

HISTORY OF DEFINITION OF THE INDEPENDENT BORDER OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN (1991-2005)

Ganiy M. KARASSAYEV¹, Gizatulla H. KHALIDULLIN²,
Bekmurat R. NAIMANBAYEV³, Talgatbek M. AMINOV⁴,
Almas A. ARZIKULOV⁵

¹Department of Source Studies, Historiography and Kazakhstan History,
Institute of State History, Science Committee of the Ministry of
Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nur-Sultan,
Republic of Kazakhstan

²Department of History of Kazakhstan, Abai Kazakh National
Pedagogical University, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

³Department of Kazakhstan History and Geography, SILKWAY
International University, Shymkent, Republic of Kazakhstan

⁴Department of History of Social-Economic Development of
Kazakhstan, Institute of State History, Science Committee of the
Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nur-
Sultan, Republic of Kazakhstan

⁵Department of the Information-Analytical Works, Kazakhstan Institute
for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan,
Nur-Sultan, Republic of Kazakhstan

Abstract: *During the last period of the Soviet Union's existence, it was constantly stated that the historical territory of Kazakhstan did not belong to it. After the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, one of the priorities in strengthening state sovereignty was the need for legalization of borders with neighboring countries, as border issues are very important for each state in terms of security, territorial integrity and independence. The authors of the article reveal the purpose of their research as an object of study of the borders of the Independent Republic of Kazakhstan, which became an important political event in the history of international relations, theoretically and methodologically through a comparative historical analysis of the works of domestic, foreign and domestic scientists. paid systematic attention to systematic review. There is no doubt that the history of international relations in the field of historical science, including the definition of the issue of interstate state borders, is a very topical issue. Therefore, in the conditions of independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, i.e. post-Soviet Russia, China, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, the object of the study was demarcated, the process and results of mutual recognition were scientifically analyzed and evaluated.*

Keywords: demarcation, delimitation, international relationships, post-Soviet territory, homeland.

The direct ancestors of the Kazakh people inhabited the central valley of the Eurasian continent since the Bronze Age and established their own state associations and farms. They reached cultural achievements of their time. It is known that at different times the neighboring peoples were known to the states as Saks, Huns, Turks, and at the end of the XV century in this region the Kazakh people and its state under this name were born. The Kazakh Khanate

lived in independence until the first quarter of the XVIII century. They established political and economic ties with neighboring peoples and states. In order to preserve its territorial integrity, the Kazakh people, led by many khans and heroes, were able to show examples of heroism in defending their homeland. However, due to the contradictions in the history of the people and the state, the Kazakh Khanate was forced to become part of the Tsarist Russian Empire in the 30s of the XIX century. This dependence on others continued during the Soviet era and lasted until 1991. Only after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Kazakhstan, which gained its independence, set itself the task of restoring its historical territory as a sovereign state. In a short period of time, the Republic of Kazakhstan has defined its borders with neighboring countries Russia, China, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan on the basis of mutual agreement and international law. As a result of such an important state activity, the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan took the 9th place among the countries of the world in terms of land area and was formed as a unitary, legal, and democratic state.

The next important task for Kazakhstan, which gained independence at the end of 1991, was to redefine its centuries-old historical territory, to legitimize it in terms of international law on the basis of full recognition by neighboring states. This is because the historical homeland of the Kazakh people has been constantly fragmented, especially during its time as part of the Russian Empire. On the basis of the planned policy of colonization, the names of historical places and settlements were changed as much as possible. Kazakh land has become a multinational zone. The share of the Kazakh people has decreased.

Such a policy was further influenced during the Soviet era. It was planned to re-establish the territory of the Kazakh SSR as a part of the USSR in the interests of the Union, and it began to be implemented. Many border areas of Kazakhstan were ceded to neighboring republics without the consent of the local population. The number of people of other nationalities in the regions bordering the RSFSR has been multiplied. The renaming of settlements continued. As a result, the national image of these regions was destroyed. During the last period of the Soviet Union's existence, it was constantly stated that the historical territory of Kazakhstan did not belong to it. After the independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, one of the priorities in strengthening state sovereignty was the need for legalization of borders with neighboring countries, as border issues are very important for each state in terms of security, territorial integrity and independence¹.

