

The role and significance of international organizations in world politics

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The foreign policy priorities of modern Georgia are determined by the task of integrating the country into European and Euro-Atlantic structures, including NATO, and in the longer term - into the European Union (within the framework of this direction, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between Georgia and the European Union came into force in July 1999). Georgia participates in the NATO Partnership for Peace program.

Georgia is a member of the UN (since 1992) and a number of its specialized organizations (UNESCO, UNIDO, WHO, FAO, IFAD, ILO, ICAO, ITU, UPU, WIPO, WMO, IAEA, IBRD, IFC, IMF, IDA and others), OSCE (since 1992), Interpol, WTO (since 1999), CIS (1993-2009), GUAM, BSEC and others.

Along with states, international organizations are the most important subject of world politics. An international organization is a stable, structured form of cooperation among its members, created on a voluntary basis to jointly solve common problems and operating within the framework of its charter. The most fundamental criterion for the classification of international organizations is the nature of membership. According to this criterion, intergovernmental interstate organizations created by states on the basis of treaties are distinguished, and non-governmental institutions and citizens of a number of states.

International organizations are a historical and dynamically developing phenomenon. A noticeable increase in their activity occurred already in the 19th century due to the presence of a significant number of sovereign states; intensification of contacts between them; concern about the problems arising from these contacts; awareness of the need to create international institutions for the systematic regulation of relations between states. The first international states in the modern sense were the Universal Telegraph Union (1865), the Universal Postal Union (1874), the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (1875), and the International Red Cross (60s of the 19th century).

Since the middle of the 20th century, there has been a tendency for a significant increase in the number and expansion of international organizations. It received additional impetus after the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the bipolar system. From the second half of the 40s of the XX century until the beginning of the XXI century, about three thousand intergovernmental organizations arose, regulating various spheres of economics, politics, ecology, culture and almost 20 thousand non-governmental international organizations, of which approximately 2 thousand have observer status with UN.

The main reasons for the rapid increase in the number of intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations were:

the people's desire for peace and security as a reaction to the disasters caused to humanity by the Second World War and the threat of undermining the very foundations of world civilization in a nuclear war;

awareness of the danger of escalation of international conflicts and the need to create an effective system for their prevention and resolution;

the need of the world community for the international division of labor and economic integration, for coordinating efforts to solve global problems;

the desire of states that gained independence after the collapse of the colonial system to increase their influence on world politics;

At the same time, the end of the Cold War was accompanied by the collapse of a number of organizations of the former socialist community - the Warsaw Pact Organization, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, etc.

Intergovernmental organizations manifest themselves in international life in two guises: on the one hand, forming a field of cooperative interaction among member states, and on the other, acting as specific actors in the international arena and, thus, exerting an independent influence on the dynamics of world politics. In such organizations, situations may arise when the interests of one of the participants prevail, while others provide support to the leader in the hope of patronage from him or assistance in achieving their own goals.

There are various typologies of intergovernmental organizations that allow us to systematize knowledge about them. The most common classification is based on two criteria: according to the territorial principle and in accordance with the field of activity.

Based on the first criterion, the following are distinguished:

regional organizations - Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), European Union (EU), League of Arab States (LAS), Organization of American States (OAS), etc.

interregional organizations - Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), etc.

Subregional (Benelux)

In accordance with the second criterion, the following are distinguished:

Economic organizations covering finance and trade, such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which became the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 1995; International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), etc.

Organizations in certain industries, for example, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), etc.

Organizations in the field of culture and sports, for example, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

Military-political organizations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Pacific Security Pact (ANSUS);

Universal organizations: League of Nations, United Nations (UN).

Some organizations meet both criteria, both political and economic (IBRD, WTO, IMF), while promoting the development of liberal market relations in states, they simultaneously solve a political problem - strengthening democratic regimes, spreading progressive forms of government. The OSCE, created in 1975, whose members include all European states, as well as the United States and Canada, plays an important role in maintaining stability at the regional and global levels.

Within the framework of the UN, a number of organizations have emerged that function in international relations both as its structures and as independent entities. (WHO (World Health Organization), IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency), IMF, International Court of Justice, UNESCO, etc.)

Some non-governmental organizations have attributes of political power. This applies primarily to the UN. Its bodies can make decisions for all members of the world community, either mandatory (Security Council resolutions) or advisory (resolutions of UN Assembly sessions). At the same time, state sovereignty limits the UN's ability to apply large-scale economic sanctions against countries that do not comply with Security Council resolutions and to use military force - against an aggressor or for peacekeeping purposes.

