Ryabova L.V.**The Modern Concept of European Security in the Writings and Speeches of Angela Merkel***Ryazan State University named after S.A. Yesenina
(Russia, Ryazan)**doi:10.18411/spc-22-05-2020-12**idsp: sciencepublic-22-05-2020-12**Scientific adviser
Nikolashina E.A.***Abstract**

The article is devoted to the German Chancellor's position on the current problems of the world community. Angela Merkel offers her vision of European security and a strategy to prevent a split in society, the center of which is the policy of multilateralism. The article highlights the further development of Germany's relations with Russia, the construction of the pipeline "Nord Stream – 2", the role of NATO in ensuring stability in Europe, the significance of the US withdrawal from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (IRNFT), as well as the problem of Washington's refusal to sign a political agreement with Iran.

Keywords: Angela Merkel, European security, international security, Nord stream – 2, INF Treaty, migration problem, US sanctions, NATO.

Аннотация

Автор анализирует позицию канцлера Германии по текущим проблемам мирового сообщества. Ангела Меркель предлагает свою концепцию Европейской безопасности и стратегию предотвращения раскола в обществе, ядром которой является политика многосторонности. В статье освещаются дальнейшее развитие отношений Германии с Россией, строительства газопровода "Северный поток-2", роль НАТО в обеспечении стабильности в Европе, значение выхода США из Договора о ядерных силах средней дальности (ДРСМД), а также проблема отказа Вашингтона от подписания политического соглашения с Ираном.

Ключевые слова: Ангела Меркель, европейская безопасность, международная безопасность, Северный поток-2, ДРСМД, миграционная проблема, американские санкции, НАТО.

The European Union and Germany are experiencing a deep crisis. Merkel offers her vision of Europe and a new strategy to prevent a split in society.

In February 2019, the annual international security conference was held in Munich. The German Chancellor touched on many issues of concern to the world community in the extensive speech. Angela Merkel spoke out against the severance of relations with Russia and called for a dialogue with Moscow. Merkel criticized the United States for threatening to impose sanctions on German cars harshly and her main message was addressed to US President Donald Trump. Up to Merkel the possible commitment to the policy of multilateralism is a joint solution to world problems.

The German Chancellor pointed to the danger of the collapse of the existing international political and defense structures of the West. Merkel stressed the importance of network structures in the defense sector, which are based on the experience of the Second World War: "They need to be reformed, but they cannot be destroyed" [5]. In this regard, Merkel expressed support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and noted the need for NATO as a stronghold of stability in turbulent times, as a community of values. The German Chancellor emphasized that the efforts at a consensus European defense policy are not directed against NATO, they make NATO cooperation better and more effective, because many ineffective moments in the relations between the member States of the European Union

and NATO can be overcome if a common military doctrine is developed and weapons systems are selected [5]. It should be noted that Germany continues the policy of a new culture of responsibility begun in 2014, including in the field of international security, the foundations of which are formulated in the Bundeswehr's White Paper, adopted in July 2016. Berlin, recognizing the basic relations within NATO, consistently strengthens the European vector of military and political security on the basis of existing structures, including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) [1].

Merkel commented on the situation in Europe caused by the US withdrawal from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (IRNFT). The German Chancellor said that it was Russia that gave grounds for the termination of the IRNFT. She added that "part of the arms limitation system in Europe and around the world has thus been lost" [5]. The Chancellor stressed that China should also join the dialogue on disarmament. After all, disarmament is something that concerns the entire European Union. Germany would be pleased if such negotiations will hold not only between the United States, Europe and Russia, but also with the participation of China. Merkel noted that the IRNF Treaty was concluded in 1987 between Washington and Moscow "in the interests of Europe", so a process of disarmament is necessary to get out of this crisis. The German government added that the withdrawal of the US and then the Russian Federation from the IRNF Treaty put European countries in danger of a new arms race [3].

For Germany, the most important priority of domestic policy is to solve the problems caused by the migration flow. The Federal government is discussing the next package of laws in the field of migration law. It is proposed to reduce the time of consideration of the case for granting refugee status to six months. It is also proposed to replace financial payments with services to those people who are waiting for a response from the migration Department in hostels and shelters for refugees [4]. Angela Merkel noted that if we increase humanitarian aid the problem of refugees will be over.

Another aspect of the German Chancellor's speech in Munich was devoted to Europe's relations with Tehran and Damascus. According to the Chancellor, Europe and the United States have similar goals in the region; it is about the need to "reduce the destructive impact of Iran." However, the unilateral US withdrawal from Syria, as well as Washington's refusal of a political agreement with Iran – the "Joint comprehensive plan of action" – threaten to lead to the opposite result, the Chancellor warned. Is it a good idea that the Americans are suddenly and quickly withdrawing from Syria? Or, in contrast, will it strengthen the ability of Iran and Russia to exercise their influence there?

Merkel referred to the construction of the pipeline "Nord Stream – 2", which will connect Russia and Germany and stressed the unacceptability of the US approach to energy security of the EU in general and Germany in particular, indicating that the supply of Russian gas, including through the future gas pipeline, fully comply with the requirements in this area. According to the head of the German government, dependence on Russian gas is not due to "which pipeline gas is supplied". Russian gas remains Russian gas whether it comes through Ukraine or the Baltic Sea [5]. A. Merkel's government has repeatedly announced that the construction of a new branch of the Nord Stream gas pipeline is only the economic project, which is not the result of the political rapprochement of Germany and Russia's positions. In further negotiations with the United States, Germany agreed to build a terminal in the country to receive American liquefied natural gas, and confirmed the preservation of transit of gas supplies through Ukraine. However, the purpose of the strategy D. Trump's administration is the maximum displacement of Russia from the European energy market, and therefore the United States continues to pressure its allies, threatening to impose restrictions on European companies that participate in the project "Nord stream-2" under "the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act" [3]. At the moment, Germany adheres to the common strategy of European Security, diversification of the EU energy market, which is based on the policy of decentralization [2].

The German Chancellor proposes the following method of cooperation to resolve the current situation in Europe. First, the Transatlantic Alliance must be a defensive Alliance. NATO will be able to cope with its tasks if it continues to follow the network concept of security. Secondly, none of these many conflicts can be resolved by military means only. Sanctions against Russia must be agreed. Thirdly, Merkel added: "We will continue to act within the framework of the NATO-Russia Agreement. The thread of negotiations should not be broken" [5]. Merkel noted the special place of the economic cooperation's development in the solution of the current problems.

Angela Merkel said: "All these problems are like a puzzle. The question arises: are we falling apart into pieces, thinking that everyone will be able to solve the problem for themselves in the best way"? Only through joint efforts is it possible to overcome all the existing problems in Europe. Merkel stressed that this is the answer to the motto of the conference: "The Big Puzzle: Who will collect the pieces? - Only we all together".

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