

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Norwegian foreign policy at the present stage.

Author: Nikonova M.V.

Academic Adviser: Parastatov S.V., Assistant Professor, PhD, Political Science

Organization: School of International Relations, Chair of International Relations, World Economy and International Law, Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University.

Relevance of the research issue: Traditionally, Norway is an active state in foreign policy. The first known Norwegian fighter for peace and the settlement of international conflicts was the polar explorer and diplomat Fridtjof Nansen.

After the Second World War, cooperation in the UN and its specialized organizations was the cornerstone of Norwegian foreign policy. Norway has been the northern flank of NATO since the founding of the alliance and to this day plays an important role in this military-political alliance.

The Norwegian state refused to become a member of the European Union, but closely cooperates with it in a number of areas. About 80% of Norwegian exports of goods and services are in the EU countries. In foreign policy and in the security policy, Norway and the EU share common interests and broad cooperation ties, therefore, development within the EU is very important for Norway. In the economic sphere, Norway's relations with Europe are determined by Norway's accession to the agreement on the European Economic Area. The purpose of this agreement is to provide Norwegian companies with equal conditions for competition with enterprises of the EU countries, and to lay the foundation for close cooperation in many areas of activity and education.

Norway is a member of the OSCE, OECD, the International Trade Organization, and also actively cooperates in regional organizations, for example, the Barents Council, whose priorities are environmental protection, regional development and security of nuclear facilities in the northern regions.

In addition, Norway takes an active position in the international process of peaceful settlement and reconciliation. Here, above all, we refer to the Middle East and Central America, where Norway contributed to the conclusion of agreements between Israelis and Palestinians, unfortunately, until the end and unfulfilled, as well as between partisans and the government in Guatemala.

Currently, Norway is providing serious financial assistance to Russia to protect the environment on the Kola Peninsula - at the sewage treatment plant in the town of Nikel and prevent radiation contamination of the Barents Sea.

At the present stage, relations between Norway and the Russian Federation are in a new phase of their development. A rich history of cooperation, intensive dialogue, and the international political context contribute to the creation of favorable conditions for building a strategic partnership between the two countries in the Arctic.

The world geopolitical processes of the late XX - early XXI centuries, the political and economic development of Russia and Norway transformed relations

between these countries, led to an adjustment of the priority areas of cooperation, as well as the emergence of new trends in it. Russian-Norwegian cooperation at this stage is most intensively developing in the northern border regions and is largely oriented toward the Arctic, the region in which the state interests of Norway and the Russian Federation are concentrated at the present stage.

The purpose of the work is to analyze the topical issues of Norway's current foreign policy.

Research objectives is to:

- explore Norway's relationship with the political aspects of the pan-European process;
- study Norway's position on issues of military disarmament;
- consider the country's approach to the development of northern cooperation;
- characterize the conceptual basis of the Norwegian approach to relations with Russia;
- analyze the problems of the Arctic and Spitsbergen in Russian-Norwegian relations;
- explore the prospects for the development of Russian-Norwegian relations.

Scientific novelty:

- at the present stage, Norway aims to increase its influence in European policy issues, primarily in the revision of current agreements with the European Union, since Norway shares the views and interests of Europe in international politics and works closely with the EU in foreign and security policy;
- relations between Russia and Norway are at a new stage, developing quite dynamically. Long-term cooperation between countries creates the conditions for maintaining a partnership between them. Both sides are making efforts in exploring the Arctic, maintaining regional cooperation, continuing to combat poaching, taking measures to protect the environment, and holding scientific conferences that discuss important issues for countries.

Structure: the two chapters, containing six paragraphs, the conclusion and a 66-reference bibliography (ten of which are in foreign languages) and the three Appendixes. The total volume is 60 pages.

Summary: Norway's foreign policy is marked by a pronounced social orientation. In the period from the end of 1880 - early 1900 gg. the country began to create a social security system: the payment of pensions, unemployment benefits, widows and orphans. The system expanded significantly after the end of World War II. Such events are paid for by the insurance premiums of the working population, entrepreneurs and at the expense of local governments and central authorities.

Also, thanks to the functioning of a wide range of different organizations that are called upon to unite their members by interests, the implementation of the principles of democracy is ensured.

For a long time there has been a practice in Norway, according to which all interested organizations have the opportunity to express their position on this or that issue when the authorities are preparing for a serious decision.

Moreover, there are many trusted persons and authorized organizations in the country, to which the population of the country can appeal, and also if they can not solve this or that issue in state and any other instances. First of all, this concerns the commissioners for ensuring the civil rights of the population, protecting the interests of consumers, and respecting the principles of equality.

There is also an institution of commissioners to address issues of childhood, whose responsibilities are to ensure the interests of children.

In matters of foreign policy, Norwegian citizens have a strong sense of national self-awareness.

According to surveys related to the possible entry of Norway into the European Union, conducted first in 1972 and then later in 1994, it was revealed that the majority of the population opposes the country's accession to the EU.

In 1949, Norway joined NATO. To date, its military efforts within the alliance have declined.

Norway is one of the founding countries of the United Nations. The first secretary general of the organization was the representative of Norway. Oslo considers the UN to be the main body for the maintenance of the international legal order and the system of international security.

As for international humanitarian cooperation, the country plays a major role here. In relation to the country's GNP, Norway invests much more in charity than any other country in the world.

The Norwegian government believes that the country's relations with the Russian Federation will always have two main dimensions. One - neighbor, Russian-Norwegian. Another will be characterized by the participation of the country in the North Atlantic Alliance, as well as belonging to the community, which continues to be perceived as the West. The commonality that Russia understands as the West. And also the attitude of the West to Russia.

The second dimension, by and large, is influenced by Russia's relations with other neighbors, most of whom are allies of Oslo. The country's policy towards Russia depends on how Norway itself copes with these dimensions. That is, how well are neighboring relations developed and, at the same time, Oslo's interests are consolidated, which go beyond the framework of bilateral relations. Since Norway always needs to be secured, able to balance the relationship with a large and, often, unpredictable neighbor.