**In this Issue**

The modern world order, connected with the collapse of the bipolar system of international relations and the transformation of the balance of power on a global scale, is again facing the challenges of war and conflicts. Under the influence of globalization and European integration, the role of the nation state is being transformed, it has a tremendous impact on its ability to perform traditional functions of protecting its citizens, and the line between domestic and foreign policy is blurred. In this context, modern communication and information technologies that have connected the whole world also have a tremendous impact on civic culture and values, the interests of civil society organizations, encouraging them to actively participate in the political decision-making process. At the European level, these systemic changes were a gradual but clear change in the electoral preferences of the citizens of EU member states.

The end of the Cold War and the collapse of the USSR led to the formation of new independent states and the advent of the era of globalization with cycles of the formation of a new world order. At the same time, the development of events at the beginning of the 21$^{st}$ century showed that wars and crises are becoming a challenge for the modern world order. Therefore, in modern conditions, the consideration of multipolarity, the preservation of the role of the UN as a universal international mechanism acquires civilized and humanitarian significance.

Step by step, the process of strengthening European security began with the support of NATO, taking into account the strengthening of the sovereignty and national interests of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. If the use of NATO military and political diplomacy tools in the post-Soviet space was supported by a significant number of these countries, then for Russia and Belarus all this was considered an interference that directly affects the national interests of Russia and Belarus, which have bilateral historical, economic, cultural ties. In connection with the fact that Euro-Atlantic integration was considered for the EaP countries as part of the official course towards European integration, issues of relations with NATO were given great attention in the foreign policy of the EaP countries.

In 'Why war won and negotiations lost? Is the absence of war the same as peace?', Gerard Libaridian analyzes the military, diplomatic and negotiation dimensions of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict from 1988 to 2020. The author comparatively analyzes the main reasons for the transformation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, explaining the main reasons for the failure of the Armenian side to diversify the military victory at the diplomatic and negotiation levels. Based on a comparative analysis of the structure and dynamics of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict from 1988 to 2020, the author identifies new possible ways of their diplomatic settlement, taking into account that the absence of war does not mean peace, and the absence of peace does not mean war. The author draws attention to the fact that when resolving international armed conflicts, international organizations and mediators do not go too deep into history without resorting to historical arguments. In this sense, the question naturally arises as to which historical facts have a constructive potential for involving them in the negotiation process. In a sense, the answer has already been given by the author of the article, defining the stages of conflict dynamics that have universal application.

In his article 'Influence of the relationship between the protector state and regional hegemon on the resilience of a non-recognised state: Lessons learned from the Nagorno-Karabakh war and non-peace', Konstantin Ghazaryan, based on a comparative analysis of the structure and dynamics of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, determines possible ways of its forceful solution or peaceful settlement. The author pays special attention to the fact that economic relations, which are completely absent between Azerbaijan and Armenia, not only leave their negative reflection in the economy of the two states, but, in general, in the entire region. The issue of resolving this multi-layered conflict is complicated by the fact that the positions of the parties involved in the conflict are completely opposite, especially after the Second Karabakh War in 2020, which dramatically changed the balance of power in the South Caucasus, increased the dynamics of diplomatic, military and political transformations, which leads to the need constant monitoring of the situation and the formation of analytical ideas about ongoing events. The author comes to the conclusion that none of the parties to the conflict at this post-war stage of negotiations is ready to make serious compromises and concessions. Added to this is the complex relationship of the parties involved in its settlement, which is in the sphere of interests of the EU, the US, Turkey, Iran and Russia

In 'Transformations of the ideology of nation-building and state-building in Armenia: phenomenon of integrity of nation and state', Ashot Yengoyan analyzes the main trends in the transformation of nation building and statehood in the political life of the Armenian people. The article examines the characteristic features of the current Armenian reality, which is largely determined by the characteristics of the Armenian statehood, as well as factors such as the scale of territoriality, historical and political heritage, social, cultural, ethnic and diverse factors of the Armenian society, the importance of researching the possibilities of nation-building and state-building at the regional level is increasing.

The author comes to the conclusion that this issue has become even more relevant in the era of globalization. The idea is argued that modern Armenian society is faced with difficulties, since there are different concepts of the political nation and the nation-state, both in terms of their essence and the time frame of these processes. Despite the fact that over the past decades Armenia has gone through an ambiguous, difficult path in resolving the ethnic and national issue, the regional content of the Armenian formula of nation-building in the context of dynamic social, economic and political changes still remains a little explored area of political research and critical reflection.

