

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

NATIONAL CULTURE AS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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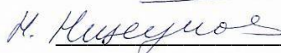
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INTRODUCTION

Relevance and degree of scientific development of the research topic. Azerbaijan is a unique owner and bearer of cultural heritage. In the modern world community, the activity of the state in the international arena acts, on the one hand, as a source of development of national culture, and on the other hand, as its result. Differences in the national cultures of states make each of them special, leaving their mark on both domestic politics and its international relations. National leader of Azerbaijani people Heydar Aliyev founded a new era of the development of national culture of Azerbaijan, strengthening its influence on the political processes. Nowadays the very concept of “national culture” as a phenomenon of international relations became the object of research at the end of the twentieth century as one of the key elements of international relations of the state. More accurate and detailed relevance of the chosen research topic can be listed below in the forms of thesis:

- The national culture of Azerbaijan is a significant factor in the formation of the national interests of the state, which underlies the foundation of its foreign policy. National culture is the basis for building and maintaining the cultural policy of the state, establishing an international image and forming the national role of the state. The indicators of national culture are its measurements, which are set individually for each state and can be used to explain and analyze certain tendencies and reactions of the actor.

- Considered from the standpoint of social constructivism, national culture is the basis for the actions and behavior of actors in the international arena. Existing concepts and theories of international relations point out only the indirect influence of culture on international relations. Therefore, in this dissertation, out of many existing theories and paradigms, the concept of social constructivism

was used, which considers culture as one of the main motives for constructing the reality of international relations.

- Thus, culture gives the state an identity, through the prism of which its interests are formed. And the interests of the state are at the core of foreign policy. States very often, interacting with other actors, do not feel this influence of culture, but nevertheless act on its motives.

- National culture is considered in the interaction of states with each other, but each of them interprets this relationship in different ways. The cultural characteristics of any state set a cultural framework, a kind of framework for the formation of international relations between the state and other actors of international relations.

- National culture is also a part of foreign policy since it shapes the cultural policy of the state. In general, the national culture of the state and its international relations are also closely intertwined with each other in the concept of the formation of state “branding”, that is, the formation of an image in the international arena.

- The international image defines the national role that the actor plays in international relations. This image sets the benchmark in foreign policy that the state follows to comply with it. The state can make decisions and act within the expected behavior. This influence is manifested in the formation of the concept of the national role of the state.

- In the contemporary world when our state ruled by the President Ilham Aliyev uses all its potential for promotion of national cultural values, this research helps to analyze theoretical context and conceptual basis for scrutiny of the role of national culture in the international relations.

The degree of scientific development of the problem. The thorough analysis of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan was scrutinized by scientists and political figures of Azerbaijan who have studied the culture and international relations of the state, among them are academician R. Mehdiyev, professor of History, culturologist F. Mammadov, ambassador F. Gurbanov, Doctor of Political Sciences of Cambridge University M. Ismayilov, political scientist E. Nuriyev,

who considered culture as a factor of influence not only on the external, but also on the internal policy of the country¹.

Particularly noteworthy are the works in the study of the national ideology and foreign policy of I. Mammedzade, A. Abbasov, N. Abbasov, F. Gasimzade, I. Huseynov, I. Pashazade², as well as the wellknown work on cultural studies by A. Shukurov, A. Khaqverdiev and N. Jafarov³. An important contribution was made by the works of M. Suleymanli, S. Mammadova, Gubadoglu, A. Tagiyev and F. Sultanov⁴. Approaches developed by them played an important role in the research of cultural studies.

In foreign academic literature, the relationship between culture and international relations of the state has been actively developed since the late 1950s. and most of the theoretical models in this area,

¹ Мехтиев Р. Современный Азербайджан как воплощение национальной идеи “Бакинский рабочий” 2011, 19 мая №90, С.18; Мамедов Ф. Т. Культурология (Вопросы теории и истории). Учеб. пособие, Баку, “Абилов, Зейналов и

