
CONTENTS

RISS Reports

Southeast Asia as a Collision Zone for the United States' and China's Interests.

The report emphasizes the key directions of China's and the United States' policies toward Southeast Asia. The authors note the region's great geopolitical, military strategic, and economical importance for the world politics developments. They observe the future perspectives of the region, which has become the area of Beijing's and Washington's interests collision.

Keywords: *Southeast Asia – China – the United States – Myanmar – Vietnam – the Philippines – Indonesia – Thailand – the ASEAN – the South China Sea – the Belt and Road – the XXIst Century Maritime Silk Road* **13**

International Policy

Shishkov A. S. Central America in the XXIth Century:
Tendencies, Problems, Perspectives.

The article deals with current political and socio-economic aspects of the Central American countries development. The author displays the region's heterogeneity and complicity. He comes to conclusion that the Central American states will face a number of challenges in the nearest future, particularly in the security sphere, which would demand adequate responses from their politicians and expert communities. The main focus is on Nicaragua which has somewhat succeeded in economy development and in eradication of the organized crime during the presidency of D. Ortega.

Keywords: *Central America – security – the Northern Triangle – drug trafficking – Nicaragua* **54**

Svistunova I. A. Turkey's Regional Policy:
the Strategy toward African Countries.

Turkey's relations with various African countries have seen a progress in a number of fields throughout the last decade. Ankara's African policy constitutes a long-term complex program directed at strengthening the republic's international positions.

Keywords: *Turkey – Africa – Turkey's foreign policy – the Middle East – international relations* **67**

Gubin A. V. The United States' Evolving Role in Northeast Asia: the Military-Political Aspect.

The United States has encountered a new international situation stemming from a breakdown of confidence even among its closest allies. Washington is falling short of providing an adequate response to the main regional stability challenges, such as the PRC's growing military-political clout and the North Korea's nuclear missile program. Presumably, Northeast Asia will go through the process of shaping a new security architecture in the nearest future, evolving into an "Asian consensus" model with a constantly reducing role of the USA. For its part, Russia could maintain its significance in the region as a country interested in peaceful dispute resolutions.

Keywords: *the USA – national interests – Northeast Asia – regional security – the North Korean nuclear missile program* 81

Zabrovskaya L. V. The Role of China's Business Cooperation in Solving the DPRK Nuclear Issue.

The Chinese economic activities toward the North Korea have gained the former country a considerable sway over the latter's economy. They have also lead to the Chinese enterprises' monopolization of the North Korean foreign trade. As a result, the DPRK has found itself in the situation of economic dependence on the neighbor. It has lead to increasing Beijing's political clout on the Korean Peninsular and to strengthening the bilateral government-to-government and party-to-party ties.

Keywords: *China – the DPRK – trade and economic ties – investments – the Korean Peninsula* 104

New Eurasia

Kuzmina E. M. The Issues of Central Asian Regional Economic Unity.

The article deals with issues and opportunities of building a common economic area in Central Asia. The author observes some positive developments in the regional international relations that would approach its possible formation. She analyses the national strategic development programs and macroeconomic parameters of the Central Asian countries. Their mutual trade and investments, as well as regional labor migrations are studied in the article.

Keywords: *Central Asia – national foreign policy strategy – demarcation and delimitation of state borders – hydro-energy – mutual trade – mutual investments – labor migration* 116

Likhachev M. A. Kazakhstan-Turkey Bilateral Cooperation within the Context of Astana-Moscow Strategic Partnership.

Kazakhstan's government has long embraced the so called multiple-vector foreign policy, balancing between the major regional and global powers. While declaring

the Russian vector to be a strategic priority, Astana simultaneously has been pursuing a deep and multi-pronged interaction with Turkey since Kazakhstan's independence.