In recent decades, the UN has largely lost its ability to creatively respond to new challenges in the international sphere. This is caused, first of all, by the fact that it does not reflect the new configuration of forces that has developed in the world. Therefore, it is no coincidence that many problems of world politics are being resolved today not in the UN, but within the framework of the G7, G8, EU, NATO, etc.

The attributes of political power are also inherent in the European Union. Its representative body is the European Parliament, elected directly by the population of the participating countries for a period of 5 years, endowed with legislative, budgetary and supervisory functions, and has an increasing influence on the activities of all EU institutions. The European Commission is the main executive body of the EU, with broad powers in shaping the common policies of member states. The Council of the European Union (formerly the Council of Ministers) is a body for making specific decisions on the main areas of integration policy. Overall, the EU's influence extends far beyond Europe.

In Europe, compared to other continents, there is a much more extensive network of intergovernmental organizations. Along with the EU, such regional structures as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), NATO, and the Council of Europe have a significant impact on international processes.

The uniqueness of the OSCE is determined by its functions such as rule-making, arms control, conflict prevention and regulation, protection of human rights and assistance in the formation of institutions of the rule of law.

A noticeable factor in modern international development are some non-European regional organizations of general competence, uniting all or most countries of the respective regions. These include the Organization of African Unity (OAU), LAS, OAS, ASEAN, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), OIC, etc.

Consensus methods are increasingly being used to make decisions on issues vital for interstate actors. In the context of world politics, it means agreement in principle with the possibility of

disagreement on individual formulations or points on which voting is not carried out. In the regulatory documents of some UN organizations, the consensus method is officially recorded (UNCTAD, Disarmament Committee). The consensus factor is the basis of the decision-making procedure of the Security Council by granting its permanent members the right of veto.

Unlike intergovernmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) are structures that consist of public groups or individual citizens of a number of countries, operating in specific areas. These include:

Professional organizations (International Political Science Association, International Organization of Journalists, etc.)

Demographic organizations (Women's International Democratic Federation)

Religious (World Council of Churches, World Islamic Congress)

Legal (Amnesty International)

Environmental (Greenpeace)

Humanitarian (International Red Cross)

Sports organizations (International Olympic Committee)

Organizations of solidarity and in defense of peace (Organization of Solidarity of Peoples of Asia and Africa, World Peace Council, Pagoush Movement)

International non-governmental organizations vary in structure, objectives and scope of activities. Although the decisions they make, as a rule, do not have binding legal force for states, they are increasingly managing to achieve their goals not only in the professional, but also in the political sphere. The active work of international non-governmental organizations was the most important factor in ending the Cold War.

The main means of influence of international non-governmental organizations on world politics are the mobilization of public opinion, putting pressure on interstate organizations (primarily the UN) and directly on specific states in order to solve certain problems, monitoring the activities of governments in various spheres of public life and the implementation of their commitments. obligations. This is exactly how Greenpeace, the Pagoush movement, Amnesty International, etc. operate. Therefore, organizations of this kind are called international pressure groups.

This development of events reveals the prerequisites for the formation of a new system of international relations and a global world community, in which the regulation of social processes will be carried out not only through the interaction of states, but independently of them, thanks to direct contacts of non-state actors. In this case, international non-governmental organizations will act as elements of the emerging global civil society.

Special non-governmental organizations such as transnational corporations (TNCs) have a significant influence on the essence and direction of international processes. Huge resources allow them to significantly influence the political sphere in their interests, both in their home countries and in the whole world.

At the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries, TNCs controlled up to half of world industrial production, 63% of foreign trade, approximately 4/5 of patents and licenses for new equipment, technology and know-how. The core of the world economic system consisted of about 500 TNCs, possessing practically unlimited economic power. The economic potential of TNCs is comparable to the gross product of large states.

The international activities of TNCs lead to contradictory consequences. On a positive note, it contributes to the development of the global economy and trade, job creation, and the introduction of procedures for the peaceful resolution of conflict situations. The downside of TNC activities is the erosion of national sovereignty, the progressive stratification of the world into a “rich north” and a “poor south” - a source of cheap labor.

Along with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, there are other very influential political actors operating on the world stage. There is a process of formation of new political actors and their diversification.

