

Abstracts and Keywords

Roman KIRSANOV

KOSYGIN-LIEBERMAN REFORM: HOW TO COMBINE PLAN WITH PROFIT AND BONUS

Abstract. *The economic reform of 1965 marks a special place among the numerous Soviet reforms. It was an attempt to balance the directive planning of the Center with some broadening of enterprises' rights. This was not a "reform for the sake of reform" as the quest of transformation was dictated by the need to overcome the growing economic difficulties and raise the effectiveness of the planning mechanism. The reform was elaborated with the participation of dozens of economic research institutions, it had good starting conditions and demonstrated its effectiveness in the first years of implementation. However, by the end of the 1960s. innovations in the economic sphere have slowed down significantly, with the tendency to restore the "pre-reform" methods of economic management. The available studies devoted to this reform cover in detail its activities, preparation, implementation and reasons for winding down, as well as its impact on the subsequent development of the country. The actual article focuses on the content of innovations in terms of their compliance with the socio-economic and political realities of their time and on their impact on the behavior of economic actors.*

Keywords: *Kosygin-Lieberman reform, profits, profitability, planning, funds for economic stimulation of enterprises.*

Natalia TRAVKINA, Vladimir VASILIEV

SUMMITS FOR DEMOCRACY AND THE COLLAPSE OF AMERICAN ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE LIBERAL-DEMOCRATIC RESTRUCTURING OF THE WORLD. PART 1

Abstract. *The article analyzes the origins and significance of the Summits for Democracy convened by the Democratic administration of J. Biden in Washington in December 2021 and March 2023. Their main purpose, as the authors point out, was to elevate the principle of political regimes change to one of the top priorities of American foreign policy in the context of United States' global confrontation with China and Russia. The Summits for Democracy were also conceived in the White House to strengthen Biden's domestic political position by demonstrating his influence as the leader of the "collective West" in the international arena. At the same time, the most important factor for such forums is the progressive decline in the attractiveness of the liberal-democratic system of values. With disarming frankness, the American president himself was forced to admit this trend. The latter is also recognized by the leading Western centers studying the dynamics of political regimes on a global scale.*

Keywords: *Summits for Democracy, J. Biden administration, regime change, democratization, liberal democracy, autocracy, democracy ratings, geopolitical shifts.*

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SUMMITS FOR DEMOCRACY AND THE COLLAPSE OF AMERICAN ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE LIBERAL-DEMOCRATIC RESTRUCTURING OF THE WORLD. PART 2

Abstract. *The Biden administration has adopted the principle of “He who is not with us is against us”, based on the perception of liberal democracy as a non-alternative form of political universalism. By doing so, the U.S. has only paralyzed its traditional strategy of liberal democracy disseminating through hybrid and transitional regimes. The inadequacy of this strategy to the world realities clearly showed itself already in the 2000s. Studies on the competition between “democracies” and “autocracies” presented by five leading Western analytical centers in 2022–2023 leave no doubt that the world has come to a point of bifurcation. Having surpassed this point, the liberal democracy progressive decline could become irreversible. In any case, the heterogeneity of the types of political systems is directly linked to the multi-centric structure of the modern world system.*

Keywords: *summits for democracy, J. Biden administration, regime change, democratization, liberal democracy, autocracy, democracy ratings, geopolitical shifts.*

Vadim TRUKHACHEV

RUSSIA AND THE NETHERLANDS: ALMOST A TOTAL DECLINE IN RELATIONS

Abstract. *Political relations between Russia and the Netherlands have reached almost zero in recent years, and even strong economic ties have not prevented this. The reason for this is totally different perception of international agenda, incompatible views on the MH17 crash in Donbass, diverging interpretations of values and sovereignty. Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, one of the most influential politicians in the EU, played an important role in this direction, contributing greatly to the decline in relations between Russia and the EU as a whole. The political landscape of the Tulip Country is extremely diverse, but it is almost impossible to find a party ready to advocate a course of cooperation with Russia. As a result, Russian-Dutch relations have ended up in a deadlock, with no chance of getting out of it in the foreseeable future.*

Keywords: *Netherlands, Dutch political parties, Mark Rutte, sanctions, EU, NATO, MH17.*

Nailya YAKOVLEVA, Petr YAKOVLEV

ASIAN DIRECTION OF SPANISH FOREIGN AND TRADE POLICY

Abstract. *By the beginning of the third decade of the 21st century, Spain had accumulated sufficient potential and consolidated its claim to be an active international actor. Recently, the contours of Madrid's changing approaches to cooperation with traditional allies in Europe and the Americas and signs of its increased interest in counterparts on other continents have become visible. Fundamental shifts in the global economy and politics have underpinned Madrid's eastward turn toward closer trade and economic partnerships with China and other Asian states. Given the economic, scientific, technological and trade potential of Asian countries and their growing political influence in international affairs, the initiatives of the Spanish authorities to diversify foreign relations should be recognized as meeting the long-term interests of the country. However, there are certain limitations to the modification of Spain's international course. The Euro-Atlantic vector has been and remains the main one in its policy and foreign trade. Therefore, it is not a question of alternative replacing the European direction with an Asian one, but rather of efforts to establish a productive partnership with the Asia-Pacific region.*

Keywords: *Spain, foreign policy, new role of diplomacy, economic interests, strategic turns, Asian direction, state of trade, investments.*

Ladislav ZEMÁNEK

PRESIDENT PETR PAVEL AND A NEW CHAPTER IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF CZECH FOREIGN POLICY

Abstract. *The Czech Republic's foreign policy has been undergoing substantial changes, which are connected with both internal and external factors. Petr Fiala's coalition cabinet set a goal of revision of relations with Russia and China as one of the priorities at the very beginning of its tenure irrespective of the conflict in Ukraine. Petr Pavel's victory in the presidential election in January 2023 gave an additional impetus to such an agenda. His election marked the final end of the era of his predecessors M. Zeman and V. Klaus, who were committed to a multi-vector and pragmatic foreign policy. The article analyses the new president's political views, interests and actions within the framework of the changes in the national foreign policy both at the normative and practical levels with a focus on the anti-Russian and anti-Chinese vectors.*

Keywords: *China, Czech Republic, Foreign Policy, Liberal authoritarianism, Petr Fiala, Petr Pavel, Postliberalism, Russia, United States of America*