Keywords: *Kazakhstan-Turkey bilateral relations – Pan-Turkish integration – Turkish-speaking world – Turkey's leadership – Russia-Turkey bilateral relations* 131

Economy

Milovidov V. D. Double Ten: the Lost Decades or the Found Trends of the Russian Financial Market.

The article presents a summary of the Russian financial market's development through the 20-year period since the 1998 crisis. The author makes a comparison of the U.S. and Russian financial markets, revealing their common tendencies and the Russian specificity. The article contains an analysis of some recent shifts in preferences of retail financial services consumers.

Keywords: *financial market – crisis – national wealth – financial assets – auto-follow – market indices – financial engineering – capitalization* 149

Dodonov V. U. Comparing National Economies by Their Position in International Institutional Quality Rankings with Corresponding Foreign Investments Inflows.

The article tests a correlation between a country's position in international institutional quality rankings and its FDI stock. The author compares countries' advancements in the World Bank's Doing Business ranking, the Global Competitiveness Index, and the Index of Economic Freedom, on the one hand, and their FDI stocks alterations, on the other hand. The aim of this study is to test a hypothesis of correlation between institutional development and investment attractiveness of a national economy, basing on the recent decade statistics. The author proposes a loss of the aforementioned correlation, which exhibits in a lack of sizable FDI inflows to counties-leaders of the rankings.

Keywords: *institutions – foreign direct investments – the Global Competitiveness Index – the Index of Economic Freedom – the Ease of Doing Business* 170

Pertseva S. U., Kopylov D. A. The Basics of Fintech Industry and Implementation of Its Principles in the Case of Payments and Transfers Segment.

The article presents a theoretic basis for new financial technologies exploitation and an evaluation of their impact on conventional financial institutions.

The authors analyze peer-to-peer systems, as well as big subjects' decisions. They provide some recent examples and mechanism of fintech-decisions practice in payments and transfers segment. The Bank of Russia's program of the national transition to digital economy is also evaluated here.

Keywords: *fintech – p2p – digitalization – payments – API – NFC* 186

History

Troshin N. N. The Continental Blockade's Economic Consequences for Russia (1806–1814).

Napoleon's Continental Blockade, designed to struggle against England, had made a collateral impact on Russia's economy. The author calculates the terms of trade index and relative prices indices for a number of imported goods. The analysis shows that, following the shock caused by England's countermeasures, the Russian export prices resumed rising with an acceleration outpacing the import prices. Herewith, the import commodities' (granulated sugar and raw cotton) appreciation lagged behind the finished goods one, which resulted in favorable conditions for import substitution. Moreover, good opportunities for transit trade development emerged.

Keywords: *the Continental Blockade – economic sanctions – terms of trade index – relative prices – import substitution* 196

Reviews

Surguladze V. Sh. The Precariat – the New Revolutionary Class of the Information Age: the Global Labor Market Transformation and Its Socio-Economic and Political Repercussions.

Book review: *Standing G.* The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class / Guy Standing. Moscow: Ad Marginem Press, 2014. 328 p.

Keywords: *precariat – network economics – labor market – deindustrialization – tertiary sector of economy – globalization – social and professional identity – socio-cultural transformation – labor sociology – social relations* 210

Komissina I. N. The "Titan of History"'s Vision of the World Future.

Book review: *Yew Lee Kuan.* My Vision of the World Future / Lee Kuan Yew ; transl from English. Moscow : Alpina Non-Fiction, 2017. 446 p.

Keywords: *China – the USA – Europe – Middle East – Asia* 228

Ermakov S. M. The United States' Big Stick:
the Past Experience and Prospects for Its Revisiting.

Book review: *Cohen E.A.* The Big Stick: the Limits of Soft Power
and the Necessity of Military Force / Eliot A. Cohen. N.Y. :
Basic Books, 2017. 304 p.

Keywords: *the USA – the New World Order – military power – foreign policy –
China – threats – Russia – deterrence – terrorism 232*

Article submission guidelines for publishing
in the "Problems of national strategy" journal **237**