The authors of the article reveal the purpose of their research as an object of study of the borders of the Independent Republic of Kazakhstan,

¹ K.M. Baypakov, M.K., Kozybaev, B.E. Kumekov, *History of Kazakhstan*, Atamura, Almaty, 2010.

which became an important political event in the history of international relations, theoretically and methodologically through a comparative historical analysis of the works of domestic, foreign and domestic scientists. paid systematic attention to systematic review.

Materials and methods

New research data from the archives of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (AP RK), the State Archives of the East Kazakhstan region (SAEKR), the Archives of Foreign Policy of the Russian Federation (AFP RF) were used to write the research article. In addition, foreign and domestic research papers on diplomacy and international relations were analyzed and referenced. There is no doubt that the history of international relations in the field of historical science, including the definition of the issue of interstate state borders, is a very topical issue. Therefore, in the conditions of independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, i.e. post-Soviet Russia, China, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, the object of the study was demarcated, the process and results of mutual recognition were scientifically analyzed and evaluated.

It is known that it is very important to consider the historical process in the context of international relations from the historical and political point of view, based on the theoretical and methodological bases in the field of historical science. For example, in the field of interstate relations and cooperation, there is a need for scientific analysis of mutual agreements (treaties), the legitimacy of agreements between two or more subjects of international law, the importance of the issues raised, their relevance at the bilateral and multilateral levels. Therefore, in preparing the research topic, it is important to pay attention to the state archival data and scientific literature and documents, as well as documents of mutual agreement at the official level. In this article, special attention was paid to these requirements. In this context, the Russian scientist V.V. Kudinov in his book “Basic theories of the definition of the line of interstate demarcation” stated “The problem of delimitation of borders dates back to the earliest times, because from the earliest days of human society, this issue has been constantly raised. Even before the emergence of states, they were important in the economic, social, political and spiritual development of the peoples of our planet. Currently, there is no common concept of the timing and stages of the state border. Different concepts have been proposed in historical development”².

² V.V. Kudinov, “Basic theories of defining the line of interstate delimitation”, in *Eurasian Union of Scientists*, 2015, vol. 4, no. 13, p. 80-86.

Kazakhstan historian-scientist N.B. Seidin in his book “The state border of the Republic of Kazakhstan: the formation, problems and process of definition” claimed “Since the independence of Kazakhstan, the importance of the state border has increased. The total length of the state border, which is a symbol of the inviolability of the country, is 14 thousand kilometers. The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev and his government officials have done a lot of work”³. In international relations and political science, there are the terms “delimitation” and “demarcation”. For example, Delimitation is defining the border. Determining the common direction of the border line between the states through negotiations. Demarcation is the demarcation of the state border with special border posts. These processes have been fully implemented between Kazakhstan and the countries of migration.

Results and discussion

Such negative phenomena, open opposition to the homeland of the Kazakh people, have been growing since the first days of independence. This situation was mainly exacerbated by Russian nationalists and those who wanted to preserve the status quo of the post-Soviet Russian Federation at the expense of the former Soviet republics. This situation was exacerbated by false promises and calls from some nationalist and chauvinist groups in the neighboring country. For example: Zhirinovskiy's speech on Russian television during the pre-election struggle in the State Duma of the Russian Federation is, in our opinion, a gross and open interference in the internal affairs of the Sovereign Republic of Kazakhstan. Zhirinovskiy said Russian rights in Kazakhstan were being violated, that Russians were encircling Russian embassies in Kazakhstan to leave Kazakhstan or obtain dual citizenship, because all government and administration positions were held by indigenous peoples, while Russians were persecuted and demoted. is pronounced. “Kazakhstan has never existed in history, the territory of Kazakhstan was only part of the Russian Empire, so in the future these lands should be included as territories of the provinces of the Russian Federation”⁴. This confirms the above stated things.

Foreign politicians and members of the public drew attention to the temporary difficult situation in interethnic relations in Kazakhstan during this period. He suggested ways to solve this problem. In particular, in the book “The National Question in the Post-Soviet States” by the English politician Graham Smith: “The geographical location of the Russians also differs with

³ N. B. Seydin, *The state border of the Republic of Kazakhstan: formation, problems and process of definition*, KISI, Almaty, 2006.

