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ISLAMIC FACTOR IN NEOCONSERVATIVE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE USA IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Abstract: *The foreign policy of the United States of America (USA), in particular the foreign policy activities of the Middle East region, is based on neoconservative ideas at certain times. This article focuses attention on issues such as the relationship to the religion of Islam in the system of neoconservative visions, the Islamic factor in the implementation of neoconservative conjugations, the influence of Islamic States and international terrorism, the US-Israeli relations in the foreign policy of neoconservatives.*

Key words: *neoconservatism, neoconservative foreign policy, USA foreign policy in the Middle East, Islamic factor in world politics, political Islam, Islamism.*

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Introduction

Reforms in the sphere of Public Administration, economy and culture are primarily built on the basis of principles in which the whole world recognizes and manifests itself as universal values. However, if we look at the ideological landscape of today's world, the scope of ideological influences that are directed towards the needs of a narrow range of groups, pursuing different mercenary goals has also been increased. Such effects are sometimes associated with the religion factor.

In modern geopolitical research, special attention is paid to the factor of religion. Because many political tensions, economic instability, and military outbreaks remain directly related to religion. The development of the society shows that any religion in the world does not exhibit ideas against humanity. But historically the origin of many conflicts and opposites is associated with the religion factor. Even in today's modern era, various "mental centers", a well-known political scientist also pay special attention to the fact that religion has an important role in the implementation of domestic and foreign political interests at the level of its official policy. Religion for geopolitical and geoeconomic benefits is being used as a tool. Certain states focus on the effective use of the religion factor, having a strong influence on the process of making ideological flows, in particular modern neoconservatism,

external political decisions that have a solid place in political systems. In this regard, attention will be paid to the USA's neoconservative external political doctrine and neoconservative practice processes.

The fact that neoconservators have their own strong position on foreign policy in the Middle East is characterized by their call to make sharp decisions on the implementation of national interests. Neoconservators will be able to accelerate the processes of democratization, perfectly tolerating the purification of traditions and values contrary to modern democratic principles. The attractiveness of american neoconservative views is also evident in approaches to democratization and protection of human rights.

In the USA, the priorities and execution of neoconservative views are observed in the period of implementation of the authorities administration of the Republican government. Proceeding from the results of this practice, it is possible to see the external political concept of neoconservatism characterizes the following with a number of important ideas: - recognition of the global interests as hyperimperialism of the United States on a scale; - the imposition of us rule; - the impossibility of international institutions and the world on the basis of their own rules; - unilateralism in foreign policy; - the implementation of a liberal revolution based on the idea of "what is good for America, for the better

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for others"; -the White-Black vision of the world as an area of wars between democracy and authoritarianism. To rely on the morality of the US national interests [6, p.45].

In general, the external political views of us neoconservators in the Middle Eastern region are manifested in the fact that such factors as the religion of Islam, the state of Israel and economic interests are inextricably linked.

Materials and methods

By the second half of the XX century and the beginning of the XXI century, there was a tendency to increase in the number of people who profess Islam in the world. Even today, information is being given on the fact that many Christian societies are increasingly becoming Islam. This trend is recognized as the resurgence of Islam in some studies.

The revival of Islam in Western countries, especially the US, is understood as a factor in the quality of threat to political stability in the Middle East. The socio-political and ideological processes observed in Islamic societies from the second half of the twentieth century, an increase in the influence of the currents that promote the return of Islam to the members caused the global Islamic threat of revolution and further increase in Islamophobia with historical roots in the Western world. After these events, the notion of a comprehensive Islamic threat in Western media began to be taken into account. The scientific works carried out in the spirit of such propaganda began to reflect the happiness that the development of international major events organized by Islamic movements in the affairs of the authors was approaching the clash of Christian and Islamic cultures [4]. In particular, the well-known theorist S.Huntington drew the attention of the entire world community to the fact that "the clash of Civilizations" was inevitable.

Americans regard Islamic fundamentalism as a factor such as the confrontation of the East and West after 1945 years. The risk of Islamic fundamentalism for them is equally regarded by the danger of communism[4, p.14-15].

