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THE STRATEGY FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE MODERNIZATION OF UZBEKISTAN: NEW GOALS AND OBJECTIVES*

Vladimir Norov

Director of the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies
under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Abstract. The author of this article analyzes the results of reform in the economic, legal and social areas in Uzbekistan during the period of its independence. The steps taken by the government of the country have laid the foundation for the sustainable development of the foreign and domestic policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Keywords: *Modernization, Development Strategy, Reforms, Liberalization, Uzbekistan*

ЎЗБЕКСТАНДЫ ЖАН-ЖАҚТЫ ЖАҢАРТУ СТРАТЕГИЯСИ: ЖАҢА МАҚСАТТАР МЕН МІНДЕТТЕР

Владимир Норов

Андатпа. Осы мақаланың авторы тәуелсіздік кезеңінде Өзбекстандағы экономикалық, құқықтық және әлеуметтік салалардағы реформалардың нәтижелерін талдайды. Ел Үкіметі қабылдаған қадамдар Өзбекстан Республикасының сыртқы және ішкі саясатының тұрақты дамуына негіз болды.

Түйін сөздер: *жаңғырту, даму стратегиясы, реформалар, либерализация, Өзбекстан*

* The article was first published in the proceedings of the International Conference "National Modernization Strategies: Achievements and Perspectives" - KazISS under the President of RK, 2018, pp. 58-68

СТРАТЕГИЯ ВСЕСТОРОННЕЙ МОДЕРНИЗАЦИИ УЗБЕКИСТАНА: НОВЫЕ ЦЕЛИ И ЗАДАЧИ

Владимир Норов

Аннотация. Автор данной статьи анализирует результаты реформ в экономической, правовой и социальной сферах в Узбекистане в период независимости. Предпринятые правительством страны шаги заложили основу для устойчивого развития внешней и внутренней политики Республики Узбекистан.

Ключевые слова: модернизация, стратегия развития, реформы, либерализация, Узбекистан

From the first years of its independence, Uzbekistan has set itself a long-term goal: to join the family of modern, developed democratic states; and to form a socially-oriented market economy which is aimed at creating decent living conditions for the citizens of the country.

According to the World Bank, our country ranks high in terms of socio-economic development throughout the post-Soviet era. Uzbekistan's growth in GDP over the past decade has averaged more than 6%.

By the beginning of 2018, the national economy was attracting more than \$190 billion in the form of investments, more than \$65 billion of which were foreign investments. As a result, industries such as car manufacturing, oil and gas, chemical, textiles and food have been created and are developing in the country. The production of modern consumer electronics, building materials, pharmaceuticals and other types of high-value-added product lines has been launched. In this context, it should be noted that, since the early 1990s, industry's share of GDP has increased from 14% to 33%.

Currently, in the automotive industry alone, with active cooperation with large companies in the USA, Russia, Germany, Japan and France, Uzbekistan produces 27 different models of cars, trucks and buses.

Special attention is being paid to the promotion of small business and private entrepreneurship. Thus, their share in the GDP structure of the country since 2000 has increased from 31% to 56%; and in terms of industrial production from 12% to 31%.

As of June 1 this year, the country's gross

foreign exchange reserves amounted to \$28.1 billion, and foreign debt today does not exceed 18% of GDP.

Given the above factors, Moodies, Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings have all rated the country's banking system as "stable" over the past few years.

At the same time, Uzbekistan has the strategic goal of joining the number of upper-middle-income countries by 2030. According to the forecasts of the world's leading financial institutions, Uzbekistan has all of the necessary means to achieve this goal.

At the same time, a comprehensive analysis of the country's stage of development has shown the presence of pressing problems in the areas of government, economics, health care, education, utilities, and ecology, all of which hamper the further sustainable and advanced development of the country.

In this regard, in February 2017, on the initiative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Sh. Mirziyoyev, the Action Strategy for the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 was adopted. It aims to modernize all areas of the life of the country. According to the head of Uzbekistan, "The present rapidly changing time, when competition is intensifying on the world stage, requires all of us to think differently, to enhance efficiency."

In this regard, I would like to point out several specific aspects of this document.

First, the adoption of the Strategy has become a recognition of the existence of serious problems in modern Uzbek society.

Second, this was the first time such a comprehensive program had been adopted through broad public discussion with the active use of the media and the internet. Thanks to this, people got a real chance to participate in the process of making important decisions.

Third, the Strategy is not just a declaration: it is a concrete plan of practical actions regarding the internal and external development of the country. In particular, the first stage of reforms, launched in 2017, was reflected in the state program as “The Year of Dialogue with the People and Human Interests”. In the current year, the next stage has begun in the shape of the program entitled “The Year of Support to Active Entrepreneurship, Innovative Ideas and Technologies”.

The following priorities have been identified within the Strategy: 1) Improving state and public construction; 2) Ensuring the rule of law and further reform of the judicial system; 3) Development and liberalization of the economy; 4) Development of the social sphere; 5) Ensuring security, inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance; and implementing a balanced, mutually beneficial and constructive foreign policy.

In the context of the agenda of today's conference, let me enlarge upon some of the priority areas of the Development Strategy of Uzbekistan:

First, as part of improving the system of state and public construction:

- the role of Parliament in the system of state authority was increased; and its powers to exercise parliamentary control over the implementation of important tasks in the country's foreign and domestic policy were further expanded;

- the Concept of Administrative Reform in the Republic of Uzbekistan was approved, which identified six main areas of radical reform of the public administration system.

Measures in this area include the introduction of clear criteria and procedures for the creation and abolition of executive bodies, the optimization of executive bodies with the rational use of human and material resources; increasing the independence of the executive bodies; and improving the mechanisms by which they interact with the Cabinet of Ministers, etc.

- the e-Government system has been im-

proved and the quality of public services has been improved. The launch of the automated system of state registration of business entities from April 1, 2017, which allows reducing registration procedures to a timescale of thirty minutes, contributed to improving the position of Uzbekistan in terms of “Starting a Business” in the global Doing Business 2018 ranking from 24 to 11 places.

To move the national system of rendering state services to a qualitatively new level, the Agency of State Services was created with territorial subdivisions, providing state services in one place to both individuals and legal entities on the principle of a “single window”. The number of types of electronic public services has increased to 40.

- the system of public administration has been improved; effective mechanisms of dialogue with the people have been introduced; the role and effectiveness of the activities of the institute of self-government of citizens - makhalla - have been increased.

It should be noted that the principle of “it is not for the people to serve the state authorities, but the state authorities should serve the people” is defined as one of the key directions in the implementation of the Action Strategy. The President of Uzbekistan, Sh. Mirziyoyev, in his speech to Parliament in December 2017, emphasized that, from now on, every civil servant must prove on a daily basis that he/she deserves the position he/she holds.

On the initiative of the head of Uzbekistan, Sh. Mirziyoyev, the Virtual and People's Receptions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan were created. From September 2016 to today, the Virtual Reception has received more than 1.6 million appeals. At the same time, 95% of the appeals were considered and positively resolved; and the remaining 5% are at the processing stage in the relevant ministries and departments.

As an advanced mechanism of democracy, the electronic platform ‘Mening Fikrim’ (my opinion) was created, which for the first time provided the Uzbeks with a means of sending their collective appeals to the Parliament and Kengashes (Councils) of people's deputies in the form of online petitions.

Second, there has been further reform of the judicial system. An important reform in this area was the implementation of comprehensive measures to ensure the genuine independence of the courts through the formation of a democratic and transparent mechanism for the selection of judicial personnel. The creation of local administrative and economic courts has contributed to improving access to justice.

In criminal cases, it is strictly forbidden to use any data obtained by illegal means, especially audio and video materials, as material evidence. This has now been reflected in the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

For the first time in the country's history, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted the Act of Oblivion in relation to 2,700 convicts, including releasing 956 persons who have committed crimes due to various circumstances, sincerely repented of their deed and have shown themselves to be firmly set on the path of correction.

The result of an even greater liberalization of the judicial-legal system of Uzbekistan was the exclusion of 18 thousand people from the “blacklists” of the law enforcement agencies. These were individuals who were previously considered adherents to radical ideas.

As a result of the reforms carried out in 2017, acquittal sentences were issued against 215 persons. In just five months of this year, more than 200 acquittals were made, while in the whole of 2016, only 7 cases were handed down.

It should be noted that today the international community highly appreciates the efforts and achievements of Uzbekistan in the field of human rights, as evidenced by the visits to Tashkent of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein; the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion and belief Ahmed Shaheed and a delegation from the international human-rights organizations Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International.

Third, there has been development and liberalization of the economy. From September 5, 2017, free conversion of the national currency has been introduced. The rates of customs duties have been halved. Moreover, import duties for 3500 items and excise taxes for 1100 products were zero-rated.

As a result of the liberalization of the economy and the creation of favorable conditions for foreign investors, Uzbekistan signed more than 200 international treaties in 2017, as well as contracts and agreements worth about \$60 billion.

In addition, by the end of 2017, the trade turnover of Uzbekistan with the countries of Central Asia had grown by an average of 20%; and with individual states by almost 70%. In particular, the trade turnover between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan reached \$3 billion. At the same time, this indicator is expected to grow to \$5 billion in the near future.

Along with this, the following favorable conditions have been created for the development of entrepreneurship in the country:

- unscheduled inspections have been canceled; and the use of deprivation of rights to engage in entrepreneurial activities as a punishment has also been prohibited;

- the activity of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been completely reformed; and an institution has been established to protect the rights and legitimate interests of business entities (a Business Ombudsman);

- the practice of transferring state-owned property to businesses at “zero” value has been expanded.

The development of the draft Concept of Tax Reform in Uzbekistan for 2018-2020 was a landmark event in the economic life of the country. A general discussion has now begun in relation to this.

At the same time, a lot is being done to develop the digital economy in the country and introduce “innovative” technologies. The President of Uzbekistan has approved a program of measures to implement the “Safe City” project, which until 2023 will cover the whole of Uzbekistan. The Republic also plans to implement the “Smart City” program. The first “smart city” in the country will be the new city of Nurafshon - the administrative center of the Tashkent region.

To this end, the Ministry of Innovation Development was created, which embarked on a unified state policy in the field of innovation and scientific and technological development.

With the aim of further development of the tourism potential of Uzbekistan, from February 10, 2018, a visa-free regime has been introduced for a period of 30 days for the citizens of seven states: Israel, Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Turkey and Japan.

In addition, the procedure for obtaining tourist visas was simplified for citizens of 39 countries, including the United States, China, India, Australia and others.

From May 1, 2018, Uzbekistan began issuing a three-day entry visa for an introductory tourist tour for transit passengers.

Fourth, there is the development of the social sphere. Based on the principle of “all for the good of the people”, several priority directions were identified for improving the quality of life of the population in the social sphere. To this end, the implementation of the program “An Improved Village” has begun, within the framework of which a list of 368 villages has been developed and approved, which will be improved in the current year.

In cities and regions, special attention is paid to housing construction and the expansion of appropriate infrastructure networks for vulnerable groups within the population. Within the framework of the program, 1100 multi-storey buildings are being built. The total number of apartments will be 50200. It is also planned to build 75000 social houses in rural areas.

From April 1 of this year, in order to support people with disabilities, it has been made mandatory for businesses to reserve up to 10% of their jobs for people with disabilities and single persons. The government of Uzbekistan has approved a procedure by which a 2% admissions quota will apply in the case of people with disabilities who enter higher-education institutions from the start of the 2018/2019 academic year.

From August 1, 2018, a single social-payment rate of 4.7 percent has been applied to the pay of all disabled employees of public organisations which have 50% of staff with disabilities. The unified social payment is distributed through the established procedure.

In the health sector, work is underway to further improve the system of medical care and improve the quality of medical services. About 800 family polyclinics have been created, as

well as more than 400 medical centres based on rural medical centres. Ambulance services took delivery of 1,260 special vehicles. It is planned to create and open two thousand social pharmacies that will provide the population with high-quality medicines at affordable prices.

In the field of education, radical changes have also been made. On the initiative of the Head of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Preschool Education was established, the main tasks of which are to gradually ensure full pre-school education provision for children through the creation of a network of state and non-state pre-school institutions competing with each other, as well as to introduce alternative forms of pre-school education and childcare.

To improve the quality of higher education, Uzbekistan also actively cooperates with foreign countries. Today in the country, branches of leading foreign universities are open and actively conduct their educational activities. These include Westminster International University; M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University; Turin Polytechnic University; Inha University; Singapore Management Development Institute; and several others. In these institutions, training is conducted through innovative and modern technologies.

In addition, it is planned soon to open branches of Webster University (USA), the Moscow Institute of Steel and Alloys, and the technical university of South Korea - Yeosu Institute of Technology.

The meeting of the President of the country with young people on June 30, 2017, marked the beginning of a new era in the country in terms of enhancing the effectiveness of youth policy. The most important aspect of this activity was the formation of a public movement - the Union of Youth of Uzbekistan. As part of the activities of the Union, a program is being implemented to work with compatriots abroad.

The reforms initiated in Uzbekistan have a positive effect not only on the development of the country, but also on the entire region of Central Asia. In the Development Strategy, the countries of Central Asia are identified as the main priority of Uzbekistan's foreign policy. For us, the creation of a belt of security, stability and sustainable development around Uzbekistan is vital.

CHINA'S EXPERIENCE IN SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF THE WELL-BEING OF THE POPULATION*

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Abstract. The article highlights the problem of overpopulation of the country and ways to solve the problems, the consequences of which affect the well-being of people and the social development of the country. The measures taken in China to provide the vulnerable population with education, medical insurance and affordable housing ensure the stable economic development of the state.

Keywords: *Social Policy, Living Standards, China, Well-being*

ХАЛЫҚТЫҢ ӘЛ-АУҚАТЫ МӘСЕЛЕЛЕРІН ШЕШУДЕГІ ҚЫТАЙ ТӘЖІРИБЕСІ

Дин Сяосин

Аңдатпа. Мақалада халық тығыздығы мәселесі және салдары халықтың әл-ауқатына және мемлекеттің әлеуметтік дамуына әсер ететін мәселелердің шешу жолдары қарастырылады. Халықтың осал топтарын білім беру, медициналық сақтандыру және қолжетімді тұрғын үймен қамтамасыз ету бойынша қабылданған шаралар мемлекеттің тұрақты экономикалық дамуын қамтамасыз етеді.

Түйін сөздер: *әлеуметтік саясат, тұрмыс деңгейі, Қытай, әл-ауқат*

ОПЫТ КИТАЯ В РЕШЕНИИ ПРОБЛЕМ БЛАГОСОСТОЯНИЯ НАСЕЛЕНИЯ

Дин Сяосин

Аннотация. В статье освещается проблема перенаселения страны и пути решения

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проблем, последствия которых отражаются на благосостоянии народа и на социальном развитии страны. Принятые в Китае меры по обеспечению уязвимых слоев населения образованием, медицинским страхованием и доступным жильем обеспечивают стабильное экономическое развитие государства.

Ключевые слова: социальная политика, уровень жизни, Китай, благосостояние

China is the most densely populated country in the world, with a population of about 1.4 billion. It is therefore necessary to provide 1.4 billion people with food, housing, education, medical care and employment. Such a task is a vast and complex project. It can be said that the problem of livelihood in China is one of the most challenging problems in the world.

At present, China is firmly committed to the principles of achieving actions for the “two-hundredth anniversary”:

- firstly, by 2021, when the Chinese Communist Party will celebrate its centenary, to fully build a society of consistent prosperity in the country;

- secondly, by 2049, when the People's Republic of China will celebrate its centenary, to build a strong, modernized socialist state. These actions are an important part of the Chinese dream, and improving the well-being of the population is one of its most important aspects.

This year, China marks the 40th anniversary of the reform and policy of openness. Over the past 40 years, with the development of the Chinese economy, people's lives have undergone tremendous changes, and enormous changes have been made in Chinese society. China has become the world's second largest economy, the largest industrial country, the largest trading nation in the world and the country with the largest currency reserves. In 1978, China's total GDP was only \$214.2 billion, accounting for 2.2% of the world economy, less than one tenth of the United States and one fifth of Japan.

In 2000, China's total GDP reached \$1,214.9 billion and its global ranking rose to sixth position. In 2007, China outperformed Germany in terms of total GDP and ranked third in the world. In 2010 it ranked 2nd, ahead of Japan. In 2017, China's total GDP reached \$12,2 trillion,

which is about 15% of the world economy. Over the past 40 years, China's GDP has grown by an average of 9.5% per year at comparable prices. In dollar terms, China's foreign trade grew by an average of 14.5% per year. The standard of living of the Chinese people is constantly growing, with people coming out of poverty and living more prosperously. The Chinese middle class now number around 200-300 million. Many people have moved from poverty to a prosperous society. More than 700 million poor people, according to current UN standards, successfully escaped poverty; and this number accounts for more than 70% of the total population living in poverty in the world.

China has achieved great success in solving the problem of population well-being in the following areas:

First, the number of poor people has significantly decreased. In 2012-2017, more than 60 million poor people in China came out of poverty. The report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China set the task of addressing the problem of poverty in remote areas so that poor peasants come out of poverty in accordance with the current standards of China for 2020. This means that every year more than 10 million people must escape poverty. This task is very difficult and challenging. At present, China is carrying out a comprehensive battle against poverty. Many experts visit villages, and the houses of poor families, investigating their needs and developing practical programs to combat poverty on their behalf.