⁴ AP RK. Fund-5-H, Series-1, File-4413, p. 16.

some geopolitical negative consequences. Russians dominate in the northern agricultural regions of Kazakhstan, which borders Russia. The whole of North Kazakhstan is the main site of possible conflict between Russia and Kazakhstan”⁵. In the article from April 11, 1994 in the Tehran Times, entitled “Tensions Between Russians and Kazakhs Are Growing”, Vladimir Ovsyannikov, the leader of the Cossacks in Almaty oblast, said that “such conflicts could lead to open war and compared the situation in the regions bordering on Russia”⁶.

The volume of internal and external migration in the early days of independence in the country has increased at an unprecedented rate. The main reasons for this were the current difficulties in the economic and social development of the country. For example, in 1993 alone, the number of migrants from Kazakhstan to other countries, especially to the Russian Federation, reached a significant level. On February 4, 1994, the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Kazakhstan, Krasnikov, in an interview with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Kazakhstan, Chen Dimen, said: “According to our estimates, about 500.000 Russians left Kazakhstan in 1993. The same situation persists this year. A special place is given to the expulsion of Russian specialists from all positions of power. In this context, the Russian side believes that the deepening of cooperation within the CIS depends on the settlement of the situation of ethnic Russians in the CIS”⁷ – noting that this phenomenon is of concern to Russia.

With the advent of independence, concerns about the future of the multinational population of Kazakhstan, the situation that threatens the strength, unity and territorial integrity of the country in this area, became increasingly apparent in the border areas. According to the scientific service of the German Bundestag, “Russia and Kazakhstan are currently experiencing territorial conflicts between Russians living in North Kazakhstan – Kokshetau-Tselinograd, Kostanay, East Kazakhstan region along the Irtysh River – Pavlodar, Semipalatinsk, Northwest Uralsk and Aktobe regions. sit down. There is a danger of such a source of tension along the entire old Russian border system”⁸.

These phenomena were also used by political activists who wanted to increase their influence by any means among the population. Such a tense situation occurred in all regions of the country. For example, Kamit Tursunov, a candidate for the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Kazakhstan from Peoples Akmola constituency of the People's Congress of Kazakhstan, makes a statement in his election program on giving Russian the status of the second

⁵ AP RK. Fund-5-H, Series-1, File-6676, pp. 10, 11, 12, 14.

⁶ AP RK. Fund-5-H, Series-1, File-4413, pp. 31-32.

⁷ AFP RF, Fund-897, Series-1, File-5, p. 4.

⁸ AP RK. Fund-75-H, Series-1, File-3039, p. 29.

state language. He also criticized the requirement of a unitary state in the Republic of Kazakhstan, based on the Constitution. One of the items of his election program was a proposal to create a confederation with Russia, despite the fact that the Republic of Kazakhstan is a sovereign state⁹. The immediate escalation of Russian-Kazakh relations in recent weeks has affected the level of migration of Russian-speaking people from North Kazakhstan as well. Activists in the Russian community in northern Kazakhstan have concluded that official reports do not reflect the real situation. The number of Russian-speaking migrants is growing rapidly, says Viktor Achkasov, the head of the local Cossacks. They have grown, especially after the introduction of the national currency, because it does not satisfy most of the distance from Russia¹⁰.

The impact of economic difficulties in the first years of independence in the East Kazakhstan region was described in a 1997 sociological study entitled “Cossacks in the East Kazakhstan region”. It is stated: “In a difficult economic situation (Cossacks, author – GK) confidence in the President is declining”. If in 1995, 20.4% of respondents said they believed in his work, about half of the Cossacks surveyed in 1997 (46.3%) said they did not believe in him. To the question “How much do you believe in the President's sincerity and ability to change the situation?”, 5 or 5.31% of respondents fully believe, 4, or 4.2% believe, 30, or 31, 6% may believe, 44, or 46.3% do not believe at all. In the 1995 survey, these figures were as follows: 6 or 3.8%; 32 or 20.4%; 41 or 26.1%; 51 or 32.5%.

