

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: European vector of foreign policy of the German Federal Republic

Author: Gerasimchuk Inna

Academic Adviser: Suchkov M., Assistant Professor, PhD, Political Science

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

Relevance of the research issue: Not since the 1940s has Germany played such an important role in world politics. The rift between Russia and the West gave Germany the ability to determine the West's response and gave it the decisive voice in the shaping of a new European security order. At the same time, Germany continued to benefit from its pivotal position within the European Union. It holds the balance between north and south and east and west in Europe, giving it a place in the European order that no other country can challenge.

That Germany has achieved this position without nuclear weapons, without spending much money on defense and without crippling large bailouts for its troubled European neighbors says much for the country's ability to benefit from the logic of events and its geographic position. Nevertheless, many in Berlin find Germany's new geopolitical prominence unwelcome. The responsibilities that accompany German power – to deal with the internal troubles of the EU and to handle the relationship with Putin – are hefty.

As she attempts to hold the European Union, the transatlantic alliance and the vision of a greater Europe (including Russia) together, Angela Merkel carries one of the most difficult portfolios of our time. Should she make substantial progress on the various items on her to-do list, she will be remembered as a great German chancellor, and Germany's position at the center of the world system will

become much more secure and, perhaps, less stressful. The odds are not necessarily in her favor; Germany's choices are both consequential and difficult. That is what life in the big leagues is all about; it matters gravely when you get it wrong.

The purpose of the work is to outline key features of the Germany foreign policy, as well as the main directions and tools for implementation of foreign policy in the European Union and relations with Russia.

Research objectives:

- reveal the peculiarities of German foreign policy;
- reveal conceptual bases of foreign policy of the country on the European continent;
- define key areas and implementation tools of German foreign policy in the European Union;
- outline key areas of Germany in NATO;
- evaluate the prospects of German foreign policy strategy toward Russia in the context of the current dynamics.

Scientific novelty:

- It found that the current foreign policy of the FRG is based on three conceptual principles on the basis of which formed the strategic imperatives of the country;
- details systematized the main initiatives of Germany and the European Union and proved that Germany strive to take a leadership role "of the Western world from Europe" (William Russell);
- developed the basic forecast scenario relations between Germany and Russia in the short and medium term.

Structure: The work consists of the introduction, two chapters, the first of which comprises two sections, the second - three, the conclusion and a 104-

reference bibliography (40 of which are in foreign languages) and the 4 Appendixes. The total volume is 84 pages.

Summary: At present, Germany has positioned itself as the leader of the EU and, as shown by the crisis in Ukraine in the medium term claim to a leading position in the Western world. The economic potential of the state is allow him to use the financial resources as the main instrument to strengthen the image of a humanitarian power - both in the region and abroad. Outside the European Union Berlin creates new platform involving the countries of Southeast Asia, Latin America and Africa. It is gradually increasing its own humanitarian and economic presence in order to continue to have potential leverage over local elites.

The current state of relations between Russia and Germany had reached their lowest point since the Cold War. Taking into account the contradictions in Moscow and Berlin, on the situation in Ukraine can talk about the four scenarios for further development of relations, «cruise ship», «cargo ship», «Coast Guard» and «sailing». At the moment, most scientists believe that the real scenario is «cargo ship», which meaning is pragmatic partnership between the two countries. In this way, the key is the common interest, while common values have lost their political meaning. It is predicted the deepening economic crisis, which will lead to a serious deformation of the European Union and Russia, to create a Eurasian Union, became a kind of guarantor of stability in the region. However, it is not the perfect way.