The Middle East Region: Strategic Importance, Geopolitics and Current Problems of Modern Security

Murtalibova M. M.
Lecturer branch Federal Agency for Fisheries, Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution higher education, "Astrakhan State Technical University", Branch of the federal state budgetary educational institutions of higher education

Abstract: The Middle East is the west and south of Asia including the regions in the western and northeastern parts of Africa. There are Egypt, Sudan, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Iraq, Israel, Palestine Autonomy, Cyprus, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, Oman, Yemen, Qatarsuch countries and emirates are located in the Middle East. In the Westliterature the region of the Middle East Iran and Afghanistan considered as Middle East. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the Ottoman concept of the Middle East Turkempire, including the Balkans is also included in the Middle East. It can be seen that the region of Middle East is inextricably linked with the neighboring countries, not only the neighboring countries, but also the leading countries of the world benefit from this region.

Keywords: the UN General Assembly, the Middle East, the European Union, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Yemen, Sudan.

Introduction. It is known that the problem of ensuring regional security in the Middle East region is extremely urgent. Historically, this region is the leader in the number of crisis and conflict situations. The main reason for "leadership" is the lack of special tools for maintaining stability in these regions, as well as the lack of a general security system that has not been formed in the region [1]. For a long time, the region of Middle East has been the center of concentration of threats to international security. The problems arising from the countries of this region are not only Near East but also it endangers the security of Eastern countries and the whole world. The most urgent threats are terrorism, internal and interstate conflicts, mass includes the threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction [2]. It is a field of struggle for the leadership of different countries. The political specificity of the Middle East region is that there are several centers of power in the region that are equal to each other in terms of political and economic potential. However, their contradictions are so deep and fundamental that they make it practically impossible for the states of the region to co-exist on a conflict-free basis. Therefore, on the one hand, the region is in constant tension, on the brink of war and peace, and on the other hand, it attracts the attention of major international players who are making serious diplomatic and military efforts to maintain relative stability in the region and take advantage of the center of world hydrocarbon production. [3]. Currently, in the Middle East, researchers identify three countries that claim the role of regional leader: Turkey, Iran and Saudi Arabia. The main non-regional players in the Middle East are the United States and the European Union, represented by France, Germany and the United Kingdom, as well as Russia and China. These countries are in the region pursue different interests in conducting their policy and create different regional situations (Iraq- Iran's nuclear program, Syrian conflict). This, the layering of interests of regional states has the potential for great conflict as well as the competition of extra-regional powers. [4] The religious and political conflict between Shia Muslims and Sunni Muslims should also be included among the problems of the Middle East.

In recent years, the differences between Shiites and Sunnis have come to the fore, as they significantly affect the regional security of the Middle East region. At the same time, the Sunni-Shia conflict is considered by a number of authors from the perspective of the conflict between Saudi Arabia and Iran, which traditionally claim leadership in the Sunni and Shia world. In pursuit of their national interests, Saudi Arabia and Iran use the existing religious contradictions between the two main streams in Islam to give a political color to religious differences [5] It should be said that at the current stage of international relations, the conflict between Sunnis and Shiites is the most prominent manifestation of the religious factor in international relations is an example [6]. The mass oppression is one of the Shia and Kurds, who make up the vast majority of the population, by the Ba'athist rule. At that time, they faced mass repression for any protest. However, the reason for this was not the classical ethnic or confessional antagonism. The main reason is the dominant paradigm "homoideologicus" [6], which meant cleaning the political space from those who do not correspond to the ideology introduced by the directives. Thus, the Kurds did not fit into the ideological construction of pan-Arabism because they defended other, non-Arab rights, and the Shi'a were challenged to claim a religious identity that went beyond the principle of an "Arab nation." There, the activities of the terrorist group "Islamic State", banned in Russia, play an important role, their actions are now only rituals imposed by the Islamic State, not against opponents, but against supporters of the faith, as well as Sunni Muslims or is insufficient or absent according to the order of those who follow the norms of conduct. Non-proliferation and disarmament in the region are also important for regional security. Of course, the nuclear programs of Iran and Israel play a key role here. Recall that Israel has never joined the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and Iran has been accused of violating it several times. In addition, in the realities of the Middle East region, there is a risk of obtaining weapons of mass destruction by terrorist or radical groups. If the most countries are nuclear, if it uses the potential as a deterrent element, terrorist organizations, free from the norms of international law and not bound by the obligations of international treaties, it can be used against their opponents. Currently, the region is politically very complicated. Many attempts by the world community to resolve various conflicts, as well as to create a stable system of regional security, did not lead to any significant results, which exacerbated existing threats and created new crises.

