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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

HUMANITARIAN RELATIONS BETWEEN AZERBAIJAN AND UKRAINE IN THE CONTEMPORARY PERIOD

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Field of science: Political sciences

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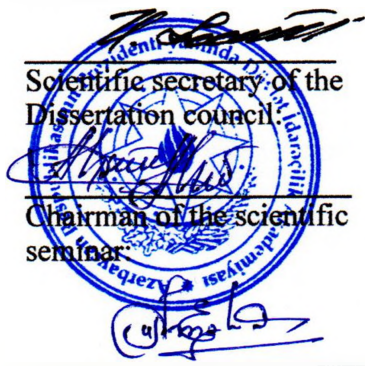
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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISSERTATION

The relevance of the research topic and degree of development: Humanitarian cooperation, which is the leading field of modern world politics, occupies a prominent place in the international activities of states. At present, the role of humanitarian relations among peoples and states is strengthening. In the new international conditions, there are a number of fundamental reasons for the implementation of humanitarian relations among states. International humanitarian cooperation lays the foundation for the expansion of initiatives aimed at maintaining peace, developing bilateral relations at higher levels and ensuring the high welfare of peoples.

The implementation of humanitarian activities in the foreign policy of states is mainly formed around two goals. Firstly, to effectively penetrate the international world and deeply participate in global cooperation, having a useful and strong influence on modern world politics. Secondly, by participating in international humanitarian cooperation, the state tries to achieve its development and modernization in the conditions of globalization and competition.

Against the background of new geopolitical realities at the end of the 20th century, after the collapse of the USSR, the allied republics regained their independence. As an independent state, Azerbaijan and Ukraine laid the foundation for the future relations by restoring the diplomatic relations that existed at one time. Preservation of historical relations between the countries and raising it to a qualitatively new level are the great merits of the National Leader Heydar Aliyev, as well as the worthy follower of this policy, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, always emphasizes the necessity of conducting scientific research

on humanitarian activities, which are of special importance in the foreign policy of our state. In the new historical international conditions, the issues of humanitarian cooperation in Azerbaijan's foreign policy are already distinguished by their relevance. As a result, the demand for systematic, consistent and creative scientific-theoretical research in this field is increasing significantly. In modern times, writing a dissertation on humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine has sufficient scientific and practical bases. A number of fundamental factors grounding the need for scientific investigation of the subject can be expressed in the form of the following principle propositions and theses:

First, new world order and new foreign policy strategy of states: The thesis of the formation of a new stage in the system of international relations after the "Cold War" is often noted by many researchers. The multi-vector political processes taking place in the world in modern times also show that the system of international relations is changing radically. After the collapse of the bipolar world system, the international security system and the foreign security policy of states are being reformed.

Currently, predicting political processes in advance and defining an appropriate foreign policy strategy are becoming more complicated. Against the background of such issues, global historical-humanitarian challenges call for increased attention to humanitarian cooperation in the foreign policy of states. Moreover, being a multifaceted and promising field of activity, inter-state humanitarian cooperation has serious strategic and conceptual indicators. Undoubtedly, such factors determine the necessity of scientific development of interstate humanitarian cooperation policy at the modern stage of international relations.

Second, the problems of the conceptual view of the concept of interstate "humanitarian cooperation" in the scientific literature: In modern international relations, which are changing and getting

renewed a new term “humanitarian cooperation” has not been formed. Modern political processes have brought a number of important nuances to the understanding and essence of this phenomenal field of interstate activity. The humanitarian direction in the foreign policy of states is one of the insufficiently studied areas of international relations.

The fact that interstate humanitarian relations have a rich history, positive traditions and experiences, and multi-faceted fields of activity has facilitated the emergence of different approaches and ideas in this direction. Such different views on humanitarian cooperation, including completely different approaches to the issue in the Western and Soviet-Russian schools, once again highlight the importance of the study of modern humanitarian cooperation. Due to it, arises a demand for scientific research in the direction of in-depth study of scientific-theoretical approaches and political interpretations of the concept of interstate humanitarian cooperation.

Third, humanitarian challenges against the background of integration and globalization processes: In the conditions of modern integration and globalization, new forms of relations between civilizations are emerging in the world and a different culture of thought is being formed. These factors have a strong influence on the system of international relations, including the formation of the internal and external policies of states. As a result, humanitarian challenges at the international level become relevant in the direction of the discussion of the new demands and problems of the modern era.

Considering this necessity, the official Baku and Kiev periodically put forward various initiatives that determine the agenda of interstate humanitarian cooperation. Representatives of both nations have historically shown tolerance to the moral values system of other nations with their civilized, cultural way of life and thinking. Azerbaijan and Ukraine always act as supporters of

inter-civilizational dialogue and universal cultural integration in new conditions. Modern integration and globalization processes make it necessary for nations to maintain close contact with different cultures and mutual cooperation of states in all humanitarian fields, while preserving their national identity. In our opinion, the involvement and study of such a global issue is of great importance in our modern political science.

