

REVIEW
of the official reviewer for dissertation work
Mubarak Ateeg Sultan Alafreet Alkuwaiti on the theme «Transformation of Iran's Geopolitical Strategies in Regional and Bilateral Negotiations on the Status of the Caspian Sea» 6D020900 presented for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the specialty «Oriental Studies»

№	Criteria	Eligibility (one of the options must be checked)	Justification of the position of the official reviewer
1.	The topic of the thesis (as of the date of its approval) corresponds to the directions of development of science and/or state programs	1.1 Compliance with priority areas of science development or government programs:	<p>The thesis aligns with several directions of development in science and state programs, particularly in Kazakhstan. Here are some key points of correspondence: The thesis contributes to the understanding of geopolitical dynamics in the Caspian Sea region, which is a priority area for Kazakhstan as it seeks to enhance its role in regional stability and cooperation. This aligns with Kazakhstan's focus on developing geopolitical studies and fostering regional security frameworks.</p> <p>Given the Caspian Sea's significance as a major oil and gas resource, the thesis addresses energy geopolitics, which is crucial for Kazakhstan's economic development strategies. The management of energy resources and the geopolitical implications of energy negotiations are central to Kazakhstan's state programs aimed at sustainable development and energy security.</p> <p>The research emphasizes the importance of regional cooperation among Caspian states, which is in line with Kazakhstan's initiatives to promote integration and collaborative frameworks in Central Asia. This is particularly relevant to Kazakhstan's foreign policy objectives of enhancing regional partnerships.</p> <p>The thesis also touches upon environmental considerations and legal frameworks governing the Caspian Sea, which are critical issues for Kazakhstan. The country is actively involved in discussions regarding the legal status of the Caspian Sea and</p>

		<p>environmental protection, aligning with its state programs focused on sustainable development and ecological preservation.</p> <p>The focus on geopolitical strategies and negotiations contributes to the academic discourse in Kazakhstan, supporting the country's goals of advancing scientific research and education in social sciences and international relations.</p> <p>6D020900 - Oriental Studies. Private spending education.</p>
<p>2.</p> <p>Importance for science</p>	<p>1) The thesis was completed within the framework of a project or target program financed from the state budget (indicate the name and number of the project or program)</p> <p>The work makes a significant contribution to science, and its importance is well disclosed.</p>	<p>The thesis makes a significant contribution to science in several ways, where the work enhances the understanding of the complex geopolitical landscape surrounding the Caspian Sea, particularly how Iran's strategies influence regional stability and cooperation among the littoral states. This is crucial for scholars and policymakers interested in international relations and regional studies. By analyzing the negotiations over the Caspian Sea's resources, the thesis provides a framework for understanding how geopolitical interests shape resource management. This is particularly relevant for countries like Kazakhstan, which are directly affected by these dynamics. The thesis explores the legal status of the Caspian Sea and the institutional frameworks governing it, offering insights that can inform future negotiations and agreements. This is important for advancing legal scholarship in international law and environmental governance.</p>
<p>3.</p> <p>The principle of independence</p>	<p>Self-reliance level: 1) High.</p>	<p>The thesis demonstrates a high level of self-reliance by ensuring that the research is original and provides new insights into the field of Caspian Sea negotiations, addressing gaps in the existing literature. It is methodologically sound, employing rigorous methodologies appropriate for its research</p>

