAR countries began to actively adopt new concepts and proposals proposed by China, such as “common consultation, joint creation, common good”, “openness, greenness and purity”. Thus, China's influence on the life of the CAR countries began to grow significantly. It was after such circumstances that the process of establishing that restraining and limiting China was a long-term strategic goal of the United States and its supporters entered the stage of history.

At present, US society is heavily classified, and the domestic policy of the country is also very polarized. However, in the United States, various political forces are extremely unanimous on the issue of “accepting China as the main opponent”. From an intergenerational point of view, the new generation that marked the end of the Cold War era and was born after the Cold War, the recognition and attitude of the US elite towards China is very harsh. The US policy of restraining China in order to maintain its hegemonic position suggests that it will not stop or park due to the change of political parties or the change of generations, but will gradually intensify. An example of this is the fact that in early August this year (2022), despite opposition and protests from official Beijing, Ms. Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the US House of Representatives, went to Taiwan on an Air Force passenger plane. Although US President J. Biden seemed somewhat cautious about Pelosi's visit, he did not openly object and stated that it was Pelosi herself who would decide whether to go or not. On the basis of this, we can conclude that the US policy of deterring China, of course, will never be abandoned in the near future.

The US authorities have taken a number of bold steps in realizing China's goal of curbing CAR influence. In particular, they used such approaches as severing economic ties between China and the United States, raising customs tariffs, long-arm jurisdiction, blocking the network of industries, and financial sanctions. Noticing that China had entered into an arms competition, the United States was forced to terminate the “Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty” (IRNFT). The US arms sales to Taiwan, the strengthening of the official agreement between the US and Taiwan, were steps to put China in a more relaxed state. The US authorities did not stop at this, inspiring both the Hong Kong independence movement and the Xinjiang independence organizations abroad, putting China in an all-round deadlock. In addition, the United States was able to make the most of the concept of “Chinese threat”, which is widespread among the population of countries along the “One Belt, One Road” and other important economic partner countries of China. Thus, the official began to create obstacles even to the implementation of Beijing's plan for economic cooperation between China and countries along the “One Belt, One Road” (Gleason, 2021: 38). Over the past two decades, strategic pressure on the celestial country and concern for tomorrow by the United States, which has begun to consider China its biggest competitor in global geopolitics, are growing every day. Therefore, the exclusion of China from the CAR by the White House in such a situation would be a natural phenomenon.

In short, it is always the long-term and unchanging geostrategic interest of the US Eurasian strategy to prevent the emergence of a country that threatens the United States on the Eurasian continent. Strengthening the policy of comprehensive isolation of China is a vivid example of this US strategic plan.

After all, after years of strategic plan and corresponding blackout, the United States has become a decisive force influencing the general situation and policy of the CAR countries, and there is every reason to believe that its influence on the countries of Central Asia, in general, has increased. After

the collapse of the Soviet Union, the countries of Central Asia were always interested in the political and economic system of Western countries, led by the United States, and set an example for themselves. The high status of the United States in the world community and its powerful economic, military and cultural potential also led to the collapse of the CAR countries to the United States, and the United States was considered a key pillar in balancing Russian influence in the region. European countries, Japan work closely with the United States in Central Asia and are strategic allies of the United States in Central Asia.

Even India itself is actively involved in the game of ousting China from the CAR. After all, there is an unresolved land dispute between India and China, and it is no secret that Delhi is openly opposing Beijing's "One Belt, One Road" Initiative. Moreover, relations between India and the United States are very good. Chinese experts themselves say about this: "in 2005, the United States, ignoring the protests of China and other countries, unilaterally signed an agreement with India on cooperation in the field of civilian nuclear energy, and even, at that time, US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld signed an intention to jointly develop a ballistic missile defense system with India. Isn't that all the obstacles to China?!" (Song, 2009: 81). Therefore, in curbing China's influence in the CAR, the White House sees India as an ally and a great power.