The activities of some participants in world politics are aimed at solving creative problems and stabilizing the situation in the world. Some political actors, primarily criminal and terrorist ones, set destructive goals for themselves. TNCs and TNBs strive to obtain maximum profits and therefore often consider their activities as short-term. In certain situations, anti-system movements and structures are capable of intercepting the state’s performance of social, military-political, arbitration and other functions.

First of all, an effective and economically wealthy state can resist these negative processes.

The largest and most influential international organizations

Includes 192 member states. Head office – New York, USA. Official languages: English, Arabic, French, Spanish, Chinese, Russian. Gene. secretary - Ban Ki-moon. Founded on October 25, 1945. The foundations of its activities and structure were developed during the Second World War by the leading participants in the anti-Hitler coalition. According to the UN Charter, any principal organ of the UN may establish various subsidiary organs to carry out its responsibilities. The most famous of them are: the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNESCO.

The original members of the UN included the 50 states that signed the UN Charter at the San Francisco Conference on June 26, 1945, as well as Poland. During 1946–2006, another 141 states were admitted to the UN (in reality, more states were part of the UN during this period, but the figure is smaller due to the withdrawal of a number of states, such as Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia due to their division into independent states).

Among the 50 founding countries of the UN, along with the USSR, there were two union republics: the Belarusian SSR and the Ukrainian SSR.

UN peacekeeping operations are an important tool for maintaining peace and international security. Their activities are determined by a number of General Assembly Resolutions adopted in accordance with the Charter of the Organization. The UN Charter itself does not provide for peacekeeping operations. However, they may be conditioned by the goals and principles of the UN, which is why the General Assembly regularly considers the need for a particular peacekeeping mission.

The implementation of a UN peacekeeping operation can be expressed in:

Investigating incidents and conducting negotiations with conflicting parties with a view to reconciling them;

Verifying compliance with the ceasefire agreement;
Promoting the maintenance of law and order;
Providing humanitarian assistance;
Monitoring the situation

The first UN peacekeeping mission was to monitor the truce reached in the Arab-Israeli conflict in 1948.

The UN is a Nobel Peace Prize laureate (2001; the prize "For his contribution to the creation of a more organized world and the strengthening of world peace" was awarded jointly to the organization and its Secretary General Kofi Annan). Previously, in 1988, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the UN Peacekeeping Forces.

Despite its uniqueness, the UN has discredited itself with shortcomings and scandals. The organization has shown that it is not always able to adapt in a timely manner in accordance with rapidly changing global political realities. In this regard, the UN is often criticized for being ineffective, undemocratic, lacking attention to the problems of developing countries, bureaucracy, overstaffing and exorbitant budgets. Some high-profile financial scandals have also been associated with the name of the UN. In one of them, under the Oil for Food aid program for Iraq, even Kojo Annan (son of Kofi Annan) was involved.

The World Trade Organization is an international organization created in 1995 with the aim of liberalizing international trade and regulating trade and political relations of member states. The WTO is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), concluded in 1947 and for almost 50 years, it effectively served as an international organization.

The WTO is responsible for the development and implementation of new trade agreements, and also ensures that members of the organization comply with all agreements signed by most countries of the world and ratified by their parliaments. The WTO builds its activities on the basis of decisions taken in 1986-1994 within the framework of the Uruguay Round and earlier GATT agreements. Discussions of problems and decision-making on global problems of liberalization and prospects for the further development of world trade take place within the framework of multilateral trade negotiations (rounds). To date, 8 rounds of such negotiations have been held, including Uruguay, and the ninth started in 2001 in Doha, Qatar.

The WTO headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

As of July 2008, 153 countries were members of the WTO. Each of them is obliged to provide other members of the organization with most favored nation treatment in trade.

WTO rules provide a number of benefits for developing countries. Currently, developing countries - members of the WTO have (on average) a higher relative level of customs and tariff protection of their markets compared to developed ones. However, in absolute terms, the total amount of customs and tariff sanctions in developed countries is much higher, as a result of which access to markets for high-value products from developing countries is seriously limited.

WTO rules regulate only trade and economic issues. Attempts by the United States and several European countries to open a debate on working conditions (which would have seen insufficient legal protections for workers as an "illegitimate" competitive advantage) were rejected due to protests from developing countries, since such measures would ultimately worsen the situation of workers. due to job cuts, lower incomes and lower competitiveness.

The European Union (European Union, EU) is an association of 27 European states that have signed the Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty). The EU is a unique international entity: it combines the characteristics of an international organization and a state, but formally is neither one nor the other. The Union is not a subject of public international law, but has the authority to participate in international relations and plays a major role in them.

