THE FOREIGN POLICY DOCTRINE OF HARRY TRUMAN IN 1947 AS AN EXAMPLE OF INTERSTATE ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

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The main levers of the economic diplomacy, laid down in 1947 by the doctrine of Harry Truman, continue to remain the basis of the American international politics today. The economic assistance program has become an effective way of the US influence in building a post-war system of international relations.

Only seven decades ago, the United States was in isolation and played a more than secondary role in world politics. On the path to world leadership, the second half of the 20th century was of key importance. The country’s colossal economic power, accumulated by the end of World War II, allowed the United States to make a leap to a world domination. It was during this period that the United States created a global network of international security institutions and structures, involving other countries in them. It was Harry Truman who created all the tools of the Cold War: World Bank, International Monetary Fund, US National Security Council, CIA, NATO, as well as other structures and unions [2, p. 3-64]. These organizations exist today. Therefore, the study of this unique economic phenomenon, which has no analogues in world history, is relevant now.

On March 12, 1947, Harry Truman proclaimed his doctrine, which called on Congress to provide a military and economic assistance to Greece and Turkey for economic stabilization in Europe. In his memoirs, the US president called his message to Congress «the turning point of American foreign policy» [6, p. 106]. «The speech of the US President Harry Truman in 1947 determined the American policy direction in Europe for decades to come» [4]. It was the economic assistance to Greece and Turkey that opened a new stage in US foreign policy [1, p. 3-34]. The researcher A. Moritz claims that the United States...
States defended its strategic interests through political and economic methods, implementing a global foreign policy strategy [3]. «And the fact that the doctrine elements remain in the current US foreign policy approach to European countries is best indicated by the following statement: Greece and Turkey that received the economic assistance back in 1947 are still members of NATO, and the rhetoric of the American establishment in relation to Russia and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has hardly changed» [4]. «But, if at that time it was a question of Germany, Poland, the Balkans, relatively beyond from the Russian core, now the struggle is for Ukraine, Transcaucasia and Central Asia, which largely explains the severity of the Russian reaction to events in Georgia and Ukraine» [5, p. 13-18].

Thus, the goal and objectives laid down in 1947 by the doctrine of Harry Truman, continue to remain the basis of the American economic assistance programs to this day. Analyzing the president’s speech, the fact of the far-sighted consequences of the planned course proposed by Harry Truman is indisputable. There is no doubt that his doctrine has echoes in US foreign policy.

References: