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**Historical Sciences** 

## ORGANIZATIONAL, LEGAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ASPECTS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND CENTRAL ASIA

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#### Abstract

This research paper covers the specifics of political, organizational, legal, economic and social relations between Turkey and Central Asia. Linguistically, culturally and ethnically close, Turkey's diplomacy in Central Asia has sought to build on friendship and brotherhood.

Despite the problems in the relationship for some reason, the relationship is not completely broken. Turkey is involved in major economic projects in Central Asia. In particular, Turkey cooperates with Central Asian countries in the fields of education, culture and economy, light industry, chemistry, construction and energy. Turkey is showing more initiative in cooperation. Therefore, we can say that Turkey has a long-term strategy in Central Asia.

**Keywords:** Turkey, Central Asia, geopolitics, geostrategic goals, diplomatic relations, economic-political relations, cultural communication.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Central Asia is a region where Turkish-Islamic civilization originated and developed. It is a close brotherly nation with a common geographical origin. Therefore, it is in the interests of both sides to continue cooperation. The political-geographical sub-region of Central Asia is located inside the Eurasian continent. It unites five former allied republics - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, which have been developing as independent states since 2006. The common feature of the economic and geographical location of these countries is that none of them has access to the world's oceans. There is no direct exit, i.e. all five are inland countries. In particular, the Republic of Kazakhstan is the largest of the 44 countries in the world with such a geographical location. The peculiarity of the geographical location of the Republic of Uzbekistan, located in the middle of the subregion, is that not only it, but also any neighboring country is not connected to the sea. This geographical feature is unique to the Principality of Liechtenstein, one of the smallest countries in Western Europe, except for our republic, and none of the larger countries has such a geographical location [15].

The Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Turkmenistan are connected to the Caspian Sea, which has a positive impact on the economic and geographical location, transport and geographical capabilities and natural resource potential of both countries.



In contrast, the economic and geographical location of the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan in the Tangshan and Pamir highlands, where transport and geographical conditions are more complex, is somewhat unfavorable compared to other countries in the sub region [2].

#### **II. METHODOLOGY**

The article uses chronological data, systematic periodic data, comparative and quantitative methods, and previous researches. About thirty scientific works legal, economic and political aspects of diplomatic relations are used to explain "Organizational, legal, economic and political aspects of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Central Asia". Besides that, the researcher had used journals and articles to collect data related to the research.

#### **III. DISCUSSION**

The positive side of the economic and geographical location of the Central Asian sub region is reflected in its transit, ie the ability to connect land transport systems in different parts of Europe and Asia. This is evidenced by the fact that in history, the Great Silk Road passed through the territory of modern Central Asia. Even today, the economic and geographical potential of the sub region countries is highly valued in this regard. The geopolitical role of Central Asia is unique, with the main centers of geopolitical power in Eurasia being China, Russia, Iran, and in addition to these immediate neighbors, the United States, the European Union, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, India, and Pakistan. It is characterized by its location at the crossroads of foreign interests, as well as its proximity to Afghanistan, where military conflicts continue, and its proximity to areas of military-political conflict, which highlight the disadvantages of Central Asia's geopolitical position [1].

The geopolitical and geostrategic significance of the Central Asian region is as follows. These are :

- availability of oil and gas reserves;
- transit and communication routes pass through this region;
- Strategic and geo-economic importance of the Caspian Sea;
- Direct control over resource extraction.

The strength of the common cultural, historical and economic interests of Central Asia and its neighbors underscores the importance of the region. The above factors explain the important geopolitical significance of the region in the modern world. According to some theories, interest in Central Asia is explained by its cultural, civilizational, geographical and strategic location, as well as its geo-economic significance [6].

During a meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev said: "The peoples of our region are bound by a thousand-year-old bonds of brotherhood and good neighborliness. We are united by history, religion, common culture and traditions. Located in the "heart" of Eurasia, our region is a bridge between Europe and the Middle East, South and East Asia, bordering major countries such as Russia and China. Our region is rich in natural resources, with a unique cultural and development potential that has had a significant impact on the development of many countries and entire regions. At the same time, the interests of the powerful states in Central Asia are intersecting, and the region, which is a hotbed of instability and conflict, is feeling the effects of all the negative developments in the near and far abroad [2]".

Ankara is another eye on the current situation in Central Asia. Turkey seeks to establish itself as a leader among Turkic-speaking peoples and to create such an impression. But Turkey has made a serious mistake in its calculations: the Turks are trying to spread their influence through the ideology of pan-Turkism. Pan-Turkism is a separatist ideology based on the glorification of Turkic peoples.



