

Problems And Consequences Of Water Deficiency In Central Asia

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Abstract. The article analyzes the impact of the problem and the consequences of water deficit in Central Asia on the geopolitical relations of the states of the region. Covered measures for the rational use of water resources in the region, the need to increase to a new level of integration processes. "It is important that Central Asian leaders understand that such a situation, projected by 'external players', is disastrous for the countries of the region and that cooperation is needed to solve the problem," he said. Shukhrat Yovkachev, a representative of Uzbekistan who attended the conference, said that "denying the escalation of ethnic conflicts and conflicts over the use of transboundary water resources could lead to military conflict in the future.

Key words: geopolitical conflicts, water resources, water use, the Aral Sea crisis, world environmental system, dangerous environmental policy, water policy and water use, leading environmental innovation technologies, environmental policy of the region, transformation of under-water waters.

INTRODUCTION.

The area of snow and ice resources that supply water to rivers in the Central Asian region is declining rapidly. According to official data, in the last half century, the mountain glaciers of Central Asia have shrunk by more than a third of their area [5; 87-88]. The Central Asian region is mainly saturated with the waters of the Amudarya and Syrdarya. The annual water resources of the Amudarya basin are more than 78 km³ per year. The annual water resources of the Syrdarya basin are about 38.8 cubic km.

The Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers are transboundary rivers in the region and do not fully meet the needs of the countries in the region for fresh water. The population growth of the countries of the region, the pace of economic growth and the impact of natural vagaries have had an impact on the need for fresh water. Therefore, some geopolitical differences have led to tensions in the relationship of cooperation as a result of the growing demand for fresh water among the countries of the region.

The emergence of the negative term "leadership" among the countries of Central Asia in the late twentieth century (1996-1999) led to the geopolitical nature of the water problem. In 2005-2010, this process became more intense. Serious efforts to build two hydroelectric cascades on two of Central Asia's major rivers have exacerbated tensions. Attempts by Tajikistan to influence some countries in the region through the construction of the Rogun hydroelectric power station in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya and the Kambarata hydroelectric power station in the Syrdarya-Yukorinorin cascade of Kyrgyzstan have intensified. It is known that the Syrdarya is formed by the confluence of the

Naryn and Karadarya rivers, and the Amudarya by the confluence of the Panj and Vakhsh rivers. The main source of the two rivers is the territory of the two Central Asian states of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. If Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan complete the construction of hydropower plants, they will seriously damage the economic system of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. For example, the launch of the Rogun hydropower plant alone will cost Uzbekistan \$ 600 million a year, which means that water shortages will reduce agricultural production and lose 2% of gross domestic product (GDP), as well as create 300,000 jobs. It has become clear that if the Kambarata HPP cascade is launched, the region will be in a whirlpool of more complicated problems. According to these controversies, some political commentators have argued that the conflict over water in Central Asia will intensify in the coming years, which will certainly have negative consequences and the possibility of an armed confrontation. For example, Galim Fashutdinov's article, "The Probability of a Water War in Central Asia," states: "According to the United Nations, water disputes in 40 parts of the world could turn into military conflicts." One such region is Central Asia." EU Commissioner Catherine Ashton also commented on the idea, noting that there is the potential for serious conflicts between Central Asian states over water resources. Kazakh political scientist Marat Shibusov called it an ultimatum to Bishkek and Dushanbe, saying war was inevitable in the next two to three years. A similar prediction was made by L.Abror, an expert at the International Crisis Group, in late 2011. In the opinion of Yu. Yakusheva, Deputy Director General of the Information-Analytical Center for the Study of the Territory of the Former USSR, "the third world war will be a war for water resources," we see that the global nature of this phenomenon is emphasized [7; 80,81,82]. Ajdar Kuratov, a researcher at the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies, told Nezavisima Gazeta that there is already a conflict between Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan [7, 83].

The First President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov touched upon the issue of joint use of water resources in the first years of independence: "There are two rivers in Central Asia. Amudarya and Syrdarya, their waters have been developed. Tajikistan, on the one hand, and Kyrgyzstan, on the other, are at the forefront. Of course, we have to agree on these issues. Uzbekistan has the opportunity to develop another ten million hectares of land. From this point of view, we must use water wisely in our country"[3; 104-139]. Also, at a meeting of the heads of the founding states of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in Almaty on April 28, 2009, it was stated that I think. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are pursuing their own interests. However, we are talking about the interests of each individual state. I would like to emphasize that these are not only the interests of today, but also the interests of the future. ... I think that today we need to find common ground without escalating these debates and giving them a political tone. Otherwise, the interests of our countries and peoples may be left aside, and the strategic and geopolitical interests and goals of third forces, as well as issues related to the governance of the region may come to the fore"[4; 216-219].

