

PROSPECTS OF COOPERATION OF UZBEKISTAN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ORGANIZATION OF TURKIC STATES

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ABSTRACT: - This article details the cooperation of Uzbekistan within the framework of the Organization of Turkic States, important initiatives and proposals put forward by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev within the framework of the organization. Promising directions for the development of relations with the member states of the Organization of Turkic States were also identified.

KEYWORDS: Organization of Turkic States, foreign policy, diplomacy, initiative, pandemic, prospective directions, memorandum, international organizations, ratification.

INTRODUCTION

It should be noted that a number of cardinal changes have taken place in the foreign policy of Uzbekistan in recent years. In addition to the fact that bilateral relations of our country with neighboring and foreign countries are being brought to a new level, the authority of international organizations is being strengthened and increased.

On September 14, 2019, Uzbekistan became a full member of a new international organization by ratifying the Nakhichevan Agreement on the establishment of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking Countries. The accession of Uzbekistan to the Organization of Turkic States (OTS) is an important and historic step in the multilateral diplomacy of the republic.

THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

OTS was established on October 3, 2009 at the meeting of the leaders of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey in Nakhichevan, Azerbaijan. Since 2018, Hungary is an observer state in this organization. The main goal of the organization is to develop mutual cooperation in all directions

between the Turkic-speaking countries based on the commonality of history, culture, language and other closely related traditions.

From the first days of Uzbekistan's membership in the OTS, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev put forward a number of proposals and initiatives to further develop mutual relations within the organization and bring it to a new level.

In particular, at the 7th Summit of the leaders of OTS member states held in Baku on October 15, 2019, our President put forward proposals for the establishment of technological parks, innovative start-up companies and venture funds, as well as the joint investment fund and the opening of trading houses in the OTS countries.

A number of negotiations and meetings are regularly held between the leaders and experts of the official ministries and agencies of the OTS member states regarding the implementation of the above initiatives of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Today, the COVID-19 pandemic, which is shaking the entire world health care system and causing huge damage to the economies of countries, has not spared the OTS member states. In other words, the emerging epidemiological situation once again tested the strength of cooperation between OTS member states.

As one of the first international organizations to prevent this global threat and eliminate its negative consequences, on April 10, 2020, an extraordinary meeting of the leaders of OTS member states was held in the form of a video conference on the topic "Solidarity and cooperation in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic". Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO) T.A. Gebreyesus also participated in this high-level event and emphasized that this event is of great importance in the fight against the pandemic within the OTS.

During this event, as a result of the initiatives put forward by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the fight against the pandemic, a Coordinating Committee for the fight against the pandemic was established within the Organization in order to expand cooperation between the health institutions of the OTS member states and exchange experience in the treatment of the coronavirus.

Also, on September 11, 2020, at the initiative of Uzbekistan, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the World Health Organization and OTS was an important step in the development of mutual cooperation with OTS and the world community in the field of health.

In addition, cooperation in investments, tourism, customs, agriculture and other fields is developing in the republic. A number of events with the participation of leaders and experts of involved ministries and agencies of OTS member states indicate that mutual relations are rapidly developing. On October 5, 2019, a meeting of the OTS Business Council and an Investment Forum were held in Tashkent. About 300 representatives of the business circles of OTS member states took part in the events.

The holding of this event in our country is a direct logical continuation of the reforms being carried out in the field of entrepreneurship and small business support in our country.

In addition, it should be noted that Uzbekistan maintains cooperation relations with the International Turkish Cultural Organization (TURKSOY), the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking countries (TURKPA) and the International Turkish Academy (ITA) operating under the auspices of OTS.

In particular, in 2020, Khiva was declared the capital of Turkish culture, and a number of international cultural events were held in cooperation with TURKSOY.

The participation of the Chairman of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan T. Narboeva in the ninth plenary session of the TurkPA, held in Baku on December 17, 2019, in order to develop legislation and expand inter-parliamentary relations, indicates the development of relations with the OTS countries in all areas.

Based on the above, we can consider Uzbekistan's cooperation within the OTS as promising in the following areas:

First, cooperation in the field of cultural, humanitarian and health care - linguistic and cultural closeness between the member states of the Organization, mutual brotherly relations between peoples prepares the ground for the development of cooperation in this field. The agreements reached within the framework of the Organization in the field of health and the mechanisms developed in the fight against the situation caused by the pandemic and its consequences serve to ensure the effectiveness of cooperation in this field.

Secondly, cooperation in the field of transport - all OTS member states are countries with their own transit potential in the field of transport. Development of mutual cooperation in this field will play an important role in increasing the potential of Uzbekistan as a transit and transport corridor in the transportation of international goods, export of manufactured national products abroad and opening of new markets.

Thirdly, cooperation in the field of investment and trade - taking into account the geographical proximity of the member states of the organization, making investments in promising projects, developing mechanisms that help to develop mutual trade relations.

Based on the stated information, today's mutual cooperation within the OTS will be one of the most active directions in the field of multilateral diplomacy of Uzbekistan in the future.

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