

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN GEORGIA IN THE FIRST HALF OF AND AT THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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Summary

This article provides a brief overview of Georgia's modern history, focusing on the transformation of separatism into a national conflict and the involvement of neighboring states. The socio-political decline of Georgia began in the 13th century with the Mongol invasion. In the late 14th century, Timur's invasion and the fragmentation of central power led to the creation of independent principalities, including Kartli, Kakheti, Imereti, and Samtskhe-Saatabago. This decentralization attracted the attention of neighboring states such as Iran and Turkey, which launched invasions during the 16th to 18th centuries. By the early 20th century, the collapse of the Soviet Union led to a rise in separatism and regional conflicts. The Georgian-Abkhazian conflict intensified during this time, with Georgia seeking UN intervention to resolve the dispute. The country hoped for an objective resolution, signaling its readiness for mediation. Meanwhile, tensions in the region grew, particularly with clashes between North Ossetian and Ingush forces. E. Berner, a representative in Georgia, warned that the addition of the Ossetian-Ingush conflict to the Georgian-Abkhazian issue could destabilize the entire South Caucasus. In May 1993, key meetings took place in Sukhumi, Abkhazia, mediated by E. Berner, with Georgian leaders such as T. Nadirashvili and E. Shevardnadze involved. These discussions aimed to address the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, highlighting that the resolution of such national disputes depends on favorable political and military conditions. The escalation of these conflicts, both regional and international in nature, has continued to aggravate the situation in Georgia. The country's position within the sphere of interest of neighboring states has further intensified these tensions.

Key words: Targeted migration, separatism, terrorism, Georgian-Obkhaz conflict, international organisations, South Causcasus

XX ƏSRİN BİRİNCİ YARISINDA VƏ SONUNDA GÜRCÜSTANDA İCTİMAİ-SİYASİ VƏZİYYƏT

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Xülasə

Bu məqalədə Gürcüstanın müasir tarixinə qısa icmal, separatizmin milli münaqişəyə çevrilməsi və qonşu dövlətlərin maraq dairəsində olması, həmçinin Gürcüstanın qədim, orta və müasir tarixindən, XX əsrin əvvəllərində beynəlxalq imperializmin Gürcüstana təsiri, sovet siyasi sisteminin süqutu və bu münaqişəyə digər münasibətlərdən bəhs edilir. Gürcüstanın ictimai-siyasi həyatında ən ağırlı tənəzzül dövrü XIII əsrin 2-ci rübündə, yəni monqol istilas zamanı, həmçinin XIV əsrin 2-ci yarısında Teymurun hücumu və feodal parçalanması və mərkəzi hakimiyyətin çarlıqlara (çarlıq) parçalanması prosesi ilə başladı. Beləliklə, Kartli, Kaxeti, İmert, Samtsxe Saatabaqo knyazlıqları yaradıldı. Gürcüstanda mərkəzi siyasi hakimiyyətin daha da mərkəzsizləşdirilməsi qonşu dövlətlərin, o cümlədən İran və Türkiyənin marağını genişləndirdi və XVI-XVIII əsrlərdə Gürcüstana invaziv yürüşlər təşkil edildi. Gürcüstan dövlətinin 3-cü tələbində bildirilib ki, Gürcüstan hökuməti BMT baş katibinin xeyrixah xidmətlərini alqışlayır və gürcü-abxaziya münaqişəsinin obyektiv həllinə ümid edir. Hətta Şimali Osetiya və İnquş qüvvələri arasında qarşıdurmalar da olub. Daha sonra BMT-nin Gürcüstandakı nümayəndəsi E. Berner baş katibə ünvanladığı müraciətdə bildirdi ki, gürcü-

abxaz münaqişəsinə Osetiya-İnquş münaqişəsinin əlavə edilməsi bütün Cənubi Qafqazda təhlükəli vəziyyət yarada bilər. Buna görə də 1993-cü il mayın 20-25-də Abxazıyanın paytaxtı Suxumidə E.Börnerin, E.Şevardnadzenin, baş nazir T.Sequnun, S.Kavkadzenin vasitəçiliyi ilə baş nazir, müvəqqəti hərbi şuranın sədri, T.Nadiraşvili ilə, Qudaxiya Sovetinin Yeni Soveti ilə görüşlər keçirildi. Cənubi Qafqazda milli münaqişələrin həlli yalnız hərbi-siyasi və əlverişli şəraitdən və zamandan asılıdır. Gürcüstanın ümumən qonşu dövlətlərin maraq dairəsində olması, Cənubi Qafqazda mövcud münaqişələrin regional müstəvidən beynəlxalq müstəviyə qaldırılması problemin kəskinləşməsindən xəbər verir.

