

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: « Middle East direction of foreign policy of Germany».

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Relevance of the research issue has a complex nature. Germany, which foreign policy in the Middle East is researched in the work, is one of the most developed and influential countries in the world that has the largest production base and high scientific and technical potential.

In this context, the relevance of the work is due, firstly, to the *need* to investigate the position of the leading countries in the world towards one of the most conflict-prone regions of the world.

The second aspect is related to the relevance of the participation of national states in the formation of a new world order. The German influence on the political, economic and cultural processes in the world significant. After the "Cold War" significant changes are taking place in Germany's foreign policy: updated approaches to international relations and architectonic evaluation of its role in the world, expanding the circle of foreign policy priorities.

The third aspect that contributes to the relevance of the theme of the work is determined by the interests of Russia, because our state is largely interested in stabilizing the situation in the Middle East, which is impossible without involving in this process the larger circle of states.

The problem of the work is seen as relevant in relation to the situation of refugees from the Middle East in Europe. Germany has become one of the most affected European countries by the influx of refugees.

The purpose: determine the place of Middle East in the modern German foreign policy.

Research objectives:

- Examine the conceptual basis of the study of foreign policy;
- Consider the basic mechanisms and tools for implementation of foreign policy;
- Identify national interests of Germany in the Middle East;
- To identify the key directions of German Middle Eastern policy.

Scientific novelty of the research lies in the fact that it is a comprehensive analysis of the modern German foreign policy towards Middle East. This research identifies peculiarities of formation of German foreign policy as a regional power, which seeks to strengthen its position in the international arena.

Structure: the two chapters, containing four paragraphs, the conclusion, the 84-reference bibliography (38 of which are in foreign languages). The total volume is 76 pages.

Summary: German interests with regard to the Middle East and North Africa consist of three dimensions. The first issue that usually comes to mind is

economic choices contradict the French official position pretending to encourage Arab countries along the path of democratic transitions.

This paradoxical policy also has a negative impact on a national scale in France: it feeds the radicalization within French society and it is used as another reason – or at least a pretext – for young Muslims to join jihadists groups in Syria and elsewhere.

With the outbreak of the “Arab Springs” France started to forge a new policy based on the idea of reaching out to civil societies, including the Muslim Brotherhood. It demonstrated a will to start a dialogue with Ennahdha in Tunisia as well as the Justice and Development party in Egypt. The establishment of a dialogue with Islamist parties did not reach out to Hamas in Palestine, which is still officially considered a terrorist organization by the EU. In any case, with the failure of democratic transitions – the chaos in Libya, a sort of restoration in Egypt, and the ongoing civil war in Syria – France realigned its policy with Western powers prioritizing the need to contain a bigger threat.

Although France has long been critical of the US “war on terror”, the growing power of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant led France to basically reposition itself alongside the United States. Syria may remain – despite some inconsistencies interests, prominently among which features the access to safe energy supplies. Here it is important to distinguish between the control of oil supplies and safe access to them: German interests are only concerned with guaranteeing access to oil, not with controlling oil supplies.

The second dimension is security, which from a Germany perspective basically means avoiding risks, as the region is marked by regional conflicts and problems such as terrorism or the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. This does not imply that we fear an armed conflict with any of the Middle East states. Rather, the concern is that existing conflicts within the region could have an impact on European security.

The third dimension is purely political, and it is mainly related to the peace process between the Arab and Israelis.