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Revista de Antropología, Ciencias de la Comunicación y de la Información, Filosofía,
Linguística y Semiótica, Problemas del Desarrollo, la Ciencia y la Tecnología

Año 36, 2020, Especial N°

26

Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales

ISSN 1012-1537/ ISSNe: 2477-9385

Depósito Legal pp 198402ZU45



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The foreign policy of the 12th Government in the Middle East

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Abstract

The present study has been an analytical descriptive one and uses the library method to investigate the foreign policy of the 12th Government in the Middle East, considering the new geopolitics of the region. The results of the study illustrate that the moderation policy of the 12th government has been affected by the emergence of the new geopolitical geopolitics, and especially in countries such as Saudi Arabia and the UAE, it could not be effective. In conclusion, the foreign policy of Iran in the first place requires a realistic understanding of the possibilities and limitations that the country's geopolitical situation offers.

Keywords: Middle east, Geopolitical, Resistance, Region.

La política exterior del duodécimo gobierno en Oriente Medio

Resumen

El presente estudio ha sido analítico descriptivo y utiliza el método de la biblioteca para investigar la política exterior del 12^o Gobierno en Oriente Medio, considerando la nueva geopolítica de la región. Los resultados del estudio ilustran que la política de moderación del 12^o gobierno se ha visto afectada por la aparición de la nueva geopolítica geopolítica, y especialmente en países como Arabia Saudita y los Emiratos Árabes Unidos, no podría ser efectiva. En conclusión, la política exterior de Irán en primer lugar requiere una

comprensión realista de las posibilidades y limitaciones que ofrece la situación geopolítica del país.

Palabras clave: Medio oriente, Geopolítico, Resistencia, Región.

1. INTRODUCTION

Middle East is one of the main geopolitical regions of the world, which because of the existence of huge oil and gas resources, has always been the large market of consumption and presence of Israel which had territorial disputes and regional rivalries. Developments in the region seem to be in the form of regional rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Since the revolution, two regional powers, Iran and Saudi Arabia have faced many ups and downs in their relationships; That is, although in some areas of constructive and reform governments due to pragmatic foreign policy, the complexity and competitiveness of the two governments have diminished, but in recent years, for reasons such as Iran's influence in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Bahrain the tension on their relations has become dominant (BARZEGAR, 2013).

Recent developments in the Middle East and nation-building in Iraq, which have led to an increase in the role of Shiites in the structure of the political fabric in Iraq and the restoration of Shiite identity in the region, have led to the emergence of new doctrines and attitudes toward the Middle East's political-security landscape. Meanwhile, the Shiite crescent of modern geopolitics is one of the most important

political attitudes that have been attracted by some regional and intra-regional governments and emphasized the necessity to deal with it.

This term, which is associated with the terms and statistics of the Shiites and their convergence in the formation of new geopolitics in the Middle East, has predicted the Shiite religion as the main geopolitical axis in the region and predicted the emergence of the Shia crescent in the Middle East. Recent different evolutions have caused the Middle East to form the new Middle East, which is accompanied by Shia Muslims in the forefront of which is the Islamic Republic of Iran. In recent years, Iraq has become one of the most important and central allies of Iran. The Syrian government, led by Bashar al-Assad, was able to stay with the Iranian aid. Lebanon's Hezbollah has become a bigger power. In Yemen, there has been a power that has made the opponents of the Islamic Republic, including the United States, the Zionists, and the Saudis.

2. METHODOLOGY

This type of study is descriptive-analytical and the method of data collection is library data. The data collection tool is taking note. In order to analyze the data, the qualitative method is used because the research variables are not measurable. The essential question in this study is how the new Middle East is formed and how the foreign policy of the 12th government in the region can be evaluated in the new Middle East geopolitical way? In order to study and answer the

mentioned question, first, the theoretical framework of the research is explained and analyzed and then the external policy of the 12th government, the center of conflict and conflict in the new Middle East, and the structure and balance of power in the new Middle East have been raised and finally concluded.

3. THEORETICAL FRAME

The theoretical framework of the present research is aggressive realism. According to the theory, the relative power is of great importance to governments, as anarchy compels governments to maximize their authority or their relative influence. The way of the system's influence on governments in the eyes of aggressive realists is based on the neoclassical view of neoclassical theory. It is assumed that the system has an indirect effect on actors (KHALILI, HEIDARI, SAYADI & ASGHARI SANI, 2013). Jon Mir Shymer believes that leaders of the countries should pursue those security policies that would undermine their potential enemies and increase their power to the rest of the country. In his attitude, if a country wants the oppressed, it must be a good aggressive realist (BAILIS & SMITH, 2004).

