

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Current State of the Russian-American Relations.

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Relevance of the research issue is defined by the fact that nowadays the world political system is changing on a global scale, acquiring such characteristics as instability, unpredictability, significant mobility, emergence of new threats to the regional and global security.

At the present time the world political process is undergoing fundamental changes. Configuration of the modern world order has not acquired its final shape yet, and there is no consensus on this issue in the scientific community. In this situation it is necessary to formulate a clear understanding of the problems and prospects of the Russian-American cooperation, to identify priorities of the Russian foreign policy and deliver these ideas to international community.

Foreign policy picture of the world is determined to a large scope by the behavior of sovereign states. In this context, the future scenario of the relations between Russia and the United States as one of the key actors in contemporary international relations, as well as the principles of their foreign policies and diplomatic doctrines in regard to each other, constitute one of the most urgent pictures of the future world order.

The purpose of the work is to study the features of the foreign policies of Russia and the USA in the system of modern international relations, as well as to analyze the current trends in their bilateral relations.

Research objectives:

- to analyze the basic theoretical schools dealing with foreign policy research;
- to outline the features of the states' foreign policies in the system of modern international relations;
- to identify the role of diplomacy as the main instrument for implementation of interstate relations;
- to research the genesis of the Russian-American relations;
- to analyze the dynamics of the Russian-American relations at the present stage;
- to formulate a prognosis and to consider possible scenarios of the development perspectives of the Russian-American relations.

Scientific novelty: A comprehensive study of the peculiarities of the Russian-American relations in the conditions of instability and uncertainty of the modern globalized world was conducted. It is particularly important that the research was conducted taking into consideration the recent events happening on the world stage (the situation in Ukraine), the events that led to another round of exacerbation of bilateral relations.

A comprehensive analysis of the perspectives of the relations between Russia and the USA in the post-bipolar world conditions was carried out; strategic diplomatic doctrines of the two countries (which are mainly based on the strategy of "smart power") and their implementation in the bilateral relations of the states were studied.

Structure: introduction, two chapters, containing three paragraphs each, conclusion and a 91-reference bibliography (twenty nine of which are in English). The total volume of the work is 101 pages of typescript.

Summary: The Russian-American relations present a key track in the issue of future world order construction and global security strengthening. Despite all the efforts dealing with the elaboration and implementation of foreign policy initiatives and diplomatic strategies, neither Russia nor the USA currently possess the full plenitude of political and economic resources for world hegemony. However, they do possess enough instruments for a limited influence on global processes. This suggests that the parties have a lot of common positions and none of them prefers the state of open confrontation and the recurrence of the "cold war" events.

At the present time both Russia and the United States build their foreign policy courses and diplomatic strategies using the approach of maneuvering to take the winning positions on the matters of the states' interest. This approach is implemented by them under the strategy of "smart power" which supposes the employment of a complete set of tools from "soft power" to use of force to protect national interests and to realize foreign policy objectives. It is also extremely important for both countries to raise the prestige of their international image by means of "soft power". Foreign policy doctrines and diplomatic strategies of both Moscow and Washington in regard to each other are still being built in the spirit of positional pressure and competition. Moreover, one can observe the cyclical development of the Russian-American relations with the tendency of their aggravation after a five-year period of cooperation.

For a short- and a medium-term it is more appropriate to speak about a realistic scenario of the development of the Russian-American relations. It implies neither an absolutely coordinated dialogue nor a harsh confrontation. This scenario implies cooperation within certain areas, while maintaining the general trend towards conflict potential regarding the issues of strategic importance for both countries, with the aim of mutual deterrence. For further cooperation and overcoming the contradictions both parties need to pragmatically assess the threats and challenges generated by their contradictory political courses in relation to each other.