Its difference works well in Turkey itself, because there are similar conditions in that part of the world. Turkey is a country that is historically and still a foreign country. It is surrounded on all sides by "non-Turkic" peoples: Orthodox Armenians, Shia Persians, Arabs, Europeans and Russians. That is why the Turks have a strong desire to preserve and celebrate their national origin and identity. Pan-Turkism is the result of this aspiration. Turkey has used the same ideology to gain influence in other Turkic-speaking regions, especially in Central Asia. However, there are about 50 million Turkic-speaking peoples in Central Asia, as well as many Persian-speaking peoples. The influx of pan-Turkism into the region has created some ugly feelings among some Turkic-speaking peoples, such as jealousy and discrimination against the Tajik and Afghan peoples. Although Turkish political activity was curtailed under President Islam Karimov, we still experience the cold effects of pan-Turkism in Uzbekistan from time to time [10].

Today, Turkey has realized that pan-Turkism is not yielding the expected results in Central Asia. Indeed, to put it simply, Tajiks are closer to ordinary Uzbeks in terms of their culture and way of life than Turks. If a Turk with a worldview comes and offers friendship in exchange for hostility to Tajiks, he will not agree. And most of our peoples are broad-minded people. Pan-Turkism is only of interest and temporary settlement in the minds of young people who have not yet formed an independent mind. Cooperation between Turkey and the countries of the region should not be limited to the fight against terrorism, extremism, organized crime and migration management. Instability in Afghanistan can be resolved through negotiations between all countries in the region. No country can solve this problem alone [12]. This year marks the 26th anniversary of the independence of Central Asian countries. During this time, the countries have achieved tremendous development [7]. Achieving political and economic success with Turkey's Central Asian states was one of the important strategic tasks of cultural integration as well as cooperation. Turkey is recognized as a regional power that plays an important role in international relations [8]. However, the implementation of the above issues poses a number of challenges. Despite repeated attempts in this area, Turkey has failed due to domestic policy and external factors. The main obstacles to the implementation of Turkey's ambitious plans in Central Asia are, first of all, the situation in Turkey's internal environment, the political instability of the coalition governments and the economic crisis in the country. The general idea and science that existed in Central Asia was limited to the Turkish intellectual and managerial elite [3]. In general, relations between the two countries were sufficiently limited during the Cold War, and after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ankara was unable to pursue narrow-minded strategic cooperation in the short term. The fact that Russia and Iran have pursued a policy of competing with Turkey's regional interests has led to a lack of cooperation between Turkey and Central Asian countries. It is no secret that the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran have their own interests in the Central Asian region. Of course, Russia has historically been inextricably linked to the countries of Central Asia, and it has not been possible for the countries of the region to establish contacts with the West through Turkey [13]. On the other hand, Iran opposed Turkey's joint policy with the United States in Central Asia and the South Caucasus. Naturally, he was one of the main goals of establishing his dominance in the Muslim world. The declaration of independence by the Central Asian states has undoubtedly added a new page to Turkish foreign policy. Of Turkey; relations and cooperation with these countries, which share common language, history and cultural ties, have developed in a short period of time in several areas. Therefore, Turkey is an important partner of the countries in the region. One of the most important outcomes of the "Summit of Heads of State of the Turkic Speaking States", which has been held under the auspices of Turkey since 1992, is Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. The Turkish Council was established in 2009 with the participation of Zistan. Turkmenistan, which plays a key role in the organization of cooperation in the Turkic world and is headquartered in Istanbul, is not a member of the council due to its permanent neutral status, and Uzbekistan is not a member for political reasons.

Turkey's public diplomacy efforts towards the region on cultural, educational, media, and development aid workers. This is a result of the activities carried out in 1993, the Turkish culture and arts, language, history, heritage protection, and promote these values around the world, and the younger generation in order to be delivered to the International Turkish Culture Organization was founded. Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan with the structure of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, the Russian Federation, 6 as well as the uptrend in the Moldovan Gagauz autonomous region, an autonomous republic within the state as an observer member. In this situation the International Turkish Culture Organization, the Turkish-speaking countries and communities to make the most basic organization. Member and observer states to continue participation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism Organization is important in



terms of public diplomacy, multilateral cooperation and mutual organization. Attaching great importance to relations with the region's education activities in Turkey, "the largest educational project launched in 1992 by the" Turkish Republic has hosted hundreds of students.