In this respect, the ultimate goal of a state is to become a regional hegemon. Therefore, according to maximization of power by governments to gain hegemony, governments use two groups of strategic conduct that in both cases, namely increasing power and controlling competitors, consider geopolitical status. States use the

strategy to increase power from the option of war or fire. Following this, the vision states that the structure of the international system forces the great powers to maximize their relative power; because this will be the only desirable way to maximize their security in such an environment. In other words, survival requires aggressive behavior. In the same context, the state that intends to change its position and turn into regional hegemony is faced with the obstacles that dominate the region, as well as other governments in the region where it is located. Accordingly, the dominant hegemonic government provides the conditions for the failure of others to reach hegemony (KARAMI, 2004).

The international dignity includes ideas about the rank and position of a country in a political, military, social and economic hierarchical system. The ranking, in comparison to others, is based on the assessment of the components of the material power as well as the meaning of a nation. In addition to an assessment of the existence status, the international position can include ideas about the desired situation. The political destination and the international position in national identity and concepts are defined with the objective of establishing a distinguished identity for the state compared with other governments and the provision of national self - esteem. By defining the two pillars, governments find out which groups belong or must join. In other words, these are not necessarily the observer status (descriptive) and can be defined in the ideal (prescriptive) form. The groups on the international level are formed based on features and material and semantic properties (MOEINUDDIN, 2006).

But since the focus of the conflict in the Middle East is identity, the theory of aggressive realism does not appear to be the subject of this article alone, so it is necessary to use the theory of constructivism. In terms of constructivism, a government may have many entities and based on any identity, special interests and behavior should be considered. Went analyzes the relationship between identity and interests through the concept of role. The roles that governments assume, summon them to the set of actions and measures that coordinate with this role (GHADERI KANGAVARI, 2013). The roles that governments have for themselves have an essential impact on how their foreign policy decisions are made (DOKPESI, 2015).

If the Americans allow themselves to interfere in others' affairs, it is because they consider themselves on an island where people are sinking, said Hoffman. In the same context, it has to be mentioned that the role of Om_ Alghara by the Islamic Republic of Iran presents particular identity commitments that determine its foreign policy bias. For example, the material and spiritual aid to Hamas (the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement) or recognition of the Israeli regime is understood in this regard. Structuralisms communicate in three ways between identity and interests.

First: the inherent national values of government identity; goals, rewards, and benefits that are followed by the state. Second: certain beliefs that are rooted in the identity of the actors help to determine the situations in which actions are formed to supplement the interests. This will affect the determination of government priorities regarding certain

behaviors. Third: identities include certain rules and functions which determine which strategies should be given priority. It may also impose constraints on the specific choices of foreign policy (HAJI YOUSEFI, 2004). Accordingly, Reus-Smith believes the differentiation of a government as a democratic liberal state shows what goals the government can achieve in foreign policy (DEGHANI FIROUZABADI, 2013).

It should be noted that the various entities of a government entail their own special interests; for instance, the role of Om-Alghora for Islamic Republic of Iran due to its Islamic identity, if successful, can transform Iran into a power center in the world. In this paper, the theory of structuralism emphasis on the role of governments in determining foreign policy as well as willingness to gain power and transform power has been used in the explanation and developments of the region and foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Saudi Arabia.

4. DISCUSSION

Iran is in an extremely strategic position in the Middle East. And its width in the Middle East after Saudi Arabia is unique. It has long borders with axial areas and complete control over one of the most important straits in the world, and its highlands have created a good defensive position. The high level of education and culture, along with its rich history and national identity, has also given special power

to it. This feature which is based on productive interaction with other nations, along with having a democratic system that comes from the will of the nation and possessing 13% of the world's energy resources, has made Iran a pivotal point in early geopolitical theories.

This prominent geopolitics, which Graham Fuller refers to as the Qibla or Center of the Universe FULLER GRAHAM (2005), is in the process of expansion wishes of the great powers in the 19th and 20th centuries, and it has also involved Iran in the great game played by the world powers. As a result, Iranian foreign policy has seen different patterns over the years. The model of Iran's foreign policy in the post-constitutional era became the model of neutrality. The purposes of this neutralizing model were the competition of the great powers and using them to secure and maintain the integrity of Iranian lands. This pattern continued until 1332 SH. After the coup and the Shah's position as the sole instigator of Iran's foreign policy, the neutrality model was replaced with the pattern of a satisfactory conformity model. At a time when the Cold War was intensifying between the two superpowers, Iran's foreign policy was shaped through the unity and alliance with the West (TORABI, 2006).

This approach ended with the Islamic Revolution in 1977, and the Islamic Republic abandoned the pattern of satisfactory conformity that they believed led to the subjugation and loss of national independence and replaced the pattern of the Nine East and the Nine West, which denies the dominance of the superpowers. The value and ideological approach of the revolution, which sought to achieve itself

in such ideals as the formation of Islamic Umm al-Qura'i, the support of the oppressed, the fight against oppressive powers, the disagreement with arrogance, the issuance of the Islamic Revolution, and the striving for awakening of Islamic nations in foreign policy area, was not adopted with national requirements and the international environment. Therefore it led other countries in the region and both world superpowers to take stand.