The temple structure, as a way to visualize the existing specifics of the division of competences of the EU and member states, appeared in the Maastricht Treaty, which established the European Union. The temple structure is "supported" by three "pillars":

The first pillar combines the EU's predecessors: the European Community (formerly the European Economic Community) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom). The third organization, the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), ceased to exist in 2002 in accordance with the Paris Treaty that established it.

The second pillar is called the "common foreign and security policy" (CFSP).

The third pillar is "police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters."

A feature of the European Union that distinguishes it from other international organizations is the presence of its own law, which directly regulates the relations of not only member states, but also their citizens and legal entities.

In European institutions, 23 languages are officially used on equal terms: English, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Greek, Danish, Irish, Spanish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, German, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Finnish, French, Czech, Swedish, Estonian. At the working level, English and French are typically used.

NATO Includes 28 member states. The headquarters is located in Brussels (Belgium).

Official languages are English and French. Secretary General - Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

NATO is a military-political bloc. Appeared on April 4, 1949 in the USA. Then the USA, Canada, Iceland, Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, Italy and Portugal became NATO member states. It is a "transatlantic forum" for allied countries to consult on any matter affecting the vital interests of its members, including events that could threaten their security; provides deterrence or protection against any form of aggression against the territory of any NATO member state. Western representatives assured Moscow in every possible way that NATO was a purely defensive organization and called on the Soviet leadership to cooperate.

NATO's primary purpose is to guarantee the freedom and security of all its members in Europe and North America in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter. To achieve this goal, NATO uses political influence and military capabilities in accordance with the nature of the security challenges facing its member states.

The current Strategic Concept, published in 1999, defines NATO's primary objectives as follows:

- act as the basis for stability in the Euro-Atlantic region;
- serve as a forum for consultations on security issues;
- deter and defend against any threat of aggression against any NATO member state;
- contribute to effective conflict prevention and actively participate in crisis management;

– promote the development of comprehensive partnership, cooperation and dialogue with other countries in the Euro-Atlantic region.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is an international intergovernmental organization created by oil-producing powers to stabilize oil prices. Members of this organization are countries whose economies largely depend on revenues from oil exports.

OPEC as a permanent organization was created at a conference in Baghdad on September 10-14, 1960. Initially, the organization included Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela (the initiator of the creation). These five countries that founded the organization were later joined by nine more: Qatar (1961), Indonesia (1962-2008, withdrew from OPEC on November 1, 2008), Libya (1962), United Arab Emirates (1967), Algeria (1969), Nigeria (1971), Ecuador (1973-1992, 2007), Gabon (1975-1994), Angola (2007).

Currently, OPEC has 12 members, taking into account the composition changes that occurred in 2007: the emergence of a new member of the organization - Angola and the return of Ecuador. In 2008, Russia announced its readiness to become a permanent observer.

The headquarters of OPEC was initially located in Geneva (Switzerland), then on September 1, 1965 it moved to Vienna (Austria).

The goal of OPEC is to coordinate activities and develop a common policy regarding oil production among the member countries of the organization, maintaining stable oil prices, ensuring stable supplies of oil to consumers, and obtaining returns from investments in the oil industry.

The energy and oil ministers of OPEC member states meet twice a year to assess the international oil market and forecast its development for the future. At these meetings, decisions are made on the actions that need to be taken to stabilize the market. Decisions on changes in oil production volumes in accordance with changes in market demand are made at OPEC conferences.

OPEC member countries control about 2/3 of the world's oil reserves. They account for 40% of world production or half of world oil exports. Peak oil has not yet been passed only by OPEC countries and Canada (among the major exporters). In Russia, peak oil was passed in 1988.

World Bank Includes 185 member countries. The main office is located in Washington (USA). The official language is English. founded on December 27, 1945.

The World Bank is an international financial organization created to provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries.

In the process of its development, the World Bank has undergone various structural changes, so the term World Bank has been understood to mean different organizations at different stages. Initially, the World Bank was understood as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which provided financial support for the reconstruction of Western Europe and Japan after World War II. Later, in 1960, the International Development Association was created, which took over some of the functions related to the policies of this bank. Currently, the World Bank actually refers to two organizations: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association.

The World Bank is one of two (along with the International Monetary Fund) large financial institutions created following the Bretton Woods Conference, held in the United States in 1944.

Delegates from 45 countries, including representatives of the Soviet Union, discussed issues of economic recovery and world economy after the Second World War.

In 1968-1980 The World Bank's activities were aimed at helping developing countries.