Açar sözlər: Məqsədli miqrasiya, separatizm, terrorizm, gürcü-obxaz münaqişəsi, beynəlxalq təşkilatlar, Cənubi Qafqaz

СОЦИАЛЬНАЯ И ПОЛИТИЧЕСКАЯ СИТУАЦИЯ В ГРУЗИИ В ПЕРВОЙ ПОЛОВИНЕ И В КОНЦЕ XX ВЕКА

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Резюме

В статье дается краткий обзор новейшей истории Грузии, трансформации сепаратизма в национальный конфликт и его вовлеченности в интересы соседних государств, а также древней, средневековой и новейшей истории Грузии, влияния международного империализма на Грузию в начале XX века, краха советской политической системы и других отношений к стране и данному конфликту. Наиболее болезненный период упадка общественно-политической жизни Грузии начался во 2-й четверти XIII в., в период монгольского нашествия, а также во 2-й половине XIV в. с нашествием Тимура и процессом феодальной раздробленности и дробления центральной власти на царства. Так были созданы княжества Картли, Кахети, Имерети, Самцхе-Саатабаго. Дальнейшая децентрализация центральной политической власти в Грузии расширила интересы соседних государств, включая Иран и Турцию, и в XVI-XVIII веках против Грузии были организованы завоевательные походы. В третьем обращении грузинского государства говорилось, что правительство Грузии приветствует добрые услуги Генерального секретаря ООН и надеется на объективное разрешение грузино-абхазского конфликта. Произошли даже столкновения между североосетинскими и ингушскими войсками. Позднее представитель ООН в Грузии Э.Бернер в обращении к Генеральному секретарю заявил, что присоединение осетино-ингушского конфликта к грузино-абхазскому может создать опасную ситуацию на всем Южном Кавказе. Поэтому 20-25 мая 1993 года в столице Абхазии г. Сухуми при посредничестве Э.Бёрнера, Э.Шеварднадзе, премьер-министра Т.Сегуна и С.Кавкадзе состоялись встречи с премьер-министром, председателем Временного военного совета Т.Надирашвили и Новым советом Гудакийского совета. Разрешение национальных конфликтов на Южном Кавказе зависит исключительно от военно-политических и благоприятных условий и времени. Об обострении проблемы свидетельствует тот факт, что Грузия вообще находится в сфере интересов соседних государств, а также эскалация существующих конфликтов на Южном Кавказе с регионального на международный уровень.

Ключевые слова: Целенаправленная миграция, сепаратизм, терроризм, грузино-абхазский конфликт, международные организации, Южный Кавказ

Actuality. The article examines the gradual escalation of separatism in the South Caucasus from the 1980s, which precipitated conflicts in Georgia, Azerbaijan, and surrounding regions. It further underscores the contemporary significance of issues such as the reclamation of Azerbaijan's historical territories and the resolution of the Western Azerbaijan issue, as guided by the strategic approach of President Ilham Aliyev.

Annotation. The article examines Armenian separatism in Karabakh and the interests of regional states in the late 1980s. It also presents contemporary analyses of the Georgian-Abkhaz and Georgian-Ossetian conflicts.

Method. Firstly, the historical roots of ethnic and national conflicts in the South Caucasus are examined, with comparative analyses conducted and historical events interpreted in chronological order. The South Caucasus region, with its rich natural resources and strategic importance, has historically attracted the interest of major powers, including European states and figures such as Alexander the Great, as early as the 4th-3rd centuries BCE. The influx of various nomadic and ethnic groups, particularly Armenians, contributed to the destabilization of the region's socio-political landscape, laying the foundation for persistent conflicts. This paper critically examines the transformation of ethnic and national disputes in the South Caucasus into full-scale wars and their subsequent globalization, offering an analysis from a contemporary perspective.

Introduction. The article examines the ancient, middle, modern and contemporary history of Georgia. In the 90s of the twentieth century, the transformation of the separatist movement of Abkhazians, Ossetians and Adjarians into a national conflict within the country, the sphere of interests of neighboring states and states of the world, is studied and analyzed.

