

Current Issues in the Development of Diplomatic Activity at the International Level

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Abstract: This scientific article examines some issues of the development of diplomatic activity, using the example of some problems emerging in modern international relations between states, trends in the development of the practice of coordinating their interests and attempts to find compromises in solving international problems. The relevance of the study lies in the fact that in the modern world the line between external and internal directions (priorities) of policies pursued by states is becoming unclear. Problems that were previously considered the internal affairs of a particular state can be solved at the international level. As part of the activities of state bodies for external relations, the range of departments that directly enter the international arena is constantly expanding. The purpose of the research in the scientific article is to study the key issues posed in the development of diplomatic activity at the international level. The research methodology covers the use of such methods of scientific knowledge as analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, generalization, modeling and forecasting the development of diplomatic activity and service in the future. The results of the study will allow us to present current trends in the development of diplomatic activity at the international level in a systematic and logical form. Modern diplomatic activity includes a wide range of methods and tools for solving international problems. The challenges facing modern diplomats include international conflicts, terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, climate change, migration, trade and economic issues. To effectively solve these problems, diplomats often work in international organizations such as the United Nations, the European Union and others. Thus, modern diplomacy plays an important role in resolving international problems, based on dialogue, cooperation and respect for international law.

Key words: diplomacy, diplomatic activity, digital (network) diplomacy, soft power, international relations, state

Introduction

The relevance of research. At the moment, taking into account the evolving trends in the development of international relations and the legal systems of different states, the complexity of the system of international relations, the global nature of most problems, and the increasing intertwining of domestic and foreign policies lead to the fact that at the present stage multilateral diplomacy is of decisive importance. Accordingly, the relevance of studying the problems of development of diplomatic activity at the international legal level consists in a review of many issues, including the mismatch of interests of states in building modern international relations, the development of

diplomacy in this area of interstate relations, the need to highlight key issues for their solution at the theoretical and legal level .

International organizations, created on the basis of multilateral treaties and in accordance with international law, usually serve as the highest form of multilateral diplomacy. They promote cooperation between states, solving international problems, maintaining peace and security, economic development, protecting human rights and other important aspects of international relations. Organizations such as the UN, WTO, World Bank and others play an important role in the modern world. As researchers correctly note, “diplomacy is no longer a traditional conduct of state policy, it represents a complex of relationships between actors of international law” [Princen, 1994]. Unlike authoritarian countries, centers of power and decision-making are significantly dispersed in democracies.

The modern world is characterized by the development of multilateral relations and the complication of the international legal field. Modern diplomatic activity at the international level is distinguished by a number of features that determine its nature and effectiveness. First of all, it is necessary to take into account that the shift in world politics to a multipolar system leads to the need to take into account the interests of various powers and blocs when conducting diplomatic negotiations.

The use of information technology tools to communicate and influence public opinion has become an integral part of diplomatic practice. Global challenges such as climate change, cybersecurity and terrorism require diplomatic efforts to find international solutions.

The interconnection of various spheres, from economics and culture to security and human rights, requires a flexible and comprehensive approach to solving diplomatic problems. In conditions of increasing tension between states, paying attention to dialogue, respect for others' points of view and the search for compromises become key elements of successful diplomacy. Accordingly, modern diplomatic activity at the international level is a complex and dynamic system of interaction between various states, organizations and actors. Its features include adaptation to new challenges, use of modern technologies and an emphasis on dialogue and cooperation to achieve a sustainable and mutually beneficial world order.

Diplomacy, as one of the most important means of foreign policy of states, faces a number of problems that require close attention and the search for effective solutions.

The purpose of the research in the scientific article is to study the key issues posed in the development of diplomatic activity at the international level. The study allows us to identify many features of diplomacy and develop more effective strategies for conducting foreign policy, which is extremely important in the context of globalization.

The objectives of the study are determined by the stated goal and are related to the theoretical and legal characteristics of the problems of the development of diplomatic activity at the international legal level.

The research methodology covers the use of such methods of scientific knowledge as analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, generalization, modeling and forecasting the development of diplomatic activity and service in the future. Among the methods of modern diplomacy are negotiations, mediation, diplomatic freezes, sanctions, peacekeeping operations, economic agreements and treaties, as well as the use of soft power through economic cooperation, cultural exchanges and education.

It should also be noted that some issues of the development of modern diplomatic relations at the international level have been the subject of research by such authors as T.V. Zonova, A.N. Marchukov, S.A. Taipova, T. Princen, M. Finger, V. Hocking , M.R. Berman, N.N. Rouhana, H.C.

Kelman, D.Spence and others.