Fourth, historical-ethnic closeness and common history factor between Azerbaijan and Ukraine: Despite the fact that they are located in different regions, the friendly traditions and relations between the peoples of Azerbaijan and Ukraine, formed over centuries, serve useful purposes for both societies. Azerbaijan's relations with Ukraine among non-Muslim states in the post-Soviet space are unique from this viewpoint. To a certain extent, historical-ethnic closeness and centuries-old humanitarian cooperation conditioned the formation of official relations of both newly formed states in a short period of time at the beginning of the 20th century. In our opinion, such indicators have a special role in the more successful establishment of relations between the two countries and its continuous development in modern times. Thus, in modern times, it became necessary to conduct research on the issues of dynamic development of humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine.

Fifth, the necessity of joint participation of official Baku and Kiev in regional and international humanitarian cooperation mechanisms: After gaining independence, Azerbaijan and Ukraine faced a very important problem of strengthening and developing it. The solution of such problems was due to solid unity and strong cooperation, as well as the establishment of strategic level relations that meet national interests. Namely, as a result of such a determined and thoughtful foreign policy between the two states, our relations are developing at the level of strategic partnership.

At present, the very dangerous processes in modern world politics, including gross violation of the principles of international law, seriously disturb humanity. At the current stage, when the new world order is being formed, the states are reshaping their foreign policy priorities at the international level, as well as the directions of action in the field of humanitarian cooperation. The need for joint defense of the states against the noted threats requires them to take advantage of a number of regional and international cooperation mechanisms. Such a situation creates a demand for relevant scientific research.

The historicity and comprehensiveness of humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine necessitates a comprehensive scientific study of the issue. On the other hand, the problem of a conceptual view of the concept of interstate humanitarian cooperation in the scientific literature requires clarification of the situation related to theoretical research and making relevant generalizations. Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian relations in modern times have not been studied systematically and separately. However, certain studies have been conducted mainly in Azerbaijan and Ukraine, and partly in Russia and the West, in a number of areas of relations between the two states.

When examining the level of study of the topic, first of all, it should be briefly consider the theoretical studies on interstate humanitarian cooperation in the modern era, and then to analyze the studies on the practical aspects of Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian relations. Thus, no unanimous opinion has been formed on the definition, notion, content, etc. of interstate humanitarian cooperation in political literature. M.Lebedeva, P.Kennedy, A.Stalberg, J.Gray, V.Morozov and I.Makarenko and others defend the importance of “humanitarian foreign policy” along with military and economic power to succeed in world

politics.¹ However, the aforementioned researchers have different views on humanitarian policy. Among scientists, there are conflicting opinions about the object of interstate humanitarian relations.

Among the international scientific schools, two different approaches to humanitarian cooperation should be especially noted - Western and Soviet-Russian. Representatives of the Soviet-Russian school I. Baranova², E. S. Gromoglasova³, A. S. Koshel⁴, A. M. Kuznetsov⁵ and others conducted research on narrow areas of interstate humanitarian cooperation - education, science, culture, etc.

Representatives of American and European schools H. Williams and M. Kevin study the possibilities of humanitarian cooperation during “humanitarian crisis or disaster”⁶. On the other

¹ Хрусталеv, М.А. Анализ международных ситуаций и политическая экспертиза: очерки теории и методологии / М.А. Хрусталеv, – М.: – НОФМО, – 2008. – 224 с.

² Баранова, И.И. Международное сотрудничество в продвижении русского языка и русской культуры за рубежом // М.: – Вопросы методики преподавания в вузе. – 2018. № 7 (26), – с. 8-16.

³ Громогласова, Е.С. Гуманитарная составляющая внешней политики государства // М.: – Пути к миру и безопасности, Спецвыпуск: Гуманитарные вызовы, гуманитарное реагирование и защита гражданского населения в вооруженных конфликтах, – 2018. № 1(54), – с. 77-91.

⁴ Кошель, А.С. Мягкая сила как инструмент гуманитарного сотрудничества государств на евразийском пространстве // Вестник московского университета, – 2015. №2, – с. 160-171.

⁵ Кузнецов, А.М. Этническая политика и некоторые проблемы человеческого измерения безопасности // Материалы международного семинара “Этническая политика и невоенные аспекты безопасности”, – Владивосток: – Издательский дом Дальневосточного федерального университета, – 2012, – с. 7-32.

⁶ The ICRC and Humanitarian Policy in Contemporary World Politics // – Istanbul: Conference Papers International Studies Association, –2005. p. 1-26

hand, the content of interstate humanitarian cooperation is subjected to changes under the influence of modern political processes. This, in turn, prevents the formation of a single scientific opinion on interstate humanitarian cooperation.

