

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Current state and development prospects of Russia – China relations.

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Relevance of the research issue: In the second part of the XX century, the balance of the world forces faced some irreversible changes. The global value and cardinality of the current changes in ecological, political, ideological, military and religious spheres of the international community leads us to the new round of comprehension of the interstate relations theory as a whole. In our judgment, the Russian Federation as well as the People's Republic of China in the long term may appear to be the new center of the international forces. Being a full member of the key international organizations, and having almost reached the USA's economic parameters criterion, China becomes more involved into the global regulation of the world developments. The Sino-Russian partnership already possesses great geopolitical weight, which, if actualized effectively, could reshape the balance of power on a global scale. The rapid rise of China in comparison to the, if not declining, but indisputably weakened former superpower Russia, is posing challenges of adjustment for both Beijing and Moscow.

The purpose: to detect the key features of contemporary Russian-Chinese relations and to define the perspectives of their development.

Research objectives:

- to specify the peculiarities of the interstate cooperation at the present stage;
- to consider the strategic partnership as a form of foreign policy interest realization of the countries. To reveal the key criteria of this notion;

- to analyze the essence, content and legality of the reprisal application as an instrument of the foreign policy interests realization;
- to detect the typical traits of Russian-Chinese relations at the present stage;
- to define the influence of anti-Russian politics of the West on Russian-Chinese relations;
- to estimate Russian-Chinese relations perspectives.

Scientific novelty: Western policy towards the Russian Federation has been proved relatively illegitimate and partisan. Reaching the new level of the strategic partnership between Russian and China has been estimated to be impossible.

Structure: the introduction, the two chapters, containing six paragraphs, the conclusion and a 166-reference bibliography (sixty-nine of which are in foreign languages) and the seven Appendixes. The total volume is 73 pages.

Summary: Nonaligned partnership between Russia and China corresponds to both internal and external purposes of the two countries. The mentioned partnership represents the most optimal form of bilateral relations under present-day conditions. Dramatic deterioration of the relations between Russia and the West, illegitimate and partisan policy virtually expressed in terms of sanction policy. The main aim we consider is the world isolation, economic and internal destabilization. Russia and China have reached a new level of relations – comprehensive partnership. However, such interaction is unlikely to be completely without conflict. The most problematic areas of mutual relations in the future will be linked to the energy cooperation and competition at the increasing influence in the region of Central Asia.

In spite of the prevailing conditions and frequent statements of the official representatives and media, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China will not be able to reach the level of sound strategic partnership in the foreseeable future due to the number of factors. The main of which are unreadiness to support Russia in the international arena openly, stable and mutually profitable relations with the West, contiguity and potential crossing of regional interests. In point of fact, current state of global tension shows that great power transition has

always been complicated – politically, economically, culturally and security wise. Although Moscow and Beijing stress that their relationship has never been in better shape and clearly constitutes the most important relationship for both countries, the challenges of adjusting to the changing power constellation are constantly mounting in the context of the latest issues concerning Ukrainian crisis and Western sanctions policy.