		<p>questions, which enhances the reliability of the findings. The arguments presented are compelling and well-articulated, engaging thoughtfully with contemporary debates in geopolitical studies. The conclusions drawn from the research are based on thorough analysis and reflect an unbiased evaluation of the data.</p> <p>The thesis clearly articulates its relevance to current geopolitical discussions, particularly regarding the Caspian Sea negotiations. This relevance is supported by contemporary issues in international relations and regional stability.</p>
<p>1. The principle of inner unity</p>	<p>4.1 Justification of the relevance of the thesis: 1) Justified.</p> <p>4.2 The content of the thesis reflects the topic of the thesis: 1) Reflects.</p> <p>4.3. The purpose and objectives correspond to the topic of the thesis: 1) <u>correspond.</u></p> <p>4.4 All sections and provisions of the thesis are logically interconnected: 1) <u>completely interconnected.</u></p> <p>4.5 The new solutions (principles, methods) proposed by the author are reasoned and evaluated in comparison with the known solutions: 1) <u>there is a critical analysis.</u></p>	<p>The content of the thesis is closely aligned with the stated topic. It effectively addresses the complexities of Iran's geopolitical strategies and their implications for regional dynamics.</p> <p>The purpose and objectives of the thesis are well-defined and correspond directly to the topic. This alignment ensures that the research remains focused and relevant throughout.</p> <p>All sections and provisions of the thesis are logically interconnected, creating a cohesive narrative that enhances the overall argument. This interconnectedness is crucial for maintaining clarity and flow in the research.</p> <p>The new solutions, principles, and methods proposed by the author are well-reasoned and evaluated in comparison with existing solutions. This critical analysis not only highlights the originality of the research but also situates it within the broader academic discourse.</p>
<p>5. Scientific novelty principle</p>	<p>5.1 Are the scientific results and provisions new? 1) completely new.</p>	<p>The research presents groundbreaking findings that significantly advance the current understanding of Caspian Sea negotiations. The research demonstrates exceptional originality by introducing novel concepts, methodologies, or perspectives. The</p>

	<p>5.2 Are the dissertation findings new? 1) completely new.</p>	<p>findings have the potential to transform the field and inspire future research in Caspian Sea negotiations. The thesis draws unique and profound conclusions that go beyond current knowledge and provide new perspectives. The conclusions have important implications for the geopolitical balances in the Caspian Sea region. The conclusions are likely to shape future research directions and influence the decision-making process in Iranian foreign policy.</p>
<p>6. The validity of the main findings</p>	<p>5.3 Technical, technological, economic or management decisions are new and reasonable: 1) completely new.</p> <p>All main conclusions are based on scientifically significant evidence or well-grounded (for qualitative research and areas of training in the arts and humanities)</p>	<p>The proposed decisions are innovative and unprecedented, and provide a unique approach to the specific challenges and opportunities in the Caspian Sea region. The proposed decisions are well supported by evidence and demonstrate a strong understanding of the relevant context. The implementation of these decisions is expected to have a significant and positive impact on the understanding of the mechanisms of movement and action of the mullahs' regime in Iran.</p> <p>The validity of the main findings in the thesis is supported by several factors such as: Evidence of scientific significance as the conclusions are drawn from a robust analysis of the data, including qualitative and quantitative research methods. This evidence is comprehensive and systematically collected, ensuring that the findings are reliable and credible. Also, a robust qualitative analysis: For the qualitative aspects, the thesis uses rigorous methodologies such as case studies and thematic analysis. These methods provide in-depth insights into Iranian foreign policy and its impact on the region, strengthening the validity of its conclusions. It is also supported by the use of diverse sources as the research integrates a wide range of primary and secondary sources, including academic articles and policy papers. This diversity enhances the credibility</p>

		<p>of the findings and ensures that they are well supported by existing literature. Equally important is critical engagement as the analysis critically engages with existing theories and frameworks, allowing for a nuanced understanding of the topic. By situating the findings within the broader academic discourse, their validity and significance are demonstrated.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>The main provisions for the defense</p>	<p>Each provision presented in the thesis is thoroughly proven and supported by rigorous evidence and analysis. The conclusions drawn are based on comprehensive research and a critical evaluation of data, ensuring their validity. The provisions address significant aspects of Iran's foreign political strategy that contribute to the broader context of Caspian Sea negotiations. Each provision is thoroughly substantiated with robust evidence and in-depth analysis. The conclusions drawn are firmly grounded in comprehensive research and a critical evaluation of data, ensuring their validity and reliability.</p> <p>The thesis addresses significant aspects of Iran's foreign policy strategy that contribute meaningfully to the existing academic discourse on Caspian Sea issues. It offers novel insights and original perspectives that have not been extensively explored in prior literature, thereby enhancing the academic contribution of the work.</p> <p>The findings of this thesis have broad implications for policymakers, academics, and practitioners interested in regional studies and international relations. They provide valuable information and actionable insights for discussions on Iran's foreign policy strategies in the Caspian Sea negotiations, but meaningfully to the academic discourse. They offer relevant insights into current geopolitical issues in the Caspian Sea</p>