Second, there is the rapid development of education. In recent years, the Chinese government has invested heavily in the development of education. In 2000, the share of the state budget for education in China was

less than 3% of GDP, and in 2017 it grew to about 4.5%. A compulsory nine-year education system was made law in China, which led to a sharp decrease in illiteracy. China has 2880 universities, and the level of university enrolment has risen to 42%. This means that almost half of high school graduates have the opportunity to continue their studies at a university. Each year, about eight million university graduates take up jobs and make a contribution to society. For this purpose, the Chinese government must create more than 13 million jobs annually to satisfy employment. The unemployment rate is about 5%, which is not easy for a country with a population of 1.4 billion people.

Third, there is the continuous improvement of the social-security system. In the field of social welfare in China, universal health insurance is currently provided. In the past, farmers had to pay for their medical expenses; and now there is a universal health-insurance system. Currently, basic health insurance covers more than 1.3 billion people and provides universal health insurance. Rural cooperative health insurance has its own features. At the same time, the basic medical insurance against serious diseases covers all insured urban and rural residents. This has led to an increase in the level of service and an increase in the provision of medical services. In addition, the level of reimbursement of the basic insurance policy coupled with the insurance against serious diseases exceeds 80%.

Fourth, there is the continuous improvement of living conditions. Over the past 40 years, this area has undergone tremendous changes. Although some cities still have high housing prices, housing per capita has reached 30 square meters. In 2017, housing per capita reached 40 square meters.

The experience of China can be formulated with a phrase in which the idea of development is summed up: “Man is the highest consideration”. The people are the creators of history and the decisive force that determines the future and the fate of the party and the country. It is necessary to adhere to the dominant position of the broad masses of the people and follow the idea of

“creating a party for the benefit of society, being in power for the sake of the people”, to practise the main goal of serving the people wholeheartedly. This means accepting the desire of people for a better life as the goal of the struggle; putting the interests of the people first; and relying on the strength of the people to accomplish great feats.

Economic construction is the central link in development

As the country with the largest population in the world, ensuring domestic economic growth and raising the living standards of the people is always a priority for the Chinese government. For many years, China viewed economic construction as a central link; sought to solve social problems through economic development; supported social stability; and ensured the development of a prosperous society through economic construction. It is important to use comprehensive tools to solve problems relating to the well-being of the people. In turn, this requires overall planning and balanced development: it is necessary to focus on reducing regional differences and the differences between urban and rural areas. Thanks to the coordinated development of the economy, society, culture and the environment, the masses not only live richly, but their social and cultural life is also full. In addition, it is necessary to pay attention to and protect the environment. Chairman Xi Jinping has repeatedly proposed the concept of environmental protection.

In general, it is important to create an equitable social-security system through reform. The old social-security system no longer exists. In the past, employees depended on enterprises, and the peasants did not have social protection. In a market economy, such a system no longer exists, and the new system is gradually being formed and strengthened; but it also faces many challenges, such as the widening gap between rich and poor; inequitable distribution; and high housing prices. The government has introduced a series of measures to address this imbalance issue.

A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE EXPERIENCE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MODERNIZATION IN RUSSIA AND POST- SOVIET COUNTRIES*

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Abstract. The author conducted a comparative analysis between the post-Soviet countries in the social and economic spheres. There were highlighted various factors that influence social and economic development: the transit from a planned economy to a market economy; globalization; and resource efficiency.

Keywords: *Post-Soviet countries, Globalization, Market Economy, State Economy, Social Policy.*

РЕСЕЙ МЕН ПОСТКЕҢЕСТІК ЕЛДЕРДЕГІ ӘЛЕУМЕТТІК-ЭКОНОМИКАЛЫҚ МОДЕРНИЗАЦИЯ ТӘЖІРИБЕСІНІҢ САЛЫСТЫРМАЛЫ ТАЛДАУЫ

Андрей Казанцев

Андатпа. Автор посткеңестік елдердегі әлеуметтік-экономикалық салаларына салыстыр-

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малы талдау жүргізді. Әлеуметтік-экономикалық дамуға әсер ететін әртүрлі факторларға назар аударылады: жоспарланған экономикадан нарықтық экономикаға көшу, жаһандану және ресурс тиімділігі.

Түйін сөздер: *посткеңестік елдер, жаһандану, нарықтық экономика, мемлекеттік экономика, әлеуметтік саясат*

СРАВНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ ОПЫТА СОЦИАЛЬНОЙ И ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОЙ МОДЕРНИЗАЦИИ В РОССИИ И ПОСТСОВЕТСКИХ СТРАНАХ

Андрей Казанцев

Аннотация. Автором проведен сравнительный анализ между постсоветскими странами в социальной и экономической сферах. Акцентируется внимание на различных факторах, которые повлияли на социально-экономическое развитие: транзит от плановой экономики к рыночной, глобализация, эффективность использования ресурсов.

Ключевые слова: *постсоветские страны, глобализация, рыночная экономика, государственная экономика, социальная политика*

We are currently at the stage of two transits. On the one hand, there is an unfinished transit from nationalized economy to market economy; and on the other the unfinished transit from national to global economy which has become part of this process. In fact, the first process for post-Soviet countries can be viewed as an adaptation to the second process. Since the economy has acquired a global character, the potential for post-Soviet countries (and other countries of the world) to conduct social policy are objectively limited.

At the same time, we should also take into account the situation in which we find ourselves at the moment, where a certain “rollback” is observed in the process of globalization; and there are attempts to “shut it down” even in those countries in which it originally began (such as, for example, the phenomenon of Trump in the USA). At the same time, globalization is becoming more polycentric. This is shown in the role of China, which is now becoming one of the “pioneers” of the globalization process.

We can now consider the general situation in the post-Soviet countries.

The transit from market economy to state in the 1990s was accompanied by the following factors:

- a sharp turning away by states from their obligations;

- a society that was significantly weakened in the era of totalitarian politics; turned out to be dependent on the state; and could not compensate for those areas where the state deviated from control over the economy and the social sphere;

- states which were unable to effectively finance even those areas where public goods were created (security, education, health), i.e. did not perform their direct functions.

Globalization has joined this, which, due to the increasing influence of world markets, has further weakened the capabilities of post-Soviet states.

All these trends have caused a sharp increase in inequality, for example, for Russia, where the level of inequality according to several analyses came close to what took place in the Russian Empire until 1905 (Thomas Piketty, France); and according to other calculations (Boris Mironov, Russia, St. Petersburg University), is even higher.

In the 2000s, there was a compensation process, which, however, did not fully “overlap” with the problems in social policy that emerged in the 1990s. However, later, due to the dynamics of the world economy and world politics (in particular, the issue of military expenses and sanctions and counter-sanctions which is important for Russia), the state again had to “weaken” its social policy.

In a number of post-Soviet countries (except for the countries of Central Asia and Azerbai-

jan), we can add to this the demographic crisis. In general, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia and Armenia found themselves in a very difficult demographic situation, since the birth rate is often even lower than in Western countries; and life expectancy is at the level of developing countries. At the same time, countries such as Russia and Ukraine are also characterized by male supermortality (a very large gap in life expectancy between women and men). The average resident of Russia is a woman over 40.

Migration growth gradually ceases to compensate for the natural population decline. For 2019, Rosstat gives a forecast of a population decline through natural loss of 218,300. For 2023, the forecast through natural loss is 366,300 and a migration increase of 274,900.

According to many experts, this makes inevitable a rise in the retirement age in Russia; although, according to opinion polls, the overwhelming majority of the population opposes this (it should be noted that in many other post-Soviet countries the corresponding reforms have already been implemented).

Let us now consider the national specifics of the post-Soviet states.

As a rule, economically richer states have more resources for social policy, i.e. all social indicators are “pulled up” to the level of per capita GDP and per capita income level.

In analyzing the situation in Russia, it should be borne in mind that the current foreign policy situation leads to high military spending and other economic costs and hinders the development of an effective social policy. However, when compared with other post-Soviet countries (except for the Baltic states), Russia shows the highest GDP per capita and good economic reform. Even the most ardent critics of the Russian leadership, like former presidential adviser Andrey Illarionov, underline the fundamentally market nature of the Russian economy. It is this market nature of the economy that ensures its sustainability even when under the pressure of sanctions. It should also be noted that social security in Russia is still one of the highest for post-Soviet countries in many respects.

Russia and Kazakhstan are the leaders in per capita GDP among all of the post-Soviet countries. The per-capita-GDP indicator has always

been considered the main indicator of development. It is not surprising that we are talking about two countries that are among the most resource-rich ones. However, the efficiency of resource management is no less important (an example is Turkmenistan, in particular - a country also rich in hydrocarbons, but which, according to a number of indicators such as education or health care, has failed to create an effective model).

In general, one should speak about more or less successful models of working within globalization in connection with the efficiency of resource use. In particular, Kazakhstan, on a number of indicators (foreign investment per capita; GDP growth dynamics; degree of economic liberalization in terms of a number of ratings; and successful functioning of the world financial center, outranking Moscow in terms of a number of ratings, etc.) demonstrated rather high efficiency in terms of the economic model. This made it possible to make breakthroughs in some areas of social policy (for example, in the field of education).

Now, let's consider the new challenges of social policy in the context of globalization. In the context of globalization, for a few countries (primarily the EU countries, USA, Canada and Australia) regulation of the migration regime is no less important than the more traditional issues related to social policy. This is one of the key issues in shaping the political agenda in several countries.

Among the CIS countries, the same phenomena are characteristic of Russia and Kazakhstan, which, due to a relatively higher standard of living, act as centers of attraction for labor migration from neighboring post-Soviet countries. In this regard, for Russia and several Central Asian countries (especially Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan), the use of labor migration under the co-development model becomes promising. On the one hand, help is needed for returning migrants so that they can create businesses in their home countries, using the skills and funds received in Russia. On the other hand, it is promising to receive vocational education, and the study of the Russian language at home, even before migration to Russia (with the help of the Russian state, which can and should be one of the main prospects for *Rossotrudnichestvo*).

EURASIAN IDENTITY AS A CONSOLIDATING FACTOR OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES*

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Abstract. This article describes the phenomenon of Eurasian identity and the factors involved in its formation. The author points out the need to adapt the concept to modern realities and puts forward a number of proposals for its transformation into a unifying factor for the countries of Central Asia.

Keywords: *Eurasia, Eurasian Economic Union, Identity*

ЕУРАЗИЯЛЫҚ СӘЙКЕСТІК ОРТАЛЫҚ АЗИЯ МЕМЛЕКЕТТЕРІНІҢ БІРІКТІРУШІ ФАКТОРЫ РЕТІНДЕ

Мұратбек Иманалиев

Аңдатпа. Мақалада еуразиялық сәйкестілік феномені, оны қалыптастыру факторлары қарастырылады. Автор тұжырымдаманы заманауи шындыққа бейімдеу қажеттігін көрсетіп, оны Орталық Азия елдері үшін біріктіруші факторға айналдыру бойынша бірқатар ұсыныстар енгізеді.

Түйін сөздер: *Еуразия, Еуразиялық экономикалық одақ, сәйкестік*

ЕВРАЗИЙСКАЯ ИДЕНТИЧНОСТЬ КАК КОНСОЛИДИРУЮЩИЙ ФАКТОР СТРАН ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОЙ АЗИИ

Муратбек Иманалиев

Аннотация. В данной статье рассмотрен феномен евразийской идентичности, факторы

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ее формирования. Автор указывает на необходимость адаптации концепта к современным реалиям и выдвигает ряд предложений его трансформации в объединяющий фактор для стран Центральной Азии.

Ключевые слова: Евразия, Евразийский Экономический Союз, идентичность

Eurasia as a continent - also known as the “Big Island” - is a more colorful region of the world than other parts of the world and regions of the planet. The European, Indian and Far Eastern tips of Eurasia are regions of the Atlantic, Indo-Eurasian and Pacific understanding of the existence of a biological form of life, intellectual tension and a fairly high standard of living, between which other major world civilizations are squeezed, which, in turn, drastically differ from those described above and to each other.

Today, Eurasia is a continent, the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific tips of which slowly unfold into the region. However, the goals and content of the vectors and stepping stones of these turns are completely opposed.

Visually observable elements of the ongoing “Big Game” are also noticeable, which expanded geographically and meaningfully after the collapse of the USSR.

Today, the Eurasian continent is also a region of continental and regional economic and other projects, to which the attention of the Central Asian states is also paid, and which, while still remaining in the geopolitical periphery mode for objective and subjective reasons, are still more passive participants of the Eurasian design.

These projects, among which, first of all, the Eurasian Economic Union should be noted, are of obvious interest for Central Asian countries. At the same time, with all the unfolded and hidden benefits and advantages, they seem to suffer from a certain lack of meaningfulness; more precisely, semantic structures, including in the field of cultural and humanitarian activities of people and states, but under certain efforts with the subsequent possible building of a certain model of Eurasian identity

To begin with, it should be noted that new meanings, new value capacities and new

benchmarks can be identified as attractive ideas oriented to the future; or, so to speak, as something very important that cannot yet be spelled out but which is meant by everyone and presenting not a fragmented, but a comprehensive, tacit consensus. Relying on the old, already time-worn constructions of identity is unlikely to be able to move some common cause forward.

At the same time, it should be borne in mind that outside of the same consensus, only direct or indirect coercion, which is strategically and methodologically, in general, quite counter-productive, remains possible. The main ideological capacities, probably, should also be oriented on the possibility of joint living and development without the normative and everyday decoration of the hierarchical pyramid of “older and younger” and not only in a procedural sense. Indeed, this can also be understood and perceived as a kind of precondition, without regard for which even a weak substantive dialogue is not possible, not to mention some kind of joint creative activity.

The process associated with the formulation and design of the main idea highlights, in my opinion, several fundamental issues related with human capital or material, above all, and this is the most important in any form of project activity. In the present text, let us designate two of them: what parameters should be attributed to the Eurasians and by whom? And who nevertheless considers himself/herself a Eurasian? And if he/she identifies himself/herself or he/she is identified with Eurasianism, then what is the defining identification parameter or criterion - geography, history, economics, a common language or something else, or all of this together?

It is quite possible that the designers of modern Eurasianism did not set the task of

constructing a shared identity model that is understandable to all participants based on some value orientations. But it seems that building a modern, even limited cooperation space in the form of an international organization based on the idea of only military-political or only economic rapprochement with each other with a corresponding set of procedures and not very clear rules is not enough, and it seems to me that they are short-lived, especially if one considers the attractiveness and benefits of the proposed options from the outside.

At the stage of a long-term global crisis, international structures created by “ad hoc” will probably also be in demand for the implementation of any specific joint projects and programs.

In the context of a systemic global crisis that is decaying into local and functional, it seems that a consensus movement towards the formation of a multi-layered partnership space is required. With regard to Eurasian projects, we can talk, for example, if we keep in mind the Eurasian Economic Union, about the most important for all former “Soviet” countries, and which has been forgotten or missed in the heat of the struggle for a brighter “market” future - a joint search for a way out or liberation from the “post-communist” state and subsequent creative activity for the benefit of all.

In the former USSR, probably only two countries with some constancy and clear understanding declare Eurasianism as an important idea for them, while, however, putting into it fragmentally mismatched and divergent meanings. There are, however, other states that from time to time somehow together recall their Eurasianism. Still others are detached from Eurasianism either by the fragile wall of their identification programs and projects, or by the imaginary inaccessibility for them of the meaning of the proposed Eurasianism. Or Eurasianism is understood by them as a kind of euphemism for expansion or restoration.

Indeed, the reviewing of the problem of modern Eurasianism cannot be carried out outside the context of the development of the

contemporary global situation, which today is characterized by such a deep crisis of concepts of socio-economic development, religions, humanitarian values, international law, as well as other principles and drivers of international communication and so on.

The system and mechanisms of functioning of international organizations and structures that emerged and developed in the 20th century have undergone obvious corrosion. It seems to me that with the collapse of the bipolar world, one of the main motivational foundations and drivers of the creation and existence of international organizations has collapsed - I mean their construction according to a simple confrontational scheme “for something” and “against someone”. The “for” and “against” reflected the competition of ideologies, socio-economic platforms and military capabilities. But the continuing rather serious inertial influence, and sometimes the renewal of these schemes, should probably be recognized.

It is clear that competition between states, groups of states has not disappeared anywhere, but the fundamentals and mechanisms of long-term alliance and even compromise partnership, including, and, perhaps primarily, in global and regional international organizations, are changing radically; meanwhile, some representatives of the “third world” seemed to have suddenly suggested that religious differences and dogmas should be put in the basis of international competition, not ideology or socio-economic concepts; international criminal structures emerged, declaring their claims for the very serious factors of international life with their ideas and potential for concrete actions, etc.

Under these conditions, the creation and restructuring of international organizations, the search for semantic structures and tools of activity that are adequate to the new time, remains a very difficult problem, and maybe even insoluble: new radically different approaches to the formation of international organizations will be required.

