REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Science

STATE INFORMATION POLICY OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN: FORMATION, DEVELOPMENT AND MAIN DIRECTIONS

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INTRODUCTION

The relevance and degree of scientific elaboration of the topic. The modern world system, its leading development trends, the indispensable conditions for existence and survival, the evolutionary tendencies which include various aspects of social life, the fundamental principles and criteria that underpin individual, social and international relations essentially declares the formation of a new society. In addition, it reveals the emergence of a new human type, which is considered the main productive force.

One of the main characteristics of today's human type is its maximum coherence with information. While the continuous development of high technology dictates the diversity of information carriers in a more innovative way, information hunger always expresses itself more clearly and harshly in the context of global information abundance. Exactly this factor encourages the state to develop and implement a unified technology-ideology policy capable of regulating relations and activities in the field.

In general, the specificity of the world community as well as the different nation-states is characterized by the intensive and dynamic development of the information space. Thus, the middle of the 20th century - the beginning of the 21st century will be remembered with the manifestation of a global trend as a shift from the traditional models into the information society.

This tendency is an important factor to feed the changes in not only economic, but also socio-political and sociocultural spheres, affecting all viable areas of modern Azerbaijani society. Under the influence of new information realities, a whole spectrum of interpersonal, social, inner and inter-state relations is subject to change in character, merit and quality.

But how can the place, position, role and weight of Azerbaijan be determined in the global information space?

Azerbaijan faces many important and urgent problems. Much attention is paid to the analysis of these issues in the research work

In recent years, almost all program and concept documents, and various speeches by President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev regularly declare the thesis, proposals, decree and demands on the place and power of the country in the already established world information architecture. Therefore, the way of establishing an information society focused on the development of science, innovation, culture, information industry and human potential is among the priorities stated by the head of state. Simultaneously, such a way intending an active state policy in the information field, and involving all the forces that represent the social diversity of the Azerbaijani society, is able to provide competitive advantages to independent Azerbaijan in the global market.

Today, deep transformation processes cover the major areas of life and activity of the societies. As Manuel Castells¹, one of the leading scientists in the field of industrialization, the next historical stage of human evolution and information society theory expresses, it is possible to speak about the beginning of a new stage in which informationalism identifies the main development trend. There is a phenomenon in the scientific literature called the "information revolution" as a decisive factor of human development, because of the processes dictated by technological capabilities such as the production of goods, the realisation of power and the creation of cultural codes on the stage of informationalism².

The information policy acts as a synthesized representative of essential components of the domestic and foreign policy of the state by combining their basic paradigms. A sophisticated and well-balanced information policy takes into account the interests of civil society along with the administrative apparatus. Violation of any part of the interests, as a rule, leads to the dysfunction of that policy. For instance, in a war-torn country, such as

 $^{^1}$ Кастельс М. Информационная эпоха: экономика, общество и культура. М.: ГУ-ВШЭ, 2000, 492 с.

² Мелюхин И.С. Информационное общество: истоки, проблемы, тенденции развития. М.: Изд-во Моск. ун-та, 1999, 308 с

Azerbaijan, when implementing information policy in the field of military security, it is important to consider state interests and national interests in its broadest sense.

The Republic of Azerbaijan proactively integrating into the global community, simultaneously preserving national identity in the context of the ambitious globalization challenges of the past two decades, has been aimed at achieving the massive tasks in the framework of the state information policy — formation of a common information space and integration into the world information space, provision of information security of the state, society and personality, the formation of democratic public opinion, organization of information services sphere, improvement of mechanisms of legal regulation of public relations related to receipt, dissemination and use of information etc.

Since the free creation, dissemination and use of information as one of the most important constitutional rights of citizens is usually at the center of public attention, it would be appropriate to treat government information policy as a major driving force of democratic changes in Azerbaijan's state and public institutions. Although there is a long way to further improvement of the civil society and the legal state, it is possible to say that today a new information reality based on the principles of information transparency and the ever-improving information legislation is being formed in Azerbaijan.

Today, the modern stage of human development is characterized by an information abundance increasing almost geometrically. Such a situation of the last 50-60 years, has led scientists such as Z. Brzezinski, D.Bell and A.Toffler to conclude that society has entered a period of post-industrial development, characterized by the information stage of development, in other words, the global information space³. This

³ Бжезинский 3. Между двумя веками: роль Америки в эру технотроники / пер. с англ. М.: Прогресс, 1972, 307 с.; Белл Д. Грядущее постиндустриальное общество. Опыт социального прогнозирования / пер.

period was not only a source of a number of adaptation problems for most countries, but also brought new challenges and threats that required an adequate approach.

According to the experts directly involved in the problem, the purpose of the state information policy is to ensure the information security of citizens and the country, information-analytical support (provision) of state policy, implementation of tasks such as delivery the decisions and programs adopted by the state to the population as the main public subject of governance.

order to study the problem In more fully comprehensively, the fundamental researches of Western authors N.Wiener, A.Ursul and others devoted to the scientific interpretation of the information phenomenon were referred to⁴. Certain theses in the sociological theories of modern sociology of such representatives as K. Yaspers, Y. Habermas, T. Adorno, M. Veber devoted to the role of mass communication and public information in public administration and politics in general were used in the thesis⁵.

The issues involved in the research provided an opportunity to get acquainted with the scientific works on the role of the media in the socio-political life of the society.

Russian political scientist and philosophers such as A.S. Panarin, K.J. Hajıyev, V.P. Pugachov allocated a large space in their scientific work to the interaction of government, society and

с англ. В. Л. Иноземцева. М.: Академия, 2004, 790 с.; Тоффлер Э. Третья волна. М.: ООО "Фирма "Издатетьство АСТ", 2004, 261 с.

⁴ Винер Н. Кибернетика и общество / Пер. с англ. Е.Г. Панфилова. М.: Тайдекс Ко, 2002, 183 с.; Урсул А. Информация. Методологические аспекты. М.: Наука, 1971, 293 с.

⁵ Ясперс К. Смысл и назначение истории / Пер. с нем. М. И. Левиной; вступ. ст. П. П. Гайденко. М.: Республика, 1994, 528 с.; Хабермас Ю. Демократия. Разум. Нравственность: Моск. лекции и интервью. М.: Академия, 1995, 252 с.; Адорно Т. Проблемы философии морали. М.: Республика, 2000, 239 с.; Вебер М. Политика как призвание и профессия.Пер. с нем. / Сост., общ. ред. и послесл. Ю.Н.Давыдова; Предисл. П.П.Гайденко. М.: Прогресс, 1990, 808 с

the media⁶. E.P. Prokhorov, V.V. Yegorov, I.M. Dzyaloshinsky, Azerbaijani scientists Sh.Valiyev, J.Mammadli and A.Rustamov were engaged in the development of journalism, as well as the study of state policy in the field of media in different years⁷.

Despite the richness of the cited sources, most of them have been devoted to the study of various aspects of the state information policy. As to the complex research based on the systematic study of the state information policy, their number is not satisfactory, especially in the political science of Azerbaijan such researches are unfortunately "fragmentary". For example, information-analytical provision of public authorities, informatization of management structures, creation of a single information space in the country, study of problems related to legal regulation of information relations are among the issues needing more fundamental research.

The main problem of the state regulation process of the state information policy and information-technological development in Azerbaijan Republic is to ensure the security of society and the personality. The real situation in this area shows that the purposeful complex action program organizing the synchronous movement of public authorities is far from perfection which dictates the need to develop a working strategy of the state against information threats and the urgency of giving new content and

⁶ Панарин А.С. Искушение глобализмом. М.: Изд-во ЭКСМО-Пресс, 2002, 416 с.; Гаджиев К.С. Политическая философия. М.: Инфра-М, 2010, 320 с.; Пугачев В.П. Информационная власть и демократия // Общественные науки и современность. М., 1999, №4;

⁷ Прохоров Е.П. Введение в теорию журналистики. М.: Аспект Пресс, 2011, 351 с.; Егоров В.В. Телевидение и власть. М.: АО ПЦ "Эфир", 1997, 207 с.; Дзялошинский И.М. Методы деятельности СМИ в условиях становления гражданского общества. М.: Пульс, 2001, 48 с.; Vəliyev Ş., Babayev Z. Azərbaycanda internet jurnalistikası: tarixi və perspektivləri. Bakı: Bakı Universiteti nəşriyyatı, 2007, 248 s.; Məmmədli C. Jurnalistikanın müasir inkişaf meylləri. Bakı: Elm, 2006, 374 s.; Rüstəmov A. Jurnalistikanın əsasları. Dərs vəsaiti. Bakı: BDU, 2011, 347 s.

impulse to society-state-citizen triangle.

The study of not as a whole, but of some aspects of the state information policy (SIP) in Azerbaijan coincides with the recent years. Sure, as noted above, the theoretical and methodological basis in this issue is formed by the scientific and theoretical ideas and experience of the West and Russia.

In scientific work, the monographs and studies of R. Mehtiyev, A. Hasanov, H. Babaoglu, V. Rahimzade, also works of such scientists as J. Khalilov and F. Aliyeva on national security, national interests, the role of the media in their protection, which has exceptional importance for every independent state⁸.

For conclusions and in the study of such issues as the information society, specific problems of informatization in public relations, information culture and issues that have a direct impact on the formation and implementation of information policy, were use the works of R. Aliguliyev, I. Mammadzade and R. Mirzazade⁹.

