

PLACE OF SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION'S IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER

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Abstract

Shanghai Cooperation Organization is on its way to be one of the biggest challengers of the unipolarity. The article particularly focuses on the security issues of not just the member states but the region as well. Security cases top the agenda of SCO states.

Keyword: Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Security, New World Order

Overview of the shanghai cooperation organization

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an intergovernmental international organization founded in Shanghai on June 15, 2001 by six member nations: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It was established on the foundation of the "Shanghai Five" mechanism, which was initially developed for the aim of strengthening trust and encouraging disarmament in the border regions of China with Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. It has four observer countries those are India, Pakistan, Iran and Mongolia. The SCO covers one of the largest geographical areas of any regional organization, from Kaliningrad to Vladivostok and from the White Sea to the South China Sea. If its observer states are added, it reaches to the Indian Ocean and the Middle East as well. Its members and observers collectively possess 17.5 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves, 47–50 per cent of known natural gas reserves and some 45 percent of the world's population (Bailes, Dunay, and Guang, 2007)

The SCO ensures cooperation in political, military, economic, energy and cultural fields. Significant necessities of economic cooperation are (traditional) arms trade – with Russia as supplier – and energy, of which Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Iran are big exporters – while China and India are significant importers. Russia and China, however, remain the leading actors of the SCO. While the SCO launched as a security

organization – extending from confidence-building measures at the borders to anti-terrorist activities – SCO members frequently state that this organization is primarily meant for political and economic cooperation and that military coordination – focusing on domestic security – plays a minor role (Hague, 2008).

The SCO has become an influential organization and an important factor in the emergence of a new polycentric world order. The organization has struggled to bring about concrete improvements in the security and multilateral political, economic and humanitarian cooperation. In conclusion, the role of the SCO in international and regional affairs is on the increase, attracting the attention of many countries and international organizations. Pakistan, India, and Iran desire to become full members of the SCO, while more and more countries are pursuing observer or dialogue partner status (3).

Interaction of the shanghai cooperation with world

While passing through the polymorphous new world order, the system of unipolarity is being challenged by new emerging powers whose target is to replace unipolarity with multi one. Shanghai Cooperation Organization member states bring the security issues annually in Dushanbe, Tajikistan as the security issues top the agenda including terrorism in the region or far from the region. De facto leader of the cooperation, China specifically focuses on combating religion-involved extremism and cyber terrorism which occupies the most interests among states, in particular from those who are considered not democracy but autocracy, dictatorship (4).

By aligning the interests of two of the world's largest powers, the SCO is poised to flourish on the international stage. However, due to basic distrust and the precarious nature of shifting regional interests, it is extremely unlikely that the SCO will ever develop into a pact of mutual defense. While countering the hegemony of the United States is a substantial and shared concern for each of the member states, none are ready to sacrifice diplomatic and economic relations with the superpower should another member overstep its bounds and provoke American ire. The U.S. is simply too powerful and its economic support too valuable for members to risk losing its good favor. Immediately after the June 2001 rally, Uzbek President Karimov echoed this sentiment, declaring that the pact to join hands to battle the three evil forces of terrorism, separatism and extremism would in no way be used to subordinate Uzbekistan to the interests of larger powers (Blank, 2005).

As the potential of the SCO may be restricted in its military scope, the true oath of the organization lies in its likely development as an economic superpower. With its boosted membership, it now consists of two

booming economies in India and China, as well as the enormous amounts of oil in Russia, Central Asia, and Iran (Klimenko, 2005).

Conclusion

As a conclusion, it must be highlighted that the Pacific circles is so far from being challenged, in particular by Asian states. China might do that by its economic power but never wants to be on the same stage with western powers as rivals. Probably, like how Goldman Sachs guessed, it may happen by 2050.

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