Regarding the practical aspects of Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian relations, the works by a number of authors can be found in certain fields of humanitarian relations. Practical aspects of the relations between the two states are highlighted in the works “Modern history of Ukraine”⁷ by H.Mammadov, “Contemporary international relations and foreign policy of Azerbaijan”⁸ by I.Musa, “International cultural relations”⁹ by M.Manafova et al and “Ukraine-Azerbaijani relations: law, politics, diplomacy”¹⁰ by A. Guliyev.

Professor Habil Mammadov, one of the mentioned authors, in his scientific researches has given a lot of space to Azerbaijani-Ukraine relations, especially considering the possibilities of humanitarian cooperation within the framework of the Soviet-Russian approach. However, there is still a need for extensive, comprehensive and systematic research on humanitarian relations between the two states.

Besides the above-mentioned, such a grouping can be carried out in connection with researches on separate specific issues covered by the dissertation research:

- Impact of globalization, integration, cultural diversity and multiculturalism processes on the development of humanitarian

⁷ Məmmədov, H. Ukraynanın müasir tarixi / H. Məmmədov – Bakı: Elm və təhsil, – 2009. – 178 s.

⁸ Musa, İ.M. Çağdaş beynəlxalq münasibətlər və Azərbaycanın xarici siyasəti. Dərslük. III hissə / İ.M.Musa. – Bakı: Bakı Universiteti, – 2011. – 776 s.

⁹ Beynəlxalq mədəni əlaqələr / M. Manafova [və b.] – Bakı: Sabah, – 2008. – 652 s.

¹⁰ Гулиев, А. Украина-Азербайджанские отношения: право, политика, дипломатия. том 1. / А. Гулиев – Харьков: Факт. – 2014, – 656 с.

relations (H.Hüseynova¹¹, R.Aslanova¹², N.Niftiyev¹³, A.Balchi, R.Roland¹⁴ and others).

• Humanitarian cooperation within international and regional organizations (H.Khalilova¹⁵, I.Novruzlu¹⁶, A.Shahmuradov¹⁷, V.Taghibeyli¹⁸, D.Belashenko¹⁹ and others).

The object and subject of the research. The object of the research is the humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in the modern era, and the subject is the study of directions, areas, development dynamics and prospects of humanitarian cooperation between the two states.

The aim and the tasks of the research. The main goal of the research is to investigate Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian

¹¹ Hüseynova, H. Azərbaycan Avropa inteqrasiya prosesləri sistemində / H. Hüseynova – Bakı: Hərbi nəşriyyat, – 1998, – 280 s.

¹² Aslanova, R. Qloballaşma və mədəni müxtəliflik / R. Aslanova – Bakı: Elm, – 2004, – 264 s.

¹³ Niftiyev, N. Azərbaycanda birgəyaşayış və multikulturalizm / N. Niftiyev – Bakı, – 2015, – 408s.

¹⁴ Balçı A., Roland R. Küreselleşmə və Kültür // Bilgi Dergisi, İstanbul: 2006, s.25-36.

¹⁵ Xəlilova, H. GUAM çərçivəsində Azərbaycan-Ukrayna münasibətləri // Ankara: Uluslararası türk dünyası araştırmaları dergisi, – 2018. No1, – s. 62-71.

¹⁶ Novruzlu, İ. Qara Dəniz İqtisadi Əməkdaşlıq Təşkilati: özünü doğrultma cəhdləri və problemlər // Gənc tədqiqatçıların III Beynəlxalq Elmi Konfransının materialları. Bakı: Bakı Mühəndislik Universiteti, – 2019, – s. 391-395.

¹⁷ Şahmuradov, A.Ş. Qara Dəniz İqtisadi Əməkdaşlıq Təşkilati çərçivəsində Azərbaycanın Rusiya və Ukrayna ilə Əməkdaşlıq imkanları // Bakı: Bakı Universitetinin Xəbərləri, Humanitar elmlər seriyası, – 2013. No3, – s. 62-71.

¹⁸ Tağıbəyli, V. GUÖAM. İqtisadi əməkdaşlıq təşkilatı, yoxsa hərbi anlayış // – Bakı: Heydər Əliyev məktəbi, İctimai-siyasi jurnal, – 2010. No10, – s. 59-61.

¹⁹ Белашенко, Д.А. Деятельность ГУАМ на постсоветском пространстве: намерения, результаты, перспективы / Д.А.Белашенко, В.В.Толкачев, А.П.Шмелев, П.Ф.Шоджонов // Контуры глобальных трансформаций: политика, экономика, право – 2021, Т. 14. № 3, – с. 84–105.

relations in the modern era, to analyze the existing areas within the framework of Western and Soviet approaches, and to determine the main mechanisms of cooperation. Certain tasks have also been set in the dissertation work. In our opinion, it is reasonable to conditionally group these tasks in the following three directions:

First, in terms of studying the theoretical and practical aspects of modern interstate humanitarian cooperation:

- clarification of the essence of theoretical approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” in modern interstate relations and their systematization;

- Investigation of the humanitarian cooperation potential of Azerbaijan and Ukraine, identification of existing resources and opportunities and comparative analysis.

