

Strategic Weapons again on the Agenda

V.Krugloff

The article deals with the problem of the reduction of strategic weapons and considers the character of the negotiating process between USA and Russia on this problem, connection of these negotiations with the American Ballistic Missile Defence and the influence of the Conventional armaments on the results of negotiations.

Key words: Strategic weapons, conventional weapons, ABM defence.

About the author: KRUGLOFF Vecheslav – major-general, Doctor of Science (Military), professor.

Where is mankind headed?

Trends in International Relations in the XXI st Century (Part I)

Y.Bazhanov

N.Bazhanova

International relations once again are turbulent. Politicians, scholars, journalists, bureaucrats, military officers are trying to predict what will happen in the future, will order be restored in the world, and if it will then what kind of order we may expect.

Past experience of mankind shows that such predictions are not effective, more often than not events develop in the totally unexpected direction.

Nevertheless predictions are advanced and some of them deserve attention because they achieve popularity and blend into foreign policy of various countries, thus becoming a real force and influencing the course of events.

During two decades after the end of the Cold War different and even opposite theories of future were formulated. Some analysts professed unification of world nations under the US leadership, creation of a specific American global empire “Pax Americana”. Others on the contrary warned that mankind is being split into hostile civilizations, regions, socio-class camps, that nation-states, including the United States, are in decline and mankind face return to prehistoric time.

However, nation-states in fact remain in the XXI st century main actors, and if we want to understand real trends of world development we should agree that behavior of nation-states will be determining the further course of history. And states continue to compete, for global leadership including.

Key words: International Relations, Forecasting; Theories, Concepts of the Development of International Relations; Nation-States; Struggle for Leadership.

About the author: BAZHANOV Yevgeny is the Provost for Science and International Relations at the Russian Foreign Ministry’s Diplomatic Academy in Moscow, Professor, Doctor of History, a Distinguished scholar of the Russian Federation.

BAZHANOVA Natalia – Professor, Doctor of Economics.

Transatlantic Relations: Succession or Renovation

O.Prichodko

The essay scrutinizes what changes the Obama Administration has brought about in the US foreign policy with special emphasis on Europe. The author holds out preliminary assessments in what way the transatlantic partnership could develop in the near future.

Key words: Barak Obama, Hillary Clinton, US foreign policy strategy, European allies, NATO, EU.

About the author: PRIKHODKO Oleg – leading research fellow at the Center for International Studies, ISCRAN, has a degree of Cand. Sc. (History)/

The Russian Statehood between the Past and the Future

Y.Plyays

The reformation of the Russian statehood in the 1990-s and beginning of the XXI century differs very much from the previous reformations. The modern reformation, not finished yet, has greatly influenced the federation structure and interrelations between the centre and the regions.

Key words: Russian statehood, Federalism, Centre, Regions.

About the author: PLYAYS Yakov – Doctor of History, Professor, Head of chair of history and political science of the Finance Academy under the Government of Russian Federation.

Global Imperatives of the Handmade Crisis

V.Pavlenko

The article contains the analysis of the results of the G20 summit, which took place in past April in London. They are examined in connection with the main tendencies of the present day Global development. So the informal political role of some institutes is discovered by the author, as well as the dependence on their basic ideas of the important international documents, such as the “Stable development” conception, the Humanitarian manifesto, the Earth’s Charter principles, etc. The author comes to the conclusion about the destructive character and probable negative consequences of such an influence not only to the world public consciousness, but to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Russian Federation.

Key words: G20, stable development, humanism, global institutes, “the New World Order”, freemasonry.

About the author: PAVLENKO Vladimir is a Doctor of Science (Politology).

Who is what for, but We are for Peace

G.Lokshin

Grigoriy Lokshin in his article gives the picture of the actual public peace movement in our country. He reminds that 60 years ago 22–25th of April 1949 there was the First

World Congress of Peace Champions in Paris and Prague with a broad participation of many illustrious public figures and prominent scientists of the world who established the first organized world peace movement in a history. Very soon this movement became the most popular and really mass public movement in the former Soviet Union too. The idea of Peace was a real national idea of our people in these times. The author strongly recommends study and properly use the positive experience of world movement for peace, international as well as national. He critically analyzes the situation in actual peace movement in Russia, shows the reasons of its decline and mention some ways for its restoration and strengthening/

Key words: The World Congress of Peace, Stockholm Appeal, citizen diplomacy, peacemaking, dialog, Frederic Jolio-Curie, I. Erenburg, A.Fadeev.

