

ABSTRACT

This thesis discusses Russian Foreign Policy in general and towards Chechnya, Georgia and Ukraine. Thus, the aim of the thesis is analyze and introducing Russian Foreign Policy after USSR's collapse and Russian attempts to regain USSR's former powerful status by dominating in East Europe and Caucasus. Therefore, Ukraine is taken to sketch out Russian Foreign Affairs in Eastern Europe and Georgia is taken to discuss Russian Foreign Affairs in Caucasus.

Furthermore, the condition of political stability in Russia since Boris Yeltsin until current president Vladimir Putin is spoken. Thus, how Russian Federation shapes its Foreign Policy and what kind of steps are taken to maintain Russian Federation as a powerful country is the core of research. Subsequently, Russia has got internal and external objectives which are assumed too vital to shape Russian Foreign Policy. In terms of internal dynamics the research gives explanation regarding centralized government supported by the FSB (Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation) which is the priority of Russian Federation's internal policy, maintaining stability in North Caucasus which is discussed in in the part of Russian-Chechen relations. Subsequently, modernization of army, energy, air force and defense industries includes one of the internal objectives of Russian Foreign Policy that is illustrated in the research.

Accordingly, the external objectives of Russian Federation that shape Russian Foreign Policy are based on fundamentally geopolitical issues which are vital for Russia's existence in the world map. Form the point of view, geography substantially matters for Russians. Thus, what the international community have been experiencing exhausting and harmful tensions in Caucasus and Eastern Europe are extremely related to geopolitical interests of Russia in definite



regions which have been being fought for since the first cold war began. Obviously, it is easily seen that USA and EU have got significant roles in the process of creation and conduct of Russian Foreign Policy in Post-soviet Area, especially in Georgia and Ukraine.

Thus, the thesis introduce to the readers the analyze of Russia's geopolitics in Eastern Europe and Caucasus which is related to NATO's expansionist policy that threatens Russian Federation and makes Russian leadership to take substantial steps to achieve Russia's long-term security. Thus, in the thesis the geopolitical fight in Ukraine and Georgia is discussed where Russia assumes and condemns Western Side to destroy stability in Eastern European Region and alerting pro-Russian governments in definite countries by colorful revolutions in order to change their Russian orientation to West. And, what Russian leadership has been doing or what kind of policy has been being taken by Russia to eliminate the process and gain its national interests in definite region is shown in the paper. Thus, the stick policy which includes EuroMaidan events in Ukraine, Russo-Georgia War and EuroAsian Union which is made by Russia to reform USSR in a modern way are spoken in the thesis in the part of Russia's external offensive policy. Additionally, the leverages such as economic, political leverages, "energy weapon" and "divide and rule" policy by making conflicts in Caucasus and Eastern European regions is explained in details.

Key words: divide and rule policy, energy weapon, geopolitics, buffer zones, leverages, internal and external dynamics, colorful revolutions, EuroMaidan, EuroAsian Union