Main part

Modern diplomatic activity at the international level can be defined as a multidimensional process of interaction between states, international organizations and other participants in world politics, aimed at achieving compromises, establishing alliances and cooperation, as well as solving international problems and conflicts. It includes the use of a variety of tools such as negotiations, treaties, information exchange, cultural and public programs, as well as active participation in international forums and organizations. Modern diplomatic activity is characterized by multipolarity, consideration of various interests, intensive use of information technology and an emphasis on dialogue, mutual understanding and the search for compromises to achieve a sustainable and mutually beneficial world order.

Today, at the international level, diplomatic activity faces some problems that, accordingly, should receive their theoretical explanation in international legal science.

Global issues such as climate change, trade disputes, refugee status and international terrorism pose complex challenges to diplomacy. Conventional methods of diplomacy may not be sufficient to resolve modern conflicts, especially in the context of hybrid warfare and cyber attacks. With the increasing number of participants and the complexity of world politics, it becomes more difficult to achieve consensus and coordinate actions between different states.

In some cases, a lack of trust between countries makes it difficult to make agreed decisions and implement agreements. Diplomatic missions often face limited financial and human resources, which can make it difficult to carry out their functions. To overcome these problems, it is important to develop more flexible and adaptive methods of diplomacy, actively use international organizations, strengthen trust between countries and develop an integrated approach to solving international problems.

In view of this, it should be noted that in the development of diplomatic activities the presence of certain problems cannot be ruled out, such as:

- problems of sovereignty and interference. Thus, in the context of globalization and the activation of international organizations, the influence on the sovereignty of states is increasing under the pretext of protecting human rights and democratic standards;
- open interference, when interventions in the internal affairs of countries, carried out under the pretext of humanitarian assistance, undermine the foundations of international law and diplomacy;
- technological challenges. The widespread use of information technologies in diplomacy opens up new opportunities for communication, but at the same time creates threats in the form of cyber espionage and the spread of disinformation;
- transparency and confidentiality. On the one hand, the digital era requires greater openness and accessibility of information, on the other hand, it is important to ensure the confidentiality of the most important diplomatic communications;
- conflicts and regional destabilization. Unresolved territorial disputes and regional conflicts continue to be hot spots that require international attention and the participation of states in negotiations. It must be taken into account that in conflict situations, diplomatic activity faces the problem of effective peacekeeping and insufficient coordination of the efforts of international organizations.

Also at the moment, multilateral diplomacy, which is a process of interaction between three or more participants in the international arena, usually states or international organizations, is gaining relevance. This type of diplomacy aims to solve international problems, establish agreements and

cooperate on issues of common interest. Multilateral diplomacy is usually carried out through multilateral treaties, international conferences, multilateral organizations and international coalitions.

To give an example, the UN is an example of a multilateral organization that brings together a large number of states to solve international problems in various fields such as peace and security, human rights, economic development and humanitarian assistance.

Multilateral diplomacy involves interactions between three or more countries or actors in the international arena. It usually appears in several forms, including:

1. Multilateral treaties and agreements, as forms of multilateral diplomacy, during which a group of countries comes to an agreement regarding a specific problem or issue. An example would be the Paris Agreement on climate change;

2. International conferences and summits. Accordingly, these events provide an opportunity for representatives of various countries to gather to discuss specific issues. Examples are the Group of Twenty (G20) and UN summits;

3. Multilateral organizations, which are an institutionalized form of multilateral diplomacy in which a group of countries cooperate to resolve a wide range of issues;

4. International coalitions and alliances, coalitions of countries against terrorist threats. In general, these forms represent the ways that countries use to advance their interests and reach agreement on important issues in the international arena involving three or more participants. In the face of new threats, it needs to interact with new actors in world politics, including non-state actors” [Princen, 1994]. B. Hawking coined the term “catalyst diplomacy”, associated with the definition of close interaction between official and unofficial diplomacy[Hocking, 1999].

In many countries, the achievement of positive results was helped by the techniques of so-called “second-track” diplomacy, which involves organizing meetings of negotiators (usually not heads of delegations) in an informal setting, as well as the practice of informal mediation to probe positions and find acceptable solutions [McDonald, Bendahmane, 1991]. The complexity of multilateral negotiations on the problems of climate change, genetic engineering, and environmental protection required the involvement of representatives of science and the theory of “parallel international negotiations” in the negotiations [Rouhana, Kelman, 1994]. As researchers note, the practice of establishing them “in conditions of rupture or absence of diplomatic relations, in some cases, represents the optimal solution compared to maintaining relations at the level of consular offices or representative offices”[Zonova, 2007].

