SADIR MAMMADOV ►►

Baku Slavic University

The Armenia – Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict and New Threats to the International Security Architecture in the Modern Period: Challenges and Responses

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Abstract

In the paper, we present new threats and dangers in the present international arena and their impact on the system of international security. We analyze the causes and development of these issues the international law system, paying particular attention to the case of Armenian-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflicts. We also discuss possible solutions to these problems proposed by experts. Some of the most interesting issues we address in the paper include the increasing activity of ISIL, cybercrimes, Ukraine crisis, immigration flow to Europe in recent years. All these problems are viewed from the multicultural perspective. We also analyze the genesis of ethnic conflicts, and put forward some recommendations for resolving them. We discuss the factors that led to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflicts, possible solutions to this problem, and a dangerous double standard policy. Terrorist threats, as well as “frozen” conflicts, resulted in the need for deepening interstate cooperation in the security sector.

Keywords: ethnic separatist tendencies, international security, intensification of migrant problem of Europe, the OSCE Minsk Group, the UN Security Council

Армяно-азербайджанский нагорно-карабахский конфликт и новые угрозы для международной архитектуры безопасности в современном периоде: вызовы и реакции

Аннотация

В настоящем документе представляются новые угрозы и опасности на нынешней международной арене и их влияние на систему международной безопасности. Мы анализируем причины и развитие этих проблем в системе международного права, уделяя особое внимание случаю армяно-азербайджанских нагорно-карабахских конфликтов. Обсуждаются также возможные решения этих проблем, предложенные экспертами. Некоторые из наиболее интересных вопросов, которые мы рассматриваем в документе, включают увеличение активности ISIL, киберпреступлений, кризиса в Украине, иммиграционного потока в Европу в последние годы. Все эти проблемы рассматриваются с точки зрения многокультурности. Мы также анализируем генезис этнических конфликтов и выдвигаем некоторые рекомендации по их разрешению. Мы обсуждаем факторы, которые привели к конфликтам нагорно-карабахского конфликта, возможные решения этой проблемы и опасная политика двойного стандарта. Террористические угрозы, а также «замороженные» конфликты привели к необходимости углубления межгосударственного сотрудничества в секторе безопасности.

Ключевые слова: этнические сепаратистские тенденции, Международная безопасность, Усиление проблемы мигрантов в Европе, Минская группа ОБСЕ, Совет Безопасности ООН

The tragedies that happened on September 11, 2001, were not only against of USA, but against the whole human civilization. Those horrible terror acts put an end to the lives of thousands Americans. As a result, some new regulations of the UN security system were introduced. This act brought the threat of terrorism to a new level – there were more than three thousand victims. Such threats to human life emphasize the priority of collective security in global policy.

In our paper we focus on the international security system of Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, the foreshortening of challenges and threats in the world policy, including the Ukraine and Crimea conflict and Kosovo, and the attitude of the states of USA and Russia to the legal state of the South Ossetia and Abkhazia by the states of USA and Russia.

As far as the norms of the international laws are concerned, it is Azerbaijan that gains support in the conflict of Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh (Mammadov, 2001). History and facts prove that Armenians live with the dreams of “Great Armenia” and Armenian ideologists referred to the terror acts and the genocide policy as the “national struggle” for the realization of those dreams. All the acts are supported as the state policy by the state of Armenia. For this reason, Armenians became the speakers of interests of definite foreign powers. The terror acts carried out on 11th of September, 2001s were performed against the American cities of Washington and New-York by the terrorist organization of Al-Qaeda (Shahzad, 2012; Gray, 2015).

At 8:46 AM, a passenger air plane belonging to “American Airlines” company hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New-York, and at 9.03 AM terrorists also attacked the South Tower in the same way. Those towers were built to be resistant to airplane attacks. However, inside those towers unknown people placed very powerful explosive substances and, as the result of airplane’s bang, both towers were knocked down. 40 minutes later the last attack hit the US Ministry of Defense, and Pentagon buildings were crashed. – 25 minutes later another terror act occurred, one more airplane that was stolen for the same aims and was rendered harmless by the air defense powers. That attack was planned for the White House (Cronin, 2012; Mack, 2015).