The author, studying the problems of information security, which are priority for each state and society as a whole, ways and means of their solution in modern conditions, threats to the national information space and information security, information warfare and behavior of new media, used the works of scientists J. Gasimov, V.

⁸ Mehdiyev R.O. Demokratiya yolunda: irs haqqında düşünərkən. Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, 2008, 792 s.; Həsənov O.M. Azərbaycan Respublikasının milli inkişaf və təhlükəsizlik siyasətinin əsasları. Bakı: Zərdabi LTD, 2016, 700 s.; Babaoğlu H. İnfoimperializm və media. Bakı: MSA, 2013, 192 s.; Rəhimzadə V. "Söz və mətbuat azadlığı demokratik inkişafın əsası kimi: Azərbaycan təcrübəsi". Bakı: Mars-Print, 2016, 303 s.; Xəlilov C. Milli təhlükəsizlik strategiyası. Bakı, 2016, 456 s.; Oliyeva F. Qloballaşma və Azərbaycanın milli təhlükəsizlik fəlsəfəsi. Bakı: Səda, 2008, 163 c.

⁹ Əliquliyev, R.M. İnformasiya mədəniyyəti: mahiyyəti və formalaşdırılması problemləri və həlli yolları. Bakı Universitetinin Xəbərləri, Sosial-siyasi elmlər seriyası. Bakı, 2008, №1, s. 137-145; Məmmədzadə İ.R. Milli informasiya məkanı və informasiya təhlükəsizliyinə təhdidlər: bəzi humanitar aspektlər. Bakı, Strateji təhlil, 2014, №3 (10), s. 9-21; Mirzəzadə R. İnformasiya cəmiyyəti: multikulturalizm və genderin multidissiplinar əlaqələri. İnformasiya təhlükəsizliyinin multidissiplinar problemləri üzrə II respublika elmi-praktiki konfransı Bakı, 2015, https://ict.az/uploads/ konfrans/2_ konfrans/7. pdf.

Gasimov, D. Gashimov, N. Nuriev, A. Piriyev, Sh. Eyvazov, V. Askerov and others¹⁰.

Since the late 1990s, the bases and principles of the state information policy stated in various programs of informatization have been defined and developed. And this policy is practically different from the government's policy in the field of media and communications. The objective necessity arising from the general patterns of development of dialectics regarding the establishment of an information society as the most reliable guarantor of political and socio-economic growth in Azerbaijan is giving a new impulse to the development of the state information society.

The history of information policy in Azerbaijan Republic, the role of the media in the formation and implementation of information policy, state information policy in the field of media, national interest and news policy, the theoretical basis of this policy in the context of public opinion and information security and the information processes taking place in the country are analyzed in the thesis.

The scientific work examines the press meetings of the great leader Heydar Aliyev who contributed to the formation of a free press in the country, the elimination of artificial barriers to the free operation and development of the media, the improvement of the legislative framework, the implementation of consistent measures

Məmmədli C.Ə. "Kaspi" qəzetində informasiya siyasəti. "Üç əsrin qəzeti". Bakı: Qanun, 2016, 528 s.; Qasımov C.Ə. Milli təhlükəsizliyin əsasları /N.Nağıyev/ Bakı: MTNA, 2015, 407 s.; Qasımov V.Ə. İnformasiya təhlükəsizliyinin əsasları. Bakı: MTN MTBİ NPM, 2009, 340 s.; Həşimov D. Siyasi təhlükəsizlik milli təhlükəsizliyin tərkib hissəsi kimi. Azərbaycan Respublikasının materialları əsasında / s.e.ü.f.d. dissertasiyası / Bakı, 2010, 162 s.; Piriyev A.M. Siyasi strategiya və milli təhlükəsizlik problemi. Bakı: BDU, 2002, 534 c.; Eyvazov Ş. Transformasiya mərhələsində cəmiyyətin informasiya təhlükəsizliyi məsələləri. Bakı: Strateji təhlil, 2014, № 4(11), s. 123-132; Əsgərov V.G. Azərbaycan Respublikasının milli təhlükəsizlik sistemində informasiya təhlükəsizliyinin yeri və rolu /s.e.ü.f.d. dissertasiyasının avtoreferatı / Bakı, 2006, 26 s.

to improve the logistics of newspapers, the scientific and political bases of the president Ilham Aliyev's support for the press, free speech, the country's media and information and communication industry were analyzed.

Every society considers the information security as an important component of the national security. Information security is the protection of the existing information environment from potential threats and dangers. This issue is especially relevant in the geopolitical landscape of Azerbaijan. We tried to interpret the information security in the context of the state, society, social groups and individuals, to assess the ideological and technical capabilities of the organization of reliable protection to counter potential information threats, as well as the scope of information culture in the research work.

The concept and constitutional basis of information law, the formation and development of the legal framework of the state information policy, the features of legal regulation of information relations and the prospects for the development of information legislation, the functional suitability of existing regulations in the field of national information policy and information security was assessed in the research work.

Object and subject of the research. The object of the dissertation is the information space of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the modern stage.

The subject of the research is the information policy of the state in the process of interaction of the state with the post-industrial society in the new stage of economical, political, social and cultural discourse, information activity of the Azerbaijan, development trends and regularities of the information sphere organizes the analysis of the essence of the implementation of information policy, the principles of formation and operation, directions and mechanisms of implementation.

Goals and targets of the dissertation. The purpose of this work is to analyze the information events and processes, identify problems, directions and implementation mechanisms of the

information policy of Azerbaijan state on the platform of their comparison and evaluation, reveal the main characteristics of the information policy, the place and role of the media in the information policy, determination of the problems and perspectives of the state information policy in the field of mass media.

The set goals determine the need to fulfill the following main tasks:

- disclosure of the essence of the information policy as a phenomenon of the information society;
 - analysis of elements of the state information policy;
- analysis of the forms and methods of the role of the media in the formation and implementation of the state information policy in the field of mass media;
- studying the role of the media as an object and subject of information policy;
- identification of information policy priorities in the context of political and economic transformations in Azerbaijan;
- studying the information bases of the national security concept of Azerbaijan Republic and the national interests in the information sphere;
- analysis of the concepts and principles of information security and political security of Azerbaijan Republic;
- formation and development of the legislative basis of the state information policy of Azerbaijan, studying the interaction of the information right with freedom of speech and opinion.

Research methods. The main general scientific method used in scientific work is the method of comparative political analysis. This method is widely used in a comparative analysis of the experience of Azerbaijan and foreign countries in matters related to informatization and state information policy.

The structural-functional approach to the study problem has allowed us to learn both information policy and journalism as elements of a complex system, synchronously acting in the general tasks and goals of the state.

In the study also used the social-informational, content-

analytical, systems approach, normative, historical-comparative, sociological and other methods.

The indicated methodological approaches made it possible to study the information policy of the state in cooperation with the existing institutions of a new type of society and to obtain the necessary results.

The main provisions of the defense of a thesis. It should be noted that the problem of information policy and related technologies is quite multifaceted. On the other hand, the modern geopolitical situation in the world today is changing rapidly and sometimes fundamentally. Therefore, the study of important aspects of the information policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which is undergoing serious transformation processes in the context of the prevailing political trends in the world, can be considered relevant and important.

Among the factors that determine the relevance of the state's information policy and socio-political analysis are the followings:

- 1. States that have not experienced a "Communication explosion" feel the powerful impact of the information potential. There is such an objective reality ahead the development of information and communication technologies has led to the creation of a global information space, and the integration of Azerbaijan into this process, aimed at effective development in the future, is inevitable.
- 2. Since the effectiveness of all government and public structures in many cases depends on the concept of a mature information policy and its successful implementation, the information policy process, its development and implementation should be accelerated.
- 3. One of the most serious problems of the political and oligarchic elite is media bias. It is important to adjust the information policy of the media in accordance with the reforms carried out in society, as this undermines trust in the media and has an unhealthy effect on society.
 - 4. As the implementation of information policy is directly

related to a number of national security problems, the complex and scientific-conceptual study of this problem is highly relevant at the present stage of development of Azerbaijan.

- 5. Since the research topic is a relatively new area of political science in Azerbaijan, the study of methods and tools of political analysis and implementation of information policy should be systematic.
- 6. One of the tasks of the government, the scientific community is to prepare the conceptual foundations of the state information policy and the formation of the country's legislation, taking into account the specifics of the development of Azerbaijani statehood.
- 7. It is important to create an open information space which is considered as a significant factor in the formation of a democratic civil society and to provide a constant exchange of information between the government and society in order to carry out fundamental reforms of the constitutional, political and socioeconomic bases of the Azerbaijani statehood without any national, social or religious conflict that could threaten the territorial integrity of the country.
- 8. The best way to create a harmonize the positions between civil society and government is to develop and implement a perfect information policy.

