ABSTRACT
of the dissertation of Zhanguzhekova Dinara Zheksengaliyevna
on the topic "Postmodernism in the political development of non-Western societies at the present stage (on the example of modernization projects of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan" submitted of PhD in the specialty "6D050200 – Political Science"

Relevance of the research topic. The 19th-20th centuries became a time of qualitative changes, the emergence of rather complex and internally contradictory social phenomena. In this historical period (especially since the second half of the twentieth century), the implementation of the modern project began, an updated version of the standard Enlightenment theory of progress. Modernization was based on a unidirectional, rationalized construction of the world, which led to different results and consequences. Today, many countries are experiencing these transformational shifts with a certain degree of productivity and with unequal speed, which, of course, is an objective state of affairs from the point of view of socio-historical development. In some cases, it accelerates economic and social development, in others it leads to the destabilization of individual institutions, especially if it concerns the modernization of traditional societies without taking into account certain factors. Such negative cross-sections and omissions in the modern project have become grounds for extreme criticism of rational scientific and technological progress and characterize it as a phenomenon that brings not only positive effects.

Thus, in relation to the changes taking place, requests were formed to explain them – and this happened already within the framework of a different conceptual language of description – "postmodernism", which began in the 70s and 80s of the twentieth century in Western countries, primarily in Western Europe. Postmodernism, its methodology, as a new debatable field in science, studies systems, phenomena and processes occurring not only in literature, art, and popular culture, but also focuses on explaining changes, statuses, and questions of the legitimacy of certain institutions, relationships, and positions in the socio-political sphere.

If in Western societies postmodernism challenged modernism and questioned the existence and functioning of meta-narratives (large generalizing narrative models), then in non-Western societies it was not "true" modernism that was challenged (since many non-Western societies sought to follow the Western path of modernity in a short period of time, while true modernization, like the other any stage of development took centuries), and his likeness. In this regard, this dissertation raises the question of whether it is advisable to consider the influence of postmodernism by drawing analogies with Western experience, since in the academic community and in the ideological attitudes of politicians there are often separate attempts to consider the modernization of developed countries and post-Soviet countries through the prism of one-sidedness and the identification of uncomplicated cause-and-effect relationships, and certainly not giving a clear picture of what is happening.

A separate large layer of research in this work is devoted to the national peculiarities of the Kazakh, Azerbaijani and Uzbek socio-political reality, which developed under the influence of the socialist regime. It should be noted that such advanced narratives of Modern times as humanism, rationalism, individualism, the intensification of scientific research and enlightenment, for a number of reasons, were less pronounced, or even absent altogether. Consequently, this work is demanded by the need

to examine the results of more than thirty years of political history, in particular modernization, of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan from the point of view of postmodern conceptualization.

The fundamental objective of the dissertation is a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of the political system of the countries under consideration in the context of the transition to a completely new paradigm of social development, examining the role of institutions of catch-up modernization and other factors in the political development of countries in modern conditions. In this context, it is important to identify the patterns that have become the catalyst for deciding whether to adopt a model "following the Western path" rather than developing and implementing methods of socio-political and economic management appropriate to the conditions of the split of the Soviet Union and the formation of modern states.

Since the material we are studying is for the most part an innovation for domestic social and humanitarian science, some of the proposed theses are experimental and hypothetical in nature.

The purpose of the dissertation is a political science analysis of postmodernism as an actual language for describing socio-political reality in non-Western societies, mainly in the context of modernization projects in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The research is aimed at studying postmodernism as one of the important indicators of modern socio-political transformation; an attempt is made to interpret postmodernism within the framework of socio-political processes and analyze it from the point of view of identifying practical significance.

To achieve this goal, the following **tasks were defined**:

1) Review of theoretical and methodological aspects of the study of the phenomenon of "postmodernism": clarification of the conceptual and categorical apparatus of the term" postmodernism", prerequisites and features of its occurrence, identification of the relationship between postmodernism and social theory, disclosure of the essence and characteristic features of postmodernism in the framework of social and humanitarian thought.

