

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: ethnic diaspora activities in the context of state national security.

Author: Dinara Aramisova

Academic Adviser: G.V. Kosov

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

Relevance of the research issue: One of the distinguishing features of modern international relations is the rising role of ethnic factor. As a result, ethnic diasporas have also become those international actors that are able to influence domestic policy issues in the states abroad. The rapid growth of migration flows due to the technical revolution in means of communication and transportation causes the emergence of new diasporas, so that the living in diasporas has become a more common case. On the one side, diaspora is able to champion the interests of its state of origin that can contradict to the national interests of receiving state. On the other side, any diaspora is able to influence the domestic affairs in the state of origin when it starts to support its compatriots. It is not only financial support through different funds and representation of interests of its ethnic group in international organizations, but also informational influence on the domestic audience of state of origin. In the age of globalization the common information space allows ideas from abroad diasporas to easily penetrate the state borders and influence its policy to promote diaspora interests that can be contrary to the national interests of state of origin. It makes modern diasporas one of the subjects of interethnic relations and turns them into a significant factor of stability. Relating to Russia, that is the state with multiethnic population, this aspect becomes more acute as the disruption of interethnic balance means the destabilization of the state, rise of separatism and probably even poses the threat to the Russian state existence. All of this makes it important to study the problem of abroad diasporas activity in the context of the Russian national security.

The purpose of the research is to analyze the influence of diasporas of Russian titular nationalities in the context of the Russian national security.

Research objectives:

- determine the notion of diaspora as political category and compare different approaches to its definition
- consider the diaspora activities as a threat or condition for national security
- make the politological analyses of abroad diasporas of the Russian titular nationalities
- examine the activities of diasporas of the Russian titular nationalities in the context of threats and as a condition for the state national security
- due to the last events such as the upcoming Olympic games in Sochi pay special attention to the "Circassian issue" and Circassian diaspora activities in the context of the Russian national security.

Summary: The breaking up of the Soviet Union turned many Russians into diaspora. They formed the so called "new" type of diaspora, which differs from the traditional notion, as it suggests not people movements, but movements of state borders. Along with the diasporas living in the post-soviet states, there are also traditional diasporas from people of Russian origin living in the other countries.

Nowadays diasporas have become a new structure of civil society, that plays constructive role in state national security by promotion of tolerance and law-abidance among its members. Unfortunately, diaspora activities are often far from such an ideal situation and sometimes have destructive effect on national security.

The main threat for Russia is that ethnic factor and ethnic diaspora can be used by other players to stimulate separatism and destabilize domestic political situation in Russia. The financial support from diaspora and its informational propaganda can be directed at disruption of ethnic stability. In the present time the issue of most concern is Circassian diaspora activities in the context of the Russian national security.