SUMMARY

**Subject of the thesis:** The work of the OSCE in the settlement of international conflicts (through the example of Nagorno-Karabakh)

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**Relevance of the research issue:** The OSCE plays an important role in the settlement of international conflicts. Azerbaijan and Armenia fail to reach a peaceful settlement in their Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and stark evidence of the disastrous consequences of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict exist that's why international organization are involved in the settlement of this conflict. Among them there is the OSCE Minsk Group. The mission of the OSCE Minsk Group is to assess the overall situation there, including humanitarian and other aspects, logistical support. The harsh reality of the situation in the territories makes it clear that status quo is unacceptable, and that only a peaceful, negotiated settlement can bring the prospect of a better, more certain future to the people who used to live in the territories and those who live there now. The OSCE looks for the efficient mechanism of maintaining stability in this region and ensuring a just settlement of regional security problems. All these aspects make the topic of the thesis updated and modern.

**The purpose** of the work is the description and evaluation of the OSCE work in the settlement of Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

**Research objectives:**
- to investigate approaches to the definition of such terms as: a conflict, an international conflict;
- to identify the role and importance of international organizations in maintaining peace and security;
to justify the international legal basis of the work of the OSCE in the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict;

- to analyze the historical and political aspects and assumptions precondition of the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh;

- to determine the positions of the two states involved in the conflict: Azerbaijan and Armenia;

- to examine the activities of the OSCE in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and to evaluate its effectiveness.

**Scientific novelty** of the study is based on attempted effort of comprehensive analysis of the OSCE role in the conflict settlement. The analysis took into account the historical and political aspects of this conflict. The international legal acts and documents connected with the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict are analyzed in the work (for example, the revamped Madrid Principles of the OSCE Minsk Group)

**Structure:** The work consists of two chapters, containing six paragraphs, the conclusion and a 68-reference bibliography (sixteen of which are in foreign languages) and the three Appendixes. The total volume is 80 pages.

**Summary:** The Madrid Principles of the OSCE Minsk Group define an interim status for Nagorno-Karabakh providing guarantees for security and self-governance and future determination of the final legal status of Nagorno-Karabakh through a legally binding public expression of will through a referendum. The countries involved in the conflict and other 5 countries agreed on the need to continue the negotiating process in the format of the OSCE Minsk Group and to improve the climate for making progress towards a peaceful settlement. As one of the steps in this direction, they agreed that further efforts should be made to work on the details of the mechanism to investigate ceasefire violations. According to the Madrid Principles of the OSCE Minsk Group Armenia and Azerbaijan must finalize the Basic Principles for the Peaceful Settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict, but unfortunately these countries are unable to take this decisive step.
There can be no military solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and two sides should move beyond the unacceptable status quo to reach a peaceful settlement.

The Madrid Principles envisages a phased, rather than a package settlement to the conflict. The first phase includes the withdrawal of Armenian military from the Lachin Rayon. Communications are supposed to be restored and a donors' conference aimed at raising funds for postconflict rehabilitation is envisaged. The Madrid Principles also envision the demilitarization and demining of Armenian-controlled territories.

The second phase envisions the withdrawal of the remaining Armenian forces from Lachin and Kelbajar, followed by the return of the Azerbaijani population to Nagorno-Karabakh. The "peacekeeping observers" are supposed to be deployed, ensuring the security of Azerbaijani displaced persons returning to their abandoned homes. A decision is then taken on the geopolitical status of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic within Azerbaijan, assuming that status should not violate Azerbaijan's territorial integrity. The revamped Madrid Principles are "largely acceptable" to Azerbaijan. The Madrid Principles, however, faced an opposition in Armenia and Armenian diaspora in the West.

The representatives of the United States, France and Russia formally presented a set of Basic Principles for the Peaceful Settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict to the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Over the last years of talks the two sides had significantly narrowed their differences through the mediation of the OSCE and that only a few differences remained to be settled. The OSCE offered just and constructive solutions to these last remaining differences. The parties to the conflict are strongly urged to bring to a close the current stage of negotiations by endorsing the proposed Basic Principles and commencing as soon as possible to draft a comprehensive Peace Agreement.