As the result of those terror acts more than three thousand innocent people died and more than six thousand were injured.

All those terror acts were the reason for the USA to start war against terrorism, at first against Afghanistan, and then against Iraq and start fighting against the dissemination of Islam in the world.

The investigation methodology of our paper reflects the synthesis of the modern scientific-theoretical methods.

As the most important part of investigation methods is the content-analysis, and by means of this method we examine the influential character of socio-political, and cultural factors of the geopolitical evolution of the world’s political map.

The aim of the paper is to discuss the possible solutions to the Armenia-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh’s conflict against the background of the new threats and dangers.

Views on Modern Threats to Global Security

Under the leadership of ex-president George W. Bush, the Administration of USA decided that US troops would occupy Afghanistan because he believed that the terror act of the 11th of September was performed by the members of al-Qaeda that belonged to Taliban regime in Afghanistan (Shahzad, 2012; Gray, 2015).

All these events influenced both the political views in the world and the positions of states. Political scientist and deputy Rasim Musabayov said that after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the United States considered itself the only global superpower for tens of years. However, these terror acts changed everything.

In addition, Azerbaijan joined the coalition created after the terror acts of 11th of September.

Those acts did not change the vector of Azerbaijan's foreign policy, but our country is still influenced by the strategic importance of America.

Azerbaijan has started to be more active in the spheres of intelligence services and cooperates directly with the USA in the struggle against of terror networks.

We should note that the terror acts of the 11th of September changed general attitude to Muslims and to the whole picture of Islamic relations in the world. The same terror acts created a cleft between the Muslim world and the West. Increased efforts to connect Islam with terror and, at the same time, the image of a modern Islamic country have made Azerbaijan increasingly important for America.

Cybercrimes

Today, we observe the fast development of technologies. At the same time, the rate of against informational systems increases, too (Tatarinova, Shakirov, Tatarinov, 2016; Thompson, 2015). Cybercrime is a type of crime committed against the security of an informational system. What differs a cybercrime from other types of crimes is its utilization without any informational system. Such a crime could be named as the crime committed via a computer or the Internet.

If we look from the perspectives of Cybercrimes' Convention, a cyber-crime is the one that is committed without any permission and under il-

legal conditions. The target criminals could be just one person and his/her property or one system. For example, by entering the system illegally, they plan to harm people, strike information, make passwords, getting or adding information, prevent the utilization from the system, intervene the secrecy of people's personal life.

Hacking

To put it shortly, the word hacking means entering the information system without any permission [6]. Entering any information system or without any permission of owners is a crime. In general, the same crime creates conditions for other crimes too.

The information directed to the crime.

Bot-Net/D-Dos hacking.

It means hacking to the system for the prevention of its security. It is done by downloading harmful programs and catching web-sites. BOT enters computers and sends many messages to users and prevents their utilization in a short time. This act could be compared to a situation in which at the same time just ten people want to enter the market but more than ten thousand are at the door of the market. We should note that the same crime can be committed for trade purposes but it has been proved to be performed for the sake of accomplishing political and terrorist plans, too.

The sexual exploitation of children and pornography.

Online organized gambling.

Like in gambling houses in the streets, online they are realized with paying some money and playing illegal gambling games and placing bets on something.

Inn online conditions, anyone who ensures gambling games or creates such organizations is arrested and is prosecuted.

Skilled interactive trickery

Such informational system is the trickery and a type of crime that is performed with the means of bank and credit organizations.

The creation of false e-mail addresses, striking the user's information, with the false web site entering the user's web site and striking and breaking private information and utilization of their information for getting profits from the users is referred to as a crime.

Characteristic thief

This type of crime refers to a number of useless programs for getting information without any permission of owners or illegally by the ways between websites and systems.

The crimes of banks and credit cards

Such a type of crime involves breaking bank and credit cards' magnetic card information with the copying or necessary information of mail orders of information systems and their illegal utilization or their utilization without any permission of their owners. The fight against cybercrime has become one of the most important elements of informational security architecture of the 21st century.

