

CHINA`S ECONOMIC AND SECURITY INTERESTS IN CENTRAL ASIA

Akbota Akyingaziyeva Askarkyzy

Suleyman Demirel University

Abstract

In my report the main stages of China`s important interests towards the Central Asian countries will be given. China`s economic reform has been successful, making it become a major economic power.

1. Introduction

For Central Asia, when entering the world market economy, it is especially important to study the peculiarities of the development of mighty China as a neighbor, as a partner and as a competitor. The main objective of this work is to find the interests of the PRC in the period of economic development, to explore the features of development and security with respect to political interests to the countries of Central Asia. In my work, the opportunities of China, which can become the leader of the world economy, are indicated. In a word, the role of Central Asia is defined as mutual understanding of the countries and separately with respect to China.

The key words: Central Asia, security, China, foreign policy, region, geo-economic, domestic policy, method, trade, cooperation.

Over the centuries, an intensive process of economic, scientific, and cultural interaction has been taking place between Central Asia and China. In the historical period of the heyday of the Great Silk Road and until the middle of the second millennium AD, the countries located on the territory of the Central Asian region served as a transport bridge between China and Europe, acting simultaneously as trade, financial and production centers. At the same time, China for a long time remained the main source of scientific knowledge and advanced technologies for Central Asia.

At the end of the XIX century, when Central Asia became part of the Russian Empire, its ties with China significantly weakened. In the XX century,

when the countries of the Central Asian region were part of the USSR, their relations with China were virtually canceled.

In 1991, with the acquisition of national independence by the Central Asian republics, the new states of the region were objectively interested in developing cooperation with neighboring countries and entering the international arena. In the early 90-ies of XX century building relations in Central Asia (CA) with the People's Republic of China (PRC) began practically from "zero" and, as activation, acquired new forms and contents.

The main task for Chinese diplomacy was the formulation of a comprehensive Central Asian policy. Since the goals of foreign policy in the region were formulated on the basis of the internal needs of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region (XUAR) and the PRC in general, relations with the countries of Central Asia have become part of the PRC border diplomacy. Within this framework, a "favorable environment along the perimeter of borders" was formed, which was necessary for internal development.

The most important event of the post-Soviet period for China was the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). This is an unprecedented step, which decided the leadership of the PRC, which actually legitimized the presence of China in Central Asia.

For the Central Asian states, China is one of the significant poles in the framework of multi-vector diplomacy. The state is simultaneously a part of international relations in the region and an important partner. For its part, Chinese diplomacy was forced to face neighboring regional actors. The relevance of the topic is also due to the fact that Central Asia has an important geostrategic and geo-economic significance for the entire continent. The region has a significant conflict potential. Allocate internal and external security threats. Internal challenges include socio-economic and environmental problems that contribute to the development of political instability. External threats include threats of international terrorism, religious extremism, drug industry, geo-economic and geopolitical influence. The study of the problems of military-political and economic cooperation is topical, since the analysis makes it possible to predict and correct the further development of relations. Of particular importance is the issue of mechanisms to counter threats to security, that is, the creation of an effective system of integrated security capable of ensuring the real sovereignty of the states of the region.

The favorable geopolitical position of the PRC creates favorable opportunities for forming the routes of the "Economic belt of the Silk Road", which connects the areas of China, Central Asia, Russia, the Caspian, the Caucasus, Turkey, the Middle East and Europe. The possession of the natural wealth of Xinjiang also provides an opportunity for cross-border trade, which contributes to the strengthening of mutual understanding and political stability

in the region, the development of ties with the CIS, CSTO, and the Unified Energy System.

The subject of this study is the security and economic policy of the People's Republic of China in relation to Central Asia.

The subject of the study is the definition of the significance and role of the Central Asian countries in China's foreign policy.

The purpose of the study is to identify the resources of China's foreign and domestic policy in relation to Central Asia to prevent current challenges and threats to national and international security.