- Secondly, from the perspective of the legal basis of Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian relations and the study of multilateral cooperation mechanisms:

- investigation of the historical-political foundations and legal basis of bilateral relations;

- To determine the formats of Azerbaijan’s and Ukraine’s participation in the regional-international humanitarian cooperation systems, to evaluate the perspectives of representation in relevant institutions by means of comparative analysis;

- Thirdly, in the context of the analysis of the main directions, areas and future perspectives of humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine:

- Separate assessment of areas of humanitarian cooperation within the framework of the Soviet-Russian approach

- Determination of humanitarian cooperation opportunities at the level of Western approach;

- Forecasting prospects for the development of Azerbaijani-Ukraine relations and developing relevant recommendations;

Research methods. Regarding the research methods used in the investigation of the issues covered by the dissertation work, the following can be highlighted:

- Scientific research of the theoretical and practical issues of Azerbaijani-Ukraine humanitarian cooperation was carried out with methods of a systematic approach and comparative analysis;
- The issues of forecasting the prospects of the development of Azerbaijani-Ukraine relations and making relevant proposals were investigated by means of logical-critical evaluation and polemic methods;
- The generalization of the scientific results of the dissertation was carried out by the method of rational-objective approach to problems.

Main theses submitted of the defense:

1. The multi-vector political processes experienced in modern world politics are fundamentally changing the system of international relations. To predict political processes in the new conditions and to define a corresponding foreign policy strategy is quite complicated. In this context, states that are looking for new directions in foreign policy are trying to demonstrate to the world their readiness to help each other. From this viewpoint, humanitarian cooperation is considered one of the most effective tools of the foreign policy course of the modern era.

2. Interstate humanitarian cooperation is one of the areas of international relations not studied enough. In the scientific literature, there are completely different approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation”, which is a relatively new term in world politics. The fact that interstate humanitarian relations have multifaceted fields of activity has facilitated the emergence of different approaches and ideas in this direction.

3. We can generalize the approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” and make an appropriate

classification. In the new classification, humanitarian cooperation is involved in the investigation of a more comprehensive content within the framework of the Western approach, and in specific fields in the Soviet-Russian approach. There are deep differences of opinion on the term “humanitarian cooperation” in Western and Russian scientific schools. In the Russian society, as well as in the post-Soviet space, the term “humanitarian cooperation”, which covers specific areas in a narrow sense, has a completely different nature in the West.

4. In modern times, the participation of states in humanitarian cooperation is formed on the basis of their national-strategic interests. For participation in this process, it is important for each state to have great potential, i.e. multi-vector relations, wide opportunities and enough resources. The participation of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in bilateral humanitarian cooperation is based on their respective political, economic and cultural opportunities - resources.

5. Despite the fact that Azerbaijan and Ukraine are located in different regions, there have historically been relations between the peoples in a number of fields. Centuries-old traditions of humanitarian cooperation between the nations, formed since the 11th century, played an important role in the establishment of official relations between the two states at the beginning of the 20th century. During the mutual visits of the state and government heads from time to time, a stable legal and political basis for humanitarian cooperation between the two states was formed. The humanitarian cooperation between the two states, which has both ancient historical roots and a comprehensive legal character, is of special importance from the viewpoint of the future perspective of the relations between the states.

6. The multi-vector foreign policy of the official Baku and Kiev provides an opportunity to define a strategy in line with modern humanitarian requirements. Participation in bilateral and

multilateral humanitarian cooperation formats within international mechanisms is of particular importance for both states. After independence, the experience of humanitarian cooperation with result-oriented and useful institutions that can fully meet the national interests of Azerbaijan and Ukraine is being formed.

Scientific novelty of the research: In the dissertation work:

- against the background of the new world order and the foreign policy strategy of states, global humanitarian challenges are characterized as a new situation and problem;

- theoretical approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” in modern interstate relations were investigated and systematized;

- Western (European and American) and Soviet-Russian approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” were involved in the scientific circulation for the first time in our national political science;

- during the research, the humanitarian cooperation potential of Azerbaijan and Ukraine was grouped and political, economic, cultural resources were identified;

- Bilateral and multilateral humanitarian cooperation formats of Azerbaijan and Ukraine within regional-international mechanisms were analyzed separately;

- the possible effects of radical changes in the international relations system and the ongoing Russian-Ukrainian war on the future prospects of relations between our states were assessed;

- Suggestions and recommendations were given on the future perspective of Azerbaijan and Ukraine relations, based on the experience of long-standing cooperation.

The theoretical and practical significance of the research.