On January 27, 2022, on the initiative of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the first summit was held with the heads of five Central Asian states. The meeting was supposed to take place in Delhi, but, due to the pandemic, the meeting took place in a virtual environment. This opened the way for the participants to reach an agreement on expanding economic and cultural ties, as well as coordinating actions related to the aggravation of the situation in Afghanistan. Last year (2021) it was announced in advance that this summit will be held. However, as the official Beijing intends to avoid a potential competitor, Chinese President Xi Jinping invited the leaders of the CAR countries to a video conference two days before Narendra Modi. Xi promised to provide significant assistance to Central Asian countries and increase trade turnover to 70 billion dollars. Of course, Delhi does not have such money, but there is no doubt that the policy of close ties with the region gives it certain advantages.

Gulshan Sachdeva, professor at the Center for International Studies in Delhi and coordinator of the Jean Monet Center for Excellence at Jawaharlal Nehru University, believes that high level interaction with Central Asian leaders reflects New Delhi's new active approach to the region. The dynamics of change in Afghanistan is pushing India to reconsider its previous strategy in Central Asia, and China is watching these steps closely. When India recently announced the summit, Beijing organized its virtual summit with the same leaders two days before India. Thanks to historical, civilizational and cultural ties, Central Asia has long been part of the Indian imagination, while India seeks to raise its prestige in the region and strengthen ties with its countries. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Indian thinking was influenced by new geopolitical realities and economic opportunities. The emergence of new Independent States opened up opportunities for energy imports, as well as for trade and transit. There was also concern about the rise of religious fundamentalism. Instability in Afghanistan and China's authority in the region further increased India's attention. After signing a strategic partnership with Kazakhstan in 2009, Uzbekistan in 2011, and Tajikistan in 2012, India announced a 12 point "liaison with Central Asia" policy in 2012. The aim was to consider the region as actively as possible in terms of security, economic and cultural spheres and to strengthen India's political influence. In July 2015, Modi visited all five Central Asian states and signed 22 agreements. Along with agreements in the field of Defense, Military-Technical Cooperation, Trade, Tourism and culture, he signed a bilateral agreement with Kazakhstan on the purchase of uranium, which now accounts for 80 percent of India's uranium imports. Since 2002, India has maintained an air base in Aini in Tajikistan, which, when occupied by the Taliban, is going to be used to evacuate Indian citizens from Afghanistan (Sachdeva, 2022).

However, as Anant Krishnan, a correspondent for the Hong Kong newspaper "Hindu", writes in his world famous work "the Chinese problem in India: the rise of China and what it means for



India”, it is clear that it will not be very easy for India to compete with China for influence in the CAR. After all, Xi Jinping promised to import more agricultural products and other high-quality goods to the five countries. In addition, Beijing's proposals include assistance in the amount of 500 million dollars and a desire to increase bilateral trade to 70 billion dollars by 2030. China's trade with the five countries reached 40 billion dollars in 2018. This is about 20 times more than India's trade with the region in the same year. Much of China's trade is linked to its appetite for energy resources. Xi intends to implement several projects of strategic importance in this regard. These are: China-Central Asia gas pipeline, China-Kazakhstan oil pipeline, China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan highway and China-Tajikistan Road (Krishnan, 2020: 259).

In recent years, Turkey has also begun to revive its activities in the CAR. One of the most striking recent examples of this is the establishment of the Organization of Turkic states (OTS) in Istanbul on November 12, 2021. Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are members of the organization of Turkic states, Turkmenistan and Hungary are in the category of observer countries. Turkey is a natural and historical ally of the four Turkic-speaking states in the CAR: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. After the independence of these countries, Ankara was considered the most desirable partner for the Turkic states in Central Asia, not only for the commonality of culture and language, history, but also for the fact that Turkey was a member of NATO with close ties with Europe and the West, as well as for its influential position in international politics in general. The basis of this cooperation and brotherhood was laid in the first years of the collapse of the USSR and the declaration of independence by the Turkic-speaking states of the region by the then President of Turkey Turgut Ozal. T. Ozal visited Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in April 1993, when the main content and purpose of his visit was the Turkic Brotherhood. His proposals and demands on this side were immediately approved and widely accepted by the heads of the Turkic states of the CAR, since then there is some form of cooperation in the region on the basis of Turkic blood ties, and the organization of the Turkic states can be considered the last and most important stage in the development of cooperation.

Unfortunately, after returning from a trip to Central Asia, Turgut Ozal soon died, and Turkey failed to make the necessary large investments in the Turkic-speaking countries of Central Asia. As a result, Turkey's role in the region remained unchanged. As a result, Ankara is lagging behind in competition with the influence of Russia and China in the region.