"Today, Turkey scholarships called" large-scale projects carried out by the Turks and sister churches' leadership abroad [8]. This part of the project titled "Turkish-speaking countries in the framework of the scholarship program," Every year, dozens of students accepted by universities in Turkey. Also meant the spread of the Turkish language studies, Turkey has become one of the most important means of public diplomacy in Central Asia Yunus Emre Institute is the only center in the Kazakh capital of Astana. Four in Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan under the Turkish Ministry of Public Education; Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan have one training center each. Kyrgyzstan-Turkey Manas University has been operating in Bishkek since the 1997-1998 academic year. The university accepts students from Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Turkish Republics and sister communities. Education is provided in Kyrgyz and Turkish languages. Today, about 400 Turkish students study at the university, and Kyrgyz students make up 84 percent of the university's student body. The university has the same status as the state universities in Turkey and Kyrgyzstan and is an autonomous university. Ahmet Yassavi University, a joint state university of the Turkic world, continues its activities in Kazakhstan. The university teaches in Turkish and Kazakh.

Turkey's public diplomacy in Central Asia is not what we have been talking about. The Turkish National Television and Radio Corporation and the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency also have important activities [4]. Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University offers free tuition and scholarships. Classes are taught in Kyrgyz and Turkish [8]. Ahmet Yassavi University, the first friendly state university in the Turkic world, continues its activities in Kazakhstan. The university teaches in Turkish and Kazakh. With a staff of 880 researchers, the university has faculties of economics, history and education, Turkology and foreign languages, philology, law, medicine, science, sports and arts, and computer science [9].

#### **IV. RESULTS**

Speaking directly about Turkey-Uzbekistan relations, Turkey is one of the traditional and important trade partners of Uzbekistan. In 2017, bilateral trade amounted to \$ 1.2 billion. Growth is expected to continue this year. However, as noted by the parties, these figures do not reflect the potential of our countries. It was noted that there are enough opportunities to increase this amount by 2-3 times in the coming years. Currently, about 500 Turkish companies operate in Uzbekistan. The volume of Turkish investments in the economy of our country exceeds \$ 1 billion. During the talks, he expressed confidence that the visit will give a new impetus to mutually beneficial cooperation between the business circles of the two countries [10]. Establishment of complexes for the cultivation and deep processing of agricultural products, food storage, packaging, processing and export between the two countries, the establishment of modern joint ventures in the textile and leather processing industry In particular, agreements have been reached on the joint export of finished branded products through deep processing of cotton fiber and leather, the development and implementation of new projects for cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector. It was noted that the Urgut free economic zone to be built in Samarkand region has great potential for this. The issues of further development of tourism infrastructure in Uzbekistan with the involvement of leading Turkish tourism companies, the construction of modern tourist complexes in Samarkand, Bukhara, Khorezm and Tashkent regions in accordance with international standards were discussed. Special attention was paid to transport communications. The launch of the Baku-Akhalkalaki-Kars railway will help to solve such a strategic issue as the creation of a direct transport corridor connecting the two countries. was noted to be an important factor in the development of relations. Based on the issues discussed, in order to achieve the goals set by Uzbekistan and Turkey, it was agreed to hold a regular meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission in Tashkent early next year, within which the Uzbek-Turkish investment forum will be organized. taken. Cultural and humanitarian cooperation has a special place in interstate relations. The two sides discussed the development of partnership in this regard. Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed confidence that the agreements reached during the meeting will take bilateral relations to a



new level and open a new page in cooperation in areas of mutual interest [14].

Recep Tayyip Erdogan noted that during the years of independence, under the leadership of President Islam Karimov, these noble places have been completely renovated and given a completely new look. He noted that Uzbekistan is achieving great results in restoring, studying and introducing the rich spiritual heritage of our ancestors to the world [11]. Since the independence of the Central Asian republics, the Turkish government has viewed the region as one of its potential spheres of influence. It is no coincidence that Turkey was one of the first countries not only to recognize the countries of the region, but also to establish active relations with them under the banner of uniting the Turkic states with similar mentality and cultural traditions. Uzbekistan is the historical, cultural and economic center of Central Asia, so the strategic partnership between Turkey and Uzbekistan is important in terms of regional development in Eurasia and around the world. Another important aspect is that Uzbekistan will be able to establish contacts with Europe via Turkey [14].

