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THE LATIN AMERICAN VECTOR OF CHINA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Key words: soft power, inter-party solidarity, win-win strategy, international cooperation, strategic partnership.

With the coming to power of "leftist regimes" in the early 2000s in a number of Latin American countries, China saw a particular interest in this region and beneficial prospects for collaboration. It was the rulers of the left-wing countries who "opened the doors" for the PRC and began cooperation within the framework of inter-party solidarity [6, p. 41; 9, p. 29].

Exploring China's policy through the prism of the theory of neoliberalism, it is necessary to note the dominant role of the use of "soft power", which is manifested in the spread of the Chinese language and culture of China through the "Confucius Institute", as well as in the influence of the Chinese diaspora in the LA countries. Also, the application of such a policy is expressed in humanitarian aid to the countries of the region and in billions of dollars in investments. Thus, the "soft power" of the Celestial Empire is able to influence the behaviour of another state in the direction desired for China, thereby establishing various forms of dependence of one or another state without coercion.

In its foreign policy, the PRC uses the tactics of economic expansion. A striking example of "soft power" is the cheap Chinese loans provided to the countries of the region during the economic crises in 2008 and 2011, after which the countries became dependent on China. The ambitious Latin American vector of the Celestial Empire and its dominance in the region over the past 20 years have led to the crowding out of US interests.

In the course of the development of relations, its economic activity in Latin America, the PRC took first place in terms of trade with the countries of the region. China is chasing natural resources, and Latin America is known to be a region rich in metals. Bolivia contains lithium, which is needed to create batteries, Chile has 50% of the world's copper reserves, and Venezuela has oil deposits [8]. In connection with the latter fact, China initiated the idea of building the Nicaraguan Canal to transport oil across the Pacific Ocean. Thus, having its own interests in the region, the PRC proposes the construction of strategically important facilities on a global scale, which have no analogues in the whole world [8].

China's foreign policy strategy in Latin America is documented in a number of government documents, namely in China's National Defense in 2008, China's Policy Paper on Latin America and The Caribbean (2009), China's Military Strategy (2015), Plan of cooperation of China with the Latin American and Caribbean states for 2015–2019. To maintain mutually beneficial collaboration and promote common development with Latin American states, China has proposed a "1 + 3 + 6" cooperation formula.

After China adopted the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013, Latin America has taken a leading place in the foreign policy priorities of the Celestial Empire, resulting in significant investments in the region from the PRC [5]. With regard to the LA countries, China's foreign policy distinguishes between two types of strategic partnership. The first type is at the level of associations or alliance (for example, China-CELAC cooperation), and the second type is all-encompassing, which manifests itself in cooperation with Brazil, Venezuela and Argentina. Furthermore, history shows how an alternative to the new world order was proposed with the creation of the BRICS organization, another way of developing the world economy, to which China joined.

With Venezuela, China has military-political cooperation. Moreover, the PRC financially supports the regime of President Nicolas Maduro in exchange for oil through barter. As for the bilateral relations between China and Brazil, it is not only cooperation within the BRICS since 2006, but also a comprehensive strategic partnership, relations that are based on the concept of "win-win" with a balance of trade and economic exchange. Additionally, the Chinese side supports Brazil in its permanent membership with the UN Security Council [7].

The main forms of cooperation between China and Argentina are founded on an ideological basis and on the Strategic Partnership Agreement (2014). In addition to the fact that the countries are trading partners, bilateral relations are actively developing in the field of hydropower.

Thus, over the past decades, a number of Latin American countries have undergone political and economic changes, which led to their acquisition of a strategic partner, the PRC. After huge debts on loans from Latin American countries, China began to apply its strategic nature in the region, not only of an economic plan. With its active policy, the Celestial Empire strengthened its position in the region, crowding out the presence of other influential international actors. It can be argued that China will continue to increase its influence, having huge interests in the LA region, such as the extraction of natural resources, the construction of strategic facilities, multi-billion dollar trade, as well as development in the military-political and space spheres.

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КИТАЙСЬКО-КОРЕЙСЬКІ ВІДНОСИНИ: ОСНОВНІ ТЕНДЕНЦІЇ РОЗВИТКУ

Ключові слова: Китай, Республіка Корея, двосторонні відносини.

Китайська Народна Республіка (КНР) володіє міжнародним авторитетом, її зовнішньополітична стратегія спрямована на досягнення лідерства КНР на світовій арені, шляхом нарощування військово-політичної й економічної могутності. Пекін прагне розвивати відносини з країнами на основі 5 принципів мирного співіснування: взаємної поваги територіальної цілісності й суверенітету; взаємного ненападу; невтручання у внутрішні справи; рівності й взаємної вигоди; мирного співіснування. Китай є однією з небагатьох держав світу, яка активно підтримує відносини з двома протилежними за економічною і політичною системами державами Корейського півострова: Корейською Народною Демократичною Республікою (КНДР) та Республікою Кореєю (РК). У серпні 2022 р. КНР і РК відзначили 30 річчя встановлення дипломатичних відносин; КНДР є давнім союзником Китаю, держави пов'язані двостороннім військово-політичним договором від 1961 р. РК належить до нових індустріальних країн, де відбулося економічне диво – «диво на річці Хан», її економіка за короткий час здійснила трансформацію від відсталої до високорозвиненої. Республіка Корея входить до 20 провідних країн світу за розмірами ВВП і є однією із найрозвиненіших економік світу з високим рівнем розвитку науки й технологій. Зазначимо, що для Китаю і РК велике значення