² Мəммəздə İ. Мəдəниyyətлəр диалoqu və диалoq мəдəниyyəти, “Milli Zəka”, iyun-avqust 2014, 1 (s. 9-12); Abbasov Ə. Milli ideologiya birləşdirici mənasımlı kimi. (səh.182-193,) Milli strategiyalar, ideologiyalar və beynəlxalq münasibətlər: tarix, nəzəriyyə və müasir praktikalar mövzusunda keçirilən konfransın materialları. Bakı, “Elm və təhsil”, 2012, 752 s.; Abbasov N.Ə. elmi red. M. A. Süleymanlı. Mədəniyyət siyasəti və mənəvi dəyərlər, Bakı, “Təknur” MMC, 2009, 444 s.; Qasımzadə F. Bir daha kulturologiya məsələlərinə dair "Simurq" kulturoloji jurnal, 2008, № 1, s. 29-35; Hüseynov İ.H., Abbasov N. Milli ideyaların inkişafı naminə. “Mədənimaarif”, 2004, № 5, s. 9-12; Paşazadə İ. Mədəni irsə sədaqətlə. “Mütərcim jurnalı”, 2000, № 2, s.82- 84.

³ Şükürov A., Cəfərov N. və Haqverdiyev A. Kulturologiya (Dərslik). Bakı, “Aqilöglü”, 2003, 274 s.

⁴ Süleymanlı M.A. Müasir dövrdə mədəniyyət müəssisələrinin idarə olunması və iqtisadiyyatı (metodik tövsiyə). Bakı, “ADMİU”, 1996, 60 s.; Məmmədova S. Mədəniyyətşünaslıq. Bakı, “Kooperasiya” nəşriyyatı, 2001, 202 s.; Qubatoğlu B. Mədəniyyət tarixi. İki cildə, I cild. Bakı: “Nasir”, 2002, 338 s.; Tağıyev Ə., Əliyev Q. Kulturologiya (Dərs vəsaiti). Bakı, “Təbib”, 1997, 96 s.; Sultanov F. Yaranış. Mədəniyyət dünyası, VII buraxılış, Bakı, “ADMİU”, 2003, s.382-390.

including the very process of impact and influence of national culture on the formation of foreign policy vectors and the image of the state, remain very versatile and rather controversial.

сыновья”, 2002, 534 с.; Gurbanov F. All change in Azerbaijan Long before Eurovision, The Guardian, 21 May 2011, 22 June 2012; Nuriyev E. Azerbaijan's foreign policy strategy and national security concerns

http://www.cac.org/journal/2003/journal_eng/cac-04/02.nureng.shtml

The definition of the term “culture” is given by scientists in different ways. Professor at Harvard University C. Kluckhohn and famous American anthropologist A. Kroeber in their work “Culture: a critical review of concepts and definitions” considered more than 168 definitions of this term, although it is impossible to count the number of possible definitions for certain⁵. American scientists L. Falkowski (Princeton University), M. Brecher (Yale University), L. Pye (American Association of Political Scientists) talked about the influence of culture on the cognitive function of the consciousness of a decisionmaker⁶. Anthropologists and culturologists D. Cushman and S. King political scientist P. Cammack (University of Manchester) and politician L. Farrell noted the influence of culture on the technique of conflict resolution⁷. American politologists G. Almond and S. Verba

⁵ Kroeber A. L., Kluckhohn Charles F. (1952) Culture: a critical review of concepts and definitions. Papers, 47 (1). Cambridge, Mass.: Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology pp. 223

⁶ Falkowski L. (1978) Presidents, Secretaries of State, and Crises in U.S. Foreign Relations: A Model and Predictive Analysis. Boulder, CO: Westview pp. 151178; Brecher M., Steinberg B., Stein J. (1969) "A framework for research on foreign policy behavior." The Journal of Conflict Resolution, Vol. 13, No.1 (Mar. 1969), Published by: Sage Publications, Inc. pp. 75-101; Pye L. Political culture / International encyclopedia of social sciences. N.Y., 1968, vol. 12

⁷ Cushman D.P. and S.S. King Communication Organizational Culture from book Communicating Organizational Change: A Management Perspective edited by D.P. Cushman and S.S. King; State University of New York Press, Albany 1995

considered culture as an independent variable influencing the foreign policy of the state ⁸. American researchers of the concept of “national role” of the state K. Holsti, O. Holsti and R. Jepperson defined culture as a set of actions and reactions of the nation (action patterns) to certain situations of international life. R. Jepperson reinforced this con-

p. 340; Cammack P. Smart Power and US Leadership, 49 Parallel, An interdisciplinary Journal of North American Studies, Issue 22, Autumn 2008 Myth & Legacy pp.520; Farrell R.B. (ed.). Approaches to Comparative and International Politics. Evanston, Ill.: Northwestern University Press, 1966 p.368

⁸ Алмонд Г., Верба С. Гражданская культура и стабильность демократии.

