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A.M. Samtsova

NONCONVENTIONAL THREATS IN JAPANESE SECURITY STRATEGY

Scientific Advisor – Volkov M.N., PhD in History

The article studies the influence of nonconventional threats on the modern security policy of Japan. The author defines the term of nonconventional threats, analyzes the issues of the Japanese security strategy on the basis of official statements and publications. The paper analyses how adapting the Japanese security policy to the modern global circumstances influences the state position in the region and in the world.

Keywords: Japan, nonconventional threats, security.

In the second part of the twentieth century, the principles of international communication were changed according to the new trends of the world development. Among them, there are such well-known factors as globalization, polycentrism, and regionalization. Factually, alongside the bipolar world erosion,

the members of international community became integrated into the global processes. The members have an opportunity to influence each other in a wide range of ways. Obviously, close interaction in a great number of spheres implies clashes of interests. According to it, the process of world development had some negative consequence. In other words, in the conditions of close interrelations the threats of local sort have a potential to easily become large-scale. Therefore, the states are forced to change the approach to security basing on the new concept of national threats.

According to the above-mentioned, external military aggression is being downgraded in the list of priorities for national security [1. C. 1-11]. Thereby, the concept of nonconventional threats that do not have any particular sources has appeared. However, it also does not imply essentially not-yet-existing things; there is a changed character of the already existing threats. In official documents of such governmental organizations as NATO [2] and UN [3], the governments of Russia and United States [4] define the next nonconventional security threats: acts of terrorism, environmental issues, political turmoil, nationalism, migration, cyberthreats, and epidemics.

We should highlight the status of Japan as one of the strong leaders among the members of the North-Eastern region. We must review what instruments the state uses in order to make its influence and what factors instigate the state policy. The regional and even the world peace and stability depend on the fact at what degree the Japanese state security policy addresses the challenges of the changing world.

Until the last decade of the twentieth century, Japan was strongly restrained by the constitution imposed by the USA in the consequences of the after-war occupation. According to it, for a long period Japan was following the concept of "Pacifism". However, by the beginning of the twenty first century a trend of a gradual change had emerged, the reconsideration of the security approach had started. In the 1980s, Prime Minister Nakasone put forward an idea of searching for a new role of the state in the international area through modifying limitations. However, the fact is that the realization of these plans started only decades later. Particularly, the government with the onset of the twenty first century prioritized the security issue. Going forward, the state intends to broaden its mandate for the direct involvement in participating in the security policy regulation. Global trends, escalation of tensions in the region, political turmoil and instability, and other factors cause the necessity to change the state position. In fact, any reforms of the security approach are still constrained by the close ties with the United States in the frames of alliance.

As a result, the concept of pacifism has transformed into something determined as active pacifism [5]. It implies the state's intention to gain a signifi-

cant position both at the regional and the global levels through the participating in the arrangements of global safety and security. Basing on the security concept, the state holds oneself out as an active contributor to international peacekeeping. According to this position, official documents reflect the following issues that Japan determines as the most important ones in the twenty first century [6]. The state outlines such important factors as: changes in the global balance of power, rapid progress of technological innovation, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, evolution of threats transcending national borders, including international terrorism, risks in the sea, space and cyberspace, issues concerning human security, including the aspects of poverty and development, and risks to global economy [7]. The following issues could underpin the illustration of the modern Japanese security approach.

One of the most currently important issues for Japan in the second decade of the twenty first century is cybersecurity. Cyberattacks threaten functioning vital governmental information systems, public administration services, proprietary information, and produce economic risks. In 2015 the number of cyberattacks which the state suffered from rapidly increased. Due to this fact, a cybersecurity strategy has been worked out. The government has created a modern system of active exchanging of information and technologies with the commercial private enterprises. Therefore, having recently found out the approach to solving the problem, Japan as a developed state guarantees the maintenance of the system evolutionism [8].

The space is one more currently developing sphere of international interconnection. Over the period of the last decades, Japan was one of the world leaders in space launches. The state determines such aims of its space security strategy for further development as maintaining international cooperation in space exploration and space applications for the environment. Moreover, against the background of some limitations of the defense policy, Japan regards the space as a way of military capabilities expansion [9].

There is one more headline issue of international security – terrorism. The interesting fact is that terrorism is not a real risk within the state [10]. However, due to the incident of 2014 concerning taking two Japanese citizens hostage by the ISIS organization, the Prime Minister proclaimed national terrorism to be one of the most important problems of the Japanese national security [11]. Nowadays, Japan aims to participate in maintaining peace and prosperity in the Middle East, participating in consulting conferences, and providing funding for programs to fight and prevent terrorism [12].

It is important to conclude all the above-mentioned facts, nowadays the Japanese government is successfully implementing its security strategy in the conditions of the rapidly changing world. Moreover, through the policy con-

cerning modern security threats, Japan realizes its official position of an active contributor to maintaining global peace. By enhancing international cooperation, participating in multilateral discussion, funding security projects and other things, the state contributes to the global achievement of development. Fighting against global nonconventional threats could also be regarded as a tool to build a status in the international area, which provides the expansion of the state influence in the way that is not related to the military potential. Due to lack of independence in defense policy making, Japan gets all advantages of it. The reinforcement of nonconventional threats requests reforming the security system. Thus, Japan has an opportunity to relieve the constitutional restraint to some extent.

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A.T. Kuznetsov

HISTORICAL KEY FACTORS OF POWERLIFTING IN RUSSIA, ITS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Scientific advisor – Y.N. Shitz

This article tells about the history of the development of powerlifting in the USSR and Russia. It reveals all the problems that Russian sportsmen had to undergo at the time of the appearance of this sport and the subtleties that arose in this connection. The article briefly tells about the basic points of the powerlifting competitions and presents the basic requirements for performing exercises. The dates of the first competitions held in the world are also presented. The article also tells how powerlifting finally gained recognition in Russia, which in general lead to the formation of the powerlifting international community. Also, a list of the most famous and best-awarded athletes of Russia is given.

Keywords: powerlifting, power extreme, USSR, Russia, athletic gymnastics.

The history of powerlifting begins in the late forties of the last century. At this time in many countries, some exercises with the barrel, which looked quite strange, gained popularity. They began to press from behind the head, bending their arms in a standing and sitting position, as well as deadlift, squats and bench presses. By the beginning of the sixties, powerlifting had almost been completely formed as a sport, and in a few years the rules for conducting competitions were created.

The men's world championship was first held in 1971, and the women's world championship was held in 1980. Later, European championships were held. The men's one has been taking its place since 1979, while and the women's championship has occurred since 1983.