

In the name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful

**Shanghai Cooperation Organization and NATO in Central Asia:
Confrontation or Cooperation**

Dr .noz ar shafiee and Shahriar faraji nasiri

The existing security challenges in Central Asia has led that the countries in this region to look for creating or resorting to the structures to procure their security. In this regard, two organizations of NATO and Shanghai Cooperation Organization have been succeeded more than other regional and trans - regional organizations for attracting the security cooperation with these countries. After collapse of former Soviet Union and dissolution of Warsaw Pact, NATO reviewed its function and operation and prioritized the expansion toward East. In the beginning of 1990's, Central Asian countries indicated much inclination to join NATO, but considering the fact that after Sept. 11 2001, NATO activities were seriously dominated by the significant role of USA and performance of political, economic and social modifications in the region were emphasized by USA within the framework of great Middle East Plan in this region. This affair caused the sensitivity of the political elites in the region and these countries were interested in other regional organizations such as Shanghai Organization Cooperation.

Fundamentalism in Central Asia: Clash of Identities

Dr. Hossien Massodnia and Davood Massumi

Several years after the collapse of the Soviet Union, many observers believe that Islam is growing in the region, the concern over spreading the Islamic fundamentalism is said to be among the aims of formation of the Shanghai Organization Cooperation. The history of the presence of Islam for several centuries in the region has contributed to making the identity of the people in Central Asia as well as providing the ground for clash and

antagonism among them, therefore the Islamist groups in Central Asia are perceived as important players in developments of this region.

This article aims to address the position of Islam based on genealogy of Muslim activism in this region in the past several centuries and to give a new analysis concerning the current actions of the Islamist groups.

**The Political Perspective of Iran and Armenia's Cultural Relations:
A Study of Neo-Realism Principles**

Dr.H. Harsij and M. Touiserkani

The new multilateralism as a future tendency of the world politics is considered a counterpart of new regionalism. The modern regionalism is a reflective production of existing forces in the contemporary societies in a particular region, which connect regional phenomena with national contingencies. Neorealist approach facilitates the way to reach into the new regionalism, as a stage in the process of multilateralism. This type of realism emphasizes on attaining special and valuable objectives, such as social justice along with existing limitations like decentralization of power. Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Armenia, as two strategic neighbor countries, can utilize such a helpful approach to maintain their interests by considering the cost-benefit strategy. Iran and Armenia, based on their many common historical, cultural, and social backgrounds, possess appropriate context for exploiting political benefits of cultural approach of dialogue among religions and civilizations in the direction of attaining a stage of new multilateralism in the regional level in terms of neorealist principles.

The objective of this research is to examine the possibility of formation of a new multilateralism in both regional and international levels, in terms of dialogue among religions and civilizations between these two rich cultures of Iran and Armenia.

**The Islamic Republic of Iran and Regional and Trans _ Regional
Actors in Central Asia**

Dr. AliReza Sanjabi and Maryam Seifi

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Central Asia region has been changed into a field of regional and global competition. Due to Strategic situation and oil resources as well as geographical situation between Caspian and Black Sea, this region has always been focus of attention of trans regional powers. Moreover, ethnic conflicts, instabilities and economic problems of newly independent states has prepared opportunity for security , economic and political interests for such powers. This article is going to categorize these actors first and second regional groups and to explain the way of playing their roles regional policies in the Central Asia. The Important subject here is understanding convergence grounds and finding disintegration roots among ECO members in one hand, and I.R.Iran and Russia as well as I.R.I and U.S.A on the other hand.

Racism and Extremist nationalism in Post-Soviet Russia (A Case Study of Skinhead Movement)

Alireza Nori

As a result of profound difficulties and tensions in post- soviet era such as microeconomic crisis, comprehensive poverty, extensive political and social corruption, bureaucratic and administrative infirmity and national identity crisis as the most of important thing, Russia had faced with considerable problems and abnormalities. The spread of xenophobia and racism in various forms was one of the most sensible consequences of this new situation. The Chechen war, development of migratory flows to Russia beside social disorder has strong affect on the expansion of thought of “Russism”. In recent times the skinhead movement as Russia’s biggest racist group with racial violence was the primary and special representative of this though that has caused very serious worries in Russia and abroad and became a substantial problem. In this paper the quality and aspects of this problem with a descriptive and analytical method will be investigated.

New Role and Position of Eurasia in Global Powers' Strategies

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Reza Hosseinpour Pouyan and Tahereh Mirzaei pour

In geopolitical structure of the current world, there exists an all out competition over Eurasia mainly concentrated on geo-economics and geo-strategic aspects. Due to the prominent status of this region in geopolitical equations of great powers, Eurasia has been among the most dynamic and crisis - torn spheres of global players operations. During the cold war era, this region was the scene of struggle between two super powers in three geostrategic front: westernmost, easternmost and southwest.

This article is aimed at analyzing the role and position of Eurasia based on its geo-economics and geostrategic implications in global power, strategies from the cold war era up to now and the role of Iran in this region and then to give an outlook of the position of great powers in this part of the world.