SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Taiwan as an actor of modern world politics.

Author: Sofya Kalashyan.

Academic Adviser: Solovieva EA, Candidate of Political Sciences.

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

Relevance of the research issue is conditioned by changes in the structure of world politics actors in the context of globalization. This kind of transformation made it possible to enter the world arena for those participants in world politics who had not previously played a significant role in solving global issues - TNC, IGOs, INGOs, etc. Their appearance, in turn, marked the beginning of a change in the role of a classical actor of the Westphalian system - the state. This led to some rethinking of the concept of "national state" and sparked new disputes and discussions in the scientific community regarding the role of this actor in the face of changing realities. In the context of the foregoing, the need to clarify the conceptual apparatus of the state as an actor of world politics and its place in the world in the conditions of transformation of the structure of world politics itself actualizes the topic chosen by us. In addition to multiple TNCs, INGOs and IGOs, the events of the 20th century allowed a new group of actors to appear on the world stage - the so-called de facto states that do not have the recognition of the world community and, accordingly, are not full-fledged subjects of world politics. However, their role, as well as their number (at the moment, there are about 120 states in the world that do not have diplomatic recognition) on the world stage is consistently increasing, which makes it relevant to analyze the features of their participation in international life. Consideration of the role of de facto states in modern world politics seems relevant in the case of Taiwan. Today, Taiwan is one of the largest economies in Asia, with its own territory, high standards of living for its region and all the distinctive criteria of the state (constitution, parliament,
government, currency, army). In addition, Taiwan supports and develops foreign economic relations with many countries and regions, it participates in influential international and regional organizations (or ‘it is a participant of influential international and…’), it has a developed system of diplomatic missions, actively promotes its cultural, scientific, educational ties to the world. Proceeding from the foregoing, consideration of the role of unrecognized territories in the world seems relevant precisely in the case of Taiwan, since the developed forms and mechanisms of its political, legal, economic and cultural participation in the system of international political interaction are able (or ‘likely’, ‘capable of giving’) to give the most complete idea of what the prospects there’re for the development of the status and powers of such actors in modern world politics. The outlook for Taiwan's development is influenced by external factors (relations with the US and China) and internal (separatist sentiments). In this regard, consideration of trends and possible vectors for the further development of this territory gives our study an additional urgency. This argument allows us to talk about the relevance, scientific-theoretical and practical significance of the research, which determined the choice of the topic.

The purpose of the work is to analyze the forms of political and legal participation of Taiwan in contemporary international life and determine the prospects for its further development as an independent actor of world politics.

Research objectives:

1. To determine the place of the state in the structure of world politics actors in the context of globalization;
2. Identify and characterize the features and main forms of participation of de facto states in international life;
3. To designate the specifics of the political and legal participation of Taiwan in the system of international political interaction;
4. To clarify the prospects for further development of Taiwan as an independent actor of world politics.

Scientific novelty:
- The nature of the influence of globalization on the modern structure of world politics actors and its transformation has been clarified, the role of de facto states in the system of world politics has been determined, and the main forms of their participation in modern international life have been systematized;
- Specificity of political and legal participation of Taiwan has been determined, and the main mechanisms in the system of international political interaction have been identified, scenarios for the further development of Taiwan as an actor of world politics have been proposed on the basis of an analysis of the internal and external political situation inside the island.

**Structure:** The structure of the work is determined by the purpose, objectives and internal logic of the problem under investigation and consists of an introduction, two chapters, which include 4 paragraphs, conclusions, a bibliographic list containing 105 sources, including 25 in English and Chinese, and 9 applications. The total amount of work is 69 pages of typewritten text.

**Summary:** despite their defining role in world politics, states differ significantly in the degree and possibility of their participation in international life and influence on world political processes. The result of this is the selection of a number of groups and classifications of states, differentiated on the basis of such criteria as sovereignty, independence, the conduct of domestic and foreign policy, political regime, stability, military-political and economic power and might, etc., determining the level and scale of the micro-political influence of these actors. A special place in this system is occupied by the so-called "unrecognized states", which, not having international legal opportunities for world-wide participation, nevertheless, often become important participants of regional and international life.

Today, among the unrecognized territories, it is the Republic of China (Taiwan) that most fully responds to / meets the criteria above and the de facto states' arsenal’s mechanisms of world-wide participation. In this regard, a further study of the role of unrecognized territories in the world seems to be relevant in the case of Taiwan, for its developed forms and mechanisms of political, legal, economic and cultural participation in the system of international political
interaction are able (‘capable of giving’) to give the fullest (‘the most complete/complex’) idea of what prospects there’re for the development of the status and powers of such actors in modern world politics.

Taiwan is making every possible attempt to establish the status of an independent actor of the world community. It cooperates with many countries in the spheres of trade, security, tourism, education and others, expands spheres of influence and strengthens its economy. Taiwan is becoming an increasingly attractive state for cooperation, which attracts multimillion-dollar investments, exporting orders and new partners. Thus, at the present stage, Taiwan is an independent actor in the world arena, whose positions are gradually strengthening. However, a number of problems arise on the way to its development, hence, the prospects for the development of the status of the island at the present stage will depend entirely on the policies pursued by the island itself. Thus, although the policy of maintaining the status quo seems to be the most beneficial for the island, activating pro-Taiwan sentiments within Taiwan and the actions of the United States of America suggest that the probability of conflict is growing/rising (or ‘suggest the growing/rising probability of a conflict’).