The interest of the state today remains the unshakable foundation of the foreign policy of

all countries, including their participation and activities in international organizations. Often, the interest and foreign policy proclaimed by the same state come into conflict, but the priority and dictate of interest is obvious, especially in times of crisis. The egoism and cynicism of the state (if it wants to be strong) is the unshakable truth of all times and peoples.

If we develop “Eurasianism” as a platform of identity or (self) identification model, the latter will need, first of all, a harmonious combination of the interests of all and real equality, but not equalization.

At one time N. Trubetskoy proposed to construct a so-called “Eurasian nationalism” (“... the totality of the peoples inhabiting this state, regarded as a special multi-people nation and having such nationalism as such can only be a national substrate of that state, which is called the USSR. We call this nation Eurasian, its territory - Eurasia, its nationalism - Eurasianism”).

There are other proposals and recommendations on the issue of the construction of Eurasian identity. I believe that there should not be haste and unnecessary trouble - we must calmly think together.

In connection with the mention of culture, it should be emphasized that the intangible sphere of human activity or, in a broader context, the totality of their non-economic achievements and orientations (also included in the national value system) plays, oddly, it must be said, a significant role in economic development. In particular, let me remind the reader once again about the experience of Korea and Zambia, which in 1960 began economic reforms from about the same starting position. However, ten years later, the economic development of Asians was four times higher than that of Africans. Why? The answer is simple: the presence of a set of value orientations and capacities to which a nation or another identified group of people not only orientates, but in aggregate moves the nation forward.

The search for national roots is not just an attempt to “dig up” the National Idea from the

depths of centuries and at the same time restore the history of the people; or rather, write out its documented version. It is instead the desire to understand the historical mission of generations of people who have identified and identify themselves with some ethnonym born from time to time on the basis of any motto, idea or symbol of spatial, and sometimes totem notation. A certain sacralization of the historical mission of an ethnos or a group of ethnos is one of the fundamental bases for the construction of a self-identification model, which, in turn, can become a driver for development. The process of sacralization can obviously be artificially agitated and successful, as we can see from the history of some nations. But, if this agitation is not accompanied by the creation of specific material, spiritual and moral platforms, then all efforts, in general, are in vain.

Versions of divine origin, moreover, with the name of one or another people sent over from above, can be found in the materials of ethnogony, genealogical traditions, and even in sacred books. Thus, God's chosen people confirms the messianic role of this people among others. No need to dig in history; I will give just one example: The US President R. Reagan states: “If Americans are deprived of faith in our great future, it will be impossible to explain why we are so convinced that America is a promised land, and our people are chosen by God to work on creating a better world”.

The belief in God's favored people should find not only “earthly” confirmation within the national self-identification model, sometimes arising on a powerful wave of self-interpretation “methods and sole possession of space information”, but also “unearthly”, which is very, very difficult, especially if the latter is not recognized by others ethnosubjects and confessional communities. Only faith in the special mission of the people, based on a “dialogue with God,” remains, again, if this dialogue took place. According to V. Solovyov, “the idea of a nation is not what it thinks about itself in time, but what God thinks about it in eternity”.

Every nation has two versions of its own historical past: documented and mythologized. The reproduction of the first option, for example, the history of European and other sedentary agricultural peoples, is scientifically and methodologically based on the historiographical methodological marking of Thucydides and Herodotus.

However, their system and methods are legitimate, from my point of view, only to explain the history of sedentary peoples, with a fixed territory inhabited with a certain class-political, pyramidal control system, etc., that is, state formations with watchtowers and protected by the gate. In relation to the mobile (“spreading”) peoples, the methodology of Thucydides and Herodotus is applicable only in certain fragments, not least because the history of horse and nomadic states and communities, in general, is more a history of symbols, signs, and a network system of community organization, but not material evidence of people's livelihoods, including library culture, which, of course and unconditionally, constitutes the great heritage of humanity, its experience, work and inquisitiveness of the mind.

The purpose of the Eurasian horse and no-

madic community, which existed until the middle of the nineteenth century, consisted, among other aspects of the historical mission, to transfer knowledge, skill and other values from one civilization center to another, but the “carriers” did not use this knowledge, because they did not need them (another paradox as though). It requires a very fundamental explanation of the “difficulties of translation”: the paradox mode is the constraint jacket that the world puts on anti-peace.

Why are we talking about this today? The inertia of nomadism, just like the Soviet civilizational identity and some religious preferences, play a fairly large role in shaping the outlook of people in a certain area of Eurasia. The context of development of all the mentioned models of different vector identities can lead to unpredictable consequences, up to the collapse of states. From my point of view, so far from the known possible identity models, only the Eurasian one can in some way cement the common ideas of some Central Asian peoples about themselves, without constructing a platform of uniformity. Today is the time for the former “nomads” to dream about the future, and not about the past.

MODERNIZATION AND POLICY OF YOUTH SOCIALIZATION IN THE INFORMATION AGE: THE EXAMPLE OF UZBEKISTAN*

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Abstract: The article describes the political experience of Uzbekistan in terms of the socialization of citizens under the formation of industrial culture. The author provides recommendations for the development of ideological structures that will help enhance the role of the younger generation in the political life of the country.

Keywords: *Modernization, Industrialization, Youth, Social Networks, ICT, Internet.*

АҚПАРАТТЫҚ ЗАМАНДА ЖАСТАРДЫ ӘЛЕУМЕТТЕНДІРУДІ ЖАҢҒЫРТУ ЖӘНЕ ОНЫҢ САЯСАТЫ (ӨЗБЕКСТАН МЫСАЛЫНДА)

Бахтиёр Эргашев

Аңдатпа. Мақалада өнеркәсіптік мәдениетті қалыптастыру жағдайында азаматтарды әлеуметтендіру бойынша Өзбекстанның саяси тәжірибесі сипатталады. Автор жас ұрпақтың елдің саяси өміріндегі рөлін көтеруге көмектесетін идеологиялық құрылымдарды әзірлеу бойынша ұсыныстар береді.

Түйін сөздер: *жаңғырту, индустрияландыру, жастар, әлеуметтік желілер, АКТ, интернет.*

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МОДЕРНИЗАЦИЯ И ПОЛИТИКА МОЛОДЕЖНОЙ СОЦИАЛИЗАЦИИ В ИНФОРМАЦИОННУЮ ЭПОХУ (НА ПРИМЕРЕ УЗБЕКИСТАНА)

Бахтиёр Эргашев

Аннотация: В статье описывается политический опыт Узбекистана по социализации граждан в условиях формирования индустриальной культуры. Автором даны рекомендации по выработке идеологических конструкций, которые помогут повысить роль молодого поколения в политической жизни страны.

Ключевые слова: модернизация, индустриализация, молодежь, социальные сети, ИКТ, интернет.

A little about terms

Civil socialization is, first of all, the mastering by the younger generation of the values, norms and cultural images that are generally accepted in this society. The result of such socialization is, ideally, a citizen with certain political convictions, able to independently determine his position, make choices and be responsible for himself, guided by his own ideas about what his duties and rights are¹.

At the present time, the essence of the modernization process in Uzbekistan is the implementation of a policy of accelerated industrialization and the formation on this basis of an industrial, urbanized culture with the strongest elements of traditional culture. Industrialization and urbanization against the background of increasingly deepening use of information is the paradigm which frames the development of the country. The policy of civil socialization should be based on these conditions.¹

Today, speaking of the processes of socialization, it is important to emphasize the fact that over the past twenty years there have been qualitative changes in Uzbek society.

First of all, as a result of the explosive nature of the development of ICT and the internet in the

country, the position in which Uzbekistan finds itself today can in many ways be attributed to countries that have made a sharp breakthrough in terms of the formation of an information society. In 2016, Uzbekistan registered 26.3 million mobile subscribers, or more than 83% of the population. The number of mobile subscribers using mobile internet services exceeds 8.5 million. The total number of internet users in 2016 amounted to over 16 million users (about 450% of the total population of the country). According to experts, the number of Internet users will have reached about 19 million people by 2020.

Thus, as a result of the exponential growth² observed in this area, Uzbekistan as it is today can in many ways be attributed to countries that have made a sharp breakthrough in the formation of the information society, primarily in the context of technological support for access by the population and business to information services.

But at the same time, revolutionary changes in access to global Internet resources lead to the following challenges:

– Globalization and the process of de-sovereignty of national states.

Westernization (or the phenomenon of “cultural imperialism”³): the penetration of stan-

¹ The most important component of civil socialization is professional socialization, the foundations of which are laid in the system of vocational and higher education. Legal socialization is inextricably linked with civil socialization, the goal of which is not only legal education, deep assimilation of legal norms in all spheres of life, but also the formation of a sense of law and legitimacy, law-abiding behavior; upholding and protecting the rights of every citizen.

² Exponential growth is an increase in magnitude when the growth rate is proportional to the value of the magnitude itself.

³ The concept of “cultural imperialism” was widely adopted after the UNESCO conference held in Mexico in 1982, at which the problems of cultural policy were discussed.

dards and stereotypes of western culture in modernizing traditional societies, which contributes to the breakdown of traditional culture and ethics and leads to the erosion of national identity.

At the same time, classical media imperialism⁴, where the point of view of one (or a group) of countries is imposed in different ways, is now turning into a more global, network-centric influence⁵ of separate groups united not only and not so much by national priorities as by the interests of global economic and information domination (the new phenomena of “netocracy”, “googlecracy”, “corporatocracy”, “new network empire”, etc.).

The rapid development of information and communication technologies and the Internet.

This leads to increased opportunities for access to information in all areas, business development, and distance education. At the same time, this leads to the creation of a radically new situation, where every citizen has the ability to search for and instantly receive any information he/she needs without the participation of state-owned media. For the first time in history, the state is losing its traditional monopoly on the formation of national ideology, public consciousness and the behavioral stereotypes of citizens⁶.

The growing role of network communities in the new environment

At the present stage, the main challenge to the state policy of civil socialization is that, as a result of the information explosion, the paradigm of socialization is changing. The role of the traditional institutions of socialization (the education system; the family; the army; trade unions; and religious organizations) is decreasing. So-

cialization moves into the virtual space. The main form of socialization is social networks at various level. Whoever has the ability to model/moderate these processes and networks in many respects determines the dynamics and formats of the socialization of young people, regardless of national borders.

Monolithic (from the point of view of social consciousness and ideology) society, characteristic of the agrarian and even the industrial era, in the post-industrial, informational era, is increasingly a thick web in which young people, using ICT and the internet, are involved in non-national/supranational social networks. Joining/associating themselves with the youth of other countries, united by certain social networks/connections, often becomes more important than national or state identity for young people.

The phenomenon of youth subcultures, where social networks emerge that unite according to interests (gamers, street racers, street dancers, etc.), leads to the emergence of informal, non-classical, non-traditional forms and institutions that exist, in many ways, in parallel with the formal, traditional system of socialization through institutions. A young person receiving distance education in a foreign university, who is a member of various social networks (for example, a gamer who is a fan of a computer game) and who now can instantly communicate online with like-minded people anywhere in the world, is becoming increasingly problematic in terms of the state policy of civil socialization; and this trend will only intensify.

The key problem of the policy of civil socialization at the present stage in the country is that against the background of the increasing importance of non-institutional factors (ICT, the internet and social networks), the role of the classical institutions of civil socialization is

⁴ Media imperialism is a model of dependent relations based on exports from developed countries, primarily the United States, of large amounts of information, communication equipment and software, which indirectly establishes a number of foreign norms, values and expectations that change the internal culture and socialization processes.

⁵ Network-centric influence is the forms and methods of global influence of certain groups of supranational (non-national) character, based on the possibilities of the phenomenon of global open network structures.

⁶ Analytical note “Politics of civil socialization of youth in Uzbekistan at the present stage: search for new approaches”, Tashkent, CER, p. 9

declining; but the implemented policy of civil socialization is not focused on work in the new conditions of the information society. The propaganda methods used are not effectively using the ICT capabilities in working with young people for whom the internet has become the main source of information.

There is a need for a gradual transition from the applied tools and methods of propaganda aimed at reaching as many young people as possible (through print media, state television and radio companies, and the outgoing propaganda formats: conference seminars and round tables), to new methods, focused on a targeted approach when choosing an audience (by groups, by interests and by access possibilities), with an emphasis on the opportunities provided by ICT and the internet. The fundamental point is that the state authorities, the institutions of civil socialization, must, in the conditions of the information age, master the skills to create effective network communications.

At the same time, a new approach is needed when young people are not an object of impact of state policy, passively processing/ not processing information that the state considers necessary to bring to it. In the modern conditions of the information age, a transition to a new paradigm is needed, where youth is not an object, but an active subject of the process of the policy of civil socialization. Taking advantage of ICT opportunities, the younger generation now has the opportunity to escape from the role of a passive object of influence; and can now be an effective repeater of certain approaches, values and positions for other communities (both domestically and abroad); and the most active section of youth can be an active subject participating in the development and promotion of certain provisions; ideological structures/ concepts; and the implementation of political and social projects, large and small. This potential can and should be used.

THE PECULIARITIES OF AZERBAIJANI NATIONAL IDENTITY AS A MULTI- LAYERED CIVIL SELF-DETERMINATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL STATEHOOD*

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Abstract: The article covers the formation of a multinational Azerbaijani nation as an interweaving of national and civil factors. It sheds some light on the historical and current national identity, and the restoration of nationwide statehood. Azerbaijani nationalism is the coexistence of different peoples and cultures united under the word “Azerbaijanis”. As a result of historical, economic and political progress, national statehood based on preserving cultural diversity, social cohesion and solidarity has a unique geopolitical identity that distinguishes it from other post-Soviet countries and makes it a leading figure in the South Caucasus. Azerbaijani identity is expressed in national attributes, representing a synthesis of commitment to independence, Islamic culture and modernity.

Key words: Azerbaijan, ADR, Azerbaijan Nationalism, National Doctrine

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ӨЗЕРБАЙЖАН ҰЛТТЫҚ СӘЙКЕСТІГІНІҢ ЕРЕКШЕЛІКТЕРІ КӨП ҚАТПАРЛЫ АЗАМАТТЫҚ ӨЗІН-ӨЗІ АЙҚЫНДАУ ЖӘНЕ ҰЛТТЫҚ МЕМЛЕКЕТТІЛІКТІ ҚАЛЫПТАСТЫРУ РЕТІНДЕ

Афсана Мамедова

Аңдатпа. Мақалада көп ұлтты эзербайжан халқының ұлттық және азаматтық факторлардың өзара байланыстары ретінде қалыптасуы қарастырылған. Ол тарихи және қазіргі ұлттық ерекшеліктер, жалпыұлттық мемлекеттілікті қалпына келтіру жайлы ақпарат береді. Эзербайжан ұлтшылығы - бұл «эзербайжандықтар» деген сөзбен біріктірілген әртүрлі халықтар мен мәдениеттердің бірігіп өмір сүруі. Тарихи, экономикалық және саяси прогрестің нәтижесінде мәдени әртүрлілікті сақтап қалуға негізделген ұлттық мемлекеттілік, әлеуметтік бірлік пен ынтымақтастық бірегей геосаяси сәйкестікке ие, ол оны басқа постсоветтік елдерден бөліп, оны Оңтүстік Кавказда жетекші тұлға ретінде көрсетеді. Эзербайжан сәйкестігі тәуелсіздікке, ислам мәдениетіне және қазіргі заманға деген адалдығының синтезін білдіретін ұлттық атрибуттарда көрсетілген.

Түйін сөздер: Эзербайжан, ӘДР, эзербайжандық ұлтшылдық, ұлттық доктрина

ОСОБЕННОСТИ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНСКОЙ ИДЕНТИЧНОСТИ КАК МНОГОСЛОЙНОЕ ГРАЖДАНСКОЕ САМООПРЕДЕЛЕНИЕ И ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ НАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОСТИ

Афсана Маммадова

Аннотация. Статья освещает формирование многонациональной азербайджанской нации как переплетение национальных и гражданских факторов. Она проливает свет на историческую и нынешнюю национальную идентичность, и восстановление общенациональной государственности. Азербайджанский национализм – это сосуществование разных народов и культур, объединенных под словом «азербайджанцы». Являясь результатом исторического, экономического и политического прогресса, национальная государственность, основанная на сохранении культурного разнообразия, социальной сплоченности и солидарности, обладает уникальной геополитической идентичностью, которая отличает ее от других постсоветских стран и делает ведущей фигурой на Южном Кавказе. Азербайджанская идентичность находит свое выражение в национальных атрибутах, представляя собой синтез приверженности к независимости, исламской культуре и современности.

Ключевые слова: Азербайджан, АДР, азербайджанский национализм, национальная доктрина

Historical review of the Construction of national statehood

May 28, 2018, marked the 100th anniversary of the formation of the first secular democratic state in the East: the Azerbaijan Democratic Re-

public (ADR). The tricolour national flag consists of the colors blue, red and green, which respectively mean Turkic freedom, Islamic culture and modernity. ADR was the first Muslim state where women had electoral rights for the first time in the Muslim East. ADR was established as a re-

sult of the self-elimination of the Transcaucasia Federation – a short-lived coalition government of South Caucasian states formed immediately after the October revolution on November 15, 1917, in Tbilisi; and which existed until May 26, 1918, when all the Transcaucasian republics declared independence.