Полис, “Политические исследования”, 1992, № 4, 122 с.

cept in the form of a concept related to national interests, security, and the behaviour of the state in response to external reactions⁹.

In the middle of the twentieth century, in addition to the basic concepts of international relations, many others began to appear, among which the metatheory of social constructivism stands out, which, according to T. Hopf, “promised to return culture to the fold of international relations”¹⁰. Was considered and studied a lot of works and theories on the problem of the influence of culture on changing priorities and foreign policy in the foreign policy of the state J. Legro, Ch. Hermann, M. Hermann¹¹.

In this study, on the effect aspect of national culture at international relations of the state and the role of culture on the state foreign policy a huge influence has the works of American professors of political science V. Hudson (University of Texas), P. Katzenstein (Princeton University)¹². Their view was derived on the fact that social constructivism is the only concept that presents culture as a system with elements, that affect the strategy and behavioral patterns on the environmental conditions. Scientific research of the Israeli school of political science B. Shaffer, Y. Lapid and F. Kratochvil¹³. The

⁹ Holsti K. J. National Role Conceptions in the Study of Foreign Policy / K. J. Holsti // *International Studies Quarterly*. – 1970. – Vol. 14, No. 3. – pp. 233–309; Holsti O.R. The Belief System and National Images: A Case Study // *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 1962. Vol. 6. pp. 244–252; Jepperson R., Wendt A., Katzenstein P. The culture of National Security pp.33-75 in the book of Katzenstein Norms, Identity and Culture in National Security p.562

¹⁰ Hopf T. The promise of constructivism, *International Security* Vol 23, N1, 1998, summer, The MIT Press, p.174

¹¹ Legro J. Culture and Preferences in the International Cooperation Two-Step, *American Political Science Review*, Vol.90, No 1 (March 1996) pp. 118-137

¹² Hudson V. M. <https://www.litres.ru/valerie-m-hudson/foreign-policy-analysis-2/>

¹³ Schaffer B. Culture and Foreign Politics from the book edited by Brenda Schaffer, P. Katzenstein and J. Lapida Limits of culture p. 350

research of Chinese scientists from the Shanghai Institute for International Research J. Majie, L. Jingsheng, G. Yaqing, S. Suyuan¹⁴.

The approaches and theories developed by them have played an important role in the study of culture. However, each scientist sees the study of culture as a factor in international relations in his own way, highlighting certain elements for his research. A more detailed and detailed description of the concepts of “national culture”, measurements of national culture and cultural codes of countries are contained in the books and works of G. Hofstede, M. Minkov and M. Bond¹⁵. From the scientific literature devoted to constructivism, a series of works by the most famous scientists who have studied constructivism and whose ideas were analyzed and used in this study by A. Wendt, N. Onuf, T. Hopf, I. Wallerstein¹⁶ should be highlighted.

The object of the research is the process of the impact of national culture on the international relations of Azerbaijan in the XXI century.

The subject of this research is the national culture of Azerbaijan as a factor in foreign policy relations and as a determinant of state actions in the international arena.

Research goal and objectives. The main goal of existing conceptual models of the effect of national culture on determinants of foreign policy is analysis of the role of national culture in the process of the development of international relations of Azerbaijan.

The practical goal is to analyze the structure of the national culture, which influences the formation of priorities and interests in foreign policy.

36; Yaqing Q. National Identity, Strategic Culture and Security Interests, p.211; Suyuan S. Collective identity and international politics in the book edited by Yu Xintian Cultural factors in IR, p.67-76

¹⁴ Majie, Z.; Xintian, Y. Contemporary Culture and International Relations // Cultural Impact on International Relations. Chinese Philosophical Studies, XX the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2002, p. 11; Jingsheng L. US values and Hegemonic Diplomacy International observation. Feb. 2001, pp.18-

¹⁵ Hofstede G. Cultures and Organizations: Software of the mind/Hofstede G., Hofstede I., Minkov M., London McCraw-Hill.p. 576

¹⁶ Wendt A. Anarchy in what states make of it: The social construction of Power Politics, International Organization, Vol.46, No.2, Spring 1992, p.187; Onuf N. Constructivism: A User's Manual Chapter 3 pp.157-183 Kubalkova V., Onuf N., Kowert P. (Eds.). International Relations in a Constructed World. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharp, 2015, p.232; Hopf T. Social Construction of International Politics: Identities and Foreign Politics, Moscow, 2002 Cornell University Press, p. 299; Валлерстайн И. Конструирование народа: раса, нация, этническая группа, Балибар Э., Валлерстайн И. Раса, нация