The research work is of great scientific and practical importance

from many aspects. So, in terms of benefiting from its materials and scientific results, the following should be highlighted:

- the conclusions reached in the research provide grounds for determining new directions of scientific research related to this problem;
- The scientific research can be used in the writing of textbooks, educational materials and programs, monographs, scientific works on international relations and foreign policy problems in Azerbaijan, etc.;
- The dissertation is also important for the activity of the ministries of foreign affairs and culture of Azerbaijan, relevant diplomatic missions.

Approbation and application of research. The main scientific propositions and conclusions presented in the dissertation are reflected in the author's scholarly articles published in Azerbaijan and abroad, recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission, as well as in his presentations delivered at various scientific and practical conferences.

The name of the institution where the dissertation work was performed. The research work was carried out at the Department of Diplomacy and Foreign Policy of Baku Slavic University.

The total volume of the dissertation with characters indicating the volume of the structural sections of the dissertation separately. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, 6 paragraphs, a conclusion and a list of references. The total volume of the dissertation consists of 202584 characters. In particular, the scope of the structural divisions of the research work is as follows:

- Title page – 364 signs;
- Contents – 1474 signs;
- Introduction – 19682 signs;

- The main content of the dissertation – 168023 signs, including the first chapter 49362 signs, the second chapter 52915 signs, and the third chapter 65746 signs;
- Conclusion – 13041 signs.

II. MAIN CONTENT OF THE RESEARCH

In the **Introduction**, the relevance of the topic is grounded, the degree of elaboration is analyzed, the object and subject of the research, goals and objectives, research methods, the principle propositions of the defence and scientific innovation are noted, the theoretical and practical importance of the research, the approval and application of the work, the organization where it is performed, the size of the structural sections of the dissertation is indicated by characters.

Chapter I of the dissertation, entitled “**Theoretical and practical aspects of modern interstate humanitarian cooperation**”, consists of two paragraphs. In the **first paragraph**, dedicated to “**The theoretical approaches to the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” in modern interstate relations**”, the scientific approaches to humanitarian cooperation in modern political literature were reviewed, and a number of issues were highlighted: a) the serious influence of modern political processes on the system of international relations, including interstate relations; b) different approaches to interstate humanitarian cooperation; c) analysis of humanitarian cooperation within the Western (European-American) and Soviet-Russian approaches, etc.

Along with being new, interstate humanitarian relations respond to the challenges of the international system in the conditions of modern integration and globalization. In this regard, before analyzing the practical aspects of interstate relations, the theoretical basis of the concept of “humanitarian cooperation” must be studied. In the modern system of international relations,

which is changing and being renewed, a completely unanimous opinion on the new concept of “humanitarian cooperation” has not been formed. From this viewpoint, humanitarian cooperation is one of the insufficiently studied areas of international relations. Many different views on humanitarian cooperation were considered and conventionally classified into two sections: Western (European and American) and Soviet-Russian approaches.²⁰ According to the classification, all areas of modern humanitarian cooperation were summarized and as a result, a new road map in interstate relations was determined.

Humanitarian cooperation has a special role in the formation of the new world order and the establishment of normal relations within the system. It provides important support to the prevention of humanitarian disasters in the world and the elimination of their consequences. Over time, the importance of the humanitarian direction of foreign policy is increasing. For states to succeed in modern world politics only their military and economic power is not enough; it shows the need to strengthen and expand humanitarian cooperation. Views on the terms “foreign cultural policy” and “cultural diplomacy” differed, and no unanimous opinion was formed regarding their identification or differentiation. To limit the humanitarian content of foreign policy only to cultural issues is wrong. On the other hand, humanitarian cooperation in interstate relations and mutual activities is considered as “soft power”.²¹

²⁰ Əfəndiyeva, A.F. Azərbaycan-Ukrayna dövlətlərarası münasibətlərində humanitar əməkdaşlıq // - Bakı: Odlar Yurdu Universitetinin Elmi və Pedaqoji Xəbərləri, - 2021, - № 59, - s. 260-267.

²¹ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Азербайджано-Украинские связи в гуманитарной сфере // - Elmi iş. Beynəlxalq elmi jurnal. “Humanitar və ictimai elmlərin əsasları” mövzusunda I Respublika elmi konfransının materialları, - Bakı: - 2020, - s. 164-167.

