SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: The Greater Caucasus in Russian and Turkish policy

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Relevance of the research issue: The content and scope of the Russian-Turkish relations at the turn of the XX and XXI centuries acquires a new character, in many ways, and is quite different from the era of the Soviet Union and the "Cold War", and the nature of the relationship in the first years after the appearance of the new states of the CIS (including the Russian Federation) on the political map.

We can see rapprochement of military and political interests of the two countries despite the fact that Turkey is a member of NATO.

If we don't identify and highlight the main current trends in the Russian-Turkish cooperation in various planes, it seems to be impossible to build long-term prognosis for the development of relations for both countries in the future. The need to develop such a forecast is very important in the current situation, as political dialogue and partnership relations with Turkey are built under aggravation of competition for energy resources and ways of its transportation. The results of this study may help to identify further possible scenarios of interaction in this and other areas, and the role and position of Russia and Turkey in this regard.

The purpose of the work is to assess the current state and prospects of development of the Russian-Turkish relations in the Caucasus, identifying the main trends of foreign policy of the two states in the region.

Research objectives:

- define the basic parameters of the Caucasus as a Eurasian key-region;
- prove the importance of the Greater Caucasus in the national interests of
  Russia and Turkey—analyzing the case of the “Rose Revolution” in Georgia outline
  principal techniques of the power change as well as main actors in the process;

- identify the main features of the foreign policy of Russia and Turkey in the
  South Caucasus, and to identify areas of possible conflict of interests of the two
  countries;

- evaluate the extent to which the foreign policy of Turkey in the North
  Caucasus is a challenge to Russia’s national interests.

Scientific novelty: The vast majority of publications on the chosen topic is
 too general in nature and is focused primarily on issues of strategic competition
 between Russia, Iran, the United States and Turkey, while the Russian-Turkish
 relations have its own content, as well as deep historical, political and economic
 overtones. Historical traditions, suspicions and prejudices anyway continue to put
 pressure on the minds of leaders and ruling elites of the two countries, sometimes
 suggesting they are not the best moves on the "chessboard" of the geospace. We
 also see on the one hand, overemphasis imperial overtones of Turkish politics in
 the Caucasus, on the other - a pronounced pan-Turkic and pan-Islamic tone, which
 is inappropriate for analytical works.

Structure: the two chapters, containing four paragraphs, the conclusion and
 a 84-reference bibliography (twenty six of which are in foreign languages) and the
 two Appendixes. The total volume is 86 pages.

Summary: Caucasus - is a specific geopolitical and ethno-political region.
 Separation of the Caucasus on the North and the South has historically defined
 forms of cooperation within the region and the place of the region in relation to
 external forces. Turkey expects, taking advantage of the current weakness of
 Russia, to establish itself in the South Caucasus economically, politically and then
 militarily. The following geopolitical challenge is to weaken the military, political
 and economic position of Russia in the North Caucasus. However, Russia still
 continues to be a Caucasian state. Which powers we are facing in the Caucasus
region, what are their prospects, the extent of external and internal threats to Russia, and what are the possibilities and prospects of the Russian state in the region, who are our allies and partners, what the priorities for Caucasus policy at this stage - that list of major problems investigated in this paper.