Scientific novelty of the research. Since the topic involved in the research is not studied systematically in modern political science of Azerbaijan, it is possible to talk about a number of scientific innovations:

- methodological bases of information policy as an object of understanding have been identified;
- the main directions of the implementation of the state information policy have been indicated;
- proposals on priority areas of national information policy were made;
- proposals on uniform rules and directions of the development of the media sphere were made;

- development trends and contradictions of the legal base of the country's information policy were identified due to the systematic analysis of legislative acts regulating the information relations of Azerbaijan Republic and normative-legal documents of international organizations;
- problems and priorities of state regulation of mass media activity were revealed on the basis of materials of individual research, practical recommendations were given to the authorities;
- legal, organizational and technical measures related to the implementation of state information policy in the media segment and various government agencies, the establishment of information relations, information security and political security were proposed;
- modern socio-political transformations were presented as the main driving force of the genesis of post-industrial society and information policy;
- the political role of the information space in modern society and public policy was considered from a new perspective. This role is expressed in the social processes of the information space, as well as in the ability to embody and ultimately change the interests of actors who are able to maintain their dominant position in the political process;
- author's interpretation of the basic institutions and content of information policy is presented. Public opinion was considered as the main object, the subjects of information policy were classified from different aspects (the world experience of formation and implementation of state information policy on the example of European countries and the USA was considered on a comparative basis, public relations was presented as an institution and tool of information policy);
- proposals on the place of the right to information in the human rights classification system were made;
- the necessity to develop the concept of Information Security that determines the legal basis of the national information activity and security policy, systematically predicts, studies and analyzes

the most diverse threats to the security of the state's information environment was justified.

The conducted research allows to determine the main development strategy of the Concept of Information Policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Scientific-theoretical and practical significance of the dissertation. The problems raised in the thesis are relevant not only for political science, but also for the development and implementation of forms and mechanisms for the application of state information policy in building transparent, legal, democratic, civil society in Azerbaijan as a whole.

The main conclusions and generalizations of the author may be useful for future study in the process of studying various theoretical and practical problems of the state information policy. The main provisions and results of the thesis can be used in the preparation of information and different directions of public policy, the right to information, the legal regulation of the media, the history of information policy, textbooks, manuals, monographs and other generalized scientific works.

Practical recommendations can be used by mediologists, journalists, government officials, students studying in the field of political science and journalism and those interested in media and information law.

The main materials of the research can be used in lectures on "Information Policy", "Political Journalism", "Legal Regulation of Mass Media", "Information Security", "History of state information policy" in universities.

Approbation of the research. The thesis was discussed at the "Philosophy of modern politics" department of the Institute of Philosophy of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

73 articles containing the main provisions and results of the presented work were published in scientific journals published in Azerbaijan Republic and abroad, the speeches were reflected in the materials of local and foreign scientific-practical conferences.

Two monographs and one book of the doctoral student were

published during the research stage.

Organization in which the dissertation work is carried out. The thesis was discussed at the "Philosophy of modern politics "department of the Institute of Philosophy of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

The total volume of the thesis, with the volume of structural units separately. The structure of the thesis is determined by the goals and objectives of the research, it consists of an introduction, four chapters covering, 16 paragraphs, conclusions and a list of references.

Introduction consists of 37585, I chapters of 125209; II chapters of 158660; III chapters of 167686; IV chapters of 89609; conclusions of 30788 characters. In general, the scientific work consists of 609537 characters.

SUMMARY OF THE DISSERTATION

The relevance of the topic is substantiated in the introduction, the degree of scientific research of the problem is analyzed, the subject, goals and objectives, as well as the methods of the research are defined, the scientific innovation, theoretical and practical significance is stated.

The first chapter of the thesis entitled "Theoretical aspects of the study of state information policy" consists of four paragraphs. In the first paragraph entitled "Concept, essence, principles and functions of information policy" the author explains the concept of "information policy", classifies the main tasks of the state information policy, explains the factors and principles that form the main strategic goal of this policy. It also clarifies the individual functions of the state information policy.

Let's get acquainted with the existing approaches to the concept of "information policy" in modern political science literature. One of the well-known researchers of the problem V.D. Popov defines state information policy as "a special sphere ensuring the interests of the state and civil society in people's lives and activities, and engaged in the preparation and dissemination

of information aimed at creating a constructive, creative dialogue between them"11.

K.V. Markelov defines the state information policy as "the ability and capacity of the state to influence the information and communication sphere of society" 12. Another author notes, "Information policy is the systematic and purposeful programming of social progress by state and public institutions with the help of information and digital technologies in order to form a perfect civil society" 13.

A.Plitko presents information policy as "... the activities of actors in the information space who are engaged in the articulation, exchange and promotion of their interests through the production and transmission of information in order to achieve their goals" ¹⁴.

Y.A. Nisnevich offers to review the state information policy as "... strategies and tactics of management decisions in order to regulate and improve the processes of mutual exchange of information in all spheres of life and activity of the society and the technological processes providing such interaction, as well as a set of methods for their implementation"¹⁵.

Although U.C. Martin did not give a clear definition of information policy, he expressed his opinion as follows: "The main elements of the information policy implementation process are: identification of information needs of society, development of

¹² Маркелов К.В. Общественный идеал как объект информационной политики: дис. на соиск. учен. степ. канд. полит. наук. М., 2006, 350 с.

 $^{^{11}}$ Информационная политика: учебник / под общ. ред. В. Д. Попова. М.: Изд-во РАГС, 2003, 463 с.

¹³ Мистюков В.В. Информационная политика современной России в контексте формирующегося гражданского общества: дис. на соиск. учен. степ. канд. полит. наук. М., 2012, с. 8

¹⁴ Плитко А.Г. Государственная информационная политика Российской Федерации: понятие, принципы и направления реализации: дис. ...канд. полит. наук. М., 2005, с. 48

¹⁵ Нисневич Ю.А. Информационная политика России: проблемы и перспективы. М.: Фонд «Ноосфера», 1999, 176 с.

means to meet those needs, stimulating efficient use of information resources. The main principle of information policy is access to information" ¹⁶.

Analysis of the main concepts of state information policy researcher I.V. Yudin assessed the state information policy as "... Activities of public authorities in the development of complex measures to identify and meet the information needs of society through the development, application and effective use of modern" 17.

- A.V. Manoylo distinguishes the fundamental principles of the state information policy: "The state information policy realizes and protects the interests of the state and the government at the level that the state ensures and protects the interests of each person and civil society" 18.
- V.D. Popov views information policy as a means to achieve political goals and a tool of political influence: "The subjects of information policy are able to influence the minds and psyche, behavior and activities of people through information for the benefit of both the state and civil society, as well as personal interests" ¹⁹.

The state information policy is in great need of theoretical and methodological substantiation, as it is one of the archival important elements of the public administration system. State information policy is a relatively new concept for modern political science being in its seventh decade. Thus, the relations regulated by this policy are the relations created by recent history. Therefore, first of all, it is important to determine the approach of modern science to the concept of "public policy" and the field of view.

According to the author, today if evaluated in the context of

¹⁶ Мартин У.Дж. Информационное общество. М.: ИНИОН, 1989, 112 с.

¹⁷ Юдин И.В. Государственная информационная политика в Российской Федерации: автореф. дис. ... канд. полит. наук / И.В. Юдин. М., 2009, 30 с.

 $^{^{18}}$ Манойло А.В. Государственная информационная политика в особых условиях: монография. М.: МИФИ, 2003, 388 с.

 $^{^{19}}$ Попов В.Д. Информациология и информационная политика. М.: Изд-во РАГС, 2001, 423 с.

modern approaches, the concept of "information policy" refers to the concepts of "communication" and "information" became the most common lexical units of the information society. Some researchers try to separate information policy from the political-theoretical essence of the concept and *connect it with information systems, computers and information technology*²⁰.

The content of the state information policy considers a set of its goals and objectives, as well as the principles and directions of the activities of the authorities and public figures formulating and implementing the existing policy.

The purpose of the state information policy is one of the most important elements making up the content of that policy. "This goal is determined by the entity that has concentrated the levers of state power in its hands and the state supports its achievement with the appropriate human, financial, technical and methodological potential, as well as ensures the implementation of its ideological program" ²¹.

It is stated in the paragraph states the subject of state information policy is the system of socio-political relations of society in the information-psychological sphere. In addition to the subject of information policy research, there is also the object and the subject in which it is engaged.

It is possible to talk about attitudes and processes in the information sphere as an object of the state information policy. The objects of the state information policy include printed mass media (newspapers, magazines, books), electronic media (television, radio, internet); communication means; information right, information security.

The dissertation states that all socio-political institutions and

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 $^{^{20}}$ Халипов В.Ф. Введение в науку власти. М.: Технологическая школа бизнеса, 2005, 318 с.

²¹ Тризно Т. А. Государственная информационная политика Канады сквозь призму электронного правительства: теория и практика реализации: монография / Т.А. Тризно, Е.Е. Рябцева. Астрахань: Астраханский государственный университет, Издательский дом «Астраханский университет», 2014, 142 с.

other institutions that actively participate in socio-political life and use information and communication technologies to achieve their goals can be considered the subject of state information policy.

The thesis shows that although individuals and social groups, commercial companies and enterprises, civil society entities can act as subjects of the information policy, it is not studied as a separate direction of the state policy.

The second paragraph of the first chapter is entitled "State information policy: approaches, modern concepts. Scope of influence on public life". Different approaches to the state information policy are considered here, their separate provisions are interpreted. Public information policy is analyzed by researchers from different points of view as a specific form of policy. Russian researchers S.V. Konovchenko and A. Kiselyov considered information as information transmitted by methods of oral, written, conventional signals, technical means and so on by people. A multidisciplinary approach to the concept of information allows us to evaluate it from different angles. For example, according to T. Stonier, "... information is available. And it doesn't have a "phobia" to be accepted by everyone, to be understood, to have any meaning for surviving. It just exists"²².

