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INDIA'S STRATEGIC POSITION AND PERSPECTIVES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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The modern system of international relations is rapidly transforming and serious changes are observed in the global balance of power. India is considered a rapidly rising actor in the system of international relations today, and its strategy is one of the important components shaping the global balance. One of the main reasons for this rise is the country's reliable multilateral diplomacy strategy. India is increasing its influence on global politics by actively participating in both bilateral relations and multilateral platforms. In recent decades, India's economic growth, military power and diplomatic activity have strengthened its strategic position in the international system. India stands out not only as a regional actor, but also as a state that forms multilateral strategies that participate in solving global problems. India's cooperation with international organizations, allies and regional powers plays an important role in protecting its strategic interests. The country actively participates in economic coalitions such as BRICS and G20, as well as in the UN, the World Trade Organization and other international structures. This increases India's economic, political and diplomatic influence in global politics. At the same time, there are new challenges facing India. Regional conflicts, strategic competition with China and Pakistan, terrorism, climate change and competition in technological development are affecting the country's foreign policy strategy.

Keywords: India, Global South, BRICS, ASEAN, G20, QUAD, regional competition.

Introduction. India's Strategic Position in Global Politics. India is today considered a rapidly rising actor in the system of international relations, and its strategy is one of the important components shaping the global balance. One of the main reasons for this rise is the country's credible multilateral diplomacy strategy. India is increasing its influence on global politics by actively participating in both bilateral relations and multilateral platforms. In addition to working for peace within the United Nations, the country also supports structural reforms with voting rights and seeks to play an active role in the global multilateral system. For example, the extension of India's mandate in the UN Peacekeeping Commission for 2025–2026 further strengthens its role in global governance.

India's strategic growth is not limited to the UN framework. The country is demonstrating increasing influence in international formats such as BRICS and G20. The successful hosting of the G20 summit in 2023 demonstrated India's ability to focus its efforts on global issues, not just economic ones. At the summit, India emphasized the peaceful resolution of conflicts and encouraged dialogue between developed and developing nations around the world. India's economic rise also strengthens its global position. In 2025, India reached the level of the world's fourth largest economy in terms of nominal GDP, indicating the country's potential to play a greater role in global economic policy (turn0search4). Its unique demographic dividend, rapid urbanization, and growing consumer base make India a leading participant in the global economic system. Another important element of India's strategic diplomacy is its cooperation within regional and international organizations. Multifaceted diplomacy makes India not only a participant in solving global problems, but also a leader for a bloc of developing countries. India is trying to be a leading voice in major multilateral initiatives, especially those that represent the interests of the global south. One example of this effort is the

country's cooperation with Africa and other developing regions, which serves to expand both economic and political ties.

Regional Leadership and Asian Strategy. In the modern system of international relations, India is considered one of the states that strives to act not only as a global actor, but also as a regional leader. India's growing influence, especially in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific region, is one of the main directions of its geopolitical strategy. India's regional policy is built on the integration of security, economic cooperation and political influence. This approach is aimed at strengthening the country's position both in its relations with its immediate neighbors and in the broader Asian context. India's leadership claims in South Asia are mainly implemented through regional organizations and bilateral relations. In this regard, although India is trying to promote regional cooperation within the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), political contradictions within the organization, especially relations with Pakistan, create certain limitations to this process. The ongoing political and security tensions between India and Pakistan prevent the deepening of integration in the region, which affects India's regional leadership strategy [6, pp. 112-115]. However, India is trying to develop economic and infrastructure projects with regional countries by preferring bilateral cooperation models as an alternative. One of the important elements in India's Asian strategy is relations with China.

In this context, India's participation in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) is of particular importance. This cooperation platform, formed together with the US, Japan and Australia, is aimed at maintaining security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. Through this platform, India pursues a policy of balance with China and strengthens its strategic position in the region [4, pp. 145-148]. The "Act East Policy" also plays an important role in India's regional policy. Within the framework of this strategy, India seeks to expand cooperation with Southeast Asian countries in the economic, political and security fields. This policy allows India to strengthen its relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and play a more active role in the region [8, pp. 89-92]. In addition, India seeks to increase its strategic influence in the Indian Ocean region. This region is of particular importance to India in terms of the security of energy routes, maritime trade and geopolitical position. To this end, India is expanding cooperation in the field of maritime security and implementing joint initiatives with regional partners [1, pp. 54-58].