2) Consideration of the key issues postulated by postmodernism in the framework of social knowledge (in particular, political science). The author tries to solve this problem along the entire line of his dissertation, but the problem of postmodernism, its relations with the political, power, and state are studied in subsections 1.3 and 1.4 in more detail.

3) Identification of the main causes and factors of the emergence and development of conceptual studies of postmodernism along the trajectory of the non-Western world – to find out in connection with what circumstances the postmodern language of describing socio-cultural and political reality began to approach non-Western societies.

4) Defining the features of the postmodern paradigm in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. This task is seen by the author as one of the fundamental ones, since this phenomenon is recognized by both proponents and critics of postmodernism as a serious factor that has influenced deep transformational shifts in Western societies over the past few centuries.

5) Clarification and generalization of the set of postmodern tools – the actual scientific methods of postmodernism research, as well as critical analysis and other socio-historical methods that can be applied in social theory, primarily in political science. In particular, to analyze the specifics and possibilities of using postmodern approaches to discourse analysis and deconstruction, taking into account the socio-political reality of the former Soviet countries. Therefore, it is necessary to study the relationship between

postmodernism and political science, as well as to reveal the degree of relevance of postmodern research methods (mostly discourse analysis and deconstruction of binary oppositions) in the study of socio-political phenomena and processes.

6) Study of those elements of socio-political reality in the former Soviet republics that are beginning to transform under the influence of postmodernism.

The object of the research is postmodernism as a complex of conceptual approaches to the study of socio-political reality, and **the subject** is its implementation in the political development of non-Western societies on the example of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Scientific novelty of the study. The author's attempt to study the degree of manifestation of signs of postmodernism in the political sphere in non-Western societies is an exceptionally new problem field for Russian science for the study of modern socio-political reality, and includes the following points:

1) The study shows the contradictory attitude towards politics in postmodernism, which consists in recognizing the important role of political issues in the absence of a unified political theory in the study of postmodernism. Study of the totality of theoretical and applied developments (both foreign and domestic works) On the topic of postmodernism, within the framework of the social scientific field, they contributed to the identification and understanding of the subject content, essence, signs, origins and prospects of this phenomenon in non-Western societies.

2) The dissertation presents the theoretical and methodological aspects of the criticism of postmodernism in relation to the nature of power, its established discourse of hierarchy, the functioning of political institutions and the development of political science itself. The structural and substantive changes in the problem of defining subjectivity in power relations under the influence of postmodern thought are also analyzed.

3) For the first time, postmodern indicators in non-Western societies, their reflection in modern socio-political reality as a marker of the transformation of these societies, are the object of detailed and comprehensive consideration. A study has been conducted on the features, causes and factors of continuity and development of the main concepts and ideas of postmodernism in the context of non–Western societies, and as an example, an attempt has been made to analyze theoretical developments on postmodernism not only in the pioneers of postmodernism in the non–Western world – in Japan and China - but also in the post-Soviet space - in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan.

4) In the work, the author reveals the features of the formation of a new system of political values in the designated countries, examines the specifics of the question of to what extent globalization has the opportunity to bring the non–Western world closer to the Western one, despite the difficulties in the temporary historical stages of development, and whether postmodernism makes its own adjustments in these processes. Consequently, the author has taken several examples of how the problem of identity in the societies under consideration is changing under the influence of postmodernism, namely the changes associated with the political and ideological project of modernity - the "nation". Another example was the consideration of the metamorphoses of modern political reality through the prism of such phenomena as "post-truth" and "simulacrum".

5) The current situation is stated as a convergence of modernity and postmodernity; for non-Western societies, including Azerbaijani, Kazakh and Uzbek societies, this situation is seen as the presence of a constitutive modernity along with postmodernity and premodernity, due to the complex simultaneous processes of globalization and glocalization. Consequently, in his work, the author excludes the priority of one paradigm

in these societies, according to which they could be classified into only one fundamental category – a traditional society, or a Modern society, or an industrial, post-industrial society. This fundamentally rejects the idea of a fundamental paradigm shift in the work.

