UDC 327

THE USA NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGIES: J. BIDEN VS D. TRUMP

© Nechetova P.A., Guralnik T.A.

Samara National Research University, Samara, Russian Federation

e-mail: agadig65@yandex.ru

Introduction. Nowadays we are witnessing attempts of different countries to establish mutually beneficial global multilateral cooperation in saving their status-quo and refusing to concede to others at the expense of their national interests. The most striking example of this is the United States whose interests proliferate to every corner of the world. So, the problem of American hegemony will continue to exist until the world order is maintained. This research project raises the issue of American policy shift in response to the new US security challenges.

Methodology. This study draws on the information from the USA National Security Strategy (NSS) of 2017 and 2022. This document is published by the executive branch of the United States government. It is intended to be a comprehensive statement articulating the worldwide interests, goals, and objectives of the United States that are important to its security. The research compares the data on the basis of the following criteria: national interests, the status of the main rivals on the world stage and the current threats. All in all, it is mainly based on the qualitative content analysis. Besides, the data of the British analytical center «Council on Geostrategy» are used to collect the number of keywords used in the presented strategies. In addition, the research reveals the compliance of ideas in America's National Security Strategies and the inaugural speeches of President Joe Biden and President Donald Trump hereinafter referred to as the Biden Administration Strategy (BAS) and the Trump Administration Strategy (TAS)

National interests. Both BAS and TAS have similarities as well as differences. The first section reviews the changing American national interests in the NSS of 2017 and 2022. The 2022 NSS emphasizes «defending the democratic values at the heart of the American way of life» [1]. However, it is used as an instrument for the division of the world into «them» and «us» and for building new ideological frameworks: Democracies vs Autocracies.

Besides, the Biden administration supports enlightened self-interest, hiding egoistic goals behind good intentions. Meanwhile, unlike BAS, the 2017 NSS focuses on the American domestic affairs and recognizes that there are problems in the USA that should be solved. All in all, solving these problems aims to maintain world peace. By comparison, the 2022 NSS turns this policy to multilateral cooperation, using the keyword «global» about 115 times (compared to 24 in the 2017 NSS) [2].

The promotion of economic prosperity was based on dissatisfaction with the «unfair» trade relations between the countries. In the latest strategy, it has moved to a larger level of struggle against dependence on the Russian energy resources. It's worth noticing that the Biden administration admits that countries should not follow the USA's example: «We do not, however, believe that governments and societies everywhere must be remade in America's image for us to be secure» [1].

Attitude to rivals. China and Russia are considered as rivals in both texts. However, both TAS and BAS give different reasons for this confrontation. For instance, the 2017 NSS says that China seeks to displace the United States in the Indo-Pacific region whereas Russia seeks to restore its great power status [3]. While the current document considers that the only

competitor for the USA is China with a view to reshape the international order, Russia is termed «a cruel violator of the world order». The American perception of China and Russia has changed to some extent, but the essence remains the same. America's concern over Russia's international policy is evidenced by the greater number of references to Russia in the 2022 NSS as compared to those in the 2017 NSS. Thus, occurrences of China and Russia in 2017 NSS are 33 (TAS) vs 55 (BAS) respectively, while in 2022 NSS they are 25 (TAS) vs 71 (BAS)[2]. On the one hand, the 2017 NSS places these countries in the same category as other competitors [3]. On the other hand, the reverse is true, and the 2022 NSS allocates separate sub-chapters for Russia and China. Having said that, the Russian Federation has a more negative connotation in the Biden Administration Strategy [1].

Challenges. The USA National Security Strategy of 2022 points out 2 important aspects: 1) the confrontation between Democracies and Autocracies in an attempt to change the world order; 2) different transnational challenges for the whole world (infectious diseases, terrorism, violent extremism, irregular migration, and other threats) [1]. It is noted that the world tries to solve the second problem against the background of international competitiveness. To restore peace, «democratic» countries should unite. However, America itself will build its foreign policy on a «crisis response», in an attempt to rescue the world from the established turbulence. The fact is that the NSS 2017 lists transnational challenges too, but America's fight against them comes to the fore [3]. All in all, the Trump Administration strategy is more practice-oriented. It doesn't strive to lay down any ideological foundations.

The priorities set in the National Security Strategy of both the Trump and the Biden Administrations harmonize with the messages in the inaugural speeches President Trump and President Biden [4; 5].

Conclusion. The two versions of NSS show the changing priorities in the US security policies. The changes in the USA NSS 2022 are in fact the response of the Biden Administration to the external challenges. These challenges are defined as competition with strategic rivals (Autocracies) and transnational problems such as ecological and terrorist threats. However, as long as the challenges directly affecting American interests emerge, they are viewed as an opportunity to gain advantages, or to develop into a future potential to increase the USA's hegemony. The USA National Security Strategy states that America is ready to cooperate with any country that shares its basic beliefs, but China and Russia being the major rivals that pose a threat to American leadership.

References

1. The Biden-Harris Administration's National Security Strategy 2022 // The White House. URL: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Biden-Harris-Administrations-National-Security-Strategy-10.2022.pdf (assecced 08.03.2023).

2. Hemmings J.America's 2022 National Security Strategy // Council on Geostrategy URL: https://www.geostrategy.org.uk/britains-world/americas-2022-national-security-strategy/ (08.03.2023)

3. National Security Strategy 2017 // National Security Strategy Archive URL: http://nssarchive.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/2017.pdf (assecced 05.03.2023).

4. Inaugural Address by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., January 20, 2021 // The White House URL: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/01/20/inaugural-address-by-president-joseph-r-biden-jr/ (assecced 31.03.2023).

5. Inaugural Address by President Donald J. Trump, January 20, 2017 //American Rhetoric. Online Speech Bank URL: https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/donaldjtrumpinaugural address.htm (assecced 31.03.2023).