The South Caucasus is one of the ancient human settlements. Georgia has become a region of dispute and conflict between empires at certain stages of history. The Georgian and other peoples created their own similar cultures in this land, and ancient traditions of statehood were formed here. In the middle of the 8th century BC, the Kulkha tribal alliance strengthened in South and West Georgia, but in the 2nd half of the 8th century, it fell apart as a result of the attack of Urartu and the Cimmerians from the north. Only at the beginning of the 6th century BC, the kingdom of Colchis appeared in the west of Georgia, then in the 4th-3rd centuries the Iberian kingdom (tsardom) was formed in the east of Georgia, and in the 1st century BC it was invaded by Rome [8, 69-71]. Only later, in the 3rd and 4th centuries, as a result of the strengthening of the kingdoms (tsardoms) of Iberia, Colchis and Lazica, the Roman absolutism weakened a little in Georgia. In the 5th-6th centuries, Georgia was under pressure from Iran and Byzantium, and starting from the 7th century, a part of Georgia fell under Arab oppression. It should be noted that the Arabs could not change the Georgian script as the Georgian script was formed in the 5th century. At the same time, Georgians voluntarily preserved their language, religion and alphabet, paying the tax demands of the Arabs. We have to admit with regret that the policy of the Georgians did not bring any benefit to our grandfathers. If this historical mistake had not been made, there would not have been today's Karabakh problem and other negative relations [7, 47-48]. At the same time, despite the Arab invasion of Georgia, at the turn of the 8th-9th centuries large feudal principalities - Kakheti, Tao-Klarcheti, Abkhazeti and others were created and the unification of these principalities, the formation of a single Georgian feudal state, was completed at the beginning of the 11th century. During the reign of King (Tsar) David IV (1089-1125), Georgia was attacked by the Seljuks, but these attacks were repelled. The rapid development of the social and political life of Georgia is especially noticeable during the reign of George III, i.e. in 1156-1184, as well as during the reign of Tamara (1184-1207). This development was due to the fact that Georgia expanded its relations with Russia and restored good neighborly relations [9].

The most painful period of decline in the social and political life of Georgia began in the 2nd quarter of the 13th century, that is, during the Mongol invasion, and also in the 2nd half of the 14th century, with the attack of Timur, and the process of feudal fragmentation and the process of splitting the central power into kingdoms (tsardoms) accelerated. Thus, the principalities of Kartli, Kakheti, Imerti, Samtskhe Saatabago were created. Further increasing decentralization of central political power in Georgia expanded the interest of neighboring countries, including Iran and Turkey and in the 16th-18th centuries, invasive marches to Georgia were organized. In response to foreign intervention, a resistance movement began in 1625 under the leadership of G. Saakadze [6, 96-101]. The people of Kakheti also rebelled. The revival period in Georgia began during the reign of Vakhtang VI (1703-1724). During this period, due to the political tension in the country, many members of the Georgian people were forced to migrate and created Georgian colonies in Moscow. During the reign of King (Tsar) Irakli II, i.e. in 1744-1798, a new phase of rapprochement began in Russian-Georgian relations. Even in 1783, a treaty was signed with Russia in Georgievsky [8, 69-71], Eastern Georgia

became a protectorate of Russia. The rapprochement process in Georgian-Russian relations accelerated, Eastern Georgia in 1801, and Western Georgia in 1803-1864 was annexed to Russia. It is true that after the annexation of Georgia to Russia, the raids of the neighboring states on this country were stopped, but within the country there were protests in the provinces against the policy of colonial slavery, heavy serfdom rules and heavy tax conditions.

Also, such popular protests took place in Kartli in 1804, in Kakheti in 1812-1813, in Imerti, Guria in 1819-1820, in Guria in 1841, and in Megreli in 1857 [11, 30]. The abolition of serfdom in Georgia occurred in 1864-1871. It was after this progressive event that the Transcaucasia railway highway was connected with the All-Russian railway highway, the Baku-Batumi oil pipeline, which was started in 1896, was commissioned in 1907, and the development of capitalist relations accelerated. As a result of this, in the 90s of the 19th century, Georgia accounted for approximately 50 percent of the world's manganese exports. More than 120 thousand people were engaged in wage labor. 15.3 percent of the population lived in cities. Since 1801, by strengthening the imperialist positions of tsarism in the South Caucasus, ethnic groups also intensified their separatist activities, and one of the most important factors in realizing the imperial ambitions of tsarism was the strengthening of separatism in the South Caucasus, which it succeeded in doing. The assassination of Franz Ferdinand actually became the reason for the outbreak of the First World War, and the division of the world was prepared by the "Triple Alliance" led by Germany in 1879-1882. The Entente Bloc, created against this alliance, was formed in 1904-1907. The result was the First World War, which spanned 1914-1918 [10, 3-4]. Here I would like to highlight one factor: the national conflicts in the Balkans actually served as the basis for the outbreak of the First World War. The Caucasus region was diverse due to its ethnic characteristics, so the Romanov dynasty paid special attention to national conflicts in the South Caucasus at the beginning of the 20th century in order to strengthen its power and this process was observed during the October Revolution, which occurred on November 7, 1917, the 300-year-old Romanov dynasty was overthrown and Soviet power was established in Petrograd. The Bolsheviks passed a peace decree at the All-Russian Congress of Soviets in November 1917, and the Russian Soviet of People's Commissars, by adopting a declaration of peoples' rights on November 10, 1917, actually created the possibility of independence in the national hinterlands. On November 24, 1917, the counter-revolutionary government of the South Caucasus was formed against the political body that served the interests of workers and peasants, and on December 2, the Georgian National Council consisting of the bourgeois property-owning classes, was formed in Tiflis.