The American philosopher and cultural specialist T. Roszak shows a similar approach to the problem, saying that "for the theorists of the information society, it doesn't matter whether we convey any fact, judgments, deep thought, higher truth or ugly news"²³.

The researcher notes that functional and communicative aspects shall not be overlooked when preparing the State Information Concept, which includes Azerbaijan's national interests in the information sphere, strategic directions developed to achieve this goal, as well as a system of measures to implement

²³ Roszak T.The Cult of Information: The Folklore of Computers and the True Art of Thinking. Cambridge: Lutterworth, 1986, p. 14

²² Stonier T. Information and the Internal Structure of the Universe: An Exploration into Information Physics. London: Springer-Verlag, 1990, p. 21

those interests. One of the leading places in the system of regulation of social and political relations in modern society belongs to the state information policy in the information space as an activity of public authorities and civil society institutions aimed at creating a favorable environment for citizens of Azerbaijan, including the information environment.

The author expresses solidarity with a common opinion that the next stage of the socio-technological revolution - the formation of the information society is underway. Modern information and telecommunication technologies have a decisive impact on changes in the social structure of the society, the economy, the development of democratic institutions.

Their sphere of influence covered state structures and civil society institutions, economic and social spheres, science and education, culture and, in general, people's lifestyles. Many developed and developing countries take benefit from the privileges of information and communication technologies. "There is no doubt that the path to the information society today is the path to the future of mankind"²⁴.

One of the conclusions reached in this paragraph is that the main environment of the information policy is the information space. Its essence may differ depending on the methodology of the researcher's approach. Information policy is one of the important directions of the policy of Azerbaijan Republic like any other state.

The third paragraph of the first chapter "Information policy in the context of political and economic transformations in Azerbaijan" examines the contradictory and multifaceted process reflected in the changes in the content of the political environment in Azerbaijan, as well as other post-socialist countries. Being is a complex socio-economic and political process, transformation has always been accompanied by significant changes in the life of any

http://ictfund.gov.az/uploads/s/3.pdf/ 23.03.2017

²⁴ "Azərbaycan Respublikasının inkişafı naminə informasiya və kommunikasiya texnologiyaları üzrə Milli Strategiyanın (2003-2012-ci illər)" təsdiq edilməsi haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin Sərəncamı

country and has radically changed the traditional standards in many areas of society. In particular, the transformations in the political and economic sphere have complemented each other, conditioned the dominance of new stereotypes over the old ones and had a significant impact on the development process. When talking about political and economic transformations, the author first of all paid attention to the nature of each of them, identified their commonalities and differences, how they complemented each other and as a result, studied their place and role in state information policy.

The transformation of the political system in the country can be divided into two stages. Although the first period of the collapse of the USSR in the early 1990s was characterized by the emergence of national statehood, events in the socio-political and geopolitical spheres led to a chaotic political transformation, the emergence of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh intensified the situation. Although the establishment of a legal, democratic political system, the formation of civil society, public solidarity and the development of the country in accordance with the new historical conditions necessitated the development and implementation of a multifaceted reform strategy, there was no government capable of carrying out these tasks.

For this period, the only such person in Azerbaijan was a prominent statesman, Heydar Aliyev, who had a great life and experience of statehood and his return to power at the call of the people should be considered, above all, as a historical necessity. It was under his leadership that the legal, political, economic, scientific and theoretical reforms launched in Azerbaijan ensured the establishment of a democratic state and civil society, as well as the beginning of the next important stage of the transformation of the political system. The great leader stressed the need for democratic development of the republic when he was elected as a chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan Republic on June 15, 1993: "Democracy must be developed in independent Azerbaijan. Political pluralism must be allowed. Violation of the

Constitution and laws must not be allowed in Azerbaijan Republic. State-building and the formation of society must be based on democratic principles"²⁵.

The country's national development policy resonated with the new era was established, the process of socio-political, socio-economic and cultural-spiritual progress was launched in accordance with the requirements of the time with the return of national leader Heydar Aliyev to power. Most importantly, practical steps have been taken to provide transition to democracy, from a team economy to a market economy, as well as to become a national state from a part of the Soviet Union existed for years. The political reforms carried out under the leadership of the great leader, first of all, conditioned the establishment of constructive cooperation in society, the principle of civil solidarity, which has become one of the key features of the new democratic-political system in Azerbaijan.

It is a fact that does not need confirmation that the removal of artificial barriers to the development of a free press, improvement of legislation and bringing it in line with international standards, strengthening the material and technical base of the media, establishing a tradition of regular meetings with journalists, operational and principled intervention in the media are the facts characterizing Heydar Aliyev's attitude to free speech and its carriers²⁶.

One of the points of attention of the great leader Heydar Aliyev, who foresaw the problems related to the production of competitive information products in the world information market, was the development of modern information technologies, creation of information industry, adaptation of telecommunications to modern requirements, efficient use of local information resources.

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²⁵ Əliyev H.Ə. Müstəqilliyimiz əbədidir (çıxışlar, nitqlər, bəyanatlar, müsahibələr, məktublar, müraciətlər, fərmanlar). Bakı: Azərnəşr,1993, I cild, 643 s.

²⁶ 135 illik yol = Road of 135 years / Heydər Əliyev irsini Araşdırma Mərkəzi; red. heyəti: F. Babayev [et al.]. Bakı: Apostrof, 2010, 224 s.

This was of great importance in neutralizing the negative external influences on the information environment in Azerbaijan, and caused people to unite for a common goal.

The researcher notes that independent mass media takes one of the leading places among the institutes of civil society building being one of the key elements of political transformation and this is one of the main factors contributing to the success of political transformation.

The beginning of a new stage of national transformation in Azerbaijan in 2003 was clearly reflected in the state's information policy and the policy of creating a free information environment and independent media expanded.

The expansion of information circulation and exchange with the application of new technologies in society has significantly enriched the information policy, which is one of the important points of democratic progress. The president Ilham Aliyev's further development of a stable political system perfectly and accurately established by the great leader to meet the challenges of the time opened a new stage in the country's political and economic development: "The main concept of Ilham Aliyev's presidency was to form a strong economic base. This concept shall allow for the gradual transformation of the mass consciousness and the sociocultural basis of society into a stream of post-industrial values and democratic traditions"²⁷.

At present, information policy in Azerbaijan, including the state information policy is experiencing its formation period, the process of searching for development directions, new management methods, tools and technologies adequate to the socio-political and technical realities of the modern world is continued.

The fourth paragraph of the first chapter is entitled "Features of the formation and implementation of the state information policy". Issues such as the formation of information policy and security policy, the development and implementation of

²⁷ Mehdiyev R.Ə. Gələcəyin strategiyasını müəyyənləşdirərkən: modernləşmə xətti. "Xalq qəzeti", Bakı, 2008, 16 yanvar

a unified strategy of national information activity are considered here.

In modern times, the role and importance of the media in public life is growing as an effective tool for the formation and expression of public opinion. Therefore, in the activities of the mass media "... the implementation of legal, economic, organizational and technological measures aimed at balancing the interests of the individual, society and the state and ensuring information security will be one of the main directions of the state information policy" ²⁸.

It is noted in the paragraph that informing the public about the activities of public authorities is also an important task of the media. It is necessary to provide citizens with objective information on the progress of economic reforms, the solution of social issues, normative legal acts regulating public and private life. Therefore, establishment of the balance between the state's information policy and public regulation, the development line of the information society and pluralism must be implemented more intensively.

According to the author, the state information policy shall be aimed at realizing the national interests of Azerbaijan in the information sphere basing on its philosophy. This goal includes the following tasks:

- observance of constitutional rights and freedoms in the field of access to and use of information, protection and strengthening of the moral values of the society, cultural and scientific potential of the country;
- Information support of the official position of Azerbaijan Republic in connection with the state policy, important sociopolitical events of the country and international life, as well as the provision of citizens with access to open information resources;
- development of modern information technologies, national information industry, as well as informatization,

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²⁸ "Azərbaycan 2020: gələcəyə baxiş" inkişaf konsepsiyası // http://www.president.az/files/future_az.pdf; 19.02.18

telecommunications and communication industry, supply of domestic market needs with products of national information production and access to international markets, as well as collection, protection and efficient use of national information resources;

- elimination of attempts to use information resources without appropriate sanctions, ensuring the security of information and telecommunication systems in the country.

The priority areas of activities related to the implementation of the state information policy are distinguished in this paragraph.

The researcher thinks that the implementation of the state information policy in accordance with the current legislation is the task of public administration and its solution requires the implementation of certain issues.

The second chapter of the thesis is entitled "Formation of the state information policy of independent Azerbaijan". The first paragraph of the chapter entitled "Stages of development of state information policy (independence period: 1991-2016)" deals with the state information policy implemented in Azerbaijan in the years following independence.

The author notes that with the burial of the USSR in the archives of the history in the early 1990s, not only the sociopolitical life changed in Azerbaijan that was a part of this huge empire, but also significant innovations emerged in the structure of journalism that created the chronicle of the period. The processes begun with the collapse of the Soviet empire led to the reformation of ideas about the place and role of the media in society on a relatively new basis, the application of different methods in its activities and working principles. In the context of the national awakening, journalism has already acquired different qualities and proved to be an effective tool in the process of further democratization of the country.