In the **second paragraph** of **Chapter I** entitled “Potential of humanitarian cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine: resources and opportunities”, a number of important and relevant reasons determining humanitarian cooperation in the modern era are involved in the research. At this time, a number of issues necessary for the participation of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in mutual humanitarian cooperation and integration into the international humanitarian space were highlighted. The humanitarian cooperation potential of Azerbaijan and Ukraine was grouped and analyzed in 4 directions:

a) Humanitarian cooperation activity established at the level of the state policy of the two states, based on a comprehensive and strong political and legal basis: Azerbaijan and Ukraine should give a wide place to humanitarian cooperation in bilateral and multilateral relations, and closely participate in international cooperation in solving global and regional problems. There are a number of important factors that determine the participation of both states in humanitarian cooperation. States must have the necessary resources and opportunities to participate in humanitarian cooperation. At this time, the main issue is to approach the set goal at the level of state policy and the steps to be taken with the existing potential of the country should be agreed.

b) Indicators of economic development of both states to realize broad and comprehensive humanitarian cooperation: The resources needed for cooperation in the humanitarian field include the indicators of economic development of the states. Here, based on the high economic development indicators of Azerbaijan and Ukraine, it was concluded that the states have sufficient financial resources to implement their foreign humanitarian policy.

c) The role of the geostrategic position of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in the implementation of humanitarian cooperation: Factors such as the important geostrategic position, location in the center of intercontinental transport junctions and transnational

energy projects are not only economic and political dividends, but also “humanitarian bridges” that bring people closer together. In this regard, Ukraine and Azerbaijan have quite important indicators.

d) Azerbaijan and Ukraine’s historically formed experience of humanitarian action and opportunities to use moral resources: Here, a number of specific indicators of Azerbaijan and Ukraine were considered. Experience in organizing regional and international humanitarian events, values such as cultural heritage and humanitarian resources, multiculturalism and tolerance, close integration with education, sports, art, tourism, etc. are of this kind. On the other hand, the analysis of the participation potential of both states in humanitarian cooperation allows for their mutual comparative analysis.²²

Chapter II of the dissertation, consisting of two paragraphs, is called **“The basics of Azerbaijani-Ukrainian humanitarian relations and mechanisms of multilateral cooperation”**. In the first paragraph, entitled **“Historical-political and legal bases of bilateral relations”**, the following issues were considered: a) the historical and cultural relations between the peoples of Azerbaijan and Ukraine since the 11th century in the context of the thesis of “historical-ethnic closeness and similarity”; b) political-diplomatic relations formed between the two states since the beginning of the 20th century; c) legal basis between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in the humanitarian field; ç) the role of various level of official and business visits in the development of humanitarian relations.

Despite being located in different regions, there is a historical ethnic closeness and similarity between the peoples of Azerbaijan

²² Эфендиева, А.Ф. Основные направления международных отношений Азербайджана и Украины на современный период // - Ümummilli Lider Heydər Əliyevin 97-ci il dönümünə həsr olunmuş “Azərbaycanşünaslığın aktual problemləri” XI Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları, - Bakı: - 2020, – s. 86-87.

and Ukraine. Azerbaijan's relations with Ukraine among non-Muslim states in the post-Soviet space are unique from this viewpoint and have unique indicators. The historical ethnic closeness between the peoples and centuries-old humanitarian cooperation conditioned the formation of official relations between the two newly formed states in a short period of time at the beginning of the 20th century. This, at the beginning of the 20th century, the first diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine were established. Against the background of the new geopolitical reality at the end of the 20th century, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the quick restoration of diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine, which gained independence, laid the foundation for positive dynamics in the future development of relations.²³

During the periodic visits of the state and government heads, the directions of bilateral and multilateral cooperation between the two states were determined and reflected in legal documents. In this regard, the signing of the "Declaration on friendship and strategic partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Ukraine" on May 22, 2008 within the framework of the official visit of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev to Ukraine and the signing of the "Joint Declaration of the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Ukraine on the future development of strategic partnership relations" on April 28, 2011, is an important event in bilateral relations.²⁴ At the same time, the legal basis and mutual relations formed in the humanitarian field

²³ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Политико-правовая основа азербайджано-украинских гуманитарных связей // - Баки: Баки Avrasiya Universiteti, Sivilizasiya, - 2017, - cild 6, - № 3 (35), - s. 90-94.

²⁴ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Политические аспекты Азербайджано-Украинских гуманитарных связей // - Баки: «Kaspi» Geosiyasi Araşdırmalar Mərkəzi, - 2019, - cild № 5 (53), - s. 69-74.

between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in a period of about 30 years can be considered satisfactory. It is commendable that over time both states provide each other with political support and humanitarian aid in all arenas, and take the same position on existing problems. On the other hand, the presence of a reliable legal framework and high-level cooperation mechanisms in all areas of the humanitarian direction should be characterized as an important issue in terms of the future development of relations.

In the **second paragraph of Chapter II**, dedicated to **“Participation of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in regional and international humanitarian cooperation systems”**, the participation of Azerbaijan and Ukraine in bilateral and multilateral humanitarian cooperation formats within regional and international mechanisms was considered. The following integration associations were involved in the research on the main activities of Azerbaijan and Ukraine’s participation in international humanitarian cooperation: a) analysis of integration processes and opportunities for humanitarian cooperation within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS); b) mechanisms of cooperation within GUAM and views on the future existence of the institution; c) place and role of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) in regional humanitarian cooperation; ç) practical aspects of official participation of Baku and Kiev in humanitarian cooperation within the framework of various regional and international projects.