V. I. Lenin was well aware that the interests of Turkey and Iran against the Caucasus region remain constant. Therefore, S. Shaumyan, who has the ability to artificially create national conflicts, was appointed the chairman of the Baku Soviet and extraordinary commissioner for the Caucasus on December 16, 1917.

On December 18, 1917, V.I. Lenin succeeded in signing the Treaty of Erzincan between the Transcaucasia Commissariat and Turkey in order to regulate relations with Turkey, which is the largest in the Caucasus and thereby neutralized Turkey, which is the most ambitious in the South Caucasus. Also, on December 29, 1917, the decree "On free self-determination of Armenia by Turkey" was signed. In fact, many people were not aware of the secret provisions of the Treaty of Erzincan, concluded on December 18, 1917. [9]. So, after ensuring the external security of the Caucasus region, Russia had to start implementing its invasion plans, and this happened.

The policy of the Bolsheviks in the period we are talking about was to immediately expand the soviets created in the national regions after the October events and put an end to the dual power. If this policy is not realized in a peaceful way, use the course of the First World War to defeat the counter-revolution through foreign military intervention. For this purpose and with the consent of Russia, on February 12, 1918, the attacks of the Ottoman troops on the South Caucasus were accelerated. It should be recalled that the Entente forces had already gained military superiority on all fronts since the middle of 1918. The marches of the Entente military forces, which started from the Balkans, were moving towards the interior of Turkey. As a result of the marches that started from Solonik, the danger of Turkey being invaded was becoming a reality day by day. The British made more efforts to invade Turkey. Therefore, Turkey, deceived by Russia, was actually hastening its defeat by exhausting its military-economic power in the South Caucasus and South Azerbaijan. But for the time being, the

advancing Turkish army captured Ardakhan on March 22, 1918, and Batum on April 14. Russia, playing a double game, announced the creation of an Independent Federal Republic on April 22, 1918 by secret order. However, the Federal Republic, which existed for only 4 days, fell on May 26, and on May 26, 1918, the Georgian Mensheviks declared the independence of Georgia. On May 26, the day Georgia declared its independence, the Turkish government issued an ultimatum to Georgia to "ensure the passage of the Turkish army through the South Caucasus railway in order to regulate the border issues in South Georgia and conduct an operation to prevent counter-action." After a long discussion and thorough analysis, the Georgian side responded to this ultimatum on May 31 [3, 7-9].

However, Germany, which started the First World War, was on the verge of defeat, but still tried to maintain the image of the powerful state of Europe. It must be admitted that Russia and Turkey were still reckoning with Germany. During this period, the protection of Georgia by the Kaiser's Germany was one of the most important conditions. Therefore, on May 28, 1918, the agreement concluded in Poti between Kaiser Germany and Menshevik Georgia, due to the opportunities created by Georgia, on May 30, 1918, a large diplomatic mission under the leadership of Count Schulenburg arrived in Tiflis, and this mission was "internal and external". stated that would help the Georgian government in fighting against the enemies. In a situation where Georgia was under the guardianship of Germany, England and France, the 20,000-strong Dashnak army under the command of Atrabekov and Lalaev killed 12,000 civilians in Shamakhi on March 18, 1918. On March 30, the Armenian-Dashnak group committed a massacre in Baku [7, 47-48]. According to inaccurate information, more than 14 thousand people were killed as a result of the massacre committed by Armenians in Baku. Azerbaijan, which is the largest republic of the South Caucasus, lived in a period of national loneliness, while the Armenian armed forces committed massacres in most areas of the 104,000 square km territory of Azerbaijan, which did not receive any foreign aid. Only national groups and people's armed formations called "Karapapags" bravely fought against the Armenian occupation. According to H. Ismayilov and J. Nuruoglu, who fought in the direction of Ganjabasar and against the Armenian invaders in Karabakh: "The Musavat army had just been created [1, 51-52]. Our national force that fought in Karabakh

consisted of volunteer patriotic forces that participated with their own weapons and horses. The Karapapags were skilled shooters. And our gunners were mercenary Russian soldiers and officers. N. Yusifbeyli came to the frontline during one of the battles. He saw that the mercenary gunner was not shooting at the place where the Armenian armed forces were concentrated, but at the mountain called Agh Uchug.

