

Impact Factor:

ISRA (India) = 3.117
ISI (Dubai, UAE) = 0.829
GIF (Australia) = 0.564
JIF = 1.500

SIS (USA) = 0.912
PIHHI (Russia) = 0.156
ESJI (KZ) = 8.716
SJIF (Morocco) = 5.667

ICV (Poland) = 6.630
PIF (India) = 1.940
IBI (India) = 4.260
OAJI (USA) = 0.350

SOI: [1.1/TAS](#) DOI: [10.15863/TAS](#)

International Scientific Journal Theoretical & Applied Science

p-ISSN: 2308-4944 (print) e-ISSN: 2409-0085 (online)

Year: 2019 Issue: 06 Volume: 74

Published: 26.06.2019 <http://T-Science.org>

QR – Issue



QR – Article



Z.S. Pulatkhodjaev

International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan

Senior lecturer

+998 97 409 10 01

z.pulatkhodjaev@mail.ru

MODERN INITIATIVES OF UZBEKISTAN TO STRENGTHEN INTEGRATION IN CENTRAL ASIA

Abstract: *the article provides a brief retrospective of evolution of the approaches to regional integration of the newly independent States of Central Asia. Particular attention is paid to the new policy of Uzbekistan towards neighboring States, articulation of fundamental principles and approaches of the Republic aimed at strengthening regional integration. Article includes examples of formation of new approaches to Central Asia by external centers of influence, considering as a single regional international subsystem.*

Key words: *regional cooperation, national interests, foreign policy concept, sovereignty, Central Asian integration, centers of power, national elites, subregion, international relations subsystem, isolationism, autochthon ties, collective relations, sustainable development.*

Language: English

Citation: Pulatkhodjaev, Z. S. (2019). Modern initiatives of Uzbekistan to strengthen integration in Central Asia. *ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science*, 06 (74), 516-518.

Soi: <http://s-o-i.org/1.1/TAS-06-74-59> **Doi:**  <https://dx.doi.org/10.15863/TAS.2019.06.74.59>

Introduction.

From the first days of its independence, the States of Central Asia repeatedly declared a commitment to strengthening good-neighborly relations and regional cooperation. However, their elected development paths have significant differences. This has led, on the one hand, mutually discordant paradigm formation of regional cooperation and, on the other hand, these factors influenced the formulation of their foreign policy. The newly independent States of Central Asia must first form their national interests, and only after that choose the path of establishing regional cooperation with its immediate neighbors [1].

Today most experts agree that a new stage in the evolution of the idea of a Central Asian regional cooperation came in the context of election of the new President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.Mirziyoyev. He in the first keynote speech September 8, 2016 stated that "the main priority of the foreign policy of Uzbekistan is the region of Central Asia, which are linked to national interests of our country. We continue to remain committed to an open, friendly and pragmatic policy towards its immediate neighbors — Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. [2] This statement clearly traced deep conviction that successful foreign policy begins with

the establishment of mutually beneficial and mutually respectful cooperation with neighboring countries. It should be emphasized that this approach is based on an in-depth analysis of the features of the evolution of geopolitical processes in the modern world, in which shows clearer trend to building international political, economic and other relations on a regional principle.

Main part.

On the vision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.Mirziyoyev fundamental step in this direction should be the development of a specifically legal document or concept, disclosing the development prospects of countries in conjunction with the steady strengthening of relations with immediate neighbors.

Adequate awareness of this reality is reflected in the February 2017 on the "Strategies for action in five priority areas for the development of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021" [3]. At the heart of this document in the foreign context aims to create around Uzbekistan peculiar zone security, stability and good-neighborliness. Mechanisms of its construction are considered all the available methods, first of all, the intensification of efforts to resolve questions of delimitation and demarcation of State borders [4].

Impact Factor:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ISRA (India) | = 3.117 | SIS (USA) | = 0.912 | ICV (Poland) | = 6.630 |
| ISI (Dubai, UAE) | = 0.829 | PIHHI (Russia) | = 0.156 | PIF (India) | = 1.940 |
| GIF (Australia) | = 0.564 | ESJI (KZ) | = 8.716 | IBI (India) | = 4.260 |
| JIF | = 1.500 | SJIF (Morocco) | = 5.667 | OAJI (USA) | = 0.350 |

Following a fundamental prerequisite for the creation of a unified subsystem of international relations in a given region is a formal declaration of such intentions among the wider international community. Not accidentally the first President Sh.Mirziyoyev UN September 19, 2017 a central place was given justification regional cooperation in Central Asia. It was clearly stated that the main priority of the foreign policy of Uzbekistan today is a region of Central Asia. It was also emphasized that "peaceful, economically prosperous Central Asia is our most important goal and the key challenge. Uzbekistan is committed to constructive engagement and dialogue, strengthening good-neighborliness" [5].

Thanks to the joint efforts of the States of Central Asia in recent years in the region significantly increased the level of political trust. So according to the results of the Samarkand high-level Conference held in November of the year 2017, neighbors in Central Asia have jointly initiated the adoption of a special resolution of the United Nations.