By the beginning of the 1990s, the US became the only powerful state in the world with its economic, technological, cultural and military power. In the agenda of the US political circles, the following dilemma arose: either to engage in the further improvement of democracy in the domestic life of the country in exchange for the reduction of the capabilities of its military forces, turning into a "normative-normal country" or "filling the geopolitical gap" of all the forces, finding new enemies and making claims to world domination[6, p.45]. This period was in the interpretation of neoconservators "situation with one pole", and regions with huge sources of hydrocarbons, in

particular, developed favorable conditions for the execution of vital interests in the Middle East. A number of neokonservative views on the use of the classical strateg and geopolitics tradition, the concept began to be offered. One of the prominent theorists of neoconservatism, "patriarch of neoconservatism" N. Podhoretz (the publisher of Commentary magazine, founded by the American Jewish Committee) interpret in his work the neoconservative foundations of the re-formation of the entire Muslim world. As a new historical struggle, "crusade" against Islam and the rejection of Islam was manifested as a call to the struggle between "good" and "evil". And in this he argues that the fight against him by applying the concept of Islamofascism should be replaced by the struggle against communism and Nazism[3].

Not only do they paint extremism, but also to create a new "enemy image" in the West, using certain political forces from it, and on this basis they try to justify the American methods of conducting military actions and "antiterror wars" in the Middle East. In particular, American neoconservative expert Daniel Payps is famous for his statements, such as "Islamism is fascism".

In the same place it is possible to observe the generalization of the Islamic religion and Islam in the views of US neoconservators. Any "orderly", "delinquent" and member of the Islamic Society, professing the Islamic religion, will be expelled as radical. The procedures that are historically composed in Islamic societies are represented as fundamentalism.

A well-known political scientist, Professor Sh.Yovkochev, as reflected in the research of, it is explained by the fact that the constant influence of Islam on socio-political life has inherent features of Islamic faith. According to him, there is no clear division into religiosity and secularism. "Islamism" is a manifestation of such thoughts as the change, renewal of any religion laws that have taken more political action than religious movements and their manifestations. Their main requirement is to disprove the general ideology of the existing policy regime that does not correspond to Islam in the state's construction, and to change the role and place of religion in the place of life of society. They were able to radically reform all their power, including the social, economic and political systems in the society, and not only in the Muslim countries, but also to carry out its implementation on a global basis [4, p.13]. Most of the members of today's Muslim societies are not supporters of such views.

At the same time another important aspect of approaches to democratizing the Middle East region of US neoconservators is their attitude towards Islamic organizations in the region. As we know, until the events of 9/11, the democratization of the region and the Islamic extremism was not recognized

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as the main focus of the US national security. The reaction to Islamic organizations has changed dramatically after the 9/11 events. The attitude towards the participation of organizations in the political management of the countries of the region, having a moderate Islamic view, has also begun to be interpreted differently. Washington Middle East Institute's expert M.Kramer evaluates all Islamic organizations as fundamentalists[1, p.35-42]. Another neoconservators supporter D.Pipes states that ensuring the political participation of Islamic groups is to help the enemy.

The unanimity of the attitude towards Islamic organizations in all neoconservical research centers is the basis for assessment of their majority as a movement towards the protection of Israel's interests. In Particular, according to D.Friedman's confession, the aim of the United States is to never allow the emergence of another Islamic empire by simply violating the Islamic world, opposing one another[7, p.15]. Russian scientist K.Bloxin, who is conducting an in-depth research on neoconservatism, argues that the idea of re-forming the Middle East is actively supported by the influential Jewish lobbyists in the United States. In his opinion, one of the important reasons for the interference of the United States in the affairs of the Greater Middle East is the security of the state of Israel, the main geopolitical partner of the United States in the region [6, p.48].

The commonality of interests of us neoconservators and Israeli lobbyists encouraged them to realize the need to ensure the existence of Israel as a state. This is also fueling calls for a change in the regime of weakening such states as Iraq, Iran, Syria and Libya, which are taking risks to Israel in the region.

