TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN UZBEKISTAN AND TAJIKISTAN

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Considering issues related to the process of forming the foundations of foreign policy and the entry of Tajikistan into the modern system of international relations, one can see a unique path of its formation. First of all, it should be stated that the Republic of Tajikistan, like other independent states of the post-Soviet space, is faced with problems common to them, the lack of sufficient experience in conducting foreign policies, as well as the legislative framework and institutional structures corresponding to the full implementation of international relations. On the other hand, the formation and active conduct of the country's foreign policy activities was hampered by the political instability that arose at the initial stage of the country's independence, caused by the civil war in Tajikistan.

In the difficult political and socio-economic situation that developed due to the ongoing civil war in the country, Emomali Rakhmonov was able to take the right course to overcome the crisis situation. Enjoying great authority and respect among various layers of Tajik society, in order to stabilize the political situation and the favorable development of the country as an independent entity, he was able to hold a general referendum on November 6, 1994 on the adoption of the Basic Law of the country - the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan.

It is important to note that on November 6, 1994, simultaneously with the holding of a national constitutional referendum, presidential elections were also held. The fact is that in this way it was planned to revive the institution of presidency in Tajikistan, since from November 1992 until the start of these elections, the chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan was actually the head of the country.

Emomali Rakhmonov, being elected President of the Republic of Tajikistan, made every effort to put an end to the senseless fratricidal war, the separation of the Tajik people along ethnic lines and preserve the territorial integrity of the country, and turn it into a full-fledged subject in the world community.

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But, despite all the difficulties, the leadership of Tajikistan made every effort to form the foundations of the country's foreign policy. The study of this issue shows that the formation of Tajikistan's foreign policy activities, corresponding to generally accepted norms of international relations, took place in three stages.

The first stage of the formation of Tajikistan's foreign policy activity is characterized by the existing difficulties associated with the severance of former stable economic ties, the financial and economic crisis and the unleashed civil war. But, despite this, the first steps were taken towards entering the world community and conducting full-fledged international relations. In particular, on January 4, 1992, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan unanimously adopted the

"Appeal of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan to the world community of nations" with a request to recognize the independence of Tajikistan and establish diplomatic relations with it.

It should be noted that after Tajikistan gained state independence, one of the priority directions of the country's foreign policy was accession to universal international organizations, which would facilitate its participation in global processes of international relations. In this regard, one of the striking achievements of Tajikistan's foreign policy was the admission of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to the United Nations (UN) on March 2, 1992, along with eight member countries.

Another important step was that Tajikistan became a full participant in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). This allowed the country to subsequently actively connect to other international structures, thereby becoming a participant in international processes.

Subsequently, Emomali Rakhmonov's coming to power in December 1992 played a major role in determining the main contours of the country's foreign policy. From the first days of his political leadership, the head of the Tajik state chose a multi-vector policy. In his address to the people of Tajikistan on December 12, 1992, Emomali Rakhmonov defined the basic principles of foreign policy. These include the following:

- entry of the republic into the world community;

- establishing diplomatic relations with all countries that want to develop equal and mutually beneficial cooperation with Tajikistan;

- joining international organizations;

- strengthening and further development of good neighborly ties and comprehensive cooperation with the CIS countries, primarily the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and others.

At the same time, for the active implementation of the country's multi-vector policy, taking into account the geopolitical location and economic interests of the Republic of Tajikistan, the country's leadership identified several regions that are included in its vital interests.

Realizing the reality of the current situation in world politics, the leadership of Tajikistan sought to achieve stable relations of interaction with almost all countries, both on a regional and global scale. Such aspirations of the Republic of Tajikistan in foreign policy in its practical interpretation were reflected in 2002 in the officially announced "open door policy". This policy of the Republic of Tajikistan was based on taking into account a number of key points for the country in building a common architecture of international relations. They are related to the following:

- important strategic location of the country, which covers one of the key points of Central Asia;

- increasing the role of the region, which was associated with the beginning of the anti-terrorist campaign in Afghanistan;

- the need for resistance in the fight against new non-traditional threats and collective security;

- personification of the cultural, historical and traditional values of the Tajik people, i.e. friendship and good neighborliness in the country's foreign policy;

- maintaining a balance in the direction of the main priorities of the state's foreign policy;

- attracting foreign direct investment to revive the country's economy and implement reforms in the development of the republic and increase the level of well-being of the population.

The third stage in the formation of Tajikistan's foreign policy occurs in 2013-2014, when a new series of changes in international relations occurs, the vulnerability of national states associated with the emergence of new threats and realities on a global scale. Taking these circumstances into account, in order to ensure national interests, both in the domestic and foreign policy of the country, the development of a new conceptual legal document was required. At the same time, based on their need for a timely response to modern challenges to protect independence

and maintain a balanced foreign policy of the country, on January 27, 2015, by Decree of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, the “Concept of the foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan” was adopted.

This Concept defined the basic principles, goals and objectives, as well as priority directions of the foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan, taking into account national interests for the long term. It notes, in particular: “The need to develop and adopt this Concept is caused by the specification of the goals, objectives and directions of the foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan in the changing conditions of the political, social and economic-cultural life of the state and the formation of a new geopolitical image of the world and region in the second decade of the 21st century. The concept provides for the development and implementation of a foreign policy that promotes the correspondence of the country's development with expanding integration processes, regionalization and globalization, providing new acceptable opportunities for preventing and neutralizing potential threats and challenges, providing the necessary “My foundations for the consistent implementation of national interests on the basis of objectivity and balance.”

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