It is known that in recent years, Turkey's weight in world geopolitics has increased significantly. Ankara, thanks to the Renaissance policy of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has become one of the world's largest players in Syria, Libya and Azerbaijan.

Erdogan spoke out against Russia on the Syrian issue and even openly protested against the Chinese leadership about Beijing's excessive policy against Turkic-speaking Muslims in Xinjiang.

The official Ankara, which has seen the Turkic states in the CAR increasingly move away from the influence of China and Russia on economic and national security issues, in recent years has begun to pay maximum attention to the development of interaction with fraternal countries in the region, as well as the friendship of Turkic-speaking countries. There is no doubt that Turkey's fraternal policy, which has a worthy place and active influence in world geopolitics, as well as military and economic power, will be ideal for the four Turkic-speaking countries in the region.

Professor Vakur Sumer, former director of the Eurasian Research Institute of Turkey, said: “Kazakhstan and Turkey are two strong wings of Eurasia with a common past and destiny. Over the past three decades, significant progress has been made in many issues, from politics to economics, culture and education to science. The ever-increasing structure of relations and integration between the two countries gives real hope for further rapprochement” (Sumer, 2021: 61). Of course, in the meantime, we are not very mistaken, although we understand Mr. Sumer's phrase “Kazakhstan and Turkey” as “Turkic-speaking countries and Turkey in the CAR”.

Central Asia is the northern border of the Islamic world, and regional leaders have different opinions on this. Belonging to the Islamic world naturally alienates the region from the former

“master of foreign religion” Russia, and this was very important for the leaders of the CAR countries in the first years after independence. But, in the first years of independence, the country's leaders themselves, as members of the former Communist Party of the Soviet Union, knew very little about Islam. Soon, the heads of State in the region realized that the power of Islam, which they believed to unite their people, was also a phenomenon that threatened the region. So, all the leaders of the Central Asian countries have chosen secular forms of government. But from the very beginning, the leaders of the region faced a competing model of government in Iran, where theocracy retained power for many years. Maintaining decent relations with Iran was not particularly difficult for the countries of the region. He was more inspired by the cultural and linguistic kinship of Tajikistan with Iran. At the same time, there were problematic issues in relations with Iran. In particular, Iranians were mostly Shias, while most of the inhabitants of Central Asia were Sunnis. This, although it is easy to say, is considered a very extreme problem for the peoples of the Islamic religion.

When “Taliban” forces occupied Kabul in September 1996, another model of theocratic rule emerged on the southern borders of the CAR, but the “Taliban” were the murids of the Sunni direction, despite their very strict adherence to Islam. It is no secret that in the late 1990s, due to the presence of “Taliban” forces in power in Afghanistan, one of the concerns in the countries of the region was that the Taliban proposed an alternative management model to the massively growing corrupt regimes in the CAR countries. The return of “Taliban” forces to power in Afghanistan marked the border between the two theocracies (Iran, Afghanistan) and the countries of Central Asia. Currently, the governments of the CAR countries have begun to pursue a policy of friendship, and not a way of struggle, as in the late 1990s (Sputniknews.ru, 2021). As proof of this, we can mention the official visit of the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan K.K. Tokayev to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the end of July 2022, as well as the signing of 13 strategically important documents by the leaders of the two countries during this visit. However, among these 13 documents, the absence of a single document related to the scientific, educational, spiritual and cultural sphere indicates a lot.

But, Tajik President E. Rahmon's statement during the CSTO summit in Dushanbe on September 16, 2021 shows that the fears of the late 1990s are still felt today. The summit stated: “the composition of the provisional government declared by the Taliban does not take into account political, ethnic and linguistic diversity, as well as gender equality. This means that in the next two or three years, the spread of extremist ideology in Afghanistan will increase, the likelihood of spreading these destructive ideas to nearby regions will increase many times over”, Emomali Rahmon said (Mullorajab, Barot, 2021).

Over the past two decades, residents of Central Asia have turned to religion en masse. However, the vast majority of residents of Central Asian countries are not very fond of the Islamic models of government of Iran and the Taliban, but there are also believers who believe that the country can be ruled by Sharia.

