

S.T. Jakubayeva\* , Mubarak Ateeq Sultan Alafreet Alkuwaiti , Hu Haixin 

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan, Almaty,

\*e-mail: jakubayeva.s@gmail.com

## CHINA, IRAN AND TURKEY: NEW PLAYERS IN THE CENTRAL ASIA

The collapse of the Soviet Union led to the creation of a strategic vacuum in Central Asia, paving the way for new players to join the “big game” to extend control and influence over the region’s economically, politically and security potential. China, Iran and Turkey were among the most important players, with overlapping ethnic overlaps. This study aimed to identify the role of Iran, China, and Turkey in Central Asia. The problem of the study is to understand the role of Iran, Turkey and Iran in Central Asia, and what these countries seek to achieve their goals and influence in the region after the collapse of the Soviet Union, which led to the creation of a strategic space in Central Asia paved the way for the accession of new players in the “Great game” to extend control and influence on the potential of this region economically, politically and security.

The results of this study showed that China’s economic penetration helped to curtail American influence in Central Asia, as well as the closure of the US base in Uzbekistan in 2006 and the official call of the Shanghai Organization in June 2006 to close American bases in Central Asia. “Iran’s interests are centered on maintaining relations Effective policy with the Central Asian countries to allow for long-term trade and investment expansion and to help Iran emerge from international isolation and US blockade. Ankara is striving to make Turkey a pipeline for oil and gas from Central Asia and the Middle East to Europe, Nabucco to build a 3,300-km pipeline worth 5.6 billion dollars from Turkey to Western Europe is one of the most important tools for achieving this strategy.

**Key words:** Central Asia, strategic vacuum, strategic zone, investments, international economy, regional policy.

С.Т. Джакубаева\*, Мубарак Атик Султан Алафрит Алькувайти, Ху Хайсинь

Әл-Фараби атындағы Қазақ ұлттық университеті, Қазақстан, Алматы қ.,

\*e-mail: jakubayeva.s@gmail.com

### Қытай, Иран және Түркия: Орталық Азиядағы жаңа акторлар

Кеңес Одағының ыдырауы Орталық Азияда стратегиялық вакуумның пайда болуына алып келді, бұл аймақтың экономикалық, саяси әлеуеті мен қауіпсіздігіне бақылау мен ықпалды кеңейту мақсатында жаңа ойыншылардың «үлкен ойынға» қосылуына мүмкіндік берді. Қытай, Иран және Түркия елдері этникалық құрамы сан қырлы, ең маңызды ойыншылар болды. Бұл зерттеудің мақсаты – Иранның, Түркияның және Иранның Орталық Азиядағы рөлін түсіну, сонымен бірге бұл елдер Кеңес Одағы ыдырағаннан кейін аймақтағы мақсаттарын жүзеге асырып, аймақтағы өз ықпалын күшейтуге тырысады. Бұл өз кезегінде Орталық Азия аймағында экономикалық және саяси және қауіпсіз аймақтың әлеуетін басқаруды және әсерін кеңейту мақсатында Ұлы ойынға қосылған жаңа ойыншылардың бәсекелес алаңына айналған жаңа стратегиялық кеңістіктің пайда болуына жол ашты.

Осы зерттеудің нәтижелері Қытайдың экономикаға енуі Американың Орталық Азиядағы ықпалының төмендеуіне, сондай-ақ 2006 жылы Өзбекстандағы америкалық базаның жабылуына және Шанхай ұйымының 2006 жылғы маусымдағы Орталық Азиядағы америкалық базаларды жабу туралы ресми үндеуін көрсеткенін көрсетті. «Иранның мүдделері қатынастарды қолдауға бағытталған. Орталық Азия елдерімен тиімді саясат, ол сауда мен инвестицияның ұзақ мерзімді кеңеюін қамтамасыз етеді және Иранның халықаралық оқшаулану мен АҚШ-тың блокадасынан шығуына көмектеседі». Анкара Түркияны мұнай мен газ құбырына айналдыруға тырысады. Орталық Азия мен Таяу Шығыстан Еуропаға дейін Набукко Түркиядан Батыс Еуропаға 5,6 миллиард долларлық құны 3,600 шақырымдық құбыр салу осы стратегияны іске асырудың маңызды құралдарының бірі болып табылады.

