

## Questions of geopolitical space formation

E.S. Chukubayev, I. Yechshanov

Al-Farabi Kazakh national university, Almaty, Kazakhstan

*E-mail:* \_papen\_19@mail.ru

**Abstract.** The contemporary understanding of geopolitics and its main factors have a little different character rather than earlier. The geopolitics is understood as a science about laws of distribution and redistribution of spheres of influence (the Force Centers) various states and interstate associations in multidimensional communication space. In the end of the last century the newest geopolitics overcoming narrowness of traditional and new geopolitics with the dominating geographical or economic determinism has started to be formed. The newest geopolitics operates with the Big spaces of a multidimensional associativity. Great and regional powers aspire to create effective geopolitical space, but not it is possible to all. An important basis of the modern geopolitical forecast is the understanding and development geostrategy in relation to formation of the protected geopolitical space.

In connection with the difficult and inconsistent problems of formation of a New World Order, appearance of new actors on political arena and their activization, occurrence in world politics of new processes, which influence on formation of the system of international relations, attention of the most scientists and politicians addresses for a role of the modern geopolitical factors (space, the population, natural resources, a living environment of people) in world politics in last decade.

First of all, for understanding of this point in question it's necessary to understand the basic terms «geopolitics» and «space», and also a parity of two these terms.

The term «geopolitics» consists of two parts: «geo» and «politics».

From Greek «geo» means – the Earth, territory, geographical in general, that is influence of geographical factors on a state policy. The main factors are:

- territory;
- a geographical position, i.e. a state arrangement on continent;
- extent of borders, their position on natural or artificial boundaries;
- presence of the rivers as water barriers and means of communication;
- country position on the sea, extent of a coastal line and a condition for navigation;
- a climate (cold, moderated, hot, droughty etc.);
- soils (how much they favour to development of agriculture, an infrastructure, the industry);

- bowels, their riches, ability to provide economic growth and social inquiries of the population;
- the population, its number, density, social structure and other characteristics.

The second part of the term – «policy» – in this context means domination realization, a gain of the power, space and its development. Recently and it undergoes essential changes in the sense that the modern actors in geopolitics thirst not so much for win and master new territories, how aspire to supervise the greatest possible spaces, and in it consist one of the features of the modern geopolitics – to supervise not territories as a whole, but generally lines of communications of these territories and streams (financial, commodity, labour and etc.), supporting thereby optimum conditions for characteristic development and prosperity [1].

The Geopolitics as a science has arisen on a boundary of XIX – XX centuries thanks to researches of such western scientists as Friedrich Ratzel, Johan Rudolf Kjellén, Alfred Thayer Mahan, Sir Halford John Mackinder, Karl Ernst Haushofer, etc. They created a new science, answering a question on what depends greatness, state prosperity, its force and influence in the world, and have come to a conclusion that the power of the state is defined, first of all, space-territorial characteristic.

The term «geopolitics» has been introduced by the Swedish scientist Johan Rudolf Kjellén (1864-1922). It defined a science acting under this name as

«the doctrine considering the state as a geographical organism or a space phenomenon» [2].

More detailed definition is given in German magazine «Zeitschrift für Geopolitik»: «the Geopolitics is a science about the relation of the earth and political processes. It is based on the wide base of geography, first of all political geography which is a science about political organisms in space and about their structure. Moreover, the geopolitics purposes to provide with appropriate means political action and to give a direction of political life as a whole. Thereby the geopolitics becomes art, art of a management by a practical policy. The geopolitics is a geographical mind of the state» [3].

The geopolitics considers the state not in a statics, as constant, invariable formation, but in dynamics – as a live being. Such approach was offered by German theorist Friedrich Ratzel (1844—1904). The geopolitics studies the state basically in its relation to an environment, first of all to space and sets as the purpose to solve the problems arising from space relations. According to Friedrich Ratzel, unlike political geography such questions, as position, the form, the sizes or state borders, its economy, trade, culture geopolitics do not interest. All it in a larger measure concerns to sphere of political geography which is limited to the description of a static condition of the state though can comprehend dynamics of its last development.

The geopolitics studies the political phenomena in their space mutual relation, in their influence on the Earth, on cultural factors. It is geographically interpreted policy, the intermediate science which does not have an independent field of research. More relating to a policy, it concentrates attention to the political phenomena and aspires to give geographical interpretation and the analysis of geographical aspects of this the phenomenon.

According to founding fathers of discipline, those nations which possess space sense are great and aspire to expansion of territorial space. Each of classic theorists created scientific concepts on purpose to promote acquisition or preservation of power of own fatherland. In the given context their scientific researches were actual recommendations to the national government concerning their further policy. Thus, the geopolitics is more narrow since its founding fathers positioned itself not only as scientific discipline, but also as politically significant practice. [4].

So, the basic criterion of geopolitics is the space. The geopolitics considers formation of space from the point of view of a policy (states).