The concept of global security

The guarantee of global security is connected with the reduction of pressure of global problems to the world society (Hough, 2014). The global issues are among the most urgent problems of UN General Assembly and its special committees. For studying and understanding the political aspects of global problems of today, some respectful commissions were created by the UN. These commissions submit reports to the General Assembly of UN. Thus, in 1992, the conference on "Protection of Environment and for their development" of UN was held in Rio-de-Janeiro and the "Balanced Commission" was established. The same commission conveys the intergovernmental characters and has 52 members. Today, this commission is the center of coordination and agreement of all programs realized by UN organs. However, the same commission should not be considered as a simple administrative and directive organization, because it carries out general political leadership for realizing balanced development, especially it realizes the 21st Program (the Program of 21st centuries) adopted in Rio-de-Janeiro. In the generalized form, the source program consists of the followings: fighting poverty, reducing acts of modern techno spheres, protecting the sustainability of biosphere and the consideration of conformity of natural laws during the adoption of political, economic and social spheres.

1. Global security has both a general and comprehensive character. The general character means the mutual efforts of all members of the world union for guaranteeing global security (Bevir, Daddow, Hall, 2013; Baisagatova, Kemelbekov, Smagulova, Kozhamberdiyeva, 2016). The comprehensive character of security refers to the consideration of all critical conditions

in the development of the world's society during its guarantee and it also means the protection of the stability of life guarantee system of modern civilization.

The global mechanisms of guarantee of international security have its own legal basis (Huseynov, 2002). Exactly the same legal basis realizes the regulatory function of activity in the sphere of guarantying the national security of UN member states. The UN Charter not only guarantees international peace and security, but also provides mechanisms for its realization. The Security Council of UN is the main body responsible for ensuring international peace and security (SC) (Hurd, 2012).

In the political and legal guarantee of international peace and security the Security Council means the main organ of the UN. With accordance with the UN Charter, the Security Council bears responsibility for the protection of international peace and security.

The Security Council consists of fifteen states (but till the 1st of January, 1966, it was eleven) (Hough, 2014). Five of them are permanent members and ten of them are with non-permanent status. In accordance with the UN Charter Russia (till the 24th of December, 1991, SSR), China, USA, France and England are permanent members. Therefore, they all are bear responsibility in the protection of international peace security. As for non-permanent members of SC, till 17th of December, 1963, according to the statement of GA of UN their quota was determined as following: five countries should be from Asia and Africa, one state from other continents.

The UN Charter specifies duties, responsibilities and the functions in the sphere of the protection of international peace and security of SC's members: the protection of international peace and security (article No. 23), giving yearly reports and, if it necessary, giving special reports, too (article No. 24), fulfilling their own functions to create important bodies (article No. 29), the determination of procedure rules (article No. 30), giving some recommendations for settling arguments (article No. 30), studying conflict situation of the international tension or any argument that can cause conflict in the future (article No. 34), the determination of threat and menace against peace (article No. 39), giving some recommendations on receiving memberships of the GA, giving recommendations for the new Secretary – General of GA (article No. 97), participating in the election of members of the International Court together with the members of HA.

In the UN Charter, for guaranteeing peace and security, there are some possible solutions of conflicts and arguments in a peaceful manner. In article No. 33 of the UN Charter, two main solutions of conflicts in a peaceful way are specified: 1) with joint efforts of conflictive sides. 2) with the participation of the third side.

The same article also shows other types of peace source-debates, mediation, court and arbitration procedures.

For guaranteeing international peace and security, the UN can undertake military operations, which mean compulsory measures and can realize the sanctions. The roles of the UN's activity in the sphere of guarantee the security can be very different. The SC of the UN determines its methods and means in accordance with the threat degree of menace. The UN Charter (article No. 40) allows the SC to carry out a temporary obligatory mission for not widening and increasing conflicts. Temporary obligatory measures are: stopping the fire, returning an army (or force) to the previous position, drawing temporary democratic lines; the creation of disarmed zone.

In according with article 40, here is intended carrying out peace building operation too.

If we see the difficulties of situations in the Security Council, it can apply more hard sanction and can even use force (Garayev, 2008). The first notes include – the complete or partial breaking off economic relations, also breaking off railway, sea, air, telegraph, radio and other relations and even the diplomatic relations, too. The SC has often used non-military characteristic sanctions against the following countries – North Rhodessia (in 1966–68s), NAR (1977), Iraq (1990), Yugoslavia (1991), Libya (1992), Somali (1992), Haiti (1993), Angola (1993), Ruanda (1994), Liberia (1995), Iraq (2003).

Sanctions do not only mean bringing military forces to the country and the economic embargo, but there may also be financial sanctions.

The operations for guarantying peace by the UN have been formalized and are continued at the present-day. There are two types of operations: 1) the mission of soldier controllers consist of armless officers, i.e. “blue berets”. 2) National Military Unities with the provision of light arms – “blue helmets” – the operations of peace guarantee (the first such operation was carried out in the Middle East in 1956). Both operations were launched more than fifty times till 2003.

The Global theory of guaranteeing the International Comprehensive Security has been specified in the reports of the GA of the UN: “About the creation of comprehensive system if international peace and security” from the 5th of December, 1986 to the 7th of December, 1987; “the approach to the comprehensive international peace and security strengthening according to the UN Charter” has begun to apply since the 7th of December, 1988. The importance of the same theory consists of the creation of such bodies in the system of international relations that can create the strong, security, non-violent world. The comprehensive international security system looks through the following different aspects of mutual relations and mutual dependence; political, economic, scientific, ecologic, humanitarian, military, international, trade, financial and etc. such complex approach demands the development and strengthening of whole international relations.

The Representation of Ethnic Conflicts and Their Solutions

As we know, the separatist regime in Nagorno-Karabakh has created ethnic minority sights by Armenians that were national minorities in Azerbaijan. The disgraced “Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh” has not been recognized by any international organizations till the present-day. Ethnic, religious and language minorities could pretend the recognition of their own interest with the framework of an multinational democratic state and in cultural autonomy viewpoint of international law (article No. 27 of the international pact about civil and political law). However, the international law has not recognized the democracy and the democratic state rights for these minorities (Reshetov, 1994). According to Russian researcher Y.A. Reshetov “adopting the right to self-determination as a right of secession means the conception of the extremist interpretation of law” (Lukaschuk, 2005). According to Prof. G.B. Starushenko “to defend the principle of self-determination and the breakup should not be equal to the promotion of the separation of countries and continents” (Mehdiyev, 2014). I am sure that the same thoughts may refer to Dnestryan, South Ossetia and Abkhazia, Kosovo and other similar ethnic conflicts. Unfortunately, the international law gives opportunity to this policy, but the double standards policy pursued by the world powers does not allow it. On October 2–3,

2014, at the Fourth International Humanitarian Forum in Baku, Ilham Aliyev, the President of Azerbaijan, considered this factor when he spoke about UN Security Council's double standards.

When we talk about the role of "Minsk Group of OSCE of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, we must mention that the mandates of the international conferences co-founders under the aegis of OSCE on Nagorno-Karabakh (Minsk Conference) was established on 23 March, 1995 (In Europe...).

During all these periods, the MG with their inept and unstable activities viewpoint of contradictions between the US, Russia and the West-Russia became the real representatives of double standards policy, demonstrated the same approach to conflicting sides with international legal status, and tried to create equal environment in Azerbaijan, with 20% of its territories occupied by Armenians. Over the last 20 years, the MG put on the round table 3 offers-stage, packs and "single state" variants, but since 2007, MG has participated with hybrid, Madrid principles reflecting the stage, package offers' synthesis for the solution of the conflict again, then the sides have added a number of additions to the documents named as renewed Madrid principles. The same principles noted by the president of Russia and France as C8 on June of 2009, in the Summit L'Aquila, repeatedly on 26 June of 2010, in the Magog city of Canada the USA and co-chair states leaders' sum were reflected on the Magog declaration.