**Түйін сөздер:** Орталық Азия, стратегиялық вакуум, стратегиялық аймақ, инвестиция, халықаралық экономика, аймақтық саясат.

Джакубаева С.Т.\*, Мубарак Атик Султан Алафрит Алькувайти, Ху Хайсинь

Казахский национальный университет имени аль-Фараби, Казахстан, г. Алматы,  
\*e-mail: jakubayeva.s@gmail.com

### Китай, Иран и Турция: новые игроки в Центральной Азии

Распад Советского Союза привел к созданию стратегического вакуума в Центральной Азии, что позволило новым игрокам присоединиться к «большой игре», чтобы расширить контроль и влияние над экономическим, политическим потенциалом и безопасностью региона. Китай, Иран и Турция были одними из самых важных игроков с этническими перекрытиями. Цель этого исследования состоит в том, чтобы понять роль Ирана, Турции и Ирана в Центральной Азии, а также в том, что эти страны стремятся достичь своих целей и влияния в регионе после распада Советского Союза, что привело к созданию стратегического Пространства в Центральной Азии и проложило путь для присоединения новых игроков к «Великой игре», чтобы расширить контроль и влияние на потенциал этого региона в экономическом, политическом и безопасном плане.

Результаты этого исследования показали, что проникновение Китая в экономику помогло сократить американское влияние в Центральной Азии, а также закрытию американской базы в Узбекистане в 2006 году послужил официальный призыв Шанхайской организации в июне 2006 года закрыть американские базы в Центральной Азии. «Интересы Ирана сосредоточены на поддержании отношений. Эффективная политика со странами Центральной Азии позволяет обеспечить долгосрочное расширение торговли и инвестиций и помочь Ирану выйти из международной изоляции и блокады США». Анкара стремится построить трубопровод для нефти и газа от Центральной Азии и Ближнего Востока до Европы, Nabucco, чтобы построить 3300-километровый трубопровод стоимостью 5,6 миллиардов долларов из Турции в Западную Европу, является одним из наиболее важных инструментов для реализации этой стратегии.

**Ключевые слова:** Центральная Азия, стратегический вакуум, стратегическая зона, инвестиции, международная экономика, региональная политика.

### Introduction

China is now firmly moving to become the world's largest trading empire. What does this mean economically and politically, for America, Europe and the East, such as Russia and India, especially for the Middle East and the Arab countries?, "New Silk Road" or so-called "Abbou" project is by far the most ambitious project of Chinese President Xi Jinping. Construction of a transport link from Asia to Europe: 10,000 km of roads, railway and freight route from west China via Kazakhstan, Ural and Moscow to Europe. The Silk Road Initiative has become a new initiative to connect the continents of the world with trade, the main engine of China's domestic policy and diplomacy. Chinese out Oh and it will seem to be one of the most important determinants of China's attitudes towards the world, including the Arab region and the Middle East, especially during the period of Xi Jinping, the initiator of the initiative, which will continue until 2022.

Economically, China is growing at more than 10% per year. With its increasingly pressing energy needs and high oil and gas prices, Beijing has had to look for cheaper and safer alternatives to meet its needs. The energy resources in Central Asia, which are close to it, have come to realize this dream, but

more trade-offs are needed with Russia, which fears its new strategic partner to contend with control over oil and gas pipelines. At the same time, Central Asia is a major consumer market for Chinese goods. Trade with Central Asia jumped from \$ 1 billion in 1997 to nearly \$ 10 billion in 2006, although the figure is only 1% of China's trade with the world (Arnold J., 2006).

Central Asia now boasts hundreds of large and small enterprises carried out by Chinese in areas such as exploration and construction of power transmission pipelines, road construction and railways.

China bought Petro-Kazakhstan Petrochemical Company for \$ 4.18 billion in 2005 (Arnold, J., Olivier, G. & Arvis, J.F, 2005). China also agreed with Turkmenistan on a 30-year Turkmen gas transfer to China project signed between Beijing and Ashqabat in April 2006. Initial agreements with Uzbekistan and Iran On gas transportation projects to China or even other countries such as Turkmenistan's gas transit project across Afghanistan to Pakistan and India.