India's foreign policy priorities. In the modern system of international relations, India forms its foreign policy on the basis of a multifaceted and balanced approach. The country's foreign policy priorities include ensuring national security, supporting economic development, expanding regional influence, and increasing its influence at the global level. To achieve these goals, India uses both bilateral and multilateral diplomacy mechanisms and seeks to develop cooperation with various international actors. One of the important priorities in India's foreign policy is the principle of strategic autonomy. This principle allows India to pursue an independent policy in international relations without being completely dependent on any power bloc. India also seeks to maintain relations with the United States, Russia, and China. This balanced policy allows India to act as a flexible and pragmatic actor in global politics [3, pp. 32-35]. Economic diplomacy is another main direction of India's foreign policy. The country pays special attention to expanding cooperation in the areas of international trade, investment, and energy security. India's rapidly growing economy is increasing its role in the global trading system, which is leading to a strengthening of the economic component of foreign policy. Energy security also occupies an important place in India's foreign policy priorities. The rapidly growing population and industrialization process increase the country's energy demand, which makes India dependent on energy imports. For this reason, India is expanding energy cooperation with countries in the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa and is trying to diversify its energy sources [7, pp. 76-79].

At the same time, India is also trying to strengthen its capabilities in the areas of cybersecurity and technology. Technological development and digital diplomacy are gaining increasing importance in India's contemporary foreign policy. Developments in the field of artificial intelligence, information technologies and the digital economy increase India's global competitiveness. The country is

expanding international cooperation in this area, establishing technological partnerships and trying to rise to a leading position in the field of innovation [5, pp. 55-58]. In addition, India attaches special importance to multilateral diplomacy and actively participates in international organizations. Participation in platforms such as the United Nations, G20 and BRICS increases India's role in global governance. Through these organizations, India defends the interests of developing countries and actively participates in solving global problems [8, pp. 120-123].

Key Challenges Facing India, Future Prospects and Development Directions. Although India is a rapidly rising power in the modern system of international relations, it faces a number of complex and multifaceted challenges. These challenges are related to both internal and external factors and directly affect the country's position in global and regional politics. Among the main problems limiting India's strategic development, security risks, economic inequality, geopolitical competition, and the threat of technological backwardness occupy a special place. First of all, one of the main security challenges for India is regional conflicts and border problems. In particular, relations with Pakistan and China occupy an important place in the country's security strategy. The ongoing tensions with Pakistan over the Kashmir issue and the occasional armed clashes pose a serious threat to stability in the region. On the other hand, border disputes with China, especially incidents in the Himalayan region, are causing India to further tighten its military and diplomatic policy. These factors are forcing India to increase its military spending and strengthen its defense capabilities. Despite its rapid economic growth, India faces serious structural challenges. Income inequality, persistently high poverty rates, and infrastructure deficiencies hinder the country's sustainable development. Economic disparities between urban and rural areas, as well as the problem of unemployment, pose a risk to social stability. In addition, global economic changes and trade wars may affect India's export potential.

Geopolitical competition is also a major challenge for India. The growing competition with China, especially in the economic and military fields, is affecting India's position in the region. The "One Belt, One Road" initiative put forward by China conflicts with India's strategic interests and further intensifies competition for influence in the region [7, pp. 98–101]. This situation is pushing India to implement alternative regional cooperation projects and expand international partnerships. India also faces certain challenges in the field of technological development. Although the country has made significant strides in information technology, it still lags behind global leaders in artificial intelligence, high-tech, and cybersecurity. Increased competition in this area is forcing India to attract more investment and strengthen its innovation policy [5, pp. 73–76]. In addition, global challenges such as energy security and climate change pose serious challenges for India. Rapidly growing population and industrialization are increasing the country's energy demand, which is increasing its dependence on foreign energy sources. At the same time, environmental problems, water scarcity, and natural disasters resulting from climate change are negatively affecting the country's socio-economic development [2, pp. 41–44].

In the modern system of international relations, future prospects for India are closely related to both the realization of existing potential and the formation of strategies in line with global and regional challenges. India's demographic advantage, economic development rate and geopolitical position give it the potential to become one of the global power centers in the future. However, the realization of this potential will depend on the country's internal reforms and the effectiveness of its foreign policy strategy. First of all, India's economic development prospects are one of the main factors determining its role in global politics. According to forecasts, India may become one of the largest economies in the world in the coming decades.

