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ASEAN AND CENTRAL ASIA: ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN POLICY

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Introduction

Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan) 1 at the turn of the XX–XXI centuries, it became the object of increased attention of world economic and political centers. This trend is due to the development of active rivalry between major regional and global powers for influence in the region; numerous ross-border threats and challenges emanating from it; proven hydrocarbon reserves. The future of the region is uncertain. It depends on external causes, political stability, and the degree of internal integration.

For the global economy, Central Asia (CA) is primarily interesting today as a source of raw materials. In the political sphere, issues of threats emanating from there, such as the export of instability, terrorism and religious extremism, drug trafficking, migration and law, are on the agenda for international players.In modern Central Asia, the struggle of external forces takes the form of competition between various integration projects supported by various non-regional forces. In modern Central Asia, the struggle of external forces takes the form of competition between various integration projects supported by various non-regional forces.An important part of these projects is the struggle for the directions of transport communications, and especially pipelines.

As for the post-Soviet space, a number of Western and some Russian researchers believe that it is disintegrating,and its member states are "attracted" to other international regions, which, from the point of view of Dmitry Trenin, a well-known political scientist from the Carnegie Moscow Center, have greater opportunities to maintain stability and intraregional cooperation than the leading integrator of the CIS –Russia.

The higher the degree of institutionalization of international relations in a particular region, the greater the role of formal and informal institutions. An example is modern Western Europe. There, the idea of mutually beneficial cooperation came to the fore in the 1990s. Against the background of the consequences of the collapse of the USSR, multilateral structures also acted effectively in the EU, which tried to replace the functions of individual states in a number of parameters. Due to the fact that the region, in which interaction between its member countries took place with minimal transaction costs, it became attractive for Eastern European states, which sought to minimize the costs of the transition period, including through Western European support.

In conclusion, the author summarizes the main conclusions contained in the chapters,examines the strengths of Japanese diplomacy in Central Asia, based on which it skillfully builds its strategy in this region. As the author concludes, "Japan is looking for ways to strengthen its positions in the region in a limited way, within the limits necessary for the effective implementation of its foreign policy initiatives and ensuring economic interests that will not lead to an aggravation of its relations with neighbors with vital interests in this part of the globe".

Concluding the review, I would like to repeat once again that O.A. Dobrinskaya has done a great job, which has resulted in an interesting book full of a wide variety of information, which covers almost all issues related to the implementation of Japan's strategy in Central Asia. This book, in addition to its scientific component, has an obvious practical significance, which has increased even more in the light of recent events in Afghanistan. In our opinion, it can be useful not only for Russian scientists and diplomats, but also for their colleagues from Central Asian countries, as well as from Japan.

References:

1. Dobrinskaya, O.A. (2020). Strategiya Yaponii v Tsentral'noi Azii: politicheskoe, ekonomicheskoe i kul'turnoe izmerenie [Japan's Strategy in Central Asia: Political, Economic, and Cultural Dimensions]. Moscow: Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences.(In Russian).