Despite these economic motives for China's move towards Central Asia, the political and security aspects of this move cannot be ignored. Beijing has been able to persuade Central Asian countries to put pressure on Uighur opposition activists struggling for greater freedoms in Xinjiang (East Turkistan),

which has been active in Central Asia. Some of these leaders have recently been reinvigorated, human rights.

China's economic penetration has helped curtail US influence in Central Asia, closing down the US base in Uzbekistan in 2006, reviewing the US base lease in Kyrgyzstan and then formally calling for the closure of US bases in Central Asia by the Shanghai Organization in June 2006.

For its part, the Shanghai Organization has successfully attracted Central Asian countries against Western trends that seek to impose their agenda on dictatorships that do not want to submit to Western pressure on human rights and democracy. Central Asian leaders often declare their statements against Western and American criticism from the Chinese capital Beijing. Central Asian countries are trying to find a balance between the various forces in the region to get out of Russian control over the infrastructure of energy transmission lines and create an atmosphere of competition between the big players benefiting the leaders of tyranny in controlling the capabilities of this region away from the noise of democracy and human rights advocates from the West.

Iran is located in the heart of the wealth of the riches of oil and gas, which starts from Kazakhstan to the east and ends in Iraq to the west and begins north of the Caspian Sea to the north of up to the Gulf states in the south, to form the largest stocks of energy hydrocarbons in the world depend on the major economies of the world, especially Europe and Asia, especially Japan and China region India.

Iran's strategic interests seem to be focused on maintaining effective political relations with the Central Asian countries to allow for long-term trade and investment expansion, especially in the energy field. At the same time, these relations help Iran break the international isolation and the American blockade. It seeks Iran to implement this policy through bilateral relations with each country individually as well as in the framework of regional alliances such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation Eco, and more recently through the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, where Iran is seeking to join Chinese support and Rossi, despite what is currently unchallenged difficulties due to US pressure. Both Turkmenistan and Tajikistan enjoy great Iranian interest because of the common border with Turkmenistan and the language and culture shared with Tajikistan (Wastnidge, E., 2016).

Iranian-American conflict is always one of the main reasons why the Central Asian countries to exert close ties with Tehran have shaped, and Iran

does not have the means necessary to play in the Central Asian stadium with top players such as Russia, China and the United States of America, and perhaps this is pushing Tehran to search On secondary roles in the new Chinese-Russian axis within the Shanghai Organization and demanded full membership in it. In the foreseeable future, there is no prospect of a breakthrough in Iran's relations with Central Asia, despite some projects aimed at linking Iran to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan through northern Afghanistan, as well as trying to export Turkmen gas to world markets via Iran.

Ankara was convinced that these republics were convinced of the Turkish model of governance and Turkey was a link with the Western European and American and even with the Islamic world. This dream did not materialize, however, as the Central Asian countries moved forward in their own way, and the Conference of the Turkish States remained a formal framework for cultural matters. Turkey has been more successful in dealing with Azerbaijan for various reasons. The first is the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, which Turkey strongly stood with Azerbaijan, giving Ankara a chance to find a foothold in the Caucasus and work with US companies to transfer Azeri oil to Europe via the Baku-Ceyhan \$ 3 billion Oil is pumped into world markets in May 2006 (Asian Development Bank, 2011).

Turkey, whose economic growth is about 10 percent a year, is looking for new sources of energy to meet its industrial needs, currently mainly dependent on Russia, Iran and other countries such as Algeria and Nigeria.

Turkey's gas needs are expected to reach 1.4 billion cubic meters over the next four years. Ankara sees the cheapest of these resources as the energy found in Central Asia and the Caspian Sea. Turkish efforts are therefore aimed at overcoming all obstacles in this way. The move to make Turkey a pipeline for oil and gas from Central Asia and the Middle East to Europe Perhaps Nabco project to build a pipeline of 3,300 km and \$ 5.6 billion from Turkey to Western Europe is one of the most important tools to achieve this strategy (Asian Development Bank, 2016). Turkey is working on similar projects to transport Turkmen gas to Europe Through Turkey and other joint ventures with Iran to connect Europe to Central Asia and China via railway network.