He immediately changed the players. We pushed the Armenians in the direction of Barambat" [3, 7-9]. The tensions artificially created by the Armenians in the South Caucasus at the beginning of the 20th century were repeated in the 90s of the 20th century with the same scenario. That is, the Armenian factor still played a reactionary role. Of course, this process is now in a different form, but the military political essence was continued.

Finally, at the beginning of the 20th century, this military-political mission of Germany sent a telegram to the head of the Ottoman delegation in Batum, Khalil Bey, on June 1, 1918, and stated that it was impossible to hand over the Georgian railway to the Ottoman Empire. Because the Georgian railway is captured and guarded by German military units. After this action by Germany, on June 4, 1918, the Georgian government signed a "peace" agreement with Turkey in Batumi. On June 5, the German military mission was given an order not to give any technical reference and information to the Turkish officers about the Georgian railway and other transport parts.

Therefore, the process of strengthening Germany on the territory of Georgia continued rapidly. So, just as the processes in Georgia continued for the benefit of Germany in the region divided into spheres of interest, this process continued in Azerbaijan, but in Azerbaijan for the benefit of Russia. Thus, after the establishment of the Baku Council of People's Commissars on April 25, 1918, the fastest sovietization took place in Azerbaijan. On June 2, 1918, the Baku oil industry and on June 6, the Caspian merchant fleet was nationalized. On June 28, 1918, "Caucasus Ore Society" and "Marganis Industrial Society" were given to German entrepreneurs. At a time when conflicting situations continued in the South Caucasus, L.V. Stalin's letter to S. Shaumyan on July 8, 1918 stated: "The general policy about Transcaucasia is that it is necessary to force the Germans to accept the Georgian,

Armenian, Azerbaijani issue as an internal issue of Russia, and the Germans should not participate in its solution. Therefore, we do not recognize Georgia recognized by Germany" [4, 101-103].

Intelligence information about I.V.Stalin's letter to S.Shaumyan was delivered to both the Georgian government and the German missionaries. On July 8, 1918, the German military units located in Poti moved towards Tiflis. Explaining the advance of German military units in the direction of Tbilisi, the Georgian government stated in its statement on July 13, 1918, "The German military units entering Tbilisi were invited by the Georgian government itself, and Georgia has the right to protect itself and its borders. Some of these military units were sent to Borchali district to clear those areas from bandits" [2, 5-11].

The entry of German military units into Georgia and the border conflicts with neighboring states, including Terski region, were settled by the agreement signed at the Stariy Larsi station on July 25, 1918.

In his speech at the meeting of the Central Executive Committee of Russia on July 29, 1918, V.L.Lenin, who was enraged by Germany's guardianship of Georgia, said very excitedly: "Georgia's independence has turned into a lie. In reality, Georgia was completely occupied by the German imperialists. The alliance of the Georgian Menshevik government with the German bayonets is directed against the Bolshevik workers and peasants. It should be recalled that after Russia's hegemony in the South Caucasus was recognized by both Turkey, Iran and other neighboring states from the beginning of the 19th century, it began to play the role of gendarmerie in the Caucasus more actively and could not remain indifferent to the imperialist policies of other states in the Caucasus region. It is for this reason that on September 6, 1918, the German operation "White Key" - the murder of the rebels by the German General von Kress - was very harshly perceived by Russia. Even the capture of Baku by Turkish troops on September 15, 1918 was not welcomed well by Russia. At the same time, the mysterious shooting of 26 Baku commissars led by S.Shaumyan by the British in the Aghjagum countryside of Turkmenistan on September 20 was a huge blow to Russia in the South Caucasus. Because the capture of Baku oil by the British was not only an oil issue, but also a strategic advantage in the region. At the same time, the strengthening of the positions of the Caucasian Islamic Army was closely related to Germany. It is not a secret that Germany gave Azerbaijan to Turkey, took Georgia under its control and entrusted the patronage of the Armenians to France, according to the essence of the alliance agreement of 1879-1882. That is, during this division, Russia's interests in the Caucasus were actually undermined. It is quite interesting that in this imperialist division, there were sometimes disagreements between Germany and Turkey. Back on September 18, 1918, the representative of the Georgian government Machaleli, while in Berlin, made a statement that "in addition to the borders, Turkish minister Talat Pasha also demands Sukhumi district." Although this demand of Turkey worried Germany, Germany could not help Georgia because it was on the verge of defeat by the Entente forces. In such a situation, the Georgian delegation, led by Generals Gheokchari and Mazineva, held in Krasnodar on September 25, 1918, representatives of the military organization called "Goodwill" army, generals Alekseyev, Denikin, Romanovski, Dragomirov, Lukomski, Shulgin and Stepanov from the Cadets, at the meeting held with the participation of representatives of the Kuban government Bich and Vorobyev, the white guards again spoke in accordance with their interests. That is, the White Guards "did not give up the principle that everything is for us or for no one for the sake of power" [6, 96-101]. Thus, the Georgian government could not achieve any success in the Krasnodar deal. Germany, which is a guardian of Georgia, once again reminded the Krasnodar failures of the Georgian representatives and proposed new projects in the country's internal management system. Therefore, on September 25, von Kress stated in his letter to the Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia, Ramishvili, that "the peasants in Gori do not obey the landlords and do not pay rent. German military units will be sent to Gori to help the landowners." From here, it is clear again that because Germany protected the rights and privileges of the upper classes in Georgia, the poor classes of Georgia were more inclined to the Bolsheviks. Therefore, since the dangerous situation in Georgia still remained, Germany, which was looking for a favorable moment despite all the difficulties, set itself the goal of forming the Georgian army, and they organized this work in such a way that on October 16, 1918, general von Kress again appealed to the Georgian government and the content of the appeal was mainly that German military instructors would lead the construction of a new army of the