The implementation of this goal involves the solution of the following research tasks:

1. To group the main factors influencing the formation of the foreign policy of the state;
2. Identify the role of cultural components in determining foreign policy course and priorities;
3. Analyze the main models of the impact of culture on the foreign policy of the state and their significance;
4. Determine the significance of the national culture based on the studied theories and various concepts;
5. Show the main elements of the national culture;
6. Identify the dimensions of national culture (based on the concept of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov) for the Republic of Azerbaijan;
7. To study the influence of culture and its elements on the formation of foreign policy actions and a positive image of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the international arena;
8. Consider the activities of the government in the development of national culture at the international level;
9. Determine the formation of a national role based on the cultural factor and related foreign policy behavior of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The methods of the research: a social-constructivist approach, based on which the values of national culture determine the importance and significance of any subject, process or phenomenon in

international relations (A. Wendt, R. Jackson, G. Sorensen, N. Onuf); the principle of determinism, which allows to identify the main factors and consider the main determinants of the state's foreign policy (F. Briar and M. Jalili); the principle of consistency, according to which the main component of national culture determines and connects the national idea, ideology, identity, state behavior and its image on the world stage.

The research methodology consisted of: empirical methods - a sociological survey (based on the questionnaire of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov), conducted in order to calculate the main indices of indicators of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the statistical data of which were processed by a special program SPSS; analysis of expert assessments (by employees of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan), the results of which were processed and presented by the statistical program Tableau, event analysis of the largest international scale held in Baku; the comparative method, which made it possible to compare the values of the indices of indicators of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan with other countries based on the concept of G. Hofstede; system-functional method, which considers foreign policy as an active and holistic process, consisting of interrelated elements; the structural-functional method, made it possible to present a model of national culture and its structure in the development of international relations; general scientific theoretical methods of description, synthesis, generalization, deduction and induction in this study.

The scientific novelty of the research finds its expression in the fact that for the first time in the scientific practice of the Republic of Azerbaijan:

1. Developed a formula for the influence of the main variables that determine the foreign policy of the state;
2. The measurements of the national culture of various states by G. Hofstede and M. Minkov were analyzed, and based on the

data obtained because of the sociological survey, the indices of the measurements of value for the Republic of Azerbaijan were calculated for the 5 main dimensions of G. Hofstede, M. Minkov and M. Bond;

3. An attempt was made to determine the influence of national culture on the international image of the state in international relations through the values: Values - Idea - Identity - National Interest - Actions and behavior of an actor in the international arena - Image and authority of the country in the world arena - National role;

4. The analysis of the dynamics of the national culture of Azerbaijan at the present stage of development has been carried out;

5. Considered the existing basic models of interaction between culture and international relations;

6. Identified priorities and changes in the foreign policy of Azerbaijan in the XXI century, associated with cultural processes.

The theoretical significance of the dissertation is:

1) Obtaining new theoretical data for a deeper analysis of the phenomenon of national culture;

2) The study of various theories and paradigms that consider the impact of national culture on foreign policy;

3) The development of theories and concepts of the study of the role of national culture in the foreign policy of the state;

4) filling the gap in the existence of indices for measuring the values of the national culture of Azerbaijan based on the concept of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov.

The practical significance of the dissertation lies in the fact that the content of this dissertation, analysis of the models of the impact of culture on international relations, the formula of the derived basic determinants of the foreign policy of the state, the obtained indices for measuring the values of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the results of the interview can be used in predicting and analyzing foreign policy reactions and actions of the state, research of its national culture and analysis of foreign policy. Also, the material is suitable for the preparation of training courses in sociology, political science, cultural studies and the theory of international relations.

The main provisions for the defense:

1. National culture is one of the determinants influencing the formation of the national interest of the state, whereas national interest determines the priority in the foreign policy of the state.

2. The values of the national culture are embodied in the national idea and identity, which are reflected in the actions and behavior of the state in foreign policy. The actions and behavior of an actor in the international arena forms his image and strengthen his authority. National culture is important in shaping the image of the state in the world arena. The Azerbaijani national culture contains the potential in terms of the resource necessary to establish the image of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the eyes of the international community. The result of positioning the image of our country can be the formation of an attractive cultural and historical image of our country and the strengthening of its international authority.