The task of this sociological study was to analyze not only the general emotional state of the Cossacks, but also the reasons for people's attendance in the Cossack community, the attitude of the Cossacks to community service¹¹. In June 1994, a public opinion poll was organized among the residents of Ust-Kamenogorsk on the topic “Russians and Kazakhs, who we are: history, culture, politics”. Its purpose was to determine the outcome of the existing interaction between the multinational population of the city. It is planned to determine the types, effectiveness and need for further interethnic work in the region, based on the difficulties of the first years of independence. For example, in the question: “Do you agree that Russians feel comfortable in Kazakhstan? 77.2% of Russians do not have 78.4% of Russians answered negatively to the question “Are your civil and political rights guaranteed?” – ¹² – the situation of inter-ethnic relations in the region you can find out.

⁹ AP RK. Fund-5-H, Series-1, File-3508, pp. 27, 28.

¹⁰ AP RK. Fund-75-H, Series-1, File-4413, p. 5.

¹¹ SAEKR. Fund-296, Series-1, File-110, p. 3.

¹² SAEKR. Fund-296, Series-2, File-33, pp. 2, 6, 7, 8.

The organizers of such a situation in Kazakhstan, especially in the regions bordering the Russian Federation, believe that the way out of this situation is to obtain dual citizenship or reconsider the ownership of non-Kazakh regions in Kazakhstan. Ways to achieve these goals began to be announced in the media and at public gatherings, which are not registered in the country or whose activities are banned. That is, the level of threat to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the future of the state has increased. However, the majority of the population of Kazakhstan supported the sovereignty of the Republic and was interested in the understanding of interethnic relations within the country, the strengthening of understanding, the stabilization, development and territorial integrity of the economy. It was written to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan by a group of war and labor veterans of the East Kazakhstan region: "There are people in the society who do not agree with the territorial integrity of Kazakhstan. Some promote national isolation, while others preach extremism and separatism. We understand that only trust and harmony in interethnic relations will establish our common Motherland, the new sovereign state of Kazakhstan"¹³ – confirms the official statement.

It is known that the above requirements for the territory of Kazakhstan require the state to begin the process of demarcation of the state border with neighbors bordering all regions as soon as possible on the basis of mutual understanding and agreement at the international legal level. After all, it is known that "the presence of territorial issues with neighbors (China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan) at any time preserves the destructive power that threatens the territorial integrity of the republic. The solution of this issue and the legal consolidation of the existing territory should be considered as a priority of foreign policy"¹⁴. That is why the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan has begun to resolve this issue quickly and in full in the interests of our country.

That is, in accordance with the requirements of the multilateral policy, Kazakhstan has begun to establish a zone of peace and friendship with its immediate neighbors (China, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan) throughout its borders. According to this plan, the clear demarcation of Kazakhstan's borders has become a strategic measure aimed at strengthening national security. The most important of these is the demarcation of the border with Russia and China, where many borders of tens of thousands of kilometers are not legalized. First of all, the issue of defining and legalizing the newly established border areas between Independent Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation was on the agenda. At the same time, the border between the

¹³ AP RK. Fund 5-H, Series-1, File-4413, pp. 23, 24.

¹⁴ AP RK. Fund 5-H, Series-1, File-431, p. 18.

Russian Empire, which was once part of the historical Kazakh land, and later the Soviet Union and China, has long been the basis of misunderstandings, animosities and conflicts between these states. Even more recently, China has begun to impose its own demands on the Soviet Union for large border areas. A significant part of these lands was the historically formed territory of Kazakhstan within the Soviet Union.

Such difficulties were created by the Soviet authorities in defining the borders of Kazakhstan with independent Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, as well as Turkmenistan, which were often changed without the consent of the local people. The incomplete definition of the territory of independent Kazakhstan, the lack of mutual agreement in this area with neighboring countries is a full-fledged political, economic, etc. of our country with other countries. It could also hinder the implementation of the relationship in the following directions. It has become clear that such a situation makes it difficult for the country to regulate migration with neighboring countries.

