

## **In this Issue**

The paradoxical factors of war and peace are transforming the models of democratization of the modern world, irreversibly changing the hierarchy of the main actors in international, regional and national security. The democratization of the external environment, although proceeding inconsistently and contradictorily, does not give anyone the opportunity to trample on civilizational norms and procedures or ignore human interests and rights with impunity.

Economization, steadily leading to the formation of a single world economic space, makes national security models based on isolationism unviable, and integration into this emerging space is the only possible way to effectively protect national interests. To refuse integration means to abandon sustainable development, since such development is a key prerequisite for ensuring the resilience of national security. No society can be competitive without becoming part of the global economic space. This factor, among other things, determines the priority of geo-economic mechanisms for ensuring national security compared to geopolitical and geostrategic ones, since it is geo-economics that becomes a priority for global development.

Digitalization, which forms a single world information and communication space, creating a global network society, gives citizens of the countries covered by it access to all material and spiritual benefits, multiplies the intellectual resource, and therefore all other resources, promoting sustainable development, achieving well-being and security of the individual and society. On the other hand, information technologies are not an absolute blessing: they create new opportunities for control and manipulation of mass consciousness in domestic politics and new effective means of interstate confrontation, and, consequently, new threats to national security.

At this stage of world development, globalization creates advantages for the most socially, economically and technologically developed countries, which leads to a growing gap between them and developing countries. On the other hand, it is these countries, due to their development and accumulated wealth, lifestyle, values and behavioral stereotypes, that have become the most vulnerable to new challenges and threats in the context of globalization and the creation of a network society. The widespread spread of television, which made the images and standards of an unattainably rich Western society accessible to poor countries, stimulated a wave of anti-Western sentiment in some poor countries, manifested, in particular, in the form of war and international terrorism. As a result, the world at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century was faced with a new global security challenge.

In the context of globalization and the collapse of the world order that emerged after the Second World War as a result of the collapse of the USSR and the bipolar world, there was a sharp drop in the level of controllability of international processes. Previous systems and mechanisms of international security turned out to be ineffective, regional and, to some extent, global instability increased sharply. This, in particular, led to the fact that national security turned out to be closely connected with international security. The international dimension of national security, which was not disputed by anyone before, has increased many times over.

Globalization is blurring the line between foreign and domestic policy. From now on, any state can feel relatively safe only in the conditions of the formation of a new, fairer world order that meets the interests of all countries of the world community. Globalization processes, on the one hand, erode classical national sovereignty, and on the other, contribute to the rise of national self-awareness of small nations, supporting the trend towards an increase in the number of actors in international relations. The principle of self-determination up to and including secession, applied to national minorities of multinational states, leads to an increase in the number of incompetent state entities. At the same time, the crisis of national identity of already established states, including Germany, France, the USA and Great Britain, is intensifying. All this seriously affects the problems of ensuring both national and international security.

Thus, the consequences of globalization for ensuring national and international security are very contradictory. It creates both new, unprecedented opportunities for the development and prosperity of various countries, as well as new, extremely dangerous challenges and threats. For Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova, which is in the stage of European integration, and at the same time, for objective reasons, maintaining the continuity of its not only regional, but also global interests, all these provisions are especially important and relevant.

In 'Comparative analysis of national security strategies of Armenia in the context of political realism, liberalism, and Marxism', Vardan Atoyán, Logan Brosius and Hovyan Vahram analyze one of the most important areas of comprehensive political science analysis, which is the study of the mechanisms for developing national security strategies. The article analyzes the National Security Strategies of Armenia for 2007 and 2020, taking into account the political system, geographical location, historical experience, ideology and culture, as well as resources and abilities of alternative actions in the field of strategic planning.

The authors give a generalized description that without a scientific understanding of the specific properties of effective political activity in the context of developing national security strategies in the South Caucasus, as well as in various regions, it is impossible to determine specific directions for ensuring the national security of Armenia.

The idea is substantiated that specific national strategic cultures are based on political, ideological, geographical, economic and other reasons. Therefore, when developing national security strategies, the diplomatic, economic and military resources of states are taken into account. This problem has been little studied and requires further research, since in such studies global dimensions of security have always occupied, are and will be occupied. In this context, when considering the practical implementation of a security strategy, an institutional approach is widely used, with the help of which the tasks, roles and functions of public authorities in the field of national security are determined.

The authors come to the conclusion that within the framework of various scientific directions there is a process of further accumulation of knowledge about national security strategies, clarification of issues is underway, which relates to the principles and content of national security, its objective and subjective dimensions, external and internal factors that influence the level of security person, society and public authority.

In his article ‘South Caucasus in the phase of Russian-Ukrainian war: new security challenges and possible scenarios for development’, Roman Karapetyan analyzes the development and implementation of Armenia’s foreign policy line from the point of view of the Russian-Ukrainian war in 2022. The article is devoted to a detailed analysis of materials published in the international media, the Armenian, Russian and Ukrainian press, which outline the positions of the Armenian leadership on certain issues of the Russian-Ukrainian war. The author identifies and describes the characteristic features of the economic, political and military situation in the South Caucasus after February 24, 2022, when the Russian war against Ukraine began.

The article gives a forecast of a number of expectations of the countries of the South Caucasus region if the Russian-Ukrainian war continues to remain full-scale. The author focuses the main attention in the article on the fact that the South Caucasus is also part of European and Middle Eastern security, therefore the latest events in this region are of an interregional nature. The issue of the prospect of problems in Armenia’s foreign policy in relations with the establishment of strategic certainty and pragmatic respect for national interests continues to remain controversial, which may become even greater than at the present stage. It is obvious that considerable efforts will be required from Armenia to realize national interests. The most important guarantee of its success is the strengthening of the Armenian statehood and its defense capability, the improvement of the national economy, and the improvement of the well-being of citizens.