Since the 1990s, the media has undergone to a major transformation in Azerbaijan and the impact of new information technologies and the information revolution in this context has

played a key role here.

The demand for the formation of a state information policy aimed at building the information society in Azerbaijan was met during the rule of the national leader Heydar Aliyev. The main activities of the public authorities have been defined in order to build an information society in Azerbaijan. The regulation of public relations related to the acquisition, dissemination and use of information coincides with the period of activity of the great leader.

As a result of the decisive steps taken by the national leader Heydar Aliyev, censorship was completely removed from the national press of Azerbaijan and the situation gave a serious push to the development of the media and stimulated their more effective participation in the life of the country. "The abolition of censorship and the formation of a state-independent media, as well as a significant increase in the number of opposition media contributed to the emergence of democratic values and new norms of behavior in the public consciousness" 29.

The continuous improvement of the legal framework governing the activities of the media and its adaptation to advanced world standards, as well as the practical application of the requirements of the legislation is directly related with Heydar Aliyev's name. While speaking about laws, the Law on Freedom of Information, the Law on the Procedure for Consideration of Citizens' Appeals, the Law on Information, Informatization and Protection of Information, the Law on Obtaining Information on the Environment, the Law on Freedom of Information, and others can be cited. The Law on Mass Media adopted in December 1999 and subsequently amended at various times in cooperation with organizations international and in connection development of new technologies guarantees freedom of speech and information, independence of the media and journalists and prohibits application of measures restricting freedom of the press.

²⁹ Mehdiyev R.Ə. Demokratiya yolunda: irs haqqında düşünərkən. Bakı: "Şərq-Qərb", 2008, 792 s.

A new era in the development of the media in Azerbaijan is associated with the name of the President Ilham Aliyev successfully continuing the rich heritage and political traditions of the great leader Heydar Aliyev in accordance with modern requirements, but also enriching this policy with new approaches. Paying special attention to implementation of broader and more intensive process of building a legal, democratic state, the head of the state praised the role of the media in the life of the country and society and identified the creation of favorable conditions for the development of democratic, independent media as one of his policy priorities. The new modernization process begun in the society has also had a profound effect on the media.

In addition to responding to the challenges of the new era, the President's policy on the media has laid the foundation of a number of innovations in this segment of the political system. The result is that today the media of Azerbaijan plays a very important role in shaping public opinion in relation to this or that event.

The second paragraph of the chapter entitled "The role of the media in the formation and implementation of information policy" defines the role of the media in the formation of the state information policy, examines the interaction of media and policy. The media is one of the key players in the political socialization of the dense crowd by forming public opinion on the most important political issues. The press, radio, television, and in recent years the Internet have become an integral, real part of the political process. In this context, control and management of the flow of information is one of the most important political issues. "Because control over the mass media means to objectively interfere in the political process and maintain the levers of impact on its development" 30.

One of the indicators of the democratic nature and structure of the state in the example of Azerbaijan is the pluralism of the information sources, the diversity of the media. Just this diversity embodies different shades and currents of public life and public

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 $^{^{30}}$ Тургаев А.С., Хренов А.Е. Политология в схемах и комментариях, СПб.: Питер, 2005, 304 с.

opinion in the formation of universal solidarity and responsibility.

It is noted that today it is impossible to imagine the modern political process without the mass media. As the media is politicized, the opposite - the process of mediation of politics is taking place. And as the policy addressed to the reader, listener and spectator through the media has more practical and real impact, the ruling class always tries to control the media.

French sociologists P. Burdye and P. Champagne study the media as a very powerful channel of social activity. According to the authors, the appeal of citizens to the national media is one of the means of political activity of people, the formation of citizenship as a whole. However, the "mediation" of political processes has led to the fact that the majority of political speeches and statements are intended to increase political activity, to determine the direction of political processes, and to be circulated by the media.

As in the developed countries, the media has a crucial role in the circulation of information in the society of Azerbaijan. The initial stage of this process is conditioned by the collection and processing of information. Information is collected according to various criteria. As a rule, for consumers of information, the priority and attractiveness of topics, unusualness, novelty of facts, political achievements are the main factors. The information is analyzed in accordance with the goals and objectives of the media, the economic, political and ideological views of the journalist and media owners. The ultimate goal is to disseminate information and form the public opinion.

According to the author, one of the main elements determining the political influence of the media is the identification and discussion of issues being in the focus of attention of the society and government. In this case, the main point is transformation of the problem more urgent for the society into the subject of discussion. Since the practice shows that it is impossible to deal with many problems and to be engaged in their discussion simultaneously.

The head of Azerbaijan always pays attention to the improvement of the legislative framework which acts as a legal instrument for regulating relations in the field of information policy assessing freedom of speech and press, pluralism of opinion, access to information in various spheres of public life as fundamental rights of citizens. It is the logical consequence of such approach that in recent years, a positive trend in the assessment of state policy in the field of media has become more pronounced. Such tendency manifests itself not only in the transformation of the legislative "economy" in accordance with the requirements of developing life, but also in the quite obvious material "preferences".

The third paragraph of the second chapter is entitled "State information policy in the field of mass media". Here, as a whole, the state information policy being a fertile source for the establishment, formation and development of a single ideological line and a universal mechanism for its implementation is interpreted in its entirety.

The author thinks that journalism is an important social institution under modern democracy condition. The mass information is considered as a key tool for journalism to fulfill its social role. It plays an important role as a mediator between journalism and the audience. This sphere of relations is regulated by the state policy in the field of mass media considered one of the directions of the state information policy. Thus, we consider democratic state policy in the field of mass media as a system of ideas, views and perceptions of public authorities in connection with the formation and development of journalism as a social institution of democracy, as well as within the existing laws and we consider it as the corresponding purposeful activity of subjects covering various relations in accordance with democratic thinking.

The state information policy in the field of mass media is one of the leading directions of the state information policy aiming to form and develop journalism as a social institution of democracy that plays an important role in establishing the information order in the society. Such policy exists as a system of ideas, views and perceptions of public authorities on how journalism must be in the democratic society, as well as the purposeful activity of state bodies and structures in accordance with such system. The state information policy in the field of mass media covering all the principal relations of the media system that need to be regulated shall also define the possible frameworks and limits of state interference in journalistic activity.

It is stated in the paragraph that at the present stage, the state policy in the field of mass media can appear in many forms: first of all, as legislative initiatives, the activities of regulatory bodies, administrative decisions, financial support, state awards, awards, etc. The basis of this policy is the normative documents regulating the existing relations in the journalistic system as a whole. Thus, comprehensive, intelligent and effective legislation on the media is one of the main factors guaranteeing the effectiveness of the state policy in the field of media.

According to the author, the state information policy covers a wide range of issues related to information relations and here we are interested in one specific area - the state information policy in the field of media.

The main task of the state information policy in relation to the media is to develop legal, economic and organizational measures to ensure the balance of the interests of the individual, society and the state in the activities of the media. To this end, measures shall be considered to address complex issues related to support the state media and to develop a concrete position on nonstate media. Azerbaijan has a positive experience in this area.

The analysis of the problems and prospects of modern state information policy in the field of mass media, as well as the forecasts of authoritative experts give grounds to conclude that common rules and directions on the development of the media in Azerbaijan shall be worked out. The state information policy in the field of mass media is able to address issues arising in the formation of a pluralistic and free press, building an open,

constructive and tolerant dialogue, increasing the social responsibility of all actors involved in information exchange, strengthening the information security of the individual, society and state.

In the research work, the author agrees with the opinion of some experts that the optimization of the state information policy in the field of media will help to determine the exact strategy of information development in Azerbaijan and believes that such a choice is undoubtedly a political decision and shall be made by the country's top political leadership.

The fourth paragraph of the chapter entitled "National interest and news policy" clarifies the concept of "national interests" and examines the approaches of the Azerbaijan state to ensuring national interests. According to the author, in the current situation, the national interests of Azerbaijan Republic act as a balanced set of interests of the individual, society and the state in economic, political, social, international, information, military, border, environmental and other vital areas. The paragraph distinguishes a number of areas of the national interests of Azerbaijan in the field of information.

Azerbaijan state approaches the provision of the national interests from a tripartite trajectory – from the internal, regional and globally context. Today, the national interests play an important role in ensuring the security of our country. The national interests of Azerbaijan Republic consist of a set of political, economic, social and other needs ensuring the fundamental values and goals of the Azerbaijani people, as well as the progress of human beings, society and the state and include followings:

- protection of the state's independence and territorial integrity, ensuring the inviolability of its internationally recognized borders;
- preservation of the unity of the Azerbaijani people, promotion of the idea of Azerbaijanism;
- formation of civil society, ensuring human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- development of democratic and civil society institutions, supremacy of law, strengthening the performance of state functions through ensuring tranquility, protection of public safety;
- development of integration-oriented cooperation with international organizations with whom values are shared in order to fulfill international obligations and contribute to global and regional security and stability;
- establishment of favorable conditions for domestic and foreign investments and so on for development of a market economy, improvement of its legal framework, ensuring economic stability.

According to the researcher, when talking about national interests, it is necessary to consider its realization means. The state has enough serious opportunities for it. The role of the media having a great influence on society shall be emphasized. The real situation shows that in the current era of global social networks and the transnational nature of information, it is especially important that national interests come to the fore through the media. In order to achieve a positive result, the media must put national interests above all else in their activities and be able to mobilize citizens and society for a common goal.