Turkey is also active in the field of education and culture in Central Asia through a series of Turkish schools and universities. There are also many Central Asian students studying at Turkish

universities as part of the Turkish President Turgut Ozal's plan to support Turkish identity and culture in the Central Asian Republics. Central Asia appears not to be a priority on Turkey's strategic agenda as much as its attempts to join the European Union and its interest in the Iraqi file.

The big strategic move also needs a lot of human and material potential that may not be available to Turkey so that it can play alongside Russia, which is trying to maintain its traditional control over the region and China, which is progressing well into energy sources to the Caspian Sea border. Despite all the obstacles, the golden opportunity of Turkey to play the role of the link between the Western and Islamic cultures and the Asian and European continents remains open, which is the eye of the Turks in the near future.

#### **Justification of the choice of article and goal and objectives**

The collapse of the Soviet Union created a golden opportunity for Iran to break the siege imposed on it by moving towards the Central Asian countries and finding common ground with them economically and culturally away from the slogans of the Islamic revolution, which has long been a big concern among the friends of Iran before its enemies. Iran shares with Turkmenistan common border and an extension of ethnic Turkmen in Iran and engaged Kazakhstan in the Caspian Sea are involved as well as Tajikistan language and generally share with Central Asia in the floor of the Islamic religion and history despite the fact that Iran is Shiite, unlike the Muslims of Central with the Sunni majority (Asia Arvis, J., Carruthers, R., Smith, G. and Willoughby, C., 2011).

The new Chinese policy toward Central Asia appeared in 1969 when Beijing moved to find a formal framework to link it with the region. The SCO concept came in cooperation with Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, which Uzbekistan joined in 2001. It was clear that Beijing was using Russia's influence to move towards Central Asia While Moscow was looking for a strong ally in Asia to stop the European-American march towards its areas of influence.

After the 1991 Soviet collapse, Ankara did not hesitate to move eastward to revive the lost Turkish dream of forming a strong Turkish alliance with Muslim republics in the Caucasus and Central Asia with Turkish ethnicity. This was represented by the visit of Turkish President Turgut Ozal to those countries and their recognition and the holding of the first Turkish-speaking countries' conference in Istanbul in late 1992.

The problem of the study is to understand the role of Iran, Turkey and Iran in Central Asia, and what these countries seek to achieve their goals and influence in the region after the collapse of the Soviet Union, which led to the creation of a strategic space in Central Asia paved the way for the accession of new players in the "Great game" to extend control and influence on the potential of this region economically, politically and security.

The main **goal** and purpose of this study is to try to identify the role of China, Turkey and Iran play in the Central Asia. For this purpose the following **objectives** were created:

To analyze the role of Iran, China and Turkey increasingly contribute to the adjustment of the geopolitical situation in Central Asia.

To reveal do Iran, China and Turkey hope to invest more influence in the region in terms of economic trade?

To determine Iran, China and Turkey's political and religious influence pose a threat to the Central Asian countries and Afghanistan, as some local political leaders claim, and some local and Western analysts opinion.

Revealing what is the new Silk Road, who prepared it, how it was designed and why?

Analyzing what are the most daring economic and social reforms that revealed by China.

To determine the grand initiative launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping in the summer of 2013 across Asia, Africa and Europe.

#### Scientific research methodology.

Theoretical and methodological basis of this article is the theory of mutually beneficial cooperation and geopolitical theory. Also neoclassical economic theory "pull-push" factors of the macro-economic level. In writing the article used by the complex scientific and special methods of political science. System and method of use of an analytical approach allowed to substantiate the relationship of economic processes and economic cooperation of China, Iran and Turkey in the context of the adoption of the new China strategy "One belt-one road.

The methodology chosen to maximize the full disclosure formulated tasks. We used a set of practical methods offered by the theory of international relations, in conjunction with the historical-comparative method and system approach.

In this study also were used scientific methods and techniques: scientific abstraction, grouping, qualitative expert estimates, quantitative assessment, comparative analysis and synthesis. In addition, was used the method of observation in the using

of printed media materials, articles in websites and social networks.