The main task of the new government (ADR) was to strengthen power and set up a regular army to combat the Dashnak detachment, which was unbridled in the territory of the country [1]. During its brief two years of existence, the Azerbaijani government adopted some really important and progressive laws. For example, “Turkic” (Azerbaijani) was declared the official state language; women were given voting rights equally with men; and a law on the media was adopted. The government made serious efforts to have the ADR recognized by world powers, and in fact achieved *de facto* recognition by the Supreme Council of the Triple Entente [2].

ADR was the first historic personification of the national statehood of Azerbaijanis. Patriotism, nationality, independence and nationhood became the key substances with which to build the essence and gist of a national ideology. Previously, the Azerbaijani people were commonly called “musulmanin” (Muslim) or “tatars”. By using this term, the rulers of the Czarist Empire and its Armenian agents gave themselves more opportunity to erase the Azerbaijani people’s national identity and its heritage from the pages of the history. Rough assimilation and dissolving Azerbaijani identity in the pot entitled “universalism” constituted a formidable obstacle to national ideology gaining the the upper hand.

Constitution and geopolitical context of the national identity

Azerbaijan identity is based on a unique compound of multipolar individual and social identities developed through centuries. As academician Ramiz Mehdiyev states, the evolution of the national idea was launched between 1828 and 1875, just after the Russo-Iranian war, when

the territory of the northern part of Azerbaijan was annexed to the Russian Empire [3]. It was at that time that a gradual process of solidarity among Azerbaijanis was launched; and a recognisable literary school started to sow the seeds of a national awakening. Media outlets such as “Ekinchi” and “Keshkul” in the late 19th century and, in addition, “Hayat”, “Irshad”, “Fyuzat” and others at the beginning of the 20th century gave an impetus to the creation of the national doctrine and the idea of nationwide freedom. A struggle for the creation of a subnational autonomy within the Russian Empire had been transformed into the primary goal of national liberty. Finally, the date (May 28, 1918) of the establishment of Azerbaijan as an independent state became a symbol of the embodiment of the Azerbaijani national idea [4].

The instituting of ADR has been identified as a further historic step in the formation of a national consciousness. Azerbaijan nationalism was a co-existence of diverse nations and cultures united under the term of “Azerbaijanis.” Building the national civil society, intertwining with cultural pluralism, was the main way of life in the modern, independent state. ADR became a unique example of multicultural national statehood at the beginning of the 20th century when Western governments came to it much later. The self-identification of Azerbaijanis in the ADR was a complex of intertwining factors of an objective and subjective nature; and, as a whole, a civil one. The self-identification of minorities was closely associated with the policy of the current government; the defining principle of which was the consideration of the interests of a multiethnic people. In total, 80 out of 120 members of the Parliament were Muslims, others of other ethnic and religious groupings [5]. Although ADR lasted for only 23 months, it left a huge treasury of national doctrine for its successors.

However, we cannot omit the fact that cultivating the national identity dated back to much earlier - to the 16th century, in fact, when the Safavid Shah (King) Ismail Khatai proclaimed himself as the governor of Azerbaijan in 1501. For the first time in history, a central government

was formed. Until the Shah Khatai, Azerbaijanis had been remained a part of Turkic and Muslim identities with standard features encompassing all nations where the Persian and Arabic were used as official languages both for administrative issues and literature. Jalaluddin Afghani, a prominent Muslim scholar, argued that “language and religion are the pillars of every society and the primary factors of national identity”. Giving the Azerbaijani a special legal status made a substantial basis for the formation of national doctrine: essentially the seeds of self-knowledge were sown.

These traditions of the formation of a national doctrine were followed by new thinkers in the 20th century when the founder of the ADR Mammad Amin Rasulzadeh defined the language as the primary base of an identity. Meanwhile religion, history and beliefs were merely the tools to keep the language-oriented identity safe [6]. As S.Hall has stated, identities are about the enquiry of using the resources of history, language and culture in the process of being rather than ‘who we are’ or ‘where we came from’, as much as ‘what we might become?’ [7] ADR reached this goal by building a multi-ethnic national statehood reliant on self-knowledge and tolerance.

In my opinion, all the post-Soviet countries have experienced a similar fate – “the suppression of identity”. The fall of the Azerbaijani Democratic Republic on April 28, 1920, altered the democratic nature of the state and resulted in a negative impact on the international recognition of the Azerbaijani model of the nation-state. The period from 1920 to the beginning of 1988 was the time when the Azerbaijani people under the pressure of Communism were subjected to Soviet identity, where the Russian language was declared the lingua-franca and where national and religious interests were consigned to oblivion.

Soviet “euphoria” lasted until 1988, when bloody interethnic clashes began in various parts of the vast Soviet states. So-called communist internationalism burst like a soap bubble. November 17, 1988, was the date when the collective voice of freedom of the Azerbaijani people sounded for the first time to defend their interests,

fight for their independence and territorial integrity. However, it was smothered, but triggered a new movement of freedom.

Sovereignty and the concept of “Azerbaijanism” as a unique combine of differential cohesion

The current Azerbaijan Republic is the successor to the ADR. On October 18, 1991, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, basing their approach precisely on the Declaration of Independence of 1918, adopted the Constitutional Act on State Independence. It was the restoration of the captured freedom of Azerbaijan, lost as a result of the Bolshevik coup on April 28, 1920. For 25 years, an emerging generation of independent people has grown up relying on goodwill and tolerance and attempting to stay afloat between western and eastern powers. Despite the difficulties of the early 1990s, Azerbaijan managed to recover and become a key figure of the South Caucasus. The main condition for the execution of successful foreign and domestic policies is constructive understanding of its place in the world and in the region as well the pragmatic formulation and implementation of a national doctrine based on history, geography, cultural identity and the economic interests of the state. According to the political analyst Farhad Mammadov, the Azerbaijani identity is a multi-layered geopolitical one based on geographical, historical, religious and cultural components. Geographically, we are located in Europe. From the point of view of religion, Azerbaijan is part of the Islamic world. Culturally and linguistically, Azerbaijan remains a part of the Turkic world and participates in the process of integration of Turkic-speaking countries. Finally, historically, for the last two hundred years, Azerbaijan has been represented first as a part of the Russian Empire, then the USSR and finally the CIS [8]. The determinant of successful current governance is a consolidation of these four elements that were missed by its predecessor which was able to revive the prototype of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, but could not hold it:

Azerbaijan was about to be torn to pieces by inner and outer forces. However, Heydar Aliyev, as a Major-General at NKGB [9], could withstand the strong-hand Bolshevik policy. His core doctrine of “Azerbaijanism” was an effective method of uniting not only the torn pieces of Azerbaijan but nationalities living in Azerbaijan, despite their races, languages, religions and ethnicity. It was some kind of the differential cohesion. He fairly argued that ethnic nationalism and ethnocentrism leads to separatism and clashes between nations. However, “Azerbaijanism” related on the cohesion of all members of ethnic and national minorities makes them equal citizens of Azerbaijan, the land for everyone. Heydar Aliyev translated this inexhaustible and majestic spiritual wealth of its people onto a new dimension – political networks. “The multinational context of the Azerbaijan nation is our treasure and dominance. We should evaluate and defend it”, [10] - cited Heydar Aliyev.

The Azerbaijani ID is not a single ethnic group, but diverse nations assembled in one. States established in the territories of Azerbaijan never were homogeneous but instead heterogeneous, being a mix of different ethnicities and cultures. Thus, being Azerbaijani is being Jewish, Kurdish, Lazgi, Russian and the other minorities which inhabit Azerbaijan. It is giving a person a space to identify himself with his uniqueness as an individual and to realize himself as a social and civil being. Accordingly, Azerbaijani ID is a unique combination of individual and social factors. With reference to Erikson [11], a multifaceted identity is neither just ‘inside’, nor ‘outside’ the person: it smoothly links the individual to his social world in multiple ways, making him and the society he belongs to a part of the common self; a somewhat “multifaceted mosaic of interdependent, but highly differentiated parts.” [12] The Azerbaijan identity is just of that case. It is substantially a synthesis of national, democratic and humanist values which maintain the national impetus to go forward, rather than a classic combination of East and West values.

The national state concept is crucially important within the idea of Azerbaijanism. It is

closely linked with the social, political, cultural and economic status of society. The practice of cultural pluralism, originating from Ilham Aliyev, the incumbent president, defines multiculturalism as the state’s policy; and states that this type of government is the best example of subsequent development, with no alternative. Azerbaijani identity relies on national culture, religious outlook and historically formed social consciousness, with the traditional moral and material features.

Undoubtedly, economic leverage; recognition of cultural diversity; preservation of political stability; societal cohesion and solidarity have been the major factors in making Azerbaijan a key player in the region. More than eighty local ethnic groups have been living in this country for centuries in peace as well as being represented in the government and civic state bodies. Being a bridge between four religions and a strong meeting place for different groups, Azerbaijan has constituted favourable conditions for their peaceful co-existence. Protection of these values is an integral part of democratic development. Exploiting them as a tool is a means of preventing ethnocentrism, ethnic and religious separatism and other disintegration processes that threaten the sovereignty, territorial integrity, democratic development and national security of the country. The success of the foreign policy of Azerbaijan has been in developing bilateral relations not dependent on third countries. This principle, as articulated by F.Mammadov, allows the country to maintain stability in the region without becoming embroiled in conflicts between its neighbours or strategic partners; and to pursue a practice of constructive pragmatism by strengthening the policy of independence and being a fully-fledged participant in international relations [13].

Conclusion

The key factors that have triggered Azerbaijan becoming a cornerstone in the dialogue between the West and East and being committed to preserving the national identity within the state may

be summarized as follows: Azerbaijan has been located at the crossroads of cultures, religions, and civilizations for centuries and has played a leading role in understanding this connection. Substantially, endurance in Azerbaijani society has created a unique climate of tolerance. Azerbaijan is developing as a bridgebuilder between religious and ethnic groups which are confronting each other in a complex geopolitical arena. Azerbaijani ID is a unique combination of individual and social factors relying on multinational culture, religious outlook and historically formed collective consciousness. Azerbaijan's position

as a multicultural national state, established on the basis of such factors as respect for cultural pluralism and social diversity, with a clear understanding of national identity within the unity and solidarity among its constituent ethnic and regional groups, and preserving political stability and societal cohesion, makes it able to maintain a balance between its neighbours and strategic partners. Azerbaijan is interested in relations that are the impetus for economic and political progress; and meanwhile the chance is afforded of ensuring territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

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DEMOCRACY AS A MODERNIZATION PROJECT: THE OPPORTUNITIES AND LIMITS OF DEVELOPMENT*

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Abstract. This article considers the concept of democracy in terms of its impact on the modernization process. Particular attention is paid to the internet revolution, which has led to the formation of an electronic or internet democracy. The author considers this process as a new stage in the development of democracy.

Keywords: *Democracy, E-democracy, Globalization*

ДЕМОКРАТИЯ – МОДЕРНИЗАЦИЯЛЫҚ ЖОБА: МҮМКІНДІКТЕРІ ЖӘНЕ ДАМУ ШЕКТЕУЛЕРІ

Бақытжан Темірболат

Аңдатпа. Осы мақалада демократия тұжырымдамасы оның модернизация үдерісіне ықпалы тұрғысынан қарастырылады. Интернет-революцияға ерекше көңіл бөлінеді, бұл электрондық немесе Интернет-демократияны қалыптастыруға әкеледі. Автор осы процесті демократияны дамытудың жаңа кезеңі деп санайды.

Түйін сөздер: *демократия, электронды демократия, жаһандану*

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ДЕМОКРАТИЯ КАК МОДЕРНИЗАЦИОННЫЙ ПРОЕКТ: ВОЗМОЖНОСТИ И ПРЕДЕЛЫ РАЗВИТИЯ

Бакытжан Темирболат

Аннотация. В данной статье концепт демократии рассматривается с точки зрения его влияния на процесс модернизации. Особое внимание уделяется интернет-революции, которая приводит к формированию электронной или интернет-демократии. Автор считает данный процесс новым этапом в развитии демократии.

Ключевые слова: демократия, электронная демократия, глобализация

By the end of the twentieth century, when the world socialist system led by the Soviet Union had collapsed, and a whole series of authoritarian regimes had gone into historical oblivion, it seemed that there was only one step to the complete triumph of democracy in the world.

The experience of the advanced countries had also shown that one of the key factors in their success was a democratic political system based on liberal democratic values.

The thesis of F. Fukuyama concerning the end of history in connection with the complete and unconditional victory of democracy thus seemed simply the statement of an accomplished historical fact. The scholar stated emphatically: “The triumph of the West, of the Western idea, is evident first of all in the total exhaustion of viable systematic alternatives to Western liberalism. ... That is, the end point of the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government” [1].

In his reasoning F. Fukuyama relied on the so-called wave theory of democratization of S. Huntington, according to which modern democracy has been formed as a result of three consecutive waves.

The first wave originated in the nineteenth century and reached its peak with the advent of the new democracies after World War I. The second wave of democratization began with the end of World War II, when, against the background of the collapse of the international colonial system, many former colonies took the path of democracy.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s the third wave of democratization arose, undermining the legitimacy of authoritarian regimes and ensuring the movement towards democracy throughout the world. This process began in Southern Europe, spread to Latin America and Asia, and later embraced Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union [2].

The Journal of Democracy, summing up the twentieth century, stated that in 2000, electoral democracies, which included about 120 countries, made up of 63.2% of the world's population [3].

It is not surprising that at that time the opinion was widely spread among politicians and scientists that democracy was “the most influential political idea of the 19th century, which became a political reality by the beginning of the 20th century, and geopolitical reality - by the middle 20th century, and by the end of the 20th century, universal paradigm of the political dispensation, voluntarily or unwittingly implied point of reference of political systems though accepted not by everyone” [4].

At the start of the 1990s, Kazakhstan, like other post-Soviet countries, actively joined the process of building a democratic political system. Naturally, this determined a surge in academic research into both the phenomenon of democracy itself and the specifics of the transition to that system. At the same time, a large number of scholars both in the West and in the former Soviet republics, a priori adhering to the above views, considered young democratic states as transit ones, i.e. transitioning to the Western Euro-

Atlantic model, and accordingly referred to them as the so-called Democrats (quasi-democracies combining structural democracy and functional dictatorship). Therefore, any costs and inconsistencies with Western standards were automatically perceived as a developmental disease.

However, it was not so easy. According to the events at the turn of the 20th-21st centuries, tectonic shifts had begun, indicating the entry of world democratic practice into the transformation strip, which affected the very paradigms of its development. The large-scale and turbulent processes that unfolded during this period in the economic, communicative, technological and socio-demographic areas contributed to the emergence of new types of political practices that came into conflict with established democratic institutions.

A characteristic sign of the times was the loss of the traditional institutions of civil society in the face of political parties, pressure groups, trade unions, churches, public movements, NGOs, and the media-monopoly on the expression of public opinion.

The so-called network communities - mobile initiative groups operating in social networks - go more confidently into the political arena. They quickly and easily unite around interests in a particular area, achieve their goals and also easily fall apart.

Public participation is increasingly acquiring a network character. As a result, qualitatively new, mostly weakly formalized practices of political participation, far from an orderly typology of organizationally sustainable forms of participation, emerge [5].

Today, there are already powerful international networks and pressure groups of interest. These social groups that are informal in legal terms and are not subject to any national jurisdiction social groups have significant resources and opportunities to influence the advancement of their specific interests in particular countries.

The mobilization potential of the new institution of civic participation was fully demonstrated during the events of the "Arab Spring" that swept the countries of the Middle East and North Africa

in 2010-2011 [6]. In many respects, the activity of network communities was also responsible for the growth of protest moods in Russia in the winter of 2011-2012.

Meanwhile, it should be noted that the modern era stimulates not only the development of new forms in the face of network communities, but also institutional and functional modification and change in the form of work of traditional institutions of civil society.

Thus, as a result of the synthesis of network communities and traditional mobilization institutions, so-called cyber parties have emerged. Today, this type of parties is a serious opponent in the political arena. The main criterion of the popularity of network parties is the attendance of its online-representations (on websites, forums, blogs, social networks, chat rooms) and the activity of supporters. Currently, network parties no longer use the Internet as a tool for their work; they themselves are political networks, cyber institutes of the political process [7]. The Internet, on the other hand, provides them with a stable platform where they work with their voters and supporters.

In other words, the internet revolution is now actively underway in the world; and this will largely determine the new system of relations between citizens and the state [8]. In this regard, researchers are increasingly talking about the erosion of traditional democratic institutions of participation [9] and the beginning of the formation of an electronic or internet democracy as a new stage in the development of democracy [10].

E-democracy is a logical link in the evolution of the democratic system in its transition to an information society as observed in western democratic countries. Its political significance and institutional influence on the management system of states has yet to be comprehended. However, today, at least two facts are obvious.

First, there is the fact that developed countries have already begun their movement towards the development of political internet-based platforms, and this process will only accelerate. And, second, that a state that cannot adequately assess and respond to the challenge of the global

information age will not be able to ensure the functionality and stability of its socio-political system in the future.

At the same time, it should be noted that the process of erosion of traditional mobilization institutions is determined not only by scientific and technical achievements that have led to the rapid growth of communications but also by the significant transformation of the social structure of modern society itself.