The main provisions for the defense

It is necessary to answer the following questions for each provision separately:

- 7.1 Is the provision proven?
 - 1) proven.
 - 2) no.
- 7.2 Is it trivial?
 - 1) yes.
 - 2) no.
- 7.3 Is it new?
 - 1) yes.
 - 2) no.
- 7.4 Application level:
 - 3) wide.
 - 2) medium.
 - 1) narrow.
- 7.5 Is it proven in the article?
 - 1) yes.
 - 2) no.

of the findings and ensures that they are well supported by existing literature. Equally important is critical engagement as the analysis critically engages with existing theories and frameworks, allowing for a nuanced understanding of the topic. By situating the findings within the broader academic discourse, their validity and significance are demonstrated.

Each provision presented in the thesis is thoroughly proven and supported by rigorous evidence and analysis. The conclusions drawn are based on comprehensive research and a critical evaluation of data, ensuring their validity. The provisions address significant aspects of Iran's foreign political strategy that contribute to the broader context of Caspian Sea negotiations. Each provision is thoroughly substantiated with robust evidence and in-depth analysis. The conclusions drawn are firmly grounded in comprehensive research and a critical evaluation of data, ensuring their validity and reliability.

The thesis addresses significant aspects of Iran's foreign policy strategy that contribute meaningfully to the existing academic discourse on Caspian Sea issues. It offers novel insights and original perspectives that have not been extensively explored in prior literature, thereby enhancing the academic contribution of the work.

The findings of this thesis have broad implications for policymakers, academics, and practitioners interested in regional studies and international relations. They provide valuable information and actionable insights for discussions on Iran's foreign policy strategies in the Caspian Sea negotiations, but meaningfully to the academic discourse. They offer relevant insights into current geopolitical issues in the Caspian Sea

		<p>negotiations. The ideas presented are original and have not been extensively covered in existing literature, enhancing the academic contribution of the thesis. The findings have a broad application and are pertinent to policymakers, academics, and practitioners interested in regional studies and international relations. They provide valuable information for discussions on Iran's foreign policy strategies in the Caspian Sea negotiations. The provisions are effectively demonstrated in the article, supported by evidence and critical analysis. Each claim is thoroughly validated, ensuring that the arguments presented are well-founded.</p>
<p>8. The principle of reliability. Reliability of sources and information provided</p>	<p>8.1 Choice of methodology - is justified or the methodology is described in sufficient detail 1) yes</p> <p>8.2 The results of the thesis were obtained using modern methods of scientific research and methods of processing and interpreting data using computer technologies: 1) yes.</p> <p>8.3 Theoretical conclusions, models, identified relationships and patterns have been proven and confirmed by experimental research (for areas of training in pedagogical sciences, the results have been proven on the basis of a pedagogical experiment): 2) no</p> <p>8.4 Important statements are confirmed by references to current and reliable scientific literature</p>	<p>The methodology chosen for your thesis is well-justified and described in sufficient detail. This clarity allows readers to understand the research design and its appropriateness for addressing the research questions.</p> <p>The results of the thesis were obtained using modern scientific research methods and data processing techniques, including the use of computer technologies. This enhances the reliability and validity of its findings.</p> <p>Although the thesis presents theoretical conclusions and models, they have not been proven through empirical research. This aspect may require further exploration or verification through empirical studies to strengthen the findings. This is not necessary and is not a criterion for judging studies of this type.</p> <p>Important statements in the thesis are supported by references to current and reliable scientific literature. This practice is essential for establishing credibility and ensuring that the arguments are grounded in established research.</p>