3. The indices of the values of the national culture of Azerbaijan based on the concept of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov help to “measure” the national culture of Azerbaijan.

4. Events taking place in the culture of our country affect the foreign policy actions of the state in the international arena.

Approbation and application of research results.

The thesis was developed at the department of Political theories of the Institute of Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The main results were published at three international conferences abroad and in Azerbaijan. The content of this dissertation was also presented in seven articles in publications that are included in the list of journals recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Organization where dissertation was prepared is the Institute of Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Structure and number of characters in the dissertation. This thesis contains an introduction, three chapters, six paragraphs, a conclusion, a bibliography, and two appendices. Number of characters

(no spaces) of Introduction part is 20057, of Chapter I is 86797, of Chapter II is 38575, of Chapter III is 51910, of Conclusion is 11860. Total number of characters of the dissertation is 236859.

MAIN CONTENT OF WORK

In the Introduction of the dissertation, the relevance of the topic and the degree of its development are substantiated, the object and subject of research are indicated, the goal, objectives and methods of research are formulated, the scientific novelty is determined, the theoretical and practical significance of the work, its approbation and the structure of the research are presented.

The first chapter of the dissertation research – “The place and role of national culture in international relations of the state” considers the concepts of national culture, its main definitions, and shows the role of national culture in the structure of foreign policy formation of the environment and the main directions of international relations of the state.

In the first paragraph of this chapter – “The phenomenon of culture in the science of international relations: models of the impact of culture on the international relations of the state”, the existing concepts of international relations are considered, in which the concept of culture is touched upon in a marginal (insignificant) sense. This paragraph raises the question of how culture influences the foreign policy actions of an actor, and therefore considers the main component of national culture - values.

In addition, the main models of influence are highlighted, which consider the role of culture in international relations from different angles. These models have developed under the influence of scientific concepts and theories that consider the interaction and influence of culture on international relations.

Model 1. “Culture as the basis for material life”. This model is based on the concept of the American scientist, honorary member of the US National Academy of Sciences L. Harrison, outlined in his

book “Who Prospers? How Cultural Values Shape Economic and Political Success?”¹⁵. This model examines the influence of the national culture of the state on the degree of achievement of national success. The main connection between national culture and national achievements plays an essential role in determining the economic fate of the state and the nation, and, thus, affects their status and role in international relations.

Model 2. “Culture as a Cognitive Filter”. This model is developed based on the book by the American economist and political philosopher Th. Sowell “Race and Culture: A World View” (1995). This model determines the significance of culture through the cognitive prism of various cultural representations of the decision-maker.¹⁶ Cognitive ability is understood as the ability to think and make decisions but has nothing to do with the level of mental ability and intelligence of the leader.

Model 3. “Culture as an indicator of social and economic structure”. This model is fueled by the idea of F. Fukuyama, outlined in his book "Trust (Trust): Social Virtues and the Path to Prosperity. “Based on his concept, culture plays the main, dominant role in determining the economic success of the state. According to this model, economic reality is formed because of the influence of certain cultural characteristics and features, depends on human behavior and should be considered in the context of the cultural characteristics of political actors.¹⁷

Model 4. “Culture as the main source of conflicts”. This model was developed after the publication of the article and book “The Clash of Civilizations and the Transformation of the World Order” by the

¹⁵ Harrison L. Who Prospers: How Cultural Values Shape Economic and Political Success Paperback July 21, 1993, p.280?

¹⁶ Sowell Th. Race and Culture: A World View 1995, Basic books division of Harper Collins Publishers p. 352

¹⁷ Фукуяма Ф. Доверие. Социальные добродетели и путь к процветанию Москва: ООО “ Издательство АСТ”, 2004, 736 с.

famous American sociologist, political scientist and professor at Harvard University, author of the concept of ethno cultural division of civilizations, S. Huntington. The main hypothesis put forward by S. Huntington in the book “The Clash of Civilizations” is his assertion that the fundamental source of conflicts in the new post-war period will be between nations and groups of different civilizations. S. Huntington identifies 8 main civilizations: Western, Confucian, Japanese, Islamic, Indian, Slavic-Orthodox, Latin American and African. The fault lines between these civilizations will become the front lines of future conflicts in the future.

Model 5. “Culture as a catalyst of processes in international relations”.