These principles are as follows:

1. The returning of the territories surrounding Nagorno-Karabakh.
2. Guarantees of security and self-government reflect the interim status for Nagorno-Karabakh.
3. The provision of a corridor linking Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.
4. Calling a referendum concerning the determination of the final legal status for Nagorno-Karabakh with absolute legally power.
5. The returning of refugees and internally displaced persons to all former places of their residence.
6. The provision of international security guarantees and implementation of peacekeeping operations.

On December 1, 2010, the OSCE summit in Astana issued a joint statement on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The statement was signed by the

member states of Minsk Group, D. Medvedyev, the-then the President of Russia, former US State Secretary Hillary Clinton and former French Prime Minister F. Fiyon, as well as the presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia.

The statement once more emphasizes that the sides should stick to the norms of international law and principles of the UN Charter, to the sum declaration of Helsinki of 1975, including the declaration of C8 of 2009, the summit of LAquila (Italy) in according regulation processes.

“Azerbaijan has noted for many times the start of liberation of the occupied territories and its surrounding regions in Nagorno-Karabakh and opening of the Armenian-Turkish borders and normalization of relations, the accession of Armenia to regional infrastructure projects and to be a catalyst for other processes. However, the Armenian government has become characteristic of the political settlement of the conflict, and its trait of not being interested in forecasts ended the regulations with no outcome” ((In Europe...)).

When we talk about the World powers and the OSCE Minsk Group’s activity observed in recent years, we must especially mention the activity in 2013, the Vienna meeting, the 2014 Sochi, New-port and Paris meetings with positions of the sides should be valued as the effort of nearness in the frame of preventive diplomacy. “When we talk about the preventive diplomacy it means the prevention of growing contradictions between the parties, the prevention of existing disputes and their transformation into conflict, intending to limit the scope of the conflict.

Peace building consists of warring parties to the peace negotiations provided in the Chapter V of the UN Charter and other peaceful means of actions aimed to bring the agreement (Mammadov, 2001).

On October of 2014, in a speech at the World Youth Forum held in Baku, Ilham Aliyev, the President of Azerbaijan, stated that Armenia poses a main threat to security in the region.

Currently, the Nagorno-Karabakh situation remains strain and is characterized as a frozen conflict. Entry into the unrecognized republic is possible only from Armenia. Almost complete isolation leads to serious humanitarian crises, as well as to an increasing number of refugees.

As the most serious threat to international security system in the modern world, we should also note the ISIS terrorist grouping of “the Islamic State of Iraq”. Radical Islamic groups in Iraq, Syria and other Middle Eastern

countries and territories established the Caliphate under the veiled religious slogans intended to create the kingdom of their own geopolitical and economic funding. It seems that the ISIS intended to involve the Turkish state in the conflict by means of a number of international supporters and in this way became a general ache for new initiatives in whole the Turkic world.

Another threat to the international security is the issue of Ukraine and the Crimea, the relations between the United States and Russia and, in general, economic and trade sanctions imposed on Russia by the West. For Central Europe, which greatly altered the long-standing ethnic conflict in international law, international forces are interpreted in its own way. Let us recall that in the vote in UN Azerbaijan officially supported the territorial integrity of Ukraine and in PACE it did not use the right to vote.

“One thing is clear – it does not matter with how it ends in Ukraine, but the world will never be the same”. At least since 1945, till the present-day, changing the map of Europe with the option of hybrid voluntarism referendum on the base of the state’s position and has had an impact on other centers of ethnic conflict zones in the post-Soviet space. From the point of view of Italy, in an interview to “La Repubblica”, disgraced former president of the USSR Mikhail Gorbachev, said that “the international community must be reconciled with the fact that the Crimea belongs to Russia” (Mehdiyev, 2014). The real script writer of the collapse of the Soviet Union and a number of ethnic conflicts, forgetting about Nobel award, spoke the viewpoint of the nationalist platform and just painfully forgot to inform about the bloodshed between two Slavic peoples.