This happens under the influence of such factors as globalization; a change in the technological structure of the economy; the activities of transnational corporations; mass migration processes; and the expansion of LGBT rights.

The processes of weakening the territorial, professional, and psychological separateness of various social groups, which began in the 1960s in the western democratic countries and which led to the erosion of class and religious identification within society, have only deepened today.

As a result, new social groups are entering the political arena, such as women, ethnic and sexual minorities; and these largely shape the agenda of modern states. Having acquired the form of civil initiatives - informal and mobile associations of people seeking to solve specific, local problems, as well as universal human issues of global development - they firmly fit into the landscape of modern society.

It is no coincidence that one of the topical issues today is the problem of gender equality or women's representation in politics and in government structures. Currently, most states in the world have recognized the need to combat sexism. The UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women has been ratified by 189 countries.

It seems that women have already achieved equality at the political level. However, the figures say the opposite. According to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the average number of women in parliament around the world today barely exceeds 23%. In the countries of the European Union, this indicator is significantly higher - from 48% (in the Irish Parliament) to 26% (in France) [11].

In different countries of the world, the situation with the representation of women is different; but in the East, for example, this problem is really very serious. As a result, in more than 50 countries, particular legal measures are being taken to introduce special gender quotas or the statutory representation of women in government [12].

Today, under pressure from Western countries, there is also politicization of the issue of the rights of LGBT communities [13]. Their position and rights become an indispensable condition for "democracy" in evaluating a particular political regime. The rights of the LGBT community have already been brought to the level of the UN international committees on the observance of human rights.

All this may gradually lead to the fact that, in the near future, in a number of countries, special quotas will be introduced for LGBT people to be represented in government bodies in order to protect their rights at the political level (this can be seen from the fact that in 2016 the UN, in order to enhance the protection of members of the LGBT community from discrimination, for the first time in history, the UN appointed a commissioner for the rights of homosexual, bisexual and transgender people) [14].

Equally relevant is the problem of political participation and representation of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups in government.

This problem becomes especially relevant due to global migration processes. The scale of international migration is impressive. Thus, while maintaining the current figures (244 million people - in 2015, 258 million - in 2017) the number of migrants by the middle of the twenty-first century will exceed 320 million [15]. This has already provoked a migration crisis in Europe, where a flood of refugees and illegal migrants has rushed from the countries of North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

According to forecasts, the share of the Muslim population of Europe may increase from 4.9% (2016) to 7-14% by 2050 even in the case of a reduction in migration flows [16]. At the same time, as the evidence from practice has shown,

the Muslim diasporas do not seek to integrate into host countries, while maintaining to a high degree their linguistic and ethno-cultural autonomy.

No wonder, as they grow, the Muslim diasporas in the EU countries are gradually gaining political weight. For the secularized European states and the ones that preserve Christian nature, the search for ways to integrate Muslims (both immigrants and citizens) into the sociocultural and political space is a serious problem [17].

All these large-scale movements of people change not only the ethnic and religious landscape of the European Union, but also lead to the erosion of the traditional European values of democracy and affect the established forms of political participation.

As a result, a critical attitude is growing in the world, and in places a rejection of democratic values. Such sentiments have intensified against the background of “velvet” revolutions in Eastern and Central Europe; “color” revolutions in the post-Soviet space; and the “Arab spring” in the Muslim countries of the Middle East and North Africa, where active intervention by the West was recorded with the aim of reformatting national political systems under certain universal standards of democracy.

In turn, such factors as the growth of economic, political and cultural influence of China, the active positioning of Russia on current global

agenda issues, the strengthening of the Islamic factor in the world, coupled with the mass migration of Muslims to Europe, etc., lead not only to a decrease in the influence of the Western model of democracy, but also to an expansion of the reciprocal influence on it from non-Western political systems.

As a result, discussion on the prospects of democracy has developed on two planes.

According to the first position, the evaluation of democracies based on the textbook models of Western democracy is erroneous, and we should talk about different models of democracy. In other words, the globalization of democracy should not proceed in line with the unification of the political map of the world, but through the diversification of democracy through the expansion of democratic development options [18].

Proponents of the second point of view raise the question of the very nature of a democratic political system from the point of view of its exceptional effectiveness and legitimacy in terms of the implementation of citizens' political interests, and, accordingly, its universality and no alternative in the context of social development.

All this together determines the need for a systematic scientific and methodological rethinking of the paradigms of democracy and its prospects as the leading model of the socio-political modernization of society.

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CAPITAL WITHIN THE TRANSITION OF KAZAKHSTAN TO INDUSTRY 4.0: DIRECTIONS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND RISKS

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Abstract. In this article, the author examines in detail the tasks that must be undertaken for the successful implementation of the State Program “Digital Kazakhstan”. The article considers the directions, achievements and risks for each type of task.

Keywords: “Digital Kazakhstan”, Education System, Digital Literacy, Information Technology

ҚАЗАҚСТАН ӨНЕРКӘСІБІНІҢ ИНДУСТРИЯ 4.0 КӨШУ ЖАҒДАЙЫНДА АДАМ КАПИТАЛЫН ДАМУ: БАҒЫТТАР, ЖЕТІСТІКТЕР ЖӘНЕ ТӘУЕКЕЛДЕР

Леся Каратаева

Аңдатпа. Автор осы мақалада «Сандық Қазақстан» мемлекеттік бағдарламасын табысты

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іске асыру үшін атқарылатын міндеттерді егжей-тегжейлі қарастырады. Міндеттердің әр түрі бойынша бағыттар, жетістіктер және тәуекелдер қарастырылады.

Түйін сөздер: «Сандық Қазақстан», білім беру жүйесі, сандық сауаттылық, ақпараттық технологиялар

РАЗВИТИЕ ЧЕЛОВЕЧЕСКОГО КАПИТАЛА В УСЛОВИЯХ ПЕРЕХОДА КАЗАХСТАНА К ИНДУСТРИИ 4.0: НАПРАВЛЕНИЯ, ДОСТИЖЕНИЯ И РИСКИ

Леся Каратаева

Аннотация: В данной статье автор подробно рассматривает задачи, которые необходимо выполнить для успешной реализации Государственной программы «Цифровой Казахстан». Рассматриваются направления, достижения и риски по каждому из видов задач.

Ключевые слова: «Цифровой Казахстан», система образования, цифровая грамотность, информационные технологии.

In the next five years, the State Program “Digital Kazakhstan” intends to digitize virtually all sectors of the national economy; make the transition to a digital proactive state; ensure the effective operation of the country's digital infrastructure; and form its own innovative ecosystem. In particular, it is planned that there will be a significant increase in indicators in such areas as job growth and labor productivity due to digitalization; and growth in the share of public services consumed by citizens in electronic form, etc. [1]. It is obvious that a prerequisite for the implementation of the goals and objectives which have been set is the preparation of the population for the way in which life will now be organized; and the creation of the conditions for the full development of human capital to meet the demands of the new technological order.

The tasks that are faced today in the context of preparing the population can be divided into four components.

First, there is the task of bringing about within the education system a transformation and adaptation to the requirements of the new technological structure.

Second, there is the task of increasing the level of digital literacy of the population.

Third, there is the task of creating the conditions in which the risks of a backlog in terms of the skills and competencies of Kazakhstani workers in relation to the development of technologies can be minimized.

Fourth, there is the task of training specialists in the field of information technology and security.

Let's consider the directions, achievements and risks for each type of specified directions. Transformation and adaptation to the requirements of the new technological structure of the education system is the cornerstone of the efforts made by the state to ensure the preparation of a new generation of citizens. Reform of the education system is done through

- extension of digital tools used in the learning process;
- revision of approaches to the content of educational programs and their placement at various levels of the educational process; and
- automation of education and science management.

In all directions, the high rates of development and the introduction of new mechanisms are being consolidated. Special attention is being paid to the secondary sector and, in particular, to equipping rural schools. Currently, 99% of Kazakhstan's schools are connected to the Internet; 47% of schools are connected to WiFi; but only 62% have access to broadband [2].

The second task affecting the Kazakhstani education system is the revision of approaches to the content of educational programs and their placement at various levels of the educational process. Thus, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, taking into account the

experience of the OECD member-states, began the introduction of the subject “Information and Communication Technologies” in elementary school. Before, the subject was introduced into the curriculum when students moved to secondary school; but now students start to get basic knowledge about information technologies in elementary school from Grade 3. At the moment, experts are considering the feasibility of introducing an academic discipline as early as Grade 1.

In addition, a complete set of multimedia equipment in schools allows for the integration of digital interactive content into the educational process. For example, more than 40 thousand video lectures and interactive lessons in Kazakh, Russian, and English have been posted on the internet resource-areas “Bilimland”, “iTest” and “iMektep” [3]. Kazakh teachers and students can also use international educational internet resources adapted to Kazakhstan realities [4]. The proposed interactive lessons are focused not only on providing the necessary amount of knowledge, but also imply the fostering of functional literacy and creative thinking in students.

Over the past six months, there has been an eight-fold increase in the number of robotics clubs and classrooms. If at the end of last year there were 372 of them [1], then at the moment such classrooms operate in more than 3000 educational institutions [5]. This involves not only the resources of the formal education institutions, but also the possibilities of the non-formal education structures. So, robotics classrooms are created not only in schools, but also in Schoolchildren’s Palaces, on the basis of which a network of children’s technology parks is currently being created.

The third direction is the automation of the process of managing education and science and includes a wide range of mechanisms, most of which are most successfully used in the system of higher and postgraduate education, as well as in the field of scientific research [5]. The key objective of this direction is to ensure fast access of consumers of services to all relevant information and, consequently, the transparency of the activities of structures operating in the education and science systems.

Despite the recorded positive dynamics of the digital infrastructure development in the education system, it seems logical to draw attention to a number of emerging risks.

First, against the background of the modernization of the education system, adequate mechanisms and criteria for assessing impact have not yet been developed. Reporting contains, as a rule, indicators of how well educational institutions are provided with access to broadband internet; multimedia equipment; and academic disciplines, within the framework of which instruction is provided in an interactive format, etc; but these indicators do not provide an opportunity to assess change in the quality of education. In 2018, the Ministry of Education conducted a comparative analysis of student performance indicators and the number of interactive lectures which had been downloaded from Kazakhstan’s educational portals. The analysis showed a direct relationship between performance and the intensity of use of interactive content [6]. The result is quite to be expected and corresponds to the concept of digital interactive learning. However, the question is: how far the factor of subjectivity was taken into account when teachers assess schoolchildren’s knowledge?

Second, there are risks that in the pursuit of modernizing education the introduction of interactive methods will become an end.

Third, businesses express dissatisfaction with the quality of university graduates. In part, the marked discrepancy between the quality of specialists graduating from universities and the needs of the labor market is a consequence of the lack of attention of the business itself to the process of preparing specialists - the reason lies in the accelerating process of the changing requirements for the skills and competences of specialists.

Next, we turn to increasing the level of digital literacy among the population. The growing importance of information technology will lead to the situation where a citizen, not having the skills to use digital devices, will not be able to use e-government services or represent their interests in other areas.

It should be recognized that Kazakhstanis in their daily life actively use the opportunities provided by digital technologies; and at the consumer level there is the high potential for adaptation to new conditions. The level of internet penetration in Kazakhstan is about 76% and the level of digital literacy 77% [7]. Kazakhstanis actively use the internet via mobile devices [8]. According to opinion polls, only 16% of citizens are ready to abandon devices

in order to make savings and instead Kazakhstanis are more likely to agree to overtime [9].

However, the presence of internet surfing skills and social-media accounts does not mean that citizens can use digital signatures, receive government services in digital format or conduct business based on smart contracts. The question of the competencies and skills of Kazakhstanis in protecting their information resources and data from the actions of cyber attackers remains open.

The objectives this year included the development of teaching methods and curricula; the training of trainers; the development and testing of mechanisms for teaching the population; and an increase by 1.5% of the proportion of the population possessing the relevant basic skills. Most of the key tasks have already been resolved; and a digital-literacy education campaign started on June 1 [10]. The aim of the campaign is that every Kazakhstani citizen, regardless of where they live, can learn basic competencies; obtain public services; use Open Government resources; or make online purchases and sales.

Given the importance of the process for the further development of a proactive digital state and the construction of Industry 4.0, it is advisable to take into account a number of associated risks.

First, the population can ignore the importance of the issue of expanding their own digital skills. On the other hand, for those who decide to undergo training, the issue of training time becomes a priority. In this context, attention needs to be paid to the readiness of employers to free up part of the working time of their workers for training in digital skills.

Second, as society's dependence on digital technology grows, threats from cyber-attacks also increase. Obviously, against the background of the already announced areas of public education, more attention should be paid to the protection of their own information resources and cyber-safety.

Minimizing the risk of professional skills lagging behind technology development is an issue. At the same time, the transition to Industry 4.0 substantially increases the risk of professional skills and competencies lagging behind the development of technologies. Fulfillment of this risk will lead to the polarization of the labor market and the growth of social inequality [11]. In addition, this situation will have a negative impact on efforts undertaken in other directions.

In the short term, the labor market in Kazakhstan will maintain a positive trend; but, in the medium term, the automation and digitalization of production will create new requirements for the competencies of professional personnel. Conducted in conjunction with experts from the Fraunhofer Institute of Applied Research, as well as experts from the Swedish mining industry and Nokia, an analysis of Kazakhstan's industry showed that only 20% of manufacturing enterprises and 40% of mining enterprises have enough technological, organizational and personnel base for the transition to Industry 4.0. The lack of qualified personnel was indicated as one of the limiting factors for other enterprises [12].

Expert forecasts regarding the state of the Kazakhstan labor market suggest that the expected growth in labor productivity by 20-30% will lead to a reduction in the next five years of about 60-80 thousand people working in the basic sectors of the economy [13]. On the other hand, it is predicted that by 2022 up to 300,000 new jobs will be created due to digitalization [14]. At the same time, it is obvious that the problem cannot be solved within the framework of simple arithmetic.

The factors that increase or decrease social risks are the intensity of the labor release process, the speed of creating new jobs, their geographical location, the demographic transformation of the labor market, the willingness of enterprises to invest resources in retraining their professional staff, etc. Given the speed of development of new information technologies as well as their practical application, it is logical to assume that the process of staff development should be permanent. In this case, the responsibility for the retraining of professional staff falls on the shoulders of the employer. At the same time, the official statistics for the previous six years shows that the share of enterprises' costs on training their own personnel in the field of information technology is extremely small; in the main Kazakh enterprises were oriented towards attracting external specialists [15]. At the same time, specialists were mainly required in the field of cyber defense and system administration. Under the new conditions, the range of categories of employees whose skills in working with information technologies need to be updated has greatly increased. Tactical decisions can be different, from organizing one's own innovative labo-

ratories to concluding agreements with educational organizations. The creation of Competence Centers at leading universities in the country was one of the mechanisms of interaction of educational institutions with the business environment and the public sector.

We next turn to the training of specialists in the field of information technology and security. Transition to Industry 4.0 will require a large number of not only advanced users capable of managing automated production, but also specialists directly in the field of information-communicative technologies - information systems and information security system designers, database management system developers, software developers, etc. To meet the growing demand for specialists in these sectors, the state announced an increase in the state educational order for ICT specialties to 20% of the total number of all specialties. By 2020, it is planned to produce at least 25 thousand specialists annually. In addition, 5 social initiatives voiced by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan in March 2018 suggest that already in the 2018–19 academic year another 20 thousand grants will be allocated to 54 thousand state grants allocated annually for training Kazakhstani youth, 11 thousand of which for bachelor's degrees on technical specialties [16]. It is logical to expect that some of the additionally allocated grants will be used to train specialists in the field of information and communication technologies.

In a narrow professional context, the request for cybersecurity experts is updated.

Already, 85% of all cyber-attacks to the countries of Central Asia fall on Kazakhstan. According to the Kaspersky Lab's interactive cyber-attack map, the

number of cyber-attacks on its infrastructure ranks in the corridor from 16 to 23 in the world rankings [17]. However, the problem is not only in the intensification of actions taken by the attackers. A serious challenge is the rapidly changing landscape of the mechanisms they use.

An analysis of the current situation shows that Kazakhstan is experiencing an acute shortage of personnel in the field of cyber security. Out of 93 universities, where ICT specialists are trained, only seven offer courses in cyber security [18]. At the same time, against the background of a shortage of personnel in the field of cyber defense, it is estimated out of approximately 32,000 specialists in 2017, only 543 students with this specialization were trained by higher-education institutions [19]. In order to eliminate the indicated deficit, an audit of standards for training specialists in the field of cyber defense was carried out, as a result of which it was concluded that it was necessary to introduce specialties such as information security techniques into the curriculum. In addition, an agreement has been reached between the Ministry of Defense and Aerospace Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan to increase the number of trained specialists in the field of cyber security in the period from 2018 to 2021 to 500 people per year [19]. The Bolashak program also introduced cybersecurity specialization for internships abroad. At the same time, considering the specifics of the specialty and the speed of changes in this sector, it seems logical to reconsider the way in which highly-qualified specialists are trained in universities.