According to Z. Majie, the uniformity and complementarity of world cultures gives a huge and inevitable impetus to the development of international relations of the state.¹⁸. In the modern era, the formation of democracies in many countries of the world, the diversity of ethnic groups and religions contribute to the fact that differences between different cultures result not in conflict, but in dialogue.

In addition to the above models, two of the most common and popular concepts considering the interaction of culture and international relations were considered: the concept of “Soft power” by J. Nye and the concept of “Social constructivism” by A. Wendt. The basis of soft power is attraction through skillfully constructed rhetoric, economic development and the availability of rich cultural resources. Strategic use of rhetoric or the creation of new rhetoric and symbols within the framework of promoting a certain image of the state allows the actor to embody his “soft power” in various ways: through economic attraction - investment; through scholarship programs - education; through sponsorship and subsidies issued to various humanitarian and non-governmental organizations - the

¹⁸ Majie, Z.; Xintian, Y. Contemporary Culture and International Relations // Cultural Impact on International Relations. Chinese Philosophical Studies, XX the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2002, p. 11.

development of the social sphere. According to constructivism, the state-actor through its discourse creates constructs that affect the behavior and actions of the state, its identity and the formation of its image. According to A. Wendt, it is constructivism that can most adequately argue the importance of culture in international relations and the foreign policy of the state since constructivism considers culture and the intangible context to be defining and fundamental¹⁹.

In this dissertation, it was social constructivism that was used as a theoretical and methodological approach since it was, he who singled out culture as a fundamental factor in influencing the international relations of the state.

The main conclusions of the first paragraph are:

- National culture forms a certain national character in the actor: traits of thinking, mentality, values, behavior that affect the actions and behavior of the actor, his reactions to other actors;

- National culture can influence the process of progress and strengthen the national power and power of the state, based on political, economic and cultural leadership;

- National culture also influences the formation of a certain image of the state - an image assigned to a given actor for a certain period. The image of a state is how this state is identified and perceived by other actors.

In the second paragraph - **“The place and role of culture in the foreign policy of the state”**, the main determinants of foreign policy, consisting of internal independent and external independent variables, are presented and analyzed. Internal explanatory variables include physical factors, structural factors, cultural factors²⁰.

¹⁹ Wendt A. Collective Identity Formation and the International State”, The American Political Science Review, Vol, 88, No.2 (Jun 1994), pp. 384-396

²⁰ Цыганков П. А. Международные отношения, Москва: “Новая школа”, 1996, 320 с.

The main idea of this concept is to show the close connection between the main factors and their impact on the foreign policy of the state. This scheme was presented in the form of the following formula:

$$P \approx \frac{Q + S + C}{M + A + R}$$

- P - Foreign policy of the state;
- Q - Geopolitical factor;
- S - Structural factor;
- C - Cultural factor;
- M - International system;
- A - Other actors, their actions;
- R - Resources;

The procedure for shaping foreign policy and making foreign policy decisions contained in this formula is expressed by a few factors, which, depending on conditions - for example, war or peace - act in different ways. Depending on the specific historical and social conditions, preference is given to internal or external factors.

In the second chapter – “Features of the cultural factor in the foreign policy of the modern Azerbaijan Republic” analyzed the theoretical and practical aspect of the very phenomenon of national culture.

In the first paragraph of the second chapter “Some aspects in defining national culture: concept and structure” some well-known concepts defining national culture were presented, but as the leading theoretical paradigm, the concept of G. Hofstede was analyzed in detail and outlined. The concept of J. Lovell was also considered and presented, explaining the role of national culture through the main

variables that determine foreign policy actions, orientations and reactions.

In the second paragraph of the second chapter “Analysis of measurements of indices of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the basis of the concept of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov: research and conclusions” the main indicators of measurement of indices of the national culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan were derived on the basis of the concept of G. Hofstede and M. Minkov on based on sociological survey and statistical analysis of data processing through special programs SSPS and Tableau. Data for all indicators PDI - Power Distance Index, IDV - Individualism, MAS - Masculinity, UAI - Uncertainty Avoidance Index, LTO - Long-Term Orientation, IVR - Indulgence Versus Restraint are shown below:

