SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Soft Power in Turkish Foreign Policy.
Author: Belikova Ilona
Academic Adviser: Suchkov M., Assistant Professor, PhD, Political Science

Organization: School of International Relations, Chair of International Relations, Political Science and World Economy, Pyatigorsk State University.

Relevance of the research issue is determined by fundamental transformation of Turkish foreign-policy strategy after Justice and Development Party came to power in 2002. Turkish leaders have chosen dramatically new foreign-policy course in the frame of which a new objective have been defined. According to this goal, Turkey should be represented as regional and global power.

Turkey’s foreign policy ambitions recently have given its neighboring states justifiable concern. Enhanced its regional policy, Ankara aims at strengthening its influence in former Ottoman Empire territories, nowadays many of which are gripped by a deep political crises. Representing an example of transition from empire to national state of consequent Europeanization, on the one hand, and development Moslem country with capacity to expansion, on the other hand, Turkey is able to be attractive beacon for countries and nations, which are faced with difficulties choosing their own path.

Turkey’s leaders have chosen “soft power” strategy as a key element to produce stably positive image of the state on international arena in order to strengthen its influence on global political processes.

Turkey strengthening its political, diplomatic and humanitarian presence in regions, applies “soft power” strategy so as to assign a part of mediator to itself to solve problems in the region and to enhance its role in foreign-policy activity. All of these can be expressed in the export of intellectual values and cultural expansion. A fact that Turkey’s foreign-policy activity implemented by “soft power” can have harmful effect for many countries, including Russia, especially in the conditions of the aggravation of Russian-Turkish relations, also determines the relevance of the present study.

The purpose of the work is to outline key role of “soft power” concept being implemented Turkey’s foreign-policy course in relation to other country and to define its tools and doctrinal basis.

Research objectives:
- outline the peculiarity of the “soft power” concept in the system of present-day state’s foreign policy;
- analyze doctrinal basis of Turkish “soft power” foreign-policy;
- expose key tools and mechanisms of Turkish foreign policy at present stage;
- outline major aspects and problems of practical implementation of “soft power” in foreign policy of Turkish Republic.

**Scientific novelty:**

- essence of Turkish modern foreign-policy concept have been exposed and it was proved that it is characterized by many vectorial policy, proactivity and valuable directivity;

- particularity of principles and mechanisms of Turkish “soft power” foreign-policy strategy have been conceptualized and it was proved that they can be divisible into 4 conditional groups: humanitarian projects, network technologies, ethnic diasporas and innovative economic projects.

**Structure:** the two chapters, containing two paragraphs each, the conclusion and a 118-reference bibliography (65 of which are in foreign languages). The total volume is 70 pages.

**Summary:** Nowadays “soft power” is one of the most important factors of foreign-policy activity of the state, and specific latent management tool of international processes, which is becoming more actual in the age of globalization. The American professor Joseph Nye’s concept of “soft power” has found practical use in foreign-policy strategy of today’s Republic of Turkey. Turkey, which until recently actively having applied “soft power” strategy in order to strengthen its position, has accumulated rather large arsenal of “soft power” tools such as state institutions, methods of cultural diplomacy, work of non-governmental structures, implementation of economic and infrastructural projects abroad in order to form positive foreign-policy image.

Turkish leaders actively prepare pro-Turkish ruling elite in regions, which are strategically significant for Ankara. Turkey’s “soft power” strategy is implemented by means of such mechanisms as using of ethnic, linguistic, cultural and humanitarian projects, which are rather effective to spread Turkish ideology and influence.

But at the moment despite the fact that Ankara has a great arsenal of “soft power” means and for a long time many of them have allowed Turkey to implement its national interests and create positive image abroad, in the wake of last events it is becoming obvious that Turkish ruling elite is favoring the use of more aggressive foreign-policy activity. However, in short-term prospects Turkish leaders need to realize that their imperial ambitions implemented by “hard power” tools only, can lead rather successful country to full breakdown.