In ‘Euronews as a tool for the formation of Europe’s image’, Yuliana Melkumyan and Karine Harutyunyan analyze the information and communication activities, as well as the effective publicity of the Euronews TV channel in transforming the image of Europe. The idea is substantiated that the financial and economic crisis, Brexit, illegal migration, the Second Karabakh War in 2020, the Russian-Ukrainian war from 2022 and other events began to actively influence the image of Europe. In recent years, against the backdrop of globalization and the development of information and communication technologies, the opportunities for citizens from EaP countries and non-EU citizens to influence the European integration policies of their states have significantly increased. This article attempts to reveal the main reasons for the key role of Euronews as an instrument of European public diplomacy, which includes technologies and instruments of foreign information policy, characterized by openness, aimed at implementing a comprehensive European diplomatic strategy by influencing European and non-European populations in order to influence on its political processes and political decision-making.

The article is also devoted to the phenomenon of the Euronews language, which covers aspects of the political life of the European community that are of public interest. The author traces the formation of the image of Europe, as all this is reflected in the linguistic field of Euronews in general, and in the verbal component of television news programs in particular. In Euronews broadcasts, this information is also reflected in the non-verbal components of the message. In conditions where Euronews is an important tool for shaping the regional image of Europe and influencing the audience, studying the linguistic specifics of messages, communication strategies and tactics of television political programs becomes extremely important. In international journalism, the Euronews effect has already been formed, the essence of which is during emergency

events in the regions or in the world, which results from mass sitting in front of televisions and watching news related to this event. A comparative study of the language of modern Euronews news programs allows us to identify not only linguistic trends in mass communication, but also current problems of European society. The features of the Euronews mass media political discourse highlight the dynamics of democratic transformations.

In the article ‘Digital authoritarianism as a modern threat to democratic stability: restriction of freedom or network politicization?’, Armen Mirzoyan examined the issues of global trends in the digitalization of political regimes, which actualize the problem of adapting to new network conditions of political regimes around the world. This, in turn, raises the question of the need for a comprehensive comparative analysis of cases of legitimation of different political regimes in order to develop recommendations for the democratic transformation of modern political regimes. The idea is substantiated that the primary task of a political scientist is to study the causal mechanisms and specific patterns of digitalization of political life. This becomes especially relevant in the difficult conditions of the global COVID-19 pandemic, which has provoked accelerated and largely artificial digitalization imposed on society. The most difficult scientific problem seems, first of all, to determine the deep transformations of social and political reality under the pressure of accelerated digitalization. Meanwhile, before the pandemic itself, the prerequisites for the transformation of traditional political processes and institutions had already been created. The reason for this was the emergence of new global digital companies, which gave rise to digital platforms, algorithms and various network effects that subjugate the very communication channels of citizens and force, in turn, to reconsider the traditional concept of national sovereignty.

The author pays special attention to complete digitalization and access to personal information by an authoritarian regime, which will lead to total control over a person, and most importantly, will practically deprive him of the opportunity to go beyond this control. How severe this control will be will be determined by the political activity of the citizen. And, since the politically active class does not constitute the majority of the population, for the bulk of citizens the process of this control will remain invisible for the time being.

In ‘Decision-making: the process contributing to professional public administration’, Katerina Altunyan notes that professional public administration contributes to the effective functioning of government and the development of public policy. The article is devoted to the current problem of planning and making public decisions in accordance with democratic values and mechanisms. Therefore, there is an urgent need to consider management decisions in the context of ensuring a sustainable state of the public administration system. In this regard, it seems especially important to identify mechanisms for developing public decisions that are devoid of elements of situationality and uncertainty.

The author comes to the conclusion that the models of public decisions proposed for consideration only state a fixed sequence of actions when choosing alternatives. Often, undesirable results from incorrectly made decisions are attributed to the subjective human factor. The author focuses his work on the fact that the theory and practice of democratic government is faced with the task of creating effective methods for

developing, monitoring and evaluating public decisions. The viability of not only the government or parliament, but also the stability of the political system depends on this.

This issue of the Journal includes three book reviews about the peculiarities of politics between peoples and international relations, peace pedagogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the role of Instagram as public pedagogy. In this context, it is important to study the experience of peace pedagogy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where the patriotic and peaceful education of the younger generation is of particular relevance for a number of reasons: the level of informational awareness of the younger generation is increasing, democratization processes and the manifestation of a multi-party system create certain trends in the younger generation's understanding of the essence of patriotism, a culture of peace and tolerance, and civic duty.

These books analyze the leading trends of modern international development along with globalization, the increasing economic and political interdependence of states, on the basis of which regionalization and fragmentation of the international system occurs. There is no longer any doubt that the current system of international relations is undergoing fundamental transformations, and its basic principles are undergoing deep erosion. New actors and organizations, large financial, industrial and transnational corporations, as well as armed non-state groups, terrorist organizations, transnational movements, international trade unions and political parties are entering the arena of international relations and establishing themselves.

These books deal with the global dimension and the process of fragmentation of the system of international relations, which is characterized by high instability, volatility and increased conflict potential. In recent years, there has been an alarming trend of a large-scale return to political discourse of populism and right-wing ideas, a renaissance of xenophobia, radicalization and fragmentation, and re-ideologization of international and domestic relations.

*Ashot Aleksanyan*