1. $PDI = 35 (m07 - m02) + 25 (m20 - m23) + C (pd)$
2. $IDV = 35 (m04 - m01) + 35 (m09 - m06) + C (ic)$
3. $MAS = 35 (m05 - m03) + 35 (m08 - m10) + C (mf)$
4. $UAI = 40 (m18 - m15) + 25 (m21 - m24) + C (ua)$
5. $LTO = 40 (m13 - m14) + 25 (m19 - m22) + C (ls)$
6. $IVR = 35 (m12 - m11) + 40 (m17 - m16) + C (ir)$

For the sociological study, Cronbach's alpha coefficient was calculated, which showed the percentage of variance in the response scale. The most common measure of the reliability of internal consistency is the determination of the Cronbach alpha coefficient. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was calculated in two ways: in the SPSS program and in the Microsoft Excel program. The result of calculations is measured on a scale from 0 to 1, and the closer the result is to 1, the more reliable the research result.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items
.750	.754	28

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{k}{k-1}\right)\left(1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_{y_i}^2}{\sigma_x^2}\right)$$

number of items/Qs	28.00
sum of item variances	27.04
variance of total scores	101.31
Cronbach's Alpha	0.75

Based on this excerpt from the conducted research we can conclude that Cronbach alpha was calculated by using software package e of SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences), and it's used by various kinds of researchers for complex statistical data analysis. In addition, the same results were double-checked in MS Excel. The results shown proves that reliability of the survey is acceptable since the result is lower than 1 and higher than 0, but bigger than 0.6.

Therefore, we can rely on the survey data to measure national cultural dimensions of Azerbaijan.

The third chapter “State policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the development of national culture at the present stage” examines the last 3 links of interaction of national culture on international relations of the state - image and authority, the national role of the state and foreign policy.

(Values → Idea → Identity → National Interest → Actions and behavior of an actor in the international arena → Image and authority of the country in the world arena → Formation of the concept of a national role).

It should be emphasized that the role of national leader of Azerbaijani people is enormous in the process of development of the

concept of “Azerbaijanism”. He founded not only the national idea, national ideology, but also national identity. Further modification of these concepts was done by the current President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev. As of 2006 the Ministry of Culture and Tourism along with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan officially started implementation of cultural policy of Azerbaijani Republic, as part of foreign policy to represent and position the country adequately abroad in the contemporary conditions of modernization of society. By the same token, corollaries of the development and promotion of national culture are traced in the activity of Heydar Aliyev Foundation headed by the First Vice-President, First Lady of Azerbaijan – Mehriban Aliyeva ²¹.

In the first paragraph of the third chapter “The influence of cultural elements on the image and status of Azerbaijan in the international arena” the concept of the national role of K. Holsti is considered, which defines the national role as the general behavior of the state and government in foreign policy. It includes a certain pattern, a set of repetitive decisions, responses, reactions, attitudes, actions and obligations in relation to other states. These patterns of typical actions are the national role of the state. This is a kind of idea about the orientations and actions of the state, which are formed by the leader who makes the decisions. Here the priority of the role over foreign policy is manifested, which is influenced by the national role and is determined by its purpose.²² To the same token, dissertation shows application of the researched concepts in the activities of Heydar Aliyev Foundation and great leadership examples of the President of this Foundation – first Vice-President of Azerbaijan and the First Lady of Azerbaijan – Mehriban Aliyeva.

²¹ Алиева Мехрибан “Культура и культурные шедевры Азербайджана - уникальное послание будущим поколениям”, под редакцией С. Мамедалиева, Баку: “Çinar Çap”, 2009, 798 с.

²² Holsti K. J. National Role Conceptions in the Study of Foreign Policy / K. J. Holsti // International Studies Quarterly. – 1970. – Vol. 14, No. 3. – pp. 233–309

Azerbaijan during the main stages of state formation process has passed several national roles, being a “satellite-state” during USSR period, however, after Heydar Aliyev returned to power in 1993 Azerbaijan has gained another national political role as a country where policy is in equilibrium and balance, so the new role of the country has become a state-balancer. Recently, Azerbaijan acted as a “state-member of the union” (UN, OSCE, Council of Europe) and sometimes has the role of the “state-leader of the union”, for instance in organizations like GUUAM and TURKSOY

In the second paragraph of the third chapter “Activities of the government of Azerbaijan in the development of national culture and its presentation in the international community” the main directions of the activities of the government and the head of state to promote the national culture are outlined. The main priorities of the cultural policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, headed by the President Ilham Aliyev, have also been studied. There are shown the main influences and manifestations of national culture in foreign policy actions and behavior of the state - as an actor of international relations in the international arena.