Based on the above review of current problems in the development of diplomatic activity at the international level, the following proposals can be named:

1. Strengthening multilateral diplomatic platforms, which is why it is necessary to develop and strengthen international organizations such as the UN to effectively resolve global and regional problems. This proposal can be implemented by providing practical incentives for member states to increase financial support for international organizations such as the UN through the development of innovative financial mechanisms and agreed international arrangements. No less important will be active participation in diplomatic activities to convince member states and other participants in the world community of the importance of strengthening and effective functioning of international organizations to address global challenges.

2. It also seems effective to create mechanisms for strengthening interaction between international organizations, public and non-governmental organizations [Hocking, 1995], as well as the private sector for joint participation in the development and implementation of projects to solve global and regional problems. The effectiveness of these mechanisms will be strengthened by the establishment of a system for monitoring and evaluating the results of the activities of international

organizations to effectively solve problems in order to identify successful practices and adjust strategies;

3. ensuring standardization and legal protection in digital diplomacy. The ease of use of social networks and their widespread distribution make the chances of countries with good diplomatic experience and countries that have not previously been active in the field of public diplomacy equal in creating positive achievements in their image in foreign countries [Marchukov, 2014]. It is important to develop international data security and privacy standards to prevent abuses in digital diplomacy. Their development will guarantee compliance with the rules and requirements for the level of data protection and information security in digital diplomacy [Taipova, 2022]. Along with this, it will be necessary to create mechanisms for the exchange of experience and expertise between states and international organizations on cybersecurity issues in order to increase awareness and effectiveness of actions. An example is the work of the UN Working Practices Group on International Information Security, which develops recommendations on standards and behavior of states in cyberspace. In this matter, foreign ministries of states can also bring important practical value [Spence, 1999]. The Council of Europe's International Convention on Cybercrime and its Protocols serve as examples of international agreements to combat cybercrime and ensure information security. In general, the development of international standards for data security and privacy in digital diplomacy requires the cooperation of states and international organizations, as well as the adoption of mandatory norms and certification. Examples of such efforts can be found in the form of agreements, regulations and experience-sharing mechanisms that help strengthen cybersecurity and prevent abuses in digital diplomacy;

4. development of educational programs for diplomats. Thus, training qualified specialists through international educational programs will help increase the level of professionalism of diplomats and their ability to adapt to the changing conditions of world politics;

5. development of mechanisms for early response to conflicts, through the creation of an effective early warning system and rapid response to the outbreak of conflicts. This is possible if a systematic analysis of the international situation and monitoring of conflict situations is carried out to identify potentially dangerous trends. Through this, it will be possible to develop mechanisms for prompt warning of the outbreak of conflicts based on the collection and analysis of information, promote cooperation between countries, regional organizations and international institutions for the exchange of information and coordinate actions in the event of a threat of conflict, as well as the creation of flexible and transparent interaction mechanisms for rapid making decisions and promptly responding to emerging threats. Examples include the EU's early warning and rapid response system and the UN Peacebuilding Commission, which promote the use of early warning mechanisms for conflicts in various regions of the world.

An effective early warning and rapid response system to the outbreak of conflict requires a comprehensive approach, including analysis, monitoring, international cooperation and flexibility in decision-making.

6. Increasing the transparency of negotiation processes, which in the foreseeable future will help reduce the level of mistrust between countries and increase the effectiveness of dialogue. This proposal can be implemented if you pay attention to the following key aspects:

- publication of reports on the progress of negotiations, main discussions and results;
- creation of mechanisms for feedback and discussion of the results of negotiations with stakeholders;
- support for open dialogues and the desire to achieve consensus in the negotiation process;
- compliance with ethical principles during negotiations, including respect for the opinions of

other parties and conscientiousness in resolving controversial issues.

In the context of the above, we emphasize that increasing the transparency of negotiation processes reduces mistrust between countries and increases the effectiveness of dialogue in international relations. Public discussion, public participation, feedback, openness, adherence to ethical principles and the use of good practices from different countries can help improve trust and effectiveness in negotiation processes.

Conclusion

The development of diplomatic activity in the modern international legal context requires an integrated approach to solving emerging problems. In the context of globalization and increased competition in the international arena, effective diplomacy is becoming a key factor in ensuring national interests and strengthening international peace and stability. The proposed measures and strategies can help strengthen diplomatic relations and increase their effectiveness in the international arena.

The challenges and recommendations outlined above highlight the importance of international cooperation and transparency in addressing global challenges. The development of early response mechanisms to conflicts, the strengthening of international organizations and increased transparency of negotiations contribute to the effective resolution of global problems. The practical implementation of measures such as analysis and monitoring, public participation, the use of diplomatic efforts and the development of transparent feedback mechanisms are important steps towards strengthening global security and cooperation. Ensuring the implementation of the above proposals helps develop trust between countries, reduce the risk of conflicts and increase the efficiency of international negotiations. Bringing transparency and improving interaction in the international arena are key factors to achieving peaceful and stable relations between states.

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