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THE REGIONAL ASYMMETRIC EFFECTS OF ECB'S MONETARY POLICY IN THE POST-CRISIS PERIOD

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Abstract. Based on the monetary policy transmission channel within the financial crisis, this paper constructs a mixed cross-section global vector autoregressive model by using the quarterly data of thirteen countries which are members of the euro area in the period 2007 to 2017. It examines the regional asymmetric effects of the monetary policy implemented by the ECB for the economic recovery of member countries of the euro area. The results show that: (1) the response-trend characteristics of the macroeconomic indicators of the member countries in relation to monetary policy shocks are similar, but there is an obvious heterogeneity in the degree of impact and the response period; (2) from the perspective of cumulative response-stability value, financial countries with developed markets such as Germany and Finland have low stability values. They can digest the impact of monetary policy shocks. For relatively backward Greece, Ireland, etc., the result is the opposite; (3) the sensitivity of member countries to long-term interest rate shocks is greater than the impact on the impact of money supply; (4) under the influence of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), the asymmetric effect of monetary policy regions has decreased. This study helps towards an understanding of the heterogeneity of ECB's unconventional monetary policy transmission among member countries; and the positive role of fiscal unions in weakening the asymmetric effects of monetary policy.

Key words: *Unconventional Monetary Policy; Transmission Channel; Regional Effect; MCS-GVAR model; European Stability Mechanism.*

ДАҒДАРЫСТАН КЕЙІНГІ КЕЗЕҢДЕГІ ЕОБ АҚША-КРЕДИТ САЯСАТЫНЫҢ АЙМАҚТЫҚ АСИММЕТРИЯЛЫҚ ӘСЕРІ

Ли Джиа, Чен Донглан

Аңдатпа. Қаржылық дағдарыс жағдайында ақша-кредит саясатын тарату арнасының негізінде осы құжатта 2007-2017 жылдардағы еуроаймақтағы 13 елдің тоқсан сайынғы деректерін пайдалана отырып, аралас жаһандық кросс-векторлық авторегрессиялық моделі құрастырылған. Мұнда ЕОБ жүзеге асырған еуроаймақтың мүше мемлекеттерін экономикалық қалпына келтіру үшін ақша-кредиттік саясатының аймақтық асимметриялық әсері зерттелген. Нәтижелер келесіні көрсетеді: (1) мүше-елдердің ақша-кредит саясатының күйзелістеріне макроэкономикалық көрсеткіштерінің жауап беру трендтерінің сипаттамалары бірдей, бірақ әсер ету дәрежесі мен реакция кезеңінде айқын гетерогенділік бар; (2) реакция тұрақтылығының жиынтық мәні тұрғысынан қарағанда, Германия мен Финляндия сияқты дамыған нарық қаржы мемлекеттерінде тұрақтылық мәні төмен. Олар ақша-кредит саясатының күйзелістерінің әсерін сіңіре алады. Грекия, Ирландия және т.б. салыстырмалы түрде артта қалған, және керісінше нәтиже көрсетуде; (3) ұзақ мерзімді пайыздық көрсеткіштерге байланысты күйзелістерге мүше елдердің сезімталдығы әсері ақша массасының әсерінен артық; (4) Еуропалық тұрақтандыру механизмінің (ЕТМ) әсерінен ақша-кредит саясатының өңірлердегі асимметриялық әсері төмендеді. Бұл зерттеу мүше елдер арасындағы ЕОБ-ның ақша-кредит саясатының дәстүрлі емес жолмен таралуын және ақша-кредит саясатының асимметриялық әсерлерін әлсіретудегі фискалдық кәсіподақтардың оң рөлін түсінуге көмектеседі.

Түйін сөздер: дәстүрлі емес ақша-кредит саясаты; таралу арнасы; аймақтық әсер; MCSGVAR үлгісі; Еуропалық тұрақтандыру механизмі

РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЕ АСИММЕТРИЧНЫЕ ЭФФЕКТЫ ДЕНЕЖНО-КРЕДИТНОЙ ПОЛИТИКИ ЕЦБ В ПОСТКРИЗИСНЫЙ ПЕРИОД

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Аннотация. На основе канала передачи денежно-кредитной политики в условиях финансового кризиса в данной статье строится глобальная векторная авторегрессионная модель смешанного сечения с использованием квартальных данных 13 стран-членов еврозоны за период с 2007 по 2017 гг. В ней рассматриваются региональные асимметричные последствия денежно-кредитной политики, осуществляемой ЕЦБ для экономического восстановления стран-членов еврозоны. Результаты показывают, что: (1) характеристики тенденций реагирования макроэкономических показателей стран-членов на потрясения денежно-кредитной политики схожи, но существует различие в степени воздействия и периоде реагирования; (2) с точки зрения совокупного значения стабильности реагирования у финансовых стран с развитыми рынками, таких как Германия и Финляндия, значения стабильности низкие. Они могут переварить влияние потрясения денежно-кредитной политики. Для относительно отстающих Греции, Ирландии и т.д. результат противоположный; (3) чувствительность стран-членов к долгосрочным потрясениям в отношении процентных ставок выше, чем влияние на денежные массы; (4) под влиянием Европейского механизма стабильности (ESM) асимметричный эффект регионов денежно-

кредитной политики уменьшился. Это исследование помогает понять неоднородность нетрадиционной передачи денежно-кредитной политики ЕЦБ между странами-членами и позитивную роль фискальных союзов в ослаблении асимметричных эффектов денежно-кредитной политики.

Ключевые слова: нетрадиционная денежно-кредитная политика; канал передачи; региональный эффект; Модель MCSGVAR; Европейский механизм стабильности

In August 2007, the U.S. subprime mortgage crisis swept through the world's major financial markets. Credit contracted sharply in the euro area and the real economy declined substantially. Intending to contain the financial crisis and stimulate a wider economic recovery, the ECB took a wide range of measures, some of them innovative, especially the adoption of an expansionary monetary policy implemented mainly by lowering the interest rate of the dominant policy. When the interest rate fell nearly to zero, the financial market fell into a "liquidity trap".⁷ Nevertheless, the European sovereign-debt crisis that erupted in 2009 paralyzed the continent, which had just had a chance to breathe. Accordingly, the ECB further strengthened the implementation of an unconventional monetary policy. The European Union Stability Mechanism (ESM),⁸ which came into effect in October 2012, provides financial assistance and financial constraints to member countries facing severe debt crisis through joint funding from euro area countries, leading them out of the sovereign-debt crisis while enhancing the stability of the euro-area financial system. By the end of 2018, the ECB announced the end of its quantitative easing policy, but remained loose.

The implementation of an unconventional monetary policy as a reaction to the financial crisis has played a positive role in the economic recovery of the euro area and its member countries. However, in terms of degree and time, there is a strong heterogeneity in the transmission effect among member countries - that is, the regional asymmetric effect of monetary policy

transmission. The asymmetry of transmission stems from the inherent contradiction between the unified monetary policy and the decentralized fiscal policy in the euro area. On January 1, 1999, some EU countries began to implement a single currency, the euro, and a unified monetary policy in the euro countries. The ECB has the characteristics of non-sovereignty and a single responsibility of stabilizing inflation targets in the euro area. Fiscal policies are implemented by the financial authorities of each member country in accordance with their own economic conditions and economic objectives. Because of the imbalance of economic development and the difference of fiscal policy implementation among the member countries, the impact of the unified monetary policy of the ECB has had an asymmetric effect on the economies of the member countries of euro area.

By reviewing the literature, this paper attempts to examine the asymmetric effect of monetary-policy shocks on the economies of member countries in the context of the financial crisis; and, moreover, whether this asymmetric effect has been improved under the launch of the ESM in 2012. The reasons for the regional effect will also be briefly analyzed. The approach taken in the paper is as follows: the first part reviews and summarizes the main literature on the regional effects of monetary policy at home and abroad, and gives the main research ideas on this basis; the second part briefly analyses the ECB's unconventional monetary policy tools and corresponding interest rate transmission mechanism

⁷ *Liquidity trap: A hypothesis put forward by Keynes that when interest rates fall to a point where they cannot be further reduced, the increase in money supply will not stimulate consumption and expenditure, nor will it affect overall demand.*

⁸ *The ESM is funded proportionally by member countries of the euro area, with 80 billion euros of paid-in capital and 620 billion euros of notified paid-in capital. The main task is to provide financial assistance to member countries under strict conditions and to improve the ability of recipient countries to raise their own capital from financial markets.*

under the financial crisis, and selects the proxy variables under the unconventional monetary policy; the third part establishes the model and carries on the empirical research; the fourth part analyses the dynamic impact of monetary policy on the macroeconomic indicators of member countries; and the fifth part is the conclusion and the reasons for the regional differences of a single monetary policy in the euro area.

Literature Review

Regional Asymmetric Effects of Monetary Policy, or spatial inconsistency, means that the formulation and implementation of unified monetary policy by monetary authorities have different impacts and effects on regions with different economic characteristics and operating cycles. Its research history can be roughly divided into three stages: The first stage (1950-1980) is an early study. Scott's "Regional Impact of Monetary Policy" (1955) analyzed the lagging effect of open-market operations from central New York to other regions. The second stage (1990-2000) is related to the birth of European Monetary Union and the euro area. Mundell's (1961) Optimal Currency Areas (OCA) argued that the unified currency (Euro) deprives member countries of exchange rate fluctuation mechanism, which had caused asymmetric shocks to member countries. The monetary union needs appropriate fiscal policy tools to adjust the asymmetric shocks among member countries. The third stage (after 2000) is the empirical research stage. Scholars began to try different measurement methods and continue to improve them. Britton & Whitley (1997) used the Mundell-Flemming model to study the output effect of the economy on interest rates. Under the impact of interest rates, the output effect of Germany is stronger than that of Britain. A large number of scholars also draw lessons from Carlino & DeFina (1998) to establish independent Regional Vector Autoregression (VAR) Model. For example, Peersman & Smets (2001) constructed VAR model on the premise of long-term constraints. Research shows that for Germany with strong economic strength, the out-

put effect of monetary policy is higher than that of Italy and France, but the trend of difference is declining; Toolsema et al. (2002) empirical study of six euro area member countries found that there were significant differences in initial and long-term responses to monetary policy shocks among countries, and the differences were long-term persistence; Rafiq & Mallick (2008) applied a new VAR identification procedure to study the impact of monetary policy shocks on the output of the three major euro area economies (Germany, France and Italy), and found that monetary policy transmission in Germany is the most effective. Chinese scholars Anping Chen (2007), Tongjuan Cai (2012) and Jialin Hunag (2017) also used VAR model to verify the regional asymmetric effect of China's monetary policy.

However, with the deepening of research, the defects of the VAR model are highlighted. For the study of more regions, if we construct independent VAR models, the number of endogenous variables in the model will increase and the estimated results will deviate from reality. Hong Zhang and Yang Li (2013) used the global vector autoregressive model (GVAR), which has just emerged in recent years, to investigate the differential impact of monetary policy shocks on real estate in thirty provinces and cities. In addition, how to integrate monetary policy into a unified framework is also a major issue. It is unreasonable for some scholars to embed the generalized money supply as an endogenous variable in the unit VAR model. The formulation of monetary policy is based on the overall economic situation. If it is regarded as an endogenous variable in a certain region alone, it is easy to ignore the asymmetry of monetary policy in the transmission process. In this regard, Georgios & Georgiadis (2015) studied the transmission of single monetary policy shocks between different economies in the euro area. By constructing a global VAR model, all euro area economies were included, and the single monetary policy was simulated as a function of total output growth in the euro area. On the one hand, considering the fact that the ECB's monetary policy adjustment is aimed at the overall economic situation, on the other hand,

the analytical framework can conduct relatively independent reviews of various regions (member countries).

The Vector Autoregression (VAR) model thus ignores the excessive endogenous variables in the model, the spillover effect among regions, and the failure to incorporate monetary policy into the unified analysis framework. The GVAR model takes into account the intrinsic relationship between regions, and can analyze effectively the response of endogenous variables to monetary policy shocks and spillover effects among economies through the "connection matrix". However, the deficiency of the GVAR model is that monetary policy is added to the regional VAR model, and the fact that the ECB's monetary policy formulation is aimed at the overall economic situation has not yet been taken into account. For this reason, we use the research ideas of Georgios & Georgiadis (2015) for reference, and add the ECB as a unit parallel to other economies into the GVAR model to construct a Mixed Cross-Section GVAR (MCSGVAR) model.

ECB's Monetary Policy Response and Transmission Channel after the Financial Crisis

Euro-area monetary policy is regulated by the ECB. Under normal economic conditions, the ECB regulates interest rates and total monetary supply through conventional monetary policy to achieve the set policy objectives. Specifically, the ECB mainly regulates the leading refinancing rate as a signal of monetary policy implementation. After the international financial crisis, the ECB has repeatedly lowered its benchmark interest rate (see figure 1). In May 2009, the ECB lowered its benchmark interest rate to 1%, in June 2014, to 0.15. At the same time, the overnight lending rate was lowered to 0.4%, and the deposit rate was lowered to -0.1%. So far, short-term nominal interest rates in the euro area have fallen to freezing point, and the central bank has been unable to cope with the worsening European debt crisis by adjusting the conventional monetary policy of the benchmark interest rate. Until the end of 2017, short-term nominal interest rates remained near zero.

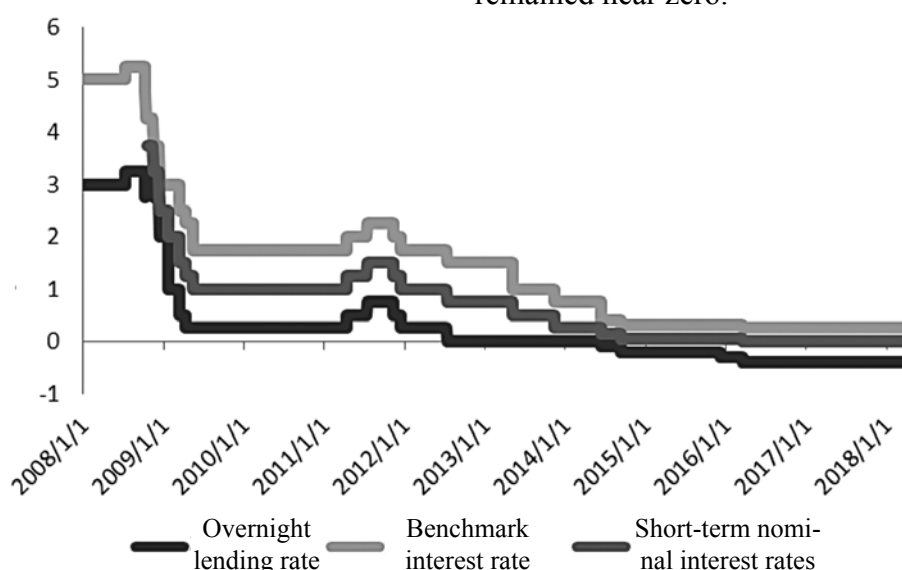


Fig.1. Euro-area-led refinancing rates, marginal lending facilities and deposit facilities (Source: ECB)

The short-term benchmark interest rate directly controlled by the central bank through traditional monetary policy instruments is usually not the basis for the decision-making of economic entities. The real impact on investment

and consumption is the long-term interest rate or other asset prices in the financial market. At the early stage of the financial crisis, the ECB reduced the leading refinancing interest rate and prolonged a refinancing operation to avert the

crisis. When the nominal interest rate adjustment approached the zero lower limits, the market fell into a "liquidity trap". The adjustment of short-term policy-directed interest rate could not be transmitted to the yield of medium and long-term bonds. The central bank could not stimulate the economy and restrain the deflation by relying solely on conventional monetary policies such as ultra-low interest rate. At this time, unconventional monetary policy played an important role in overcoming the economic crisis and achieving economic recovery. The ECB adopted a series of "quantitative"⁹ unconventional monetary policies called Enhanced Credit Support Policy, the Securities Markets Programme and Outright Monetary Transactions (OMT)¹⁰ The Enhanced Credit Support Policy¹¹ was implemented after the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers in September 2008. With Greece's sovereign debt crisis evolving into European sovereign debt crisis in 2010, the ECB announced the implementation of the Securities Markets Programme¹² that subsequently was replaced by the OMT¹³ in June 2012. Although there are different implementations of unconventional monetary policy, they can be summarized as three types: ultra-long-term low interest rate forward-looking guidance, adjusting the balance sheet size and structure of the central bank and inflation expectations.¹⁴ The unconventional monetary policy changes the market's preference for asset investment through the above three ways, and then affects the yield of long-term bonds and repairs the damaged interest rate transmission channel.

So how does unconventional monetary policy affect long-term bond yields? Arvind & Annette's

(2011) research shows that any long-term return can be decomposed into an expected component and a risk premium component, and the central bank can aim to reduce either or both to achieve its objectives.

$$i_{\tau t} = \frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{k=0}^{\tau-1} E_t i_{1,t+k} + tp_{\tau t} \quad (1)$$

Here, $\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{k=0}^{\tau-1} E_t i_{1,t+k}$ is the expected component. $E_t i_{1,t+k}$ is the short-term interest rate from period $t+k$ to period $t+k+1$ set in the t -period.

$\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{k=0}^{\tau-1} E_t i_{1,t+k}$ represents the average expected future short-term interest rate for the future τ period. $tp_{\tau t}$ is the risk premium part.