However, “the government of the Central Asian states clearly assesses the threat of conflicts on their borders and is ready to contribute to the stabilization of the situation in Afghanistan and the region as much as possible. In addition, the Taliban movement has previously repeatedly stated that its leaders have no intention of moving the conflict to neighboring countries” (Plastun, 2022: 62).

In the meantime, we will have to analyze the problem from a philosophical point of view. The internal reason is the internal regularity and contradiction of things, and it lives in the internal property of all things and phenomena. Therefore, it plays a key role in the movement and development of objects. And the external cause is the relationship and mutual influence between one thing and another, between one phenomenon and another. The fundamental reason for the development of things and phenomena lies not outside things, but inside things, in contradictions and patterns within them. But, everything develops and changes in the dual action of internal and external factors. The relationship between the two is that the external cause is a condition for change and development, the internal cause is the basis of change, and therefore the external cause acts through the internal cause. If so, then at all times the internal cause, the internal factor, plays a decisive, important role. From

this point of view, if we pay attention to the internal situation in the CAR, the implementation of reforms and transparency by the leadership of Uzbekistan is actually an irrefutable product of the development of the situation and has a very powerful internal driving force. Since its independence, Uzbekistan has always adhered to the principle of stability in the political context in the first place, effectively repelling terrorism, separatism, religious extremism and “color revolutions”, creating a political system with a strong president and an “optimal” parliament, maintaining a high degree of political stability worthy of the country's interests. However, over time, the shortcomings of this system, inherited from the first President I. Karimov, became apparent, and it became clear that the system's viability was significantly insufficient. This led not only to poor implementation of State tasks, but also to the economic development of the country. From an economic point of view, although Uzbekistan also switched to a market economy after independence, it is known as a country that has more and more preserved the Soviet planned economy. Unity in the economy is too extreme and there is a significant lack of vitality. At the same time, economic transparency is also not high, and there are many restrictions on foreign investment. The control system is also lagging behind and dogma prevails. Moreover, as a landlocked continent, it is facing an increase in demography and environmental pressure. The country's initially chosen development model has reached a dead end, and it is impossible to continue it. The only way out of these situations is to deepen the reform. From a diplomatic point of view, for a long time, due to the use of Transboundary Rivers, territorial and interethnic disputes and other issues, Uzbekistan's relations with its neighbors in Central Asia, especially Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, were always full of contradictions. As a result, this not only affected the external image of Uzbekistan, but also cast its shadow on its economic development and regional cooperation. It is no secret that the situation in Karakalpakstan in recent days has further complicated the internal and external situation of the Uzbek country. In this context, especially in such unfavorable conditions as a slowdown in the global economy as a whole, lack of motivation and falling demand, Uzbekistan's way out is to strengthen regional political and economic cooperation, expand transparency. Kazakhstan has always been considered by the world community as a flag bearer and a bright example of reforms and openness in Central Asia. The first president of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev actively carried out political reforms in accordance with the conditions and characteristics of the Kazakh country. However, the corruption and bureaucracy caused by the long stay of N. Nazarbayev in power, the lack of the role of political parties, the aggravation of the rich-poor differences, the conflict between oligarchs and clans, in short, the aging of Nazarbayev led to a change of power in Kazakhstan. It was in this case that Nazarbayev boldly announced his resignation and, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Tokayev came to power. Finally, since January 2022, K.K. Tokayev, who has taken full power in the country, has begun to implement a number of important and far-sighted reforms. Tokayev's reforms, which began to be implemented in connection with the program “building a new Kazakhstan”, receive maximum support not only from the people of Kazakhstan, but also from the world community. Especially in such a difficult period, when world geopolitics is changing a thousand times, we can say with full confidence that the arrival of a world-class experienced diplomat, a highly skilled politician, such as Kassym-Jomart Kemeluly, at the head of such a leading, large state as Kazakhstan among the CAR countries will contribute to the solidarity and security of the countries in the region.

### **Results of research**

The main changes in Central Asia are the most prominent and important factors that contribute to the current and future position and fate of Central Asia, as well as the trends of its future development require special attention.

From the point of view of changes in relations between the major powers, new turns in the strategy of the countries of the United States, Russia, China, India, Turkey in relation to Central Asia

can have many negative consequences for the overall stability of the Central Asian region in the future.