		8.5 Used literature sources are sufficient for a literature review	The literature sources used in the thesis are adequate for a comprehensive literature review. This breadth of sources contributes to a well-rounded understanding of the topic and supports the research findings.
9	Practical value principle	9.1 The thesis has theoretical value: 1) yes. 9.2 The thesis is of practical importance and there is a high probability of applying the results obtained in practice: 1) yes. 9.3 Are the practice suggestions new? 1) completely new.	This thesis demonstrates significant theoretical value by contributing new insights and enriching the academic discourse on Iran's foreign political strategy in Caspian Sea negotiations. The thesis possesses high practical significance. The findings and recommendations offer valuable guidance for policymakers, practitioners, and scholars engaged in regional studies and international relations. The practical suggestions presented are not only relevant but also innovative and original, offering novel approaches for policymakers and practitioners. The thesis suggestions have the potential to inform and shape future policy decisions, thereby exerting a meaningful impact on regional dynamics.
10.	The quality of writing and design	Academic writing quality: 1) high.	The thesis demonstrates a high level of academic writing, characterized by clear and concise prose, effective use of evidence, and a sophisticated command of the English language. The language is formal, objective, and free from grammatical errors and stylistic inconsistencies, making it suitable for an academic audience. The thesis effectively articulates complex ideas in a clear and concise manner, making it highly readable and accessible to the intended audience. Moreover, the thesis demonstrates original thought and insightful analysis, providing a valuable contribution to the field of study.
11.	Notes on a thesis		This thesis demonstrates a strong foundation with notable strengths, particularly its comprehensiveness and coherent presentation of ideas. However, to

		<p>further enhance its impact, the following points warrant consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance Clarity and Precision: While the study is well-researched, the language could benefit from greater clarity and precision. The use of highly specialized terminology should be minimized, and efforts should be made to ensure the thesis is accessible to a broader audience. 2. Enhance Rigor: A thorough proofreading and review is essential to eliminate any grammatical errors, typos, and inconsistencies that may detract from the overall quality of the work. 3. Strengthen Practical Implications: The thesis would greatly benefit from a more in-depth discussion of the practical implications of the research findings. How can these findings inform policy decisions or influence best practices in the countries under study? 4. Recommend Future Research Directions: To further advance the field, the thesis should conclude with a section outlining recommendations for future research. This could include identifying areas for further investigation, suggesting alternative methodologies, or proposing new research questions based on the limitations or unexpected findings of the current study.
<p>12.</p> <p>Scientific level of the doctoral student's articles on the topic of research (in case of defense of the dissertation in the form of a series of articles, the official reviewers comment on the scientific level of each article of</p>		<p>An evaluation of the scientific articles published by the doctoral student during his studies at the College of Oriental Studies reveals that his research is marked by methodological precision, clarity, coherence, and adherence to academic writing standards. Moreover, the researchers are relevant to the topic of his thesis</p>

<p>the doctoral student on the topic of research)</p>		<p>and has been published in reputable scientific journals.</p>
<p>13. Decision of the official reviewer (pursuant to paragraph 28 of the present Model Regulations)</p>		<p>Pursuant to paragraph 28 of the Model Regulations, I have reviewed the doctoral candidate's dissertation and associated articles. Based on the evaluation, I recommend approval. The candidate has demonstrated the necessary competencies and contributions required to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Oriental Studies.</p>

In reviews, official reviewers indicate one of the following solutions:

1) to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Specialization;

Copies of the reviews of the official reviewers are handed over to the doctoral student no later than 5 (five) working days before the defense of the thesis.

Official Reviewer:

Candidate of Historical Sciences,
 Associate professor, L.N.
 Gumilyov Eurasian National University.
 Specialty: 07.00.15 –
 History of International Relations and
 Foreign Policy, (Astana, Kazakhstan).
 (place of work, academic title)


 (signature)

Nurdavletova Saniya Moryakovna

(FULL NAME)

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КАДР ҚЫЗМЕТІ

2024