The space was understood by classic theorists only as geographical terrestrial space – a land and the sea. It was considered that power and prospect of development of the state depends, first of all, on such geographical resources, as the size of territory and a state site in space. According to F. Ratzel and R. Kjellén, the states in the territorially – space expansion for the purpose of a survival and prosperity aspire to naturally self-contained configurations, i.e. to an obligatory outline of frontiers in this connection justified joining of other, small states as a result of military expansion. Since A. Mahan, scientists-geopolitics considered that to the state which aspires to world leadership, it is absolutely not obligatory to increase territory on which its government immediately extends, and to close its national borders, and it is quite enough to carry out control over the seas and it is quite formal the sovereign states which can be located and it is rather far from its borders. Thus, the geopolitics has for a long time identified the government with control over territories and has defined a world policy as a competition of great powers for domination on the sea and on a land.

If F. Ratzel and R. Kjellén considered as the basic resource of power of the state scale its territory which can be increased by means of military expansion, but for A. Mahan such resource were the military and merchant marine fleet, the military bases which are in strategically important areas of globe and necessary for fast transfer of armed forces in zones of crisis, and also for safety of trade and trading ways. Sir Halford John Mackinder underlined that not only the territory scale, but also favourable geographic location can provide to the state world leadership and domination. He focused the attention on «a geographical axis of history» – Heartland – underlining that unique position and huge territory of Heartland can provide to it world supremacy, but under condition of proceeding development of the transport ways connecting together this huge region. French scientist Jean Gottmann and American specialist Donald William Meinig were confident that world supremacy the state can reach by means of distribution to the world of the way of life, the culture. Thus, one of the first overcoming a geographical determinism of classics of the geopolitics «adhered» to territorially-geographical space, they actually have designated cultural measurement of space. Later French general and geopolitician Pierre Marie Gallois also asserted that the geopolitical analysis should not be limited to terrestrial space, it is necessary to study and predict the future development informational and a space. One of the first he has paid attention on such priority in the modern world a geo-

political resource, as weapons of mass destruction (first of all, rocket-nuclear), and also to such factor, as direct intervention of the people in a state policy which can have consequence for mankind, comparable with consequences of nuclear cataclysm [5].

The modern understanding of geopolitics considers also that fact that the state which remains for a long time the unique active actor in geopolitical space, but today in the conditions of globalization, though remains powerful operating unit (but not all the states), functions in geopolitical space along with other formations, imperious institutes and the organizations, such as integrated regions, the intergovernmental organizations, the international non-governmental formations, transnational corporations.

Now to rather extended in western and Russian scientific literature there was an interpretation of a subject of the geopolitics, considering presence of various measurements of space, numerous and various resources, and also others, except the state, actors. Such approach to geopolitics during long time was developed by the West European and American scientists [6].

Occurrence of new geopolitics as scientific discipline in which the following original positions, concerning its subject and central problems are inherent became result of revision of the traditional classical geopolitics adequate to a reality and tendencies of its evolution:

1. New geopolitics, unlike traditional, using more perfect methods of the analysis and considering such world tendencies as globalization, integration, democratization, and also calls and threats of global safety, is less engaged, more impartial.

2. Object of geopolitics as scientific discipline is that field of activity which is accepted to name geopolitics where there is an interaction of a policy and the material and non-material resources, influence providing to actors, authority, cooperation with other actors in geopolitical space.

3. The new geopolitics analyzes circumstances of the global world in a wide spacelike dimension (territorially-geographical, aerospace, economic, political, cultural-civilizational, informational) and is capable to give a complete geopolitical picture of the world.

4. The new geopolitics focuses attention on activity studying in geopolitical space large and leading states, underlining that their geopolitics has much more versatile global consequences, than geopolitics of the small states.

5. The new geopolitics does not consider more

the state as unique or undoubtedly main subject of political activity at all levels of the analysis, and aspires to integrate into the theoretical analysis actual tendencies of the world development connected with gradual loss by the state of a role of the main actor of transboundary interactions and with change of priorities of such interactions.

6. Unlike traditional, the new geopolitics studies new subjects in geopolitical space: the governmental and non-governmental international organizations, transnational corporations, nationalist and separatist movements, political movements of the people not having statehood and settled on territory of several countries, the terrorist organizations.

7. The new geopolitics places emphasis on interaction of various actors of geopolitics.

8. The new geopolitics considers also that fact that the vigorous activity of actors can promote not only to formation of the stable, safe world, but also destabilization of geopolitical space.

9. The new geopolitics avoids the reference to naturalistic, deterministic to concepts of borders and the limits, peculiar old traditional geopolitics. It uses concept of flexible borders and barriers. To new geopolitics transition from questions on constant borders and the limiting spaces to the infinite external world and open boundaries is characteristic. It deals with borders, identities and limits which are astable and are constantly challenged.