First of all, it is possible that unknown factors will lead to the political stability of Central Asia. If we analyze several major political changes in Central Asia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, we can say that the influence of major power relations on the situation in Central Asia, namely changes in relations between the United States, Russia and China, is to some extent significant and decisive.

The massive “West invasion” of the five Central Asian countries when they first achieved independence almost led to political upheaval. This was due to the fact that at that time Russia did not have the opportunity to open its arms to the West and look at the CAR countries, using this wrap, the US Army entered Central Asia, and Western countries actively promoted parliamentarism. So, in the mid-1990s, the CAR countries re-established themselves in an authoritarian system, gradually forming a system of “a strong president, a favorable parliament and a small government”. The political situation has shifted from chaos to rule. Behind it was Russia's confrontation with NATO's eastward expansion, Russia's change of “one-sided” foreign policy towards the West, but Russia's attempt to implement a policy of reviving its status as a great power, thereby giving priority to the CIS countries, including five Central Asian countries, in foreign policy, thereby persistently resisting Western entry into the CAR. Around 2005, after the war on terrorism in Afghanistan, the United States again revived the strategy of “Westernization” of Central Asian countries, making the most of the tendency to approach the United States that emerged in Central Asian countries. As a result, a “color revolution” was born in Kyrgyzstan, and the instability of the system in the country reached its peak. This situation could not but affect the political stability in the CAR. Now the situation in the CAR has reached another crucial moment. This situation is more clearly seen in the new competition for influence in the region by the powers led by the United States, China, Russia, India, Turkey, the maximum desire of the United States to limit China and Russia from the region, especially China. As the saying goes, “if two camels rub – a fly dies in the middle”, if the confrontation of the great powers for the interests of the region escalates, this may eventually become a factor that negatively affects stability in the CAR countries.

Secondly, new developments in the strategy of the United States, Russia, China, India, Turkey in relation to Central Asia will overshadow the security of Central Asia. The confrontation of the great powers in Central Asia can hinder effective cooperation in the region and contribute to their systematic fight against religious extremism and terrorism. At the same time, it is known that over the past 4-5 years, the United States has managed to repel the official Beijing's policy towards the Turkic-speaking, Muslim peoples in Xinjiang on the scale of the slogan “protection of human rights”. This US attitude, in turn, led to a significant cooling of relations between China and the countries of Central Asia, as well as the collapse of China's plans to fight international terrorist forces, religious extremist groups together with the CAR countries. In this regard, it is no secret that today the struggle of the CAR countries with religious extremism and terrorism is becoming increasingly difficult. In the future, this situation may open the way for religious extremist forces and terrorist groups to take advantage of this remaining opportunity in the region to rebel and act more actively in Central Asia.

In addition, according to Chinese politicians, Western countries, led by the United States, seem to be hindering China's actions in Central Asia as much as possible. In particular, the official office supported non-governmental organizations and public opinion around the world, encouraging anti-Chinese demonstrations in CAR countries. With the aim of maliciously denigrating the “One Belt, One Road” project and attacking Chinese-funded enterprises in Central Asia, the radical was engaged in deceiving forces and creating huge obstacles to the implementation of Chinese projects. In recent years, under the influence of Western sanctions against Russia and falling raw material prices, the economies of Central Asian countries have not been able to get out of the impasse and are facing a political and economic confrontation between China and the United States. As a result, foreign trade in the economic development of the Central Asian countries has increasingly deteriorated. As a result,



the standard of living of the population has sharply decreased, and there is a growing concern for the social stability of the countries of the region (Deng, 2021).

In general, if the competition of the major powers to keep the CAR under their influence increases, it will ultimately interfere with the system of effective management of their country by the Central Asian countries. This is because such competition exacerbates the geopolitical confrontation in the CAR, poses more serious challenges to the management system and increases the risk of unrest in the region. It is also possible that the competition of superpowers in the region will weaken the multi-vector policies of CAR countries or turn them against each other. This does not affect the joint efforts and final interests of the CAR countries in creating a new type of regional cooperation, which has a beneficial effect on their stability.

