

## CENTRAL ASIA AND TURKEY IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

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Before determining the geopolitical, geoeconomic, and geostrategic place of Turkey in the new geopolitics of Central Asia, we must first delve into the theoretical and methodological foundations of the general globalization process and regional development issues.

The term "globalization" was first introduced by Theodore Levitt, a professor at Harvard Business School, in his article "The Globalization of Markets" published in the Harvard Business Review. By this term, he meant the integration of world markets through the new forms of activity of enterprises, called «global firms». In his opinion, globalization and technology are becoming the main factors determining international relations [1].

The term "globalization" began to be used in the mid-1980s to describe the explosive movement of capital and the integration of financial markets, as a result of the rapid development of new technologies in the field of information and communication. In the 1980s, the concept of globalization was used exclusively in relation to the economic and financial spheres.

In the last decade of the 20th century, political processes associated with the end of the Cold War, massive environmental threats, and increasing economic interdependence led to the greatest expansion of the phenomenon of «globalization», giving it not only an economic, but also a political, historical, geographical, and cultural character.

In the French scientific school, the concept of «Globalization» has two meanings: «La mondialisation» means peace, and «La globalisation» means globalization. In this case, the concept of «globalization» refers to a broad global process - globalization, including economic and financial aspects.

The French dictionary «Mondialization» edited by Pascal Lorot defines the concept as follows: «mondialization means a stage of unhindered global development. In it, everything is within reach, everything is closely interconnected, as a result of which interdependence and cooperation increase. This is the state of our country since the 70s, especially in the 80s. Mondialization, as it is seen, is the end of internationalization / covering only a part of countries and spheres of activity / and differs from globalization / which, in addition to eliminating barriers and advantages, leads to their elimination in the concept of time with the help of information technologies» [2].

In the conditions of modern globalization, the need to master new dimensions of space and time is becoming increasingly evident. The growing importance of new information technologies, their coverage of new fields and world regions, is a process of «condensing» the world.

Therefore, what is the meaning of this process, which belongs to the destiny of human civilization in general and to modern civilization?

In today's science, many researchers understand globalization as a part of modernization. The revival of this process is associated with the spread of Western influence and its culture throughout the world. New industrial information technologies have become a new basis for the unequal fragmentation of the world, the connections between different regions.

In the current era of globalization, the gap between rich and poor countries is growing. Since globalization is a reference indicator for many countries today, in many cases it has become a special system of value orientation. The basis of this system is predominantly the axiological

systems of Western countries. For example, in the political system - democracy, civil society, horizontal communication, market systems of production, private property institutions, competition, labor and income, the essence of the cultural system, individualism, pragmatism. Therefore, today's problem is not just the creation of another system of international relations, but the formation of a common, new world order.

According to U. Beck, it is necessary to distinguish a number of dimensions of globalization. In this regard, it is desirable to include communication technologies, ecology, economy, action, organization, culture and civil society in any list of them. The author believes that «globalization means the increasingly diminishing importance of borders for the economy, information, ecology, technologies, intercultural conflicts and everyday activities of civil society at various levels» [3]. Therefore, money, technology, goods, information and toxic substances freely pass through borders.

Meanwhile, the well-known Harvard University scholar Stanley Hofmann [4] argues that the world is experiencing a «globalization» conflict. In his opinion, globalization consists of three forms, each with its own problems. The first is economic globalization, which is a revolution in technology, information, trade, investment, and international business. Its main players are companies, investors, banks, the private sector, states, and international organizations. The specialization and integration of companies allows for the increase of common wealth. However, the logic of pure capitalism is not conducive to social justice.

Therefore, economic globalization is a potential cause of inequality between and within states, raising concerns about global competitiveness and the way states and other actors involved in this process address this problem. Second, a hallmark of globalization is political globalization, and the third is cultural globalization.

So what is «globalization»? This question can be defined in one word as the growing interdependence of the nation-states and regions that make up the world community, and the gradual integration of economic, political, and cultural norms and rules common to all of them into a single system.

The 20th century was one of the most turbulent periods in human history. One of those turbulent periods was the collapse of the USSR and the demise of the socialist system.

The ranks of the world community have been replenished with the ranks of newly independent states. Previously, the Allied countries have been developing within the framework of their independence, sometimes winning, sometimes losing, with economic and social difficulties. Today, it can be said that the establishment of the international political stage of the political sovereignty of the newly independent states is completed, and not only this, but also the financial and monetary, socio-economic systems have been formed. Relations between the newly formed states are on the verge of breaking. Economic ties that have been established for many years are also beginning to weaken, and this, in turn, has had a negative impact on the economy of each of the new states.

A new trend in the system of international relations that arose as a result of the integration process in Central Asia, the internationalization of social life and the need to strengthen the national and state security of the integrating states. The relevance of this topic can also be noted in ensuring or creating conditions for the development of stability and security in each state participating in the integration process in Central Asia.