European type in Georgia. Under such circumstances, Germany once again held negotiations about Georgia with Turkey and on October 24, the head of the Turkish representation in Georgia, Abulkarim Pasha, was instructed by the Turkish government to leave the territories occupied by the Turks in the South Caucasus within 6 weeks. This was due to the fact that the Entente was preparing a draft of the treaty to be signed by Turkey in the port of Mudros on the island of Limon. Finally, on October 30, 1918, the Treaty of Mudros was signed. The Turkish army in Batumi had to leave, and on November 10, the British captured Batumi. Despite the end of World War I in November 1918, border conflicts continued in the South Caucasus region in 1919-1920. Although this conflict was settled between Georgia and Azerbaijan, it led to a war between Georgia and Armenia.

On January 11, 1920, the independence of the republics of the South Caucasus, including the ADR, was recognized at the Paris Peace Conference, but the South Caucasus faced a new threat. The invasion march of the Caucasian Revolutionary Committee sent by Lenin began. By order No. 490 of April 21, 1920 and an additional order of April 23, the commander of the Caucasian Front command, M.K. Levanovsky, was instructed to cross the border on April 27 and complete the occupation of Azerbaijan. Also in the South Caucasus, the main military and political goal was the gradual Sovietization of the South Caucasus republics under the Russian administrative system. Therefore, on February 25, 1921, the Georgian SSR was created with an area of 69,300 square kilometers and a population of 4,044,000 people.

After the Second World War, in order to turn the USSR into a superpower, national conflicts in the country were limited and turned into separatism in the national republics, and the process remained in a hidden form, retaining its main essence in the South Caucasus. Parallelism was ensured in domestic and foreign policy. Mostly in Armenia, nationalist forces continued their separatist activities in secret. In 1948-1953, as a result of I. Stalin's guardianship, Armenians started the next stage of ethnic cleansing policy against non-Armenians, including Azerbaijanis. National conflicts in the South Caucasus were secretly promoted only in regions populated by Armenians, including Georgian Javakheti, Zugdidi, Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh, Russian Armavir, Krasnodar and other regions. It would be appropriate to recall that from 1986 to 2006, Armenians wrote 26 thousand anti-Azerbaijani and anti-Turkish books about the dream of "Great Armenia". Currently, Armenian propagandists remain ambitious in the South Caucasus region, along with Azerbaijan, in Georgia, as well as in areas of compact Armenian residence in the North Caucasus region. In other words, the excited statements of the heads of Krasnodar and Armavir provinces in 2003 about Armenians demanding the right to autonomy on the territory of Russia can be an example of this.

It was no coincidence that the new stage of national conflicts in the South Caucasus re-emerged in the 90s of the 20th century. Due to the collapse of the Soviet political system, due to Russia's inability to fulfill the function of the successor of the USSR for a while, the US's imperialist and strategic interests in the South Caucasus, and Iran's and Turkey's regional interests arose again, as they did at the beginning of the 20th century.

Of course, it is also known that the South Caucasus region is a very interesting region due to its geostrategic importance. Due to its natural resources and strategic importance, this region serves the interests of the United States, Great Britain and France, along with neighboring countries. But the interests of Russia-Iran and the USA-Turkey collide for the sake of the South Caucasus region. The US strategic advantages in Eastern Europe allow it to move closer to the western borders of the former USSR. Since Armenia is included in Russia's sphere of influence, the Georgian option remains the only favorable option. Because it is Georgia that openly opposes Russia in the South Caucasus. Thus, in the 90s of the twentieth century, national conflicts reached a new stage, as the interests of the leading states of the South Caucasus moved to a new level.