Armenian writer Z. Babayan’s work of “Fire” funded the ethnic conflicts in the “domino principle” reaching from the former Soviet Union to Eastern Europe, Genocide in Khojaly tragedy of the century in 1992, Baku terrorist acts in 1994–1995s, the “independence parades” resulted with the radical geopolitical chaos that threaten the security columns of modern Eurasia. I am sure that “Arab Spring” and the ISIS scenario we live in today, as an integral part of the threats and challenges of the new USA–Russian relations, completely demonstrates the irreconcilable contradictions. In the countries occupied by the foreign forces, not only democratic development, but even the protection of political stability is very difficult.

Finally, the US government has assumed the mission to teach the world on the subject of “democracy”, which began in the mid of 2014. Fergusson events (Missouri State) meant that it actually failed the exam. The modern world, could see the contrasts and mutual hostility between white and black cultures in USA again.

The Fergusson events, including the USA Constitution of 1776, the Geneva Convention of 12 August, 1949, also the Final Act of Helsinki in 1975, clearly demonstrated to the world how the US government “follows” the rules.

In the architecture of international security, there is one more source of threat that has formed over recent years. As the result of “Arab spring” in the Middle East countries, and the ongoing civil wars in Iraq and Syria, millions of migrants have flowed to the West Europe through Greece and Hungary. This is a long-lasting process which leads to difficulties in inter-religious and inter-civilizations relations, deeply influencing the demographic, cultural and spiritual image of the countries of Western Europe, also having an impact on the their labor market.

Migration law is one of international and universal laws expressed in the Geneva Conventions on August 12, 1949. But, the “oldest countries” have still not still given any concrete public thought to this problem. The governments of Western Europe, instead of focusing on bringing “new blood” to their society, have to turn attention to radical and extreme right political circles. The extreme religious circles of European countries do not hide their anger, and they are against the inflow of immigrants, but ultra-nationalist parties think that in this way they could gain more political dividends for the future local elections and for the constitutional referendum of the Supreme Court of European Union. Here we should note that the conservative circles of Great Britain want to leave the European Union and the same approach also badly influences the international image of this Organization.

The resolution on Human Rights in the Azerbaijan Republic, adopted on September 11, 2015 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), also proves that the same body has become a hostage of double standards and has been politicized. After the arrest of some NGO leaders and people calling themselves the defenders of human rights in Azerbaijan, the same organization is in hostile relations with Baku.

Baku manifested itself during the European Games on 12–28 June, 2015. The government actually has been trying to satisfy Western countries' interests concerning the energy sector. The abovementioned international organization had to limit observers, following the Parliament election on November 1, 2015, but we do not know why this organization is malevolent towards Azerbaijan, and for some reasons it has not even once criticized the Armenian Republic for the occupation of Azerbaijani lands, and has never produced any official documents about the rights of more than 1 million Azeri refugees and migrants. Such an approach is a distinct example of double standard policy and even impeaches the future political dialogue between the West and Azerbaijan and should be considered as the component of a new imperialist policy.

Conclusion

In the history of mankind, the 21st century is the period of the fastest development of technology and human resources, but, sadly, it is also marked by a number of devastating tendencies. New threats and dangers lead to significant difficulties in various fields of human activity, and cause serious impediments in the political, social, public, and cultural-humanitarian areas of the nations and states of the world highlighting the existing contradictions and differences among different civilizations. This problem is of a national character and needs to be examined comprehensively and from the viewpoint of the international law sciences.

There is no doubt that a number of threats to the architecture of international security originate from the differences and double standard policy of geopolitical interests of states. Ethnic separatism and the beginning of this process and different approaches to their development, the evolution of religious extremism seen from the point of view of different geopolitical power centers and their own cooperative interest, efforts for the utilization of their cultures as political tools, and, in the end, to humiliate the prophet, ISIL, ideas of mutual territories create an endless confrontation environment among inter-civilizations. In this case, the law codes and generally, identical regulations of the international law, norms and principles lose their power, also tightening the scope of international law application.

Thus, collective security is a priority in interstate cooperation. It is necessary to seek new constructive ways to resolve frozen conflicts, such as the one in Nagorno-Karabakh.

SADIR MAMMADOV

Baku Slavic University

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