In the article 'Power to the Faculty Approach in the Bologna Process: How does the European Approach to accreditation of joint programs enhance innovation capacity? Lessons learned from the Western Balkans for projects in the Eastern neighbourhood', Franz Kok and Günter Wageneder discusses the problems of the Bologna process and the European approach to the accreditation of joint programs from the point of view of innovative potential. Based on the study of the experience of Joint MA Political Science - Integration and Governance (PoSIG) for the Western Balkan region, the authors analyze comparatively the mechanisms of European accreditation for joint programs as a new instrument of the Bologna process.

The article also touches on the effective participation of countries in the Bologna process, as this allows their higher education systems to maintain an appropriate level of integration and sustainable development. In this sense, the authors present views on the importance of internationally recognized institutions of higher education, because thanks to this they are becoming increasingly important for economic development in a globally competitive environment. This direction is also complemented by consideration of strengthening the role of the younger generation of scientists in the national and international labor market, since the Bologna process has formed a global understanding of the importance of academic freedom in research and teaching in universities. This shows that with the change in the structure and content of higher education based on the Bologna philosophy and European values, the key issue is the need to reform the mechanism for managing the higher education system: rethinking the goals, strategy, main functions, content and quality assessment of higher education. The formation of democratic traditions in approaches to the evaluation of the activities of higher educational institutions in the field of international accreditation is becoming obvious.

In 'The welfare state crisis and the strengthening of the far-right in Sweden as a result of increasing migration', Simona Chuguryan, Kristina Baculakova and Rudolf Kucharcik analyze the main causes of the crisis of the welfare state and the rise of far-right and populist parties in Sweden in the face of increased migration. The authors focus on the fact that modern Sweden is characterized by a high degree of cultural and social mobility, strengthening of intercultural interaction and contacts, a significant increase in migration flows. In this sense, powerful migration flows in Sweden and other European countries are a factor influencing the domestic politics of these countries and their international relations. The authors come to the conclusion that social and political tension is growing in Sweden, the activities of right-wing parties and movements are becoming more active, xenophobic sentiments are intensifying in society, which can lead to an aggravation of social conflicts and political instability in Swedish society. Sweden is faced with the task of maintaining unity and stability in the face of ethnic and cultural heterogeneity, so overcoming the migration crisis is the main task both in Sweden and in other European countries. In this regard, it is important to comprehend the structure of the official political discourse on migrants, which will make it possible to identify the features and trends of modern migration policy.

The article summarizes some of the results of the study, according to which Sweden has the potential to solve migration problems, since liberal democracy is able to form a social consensus between representatives of different cultures through public discussion and establishing effective interaction among civil society organizations.

In 'Immigration of Russian citizens to Armenia during the Russian-Ukrainian war 2022-2023: pull-push factors', Yuliana Melkumyan and Nvard Melkonyan analyze the impact of modern war and peace on the level of immigration, poses an important problem to develop a methodology for long-term forecasting of the evolution of political violence and ways to control it in world politics. Undoubtedly, the pull-pull factors of immigration largely determine the Armenian-Russian relations, as well as the development of the entire system of international relations and the geopolitical

situation. In the modern world, the impact of the Russian-Ukrainian war is clearly manifested not only in the push-pool factors of immigration, but also in the transformation of political violence. Forced migration from Russia to Armenia during the Russian-Ukrainian war of 2022-2023 is the most massive and protracted in post-Soviet Armenia.

The article deals with the importance of scientific understanding of this problem of immigration, especially in the context of the national interests and security of Armenia. The article clarifies the features of the new assessment, the development of new priorities in the formulation of migration policy, especially since this policy requires its documentary consolidation in the concept of state migration policy. This, in turn, is dictated by the demand for an open and reasonable migration policy in Armenia, which is experiencing unprecedentedly powerful migration pressure and is faced with mass forced migration of Russian citizens. In this context, this problem requires further research in order to answer the question about the causes and nature of the forced immigration of Russian citizens to Armenia, as well as evidence based on a systematic approach to migration as a response to threats to the human security of potential migrants, which has both scientific and and political significance. The authors give a generalized description that both in Armenia and Russia, researchers and politicians still cannot reach a consensus on the assessment of its role in the national security system and the national interests of the two countries.

This volume of the Journal includes three book reviews focusing on the securitization and democracy in Eurasia, systemic earthquake and the struggle for world order, as well as issues related to China's Digital Authoritarianism. In international political science, there is an urgent need for a deeper theoretical analysis of modern theories of world order and foreign policy strategies. The review of these books allows us to present both the evolution of ideas about the world order and the strategies for its formation, and the features of the modern foreign policy strategies of many countries. In addition, an understanding of modern theories of the world order will make it possible to more clearly define the foreign policy of Russia, Turkey, China, Iran and other countries in the field of interaction with the United States and EU member states.

*Ashot Aleksanyan*
*Magda Arsenyan*