The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev in his address to the people of Kazakhstan «Kazakhstan-2030» emphasized: «Our best weapon in protecting national interests. As well as ensuring the balance of power in the near and distant future is the policy of integration, and first of all, non-interference in the affairs of other states, acts of agreement should prevail, not resistance to strengthening the Central Asian Union between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan» [5].

The peculiarity of the Central Asian integration process lies in the similarity of the history, culture, socio-political, and economic foundations of the newly independent states. The complexity of the ethno-territorial system in this region may become a hotbed of some

international or regional conflicts, and the depth of the integration process, along with other necessary methods, may play a decisive role in resolving these issues.

Water resources in Central Asia are not evenly distributed among the states. The headwaters, middle reaches, and tailwaters of even the largest rivers are located in different states. This problem became acute in the first years after independence. One of the largest hydrological phenomena in this region is the Aral Sea. Of course, I think that the most correct solution is to solve these problems together within the framework of an integration structure.

One of the specific features of the integration process in Central Asia is the lack of access to sea-transport communication routes for all states in the region. The presence of some powers in these regions creates the possibility of imbalance, which in turn can have a negative impact on national security, and integration processes in all cases require a response to the above and the interdependence, that is, correlation, of the geostrategic interests of the participating groups.

N.A. Nazarbayev showed that integration cooperation for the CIS countries is not only an economic necessity, but also a stimulus for improvement, stability, and, if necessary, a stimulus for the future.

Currently, the world is developing in the process of mutual integration system. Trade, economic, currency, customs and political unification are taking place in many regions of the world. This is an objective and legitimate process. Integration is currently one of the growing trends in world development. The 21st century is the century of integration. A sense of mutual dependence of the integration process helps a person to solve global and regional problems.

After gaining their independence, the former Soviet Republics began to shape their domestic and foreign policies through political, economic, administrative, and financial reforms. The states that had become part of the former Soviet Union faced a difficult choice:

- Remaining isolated, grateful for the sovereignty achieved;
- Falling under the influence of a powerful State and becoming their source of raw materials;
- Creating a new Eurasian development center in the former Soviet space, using the example of a united Europe.

Thus, new integration groups began to emerge on the territory of the former USSR: the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Customs Union, the Central Asian Council, GUUAM, etc. The economy is undoubtedly the most important component of integration. Historically established economic ties, as well as the specifics of the geopolitical situation, require the need for a comprehensive and socially effective use of export and transit-transport. Moreover, there are issues that cannot be resolved on a bilateral basis, as indicated above. In particular, we are talking about the coordinated and rational use of hydropower resources and transit-transport potential, joint overcoming of the consequences of a large-scale ecological disaster, namely in the Aral Sea region; the creation of an effective system of regional security; coordination of joint activities in the fight against terrorism, religious extremism and drug trafficking.

The idea of regional integration of the Central Asian states was realized with the signing of the Treaty on the Creation of a Common Economic Space (CES) on April 30, 1994. The participants were Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan (since March 26, 1998, Tajikistan has become a full member of the treaty).

Article 1 of this agreement states: «The Unified Economic Council is established between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan for the purpose of implementing a joint program for the deepening of economic integration between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan for 1994-2000, which will ensure the free movement of goods, services, and labor, as well as a joint credit and settlement, budget, tax, price, customs, and currency policy» [6].

In the context of the development of the Treaty, in July 1994, by the decision of the Presidents, the Interstate Council and its main institutions - the Council of Prime Ministers, the Council of Foreign Ministers, the Council of Defense Ministers and their permanent working body - the Executive Committee were established. The Executive Committee was entrusted with

coordinating and advisory, forecasting and analytical, information services, and monitoring and supervision of the implementation of the decisions of the Interstate Council and its institutions. Each state has one vote in the Interstate Council. Decisions are made by consensus. The Prime Minister, the Council of Foreign Ministers, and the Council of Security Ministers must meet at least once every six months.

At the same time, agreements were signed on the establishment of the Central Asian Bank for Cooperation and Development, the capital of which is formed from the equity contributions of the participating states. At the same time, a significant difference in the level of economic reforms in the countries of Central Asia, the relative isolation of the Central Asian Union required new forms of work within this organization. Therefore, at the meeting of the Interstate Council (July 17-18, 1998), a new name for the regional association was approved - the Central Asian Economic Community (CAEC). In August 1996, the Interstate Council accepted Russia as an observer, and in July 1999, Georgia, Turkey and Ukraine received the same status.

The interest of the world's leading states in Central Asia and Transcaucasia is explained by several reasons:

- Firstly, they are located in a geostrategically important part of Asia, through whose territory air and communication routes pass;
- Secondly, this region is of great interest due to its mineral resources - precious metals, iron ore, energy resources, including the Caspian Sea;
- Thirdly, this region is a very large, underdeveloped market for finished products, which will grow as natural resources are used more efficiently;
- Fourth, by occupying an influential position in the industrial sector of a newly independent state, it is possible to influence the economic situation of neighboring countries and regions, especially in exports and transport;
- Fifth, the weakening of traditional centuries-old Russian influence and economic ties with Russia. Hence the need for the region to develop independently, making it more susceptible to the influence of other political and economic forces.

