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Abstract

The modern system of international security and the doctrine of the balance of power is going through a difficult period of exacerbation of geopolitical contradictions associated with a new redistribution of zones of influence. As a result of these processes, a significant increase in instability is observed in many regions, which actualizes the problem of the military security of states. Despite the global transformations of the world system, the potential of military force is still considered one of the most effective factors in world politics.

The emergence of new technologies of confrontation, the expansion of the range of possibilities for destructive influence through peaceful means, primarily of an informational nature, require revision and modernization of the UN security system. It is necessary to take measures to counter threats of an information nature, the object of which is both military infrastructure and public consciousness. In connection with the emergence of a new information reality, the study of the specifics of the military security system of modern countries is of great civilized significance.

Since 2014, the UN structure and collective security have faced serious geopolitical challenges and threats due to the revival of its key role in the system of international relations, its desire to restore the international law of peace and security. Obviously, in the conditions of the new reality in modern wars, preference is given to both military and non-military technologies, the parallel use of which has a powerful destructive potential for communicative and informational impact on public consciousness, carried out with the help of cyberspace, social networks, the media and the Internet. Because of this, geopolitical actors today prefer hybrid methods of war, as well as the widespread use of information technology capabilities to inflict damage on the enemy. In this context, the totality of modern geopolitical challenges and threats in the new information reality can be characterized as a hybrid war, which includes a wide range of actions aimed at destroying all spheres of the rival country's social life.

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Hybrid wars today are becoming the main tool of geopolitical confrontation, which actualizes the search for countering such threats. If earlier military security was limited solely to quantitative indicators of the country's combat capability, then in the new information reality, the country's military security strategy requires different approaches to the development and implementation of measures to organize the country's security system and take into account the specifics of its various segments. Thus, the total militarization of the world system, the aggravation of numerous contradictions that entail protracted conflicts, place increased demands on the UN system and the country's military security.

In this book, the author considers the armed forces of the state not only as the most important institution of public authority, but also as a social institution that ensures the sustainable development of society. In this understanding, the armed forces are, along with the state, an actor in ensuring the military security of society (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 9-22, 23-41). An analysis of theoretical approaches indicates that various directions have developed in the study of military security, which offer their own methodological foundations for understanding this problem. In modern scientific knowledge, sufficient attention is paid to the issues of military security of states, the most theoretically developed are aspects related to individual structural elements of the military security system (strategic, political, technological, social, etc.).

In modern international conditions, many political contradictions are aggravated, new threats and challenges to peace and security on the planet appear, and the geopolitical confrontation between leading international actors makes it difficult to solve the problems of sustainable development of the world as a whole. In this regard, the significance and role of the UN as the leading world organization and global political institution is growing (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 43-63, 65-85, 89-100). The states of the planet pin their hopes on the UN as an institution that is able to stop destructive processes, fairly regulate relations between nations, prevent conflicts on the planet, promote global sustainable development and the lagging economies of individual countries. The UN is criticized for outdated practices and structures, for inadequate responses to modern challenges and threats, for a decline in authority in world affairs, and for the lack of legitimacy of decisions made. These questions and problems testify to the crisis of the UN and require a deep scientific analysis, as a result of which it is necessary to get answers to the identified questions and try to develop specific measures to improve the activities of the UN and eliminate justified shortcomings (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 101-122,125-142). Changes in the UN are overdue, but since the submission of documents on reform projects in 1993, nothing has fundamentally changed in the organization. For the third decade now, the most important, pivotal organ of the organization of the Security Council has not been reformed. Throughout this time, serious attempts to resolve this issue have been made several times, but no results have been achieved. The acuteness of the problem is added by intrastate armed conflicts, respectively, the mechanism for the settlement of which is not spelled out in the UN

Charter. Due to such conflicts, the volume of armed violence in the world does not decrease. Therefore, in connection with the general deterioration of the world situation and the high importance of the UN in world politics, it seems relevant to subject the activities of the UN system to political analysis, to find a political explanation for the existing problems and contradictions (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 143-167).