As for the importance of this initiative and the future implications it may have on the countries of the region, both economically and politically, Al Jazeera Studies Center has prepared a file entitled “The New Silk Road: Views and Interests”, consisting of five intensive research papers. The visions of the main countries in the region, especially the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey. The Silk Road is designed to revive and develop the historic Silk Road through the construction of natural gas and oil pipelines, the construction of road networks, railways, power lines and the Internet. , The new Silk Road consists of a road and a sea road (Fatima, Q & Zafar, S, 2014).

Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States are the most important stations in the new Silk Road, announced by China in 2000 and 133. The Belt and Road Initiative aims to develop and establish trade routes and economic corridors connecting more than 60 countries. While taking a political dimension, for example, if one wanted to analyze the US-Iranian crisis, we must look at what is happening in the region of the transfer of the state of conflict from the Syrian and Iraqi arena to the Turkish and Iranian arena, and this relates to China’s attempts to build a strategic line and strategic partnership known as the new Silk Road from the east towards Europe has passed through Iran and Turkey, and this line has depended on what Iran calls the axis of resistance, but now the strategies have changed and China and the European Union are betting on Iran and Turkey to establish this geo-strategic partnership. The Middle East depends on not extending this partnership and this line, and if China expands to the west, the US and Russia will lose influence in favor of China and even some European countries, especially Germany and France (Dehghan, S. K., 2017).

The obstacles lie in the competition between India and China. There are some historical facts that cast a shadow over the interests of the present time. The Silk Road, for example, catches the hearts of the world. He points to a network of roads connecting China, India, Central Asia, Persia, Byzantium and Rome since history. Traders, pilgrims, teachers and travelers of all nationalities have been following these roads and exchanging ideas and goods. These roads were not land-locked. They used to travel the Indian-Chinese sea routes across Southeast Asia by land and sea as well (Deutsche Bahn AG, 2016). China’s ambitious policy of expanding its markets and dominating international trade puts it in a

confrontation not only with traditional adversaries like the United States and Europe, but also with political allies such as Russia. But competition with Russia, unlike the West, is confined to a regional context against the backdrop of contradictions within the Eurasian Economic Community, while trade confrontation with the United States takes on a global character and sometimes transcends the economic conflict to the point of waving the military option in the disputed areas between China and US allies in the region (Denoon, D. B.H., 2015) . Between the two confrontations, Europe is trying to coax China against the background of the trade conflict with the Trump administration, but on the condition that this cooperation is not at the expense of Europe’s unity, as Germany always does.

Despite the Chinese threat, which is recognized by the US National Security Strategy, several US economists defend the relationship with Beijing. America and China share common interests. The transformation of economic and financial considerations without a direct confrontation between the parties. China is the largest creditor of the United States. But China’s “Silk Road” threatens US superiority. The situation is complicated. China is both a partner and a rival to Washington. At the same time, the economic corridor between China and Pakistan can be regarded as one of several projects within the theory of the belt and the road, from which China aims to become the new and only professor of the world. The Gulf countries will have to worry about China’s successive projects first and then China and the United States then.

China is expected to become the world’s largest economy by 2050, accounting for about 20% of world GDP, while Saudi Arabia will be ranked first in the Arab world and 13 in the world, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers’ professional services report. The report includes the company’s forecast for the 32 most powerful economies in the world by 2050, which together now account for 85% of GDP. The report said the world economy could double its current size by 2050, thanks to broad development policies. China seems to be seeking a new roadmap to rebalance the domestic and international levels, especially on the economic and social level, in order to achieve development breakthroughs and a brighter future in the short term, which could set China’s global competitive edge in the next decade.

#### **Results and discussion.**

**Collision with America.** Chinese state media have sharply criticized US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo after making remarks in Latin America warning of the dangers of seeking Chinese

investment. Pompeo was on a tour of Latin America where he met with the presidents of Panama and Mexico. “When China comes, it is not always good for your compatriots,” Pompeo told reporters during the tour. “When they come up with deals that look very good and unbelievably, that’s really the case,” Pompeo said Thursday in Mexico City.