It is shown in the research work that the media of Azerbaijan is faithful to its glorious historical traditions, as it was in all times and continues with dignity the mission of serving to its people and statehood. News policy and the media being one of its main carriers have an exceptional role in the realization of national interests. In modern times, news policy, its formation, implementation, and at the same time achieving the desired result is of particular relevance for each country.

The paragraph emphasizes that the information security is one of the objective categories appeared after the emergence of communication means between people. This is the state of protection of the communication infrastructure of the subjects being in the information relations from natural or artificial, accidental or targeted attacks and the protection of the information itself.

At present, the relations in the media-society-state triangle have become a very important tool in terms of the fate of the people and the state and the news policy already manifests itself as an important functional unit in the realization of management in this system of relations. It is impossible to create public opinion on any issue without the participation of the media. But it is also important to create this public opinion under the conditions of information security, because the opposite means chaos.

According to the author, it is possible to say that one of the main components of ensuring national security is the provision of comprehensive information. In this sense, the content and quality of information in circulation must be forecasted in terms of national interests and security and appropriate news policy must be implemented. This is of exceptional importance, first of all, in terms of ensuring the interests of the state and the national interests.

The third chapter of the scientific work is entitled "Information and security issues as an integral part of the national security." The first paragraph of the chapter entitled "National Security: its concept, essence, structural elements" clarifies the concept of security, explains its essence and provides information about its elements. The author presents the types of security, analyzes its different features, as well as the basic principles of its provision.

Depending on the nature of the political system and public relations, the role and place of the society in the state can be changeable. For the nation (in international law, the nation acts as the equivalent of the concept of state - Kh.N.), the level of security is more pronounced in the extreme situations. As a rule, in the countries under totalitarian and authoritarian regime, the security of the state takes precedence over the security of the individual. In democratic societies, the security of the individual, the protection of their rights and freedoms are at the forefront. A strategic goal such as the state security is achieved through the proper coordination of political governance mechanisms and the correct

coordination of activities of socio-political forces, the security of the individual and society, the formation of a set of legal and moral norms of institutions, organizations and institutions included in the political system.

It is noted in the paragraph that Azerbaijan state currently experiencing a period of rapid economic reforms, fulfills successfully the task of building, managing its internal life, maintaining internal stability, ensuring the country's strategic development and constitutional order without any external interference or influence.

The activity of the President Ilham Aliyev is also aimed at the fundamental protection of Azerbaijan's national security and the integration of national security components into a single system. Experience shows that the reliable provision of the national security is closely linked with the various spheres of public life and forms a common unity. As an independent state, the national interests and security of Azerbaijan cannot be ensured in isolation from the interests of the region and the global world. Speaking about this reality, the head of the state stressed the importance of protecting the national security of our rapidly developing independent republic which has made significant progress in various fields. The head of the state rightly states that in modern times special attention shall be paid to the factor of the national security in terms of a prosperous, free and secure life of the people and important steps shall be taken in this direction.

Special attention is paid to ensuring national security through foreign policy and specific areas of activity in this area are specified in the "National Security Concept of Azerbaijan Republic" signed by the President Ilham Aliyev on May 23, 2007. Integration European into and Euro-Atlantic contribution international to security. cooperation international organizations, regional and bilateral relations, relations with regional and non-regional countries have a special place among them³¹.

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³¹ AR Milli Təhlükəsizliyik Konsepsiyası // http://eqanun.az

The author notes that the national security is a complex, multi-level, dynamic system. It is based on the basic relations of social subjects - the individuals, society and the state. This system is formed under the influence of many factors - historical, geographical, ethnic, demographic, socio-political, economic, cultural, religious.

It is emphasized once again in the research work that the security problem of Azerbaijan, ways and means of its provision, coordination of global and local security interests, security policy of the states of the region are among the issues that seriously concern the President Ilham Aliyev.

In the second paragraph of the chapter entitled "Main directions of the national security concept of Azerbaijan Republic and national interests in the information sphere" three main directions of the national security concept are analyzed and the ways of protection of the national interests in the context of international and regional security (terrorism, drug addiction, etc.), the system of ensuring national security, the forces and state bodies providing it, ensuring security in the political, economic, social, military, information, environmental, educational, scientific, cultural and spiritual spheres are stated.

Azerbaijan Republic also protects its national security by ensuring its national interests. The main task of the state is to protect the cultural and spiritual autonomy, life style and security of all peoples and national-ethnic associations living in our country. Foreign and domestic policy instruments are necessary to regulate the processes that meet the national interests and priorities of our state, to develop the economy, to strengthen the unity of the Azerbaijan nation. "National interests mean the long-term fundamental interests of every value, religion, society and state" 32.

The author notes that the national security strategy is based on the protection of the national interests and values. Azerbaijan's national security requires a strong presidential government and a

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³² Babaoğlu H. Azərbaycan Respublikasının müasir dünya siyasətində yeri və rolu. Bakı: Aypara 3, 2009, 328 s.

strong state. National solidarity can be formed only if the interests of all segments of society and citizens are taken into account.

One of the main directions of the national security of Azerbaijan Republic is the integration of our country into European and Euro-Atlantic structures. By integrating into European and Euro-Atlantic structures, Azerbaijan is actively participating in the European security architecture and becomes an integral part of the European security complex.

Azerbaijan's close economic cooperation and partnership with European institutions has an impact on the establishment of security in the Caucasus and the spread of European liberal-democratic values.

One of the main directions of the national security policy of Azerbaijan Republic is to ensure the territorial integrity of the state and the security of the people by eliminating military intervention. It is stated in the Military Doctrine of Azerbaijan Republic that the defense policy is an integral part of the national security policy of Azerbaijan Republic.

It is noteworthy that the priority of the national interests in the strategy and tactics of public administration in the information sphere is the leading line. The president Ilham Aliyev emphasizes it as a very important element in almost all his speeches. On the other hand, the information policy essentially serves to regulate and improve mutual information processes and it means an exceptional geopolitical dividend for Azerbaijan located not only at the crossroads of transnational transport communications, but also in the junction of international information traffics.

It is stated in the paragraph that in order to ensure its interests in the information sphere, Azerbaijan must meet the information needs of its citizens, democratic society and strong state, use national information resources and tools effectively, create modern media using modern ICT and strengthen the security of its information system.

The third paragraph of this chapter is entitled "Information Security and Political Security". It presents various approaches to

the concept of "information security" and provides information on government agencies that ensure this security and control the activities in the field of information protection.

The concept of information security is a combination of the concepts of "information", "information sphere" and "security". There are more than 20 types of information in the scientific and political literature (legal, scientific, political, financial, commercial, medical information, etc.). In fact, it is not important to protect all information. Some information can be classified as confidential information and state secrets.

The problem of the information security closely related to the information society and the phenomenon of informatization has been studied by foreign scientists *D. Bell, A. Toffler* and others.³³

It is possible to get acquainted with the definition of information security in the scientific literature and it is stated there that the information security is a state of protection of vital interests from external and internal threats in the information environment, ensuring the formation and development of individuals, society and state. Protection means a set of legal, scientific, technical and special organizational measures. Thus, the protection of information is carried out with the help of the legislature, the judiciary and the executive, public organizations, associations and citizens.

There are different views and approaches to the concept of "information security". Some consider information security as an integral part of general security, consider it as one of the segments of general security, use in parallel with concepts such as "computer security", "network security", "information security" and so on. However, information security is a broader concept.

The main purpose of the state policy in the field of information security of Azerbaijan Republic is to prevent threats to the security of individuals, society and the state and to ensure national interests.

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³³ Белл Д. Социальные рамки информационного общества // Новая технократическая волна на Западе. М.: Прогресс, 1986, 342с.; Тоффлер, Э. Шок будущего. М.: АСТ, 2008, 560 с.

It is emphasized in the paragraph that information security occupies one of the key places in the concept of national security of Azerbaijan Republic. The place of information security in the national security system of our country is determined by the fact that the state information policy raises the provision of the national security through the information security to the level of a priority direction of the state policy.

The concept of "political security" often used in modern scientific literature and political science, can be approached from different aspects as a result of various socio-political processes. One of these aspects is expressed as the result of measures taken by the state and society to ensure the political interests of the country and its citizens. According to another approach, political security is the solution of political and legal problems related to the elimination or reduction of political and social tensions. In this paragraph, the researcher considers two aspects of the concept of "political security" - internal and external aspects of political security.

In the political encyclopedia, "the concept of "political security" is characterized as "a set of measures aimed at ensuring the state structure and constructive policy, maintaining the constitutional legitimacy of the political state structure"³⁴.

Therefore, T.E. Schubert characterizes the political security as the "constitutional security³⁵.

The most serious form of external threat to political security is war, aggression by another state. Events such as social tensions, riots, extremism, terrorism, conflicts, separatism and civil war can be distinguished as various forms of the internal threat. The classification of internal conditions for strengthening political security includes important elements such as protecting the ideals and values of the people, strengthening the constitutional order, the

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³⁴ Политическая энциклопедия. М.: Мысль, т.1, 2000, 750 с.

³⁵ Шуберт Т.Э. Национальная безопасность России: конституционноправовые аспекты. М.: Право и закон, 2001, 176 с.

factor of stability, state institutions, ensuring civil peace, national reconciliation and territorial integrity. In order to further strengthen its political security, each state must fight fiercely and ruthlessly against all manifestations of political and religious extremism, social and ethnic conflicts and terrorism.