The independence of the Central Asian states necessitated the identification of new strategic approaches to interstate cooperation and regional integration.

An analysis of the implementation of relevant treaties and agreements of the Central Asian countries demonstrates their desire to develop cooperation on a wide range of political, trade, economic, and military issues. This is reflected in the focus on the need to continue intensive work on the position of Kazakhstan. This meets the fundamental interests of the people of Central Asia.

At the CIS Interstate Council in Dushanbe in June 2000, the presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan exchanged views on the prospects for the development of the Community and the joint use of water energy resources in the Central Asian region. The parties agreed that the international water energy consortium would ensure the rational use of water resources of transboundary rivers in the interests of all states of the region.

Seeking to deepen integration within the framework of the EAEU, the presidents approved a development strategy for the community for the period up to 2005. This document envisages mobilizing the efforts of the participating states in the following priority areas of economic interaction.

- Revitalization of trade and economic ties;
- Joint and rational use of water and energy resources;
- Pursuing coordinated policies in the field of development of the transport and communication system;
- Improving existing economic ties and developing import-substituting production;
- To provide the most favorable conditions for expanding humanitarian and cultural ties between the peoples of the CIS countries.

The program of priority actions of the CIS countries to form a single economic space for the period until 2002 was approved. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan agreed to deepen economic integration and interaction, first of all by creating a free trade zone, and then a

common market for goods, services and capital, and then gradually creating a customs union, payment and currency unions.

in interstate highway and rail transport, ensuring the export of transit cargo to third-country markets; in the design of the Trans-Asia-Europe (TAE) highway. There are agreements and they are being implemented in the areas of interstate land lease, automobiles, pharmaceutical production and healthcare.

If we look at the history of the European continent, we will see that the continent has gone through a turbulent path until today, with several serious wars and confrontations, and in many countries, power struggles in a state of constant danger. However, we will notice that all these difficulties were overcome only thanks to integration processes. For example: If we take the two largest European states, Germany and France, both countries have had bloody wars in their history. These are: the wars of 1870, 1914-1918, and 1939-1945. These wars have upset not only Europe, but the whole world. The then leaders of France and Germany, S. de Gaulle and K. Adenauer, felt the need to abandon confrontations and wars and embark on the path of economic cooperation, and Europe moved towards peaceful development. The European integration process gained momentum after the European Coal and Steel Community was established in 1951, the Treaty of Rome on the establishment of the Central Market in 1957, and the European Union was established in 1993 under the Maastricht Treaty.

Let's take the experience of regional integration of ASEAN member states. This region of Southeast Asia was a battlefield in the 60s-80s (Vietnam War, Cambodian tensions, etc.). The causes of conflicts between these countries were mainly economic, for example, border disputes over fishing, the use of water and forest resources, etc. At the same time, external factors also influenced the occurrence of large-scale wars in this region, namely the Cold War period, direct intervention by a state outside the region.

However, as a result of the successful establishment of ASEAN in the 1990s, the region, especially the Indochina Peninsula, gradually transformed from a battlefield into a market. Southeast Asia underwent a period of transition from a geopolitical paradigm to a geo-economic paradigm. The region's desire to further strengthen cooperation is evident in the signing of the Singapore Declaration at the Fourth ASEAN Summit on 2 January 1992.

Speaking about the importance of economic integration, it should be noted that even large and powerful states like the United States need such a direction. This is evidenced by the fact that the economic direction pursued by these countries, which have established economic cooperation with the United States, Mexico and Canada, increases the importance of the policy of integration. Summarizing all this, the world today is a set of global and regional blocs. The countries of Central Asia are also striving to jointly solve pressing problems and integrate.

The independence of the Central Asian states is aimed at creating new strategic steps in the formation of a market economy, as well as accelerating interstate cooperation and integration processes, in line with modern requirements. The similarity of the economic, social and environmental problems of the Central Asian states requires deepening cooperation in finding solutions to them. Common borders, the presence of transport and similar communication links, an abundance of natural resources, industrial production create the prerequisites for cooperation, the creation of joint ventures and the creation of agro-industrial complexes.

Some experts believe that the aspirations of the CIS and Central Asian states for integration are a political game between Moscow and the CIS. Of course, it is understandable that these initiatives have political underpinnings, but we should not forget that there is an objective reality that is pushing the countries of the region towards integration.

At the same time, the issue of Kazakhstan's aspiration for global and regional integration in the era of globalization is of great interest to society. This is due to the fact that integration is a contradictory process, both providing additional support for the country's development and relegating it to the ranks of countries with underdeveloped economies.

The younger generation of Kazakhstanis is seeking answers to the demands of the times and is striving to offer ways to improve society within the framework of integration processes.

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