Islam was recognized as a "new enemy" for US neokonservators after the collapse of the USSR. Theoretically, the idea of a polarizing being supported by US neoconservators does not have an inextricably linked with Zionism, but in practice, their union is felt. In particular, most supporters of the single-pole World Order are considered Jewish neoconservators, and support for Israel is widely promoted by strong belief that the US policy is fully responsive to its interests. Many of them were actively working at the Jewish National Security Institute, founded in 1976 and were adherents of taking decisive action in matters of Syria and Palestine [2, p.196].

Statements of the US on the democratization of Muslim countries (In the period of J.Bush presidency) a well-known political scientist Z.Brzezinski, although supported, calls for etiology. Any job fanatics can give the opposite result in his hand. In the Middle Ages, the religion, irrigated by believers and sympathies, created the horror of the Inquisition. Gilotina became the embodiment of the French Revolution "Freedom, equality and

brotherhood". The reason why the ideals of socialism were reincarnated in the image of inhumane leninism-stalism, brought unprecedented suffering to mankind in the last century.

The promotion of democracy can lead to self-denial of the idea of democracy, if it is entrained with absolute diligence, without taking into account the historical and cultural traditions of Islam [8, p.111-113].

In general, the analysis shows that the US is based on a unilateral - manipulating approach to the Islamic factor in foreign political strategies promoted by neoconservators. For example, on the basis of the ideas of modernizing the countries of the Middle East for most neoconservators, the main problematic issue is that the system is not undemocratic, but it is in response to the US interests of the heads of countries and the political elite. In addition, strong "Islamophobia " ensures the isolation of Islamic societies. Islamic societies from various economic sanctions will find it difficult to establish close integrations among themselves. The absence of a strong leading state in the Arab world, as well as the impossibility of strong integration of Arab countries in the political, economic and military sphere, reduces the chances of coordinating the actions of these countries. This will in turn necessitate the finding of political - military partners that provide a strong side. In particular, it brings the need for allies that do not belong to the Middle East regions, first of all, strongly connected to the United States.

At the same time, the democratization of the region, which was widely promoted by US neoconservators, focuses on the results of foreign policy strategies, appears to be a serious threat to the political stability of modern "Western" - based political reforms in societies based on national mentality and traditions, national values, according to the results of elections in the Middle East countries. Ignoring the historical, socio-cultural differences in certain societies has proven to have negative consequences. The political reforms in such states as Palestine, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, in recent decades, in particular, the coming of Islamists to power, above all democratic processes committed by neoconservators, did not bring the results of the democratic re-formation of the region. At the same time, it is proved that democratic reforms can not be artificially accelerated and standardized. If we looked from the point of view of neoconservative interests, the previous regimen was more reliable and advantageous than the present ones (Islamists).

D.Pipes express an opinion on the results of democratic elections in the countries of the Middle East, it is not worthwhile to hold elections in the Western model with the participation of radical religious organizations such as the Islamist "Muslim brothers" who have obtained a high result in the parliamentary elections in Egypt, it is necessary to

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study gradual democratic changes in Muslim countries, long and slow consultations of democracy. It is not necessary to develop democracy in a society in which the influence of Islamist increases. Islam argued that efforts could create ground to victory while denying it.

US neoconservative initiatives today caused negative results, first of all, the negative attitude of the world community towards the United States, a decline in the image of Democratic leadership.

At the same time, the world community should also understand that the role of the United States in world politics, the propaganda of liberal democratic ideas, the great experience and practice of democratic statehood, the status of a human freedom and freedom advocate, will become an example for countries that are experiencing all democratic development. Neoconservative political practice and negative results associated with it, carried out during periods with high exposure to the neoconservative

flow in the US state government and foreign policy, do not express the interests and longing aspirations of the entire American people. Including, the views of neoconservators on the Islamic religion are also not a strict position in relation to the Islamic religion of the US State. Political measures aimed at achieving geopolitical goals and ensuring them in interstate relations, strategically important regions are defined at this or that level in the foreign policy of each state. The struggle for the balance of forces and the proportionality of interests is a normalized approach for any independent state. Unilateral violation of such procedures, political ideologies aimed at prioritizing interests in a narrow range, seriously affect the stability of the international system. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out serious research on the further practice of US neoconservatism, to focus on the formation of strong international institutional and normative immunity.

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