About the author: LOCKSCHIN Grigoriy – Candidate of Science (History), General Secretary of the International Institute of Peace in Vien and secretary of the executive Committee of the Association of Fonds for Peace.

U.S.-Russian Relations: Waiting for a “reload”

G.Lebedev

One can argue that in the beginning of the 21st century the relations between Russia and the United States were counter-productive. Moscow and Washington were on the verge of a new and lengthy confrontation. It was during the Bush administration era that fears of a new crisis in the relations between Russia and the U.S. once again emerged – for the first time since the cold war. It is now up to the administrations of Barack Obama and Dmitry Medvedev to repair the damaged relations between the two countries. The approach that was chosen by the new U.S. administration appears to be more realistic and less ideology-driven than the policies of the Bush team.

Key words: U.S.-Russian relations, reload, reset, Bush administration legacy, Obama, Medvedev, prospects, challenges, disagreements, confrontation, studies done by American researchers.

About the author: LEBEDEV Georgy – graduate student, Russian Academy of Sciences Institute for the U.S. and Canadian studies. Graduated from Moscow State University, Faculty of Journalism Class of 2006. Russian State Television, News Channel “Vesti”, news editor.

Ethnopolitical conflicts – the Consequence of Social Transformations

G.Kesyan

Escalation of the migration processes as well as its influence on the ethnic structure of the society are the main subject of the article. Also, historical evaluation points the dependences between such processes and ethnopolitical conflicts. Author comes to the conclusion, the globalization, lead to interethnic phobias rises, and intensification of the ethnic contradictions, which base on historical, political, cultural and social-psychological differences.

Key words: migration, illegal migration, refugees, social structure of the society, social transformations, ethnic groups, ethnopolitical conflicts.

About author: KESYAN Gayane – postgraduate student of Lomonosov Moscow State University, faculty of Sociology, communication systems department; member of the faculty of the World politics in Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Human Rights

I.Dsurindin

Stating that human rights are accompanying in different forms mankind in its contradictory development until now, the author says that besides international documents and declarations about human rights and freedom every state formulates by himself the rights for its citizens and shows in what way it is taken place in different countries.

Key words: human rights, freedom, declarations on human rights.

About author: DSURINDIN Ivan – a slovak journalist.

Transformation of Regional Cooperation between Russia, North and South Korea

Yen Song Chym

At the present stage of development of regional cooperation one of the major problems of a triangle Russia-DPRK-ROK increases efficiency of utilization of advantage, which related in the property of three countries, and improves relations of the states by realisation of the directed forms of strategic partnership in system of regional integration. The special importance in the conditions of reforming of regional cooperation is got by questions of harmonisation of the political mechanism and integration of economical activities as the most creative interaction of relations of a triangle. In present conditions regional cooperation is a basis of existence of the state, and also regional cooperation is the locomotive of social and economic development and the stability, directly dependent on efficiency and a transparency of its management.

Key words: regional cooperation, Russia, DPRK, Republic of Korea, energy security, settlement, nuclear problem, partner, confidential partnership, hexahedral negotiations, security.

About author: Yen Song Chym – postgraduate student

Middle East: Heavy Legacy for B.Obama

A.Vavilov

In the third part of the article it is observed the hard problems inherited by B.Obama in the Middle East settlement and the approaches of the new administration to its solutions.

Key words: Middle East, Iraq, B.Obama.

About author: VAVILOV Alexandr – doctor of Science (History), Candidate of Sc. (Economy), professor.

Collapse of the socialist community (1985–1991)

V.Musatov

The author analyses the foreign policy of the Soviet Union in respect of the community of the socialist countries during perestroika and shows the contradictions of Gorbache's policy of new thinking which at the end leads to the collapse of the socialist regimes in the countries of the Central Europe and to disintegration of the Warsaw Pact and COMECON.

Key words: Gorbachev's perestroika, eclectic ideas, the end of paternalism, the end of "the Brezhnev doctrine", freedom of choice, the "velvet revolutions".

About author: MUSATOV Valeriy – Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Honoured member of Diplomatic Service of Russia, PhD, Head researcher of Institute of Current International Problems, Diplomatic Academy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Russia.