The researcher believes that the political security in the international arena envisages measures to restore the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, its integration into the world political architecture, reliable protection of human rights and freedoms, strengthening the fight against violations of international law and double standards in resolving political conflicts.

The last paragraph of the third chapter entitled "Media content of the information security. The behavior of the media in the context of information warfare" deals with the protection of the security of the national information space.

The foundation of the work implemented to build an information society in Azerbaijan was laid by the "National Strategy on information and communication technologies for the development of Azerbaijan Republic" approved by the Order of the national leader Heydar Aliyev dated February 17, 2003. It is stated specifically in the National Strategy that with the extensive use of information and communication technologies, it is possible to promote the democratic development of the country and ensure the transition to the information society³⁶.

The author emphasizes that the government of Azerbaijan has made a number of important decisions for the formation of the information society, the economy based on new technological and innovative knowledge and has significantly improved the national legal framework. The researcher concludes that in the modern era of the global information environment, as a result of the efforts of the press, information has become a major strategic resource in the society and its role has increased significantly. The mass media, as an important tool in the system of public administration, plays an

³⁶ Azərbaycan Respublikasında informasiya cəmiyyətinin inkişafına dair 2014-2020-ci illər üçün Milli Strategiya. http://president.az/articles/11312

important role in the formation and implementation of foreign and domestic policy, the relationship between the government and the people and the democratic governance of the society. The media has the power to influence and change the dynamics of the society. In this context, in accordance with the strategic concept of the media, the protection of the national interests of the state, the protection of the national unity and the interests of citizens shall be the main action plan.

It is noted in the work that the behavior of the media of Azerbaijan in the information war shall be characterized positively based on professionalism and protection of national interests, efficiency, more responsible research, except for some minor shortcomings. By adequately meeting the information needs of the public and ensuring the richness of information, our media has managed to completely put the confusing news of the enemy in the background and to ensure that citizens receive real news.

The author considers that the media of Azerbaijan acts in the interests of the state, fulfills its duty on the state front in the information war on national issues. Our media takes a principled position in preventing the spread of threats, slander and biased information against the homeland.

Azerbaijan state pursues an independent policy based on the national interests and influences the processes in the region with its growing influence. Unlike some Western countries turning a blind eye to religious discrimination and xenophobia, our country has become an example of multiculturalism and tolerance. It calls on international organizations, including the OSCE, to take serious action against Armenia occupying Nagorno-Karabakh or otherwise, Azerbaijan will take action to end the occupation. This is of serious concern to the international organizations and anti-Azerbaijani and pro-Armenian circles in PACE. Some Western and European countries try to deliberately influence our country by various means against the background of strengthening the role of Azerbaijan in political, military and regional processes, especially its growing superiority over occupying Armenia. The Armenian

lobby located in foreign countries and international organizations tries to carry out a campaign that damages the reputation of our republic through the PACE, the European Union and other organizations.

It is stated in this paragraph that the deepening of the information war cannot put the media in a spectator position and that the media is demonstrating its behavior by being the most active participant in the process. Especially in the context of growing international threats, increasing influence of biased and double standards of foreign forces interested in Azerbaijan, the actions of the media for the interests of the state and strengthening of organized activities to protect national statehood have become a very important issue. Control over information, determination of principles of information handling, protection of the information security shall be one of the most important issues facing the media of Azerbaijan. The media shall not stray from the professional journalism in the delivery of information and shall put Azerbaijan's position above all else.

In the fifth paragraph of the third chapter "Main features of the state information policy of Azerbaijan in the Patriotic War and post-conflict period" information threats during the military operations in September-November 2020, combating information threats on social networks and digital platforms, protection of internal information space and public awareness, mistakes in the information front and their consequences, as well as the main priorities of the state information policy of Azerbaijan in the postwar period are observed.

It should be noted that Armenia, which suffered crushing blows and defeats in the military-political sphere, tried to expand information provocations against our country through the media, social networks and other new media tools. Nevertheless, Azerbaijan retained its superiority over Armenia not only on the battlefield, but also in the field of diplomacy and information, and managed to expose the aggressor state on an international scale.

The activities of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev long before the outbreak of hostilities, as well as during the war and in the post-conflict period - interviews with local and foreign media, public appeals, important statements were especially significant from the point of view of preventing information provocations against our country.

The leading leitmotif of the paragraph is that President Ilham Aliyev, who gave interviews to about 30 foreign media outlets in 44 days of the Patriotic War, spoke with high diplomatic skill about the history of the conflict, constructive behavior at the stage of negotiations and the threat of the policy of territorial annexation. He outlined the behavior and conditions of Azerbaijan based on international law regarding the cessation of hostilities, successfully conducted offensive diplomacy and achieved an international exposure of Armenia and its openly supporting states based on real facts and concrete arguments. Although these interviews sometimes contained one-sided, biased and false approaches that are incompatible with professional journalistic ethics, President Ilham Aliyev has demonstrated high diplomatic restraint, knowledge and experience against such approaches.

The fourth chapter of the thesis entitled "National information policy and legal regulation" consists of three paragraphs. In the first paragraph entitled "The concept of the information right and a political view of the constitutional basis", the author explains in detail the concepts of "information" and "information right" and presents the basic rights of the information law.

When it comes to the right of a person and a citizen to information, in addition to the idea "The information right of a person and a citizen means the right of any person (citizen, foreigner and stateless person) to seek, obtain, transmit and prepare any information about facts, events, processes in any legal way" it emphasizes that the realization of the right to information is an opportunity to ensure the participation of citizens in the life

of the state, not formally, but in reality ³⁷.

In modern legal literature, there are two main approaches to the concept of the information right - narrow and broad approaches. In the narrow sense, the information right is the right to receive information and therefore it is a relative right. In the broad sense, the information right consists of absolute and relative rights. In absolute legal relations, there is an indefinite circle of debtors against the authorized person. The authorized person exercises his / her rights independently and all other persons must not violate the rights of the authorized person (for example, copyright, name right).

In the relative legal relations, the debtor and the authorized party are known from the moment of their emergence. It means that, there is a well-defined debtor against the authorized person and certain claims can be made only against that person. In the absolute legal relationship, all other persons are responsible to the authorized person. The author analyzes the rights contained in the broad sense of the information right.

Recognition and provision of the right to information, which is an important part of the basic human and civil rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution, is one of the successful manifestations of the policy of observance of international human rights principles and standards in our country. The fact that this right is enshrined in the Constitution as one of the fundamental rights ensures its more effective, complete and consistent implementation, emphasizing its importance. At the same time, the constitutional establishment of the right to information and freedom of information is important in terms of further expanding the freedom of the individual in the development of information opportunities as a whole, including new information relations between citizens and the state.

The main provisions constituting the constitutional basis of

³⁷ Хижняк В.С. Право человека на информацию. Механизм реализации. Саратов: Издательство Саратовсого Университета, 1998, 68 с.

the information right are reflected in Article 32 "Right to Personal Immunity", Article 47 "Freedom of Thought and Speech" and Article 50 "Freedom of Information" of the Constitution of Azerbaijan Republic and certain details and nuances are defined in many other articles of the Basic Law³⁸.

Recognition and provision of the information right being an important part of the basic human and civil rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution is one of the successful manifestations of the policy of observance of international human rights principles and standards in our country. Reflection of this right as one of the fundamental rights in the Constitution ensures its more effective, complete and consistent implementation emphasizing its importance. At the same time, the constitutional establishment of the right to information and freedom of information is important in terms of further expansion of the freedom of the personality in the development of information opportunities as a whole, including new information relations between citizens and the state. In this paragraph, the author explains in detail the specific articles of the Constitution and relevant laws.

The next paragraph of the chapter is entitled "Formation and development of the legislative framework of the state information policy". As it is known, after the restoration of the state independence in Azerbaijan, a new stage has been laid in the development of mass media being an important attribute of the civil society and the rule of law state. The fact that our country has taken one of the leading positions in the CIS in terms of the dynamics of development of freedom of speech and press over the past 27 years is due to these realities.

In the mentioned paragraph, the author spoke in detail about the creation and development of the legal framework of the state information policy in Azerbaijan in the past.

An important stage in the development of a free press and

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Azərbaycan Respublikasının Konstitusiyası. http://www.e-qanun. az/ framework/897

independent media in Azerbaijan in modern times began in 1998 with the abolition of censorship of the press. The work carried out in accordance with the Decree "On additional measures to ensure freedom of speech, though and information in Azerbaijan Republic" signed by the President in the same year created fundamental conditions for increasing the efficiency of the media.

It is noted in the paragraph that in 1998, Azerbaijan was the first republic in the CIS taking state control over the press. A year later, in 1999, the Law on Mass Media was adopted. The adoption of this law was one of the important steps in terms of further enrichment and improvement of the regulatory framework governing relations in this area. It was a progressive law that conditioned the development of the media, regulated the relations between the state, society and the media, and enriched the relevant legal framework. The document also helped to remove bureaucratic obstacles preventing the development of the press. The state registration was abolished and the procedure for establishing press releases was unusually simplified.