This goal led to the formulation and implementation of the following research tasks:

1. the study of the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the definition of the concept of international security in the context of globalization, taking into account the geopolitical situation of China and the growing influence of the PRC in world politics as a "responsible power"
2. identification of foreign policy resources created due to historical peculiarities, favorable geopolitical situation of China and Central Asia
3. a study of the economic processes of the PRC and Central Asia, in terms of prevention and threats to national and international security
4. assessment of China's importance in the development of multilateral relations with the states of Central Asia, the Eurasian integration processes in the context of contemporary challenges to international security.
5. an analysis of the mechanisms of interaction between the countries of the Central Asian region and China within the framework of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).
6. assessment of the place and roll and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in ensuring regional security in China and Central Asia.

The scientific novelty of the study is a complex analysis of external and internal challenges, factors of maintaining geopolitical stability, taking into account the socio-political situation in China and its impact on Central Asia, rich in natural resources, transport potential, for building an integrated policy of socio-cultural and political development, maintaining national and international security.

The theoretical and methodological basis of the research is set of interdisciplinary principles, methods and criteria for cognition of political phenomena, developed by domestic and foreign scientists of political science. An important component of the theoretical basis of the study was the works of prominent representatives of social and political thought, the research of specialists in international relations, domestic and foreign philosophers, political scientists, psychologists, which allowed assessing the dynamics of interstate interaction, confirming or refuting the stated foreign policy goals and objectives.

The main political methods used in the work: the method of semantic differential; method of the content analysis of political discourse and content analysis of the non-verbal component of the formation of China's political image in the media, the historical genetic method that provides an analysis of the existence of significant determinants in the PRC policy at various stages of implementing specific foreign policy strategies in the region.

The theoretical and practical significance of the results and their applied significance is that the main provisions can be used as a model for reconstructing the history of foreign policy in the Central Asian region, as well as for analyzing China's current foreign policy and its regional component.

The main modern theories and concepts formulated and presented by China as "own" are directly interrelated with Western and Soviet models, which act simultaneously both as internal political and as foreign policy. In this context, priority is given to internal development, understood as a "favorable external situation" (the absence of large-scale wars and conflicts).

The main provisions, theses and generalizations of this scientific research can be used in the development of basic and additional courses for the directions "International Relations", "Foreign Regional Studies", in the preparation of educational and teaching aids for general history, international relations, regional studies. The results of the research can be applied within the courses "Regional and National Security", "International Relations and Foreign Policy in the Asia-Pacific Region", "China's Policy in Central Asia".

The structure of the thesis is determined by the purpose, objectives and concept of the research. The work consists of an introduction, three chapters, conclusion, a list of used literature.

2. China's political interests and security problems in Central Asia

China's foreign policy in Central Asia has four strategic directions: security, energy, trade, cultural cooperation, which are also directed to the Central Asian region. They can be divided into six key elements: 1) border security; 2) the struggle against the movement "Eastern Turkestan"; 3) energy; 4) economic interests; 5) geopolitics; and 6) the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the five former Soviet republics, form the Central Asian region, located in the center of Eurasia, the largest and most densely populated continent on which the main reserves of natural resources are concentrated.

These countries are also part of the Eurasian Balkans zone, designated by Zbigniew Brzezinski, an American expert on geopolitics, and includes areas of South-Eastern Europe, Central Asia (CA) and parts of South Asia, the Persian Gulf and the Middle East.

Brzezinski described this zone as a zone of instability, which is a "temptation for interference from more powerful neighbors." It is on this territory that the geopolitical process, designated by the term "The Greatest Game", a new stage of the so-called "Great Game", the rivalry of the neocolonial powers for the primacy in the region, is currently taking place [1].

Analyzing foreign policy V. Paramonov, O. Stolpovskiy and A. Storokov distinguish three main stages of its development [2]:

The first stage (1992-1995).

1. analysis of the processes of the collapse of the USSR and the emergence of a new geopolitical region
2. establishment and expansion of diplomatic contacts
3. attempts to solve the problems of the security of state borders.

The main features of China's foreign policy of the first stage are flexible and cautious manifestations of the nature of foreign policy: the formation of a new diplomatic line "from scratch" of the Central Asian vector of politics. The format of relations with the countries was defined as bilateral, and the institutional cooperation was represented by the 4 + 1 working group (Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and China) who tried to solve the key issue of Uyghur separatism.