The multi-vector foreign policy of Azerbaijan and Ukraine reveals bilateral and multilateral humanitarian cooperation formats within regional and international mechanisms. From this viewpoint, humanitarian cooperation within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), which is a regional institution with a broad composition in the post-Soviet space, is of particular importance. Although the existence of a reliable legal base and experience on humanitarian cooperation is a positive thing, the

problem of meeting the interests of the participating states within the organization has a negative effect on the organization's work. In this regard, Azerbaijan and Ukraine always need cooperation with institutions that are more result-oriented, useful and can fully meet their national interests.

Within the framework of GUAM, Azerbaijan-Ukraine relations are diverse and more relevant. Within the institution, cooperation in a number of directions, including in the humanitarian field, has a special importance. However, there are certain problems in the activity of GUAM and especially in the issue of the realization of the set goals. The Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation attaches special importance to cooperation in the humanitarian direction, mainly in the fields of education, science and technology. Despite such issues as problems between the member states, their further deepening, etc., cooperation within the organization has continued for 30 years. Having long-term relations with existing institutions of Europe and the UN, joint participation in various humanitarian programs and projects, not only gives Azerbaijan and Ukraine experience in the relevant field, but also plays an important role in shaping their positive image.

Chapter III of the dissertation work is entitled “**The experience of humanitarian cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine: directions, areas and perspectives**” and consists of two paragraphs. In the **first paragraph**, entitled “**Fields of humanitarian cooperation within the framework of the Soviet-Russian approach**”, the humanitarian relations between the two states were considered at the level of the Soviet-Russian approach, which is considered more typical for post-Soviet countries. The Soviet-Russian approach in interstate relations includes specific areas such as education, science, culture, art, tourism, etc.²⁵. In

²⁵ Эфендиева, А.Ф., Гасанова К.Х. Международное сотрудничество между

each of the listed fields, Azerbaijan and Ukraine has formed sufficiently meaningful, broad and comprehensive relations. In terms of the completeness of the research, relations between the two states were analyzed in depth in each field.²⁶

Literary examples of the XI-XII centuries about friendly relations between peoples stand out for their uniqueness. During the years of Soviet rule, the experience of both Azerbaijanis studying and working in higher educational institutions of Ukraine and Ukrainians in Azerbaijan was formed. This tradition had a positive impact on the development dynamics of cooperation in the field of education in the following periods. Currently, one of the most dynamic areas of cooperation between Ukraine and Azerbaijan is education²⁷. Baku Slavic University plays a special role - the role of a bridge - in bilateral humanitarian relations. According to the number of foreign students studying in Ukraine, the presence of Azerbaijani students in the third place is a practical indicator of the high development of relations.

The experience of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in the fields of culture and art, which was formed historically, made relations stronger, continuous and stable at the political level in the next periods.²⁸ The tradition of celebrating

Азербайджаном и Украиной в области спорта и туризма // - Ümummilli Lider Heydər Əliyevin 96-cı il dönümünə həsr olunmuş "Azərbaycanşünaslığın aktual problemləri" X Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları, - Bakı: - 2019, - s. 113-118.

²⁶ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Азербайджан и Украина в совместных научных исследованиях // - Sumqayıt: Sumqayıt Dövlət Universiteti. Elmi Xəbərlər. Sosial və humanitar elmlər bölməsi, - 2020, - cild 16, - № 2, - s. 49-54.

²⁷ Efendiyeva A.F. Cooperation in the field of education of Azerbaijan with Ukraine Since 2000 // Theoretical and Applied Science.Generalization of scientific results, participated in International Scientific Practical Conference, - USA, Philadelphia: - 2017, - № 12 (56), - p. 112-119.

²⁸ Efendiyeva A.F. Azerbaijani-Ukrainian relation in the sphere of art in the era of globalization // - Київ: Київський Національний університет імені Тараса

the significant days of both states, as well as the historical moments recorded in mutual relations, and the steps taken in the direction of preserving the memory of great personalities serve to further enrich the humanitarian cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine.²⁹ Also the activity of various diaspora organizations operating in Ukraine and Azerbaijan in the development of interstate humanitarian cooperation and convergence of national cultures can be considered satisfactory.³⁰ Over time, the work done in the direction of improving cooperation mechanisms of organizations and establishing relations more promptly is worthy of appreciation.