The main points of the study:

1) The explanation of the categories "postmodern" and "postmodernism" poses considerable terminological difficulties. It is important to emphasize that the very term "modernity/modernity" allows for a dual understanding. On the one hand, it expresses the idea of simultaneity, the coincidence in time of what is in question. On the other hand, the same word contains the idea of coincidence with the current time – that is, with the present day, when they speak or give an assessment, and therefore with the beginning of the XXI century. Consequently, today the ambiguity and ambiguity of the very concepts of "modern", "modernization", "postmodern", "postmodernism" make it difficult to develop criteria for their definition and application in political science research.

2) In this paper, the author does not seek to present postmodernism as the dominant language of description of modernity, on the contrary, recognizing postmodernism as one of the ways to understand and explain the current state of society, we largely take into account other languages of analytical description. Therefore, as a recommendation for possible future research and in order to fully address the problematic issue, postmodernism within the framework of social knowledge (in particular, political science) should be considered together with other concepts such as theories of globalization, pre-globalism, postcolonial studies, post-secularism, post-development, etc. It should be emphasized that the mentioned alternatives, one way or another, closely interact with postmodernism.

3) A review of the literature on postmodernity and postmodernism revealed that almost all theories and concepts that fall under the concepts of "postmodernity" and "postmodernism" in a certain way are aimed at uncovering issues related to philosophy, culture and their trends; post-Soviet sources of social sciences (mainly in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan They do not contain research on the topic of postmodernism and the category of political in their writings. By and large, political issues within the framework of postmodernism have so far been covered only by Western authors (primarily F. J. Jamieson and M. Foucault).

4) From the point of view of postmodernism, the linear logic of development cannot be universal for any society. According to postmodernists, for those societies that have recently (if viewed in a general historical context) embarked on modernization, borrowing, without evaluating and taking into account all factors, the political, cultural, economic, and other institutions and values of industrial (in their purest form) and post-industrial countries does not always lead to the necessary results, or even gives rise to negative consequences. In the social sciences and humanities, such phenomena are considered as political and cultural mimicry, which implies a demonstration of democratic institutions and procedures in societies undergoing the modern project. In cases where the development of society and the state is modernizing faster than objective conditions, there is a possibility that a neo-patrimonial type of domination may develop in these societies in political and power relations. In this regard, the separation of the signified from the signifier is one of the key interpretations of postmodernism.

5) One of the main characteristic features of postmodernism is the recognition of relativism (relativity) and the reassessment of all existing concepts, paradigms, narratives, which, according to postmodernists, construct and thereby distort reality. As a result, the road to the principle of diversity opens. In his work, the author shows how initially aimed at positively characterized postmodernism, it can become an effective tool for action and

lead to extremely negative consequences. The dissertation explains how these signs are revealed in political life. Today, there is a variety of political forces, a variety of expressions of the interests of these political forces, looting, which they try to justify with various political and economic interests; the protection of statehood, which the other part also wants to justify with the highest patriotic interests – both of these forces appeal to patriotism.

Theoretical and practical significance of the study.

The theoretical significance of this work lies in the fact that it has made it possible to deepen: an understanding of the specifics of modern trends, the so–called "challenges of modernity", including postmodernism, and responses to them in non-Western societies, in particular Azerbaijani, Kazakh, and Uzbek; to identify contradictions and features of these processes. The results of the research can be used in lectures on political science, social philosophy, cultural studies, in scientific research on the problems of political and social forecasting, as well as in the design of models and systems of social development.

Approbation of the results of the dissertation research.

The results of the dissertation research were discussed at scientific and methodological seminars of doctoral students and meetings of the Department of Political Science and Political Technologies of al-Farabi Kazakh National University. The main ideas and conclusions of the dissertation were reflected in 8 scientific papers, 3 of them in publications recommended by the Committee for Control in the Field of Education and Science of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 4 in collections of materials from international conferences, 1 in the scientific journal "Sociological Studies" indexed in the Scopus database.

Structure and scope of the dissertation work. The thesis is presented on 157 pages of typewritten text and consists of an introduction, two chapters and a conclusion. The list of references includes 293 titles.