Convincing the impossibility of the Soviet Union getting out of the crisis it fell into, Moscow was deliberately encouraging chaos and anarchy in the country, and criminality reaching its extreme limits. According to estimates and observations, if in 1979 there were 1,433 crimes in the union, as a result of Gorbachev's policy under the guise of democracy and transparency, criminality reached its peak in 1989 in the context of the national conflict, and the number of serious crimes reached 1,867, which took place on the borders of Armenia-Azerbaijan, in Nagorno Karabakh, in Abkhazia region of Georgia, in Ossetia. Already in 1990, the number of serious crimes reached 6278 in one month.

The outbreak of crime in the South Caucasus intensifies national conflicts, as a result of armed clashes, hostile fronts were formed on the Georgian-Abkhaz border. On September 10, 1992, the UN Security Council included the Georgian Abkhazian conflict in its report, and the first UN representative group arrived in Georgia. Despite the arrival of UN representatives to Georgia, on October 1, 1992, the Abkhazian side intensified the fighting situation on the front and expanded its attacks. The further aggravation of the situation in the region led to the adoption of the UN Resolution No. 24633, and in November 1992, a temporary representation of the UN was established in Tbilisi. Despite the intense activity of the UN mission in Georgia, on November 20-29, 1992, the fighting on the Georgian-Abkhazian front was extremely accelerated. Due to the patronage of both sides by the Russian armed forces stationed in this region, the demands for the withdrawal of Russian military units from the Sukhumi region became more concrete. At the same time, the Abkhazian army, which took advantage of the current turmoil, had already captured Gagra in October 1992. In December 1992, the Georgian government was forced to declare a state of emergency in Sukhumi as a result of the fact that the capital of Abkhazia, Sukhumi, was in the hands of the Georgian armed forces, and the desire of the majority of the Abkhaz leadership to submit to the Georgian government.

As a result of the national conflict and the further expansion of military operations on the Georgian-Abkhazian front, the parties had to clarify their combat positions. The fighting took place mainly on two front lines, north of Sukhumi along the Gumista River, and the front line covered a distance of 12 km and stretched from the Black Sea to the village of Akasheni. As a result of the fighting on the banks of the Gumista River and the shelling of Sukhumi, hundreds were killed and wounded.

In January 1993, the Abkhazian army achieved success on the borders of Georgia and in the Gumista River region, but in mid-January the Georgian army managed to push them back. At that time, the Abkhazian army fired cannons and heavy artillery from the Black Sea into Georgian territory. The Georgian army advanced about 55 km in the South-East direction from Sukhumi, taking under their control the territories in the southern regions and the East of Ochamchire city. As a result, the territory from Sukhumi to the Black Sea in the Southeast came under the full control of the Georgian army. Georgians also managed to control the 20 km distance between Ochamchire and Kadori river. The Abkhaz side controlled the region from Ochamchire district to Tkvargeli city in the east. But the area around Tamish, located northwest of Ochamgiri, remained one of the battle centers. Due to the fact that the railway passing through here connects Abkhazia and Tbilisi, the battles for this road, which is of strategic importance, could not stop. As a result, the Abkhazian army managed to take control of most parts of the railway. In January 1993, the fighting between Ochamgiri and the Kadori River intensified. Even surface-to-air missiles were used, 2 Georgian helicopters were shot down. Also, in this battle, the Russian SU-25 aircraft was disabled. Such bloody battles took place even on December 14, 1992, when a Russian helicopter was shot down in the territory of Abkhazia, 60 women, children and old people were killed in the helicopter, and the crime committed during the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict remained unsolved.

At a time when the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict was observed with bloody incidents, E. Shevardnadze repeatedly made a statement about the interest of a third party in the daily incitement of the conflict. In this statement, it was demanded that the Russian troops stationed in Abkhazia be regulated by their headquarters in Tbilisi, along with these demands it was necessary to introduce international peacekeeping forces into the conflict region.

Due to the ongoing fighting in Abkhazia, thousands of people became refugees. Especially as a result of the concentration of refugees in the territory of Tkvargeli district, the living conditions were very bad and unbearable. The visit of 2 representatives of the UN and the international committee of the Red Cross to Tkvargeli district did not bring any positive results. It was only during the negotiations that an agreement was reached to bring food, clothing and other supplies from Sochi to Tkvargeli through Russian helicopters.