In the **last paragraph** of the dissertation entitled **“Humanitarian cooperation at the level of the Western approach and prospects for the development of Azerbaijan-Ukraine relations”**, an analysis of bilateral relations was carried out within the framework of the Western approach to humanitarian cooperation, and the development perspectives of Azerbaijan-Ukraine relations at the new stage of the formation of the modern international relations system were included in the research. Within the framework of the Western approach, cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine is carried out in a number of directions regarding humanitarian cooperation. This includes humanitarian cooperation around the Armenian-Azerbaijan

Шевченка. Інститут міжнародних відносин. Актуальні пролеми міжнародних відносин, - 2020, - Випуск 143, - с. 25-33.

²⁹ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Международное культурное сотрудничество Азербайджана и Украины и аспекты их урегулирования // - Баки: Баки Аугасија Университети, Сивилisasiya, - 2019, - cild 8, - № 4 (44), - s. 89-101.

³⁰ Эфендиева, А.Ф. Азербайджанские и Украинские диаспорские организации // Ümmümilli Lider Heydər Əliyevin 95-ci il dönümünə həsr olunmuş “Azərbaycanşünaslığın aktual problemləri” IX Beynəlxalq elmi konfransın materialları, - Bakı: -2018, - s. 664-666.

conflict, as well as the Russian-Ukraine conflict, humanitarian activities in the post-conflict period, and humanitarian assistance in disaster, crisis and emergency situations. At one time, Ukraine supported Azerbaijan at the regional and global level in the resolution of the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict and declared that unconditional observance of the principle of territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan is an important condition in the settlement. Ukraine was one of the countries that supported Azerbaijan openly during the Patriotic War. The leadership of Ukraine has always declared that they stand by their strategic ally - Azerbaijan, and that they will support official Baku till the end, which is restoring its territorial integrity. Taking into account the geopolitical reality and national interests, the Republic of Azerbaijan has declared that it is in favor of a peaceful solution to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. At the same time, being committed to bilateral strategic cooperation, it has provided humanitarian cooperation to Ukraine several times since the first week of the war. Within the framework of the Western approach, there are experiences of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in multilateral and bilateral format in other fields of humanitarian relations.

At present, the radical changes taking place in the system of international relations and the ongoing Russian-Ukrainian war have the potential to influence the future prospects of relations between our states, including the development of humanitarian cooperation. First, for the development of a bilateral and multilateral format of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine, the Russian-Ukrainian war should end soon, and official Baku should demonstrate its readiness to do its best in this regard. Ensuring the territorial integrity of Ukraine and rebuilding friendly relations in the region is of particular importance from the viewpoint of the future of Azerbaijan-Ukraine relations. Secondly, Azerbaijan and Ukraine should mutually provide humanitarian

cooperation to each other in the post-conflict era to eliminate the consequences of the war, and as a strategic partner, they should closely participate in the new construction plans from the perspective of both the state and the private sector. Thirdly, the Republic of Azerbaijan should further strengthen cooperation with Ukraine within international and regional mechanisms and take advantage of modern forms of cooperation. Fourth, for the development of humanitarian cooperation between our states, long-term plans in specific areas should be prepared and implemented at a high level. In this context, increasing the exchange of students and highly qualified personnel, developing inter-city traditional friendly relations and celebrating the anniversaries of our social and political figures and writers, etc., will connect our states and peoples with stronger ties.

In the **“Conclusion”** of the dissertation, the main results obtained are systematized and summarized, the important scientific and theoretical propositions obtained are interpreted. The future of humanity requires serious consideration of the realities and new challenges of the 21st century. The new realities and problems created by dynamic processes such as globalization and integration are currently remembered by many important challenges. Against the background of contradictions such as the new world order, strong economic potential, unequal “distribution” of opportunities for scientific and technical progress between regions, interstate relations should be revised and attention should be paid to political dialogue. The Republic of Azerbaijan, which is always guided by universal principles, attaches great importance and priority to humanitarian cooperation as an alternative to the conflict between civilizations. In addition to multilateral diplomacy, the Republic of Azerbaijan has a more effective cooperation experience in the framework of bilateral humanitarian relations that meet national interests. In this regard, despite being located in different regions, humanitarian relations between Azerbaijan and Ukraine in modern

times serve useful purposes at both mutual and regional levels. Despite the current problems, based on the centuries-old experience of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Ukraine, the opportunities for deep, solid and meaningful cooperation established between our peoples and states should be continued in the future. In modern times, the legal basis of Azerbaijan-Ukraine humanitarian relations should be improved flexibly and creatively in accordance with the new international system. Coordination of joint activities and experience on bilateral humanitarian cooperation should be strengthened at the official level. Against the background of national interests and geopolitical realities, official Baku and Kiev should try to closely participate in multifaceted cooperation institutions that respond to advanced living standards of the West, high human rights and collective security. The convergence of common values and strategic goals within the institutions will have a positive effect on bilateral relations.

The main content of the dissertation is reflected in the following published works of the author:

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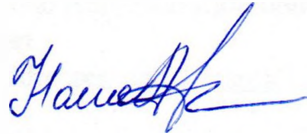
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