Based on the interview with representatives of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the following goals of the cultural policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan were determined:

1. Strengthening of national identity, preservation and enhance-ment of cultural heritage, as well as the all-round spiritual development of citizens;
2. Propaganda of one's national culture and its spiritual and material elements abroad;
3. a set of values and principles that determine the direction of an actor's actions in the international arena in the field of culture;
4. The formation among members of the international community of a correct and adequate image of the cultural heritage that the state possesses.

Thus, the significance of cultural policy depends on the values on which it is formed and how it develops.

The Conclusion summarizes the main provisions set out in 3 chapters of this dissertation research and lists the main conclusions by the author. The state, as one of the main actors in international relations, does not always have to follow the chosen discourse of its rhetoric. The national culture of the state helps the actor to expand foreign policy choices through the skillful use of identities. National culture, influencing the behavior of the actor in the formation of national interests, determines the alignment of priorities in the foreign policy of the state. National culture plays a key role, as it can penetrate and have an invisible influence on the development of the main variables in the formation of foreign policy. Measurements of national culture are relative since it is impossible to measure an intangible concept. Foreign policy, authority and positive international image of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the international arena are the result of hard work and efforts of the government of Azerbaijan. At the same time, the formed image of the country contributes to the strengthening of relations with other countries in the economic, political and other spheres. National values, national idea and identity are the main elements of culture that significantly influence foreign policy. Events in the field of culture of international scale have significantly increased the image of Azerbaijan and entailed changes in the identity and in some values of the national culture. The conducted sociological survey and interviews helped to substantiate and verify all the provisions put forward for defense.

Also in the work there are 2 appendices with research carried out for this dissertation.

The main provisions of the dissertation are reflected in the following publications of the author:

1. Культура как фактор, воздействующий на формирование внешней политики государства // “Elmi əsərlər” beynəlxalq elminəzəri jurnal, “Azərbaycan Milli Elmlər Akademiyası

Fəlsəfə, Sosiologiya və Hüquq İnstitutunun İnformasiya və Nəşriyyat şöbəsinin” nəşri, Bakı 2013, №11, 5 səhifə, 7785 işarə sayı, səh.107-111

2. Измерения национальной культуры государства по методологии Г.Хофстеде // “Geostrategiya” aylıqictimai-siyasi, elmipopulyarjurnalı, “Azərbaycan”, Bakı yanvar-fevral 2014 №1(19), 4 səhifə, 11173 işarə sayı, səh. 63–66

3. Конструктивистская концепция во внешней политике // “Тилея” научный вестник, Украинская академия наук, Всеукраинская общественная организация, “Видавництво”, Киев, Украина, выпуск, 2014 82, № 3, 4 səhifə, 10671 işarə sayı, səh. 416–419

4. Динамика культуры - как целостный процесс // “Sivilizasiya” elmi-nəzəri jurnalı, “Bakı Avrasiya Universitetinin” nəşri, Bakı, 2014, №5, 7 səhifə, 9278 işarə sayı, səh. 154–160

5. Национальная культура Азербайджанской Республики во внешнеполитических связях // “Sivilizasiya” elmi-nəzəri jurnalı, “Bakı Avrasiya Universitetinin” nəşri, Bakı 2015, №1, 7 səhifə, 9430 işarə sayı, səh. 18–24

6. Механизм воздействия культуры на внешнюю политику государства // “Коллекция научных статей на тему актуальных проблем философии, культурологии, психологии, педагогики и истории” конференция Национального педагогического университета имени М.П. Драгоманова, кафедра культурологии, Гуманитарный корпус, “Винница Нилан ЛТД”, Киев 2016, Выпуск 7, 4 səhifə, 6319 işarə sayı, səh. 35–38

7. Национальная культура – как показатель развития и процветания: деятельность правительства по продвижению национальной культуры // “Achievements and problems in the field of social sciences in the modern world” International scientific and practical conference: Institute of Philosophy of Azerbaijan National

Academy of sciences,” The Republic of Azerbaijan”, Baku, Dekabr, 2018, №14, 3 səhifə, 9676 işarə sayı, səh. 137-139

8. Анализ измерения индексов национальной культуры Азербайджана // “Geostrategiya” aylıq ictimai-siyasi, elmi-populyar jurnalı, “Azərbaycan”, Bakı, noyabr-dekabr 2018, №06 (48), 4 səhifə, 9831 işarə sayı, səh. 70-73

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