



# ОБЗЕРВАТЕЛЬ OBSERVER

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## **Non-State Actions in International Relations: definition, political activity, and typology** 5

P. Tsygankov

The article analyzes the issue of non-state actors (NSA), causes of their proliferation, diversity, and political influence.

*Key words:* non-state actors, non-governmental organizations, N's role in international relations.

*About the author:* TSYGANKOV Pavel A. – PhD, professor, Department of Political Science, Moscow State University.

## **Eurasian Integration and Russia's Civilizational Space** 18

E. Ponomareva, G. Rudov

Departing from the existing concepts and models of integration, the authors offer their vision of the causes and possible consequences of integration processes in the Eurasian continent. Particular attention is paid to the conceptualization of concepts such as "Russia's civilizational space" and geopolitical "matryoshka". One of the main conclusions of the authors is the interdependence of the processes of Eurasian integration and consolidation of Russia's civilizational space.

*Key words:* Russia, the Eurasian Integration, the Eurasian Union, Globalization, World Politics.

*About the authors:* PONOMAREVA Elena – doctor of political science, professor of Comparative Politics Department of MGIMO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation;

RUDOV Georgij – doctor of political science, professor, Diplomatic Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

## **The regional integration through the prism of their conditions and factors**

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A. Bagaeva

The author examines the relationship of conditions and factors of regional integration processes as a universal mechanism to facilitate the transfer of regional integration from the idea stage to the implementation stage through the consolidation of the public interest and political accordance.

*Key words:* region, integration, society, political interests.

*About the author:* BAGAEVA Alisa Valerievna – a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sociology of International relations, Sociological Faculty of Lomonosov Moscow State University.

## **Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in contemporary Russia. An Example of the Northern-Caucasus Region**

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V. Zhuravel

The article analyses the issues of terrorism and counter-terrorist activity in the Russian Federation (through the example of the Northern Caucasus region) during the last ten years from the view-point of strengthening the national security of the State. Basing on a large volume of statistical data the author shows the emergence of terrorism in the country and measures taken for its considerable localization.

*Key words:* Terrorism, Northern Caucasus, the National Anti-terrorist Committee, the national security.

*About the author:* ZHURAVEL Valery – Col. (Ret.), Doctor of teaching sciences, assistant professor, winner of the All-Russia award “Journalists against terror” 2008, 2011.

## **Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union After Lisbon**

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V. Tsykalo, O. Shakirov

The article discusses the development of the European Union’s Common Security and Defence Policy in the post-Lisbon period. It focuses on the basic directions of this policy, the CSDP development trends, as well as the problematic issues of this process. Authors made a number of conclusions about civil and military capability development of the European Union in the framework of CSDP, as well as prospects of EU-Russia cooperation in this field.

*Key words:* The European Union, CSDP, the Lisbon Treaty, battle groups, «Pooling and Sharing», NATO, Russia.

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SHAKIROV Oleg Igorevich – postgraduate at the Diplomatic Academy, MFA of Russia.

## **Washington’s Arctic ambitions**

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V. Konyshchev, A. Sergunin

This article examines a new Barak Obama's Arctic strategy that was adopted in May 2013. Its similarities and dissimilarities with George Bush's, Jr. Arctic doctrine are identified. This study arrives at a conclusion that despite some innovations, such as an emphasis on the need for regional cooperation and the 'soft' security problematique, the new strategy is mainly of declaratory character and cannot be considered as a real 'breakthrough' in the U.S. Arctic policy.

*Key words:* U.S. Arctic strategy, international cooperation in the Arctic.

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## **Military-political partners of USA on Caucasus and Central Asia**

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A. Tsiganok, O. Dmitrashchenko

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, United States began to pursue an active policy of rapprochement with the states of Caucasus and Central Asia. The main purpose of the United States is a ready access to energy resources, so they rapidly emerge and develop partnerships with Caucasian and Central Asian states, carry out financial support to governments, organize joint exercises and open military representations. The presented article is devoted to the analysis of relationship and prospects of its development.

*Key words:* USA, Caucasus, Central Asia, Major non NATO ally.

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DMITRASHCHENKO Olga – the competitor for the title of Ph.D. in Political Science, International Security department member of the Moscow State University, international politics faculty.

## **The investment component of fuel and energy sector of the Russian economy**

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A. Skorochkin

Increasing interaction of global and national economic system processes creates many challenges for the world's leading positions contenders, including Russia as well. This article deals with analysis of the investments role as a technological transformation driver as a catalyst of the knowledge-intensive growth factors formation. Analysis is performed in the context of the necessity of the innovative prerequisites creation for strengthening the competitive position of Russia in world energy markets.

*Key words:* energy security, investments, fuel and energy complex, energy markets, innovations, oil refining, the European Union; Asia-Pacific Region.

*About the author:* SKOROCHKIN Alexander A. – 3-rd year graduate student of the Diplomatic academy of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

## **The emergence of India as a regional**

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T. Parshina

The article deals with the regional power as a category of global political studies and assesses the potential of India as a regional power. Conclusions are based on such criteria as belonging to the economic, political, military and civilizational poles, and on the other criteria. The author of the article makes an attempt to identify traits that contribute to the transformation of the country in a regional power, and obstacles to the formation of her in that capacity.

*Key words:* regional power, India, pole of the global world.

*About the author:* PARSHINA Tatyana – a student of the Faculty of Global Studies of Moscow State University named by M.V.Lomonosov.

## **Investment cooperation between Russia and Vietnam. Current status, problems and prospects**

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K. Karapetyan

Vietnam in recent years has become one of the most attractive countries for foreign investment. Russia currently accounts for more than 80 years of investment projects in Vietnam with a registered capital of nearly U.S. \$ 1 billion. The priority and the most promising area of cooperation between the two countries remains the fuel and energy complex, in the first place – the oil and gas production and power generation.

*Key words:* Vietnam, Russia, economic cooperation, trade, investment.

*About the author:* KARAPETYAN Karo S. – postgraduate of the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **International relations and Art**

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V. Shtol

Every year view of nature of international relations is becoming clearer, fills with new colors by adding new sources. In 1970-s the time to such sources has come as a result of a birth of the such humanitarian discipline as geopoetics, that added the artwork to the base of international relations studies. Analyzed in conjunction with traditional sources of the study of international relations, they give a picture of the world, which explains the nature of many conflicts and find the tools to resolve them.

*Key words:* international relations, geopoetics, geopolitics, art, cultural diplomacy, “soft power”.

*About the author:* SHTOL Vladimir Vladimirovich – Doctor of Political Sciences, Professor, Head of church-state relations chair of MIGSU RANHiGS under the President of the Russian Federation.

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## **Events and People**

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### **Willy Brandt and Russia**

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V. Vasilyev

The article deals with specific political aspects of the foreign policy line pursued by Willy Brandt, the FRG chancellor, the Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), the Chairman of the Socialist International, toward Russia. The author gives prominence to the key role played by Willy Brandt in shaping and implementing the policy of détente in international relations and the new “Ostpolitik” by the SPD toward the USSR/Russia. Particular place is assigned to the issues of

sustaining and developing the principles of Willy Brandt's policy by the contemporary German social democracy.

*Key words:* Willy Brandt, "Ostpolitik", the Moscow Treaty, "Willy Brandt's political grandchildren", modernization project, "far-sighted" foreign policy by the SPD.

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