The ECB's "forward-looking guidance" on ultra-long-term low interest rates can achieve the effect of continuously reducing the market forward short-term interest rate and the expected component of long-term interest rate. Some scholars have proved that through the conditional low-interest-rate forward-looking guidance, the central bank guides the public's expectations of future interest-rate policy and interest-rate trend, which helps to stabilize the short-term and long-term interest rate expectations of the market, thus affecting asset prices and real economic activities (Ueda. 2012; Bernanke & Reinhart, 2004; Woodford, 2012).

Effect of Fed funds futures changes on predicted future realized Fed fund rates is a bit less than 1-for-1 because Fed funds futures rates

⁹ Relative to the "price-based" monetary policy control measures, during the financial crisis, the size of the central bank's balance sheet was adjusted to adjust asset prices, medium- and long-term yields, and money supply.

¹⁰ The implementation of OMT coincides with the formal launch of the ESM, if recipient countries fail to meet their promised fiscal tightening and structural reform measures, the ECB will suspend the purchase of bonds.

¹¹ The Enhanced Credit Support is a combination of policy measures, including Super L-TRO, Fixed Rate Full Allotment, increased central bank asset purchases, currency swaps, the Collateralized Bond Purchase Plan (CBPP).

¹² Securities Markets Programme aims at purchasing government bonds from the secondary market, helping the euro area government bond market to restore its financing function, so as to ensure the smooth operation of monetary policy transmission channels.

¹³ OMT refers to the ECB's commitment to buy government bonds in a fully satisfied manner for eligible euro area countries until policy objectives are achieved.

¹⁴ After the financial crisis, the ECB maintained its low interest rate at 2% of its inflation expectation target.

contain a risk premium (Piazzesi and Swanson, 2008) which varies with the level of short rates and the business cycle. The risk premium is tp_{it} of the above formula. Referring to the research results of Arvind & Annette (2011), risk premium includes six types: (1) Duration risk premium. In QE, when ECB purchased long-duration assets from the private sector, the market price of the duration risk decreases. (2) Pre-payment risk premium. In the MBS market, because of the expectations for a long-term stable low interest rate, the private sector tends to advance repayment of relatively high-interest rate mortgages, which carries a positive risk premium. (3) Default risk. If QE succeeds in stimulating the economy, we can expect that the default risk of corporations will fall. Also, investor risk-aversion may fall as the economy recovers, implying a lower default risk premium. Increasing health/capital in the intermediary sector can further lower risk premium on default risk. (4) Safety premium. That is the security premium of zero default risk bonds. By purchasing the sovereign bonds of member countries, the ECB can raise their prices and reduce the security premium as well. (5) Liquidity premium. QE involves purchasing long-term securities and paying by increasing reserve balances which are likely more liquid; and which will cause a reduction in the price premium of liquid assets (yield increase). (6) Inflation Risk Premium. The ECB signaled that it would maintain its asset purchase plan until inflation reached its target of 2%. This can be expected to have a positive effect on nominal interest rates. To sum up, the ECB asset purchase plan and inflation-expectation target can affect the balance of supply and demand in the bond market to reduce the risk premium in long-term interest rates.

In the course of the ECB using expansionary unconventional monetary policy to deal with the financial crisis, a “forward-looking guidance” type of unconventional monetary policy can re-

duce the expected component of the market for forward interest rates. The “asset-purchase plan” and “inflation target” types of unconventional monetary policies can reduce the expected component of the forward interest rate. Ultimately, the long-term bond yield will be reduced, and the blocked interest-rate transmission mechanism will be restored to promote economic recovery. Therefore, after the financial crisis, on the basis of the short-term interest rate bound by the zero-lower bound (ZLB), the use of long-term interest rates to represent the monetary policy under the financial crisis is more relevant.

Empirical Analysis of Regional Asymmetric Effect

Global VAR model (GVAR) was first introduced by Pesaran (2004). The GVAR model is an extension of the VAR model. It is a global model composed of many economies and mainly used to analyze the economic impact relationship between different regions. However, considering that the ECB's monetary policy is aimed at improving the overall economy of euro area, this paper refers to the practice of Georgios & Georgiadis (2015), and adds the ECB as an independent cross-sectional unit to the GVAR model in parallel with the economies of euro area, constructing the MCSGVAR model.

1.1. The Setting of MCSGVAR Model

1.1.1. Constructing VAR models of member countries

This paper selects thirteen member countries of euro area for research, which is recorded as i ($i=1,2,3,\dots,13$). The intra-local variable of each member country is the vector $x_{i,t}$ with k_i+1 , the external variable is the vector $x_{i,t}^*$ with k_i+1 , and the global variable is the vector x_{0t} with $n \times 1$. Referring the modeling procedure of GVAR, $VARX^*$ model for each member country is respectively established as follows:

$$x_{i,t} = \alpha_{i0} + \phi_{i1}x_{i,t-1} + \Lambda_{i0}x_{i,t}^* + \Lambda_{i1}x_{i,t-1}^* + I_{i0}x_{0,t} + I_{i1}x_{0,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t} \quad (2)$$

where $x_{i,t}$ is a two-dimensional vector, $x_{i,t} = (y_{i,t}, p_{i,t})'$ represents the actual output level

of the member country i , and $p_{i,t}$ represents the price level of the member country i ; the two

variables of $x_{i,t}^* = (y_{i,t}^*, p_{i,t}^*)'$ are obtained by weighted average of the relevant variables of the other member countries after the member country i is removed, for example, $y_{i,t}^* = \sum_{j=1}^{13} w_{ij} y_{j,t}$, $p_{i,t}^* = \sum_{j=1}^{13} w_{ij} p_{j,t}$, w_{ij} represents the degree of influence (weight) of the member j country on the member i country, and $\sum_{j=1}^{13} w_{ij} = 1$, $w_{ii,t} = 0$; m_t and lr_t in $x_{0,t} = (m_t, lr_t)'$ represent the global monetary policy variables including central bank unit; the error term defaults to the independent and identical distributions that obey the mean of 0 and the covariance of \sum_{ii} , i.e. $\varepsilon_{i,t} \sim iid(0, \sum_{ii})$; $x_{i,t}^*$, $x_{0,t}$ is weakly exogenous, and as for error items in different regions, they have a weak correlation. α_{i0} is a constant coefficient matrix, and φ_{i1} is a matrix of lag term coefficients, A_{i0} and A_{i1} are coefficient matrices of member countries variables and lag term, I_{i0} and I_{i1} are coefficient matrices of central bank unit variables and lag term.

$$\alpha_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{10} \\ \alpha_{20} \\ \dots \\ \alpha_{i0} \end{pmatrix}, \varepsilon_t = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{0t} \\ \varepsilon_{1t} \\ \dots \\ \varepsilon_{it} \end{pmatrix}, G = \begin{pmatrix} A_0 W_0 \\ A_1 W_1 \\ \dots \\ A_i W_i \end{pmatrix}, H = \begin{pmatrix} B_0 W_0 \\ B_1 W_1 \\ \dots \\ B_i W_i \end{pmatrix}, I_0 = \begin{pmatrix} I_{10} \\ I_{20} \\ \dots \\ I_{i0} \end{pmatrix}, I_1 = \begin{pmatrix} I_{11} \\ I_{21} \\ \dots \\ I_{i1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

for $A_i = (L_{ki}, -A_{i0})$ and $B_i = (\varphi_{i1}, A_{i1})$. Because of the small sample size, the research implications of the system model may be limited. For this reason, we deal with the weak exogenous of the external variables and global variables, and make consistent estimation of model parameters.

1.2. Variable selection and data description

Based on the inconsistency of the time when member countries joined the euro area, this paper selected the quarterly data of 13 member countries that joined the euro area before the outbreak of the financial crisis as samples, including Belgium(bel), Germany(germ), Ireland(ire), Greece(gre), Spain, France(fra), Italy, Luxembourg(lux), the Netherlands(neth), Austria(aus), Portugal(por), Slovenia(slo) and Finland(fin), the sample interval is set from 2007Q1 to 2017Q4 and each series contains 44 observations.

1.1.2. Constructing VAR model of central bank unit

The following VAR models are established for central bank unit:

$$z_{0,t} = \alpha_{00} + \varphi_{01} z_{0,t-1} + \mu_{0,t} \quad (3)$$

for $z_{0,t} = (x'_{0,t}, x'^{*}_{0,t})'$ and, $x^*_{0,t} = (y^*_{0,t}, p^*_{0,t})'$ two variables in $x_{0,t}$ reflect the overall economic situation of euro area.

On the basis of the VARX* model of each member country and the statistical test of variables, the co-integration relationship among the intra-local variables $x_{i,t}$, the global variables $x_{0,t}$, the intra-local variables $x_{i,t}$ and the external variables $x^*_{i,t}$ are determined, and then the vector error correction model is established. Finally, the following MCSGVAR system is established by using the "weight matrix (W_i)" which connects the influence relations among member countries:

$$GX_t = \alpha_0 + HX_{t-1} + I_0 X_{0,t} + I_1 X_{0,t-1} + \varepsilon_t$$

In the choice of the intra-local variables, the real GDP of each member country is used as the criterion to measure the real output level of each region ($y_{i,t}$), and the price level of each region ($p_{i,t}$) is measured by the Harmonized Consumer Price Index (HICP).

In the choice of the global monetary policy variables, before the international financial crisis, scholars at home and abroad generally chose short-term deposit interest rate and money supply as the agent variables of monetary policy; with the advent of the financial crisis, conventional monetary policy has no reference significance under ultra-low interest rate (0-0.25%) and unconventional monetary policy has a strong impact on medium and long-term bonds. This paper chooses the yield of AAA 10-year Treasury bonds (lr_t) and the broad money supply (M2) as the proxy variables of monetary policy.

The above data mainly comes from Eurostat, ECB, World Bank WDI database and OECD Statistics.

For the preliminary processing of data, we first consider the seasonal factors and adopt Gensus X12 method to seasonally adjust the sequence of related variables.¹⁵ Secondly, in view of the possible heteroscedasticity of the sequence, we take logarithmic processing of the variables after seasonal adjustments to eliminate the influence of heteroscedasticity.

1.3. Establishment of weights among member countries

In the process of constructing external variables, $x_{i,t}^*$ needs a connection matrix to effectively combine the VARX* models of member

countries to reflect the degree of economic interaction among member countries. By combining the relevant literature, it is found that some scholars choose the distance between two regions to represent the connection (weight) matrix, and some scholars choose the trade flow between the two regions. Based on the research methods of Zhang Hong and Li Yang (2014), in order to more intuitively reflect the economic relevance among member countries, this paper chooses the average value of trade flows among member countries from 2007 to 2017 and weights them,¹⁶ that is, w_{ij} (Trade flows from member country j to member country i / trade flows from member country i to all countries). The trade weight matrix of 13 countries in euro area, as shown in Table 1:

Table 1. Trade weight matrix among member countries

Cou	bel	germ	ire	gre	spain	fra	italy	lux	neth	aus	por	slo	fin
bel	—	0.11	0.26	0.07	0.06	0.16	0.08	0.28	0.22	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.08
germ	0.28	—	0.22	0.27	0.25	0.35	0.33	0.36	0.43	0.65	0.19	0.35	0.41
ire	0.04	0.02	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02
gre	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
spain	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.08	—	0.15	0.12	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.44	0.04	0.06
fra	0.22	0.22	0.20	0.11	0.28	—	0.23	0.19	0.14	0.07	0.14	0.10	0.11
italy	0.07	0.15	0.07	0.26	0.15	0.16	—	0.04	0.07	0.13	0.07	0.26	0.09
lux	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
neth	0.27	0.20	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.09	0.00	0.06	—	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.17
aus	0.01	0.13	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.09	0.01	0.02	—	0.01	0.15	0.03
por	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.12	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01
slo	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	—	0.00
fin	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	—

1.4. Estimation results of the model

Before estimating the MCSGVAR model, in order to determine the form of relevant variables, some necessary tests are needed. First, we test the unit root of the variables involved in the VARX* model of each member country. The results show that the real GDP, HICP and monetary policy proxy variables are stationary after the first-order difference, i.e., all variables are I (1) series.¹⁷ Second, the Johansen cointegration

test is applied to the relevant variables, trace and maximum eigenvalue tests are used to determine the rank of cointegration. The trace test¹⁸ is used in this paper. The results show that the rank of eight member countries is 2, and the other three to four cointegration relations. Therefore, according to the GVAR model, weak exogenous tests are needed for the external and global variables in the co-integration relationship (see Table 2). The results show that the confidence level of 5% is

¹⁵ Using Eviews 9.0 to eliminate seasonal effects and more accurately grasp quarterly changes in economic variables.

¹⁶ Source of trade flow data among member countries: <https://comtrade.un.org/data>.

¹⁷ Processing software is MATLAB 2014. Unit root test uses Augmented Dickey (ADF) test and Phillips-Perron (PP) test. First, the horizontal value of P is not significant, and it is a non-stationary sequence. Then, the first-order difference is made. At this time, there is no time trend term in the autoregressive model, and the sequence is a stationary sequence at 5% significance level.

¹⁸ The processing tool is GVAR-Toolbox 2.0. The trace test is superior to the maximum eigenvalue test when the number of samples is not large and the perturbation term does not obey the normal distribution.

not significant, that is, the original hypothesis can hardly be rejected by the external variables and the global variables in the co-integration model.

They meet the weak exogenous condition, which indicates that these variables have a long-term effect on some variables in the model.

Table 2. Weak exogenous test of external and global variables in cointegration model

Cou	F test	Crit_5%	y^*	u^*	d^*	p^*	m	lr
bel	F(2,28)	3.34	3.06	2.40	2.13	6.04**	0.48	1.05
germ	F(4,19)	2.90	2.06	1.18	1.78	1.17	0.70	0.30
ire	F(2,22)	3.44	0.21	0.65	1.03	3.04	0.85	0.81
gre	F(3,27)	2.96	2.80	4.07**	1.06	1.78	1.68	0.65
spain	F(2,19)	3.52	0.80	0.61	0.78	1.50	0.63	0.14
fra	F(2,28)	3.34	1.86	7.82**	0.56	0.05	1.12	0.07
italy	F(2,17)	3.59	2.90	0.15	0.62	2.18	0.78	0.39
lux	F(2,23)	3.42	7.51**	3.39	2.96	3.23	0.24	0.20
neth	F(3,24)	3.01	2.98	2.59	2.88	0.18	0.62	0.10
aus	F(2,28)	3.34	0.43	1.84	0.35	1.17	0.98	0.21
por	F(4,26)	2.74	0.54	2.16	1.17	0.90	2.33	0.70
slo	F(2,28)	3.34	2.47	0.49	0.46	0.56	0.44	0.23
fin	F(3,18)	3.15	2.40	0.65	1.28	2.13	1.80	0.33

Note: ** represents a significant level confidence of 5%variables do not satisfy weak exogenous condition.

Based on the completion of the model estimation and correlation test, the eigenvalues of the intra-local variables all fall in the unit circle, which shows that the MCSGVAR model is stable. The following is a dynamic analysis of the model, which is divided into two steps: (1) Investigate the impact of monetary policy shock on the economic activities of member countries, mainly including the differences between real GDP and HICP's response to monetary policy shock among member countries; (2) The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) came into effect in October 2012 and so we divided the timeline into two stages: 2007 Q1-2012 Q4, 2012 Q4-2017 Q4, and observed whether the fiscal constraints of the EU have weakened the regional heterogeneity of the single monetary policy.

Dynamic relationship analysis

In this paper, the generalized impulse response function (GIRF) is used to further analyze the dynamic relationship among the unit-model variables of each member country. GIRF mainly reflects the dynamic impact of a single standard deviation variable on other variables. Because there are many variables in the MCSGVAR system, it is difficult to determine the order and constraints of these variables, while GIRF is not

affected by the number and ranking of variables in the system model. Next, we use GIRF to analyze in detail the asymmetric effects of monetary policy on Euro area economies in the context of the financial crisis.

4.1. The impact of long-term interest-rate shock on the economic activities of member countries

4.1.1. The impulse response of real GDP growth rate to long-term interest-rate shock

The impulse-response results are shown in Figure 2 (a) to illustrate the impulse response of real GDP growth rates to long-term interest rates in the five member countries of the euro area. Horizontally, under the impact of the long-term interest-rate unit-structure information, the GDP growth rate of each member country is similar in the reaction trend. From the third period, the reaction trend is generally shown as: "rising first, then declining, and then tending to zero". However, the long-term interest-rate shock has a certain time lag on the economic growth of countries. There are differences in the maximum response periods of 13 countries in the euro areas: Belgium, Spain and Portugal in the first period; Germany and France in the second period; and other countries in the 1-5

periods. Longitudinally, there are also obvious differences in responsiveness: France receives less shock and does not respond strongly, giving positive response in the first two periods and turning negative response in the third period; Germany, Austria and Finland respond more strongly to the long-term interest rate shock; Germany responds positively after giving negative response in the first period, and has an oscillation from the ninth period to the negative response, and finally tends to be stable.