Conclusion. In the modern system of international relations, India has become one of the main actors that attracts attention with its growing influence and multifaceted policy. The analysis conducted throughout the article shows that India's position in global politics is closely related to its economic development, geopolitical strategy and active participation in multilateral diplomacy. These factors strengthen the country's role in the international system, making it an important decision-making actor not only at the regional but also at the global level. India's role in international

relations is characterized by its balanced and pragmatic foreign policy. The country seeks to play a bridging role in global politics by cooperating with both developed and developing countries. In particular, active participation in platforms such as the G20, BRICS and the United Nations increases India's influence in global governance. In this context, India acts as an important actor that defends the interests of developing countries and participates in solving global problems. Regional conflicts, especially relations with China and Pakistan, economic inequality, energy security and technological competition remain at the center of attention in Indian policy. Effective management of these challenges is crucial for India to maintain and strengthen its position in the international system. Consequently, India's role in the system of international relations is dynamic and evolving. Despite the current challenges, India's transformation into a stronger and more influential actor in global politics through the right strategies and effective policies can be assessed as a real and possible prospect.

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HİNDİSTANIN BEYNƏLXALQ MÜNASİBƏTLƏRDƏ STRATEJİ MÖVQEYİ VƏ PERSPEKTİVLƏRİ

Müasir beynəlxalq münasibətlər sistemi sürətlə transformasiya olunur və qlobal güc balansında ciddi dəyişikliklər müşahidə edilir. Hindistan hazırda beynəlxalq münasibətlər sistemində sürətlə yüksələn oyunçu hesab olunur və onun strategiyası qlobal balansı formalaşdıran vacib komponentlərdən biridir. Bu yüksəlişin səbəblərindən biri də Hindistanın etibarlı çoxtərəfli diplomatiya strategiyasıdır. Hindistan həm ikitərəfli münasibətlərdə, həm də çoxtərəfli platformalarda fəal iştirak edir, qlobal siyasətə təsirini artırır. Hindistanın iqtisadi yüksəlişi, hərbi gücü və diplomatik fəallığı son illərdə onun beynəlxalq sistemdəki strateji mövqeyinin güclənməsinə töhvə verib. Hindistan yalnız regional oyunçu kimi deyil, eyni zamanda qlobal problemlərin həllində iştirak edən çoxtərəfli strategiyalar formalaşdıran dövlət kimi önə çıxır. Hindistanın beynəlxalq təşkilatlar, müttəfiqlər və regional güclərlə əməkdaşlığı onun strateji maraqlarının qorunmasında əhəmiyyətli rol oynayır. Hindistan həm BRICS və G20 kimi iqtisadi forumlarda, həm də BMT, Dünya Ticarət Təşkilatı və digər beynəlxalq təşkilatları fəal iştirak edir. Eyni zamanda, Hindistan qarşısında yeni çağırışlar da mövcuddur. Regional münaqişələr, Çin və Pakistanla strateji rəqabət, terrorizm, iqlim dəyişikliyi və texnoloji inkişaf sahəsindəki rəqabət ölkənin xarici siyasət strategiyasına təsir edir. Bu çağırışlar Hindistanın beynəlxalq siyasətini çevik və çoxşaxəli planlaşdırmağı tələb edir.

Açar sözlər: Hindistan, Qlobal Cənub, BRİCS, ASEAN, G20, QUAD, regional rəqabət.

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СТРАТЕГИЧЕСКАЯ ПОЗИЦИЯ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ ИНДИИ В МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОТНОШЕНИЯХ

Современная система международных отношений стремительно трансформируется, и в глобальном балансе сил наблюдаются серьезные изменения. Сегодня Индия считается быстро восходящим игроком в системе международных отношений, и ее стратегия является одним из важных компонентов, формирующих глобальный баланс. Одной из главных причин этого подъема является надежная многосторонняя дипломатическая стратегия страны. Индия наращивает свое влияние на мировую политику, активно участвуя как в двусторонних отношениях, так и на многосторонних платформах. В последние десятилетия экономический рост Индии, ее военная мощь и дипломатическая активность укрепили ее стратегическое положение в международной системе. Индия выделяется не только как региональный игрок, но и как государство, формирующее многосторонние стратегии, участвующие в решении глобальных проблем. Сотрудничество Индии с международными организациями, союзниками и региональными державами играет важную роль в защите ее стратегических интересов. Страна активно участвует в экономических коалициях, таких как БРИКС и G20, а также в ООН, Всемирной торговой организации и других международных структурах. В то же время перед Индией стоят новые вызовы. Региональные конфликты, стратегическая конкуренция с Китаем и Пакистаном, терроризм, изменение климата и конкуренция в технологическом развитии оказывают влияние на внешнеполитическую стратегию страны. Эти вызовы требуют гибкого и многогранного планирования международной политики Индии.

Ключевые слова: Индия, Глобальный Юг, БРИКС, АСЕАН, G20, QUAD, региональная конкуренция.

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