These views are quite close to reality, and the fact that some countries and certain political forces in the world are trying to aggravate the problem of transboundary natural resource use in some regions in the pursuit of their own interests is causing protests from the world community. Examples include the Central Eurasia project, Vremya Vostoka, and US policy in Central Asia and Afghanistan. At these roundtables, Uzbek doctors of political science Sh. Yovkochoy, N. Kasimova, Russian professor V. Tretyakov and other participants of the discussion, without exception, expressed a unanimous opinion on this issue. In particular, Mars Sariev from Kyrgyzstan said: "The US

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prediction of the inevitability of a water war in Central Asia shows and is aimed at it. "It is important that Central Asian leaders understand that such a situation, projected by 'external players', is disastrous for the countries of the region and that cooperation is needed to solve the problem," he said. Shukhrat Yovkachev, a representative of Uzbekistan who attended the conference, said that "denying the escalation of ethnic conflicts and conflicts over the use of transboundary water resources could lead to military conflict in the future. It is necessary to intensify the participation and mediation of the United Nations and other international organizations in overcoming the growing crisis".

Vitaly Tretyakov, dean of Moscow State University, said he had not commented on Russia's position on the issue, saying that the water problem in Central Asia had existed for a long time and that the United States would play a key role in exacerbating it.

Indeed, it is a historical fact that the water problem in Uzbekistan has existed since ancient times. But it is also a fact that the voluntaristic, totalitarian policy of the dictatorial regime played a decisive role in the aggravation of this problem, and not everyone recognizes it.

Nazokat Kasimova, a representative of Uzbekistan, said that in the future there may be interstate conflicts in the field of water resources. He expressed the view that the solution to the problem can be solved only by coordinating the activities of the countries of the region to improve the methods, mechanisms, technology of transboundary water resources [7; 78-79].

Interstate disputes over the distribution of transboundary water resources in the Central Asian region are being fueled not only by the United States, but also by other countries near and far abroad. An example of this is the September 2012 agreement between the President of Russia and the Kyrgyz government on financing the construction of the Kambarata HPP and equalizing profits. (The contract was terminated in January 2016).

First of all, it is necessary to determine the role and place of the states in the region in these processes. Otherwise, there will be a need for a "arbitration" role of a third state that organizes, directs and oversees these processes. Many articles on water issues in Central Asia, such as A. Kasimov's article "Russia sets itself the task of being the" chief arbiter "in Central Asia," During Medvedev's official visit to Uzbekistan in January 2009, it was stated that the issue should be resolved on the basis of bilateral friendly and good-neighborly rules, but in practice it was opposed to this policy.

It is political shortsightedness not to realize that the countries claiming the "Chief Arbitration" will inevitably have their own interests and will try to strengthen their dominance in the region [6; 33-34].

If we do not achieve balance and compromise, we will not be able to solve this problem and its solution will take many years. Moreover, it is still unknown who will be able to achieve their goal - whether we, the peoples living in this region, or, ultimately, the interests of others will be realized. In this regard, the principle of "divide and rule" - if the well-known trade takes place, we can become a trivial child in the hands of someone [4, 220]. Without escalating these problems, it is necessary to develop the main tasks of developing a system of cooperation and achieving socio-economic and political harmony between the countries of the region in the new millennium.

In general, the water problem in the Central Asian region has become political. Preventing and resolving this problem depends on the countries of the region working together for a common goal. Otherwise, the most dangerous environmental problem in Central Asia will further complicate the Aral Sea crisis. As a result, this process poses a huge threat to the world's ecosystem.

This shows the need to improve the principle of mutual understanding between the countries of Central Asia. Therefore, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev paid special attention to the development of good neighborly, friendly and cooperative relations with all countries of the world, especially with neighboring countries [1; 384], as well as in resolving water shortages between Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. managed to establish a moderate policy. The formation of the concept of raising the neighborly relations to a new level, which is being implemented by the countries of the region, paves the way for solving the problem of water scarcity. "Today, we understand the common priorities of our development and seek a reasonable compromise to address acute regional issues such as borders, water use, transport and trade" [2; 265-266].

In this regard, the members of the Council of Heads of States of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan, agreed on the need to sharply increase the level of regional cooperation in water conservation, management and rational use of transboundary water resources. The adoption of a regional program on the rational use of water resources in Central Asia is seen as a new stage in addressing the problems in the region. The leaders of the countries of the region confirmed that the main goal is to make Central Asia a stable, economically developed and highly developed region through joint efforts [2; 265].

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Methods such as analysis, synthesis, generalization, comparison, induction, deduction, analogy were used in the study.

CONCLUSION.

Based on the above, the following conclusions can be drawn:

First, to systematize the environmental, water and water use policies of Central Asian countries based on the characteristics of the region and to improve advanced environmental innovative technologies;

Second, the formation of an institutional framework for the organization, control and management of processes aimed at preventing environmental problems associated with drought in cooperation with the countries of the region;

Third, systematization of drainage and groundwater transformation by accelerating the process of landscaping of the Aral Sea region and the construction of cost-effective irrigation facilities;

Fourth, the introduction of water-intensive and high-yielding plant varieties in the region and the development of a new program specifically neutralized in the chemical elementalization of agricultural lands;

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Fifth, the region's environmental policy requires the development of a five-year, ten-year and multi-year "road map" based on the experience of developed countries and its integration into international environmental policy based on this program.

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