These and other circumstances necessitated the determination of the historical territory of the independent Kazakh state, its borders on the basis of international law. This issue arose not only from the demands of modern statehood, but also from the task of fulfilling the dream of our ancestors, who longed for the integrity of the Kazakh people and its freedom. That is why the main direction of the foreign policy of the President in the 90s of the twentieth century with the neighboring countries was to resolve these complex issues in a radical, just and peaceful way. Basically it is “The interstate border demarcation campaign was conducted in three stages on the basis of routes with China, the Central Asian republics and Russia and covered the shortest period from 1992 to 2005”. As a result, in a short time the borders of the Republic of Kazakhstan with neighboring countries, including China and Russia, were fully recognized.

In 1992, the Kazakh side began an agreement with China. However, there were also difficulties in defining the border with China. When the 1994 agreement was ratified, the disputed parts of the Chaganoba Pass (East Kazakhstan region) and Saryshildy River (Almaty region) were disagreed¹⁵. According to the archives, Almaty is concerned that the border issue between Kazakhstan and China has not been resolved. The Chinese side is still interested in large-scale penetration of more than 300 square kilometers in Taldykorgan region (more than 600 square kilometers) (East River) and East Kazakhstan region (Shaganoba Pass and Baimyrza) refuses to conclude an agreement on the part”¹⁶. As a result of Kazakhstan's bold and well-motivated work in this situation, “Significant progress has been made in defining the

¹⁵ B.G. Ayagan, A.M. Auanasova, *Nursultan Nazarbayev and the Kazakh model of state construction (historical aspect)*, Litera-M LLP, Almaty, 2012.

¹⁶ AFP RF. Fund-897, Series-4, File-12, p. 201.

border issue between the two countries. After the exchange of agreements on the Kazakh-Chinese border on April 26, 1994, measures were taken to define the border”¹⁷.

After analyzing all possible ways to address this issue, the disputed territory was divided at the level of 53:47, where Kazakhstan received a large part – 537 square kilometers. The transfer of territories was in a state of mutual equality and was carried out in the interests of the Republic of Kazakhstan (15.171). N.A. Nazarbayev noted: “During the visit of Prime Minister Lee Peng to Kazakhstan in 1994, we managed to legalize the border between the two countries and signed an agreement. The last meeting during a three-day visit to this country in September 1995 was very special. A protocol on the exchange of documents on ratification of the agreement on the Kazakh-Chinese border between Kazakhstan and China was signed”¹⁸.

The boundaries identified as a result of the agreements between Kazakhstan and China were established in 1996 by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev. During Nazarbayev's meetings with the Chinese leadership in 1996, it was further discussed and the “Agreement on the State Border of China and Kazakhstan”¹⁹ was signed. On the effective work of demarcation of the border between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the People's Republic of China, German researchers said: “Although Kazakhstan was at the forefront of the territorial dispute between China and the USSR, it quickly reached a state of mutual understanding. Disputed border issues have been successfully resolved”²⁰. The significance of this agreement for our country: “Even the USSR has not been able to reach such an agreement with China. For the first time in the history of the Republic of Kazakhstan, a recognized state border with China has emerged – the border of peace and partnership”²¹. In the course of further activity, the President said: “...On October 12, 1998, during the state visit of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, a Protocol was signed between Kazakhstan and Russia defining the border between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation since 1999”²².

The basis of further cross-border relations between the two countries is also aimed at resolving this issue as much as possible, completely and radically. “As a result of this relationship (January 25, 2005) in Moscow, Nursultan Nazarbayev and Vladimir Putin signed an agreement on the Kazakh-Russian state border, as a result of which the world's longest border was established on

¹⁷ AFP RF. Fund-897, Series-3, File-21, p. 198.

¹⁸ N.A. Nazarbayev, *At the turn of the century*, Art, Almaty, 1996.

¹⁹ AFP RF. Fund-897, Series-4, File-12, p. 197.

²⁰ AP RK. Fund-75-H, Series-1, File 3039, p. 37.

²¹ N.A. Nazarbayev, *Era of Independence*, Kazakparat, Astana, 2017.

