

SUMMARY

Subject of the graduation research paper: The Role of Nuclear Program in the Framework of Iran's Foreign Policy.

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Topicality of the research subject: Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI, Iran) is one of the key state actors in world politics, which has a significant impact on a range of regional and international issues.

The nuclear program is a major foreign policy priority of Iran. For political leadership of Iran, the nuclear program has come to embody the core themes of the revolution: the struggle for independence, the injustice of foreign powers, and the necessity of self-sufficiency. In this regard, the nuclear program is one of the most important foreign policy tools of Iran, which are used to achieve and protect national interests.

The goal of the research: to conduct a comprehensive study of the role of the nuclear program in the context of Iranian foreign policy and scrutinize the nuclear program as a tool to protect and ensure national interests of Iran.

Tasks of the research:

- To gain knowledge of the major theoretical approaches to the study of foreign policy;
- To study the essence and role of national interests and foreign policy instruments in the framework of the national security system;
- To identify fundamental sources of Iranian foreign and security policies;
- Analyze the nuclear program as a key element of Iran's foreign policy

Scientific novelty of the graduation research paper:

- The author studied and conducted analysis of the contemporary Iranian foreign policy since the election of Iranian President H. Rouhani.
- The author studied specifics of the Geneva interim agreement between Iran and the P5+1 countries achieved in November of 2013 and assessed the prospects for a comprehensive deal between the parties.

Practical applications of research findings. Research findings of the paper can be used by the political leadership of Russia to understand fundamental sources of Iranian foreign and security policies, to make informed decisions with regard to the Iranian nuclear program and other related security issues in the region of Middle East and Central Asia.

Texture includes introduction, two chapters (two paragraphs each), conclusion, literature list and appendix.

Summary. In the first chapter, the author studied scientific aspects regarding the foreign policy of the modern state, national interests and foreign policy instruments. The second chapter is devoted to the fundamental sources of Iranian foreign and security policies and the role of nuclear program in Iranian nuclear program.

The author identifies foreign policy as a goal-oriented system of measures specified in official and unofficial documents and implemented by qualified governmental institutions and state-related bodies to safeguard country's national interests and to achieve its goals within international relations.

National interests can be identified as fundamental needs of society and state, the satisfaction of which ensures the existence and development of the nation. At conceptual level, national interests include the security of the country from the external military and other threats, as well as social and political stability of society and the state. The author defines foreign policy instruments as military, economic, diplomatic, informational, and other state assets, which can be used to safeguard country's national interests and to achieve its goals within international relations.

To date, Iran has a multi-level structure of foreign policy decision making. Within the system Rahbar (spiritual leader – A. Khamenei) approves the goals of Iranian foreign policy, and the President of Iran acts as project manager who chooses means to achieve the foreign policy goals.

Nuclear program plays a significant role in Iran's foreign policy, serving as a tool safeguard country's national interests and to achieve its goals within international relations. Top leadership of Iran (particularly A. Khamenei) believes that there is a direct relationship between scientific achievements, self-sufficiency and political independence. The Geneva framework agreement

achieved in November of 2013 ensured the possibility of concluding a comprehensive agreement between Iran and the international community. Unfortunately the achievement of the comprehensive agreement is hampered by several factors , including:

- Possible tactical nature of the framework agreement concluded in Geneva;
- Uncertainty associated with the US foreign policy after the withdrawal of the US troops from Afghanistan;
- Foreign policy of Israel and Saudi Arabia, which view Iran as a hostile state and regional rival.