The world's superpowers must also understand that they still face many restrictions and challenges to achieve their strategic goals in Central Asia. Anyone who thinks that the peoples of the CAR and the persons in power in it are fools is deeply mistaken. That is, they are not going to give in to the drive of any “big country”, as they say. This is because the freedom, independence, and stability of their countries are dear to the people of the countries of the region, as well as to the authorities. Therefore, the people and authorities of the region are very fond of Churchill's words: “England has no eternal friend or eternal enemy, only eternal interests”. Therefore, the people of the region know very well that there is no stupid state in this world that simply blesses the countries in the CAR.

From our point of view, major political changes in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan ultimately paved the way for a new round of reforms in the CAR. The reforms in both countries will have a profound impact on the future of Central Asia. In political terms, both the president of Kazakhstan and the president of Uzbekistan are strengthening domestic political reforms. The main goal is to eliminate institutional abuses, increase administrative efficiency, strengthen justice, and increase public confidence in the authorities. In general, democratization is the main direction of political reforms in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Effective distribution of power and the establishment of effective supervision and balance in the institutions of power are becoming a general trend in the region. It is no secret that these reforms are caused not only by the fact that they are under Democratic pressure from the Western world, but also, most importantly, by the urgent need for reform for the countries of the region. Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, who have learned a worthy lesson from the chaos after the “color revolution” that arose in Kyrgyzstan due to the extreme “Westernization” of the first years of independence, are increasingly considering a clear choice of the path of democratization, instead of blindly imitating the West and rushing forward in the future. That is, in order to ensure state stability, attempts are made to reasonably and steadily promote democratization, thereby slowly establishing a democratic system. Thus, they intend to form a Democratic policy that meets the specific situation and interests of their countries. As a solid proof of this, we can highlight the IV Advisory Council of the heads of Central Asian countries and the issues discussed at the meeting, which was held in July this year (2022) in Sholpan-Ata, Kyrgyzstan. At the meeting on the shore of Issyk-Kul, the joint statement of the heads of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, the roadmap for the development of regional cooperation for 2022-2024, as well as the concept of interaction between the Central Asian states in the framework of multilateral formats were approved. At the same time, a treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation between the countries of the region was agreed and signed, which provides for the development of Central Asia in the XXI century. It is not surprising that such mutual understanding and interest between the CAR countries, as well as the resulting cooperation, or this “advisory council”, ultimately led to the creation of the “Union of Central Asian countries”. However, in order to achieve this goal, the leaders of the countries of the region will have to solve some of the problematic issues that are in the region. One of the main ones is the border issue in the region. In the CAR, the borders of countries other than Kazakhstan are not yet clearly delimited. There are some controversial regions, especially among the countries of

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. In order to intensify cooperation and friendly, good-neighborly relations in the region, it is important, first of all, to resolve the land dispute. President of Kazakhstan K.K. Tokayev said about it at the Sholpan-Ata council: “every sound of gunshots on the interstate borders has a negative impact not only on two countries, but also on the entire region. The consequences of ignoring or delaying these complex problems will be difficult, and may even negate all our efforts to develop cooperation in Central Asia” (Asankeldiuly, 2022 ).

Another urgent problem in the CAR countries is the water problem. All major rivers in the CAR are considered transboundary. For decades, the joint use of the same transboundary water resources has become a serious problem for the countries of the region. In particular, the legal basis for the prosperous use of the waters of the Syrdarya, which originates from Kyrgyzstan, and the Amu Darya, which originates from Tajikistan, has not yet been reached. Moreover, it is no secret that due to the rise in temperature on our planet in recent years, the volume of water in the region is also decreasing every year. If the countries of the region do not create “legal rules for water use” as quickly as possible, this may lead to many misunderstandings in the near future between the countries “on the beginning of the water” and the countries “on the end of the water”.

As for the political system in the CAR countries, according to many historical and true factors, it is unlikely that Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan will implement a purely Western-style democratic system. However, it is quite possible that they will work out, supplement and improve the previous system. From an economic point of view, both Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan pay close attention to the intensification of their domestic economic strategic reforms. The general direction is to expand transparency, strengthen cooperation and increase personal opportunities. This policy will give a powerful impetus to strengthening regional cooperation in Central Asia. Therefore, we must fully affirm the opinion “A key factor in the internal political stability of each of the Central Asian states is a timely response to these external challenges, as well as a willingness to take into account the divergent interests of Russia, the United States and China. At the same time, a necessary condition in this situation is the preservation of a fragile balance of relations between the states of the region, the violation of which can lead to a large-scale crisis between them. If this balance is disrupted by at least one of the Central Asian countries, then increased competition between external players will immediately follow, which will aggravate the situation in the region.” (Yusupova, Koichumanova, 2022: 129).