Since 1989, World Bank policy has undergone significant changes under the influence of criticism from various non-governmental organizations, in particular those related to environmental protection. As a result, the range of loans provided for various purposes has expanded.

Solving global problems of human development, the World Bank, using the IBRD loan mechanism, lends to middle-income countries at interest rates corresponding to the market level of these countries. Another World Bank financial institution, IDA, lends to low-income countries at minimal or no interest rates.

The World Bank provides not only financial support to member countries. Its activities are also aimed at providing analytical and advisory services needed by developing countries.

Big Eight. The Big Eight (English: Group of eight, G8) is an international club that unites the governments of the most industrialized democracies in the world ("Group of Seven" or Big Seven (G7)) and Russia. The same name is given to the informal forum of the leaders of these countries (USA, UK, France, Japan, Germany, Russia, Canada, Italy) with the participation of the European Commission, within the framework of which approaches to pressing international problems are coordinated.

The G8 is not an international organization, it is not based on an international treaty, and does not have a charter or secretariat. G8 decisions are not binding. As a rule, we are talking about fixing the intention of the parties to adhere to an agreed line or about recommendations to other participants in international life to use certain approaches in resolving certain issues.

Since the G8 does not have a charter, it is therefore impossible to officially accept the status of a member of this institution. But according to an unspoken rule, G8 summits are held annually in turn in each of the member countries. Therefore, countries join the G8 when it is invited to host a club summit on its territory. Russia joins the organization in 2006. Meeting

The "Big Six" arose at a meeting of the heads of state and government of France, the USA, Great Britain, Germany, Italy and Japan in Rambouillet on November 15-17, 1975 (since the early 70s, similar meetings were held at the level of finance ministers).

The idea of holding meetings of leaders of the most industrialized countries in the world arose in the early 70s in connection with the economic crisis and the deterioration of relations between the United States, Western Europe and Japan on economic and financial issues. The meeting adopted a Joint Declaration on Economic Issues, which calls for non-aggression in the trade area and a refusal to establish new discriminatory barriers.

The Chairman of the Eight is, during each calendar year, the head of one of the member countries in the following rotation order: France, USA, Great Britain, Russia (since 2006), Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada (since 1981).

The G8 is accused of being elitist, undemocratic and hegemonic. In June 2002, during a summit in Canada, a counter-summit was held in Mali - a meeting of activists of the anti-globalization movement from Africa, Europe, and America. In 2003, in the French town of Anmas, parallel to the G8 summit in Evian, another forum of anti-globalists was held, the agenda of which

completely copied the program of the official meeting in Evian. Anti-globalists insisted on the need to discuss alternative programs for world development and governance, which would be more humane and take into account the real needs of the majority of the world's population.

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Роль и значение международных организации в мировой политике

Резюме

Внешнеполитические приоритеты современной Грузии определяются задачей интеграции страны в европейские и евроатлантические структуры, в том числе в НАТО, в более отдалённой перспективе — в Европейский союз (в рамках этого направления в июле 1999 года вступило в силу Соглашение о партнёрстве и сотрудничестве между Грузией и Евросоюзом). Грузия участвует в программе НАТО «Партнёрство во имя мира».

Грузия является членом ООН (с 1992 года) и ряда её специализированных организаций (ЮНЕСКО, ЮНИДО, ВОЗ, ФАО, МФСР, МОТ, ИКАО, МСЭ, ВПС, ВОИС, ВМО, МАГАТЭ, МБРР, МФК, МВФ, МАР и других), ОБСЕ (с 1992 года), Интерпол, ВТО (с 1999 года), СНГ (в 1993-2009 годах), ГУАМ, ОЧЭС и другие.

Наряду с государствами важнейшим субъектом мировой политики являются международные организации. Международная организация – это стабильная, структурированная форма сотрудничества ее членов, созданная на добровольной основе для совместного решения общих проблем и функционирующая в рамках устава. Наиболее фундаментальный критерий классификации международных организаций – характер членства. По этому критерию выделяют межправительственные межгосударственные организации, создаваемые государствами на основе договоров, и неправительственные институты и граждан и ряда государств.

Международные организации – явление историческое и динамично развивающееся. Заметное повышение их активности произошло уже в XIX веке в связи с наличием значительного количества суверенных государств; интенсификацией контактов между ними; обеспокоенностью проблемами, возникающими в результате этих контактов; осознанием необходимости создания международных институтов для систематического регулирования отношений между государствами.