

The networks as a new forms of international interaction

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Abstract – This article is devoted to the problem of modern treatments of the system of international relations, attention is paid to its network measurement. It's analyzed the types of international networks and shown tendencies of transformation of the international interactions from the international anarchy with the priority of the state sovereignty to the horizontal cooperation on the branch self-government. It's identified that the network of the international relations causes the changes of the types of actors and the structure of the international system from the superstates to the branches in the network structure of the international relations.

Key words – international relations, international system, networks, intergovernmental networks, high level forums, networks of networks.

I. Introduction

The transformation of international relations is the process of changing the quantity of its members that eventually leads to qualitative changes in the structure of the international system. Therefore, the international system is constantly changing, moving from state to state, from one type to another.

In this context it is worth mentioning the concept of Art. Hoffman, who, analyzing the late trends in international relations, takes into account such factors as the increasing number of states, the growing role of non-state actors that are the building blocks of the structure of the international system and they put under control a significant part of the resources of the state, increasing interdependence; changing the balance between economic and military capabilities, etc. Therefore, the researcher followed the trend of the new hierarchical structures in the international system. When from the beginning the hierarchy of the international system was based solely on force factor, now there is an influence on economic, energetic, military, ideological, socio-cultural and other factors. In the terms of interdependence between the competition it is still remaining, but the prospect of their relationship is primarily associated with the strategy of solidarity and cooperation. Thus, under this concept Art. Hoffman rejects the notion of "pole", which is inherent to international relations, the main regulator of the law was the balance of power, and uses the concept of "center of power", which indicates the existence of a network of various hierarchy structures.

II. The network relationships and its types

Thus, the transformation of the international system is a permanent change in its quantitative and qualitative characteristics of each stage of historical development. Today, the researchers are analyzing a new parameters

that affect the functioning of the international system, and they are changing the ratio of its structural components.

Some researchers analyzing the status and trends of contemporary international relations argue that the structure of relations in the international sphere begins to lose its systemic features and acquires the character of network [4, s. 42]. The largest contribution to the development of a network of research in global politics has made E. Slaughter, who in her book "New World Order" (2004) offered a hypothesis about the network structure transformation of international relations [6].

The network, according to the scientists, is a collection of public and private entities in a particular policy area, which interact with each other based on a resource dependence, in order to achieve a common agreement by formal and informal standards on different issues that many people are interested in. It is believed that spiritual values, ideas, beliefs, identity are an important part of the networks that define its character.

Typically for networks are the mutually beneficial exchange of resources between the participants that leads to a high degree of interdependence between them. An important role is played by the existence of a cooperative interest that is opposed to personal interest that is inherent in a market economy. The network organization envisages a lack of hierarchical relations that can replace the relationships that preclude the subordination of actors and contribute to the formation of the "culture of consensus".

Other researchers interpret the network as a set of independently operating separate "nodes", which are interconnected with their relationships that are characterized by fragmentation and the lack of a stable hierarchies. Each "node" can be associated with many other "nodes" that act individually and independently. Hence, the main characteristics of the network are decentralized and fragmented. The researchers call it like a network of international criminal groups (terrorist groups, networks of international drug and human trafficking). Such organizations can not be removed because they have no ruling power and components are so loosely coupled and independent, that the elimination of some of them will not interfere with the functioning of others [4, s. 49].

E. Slaughter shares the network relations on the horizontal (between the line ministries and the national agencies of the same level) and vertical (the cooperation between national agencies and industry supranational international organizations). Another kind is so-called disintegrated international organizations. In the international institutions, in which the relationship is partially supported through the inter-ministerial communication, and partly through the interaction of groups that are not associated with the state apparatus.

E. Slaughter refers the inter-parliamentary and intergovernmental networks to a higher level and identifies the following varieties:

1. intergovernmental networks that operate in the structure of international organizations (the relations within NATO (Ministers of Defence), WTO (Chapter commercial departments), IMF (ministers of finance), their members regularly lead a meetings and the results of these meetings are taken into account in the following

construction of national policy or are recognized in the international agreements;

2. in formal forums are in the highest level (Group of Eight, Group of Twenty, that functions in the form of annual summits, and in this process it is produced a common approaches to global problems, arranged the contradictions between parties, also there are consultations between the leaders of the major states);

3. "Network of networks" (OSCE), that function as a set of inter-sectoral networks of different ways.

Conclusion

Thus, the adherents of the network approach believe that the current trends of world development is that the state is no longer monolithic, but split into a separate functional bodies, which are directly (without the mediation of the central government) go into the international arena and become nodes of the networks that consist with similar power of other states. This interaction may occur through supranational institutions (such as EU) in the terms of international organizations, in the form of direct cooperation of ministries and departments and on the basis of interpersonal political figures communication, etc. [4, s. 49].

In the terms of the network approach to the analysis of international relations states, in particular, about the changing of the organizing principle of the international interactions, about the transition from international anarchy with the prerogative of national sovereignty to horizontal cooperation, that is based on the self-government industry and also about the change of the

types of international actors and the structure of international system - from states to branch offices with the loss of a single superpower prominent place in the network structure of the international relations.

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