### **Conclusion**

The truth is that the CAR countries do not have a plan to completely break away from the outside world and live “absolutely independently”, and this is not possible. “Man's day with Man” always. Living in harmony with the world community and neighbors is a simple principle of life. It is clear that the CAR countries cannot bypass this great principle.

Thus, if we look at the future influence of the superpowers in the CAR, then the following situation is striking in the question of China's influence and future in the CAR. At the moment, despite the growing pressure and difficulties that the United States is openly creating and Russia is secretly creating, China's capabilities in the CAR far exceed its challenges in the region. First, it is quite possible that China's growing economic power and vast market space will interest the CAR countries as close neighbors for a long time. This creates powerful prerequisites for further strengthening and expanding China's influence in the CAR. Secondly, the “One Belt, One Road” Initiative proposed and implemented by China is highly consistent with the needs and policies of the CAR countries for economic development, improving the well-being of the population, and provides effective assistance to the countries of the region in getting out of a difficult situation. Thirdly, there is no fundamental conflict of interest between China and the CAR countries, on the contrary, China has established strategic partnerships with all CAR countries. At the same time, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has become a powerful platform and starting point for China to increase cooperation with the CAR countries.

However, it is clear that in recent years, the volatile policy of the CPC of the CAR peoples to their brethren in Xinjiang and the unfair war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine have been thinking about “playing” the CAR countries with these two neighboring powers.

Therefore, in the long run, the CAR countries may slowly approach the United States, India, and Turkey. This is now only our personal assumption. In which direction exactly the situation will unfold, of course, the coming time will tell.

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## ӘЛЕМДІК ГЕОСАЯСАТ ЖӘНЕ ОРТАЛЫҚ АЗИЯ АЙМАҒЫНДАҒЫ ЖАҢА ЖАҒДАЙ: БЕТБҰРЫСТАР МЕН ТЕНДЕНЦИЯЛАР

**Аңдатпа.** Әлем ілкі ғасырларда болып көрмеген күрделі жағдайлармен бетпе-бет келіп отырған бүгінгідей күрделі кезеңде, Орталық Азия аймағы да ұзаққа созылған, жалпаймақтық, ықпал қуаты аса ауқымды бетбұрыстарды бастан кешіруде. Бұл, негізінен, Америка Құрама Штаттарының Орталық Азия аймағына жасап отырған стратегиялық түзетушілік-реттеушілік саясатынан, Ресейдің аталған аймақтағы ықпал-әсерін әлсіретіп алуына аландаушылығынан, Қытайдың демографиялық-экономикалық қуатын пайдаланып, Орта Азия аймағына мықтап ықпал еткісі келетін саясатынан, Түркияның бауырмашылдық белсенділігінен, араб-ислам әлемінің діни үгіт-насихатынан, Үндістанның соңғы жылдардағы аймақтағы белсенділігінен, сондай-ақ, аймақтағы кейбір мемлекеттердің, әсіресе Қазақстан мен Өзбекстан секілді жетекші елдердегі биліктің ауысуынан айқын байқалады. Орталық Азия аймағындағы жағдайдың мұндай өзгерістерге ұшырауы әсте кездейсоқ емес. Атап айтқанда, бұл халықаралық және аймақтық әртүрлі тенденциялар мен факторлардың өзара әрекеттесуінің тікелей жемісі. Сондай-ақ, бұл тенденция өз кезегінде Орталық Азияның болашағы мен ондағы жалпы жағдайға шешуші және ауқымды әсер ететін болады. Зерттеудің



