

SCO'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN COMPARISON TO ITS INITIAL GOALS AND ITS ROLE IN MODERN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Annotation: In this article, the author provides detailed chronological information about the main goals set by the SCO, the progress made in the process of implementing these goals. also gives detailed opinions about the role and importance of this organization in the international arena.

Keywords: SCO, Euro-Asian, principles, cultural development, organization, summit.

Introduction. Shanghai Cooperation Organization is a multilateral association whose activities are aimed at ensuring security and maintaining stability in the vast Euro–Asian space, jointly countering new challenges and threats, and strengthening trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian cooperation. Aimed at building a just, polycentric model of the world order that meets the interests of all and every state on the firm basis of international law and the principles of mutual respect and consideration of each other's interests, mutually beneficial cooperation, rejection of confrontation and conflict, equal and indivisible security, the SCO is an intercivilizational organization that eliminates the possibility of a conflict of civilizations in the region of its responsibility.

Method. Adhering to the principles of openness, non-targeting and non-formation of alliances, the SCO actively and consistently develops dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, advocates strict observance of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, primarily equality and sovereignty of states, non-interference in their internal affairs, mutual respect for territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, non-aggression, peaceful settlement of disputes non-use of force or threat of force, as well as other generally recognized norms of international law aimed at maintaining peace and security, the development of cooperation between States[1], the strengthening of independence, ensuring the right to determine their own destiny and the path of political, socio-economic and cultural development. The SCO, which is entirely built in the format of a multilateral partnership, helps sovereign participants to combine positions and approaches related to urgent international problems and regional tasks, helps to concentrate their efforts on common goals in accordance with the principles of voluntary cooperation and equal cooperation. SCO Expansion – strengthening the Organization's potential The historic SCO summit in Astana on June 8-9, 2017 opened a new stage in the development of the Organization[2]. One of its most important results was the granting of India and Pakistan the status of full members of the association[3]. The accession of two powerful and reputable South Asian states to the SCO has expanded the potential and range of opportunities for the Organization's work, including in the field of joint counteraction to traditional and new challenges and threats. The vast expanse of the SCO – from the Arctic to the Indian Ocean from North to South and from China's Lianyungang to Russia's Kaliningrad from East to West – with a total population of almost 44% of the global population poses the fundamental task of collectively ensuring stability, effectively countering threats and security challenges through joint efforts along the entire contour of the area of responsibility of the world's largest regional organizations[4]. Uniting four nuclear powers – half of the world's nuclear club – the SCO format represents an additional supporting element of the system for maintaining global strategic stability. The Astana Declaration of the heads of the SCO member states became the main document

of the meeting of the leaders of the member states in Astana. In addition to the agreed positions of the Member States on key issues of the regional and global agenda, the text of the document reflects the Organization's further steps to counter threats to peace and security. Approaches and practical steps to ensure security and stability[5].

Results. The SCO's commitment remains unshakeable to the lack of alternative to the political and diplomatic settlement of conflict situations based on strict observance of universally recognized norms and principles of international law, strict observance of the goals and principles of the UN Charter. In this regard, the Organization continues to advocate for strengthening the central coordinating role of the United Nations in international relations, attaches particular importance to the progressive development and strengthening of cooperation with the World Organization, its specialized institutions and institutions[6].

Special events held in cooperation with the United Nations and the SCO are becoming a significant practical contribution to strengthening international cooperation in combating threats and challenges to security[7]. This was clearly confirmed by the results of joint high-level special events: "The UN and the SCO: joint counteraction to challenges and threats" in November 2016 in New York, as well as organized jointly with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime – "The UN and the SCO in the fight against drugs: common threats, joint actions" in March 2017 in Vienna[8].

Discussion. The SCO will continue to step up coordinated efforts to counter common security challenges and threats, deepen dialogue and cooperation to ensure comprehensive security, primarily in the fight against terrorism, including cyberterrorism, separatism, extremism, cross-border organized crime, drug trafficking, as well as to strengthen international information security and emergency response[9].

In this regard, it is planned to further develop the most important permanent body – the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) The SCO, whose effective activities are clearly evidenced by the following data. In 2011-2015 alone[10], the competent authorities of the SCO member states, with the coordinating role of the SCO RATS, prevented 20 terrorist attacks at the preparatory stage; suppressed about 650 crimes of a terrorist and extremist nature; eliminated 440 terrorist training bases and about 1,700 members of international terrorist organizations; more than 2,700 members of illegal armed formations, their accomplices and persons suspected of criminal activity were detained; 213 persons involved in the activities of terrorist and extremist organizations were extradited, many of whom were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment; 180 persons were put on the wanted list; 600 caches and caches of weapons were identified, more than 3,250 improvised explosive devices were seized, about 10 thousand weapons, about 450 thousand pieces of ammunition and more than 52 tons of explosives. Purposeful work is being carried out on an ongoing basis to counter the use of the Internet for terrorist, separatist and extremist purposes.

Conclusion. The SCO's collective response to the creeping expansion of the most dangerous phenomenon that extremist activity appears today was the adoption of the SCO Convention on Countering Extremism at the Astana summit. The document is intended to strengthen the international legal framework for countering new challenges and threats, along with the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, the SCO Convention against Terrorism and the SCO Member States Cooperation Program in Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism for 2016-2018, as well as relevant UN documents - the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The SCO Convention on Countering Extremism is aimed at strengthening security, increasing the effectiveness of cooperation between competent authorities and improving legislation in this area.

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