The following laws adopted in accordance with the Constitution, further developing and concretizing its democratic provisions and constituting the legal basis for freedom of information, though, speech and press include the following: "On Mass Media", "On Television and Radio Broadcasting", "On Freedom of Information" "On information, informatization and protection of information", "On electronic document and electronic signature", "On telecommunication", "On state secrets", "On communication", "On copyright and related rights", "On the order of consideration of the citizens' appeals" and others.

The researcher considers that the process of formation and development of the legislative basis of state information policy is a dialectical process moving in parallel with the general development of the political system and society as a whole and mutually enriches each other.

In the last - third paragraph of the fourth chapter of the scientific work entitled "Features of legal regulation of

information relations. The development perspectives of the information legislation" the areas covered by the legal regulation of the information relations are analyzed.

It is noted in this paragraph that the issues related to the legal regulation of the state information resources have not been sufficiently analyzed in the national legal literature. Along with the expansion of the research in this area, it would be important and expedient to adopt a scientifically sound concept for the coordination of work on the legal regulation of the state information resources.

The legal regulation of information relations shall be considered as a process extending over time and space. Therefore, the following stages shall be studied in depth in the future:

- 1. Determination of the legal status of legal entities in the field of information. Legal regulation logically begins with the definition of the basis of the legal status of the subjects in this area. The legal status of a subject is determined by specific rights and obligations and legal capacity based on them, i.e., the ability of a person to be a participant in various information legal relations recognized by the state. These legal guidelines are developed in other legislative acts constituting legal bases for the behavior and activities of subjects in different information and legal fields.
- 2. Establishment of certain information legal relations next stage of legal regulation.

The purpose of establishing a system of legal regulation of information legal relations is to create favorable conditions for the widespread use of new information technologies in all spheres of public life and human activity.

The plaintiff states that the issue of legal regulation of public relations is a problem not only of the theory of state and law, but also of the right to information as a new field of law.

The legally significant features of information as an object of legal regulation include: intangible nature (independence in relation to the carrier); subjective nature (information arises as a result of mental activity of a conscious subject); the need for

objectification for inclusion in the legal circulation; quantitative determination; possibility of repeated use; the ability of the sent information to remain (retain) in the sending entity; possibility of reproduction, transfer, storage and collection.

It is emphasized in the paragraph that the state information policy in Azerbaijan was not formed suddenly. First of all, the main priorities of the state in the field of information were formed. Then, at the next stage, the state policy in the field of information security was developed. Finally, in the third stage, special attention is paid to the adoption of conceptual documents meeting the requirements of the day on the information space and information security and their legal regulation.

Legal regulation of information relations expresses the regulatory effect of the information legal norms on the information legal relations. The information legal relations can be characterized as the public relations arising in connection with information and its legally significant consequences and regulated by information legal norms. The main goals of the priority directions of the state information policy can be achieved only through continuous improvement of the information legislation in accordance with the requirements of the day, advanced international practice and standards.

In the **Final** part of the thesis, the author summarizes all the proposals, as well as makes theoretical and practical recommendations based on the implemented work. One of the results is that in the new era differing both in content and quality of relations, the state information policy of Azerbaijan Republic is responsible for the solution of very important tasks and issues in terms of scale and importance:

- establishment of a single information space of Azerbaijan and its integration into the world information space;
- ensuring information security of the state, individuals and society;
 - formation of democratic mass thinking;
 - formation of the field of information services;

- expansion of legal opportunities for the regulation of public relations related to the acquisition, dissemination and use of information and so on.

Talking about the theoretical and methodological bases of the state information policy, the concept of information, the place of information policy in other policies pursued by the state government, the author came to the following conclusion:

- The information policy is one of the important directions of the state policy of Azerbaijan. The state mechanism, along with politics, acts as an active subject of the political struggle, provides the rules, boundaries and forms of that struggle on the basis of legislation, implements law enforcement and law enforcement practices in this area, as well as acts on the side of the subject having state power within the limits allowed by law in this struggle.
- The state information policy of Azerbaijan Republic can be studied from two different aspects: state information management and information management. Azerbaijan's state information policy provides information support by all possible means for adoption of political and other decisions of state importance and their adaptation to the society.

One of the issues allowing to come to concrete empirical conclusions in the research work is the tandem of media information policy. The role of the media in the formation of the state information policy is determined by its political capabilities. In this regard, the state is interested in supporting the media and regulating its activities. Thanks to the analysis of the relationship between two events, it is possible to come to the following conclusions:

- As in the developed countries, the media has a decisive role in the circulation of information in the society of Azerbaijan. In a democratic society, the media is not only propaganda means, but also a diametrically opposed position to the government;
- The state and the media are important participants of the political process as important political institutions and key actors

in political communication. In the political sphere, the media and related new electronic information sources, computer technology, as well as increasingly used Internet are able to pave the way for the real participation of the broadest sections of the population in the political process;

- In the context of modern Azerbaijan, the relationship between the state and the media goes beyond the elimination of ideological doctrines ultimately leading to the shift of these relations to the legal level and thus requires clear legal basis. The growing role of the information sphere is an important factor in the formation of the society and actively influences politics, economics, defense and other components of the national security;
- The state information policy is also realized through the media and exerts moral and political impact on the society. The main directions of the state information policy include the policy in the field of mass media, the legislation regulating the media, the media's own information policy, the interaction of the state information policy of the media;
- The state information policy ensures technological development of the written and electronic mass media of the traditional and new media; It promotes the application of ICT to the media, the implementation of social media, the Internet, blogs, strengthens trust in the media and so on.

The author considers it important to implement a number of theoretical and practical measures to conduct an effective and optimal state information policy in the field of mass media.

The author concludes that Azerbaijan has a broad legal framework governing the relations in the field of state information policy. Objective conditions have been created for the development of the State Information Policy Concept and Information Security Doctrine, which will determine the conceptual basis of this policy. The existence of these documents will promote the more effective development of the state's information and communication infrastructure, create favorable conditions for the production and consumption of information and

knowledge in all spheres of society, develop the human factor and information environment as a basis for improving public administration.

The main provisions of the dissertation are reflected in the following scientific works:

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- 2. Erməniçilik ifrat şovinizm və mürtəce separatçılığın sinonimi / Saxta erməni soyqırımı: uydurma və gerçəklik // Beynəlxalq konfransın məruzə və tezislər toplusu, AMEA İHİ, Bakı: 10 aprel, 2015.
- 3. Azərbaycan geosiyasətinin mükəmməl elmi-politoloji tədqiqi" // Bakı: Strateji təhlil, 2015. №2 (13), s. 237-244.
- 4. Dövlət informasiya siyasətinin tarixi inkişaf mərhələləri // Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitetin Xəbərləri, − 2015. №1, − s. 51-58.
- 5. Dövlət informasiya siyasətinin tarixi inkişaf mərhələləri // Bakı: Pedaqoji Universitetin Xəbərləri, −2015, №2, −s. 164-172.
- 6. İnformasiya azadlığı və informasiya təhlükəsizliyi: milli təhlükəsizlik kontekstində // İnformasiya texnologiyaları. İnformasiya təhlükəsizliyinin multidissiplinar problemləri üzrə II respublika elmi-praktik konfransının Əsərləri, Bakı: 14 may, 2015, s. 23-30.
- 7. State information polisy of Azerbaijan and the media. "Vela Verlag Waldkraiburg", SCIENCE INNOVATORS, International Conference on European Science and Technology // Munich, Germany: -28-29 may, -2015, -s. 207-211.
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- 9. Dövlət qulluğu sistemində elektron vasitələrdən istifadənin şəffaflığın artırılmasında əhəmiyyəti // Bakı: Dövlət idarəçiliyi: nəzəriyyə və təcrübə, −2016. № 1(53), −s. 207-217.
- 10. Azərbaycanda siyasi modernləşmənin xüsusiyyətləri // Bakı: Geostrategiya, 2016. №05 (35), s. 34-39.

- 11. Государственная информационная политика и средства массовой информации // Киів: Гілея, 2016. Випуск 109 (№6), с. 391-395.
- 12. Kütləvi informasiya azadlığının siyasi-hüquqi təminatı // Bakı: Sivilizasiya, 2016. 4/28-30, s. 107-115.
- 13. Azadlıq fəlsəfəsi və informasiya hüququ // Bakı: Nəqliyyat hüququ, −2016. №4, − s. 113-122.
- 14. İnformasiya hüququnun multidissiplinar xarakteri // Bakı: Sivilizasiya, − 2016. Cild 5, №4, (32), − s.22-28.
- 15. İnformasiyaya olan hüquq və informasiya azadlığı // Bakı: AMEA Xəbərlər. İctimai elmlər seriyası, − 2017. №1, − s. 105 111.
- 16. İnformasiya hüququnun konstitusion əsasları // Bakı: ADPU "Xəbərlər", −2017. c.65, №1, −s. 115-125.
- 17. Milli təhlükəsizlik siyasəti və Azərbaycan // Bakı: Geostrategiya, −2017. №2 (38), −s. 25-30.
- 18. Milli təhlükəsizliyin Rusiya modeli barədə // Bakı: Hərbi bilik, 2017. №2 (146), s. 54-63.
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- 20. İnformasiya təhlükəsizliyinin anlayışı və prinsipləri // Bakı: Sivilizasiya, 2017. cild 6, №1, (33), s. 92-98.
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- 31. The concept and principles of information security. IV International Scientic and Practical Conference "Modern Scientic Achievements and Their Practical Application" // Dubai, UAE: October 31, 2017, p. 91-96.
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