басты мақсаты ретінде, біз бұл мақалада жалпы Орталық Азия аймағындағы жаңа тенденциялар мен олардың қалыптасу себептері мен алдағы даму бағыттарын жан-жақты қарастыруға тырыстық. Аталған мақсатқа қол жеткізу барысында авторларға қазіргі әлемдік геосаясатты саяси, экономикалық, қауіпсіздік, өзара бәсекелестік және басқа да мәселелер тұрғысынан әртүрлі өзгерістер мен бетбұрыстарға шолулар жасай отырып, бұл жағдайлардың Орталық Азия елдеріне келтіретін әсерлеріне талдау жасау міндеттері қойылды. Зерттеу жұмысын жазу барысында салыстырмалы талдау, жүйелік-құрылымдық, индукция, ретроспективті, хронологиялық ғылыми зерттеу әдістері қолданылды. Зерттеудің жаңалығы – қазіргі өзгермелі әлемдік үдерістегі Орталық Азия аймағының рөлін талдай отырып, аймақты жан-жақты дамыту мүмкіндіктерін қарастыру. Зерттеу нәтижелері ОА елдерінің әлемдік алпауыттармен байланысын, аймақтың тұтастығы мен тұрақты дамуын арттырудағы рөлі мен ерекшеліктерін тереңірек түсінуге мүмкіндік береді және бұл нәтижелер саясаттанушылар, аймақтанушылар, сондай-ақ сыртқы саясат және дипломатия саласындағы мамандар үшін пайдалы болуы мүмкін.

**Алғыс:** Мақала Қазақстан Республикасы Ғылым және жоғары білім министрлігінің «Орталық Азия мен Қытайдың көпжақты ынтымақтастығы: әрекеттестіктің алғашқы кезеңінен бастап стратегиялық серіктестікке дейін» (BR24993008) тақырыбындағы бағдарламалық-нысаналы қаржыландыру жобасын іске асыру шеңберінде дайындалды.

**Түйін сөздер:** Әлемдік алпауыттар, Орталық Азия аймағы елдері, АҚШ, Қытай, Ресей, Түркия, Үндістан, Араб-Ислам әлемі, аймақтық қауіпсіздік.

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## МИРОВАЯ ГЕОПОЛИТИКА И НОВАЯ СИТУАЦИЯ В ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОАЗИАТСКОМ РЕГИОНЕ: ПОВОРОТНЫЕ МОМЕНТЫ И ТЕНДЕНЦИИ

**Аннотация.** В такой сложный период, как сегодня, когда мир сталкивается со сложными ситуациями, которые не происходили в разные века, Центрально-Азиатский регион также переживает длительные, общерегиональные, масштабные переломные моменты. В основном это связано со стратегической корректирующей регуляторной политикой, которую Соединенные Штаты проводят для региона Центральной Азии, опасениями по поводу ослабления влияния России в этом регионе, политикой Китая, который хочет использовать свою демографическую и экономическую мощь и оказывать сильное влияние на регион Центральной Азии, братской активностью Турции, религиозной агитацией арабо-исламского мира, влиянием Индии в последние годы это заметно по активности в регионе, а также по смене власти некоторых государств региона, особенно в таких ведущих странах, как Казахстан и Узбекистан. Не случайно ситуация в Центрально-Азиатском регионе претерпевает такие изменения. В частности, это прямой продукт взаимодействия различных международных и региональных тенденций и факторов. Также эта тенденция, в свою очередь, окажет решающее и далеко идущее влияние на будущее Центральной Азии и общую ситуацию в ней. В качестве основной цели исследования мы старались в данной статье всесторонне рассмотреть новые тенденции и причины их формирования и направления дальнейшего развития в регионе Центральной Азии в целом. В ходе достижения данной цели авторам поставлена задача проанализировать влияние этих условий на страны Центральной Азии, составив обзоры различных изменений и поворотов с точки зрения политической, экономической, безопасности, взаимной конкуренции и других вопросов современной мировой геополитики. При написании исследовательской работы использовались методы сравнительного анализа,

системно-структурного, индукционного, ретроспективного, хронологического научного исследования. Новизна исследования – проанализировать роль Центрально-Азиатского региона в современном меняющемся мировом процессе и рассмотреть возможности всестороннего развития региона. Результаты исследования позволяют глубже понять связи стран ЦА с мировыми гигантами, роль и особенности повышения целостности и устойчивого развития региона, и эти результаты могут быть полезны политологам, регионоведам, а также специалистам в области внешней политики и дипломатии.

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**Ключевые слова:** Мировые гиганты, страны Центрально-Азиатского региона, США, Китай, Россия, Турция, Индия, Арабо-Исламский мир, региональная безопасность.

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