Global sustainable development programs that are promoted through the UN are gaining popularity on the world agenda. However, tangible results in solving many social and economic issues have not been achieved. The problem of underdevelopment of a significant number of countries and the gap between the levels of development of lagging economies in comparison with developed economies is not narrowing. In addition, this area of application of the efforts of the UN has not been sufficiently analyzed in scientific research, and an objective description of this type of activity has not been given.

The author makes a comparative analysis and identifies international structures, which include only the governments of sovereign states. The conclusion is substantiated that the multilateral nature of these organizations is both its disadvantage and advantage. The disadvantage is the difficulty in reaching agreement in making the necessary decisions, since the interests of the participating countries can strongly contradict each other, introducing disagreements in the formation of common positions. At the same time, if an agreement is reached between the members of the organization, progressive decisions can be made and international measures can be developed that will positively affect a wide range of global international problems, issues and situations (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 169-172,173-175).

Developments in institutional theory and political realism offer various models for building military, political, and economic multilateral structures. Liberal institutionalism, critical theory and the theory of collective security as separate trends within the institutional paradigm shift the focus to those aspects of analysis that they consider more important and provide more explanatory opportunities for analyzing objective international reality (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 177-180). However, in reality, institutionalists prefer to bypass weaknesses in their theoretical constructions, but strengthen their developments of the economic aspects of the behavior of states in multilateral structures.

The author comes to the conclusion that the theory of political realism has the most complete explanatory possibilities, and states tend to join international structures for a certain time, until the possibilities to realize their national interest in them are exhausted. The theory of collective security, although it is considered as a desirable model for the interaction of states in matters of military and political security, is still subject to the influence of factors that weaken this mechanism and can lead the collective security system to become ineffective. The balance of power model stands out as the most realistic, as it is consistent with the idea of a multipolar world order, which is promoted by the UN at the international level. In the context of the problem of the struggle for international peace and security, the author considers the possibilities for the international community in maintaining peace on the planet. It is noted that many contradictions and interests of states, as the main actors of politics, woven into the fabric of international interactions, turn the UN Security Council into a platform for the struggle for influence on the adoption of certain decisions on security issues. An attempt is made

to identify the most important and promising areas for reforming the Security Council and adjusting the UN approaches in peacekeeping practice.

Regarding the transformation of the UN approaches in the field of peacekeeping, the author consistently reveals the key attempts to update the UN approaches to peacekeeping issues (Werther-Pietsch 2022, 169-172,173-175). Based on the UN doctrinal documents on peacekeeping and modern theoretical developments on the problems of conflict resolution, the features of the changes proposed in the concept of the responsibility to protect are analyzed. This may have marked the beginning of two new UN approaches to peacekeeping: peacekeeping operations and post-conflict peacebuilding. Conceptually substantiates the need to strengthen the collective principle in the UN peacekeeping practice and a new understanding of the restoration of the foundations of life support in post-conflict territories, understood as something more than the absence of a state of war. It justifies the need to strengthen the leading role of the UN in resolving conflicts in cases where a negotiation process is possible, the need to strengthen responsibility for developing a specific political solution and initiative to formulate a compromise for the conflicting parties. The conclusion is substantiated that these political components of the conflict resolution process are a promising direction for adapting the UN peacekeeping system to changing world conditions. Obviously, reforming the UN in the 21st century means developing projects for changes in the organization in all areas of activity that will affect the entire complex of bodies, structural divisions and institutions of the UN system. A systematic approach will make it possible to embrace the changes of the UN as a global and universal international organization, as a multifunctional organism, taking into account the interconnection of key areas, while maintaining positive practices and carrying out the necessary innovations.

A comparative study of the problems of the UN contributes to the development of the theory of international relations in the section on international organizations as the second most important actors in world politics after states. Within the framework of new scientific developments, a more in-depth study of certain areas or problems of reforming the UN system is possible. The development of international politics is accompanied by the emergence of new contradictions and the exacerbation of old ones. The UN, as a universal organization, has unique powers and political influence on the outcome of conflict situations, the preservation of peace on the planet, and is largely able to promote development, provided that its approaches and practices are reformed.

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