²² R. Ishanov, 1998. *New economic course of Kazakhstan. Figures and facts. Innovative economy*. Retrieved from: https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc_id=30160454#pos=4;-106.

a legal basis”²³. President Nursultan Nazarbayev Nazarbayev concluded that “The border agreement can be considered historic, because it opens a new stage in the development of equal partnership between the largest states in the post-Soviet space, and this agreement defines the world's longest land border of 7591 km”²⁴. As a result of such purposeful work by the leaders of Kazakhstan and Russia, an agreement on the state border between the two countries was signed in 2005 after several years of negotiations. Thus, as a result of mutual understanding between the states in this direction: “Cooperation in the current border area between Russia and Kazakhstan is the main instrument of economic and humanitarian relations between the two countries”²⁵.

As a result of agreements and determinations between neighboring countries with common histories, “... on July 17, 1998, a memorandum was signed between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic on the demarcation of the state border” (22.97). The demarcation of Kazakhstan's border with its next historical neighbor, Uzbekistan, was also largely based on understanding and understanding between the two countries. “The complexity of the border between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan lies in the fact that the 2.440-kilometer to 200-kilometer border between the two countries passes through densely populated areas on both the Kazakh and Uzbek sides”, he said. It was Sarygashtyk and Maktaaral districts of South Kazakhstan region, as well as Tashkent and Zhizak regions of Uzbekistan. A number of settlements are located so that the borders pass between the houses (15.171). As a result of such work, “On September 9, 2002, Nursultan Nazarbayev and Islam Karimov signed a declaration on the completion of the process of delimitation of borders between the two countries” (15.172)²⁶.

Kazakhstan's next neighbor, Turkmenistan, also needed to be demarcated. In this regard, “On July 5, 2001, during the official visit of the then President of Turkmenistan Saparmurat Niyazov to Kazakhstan, an agreement was signed on the demarcation of the borders of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan. At a meeting of trilateral delegations in Ashgabat in November 2001, the treaty between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan agreed on the demarcation of the border areas of the three countries and identified common ground”²⁷. “Kazakhstan is

²³ A. Alibekov, M. Erbolatov, S. Zhanaydarov, E. Syzdykova, V. Shatskov, A. Zhumagalieva, K. Izbaskanova, *Kazakh-Russian relations. 2006. Collection of documents and materials*, RM, Moscow, 2007.

²⁴ M.B. Kasymbekov, *First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev. Chronicle of activity (01.01.2004-31.12.2005)*, Elord, Astana, 2006.

²⁵ AFP RF, Fund-897, Series-2, File-8, p. 81.

²⁶ AFP RF, Fund-897, Series-2, File-8, p. 81.

²⁷ B.G. Ayagan, H.M. Abzhanov, D.A. Mahat, *History of modern Kazakhstan*, Rarity, Almaty, 2010.

around the perimeter”, N.A. Nazarbayev wrote describing the course of the most important interstate political activities carried out during the first decade of independence of the country, – completed the legalization of the continental part of the border. Kazakhstan is the only country in the Central Asian region that has fully resolved the issue of delimitation and demarcation. The state border of the Republic of Kazakhstan, established in 2000, is completely legal.

Kazakhstan has a legally registered 14 thousand kilometers of land border. 7591 km of it is connected with Russia, about 2351 km with Uzbekistan, 1783 km with China, 1242 km with Kyrgyzstan, 426 km with Turkmenistan” (21.295-296). As a result of such work, which defines the independence of our country at the world level:

–the issue of territory between Kazakhstan and Russia, which has long been controversial and has complicated the relations between the two peoples for many years, especially since the early 1990s, has been legitimized on the basis of the long-standing ancestral homeland of the Kazakh people. The borders of the two countries have become a place of friendship and understanding;

–the demarcation of the border between Kazakhstan and China, which has been unrecognized for centuries, including during the Kazakh Khanate, and later became part of the Kazakh lands, and the frequent conflicts with the Soviet Union, and even the center of armed conflict, is now entirely in the interests of our people. found;

–the answer to the misunderstandings between the historically rooted nations was found in the context of mutual satisfaction, and the border issue with Uzbekistan was determined as a result of mutual justice;

–the current border between Kyrgyzstan and Kyrgyzstan has become a symbol of cooperation, historical roots and understanding between the two fraternal peoples, allowing further economic, cultural, ritual and cultural interaction between the two peoples²⁸;

–the border with Turkmenistan has also been established in terms of mutual satisfaction and legitimacy, with the maximum support of the people of the two countries.