Thus, the fact that Uzbekistan has no access to the world's oceans is not an obstacle. The historical cities of Turkestan developed during the Great Silk Road, the main route of international trade. In the modern world, the region can regain its former glory through the Iron Silk Road. Diplomatic relations between Turkey and Uzbekistan were established 25 years ago, in 1992. Over the past quarter of a century, the fraternal relations between the two countries have stood the test of time. In the early years of independence, Uzbekistan became actively involved in this process, with hundreds of Turkish enterprises operating in the country in a short period, especially since the local market was underdeveloped in many areas. For example, in the textile industry, fast food, chemical industry.

At the same time, the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency (TIKA), which opened an office in Uzbekistan in 1994, has established cooperation in other areas [11]. At that time, the Uzbek government created endless conditions in the education system by entrusting its future youth to the Turks. Turkish lyceums began to open all over the country, as the level of education differed significantly from that of public schools [14]. According to various estimates, 60-70 Turkish lyceums were opened in Uzbekistan during the first five years of independence. Education in these lyceums became a tradition, and it was believed that future government officials and the aristocracy of the society should receive the first stage of education here. However, over time, it became clear that some Turkish nobles were advancing their ideology through established educational institutions. At the time, many local experts said that Turkish ideologues were preparing a fifth column in the country to lead Uzbekistan to Turkish policy. A series of bombings in Tashkent in 1999 woke up Uzbekistan. One of the blasts was to destroy the Cabinet of Ministers, where Islam Karimov was supposed to attend a government meeting. The Uzbek government has asked Turkey to extradite a number of opposition leaders suspected of involvement in the terrorist attacks. However, Ankara's rejection of the request put an end to many joint projects [14].

Turkey is a traditional and important trade partner of Uzbekistan. Between 2000 and 2016, bilateral trade increased almost sevenfold, reaching \$ 1.2 billion in 2016. So here politics falls into the background and both sides postpone sharp questions. Turkish business, which has a huge influence in Uzbekistan, faced a number of challenges in 2011. On the other hand, Turkish business leaders, who dominated a number of sectors of the Uzbek economy, were under the protection of some officials. Following the cold snap, Turkish companies in Uzbekistan were ordered to check their legality. As a result, millions of dollars in violations of tax and customs legislation were identified. Dozens of Turkish companies have since fled the country, accused of various offenses. When President Mirziyoyev came to power, relations between Uzbekistan and Turkey further developed to the level of strategic cooperation.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, it should be noted that in the study of Turkish geopolitics, although the main purpose of the views is the same, the tactics of its implementation are different, which leads to controversy and controversy. A number of politicians are in favor of pursuing a policy of ideological subordination, even if it is practically impossible to reclaim Ottoman-held land in Turkey. A second group of scholars argues that politics should be

57

conducted without interfering in the internal affairs of any country.

Another group advocates rapprochement with the Western world based on a policy of perfection, and a Westernized government based on democratic principles. But one of the main interests of every group in Turkish society is to make the Republic of Turkey one of the dominant states in the system of international relations and to establish its control over the world.

Given Turkey's direct interests in the Central Asian region, the Turkish government has begun to view the region as one of its potential areas of influence. It is no coincidence that Turkey was one of the first countries not only to recognize the countries of the region, but also to establish active relations with them under the banner of uniting the Turkic states with similar mentality and cultural traditions. At present, Turkey has established active relations with Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries, and the differences between them have been resolved.

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# ОРГАНИЗАЦИОННО-ПРАВОВЫЕ, ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИЕ И ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИЕ АСПЕКТЫ ДИПЛОМАТИЧЕСКИХ ОТНОШЕНИЙ ТУРЦИИ И ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОЙ АЗИИ

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#### Аннотация

Данная исследовательская работа охватывает специфику политических, организационных, правовых, экономических и социальных отношений между Турцией и Центральной Азией. Близкая в лингвистическом, культурном и этническом отношении дипломатия Турции в Центральной Азии стремилась опираться на дружбу и братство.

Несмотря на проблемы в отношениях по каким-то причинам, отношения полностью не разорваны. Турция участвует в крупных экономических проектах в Центральной Азии. В частности, Турция сотрудничает со странами Центральной Азии в области образования, культуры и экономики, легкой промышленности, химии, строительства и энергетики. Турция проявляет больше инициативы в сотрудничестве. Поэтому можно сказать, что у Турции есть долгосрочная стратегия в Центральной Азии.

Ключевые слова: Турция, Центральная Азия, геополитика, геостратегические цели, дипломатические отношения, экономико-политические отношения, культурное сотрудничество.

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