The second stage (1996 - 2001).

1. formation of mechanisms and institutions of multilateral cooperation
2. expansion of economic presence in Central Asia.

In the second stage, there was a noticeable intensification of the Central Asian foreign policy direction (penetration strategy): the analysis showed that the region is prone to transnational expansion (international terrorism, separatism, extremism and drug trafficking). In parallel, there are processes of transformation of the group "4 + 1" into the "Shanghai Five" (1996). Subsequently, on its base in 2001, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was established.

The second stage was a turning point in the relationship between China and Central Asia. The main focus was on addressing security problems, as well as strengthening and strengthening partnerships with Central Asian countries and the Russian Federation. The trade turnover with the countries of the region almost doubled and amounted to about 10 billion dollars.

The third stage (2001 - present)

- transition to "offensive policy"
- Chinese expansion to the leading position in the region.

After September 11, 2001, there have been strategic changes in the field of China's foreign policy in Central Asia: an offensive strategy is being chosen, attempts are being made to achieve a certain balance of power in connection with the arrival of the United States in the region. In the region to date, we can

talk about the triangle of the great powers "US-China-Russia." In an effort to strengthen its influence, the PRC focuses on strengthening the position of the SCO in the region, and, as strengthening instruments, chooses economic incentives, increasing lending for the SCO member countries.

In Central Asia, factors that impede interstate interaction are still important. The destabilization at the regional level is fraught with the relationship between individual states. Border problems, mutual fears, rivalry, craving for isolationism, unsettled relationships lead to tension between them. There are obstacles for intra-regional exchanges, for the interaction of divided ethnic groups in the territory of Central Asia. This happens in a situation when the states having disputable problems are members of the same international organizations, in which Kazakhstan and Russia have the most important role [3].

Six major foreign policy elements of Chinese politics in Central Asia arose not simultaneously, but in stages, changing in accordance with the dynamics of geopolitical processes. After the collapse of the USSR and the formation of independent states in Central Asia in 1991, China is constantly rethinking its policies and interests in this region.

- Threats to the security of the Central Asian region

Stages of development of relations of China and the Central Asian region, taking into account the impact of global and regional changes and threats to security includes:

- The first stage (1991-1995) is connected with the establishment of diplomatic relations, the formation of trust, the legal basis, first of all, in the context of territorial disputes inherited from the confrontation between the PRC and the USSR. In 1992, the Collective Security Treaty (CST) was signed. For this period, there was a civil war in Tajikistan, an acute confrontation between the authorities and the opposition in Uzbekistan.
- The second stage (1995-2001) is characterized by the formation in CA of mechanisms for regional cooperation and dispute resolution. China's economic influence will expand. In 1997, the civil war in Tajikistan ended. At the same time, the Islamic movements in Uzbekistan (Hizbut-Tahrir, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan) continued their actions. In February 1999, terrorist acts were organized.
- The third stage (2001-2011). Terrorist acts in the US, Russia, China and other countries exacerbated the political situation in the world, had a significant impact on the situation in Central Asia. In December 2001 The UN Security Council approved the start of the military operation of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan under the aegis of the United States. In

2001, the SCO was established, which included, along with the PRC and Russia, first 3, then 4 CA states. In 2002, the CST was transformed into the CSTO. The United States and coalition allies began the war in Iraq in 2003. There was a violent change of power in Kyrgyzstan in 2005, a series of bombings and attacks on police stations (2004) and unrest (2005) in Uzbekistan, as well as a brutal interethnic conflict in XUAR (2009). In 2011, a series of revolutions broke out in the civil wars in Libya and Syria; their influence was reflected in the XUAR and Central Asia.