When the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict reached its limit and turned into an armed conflict, it was included in the agenda of the UN Security Council, and by the end of 1993, it was planned to send an additional humanitarian mission to Abkhazia and Georgia, and international representatives played the role of observers of the conflict for the time being. Also, after the official letter of the UN

representatives E. Shevardnadze dated November 2, 1992, the UN Security Council adopted resolution No. 24802 to settle the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. The decisions of the UN regarding the problem of national conflicts in the South Caucasus were not implemented either by the Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh or by the Abkhazians in Abkhazia. This was due to the fact that, although the UN had the authority to make decisions, the mechanism for implementing its decisions did not work.

On December 25, 1992, after E. Shevardnadze's letter addressed to the UN Security Council regarding the Abkhazian-Georgian conflict, the Abkhaz issue was requested to be discussed at the next meeting of the Security Council. It was even stated in the letter that the countries of the world should express their attitude to this problem. Also, as a result of the bloody conflict in Abkhazia, 188,000 Georgian citizens became refugees, and the gross violation of the territorial integrity of Georgia was shown by the facts. Also, Georgian representative Sandro Kavksadze was sent to New York, where the UN headquarters is located, in order to systematically provide detailed information about the conflict. Regarding the current conflict in the South Caucasus region, especially the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, Georgia presented 3 main demands to the UN.

The first demand was roughly that the Georgian government agreed to a cease-fire on the condition that it vacate the existing territories pending an attack by Abkhazia in order to achieve peace according to the September 3, 1992 agreement. The second demand was that the Georgian government wanted UN peacekeeping forces to be deployed in Abkhazia to monitor the Georgian-Russian border and the railway leading to Abkhazia. At the same time, it is beneficial for the interests of Armenia to operate the railway under control.

In the 3rd demand of the Georgian state, it was stated that the Georgian government welcomes the good services of the UN Secretary General and hopes for an objective settlement of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. Also, the Georgian government confidently stated that it is ready that UN consultations can play an important role in restoring peace, and the Georgian side accepts the peace program. At the same time, it was emphasized that disrespect for the territorial integrity of Georgia, violation of sovereignty, violation of human rights are intolerable. However, the letter's entry into the Security Council did not stabilize the situation, on the contrary, on November 10, 1992, the situation in Abkhazia became even more complicated. There were even conflicts between North Ossetian and Ingush forces. As a result, B. Yeltsin was forced to declare a state of emergency in this area. Then the UN representative in Georgia, E. Berner, in his message to the Secretary General, stated that the addition of the Ossetian-Ingush conflict to the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict could create a dangerous situation throughout the South Caucasus. Therefore, on May 20-25, 1993, meetings were held with the mediation of E. Burner, E. Shevardnadze, Prime Minister T. Segu, S. Kavkadze in Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, with the Prime Minister, the chairman of the temporary military council, T. Nadirashvili, in Gudaut, Abkhazia with the Chairman of the new Supreme Soviet V. Ardginba, Minister of Defense of Georgia General T. Karakashvili and representatives of the diplomatic corps in Tbilisi. After the meetings in Tbilisi and Sukhumi, E. Burner left for Switzerland and gave information to Mrs. Margaretha af Ugglas, the chairman of the European Security and Cooperation Council, and I. Dyarmati, the chairman of the Council for Georgia and after consultations, E. Bunner left for Moscow. He met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia A. Kozyrev, the representative of the Russian President in Georgia B. Postukhov. These measures were supposed to prepare the ground for the settlement of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict through negotiations. At the same time, the meetings of E. Shevardnadze with B. Yeltsin in Moscow on May 14, 1993, the Vienna meetings of E. Bunner and A. Kozyrev on June 15, 1993, the UN sending 50 soldiers to the region to resolve the situation, conditions were created for monitoring Georgian-Abkhaz conflict, Sukhumi and Ochamgiri regions of Abkhazia. On May 20, 1993, a ceasefire regime was introduced. At the same time, according to UN Security Council Resolution 849, UN peacekeeping forces were deployed on the banks of Sukhumi, Gulripish, Gudauti, Yeni Afon, Tkvarcheli, Gagra, Gali, as well as Gumista, Psou, and Inguri rivers. On July 27, 1993, the UN mission began working in full force. However, this was not yet a solution to national conflicts in the South Caucasus. It was simply a ceasefire. The problems of the national conflict, which Armenian Dashnaks founded in the South Caucasus, spread to the entire Caucasus and became an international problem. Both Azerbaijan-Armenian and Georgian-Abkhazian conflicts had left the Caucasus and entered the sphere of interest of the world states, including the USA, France,

Russia, Iran and others. The resolution of national conflicts in the South Caucasus depends only on military political and favorable conditions and time. The fact that Georgia is in the sphere of interest of the neighboring states in general, and the fact that the current conflicts in the South Caucasus are being raised from the regional level to the international level, indicates a worsening problem.

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