10. The new geopolitics understands national safety not only as military, but also economic, ecological, cultural etc.

11. The new geopolitics develops geopolitical scenarios future, first of all, a new global geopolitical order [7].

Using these basic characteristics, it is possible to define essence of geopolitics as follows: the geopolitics is the science representing a geopolitical picture of the world on the basis of research of such interaction politics and the material, non-material resources which allows actors to realize the interests, to get authority and influence on regional, world space, i.e. thus directly to participate in urope of regional, world space.

For adaptation of geopolitics to the contemporary conditions scientists specify and update its basic categories and concepts: geopolitical structure of the world; the geopolitical space, geopolitical resources, actors of geopolitics, a geopolitical picture of the world, the geopolitical centre, geopolitical region, geopolitical rivalry, geostrategy, national and international safety, national interest, the geopolitical code,

geostrategy, geopolitical borders, etc. First of all, it is filled with the new maintenance a category «geopolitical space», key in geopolitics for all actors exist and operate in a certain space context, and in geopolitical space there are basic geopolitical processes. If classics of geopolitics focused attention only on territorially-geographical measurement of space, identifying concepts «space» and «territory», but now the majority of the western and Russian scientists define the modern geopolitical space as difficult enough, having various measurements. As a rule, in the modern geopolitical science following basic versions of geopolitical space in which the states and other actors of geopolitics aspire to play the considerable role are allocated:

- territorially-geographical space (a land and the sea);
- aerospace space;
- political space;
- the economic;
- cultural-information field [8].

Thus, the modern understanding and formation of geopolitical space even if theoretically to admit legitimacy of the approach of old geopolitics, geographical and space-territorial factors of the world community and accordingly separately the taken countries and the people in their relations have with each other undergone to radical transformation. Moreover, scientific and technical progress of second half XX century has the result qualitative updating of geographical factors of functioning and development of societies. Thus not absolutely correct that «space» and «territory» is frequent concepts is represented are used as synonyms.

The matter is that in the modern world real value is got by various forms of space. Along with territorial (water, air) the space possessing accurately tangible physiographic characteristics, it is possible to speak about spaces economic, cultural-civilizational, informational etc. which affect both on character and an orientation of world processes and on political strategy of taken state everyone separately. It is obvious that in definition of the real status of each state value of multipolarity of a world order, multifactor and dynamism of processes occurring in it increases.

## References

1. Гаджиев К.С. Введение в геополитику. – М., 2000. – С. 7
2. Dorpalen A. The World General Haushofer// Geopolitics in Action. – New York, 1942. – P. 12
3. Dorpalen A. The World General Haushofer// Geopolitics in Action. – New York, 1942. – P. 24-25
4. Нартов Н.А. Геополитика: учебник для вузов. – М. 2003. – С. 22.
5. Mayer M. What is «geopolitics»? // [http:// www.geopoliticsnorth.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=45%3Aarticle2&catid=1%3Alatest-news&showall=1](http://www.geopoliticsnorth.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=45%3Aarticle2&catid=1%3Alatest-news&showall=1)
6. Василенко И.А. Геополитика: учеб. пособие. – М. 2003. – С. 23
7. Лебедева Т.П. Геополитика: учебное пособие. – Киев: Унив. Гуманитар. Лицей, 2007. – С. 6-7.
8. Лебедева Т.П. Геополитика: учебное пособие. – Киев: Унив. Гуманитар. Лицей, 2007. – С. 13-14.

### Е.С. Чукубаев, И.С. Ешанов Геосаяси кеңістіктің қалыптасу мәселелері

Жаңа әлемдік тәртіптің қалыптасуы барысындағы шиеленісті және қарама-қайшылықтарға толы мәселелер, саяси аренаға жаңа акторлардың шығуы және олардың белсенді әрекет етуі, әлемдік саясатта халықаралық қатынастардың қалыптасуына әсер етуші жаңа үдерістердің пайда болуына байланысты соңғы онжылдықта зерттеушілер мен саясаткерлердің назары әлемдік саясаттағы заманауи геосаяси факторлардың (кеңістік, халық саны, табиғи ресурстар, адамдардың өмір сүру ортасы) рөліне бөлінуде.

Бұл мәселені айқындау үшін, ең алдымен, «геосаясат» және «кеңістік» сияқты негізгі ұғымдар мен олардың арақатынасы туралы заманауи түсінік қалыптастыру керек.

### Е.С. Чукубаев, И.С. Ешанов Вопросы формирования геополитического пространства

В связи со сложными и противоречивыми проблемами формирования нового мирового порядка, выходом на политическую арену новых акторов и активизацией их деятельности, появлением в мировой политике новых процессов влияющих на формирование системы международных отношений, внимание ученых и политиков в последнее десятилетие обращается на роль современных геополитических факторов (пространства, населения, природных ресурсов, среды проживания людей) в мировой политике.

Для понимания данного вопроса в первую очередь необходимо современное понимание основных терминов «геополитика» и «пространство», а также их соотношение.