• At the fourth stage (2011-present) in CA, on the one hand, the role of the PRC and Russia and the international-political weight of the SCO have increased, on the other hand, the activity of the United States has decreased somewhat. The situation in the region was affected by some cooling of US-China relations, deepening of integration within the Eurasian Economic Community, and then by the EAEC, with the participation of two CA states bordering on the XUAR. After the events in Ukraine in 2014, the US position on Russia was toughened, which intensified its eastern policy. A certain influence was exacerbated by Russia's relations with the EU as the implementation of the plans of the Eastern Partnership. Significant coordination of Russia's and China's actions with regard to Syria and the threats of the spread of IGSF, dangerous for the North Caucasus, XUAR, CA and the world as a whole. Analyzing the main stages of political stabilization in the region, the author paid considerable attention to resolving territorial disputes with Russia and the states of Central Asia after the collapse of the USSR. An important role was played by the recognition by the Government of the PRC of the independence of new states and the establishment of diplomatic relations with them.

The activation of extremist and terrorist organizations in Central Asia is extremely beneficial for the drug mafia for two reasons:

1. transfers visible accents of power structures of the region;
2. gives an opportunity to join forces with terrorist organizations in order to destabilize the situation in the region.

The reality of such an alliance is even more probable during the period of the change of political elites in some countries of Central Asia, which can lead to the emergence of representatives of narcotic drugs in the highest structures of state power. All this creates conditions for the consideration of the Central Asian region as a favorable transit zone and, in particular, as a zone for the sale of some drugs [13].

China's military cooperation with the countries of Central Asia is reduced to conducting large-scale bilateral or multilateral military exercises. China since 2002 participated in 20 exercises. The first exercises were held jointly with Kyrgyzstan in the format of bilateral military exercises. The first multilateral exercises were held in the east of Kazakhstan and in the XUAR.

They were attended by Chinese, Kazakh, Russian, Kyrgyz and Tajik servicemen. In 2006, China took part in antiterrorist military exercises. Participants of the scientist were China, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Every year, also with the participation of China, military exercises "Peace Mission" are held. In 2010, during the next military exercises "Peace Mission", PRC presented about 1,000 military personnel, an air force unit and a logistics group [14].

Securing the security of the Central Asian region is China's top priority. Considering security problems in a bilateral format, it should be noted that the Chinese-Uzbek relations, for example, are determined to a greater extent by security interests from China. China in 2012 did not approve of Uzbekistan's approach to the problem of Afghanistan, declared in the SCO, namely - the expansion of economic ties with the Afghan Uzbeks and the creation of a security belt in the north of this country. Objectively, at the moment, the policy of Uzbekistan continues to strengthen separatist sentiments and create a threat of secession of the Uzbek and Uzbek-Tajik parts of Afghanistan. However, Uzbekistan excludes a military solution to the Afghan problem and asks to find solutions to problems taking into account the national specifics of the emerging social conflicts [15].

To date, the concept of "new security", which is based on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination of actions between countries, will be relevant to China's foreign policy. This concept is a key component of China's foreign policy and the main principle of the national strategy.

- Conclusion

1. The Chinese idea of a "strategic partnership" that has not yet evolved into a concept is increasingly being used to impart a stable and long-term character to China's bilateral relations with other actors in international relations.
2. Transformation of foreign policy can be presented in the form of five stages, reflecting the characteristics of China's foreign policy in certain time periods. Currently, foreign policy is being considered in the framework of the fifth stage (2012-present), and the peculiarity of this stage is the adoption of more active participation in international affairs. The common place of the latest foreign policy concepts of China is to establish and maintain normal contacts with all members of the world community.
3. The establishment of partnership relations with Central Asia has become one of the key instruments of China's foreign policy. The Partnership Institute has demonstrated its relevance and the need to mitigate the negative reaction of countries that fear China's dynamic rise. To date, partnership remains an instrument of foreign policy, which in the future will be transformed.
4. China regards Central Asia as a region capable of ensuring national security, and also as a region that can be an alternative zone of China's influence after

the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan.

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US POLICY TOWARDS CENTRAL ASIA

Altynai Yechshanova

Suleyman Demirel University

Abstract

The report demonstrates stages of United State`s policy towards Central Asia. As the region has become one of the main actors of today`s world with numbers of reasons, such as its geopolitical significance; possible and planned transport and pipeline routes; the richest natural and human resources. The noticeable stages can be seen due to mentioned importance of the region, and can be divided into certain periods. In this paper, the evolution of the main trends and mechanisms for implementing the strategy of the United States in Central Asia from 1991 until 2005, the primary two stages will be described.