XX century the political situation that arose in the Middle East at the turn of the 11th century was primarily related to serious changes in the entire system of international relations, and was determined by such factors as the politics of these countries. The competition of extra-regional powers and the external factor often played a decisive role here. In a bipolar world during the Cold War the Arab political elites, who managed to get used to work and even learned to benefit from it, had to adapt to new geopolitical events. However, global changes have not brought peace and harmony, and unresolved regional conflicts, local wars, resource struggles, and incessant religious and ethnic conflicts have resulted. At the same time, the collapse of the bipolar system revealed a number of long-standing deep contradictions. The trend of systemic complexity of the modern world has been identified, which is observed at the global and regional levels. New threats have appeared, such as international terrorism, organized crime, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, drug trafficking, illegal migration, man-made and environmental disasters, and others. In this regard, there is a need to create effective mechanisms for controlling conflict and crisis areas. However, influential international organizations and regional integration structures in the prevention and resolution of crises, international security and stability are evidenced by the events that have occurred in recent years, primarily in the Middle East.

In addition, we can see that the West's efforts to establish its values of democracy and liberalism as universal in the countries of the East, including the Arab world, while equalizing the original ways and hard faiths, as well as maintaining military forces. There, political superiority, strengthening of economic position, creates natural resistance. In other words, international

relations are threatened not by the clash of civilizations, but by the weakening of the principles of civilization, to which the West itself is now making a significant contribution. A well-known American expert, head of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, E.Kh. Cordesman says that the real problem is not the "clash of civilizations" between the West and the Islamic world, but the conflicts within the Arab-Islamic world itself. Here comes the question: the Middle East is traditionally high on conflict stands out. This is one of the regions of the world saturated with crisis situations and military confrontations. The global character, scope, duration, broad involvement of various political forces, which are relevant to international and regional security interests, lead to the active use of extremely negative consequences (aggravation of the situation in the region, an arms race, suspicion and mistrust of interstate relations). These are distinctive signs of conflict situations in the region. Serious problems for the security of the region are caused by ethnic and religious conflicts, but with negative political consequences, and a general destabilization of the situation is emerging. The most striking examples of this are: "Lebanese Knots" - the long-lasting political crisis in the country, which attracted many Arab and non-Arab forces into its orbit; the unresolved Cypriot problem, that is, the conflict between the two main communities of the island - the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots; the Kurdish movement is literally disturbing countries like Iraq, Turkey, Iran, along with the unstable situation in Afghanistan, the Sunni-Shia conflict in Iraq, etc. internal political conflicts in the region since the 1990s are on the rise, some of them international. Collision resulting in large numbers of civilian casualties in Algeria, Yemen, Sudan and Syria. In addition, experts say that the active phase of any conflict in the Middle East, which is in the latent phase its passage leads to the risk of tension in many, very different directions, activation and synthesis of several conflicting nodes at the same time. Thus, the international community is also Arab-Israeli cannot solve the most complex and multifaceted problem of conflict resolution. The wave of protests of the "Arab Spring" sweeping the region pushed back the Palestinian-Israeli road. However, in order to ensure regional security, the resolution of this conflict, which has been going on for a long time, must be based on an independent and internationally recognized legal basis, including the UN Charter, Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and relevant UN resolutions. Based on the principles of the UN General Assembly, the Madrid Conference of 1991, the Road Map, the Arab Peace Initiative, and so on. [9]. In the process of resolving crisis situations, any attempt aimed at unilaterally benefiting the opposing side will inevitably fail and become the next step in the escalation of the situation in the region.

This, zones of instability in the Middle East and there are igniting and threatening to become large areas. This gives rise to the conflictogenic features of this region, besides, according to a number of experts, the leading world powers (primarily the USA) and regional players (Saudi Arabia,Qatar)

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