That is, the Leader of the Nation N.A. Nazarbayev has realized all the aspirations and dreams of our people to ensure the integrity of the land in a short time and through peaceful, diplomatic agreements. Due to this, today the territory of our state is fully recognized by all neighboring countries and legalized on the basis of international law. That is, “it is impossible to overstate the historical significance of the political confirmation, legalization and international recognition of the state border of Kazakhstan” (21.296). As a

²⁸ G.M. Karasaev, S.Zh. Dyusen, Zh.N. Kaliyev, *Leader of the Nation N.A. Nazarbayev and the foreign policy of independent Kazakhstan*, BIKA, Astana, 2018.

result of the immeasurable fruitful work in the interests of future generations: “Our vast land, inherited from our ancestors, has been fully restored”²⁹.

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev said at a regular meeting with the heads of state and government of the OSCE: “Territorial integrity and inviolability of borders are a solid basis for conflict prevention. Recognition of the strength of European security, while avoiding the pursuit of new zones of influence and therefore eliminating the formation of dividing lines, will lead to a common security space by implementing the above requirements. It is on this basis that a new path of European security in the XXI century will be formed”³⁰, thus he stressed the need for legalization through the intervention of organizations. The strength and inviolability of the territory formed by such an agreement and decision has shown that it is the main guarantee for the preservation of regional and world peace. It is well known that the demarcation of Kazakhstan's borders with neighboring countries is a clear example of the fulfillment of these requirements.

Conclusions

On the Eurasian continent, in 1991-2005, independent Kazakhstan defined its borders with neighboring countries in a short period of time without any conflicts, through peaceful agreements, and legalized them in accordance with international rules, which became known as a rare case of global borders. At the beginning of this case, it was known to all of us, to the world community, that the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev was in this affair. Kazakhstan has a total area of 14 thousand km and occupies the 9th place on the world map, its indigenous population is Kazakhs that comprise 67% of the whole population of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In total, the country has a population of more than 18 million people, including more than 140 different ethnic groups.

On the eve of the thirtieth anniversary of its independence, the Republic of Kazakhstan is recognized by the world community as a dynamically developing, democratic state whose territory is fully defined on the basis of international law, whose economy is based on the requirements of market relations. It is currently a member of the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Organization for Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, and the CIS and many other regional communities. Kazakhstan's ambitious initiatives and proposals in the field of peace and

²⁹ Interview with the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev TV channels “Kazakhstan” and “Khabar”, 2005. Retrieved from: https://www.akorda.kz/ru/speeches/internal_political_affairs/in_interviews/intervyu-prezidenta-respubliki-kazakhstan-n-nazarbaeva-telekanalam-kazakhstan-i-khabar_1342861821.

³⁰ AP RK. Fund-5-H, Series-1, File-5947, p. 5.

stability in the world and in the region, mass disarmament and other areas are known and supported by the world community.

Recommendations

The Eurasian state, which connects Europe and Asia, the Republic of Kazakhstan is recognized as a country with a very favorable geopolitical position. The Great Silk Road, which in ancient times passed between Asia and Europe, also passed through this historical territory of Kazakhstan. At present, transcontinental transit links between Europe and Asia continue through Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is also of interest to world tourists due to its diverse nature. Therefore, in the future it is necessary to consider the allocation of funds from the World Financial Fund for the development of tourism. Even in the context of globalization, the Republic of Kazakhstan is a supporter of peace and harmony. Therefore, many events have become a platform for negotiations.

The most important of these is the successful and final settlement of Kazakhstan's border issue in the context of frequent border disputes, which are the basis of tensions between states in different parts of the world today. That is why it is necessary to pay attention to the publication of scientific papers on this issue at the international level. In order to achieve this goal in the coming years it is possible to make documentaries and publish monographs on the "History of the settlement of the border issue of the Republic of Kazakhstan" and other topics in Kazakh, Russian and English. We propose to hold an international conference on the role of Kazakhstan in defining its historical territory, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the participation of foreign and domestic scientists and diplomats, dedicated to the 30th anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is known that through such organizational measures we can promote the world-class achievements of our country in foreign policy in the 30-year history of independence.