The cumulative impulse response coefficients of each member country are in the confidence interval,¹⁹ which means that the estimation of cumulative impulse response coefficients is effective. Table 3 describes the cumulative response of economic variables of 13 euro area countries to unconventional monetary policy shock. It can be seen that the maximum cumulative response periods among member countries are inconsistent. For example, Belgium, Ireland and France are in the second period, and that of Italy is in the eighth period, which is much later than that of other countries. In addition, the maximum cumulative response values of different countries are also different, with relatively high Ireland (-10.6), Portugal (-6.0), Slovenia (-8.0) and lower Belgium (0.7), France (0.7), Germany (1.7), the corresponding stability values of countries with maximum cumulative response value are also higher. It indirectly reflects the strong economic strength of core countries such as Germany, France and Belgium. In the long run, these countries can better digest the impact of interest rate shock, while in the weaker economies of the euro area, the change of GDP is more sensitive to interest rate shock, and the cumulative impulse restores stability for a long time.

4.1.2 Impulse response of changes in price level to long-term interest-rate shock

The long-term interest-rate shock has also produced a certain degree of asymmetry in the price level of member countries. As can be seen from Figure 2(b), the maximum shock response to the French price level was in the fourth period, Austria, Portugal, Finland and Germany reached the maximum response in the first period, and the overall trend generally showed “first decline and then rise, then tend to 0”. In terms of the degree of response, for a positive change in long-term interest rates, the maximum response to price changes in Finland, Austria and Germany is positive and all above 0.03 percentage points; while the maximum response to price changes in Portugal and France is negative and about -0.04 percentage points or so. In the sixth period member countries began to experience small fluctuations and in the 11th period they tended to stabilize.

In terms of cumulative response (see Table 3), the periods of maximum cumulative response of member countries are not consistent and basically concentrated in the first five periods. Ireland's cumulative maximum response is in the eighth period. The degree of response of price changes to interest-rate shock is inconsistent. Belgium, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Finland's cumulative peak responds positively; while Spain, Greece, Italy and Portugal's peak responds negatively. In terms of cumulative-response stability value, Spain and Greece have negative stability value. In particular, Greece has been hit hard by the European debt crisis; the domestic economy has obviously declined, resulting in deviations in the transmission effect of long-term interest rates, and they have been eliminating the impact for a long time; while most member countries have turned to positive response in the period of cumulative stability, indicating that unconventional monetary policy has a positive effect on the price level in the long run.

¹⁹ Confidence interval: 95% asymptotic confidence interval, for the horizontal impulse response function, converges to 0; for the cumulative impulse response function, the corresponding interval converges to a fixed distance.

Fig.2. Impulse responses of economic variables of member countries to long-term interest rate shock

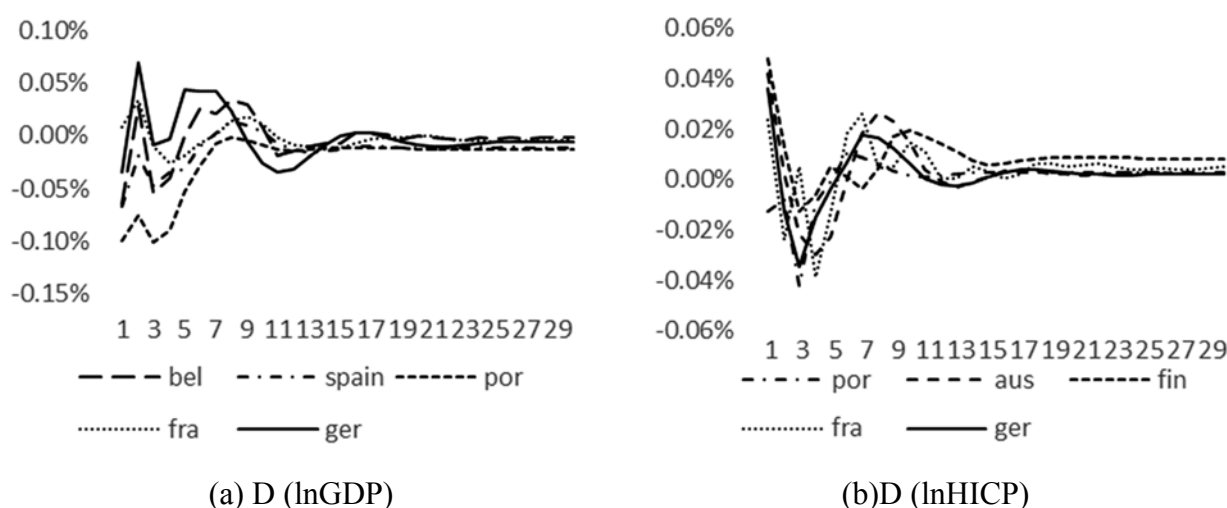


Table 3. Cumulative impulse responses of economic variables of 13 euro area countries to the shock of unconventional monetary policy %

	GDP			HICP		
	maximum response period	response peak	response stability	maximum response period	response peak	response stability
bel	2	0.70	0.1	3	0.51	0.2
germ	5	1.70	-0.2	3	-0.61	0.2
ire	2	-10.6	-7	8	1.03	0.9
gre	3	-3.40	-2.6	3	-2.16	-0.6
spain	4	-2.60	-1.8	3	-2.00	-0.4
fra	2	0.70	-0.4	4	1.10	0.8
italy	8	-1.80	-1.2	5	-1.30	0.7
lux	4	4.20	2.4	3	1.00	0.6
neth	3	-2.00	-1.2	2	0.60	0.3
aus	3	-2.36	-1.7	3	-0.90	0.5
por	3	-6.00	-4.6	3	-0.60	0.2
slo	4	-8.00	-6.4	4	-1.30	0.3
fin	3	-2.16	-1.81	2	2.60	2.0

The monetary policy transmission channel in the context of the financial crisis is mainly reflected in the impact of unconventional monetary policy represented by long-term interest rates. For the impact of the adjustment of the ECB's money supply on the economic activities of member countries, we will make a brief analysis below.

4.2. The impact of money-supply shock on the economic activities of member countries

From the peak of impulse response, the

sensitivity of economic growth of 13 euro-area member countries to the impact of money supply is far lower than that of long-term interest rates, and its peak value is between 0-2. There are some differences in the response of member countries' economic growth to M2 shock. Figure 3 (a) shows that Germany, Belgium and France had a negative response in the initial stage and reached the maximum response in the second stage. It shows that at this point in time, the increase in the money supply led to a decrease in

their domestic real income²⁰; and then the negative response slowed down. Finland and Austria had a positive response in the initial stage, peaked in the first period and began to turn to a smaller negative response in the second period. Most countries have turned into a more stable positive response from the fourth period. Overall, the positive impact of economic growth in core countries on the impulse response to M2 shock is weak and this positive impact is short-term, and then converges to zero quickly.

The response of member countries' price level to M2 shock is also heterogeneous. For example, under the impact of a unit structure information of money supply, the maximum positive response of price level growth rate in the Netherlands and

Portugal exceeds 0.3 thousand points, while that in Germany, Finland and France is about 0.1 thousand points, only 1/3 of the former. Figure 3 (b) shows that the impact of money supply has a great negative impact on the growth rate of prices in France, the Netherlands and Portugal in the early stage, and then quickly turns to a positive impact with a decline and small fluctuation; Germany and Finland only show a small fluctuation at the beginning, from a negative response to a positive response and then to zero. The impulse response function of each member country tends to be stable after the seventh period. The change of money supply is effective in the short term and tends to be zero in the long term.

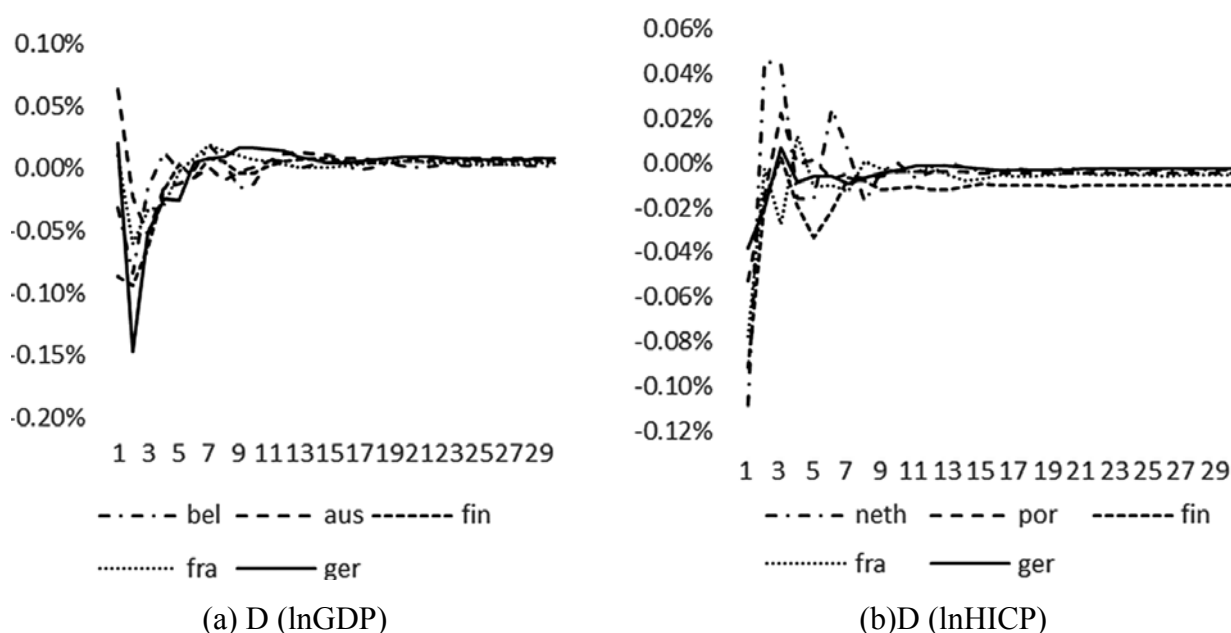


Fig.3. Impulse responses of the economic variables of member countries to money- supply shock

4.3. Testing of regional asymmetric effects under ESM

As a permanent international financial institution, the ESM plays a vital role in the member countries that have fallen into the debt crisis. While assisting member countries to get out of the sovereign-debt crisis, it will undoubtedly have an impact on the transmission effect of

the euro area's monetary policy. To this end, we choose the maximum response of the actual GDP of member countries to the shock of unconventional monetary policy, taking the implementation of the ESM in October 2012 as the time boundary, the RMAX variance and coefficient of variation of the two periods of 2007 Q1-2012 Q3 and 2012 Q4-2017 Q4 were compared.

²⁰ Due to the outbreak of the financial crisis and the sharp decline of the economy, the increase of M2 will not only promote consumption expenditure, but also increase production costs, offset the increase of national income, which is not enough to stimulate economic growth.

Firstly, the maximum response value (RMAX) of GDP to long-term interest rate (lnlr) and the maximum response value (RMAX) of GDP to money supply (M2) are calculated, according to the maximum response variance of each member country in the two periods, to compare whether the regional asymmetric effect of monetary policy is weakened under ESM. Secondly, this paper also adopts a α test method to analyze the convergence of regional effects of monetary policy in the euro area. Here we choose the response value of GDP to long-term interest rates to represent the response of member countries to monetary policy, in order to judge whether there is a gradual decrease in regional asymmetry of monetary policy in the euro area over time, specific formulas are as follows:

$$D = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 t + \mu \quad (5)$$

where D is the coefficient of variation of impulse response value among member countries, that is, the ratio of standard deviation of impulse response value to its mean value, α_1 and α_2 are all parameters to be estimated, μ is a random interference term. If α_2 is negative and significant, it shows that the regional difference of monetary policy among member countries tends to reduce with time, i.e., α_2 convergence.

It can be seen that the variance of the maximum response value (RMAX) of GDP to single monetary policy shock in 2012 Q1-2017Q3 is smaller than that in 2007-2012 (see Table 5).

Under the shock of long-term interest rate, the variance of the first stage (3.308) is greater than the second stage (1.106), and the coefficient of variation decreases from 0.769 to 0.678; under the shock of money supply, the variance of the first stage is 0.244, which is also greater than 0.082 of the second stage, and the coefficient of variation also decreases from 0.433 to 0.424 which shows no significant change; but in general, the asymmetric effect of the second stage is less than that of the second stage. The fiscal constraints of the EU weaken the regional heterogeneity of the single monetary policy.

At the same time, according to the results of convergence test (see Table 6), before the implementation of ESM, the time span coefficient was positive, which showed that the regional difference effect of monetary policy did not decrease with time before 2012. Since then, the corresponding time span coefficient is negative; but it has not passed the significance test, indicating that the asymmetry of member countries' response to long-term interest-rate shocks has a certain weakening trend. In addition, according to the variance comparison, it can be seen that member countries are more sensitive to long-term interest-rate shock than to money-supply shock. The interest-rate mechanism of unconventional monetary policy plays a stronger role: that is, the economic growth and price changes of member countries are more affected by long-term interest rates.

Table 5. Maximum impulse response of the quarterly GDP of each member country to monetary policy in 2007-2012 and 2013-2017.

	RMAX %			
	2007Q1-2012Q4		2013Q1-2017Q4	
	ln(lr)	ln(M2)	ln(lr)	ln(M2)
bel	1.512	0.476	0.677	0.594
germ	1.024	1.228	1.084	1.029
ire	4.747	0.784	2.799	0.814
gre	1.562	0.542	1.793	0.471
spain	7.367	1.728	4.628	0.336
fra	1.272	0.674	0.664	0.468
italy	1.450	1.582	0.822	0.512
lux	1.675	1.659	1.397	1.112
neth	1.996	0.740	1.379	0.117
aus	0.683	0.807	0.556	0.842

	RMAX % _o			
	2007Q1-2012Q4		2013Q1-2017Q4	
	ln(lr)	ln(M2)	ln(lr)	ln(M2)
por	2.046	1.906	1.486	0.856
slo	2.849	1.463	1.976	0.742
fin	2.53	1.238	1.914	0.868
var1	3.308	0.244	1.106	0.082
Coefficient of variation	0.769	0.433	0.678	0.424

Table 6. The results of the convergence test.

Dependent variable	2007Q1-2012Q4		2013Q1-2017Q4	
	coefficient	Standard error term	coefficient	Standard error term
α_1	0.018***	0.024	0.023**	0.021
α_2	0.002	0.004	-0.005	0.023
R ²	0.128		0.306	

Note: ** and *** represent the significant level of 5% and 10% respectively.

Conclusion

Using the sample interval of 13 member countries from the first quarter of 2007 to the fourth quarter of 2017, this paper introduces the central bank unit as a global variable into the model and establishes the MCSGVAR model. In the selection of the proxy variables of monetary policy, most of the existing literature adopts short-term interest rates or commodity prices. This paper makes improvements on this and chooses the yield of 3A 10-year Treasury bonds as the proxy variable to join the model. On the basis of completing the model estimation and related tests, using the GIRF to explore the heterogeneous effects of the ECB's unified monetary policy on the economic activities of 13 member countries in euro area where economic development is uneven and fiscal policy is different, and whether the asymmetric effect of each region is reduced under the EU's fiscal constraints.

The results of the study include: (1) The response trend of real GDP growth rate to monetary policy shock in member countries is basically the same, but the difference in response intensity is large. Greece, Spain, Ireland and other countries are affected by shock with high peak response. However, in the core countries with strong economic strength such as Belgium and France, the

impact degree is relatively low; and, in the long run, the cumulative impulse response of each country develops towards a stable trend; but there are significant differences between the stable period and the stable value.

(2) The impact of long-term interest rate shock on the economic activities of various countries is inconsistent and there is a time lag in the implementation effect. The economic growth and price changes in Germany, Finland and France have the fastest response to long-term interest rate shock. The response direction is roughly as follows: there is a fluctuation in a very short period of time, then it tends to be stable and the cumulative stability value is low, indicating that these countries have a stronger ability to digest the impact of shock; while small countries such as Ireland and Portugal have a higher cumulative stability value, which is more sensitive to long-term interest rate shock and have a longer duration of negative impact: they are less able to digest the impact of interest-rate shock.

(3) The sensitivity of member countries to long-term interest rate shock is greater than the sensitivity to the impact of money supply. The impact of money-supply shock on the price and output of member countries is not obvious. (4) Under the launch of the ESM, according to the variance comparison of RMAX value and α

convergence test, it is found that the regional asymmetric effect of ECB's monetary policy has been weakened. Under the unified monetary policy in the post-crisis era, it is of theoretical significance to promote fiscal union.

The asymmetric effect of ECB monetary policy in the member countries of the euro area indirectly reflects the unbalanced development of labor factors, financial market structure and industrial structure among member countries. The euro area is facing the reality of large disparities in economic development and inconsistent fiscal policies among member countries. The ECB formulates and implements monetary policy with the ultimate goal of price stability in euro area as a whole. It is impossible to formu-

late differentiated monetary policies based on member countries. The effect of monetary policy will inevitably lead to regional asymmetry due to their differences in economic conditions and fiscal policies of member countries.

This paper holds that in the post-crisis era, on the basis of optimizing the industrial structure of each member country, the introduction of fiscal union and the enforcement of fiscal constraints at the EU level will play a positive effect on alleviating the regional asymmetry of the single monetary policy in the euro area; and will help to promote the effective transmission of the ECB monetary policy and achieve monetary-policy objectives.

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