The opposition of these countries to the Islamic Revolution and the attempts to overthrow it made the Islamic Republic's decision-makers to conclude that they were all against Iran and that resistance and opposition to them and the system of domination is a national and religious necessity. The result of this point of view has led to a protest orientation on Iran's foreign policy (JAVADANI MOGHADDAM, 2012). After passing the revolutionary situation and stabilization of the government, the pattern of protest gradually has given its place to the tolerance with the world and deterioration in relations with other countries. This model has been able to resolve the misunderstandings between Iran and other countries through critical and constructive dialogue, negotiation and contextualization, and make Iran an active player in the international arena.

Moderation as a Foreign Policy Model of the twelfth Government in the following approach of the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy can be evaluated. Moderate ideological in foreign policy means that while having ideological components, its use in foreign policy is limited to two elements of expediency and national

interest. In fact, the consideration of these two elements has prevented ideological extremism in foreign policy. This approach seeks to pursue human and Islamic ideals considering the existing realities. In fact, in the twelfth government, the discourse of moderation in the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran implies a balance between idealism and realism that can be defined as idealistic realism. It is also possible to imply a balance between idealism and realism through idealism in thought and theory on one hand and realism in action and procedure on the other hand.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, by its Islamic nature and identity, has defined two categories of national and transnational goals. Moderation in foreign policy means that there is some kind of balance between these two goals. Therefore, too much emphasis on pursuing one of these goals means ignoring the other goals, leaving the desired balance and balancing in foreign policy. Therefore, the Islamic nature of the Islamic Republic of Iran requires Islamic and national interests that should always be included in the foreign policy agenda, and in case of inconsistency between these two concepts with moderation approach this Islamic nature prevents one over another. In this regard, maintaining and balancing the interests of defense-security, the welfare-economic, ideological, and global order is another aspect of moderating negotiation in the foreign policy discourse.

The logic of the state-nation of the Islamic Republic of Iran requires realism in foreign policy and the logic of the Islamic Revolution requires idealism in international politics that one without

the other cannot be a moderator. In moderation ideology, foreign policy behavior is not merely about duty and responsibility, but rather about being on the agenda of a foreign policy that does not conflict with national interests. In other words, the boundary of responsibility in the international system is the preservation of national interests.

It should be noted that one of the most important variables in the Islamic Republic is the government variable. Although the implementation of foreign policy is largely within the remit of the executive power, other powers have been instrumental in formulating as well as overseeing foreign policy. At this level of analysis, to understand and analyze the nuclear policy of the moderate state, the type of political system ruling Iran and the definition it offers of its identity and role in relation to the outside world must be taken into consideration. The leadership of the constitution has the power to declare war and peace and mobilize forces under article 110 of the Constitution. Also, according to article 176 of the Constitution, all resolutions of the Supreme National Security Council, especially in the foreign field, must be approved by the leadership and also the leadership has two representatives in the Supreme National Security Council. Paying attention to this important issue can play a decisive role in analyzing the foreign policy of the 12th government's moderation.

For this reason, in sensitive and strategic cases, the approval or presence of a leader or leadership representatives is necessary. However, insensitive situations, this can lead to the coherence of

external issues and create some sort of consensus in the Islamic Republic's decision-making system on sensitive issues such as war and peace or strategic issues. In the eleventh administration, for example, they were ordered to begin a nuclear negotiation with Western nations on the basis of heroic leniency and described the purpose of heroic leniency as the simultaneous use of flexibility and power to defeat the enemy. In this regard, he did not consider heroic leniency to be a means of transcending ideals and considered distrust of America as a condition for preventing passivity and duality in the Islamic Republic. In fact, flexibility does not mean loyalty and passivity.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper explores the fundamental question of how the foreign policy of the 12th government in the region can be evaluated in the new Middle East geopolitical way. The results of the study showed that despite the policy of moderation in the foreign policy of the 12th government, Iranian relations with some neighbors, including Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, have suffered more tension and it seems that the policy of moderation in this regard could not be effective. The fact is that the emergence of the new Middle East geopolitical discourse has strongly affected the policy of moderation in the foreign policy of the government. To understanding this effect better, the external policy of the 12th government in the form of other effective variables, including the state variable, was considered.

In this context, the government is not the only defining policy of foreign policy, and government agencies play a decisive role in determining the foreign policy of the state, including the 12th government. It seems that the foreign policy of Iran in the first place requires a realistic understanding of the possibilities and limitations that the country's geopolitical situation offers. Iran's foreign policy, on the other hand, must have sufficient understanding of the presence of other powers and actors in the region and of any suspicions of its actions that are by no means negligible in the short term. The goals should also be tailored to the country's capabilities and limitations.

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**UNIVERSIDAD
DEL ZULIA**

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Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales

Año 36, Especial N° 26 (2020)

Esta revista fue editada en formato digital por el personal de la Oficina de Publicaciones Científicas de la Facultad Experimental de Ciencias, Universidad del Zulia.

Maracaibo - Venezuela

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