

## SUMMARY

**Subject of the thesis:** Germany's foreign policy towards the states of the European Union

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**Topicality of the research issue:** The modern world order is gradually turning into a state of multipolarity. This is evidenced by the gradual formation of new centers of power, which already constitute real US competition in the world arena.

One such decision-making center is the European Union, one of the main driving forces which can be considered Germany in this regard, Berlin's foreign policy in the EU is of considerable interest for research. The foreign policy of the Federal Republic of Germany is a system of economic, military and cultural-ideological relations with foreign states that are implemented on a bilateral and multilateral basis, taking into account the international situation, the role and place of the FRG in the world community and factors of domestic political development.

Withdrawal from the EU, the UK has set new benchmarks for the scientific community and for international scholars in connection with the need for detailed analysis and forecasting of future processes in this region. Obviously, the EU is in a stage of change, the region is facing new challenges and threats, which guides the leaders of the integration association to minimize them.

Considerable research and practical interest also represents the future of German-Russian relations in the context of German European politics. The cooling of relations in connection with the events in Ukraine and the Middle East puts before the scientific and expert community goals and tasks to identify the state and prospects for the development of bilateral relations.

Thus, this argument and the stated problem have both scientific-theoretical and practical significance, which led to the choice of the topic.

**The purpose** is to identify the main directions and prospects for Germany's foreign policy regarding the states of the European Union.

### **Research objectives:**

- explore the notion of "foreign policy" in political studies;
- determine the mechanisms for implementing the current foreign policy of the state;
- analyze the conceptual framework of Germany's foreign policy and its main directions;
- to give a description of the state and prospects of Germany's foreign policy towards the states of the European Union;
- Analyze German-Russian relations in the context of German foreign policy in the EU.

### **Scientific novelty:**

The scientific novelty of the study is determined by the complex nature of the study, attempts to generalize the processes occurring in the world through the prism of an analysis of Germany's foreign policy. In the context of this work, an attempt was made to analyze Germany's modern foreign policy towards the European Union, identifying key features of its implementation, as well as determining the state and prospects of German-Russian relations in the context of German foreign policy in the EU.

**Structure:** the two chapters, containing five paragraphs, the conclusion and the 89-reference bibliography (52 of which are in foreign languages) and the Appendixes. The total volume is 89 pages.

**Summary:** Within the EU, consisting of 28 states, and in the framework of an even larger EU, new challenges will face Germany and its partners in the future. Influential coalitions and the alignment of forces of the past decades will change, reaching a new balance of interests and claims requires the European policy of readiness for compromise. There is a shift in the centers of gravity from the point of view of the world economy: the EU economy is in a situation of global competition with other economically attractive regions. On the external borders of the EU are zones with less economic, political and social stability. This requires a credible, proactive development and partnership policy, not least with the Mediterranean states.

We should also note that when developing its foreign policy course in the EU of Germany, it is also important to take into account the factor of Russia. An analysis of the cooperation between Russia and Germany showed that at present the scientific and technical cooperation of these countries is of great importance.

Because of the current set of problems in Russian-German relations, their sharp improvement in the positive side is unlikely. Nevertheless, the active interaction of Russia and Germany at different levels in the future can lead to the establishment of relations between the two countries. Interest in mutual economic cooperation can manifest itself for a number of reasons: the use of FRG by Russian energy resources, Russia's interest in German innovative enterprises and investments, and the discussion of various issues within the framework of the Petersburg Dialogue.

Although, due to the sanctions, the indicators of bilateral trade between Russia and Germany have deteriorated, but in general their economic ties continue to develop, therefore, in the current situation, the first place in the relations between the two countries must be prevented from further unwinding the "sanction spiral". As a result, both the German and Russian sides suffer from the imposed sanctions. And the greater risk of non-receipt of profits from investments is born by Germany, as the volume of German investment in Russia is several times greater than the volume of Russian investment in Germany. In turn, the implementation of most investment projects involving German capital, launched before the Ukrainian crisis, continues and goes on schedule.