Later, the UN General Assembly a resolution was adopted in June 22, 2018 "Strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asia"[6]. It is known that the document drafted Uzbekistan jointly with the neighboring countries in Central Asia, has received the unanimous support of all members of the United Nations. It is also noteworthy that the resolution was co-sponsored by 55 countries in Europe, North and South America, Asia and Africa, including countries such as Australia, Austria, Afghanistan, Belarus, Germany, Italy, India, Indonesia, Canada, Nigeria, Norway, U.A.E., Republic of Korea, Singapore, Turkey, Switzerland, Ecuador, etc. The vitality of the idea of the existence of a sustainable regional subsystem was demonstrated again in the course of consultations on the elaboration of this document. This process took an active constructive participation by all the leading partners of the countries of Central Asia, including Russia, China, the United States and the EU. The resolution recognizes the important role of the Central Asian countries in ensuring peace, stability and sustainable development in the region, as well as in promoting regional and international cooperation [7].

The adoption of a special resolution on the strengthening of cooperation among the Central Asian States is a landmark event. It shows, first of all, the changing perception of the international community of the role and importance of the region as an integral part of global relationships that serves as another indication of the formation of new international subsystem here. It promotes the growth trend in favor of accounting for this segment of international relations with the formation of geo-strategic approaches [8].

For continuation of sustained movement of cooperation among the States of Central Asia,

according to the head of Uzbekistan, is necessary to create conditions for the holding of regular consultations of the heads of State of the region. The format of the high level meetings is a deeply thoughtful proposal taking into account the previous experience of movement for integration in the region. March 15, 2018 in Astana capital of Kazakhstan hosted the first consultative meeting of the heads of Central Asian States. At the Summit had discussed expanding the political, trade, economic and humanitarian cooperation between the countries of the region, a joint counter terrorism, extremism, trafficking drugs and weapons, strengthening Security and stability in Central Asia. The parties unanimously confirmed that Central Asia is not only geographical and geopolitical, but a single cultural and civilizational space [9].

Uzbekistan has borders with all Central Asian States. The decision of all vital issues ranging from border security to the rational allocation of water resources is directly dependent on the relations among the countries of the region. Without the active cooperation of neighboring countries, to ensure their better integration cannot implement major regional projects in transport, communications and energy spheres. UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated that "water issues in Central Asia, peace and security are inextricably linked. Therefore, there is no alternative to solving water problems that takes into account equally the interests of countries and peoples of the region" [10]. Proposed by him formula, which has approach to solving the most pressing problems in Central Asia has been positively received by all countries in the region that opens a real prospect for a legal solution to the issue. Water resources from conflict factor may again become a significant tool for associations of neighbors, as it was for many centuries the historic communication peoples occupying the land.

Conclusion.

These examples show that the international community and the world's leading centers of influence are considering Central Asian region increasingly as an independent subject of international relations. Large inventory of sought-after natural resource in today's world, solid intellectual potential, promising prospects of laying here transport corridors, capable to connect the shortest way the whole Eurasian continent, initially attracted the attention of external players to Central Asia. And the remarkable increase in political, economic and social installations on strengthening cooperation between the countries of the region shows also strengthening the political will of local elites in favor of consolidation of efforts in a variety of areas, including foreign policy. In addition to these economic imperatives increasingly move toward regional cooperation, comes the awareness of the prospects of more meaningful benefits from

Impact Factor:

| | | | | | |
|------------------|---------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| ISRA (India) | = 3.117 | SIS (USA) | = 0.912 | ICV (Poland) | = 6.630 |
| ISI (Dubai, UAE) | = 0.829 | PИHИЦ (Russia) | = 0.156 | PIF (India) | = 1.940 |
| GIF (Australia) | = 0.564 | ESJI (KZ) | = 8.716 | IBI (India) | = 4.260 |
| JIF | = 1.500 | SJIF (Morocco) | = 5.667 | OAJI (USA) | = 0.350 |

partnership, starting inner circle, not the other way around, that has characterized recent past. The strengthening of this objective trend also contributes

to the centuries-old neighborhood, shared values, which is rapidly emerging in the context of globalization, almost all spheres of international life.

References:

1. Paramonov, V. (2015). Main problems on the way of cooperation in Central Asia: forecasts of foreign policy countries of region. «Regional policy». Moscow., v. 18, edition 1.
2. (n.d.). *Speech at the joint meeting of the Legislative Chamber and Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan*. Retrieved 2019, from <http://president.uz/uz/lists/view/5>
3. (n.d.). "Strategies for action in five priority areas for the development of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021". Retrieved 2019, from <http://strategy.gov.uz/en>
4. (n.d.). *Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan signed the boarder agreement*. www.gazeta.uz/ru/2017/11/10/docs/
5. (2017). *Address by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.Mirziyoyev on 72 session of the United Nations General Assembly September 20, 2017*. Retrieved 2019, from <http://.president.uz/en/lists/view/1063>
6. (n.d.). "Strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asia". Retrieved 2019, from <https://unrcca.unmissions.org/general-assembly-adopts-resolution-strengthening-cooperation-central-asia>
7. (n.d.). *Address by UN General Secretary António Guterres on 73 assembly*. Retrieved 2019, from www.un.org/sg/ru/content/reports-secretary-general-work-organization
8. (n.d.). *New opportunities to develop partnership between EU and Central Asia*. Retrieved 2019, from https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/uzbekistan_ru
9. (n.d.). *The first consultative meeting of the heads of Central Asian States*. Retrieved 2019, from <http://uza.uz/en/politics/pervaya-konsultativnaya-vstrecha-glav-gosudarstv-tsentralnoy-15-03-2018>
10. (n.d.). *UN chief: the scarcity of water in the world is becoming more acute*. Retrieved 2019, from <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/4318596>