In an article on Monday, the China Daily described Pompeo’s comments as “arrogant and antagonistic” and said his criticisms of the China Belt Initiative and China’s ambitious infrastructure path meant that other countries were in a false debt trap. Chinese President Xi Jinping is putting forward the plan to expand trade routes along a road linking Asia, Europe and Africa, where he will inject credits into road construction, railways and seaports in a \$ 1 trillion initiative to build infrastructure.

China is keen to involve Latin American countries as well, although the initiative is facing increasing criticism because some countries such as Sri Lanka are burdened with debt and have difficulty repaying. Pompeo said the United States welcomed competition from China but criticized the lack of transparency in its state-owned enterprises “The fact is simply that China has invested in regions of the world in ways that have made countries worse and must not be,” he said in remarks he made in Panama. This is Never the case. The state-run Global Times said in a separate editorial on Monday that Pompeo’s comments were “insulting” and added that the United States was trying to “wedge the wedge” in the growing relations between China and Latin

Moreover, the nation fears that its debts will increase to the point of concern for the International Monetary Fund and push some countries to hesitate. In the summer of 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping launched his giant initiative to build ports and roads And railways across Asia, Africa and Europe at a cost of tens of billions of dollars. Five years later, the “new Silk Road” raises these criticisms and concerns, accusing Beijing of using its financial power to expand its influence. Jinping said on Monday that the project was “not a Chinese club” Its mutual benefits. However, if the project involves theoretically some 70 countries that are supposed to contribute to investments together, many projects are actually funded by Chinese enterprises. In the five years, the cumulative direct investment of the Asian giant in the countries concerned has exceeded \$ 60 billion, Which Chinese companies signed more than 500 billion dollars, according to Beijing announced, and these projects expose countries to financial risks.

Malaysia has just canceled three projects, including the construction of \$ 20 billion railway lines, saying it could not finance it because of its \$ 250 billion debt. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said “we will not be able to pay,” which happened to Sri Lanka, \$ 1.4 billion from Beijing to develop one of its ports, but was forced in late 2017 to give China full control of the port for 99 years. China attaches “great importance” to its relations with Pakistan and believes a key economic project will be successful, Chinese President Xi Jinping told Pakistani army chief General Qamar Javid Bajwa days after a Pakistani minister raised concerns about the plans of China’s Silk Road Initiative, A Pakistani official has been visiting China, an ally of Pakistan, since Prime Minister Imran Khan’s new government took office in August. His visit comes a week after the visit of the top diplomat in China to Islamabad. Pakistan has cemented relations with China in recent years after its relations with the United States have strained. Bajwa may hope during his visit to Beijing to ease any Chinese concerns from comments by Pakistan’s Trade Minister Abdul Razzaq Dawood, in which he proposed suspension of one-year projects in the China- Which is part of Pakistan as part of the China Belt and Road Initiative, which includes the revival of the ancient Silk Road (Cornell, S. E., 2003).

“China always attaches great importance to China-Pakistan relations,” the Chinese president was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua news agency on Thursday during a meeting on Wednesday with Bajwa that the two countries have a “solid friendship”. “As long as there is great mutual trust and concrete measures, the construction of the China-Pakistan economic corridor will succeed and benefit the peoples of the two countries,” said the Chinese president. Has invested about \$ 60 billion in Pakistan in the infrastructure associated with the Belt and Road project.

The port has been severely damaged by fierce competition from the most profitable oil pipelines built or renovated between Russia and Kazakhstan, especially since the end of the last decade, as well as between China and western Kazakhstan. After more than 14 million tons of crude oil crossed annually through the port of Aktau until the middle of the past decade, the movement has declined significantly in recent years. “This was an old port in the port,” said Uraz Kubtilov, A tragic situation with dilapidated equipment, but today the modern machines began to make their way “but the movement is weak.” The number of employees at the port of Aktau is only 500 now, after 700 years ago. This situation reflects the economic difficulties facing Kazakhstan, a country

rich in hydrocarbons but paying a heavy bill due to the decline in oil prices in 2014.

### Conclusion

With China's new Communist leadership showing more flexible and bold leadership after taking office, China has unveiled a group of boldest economic and social reforms in nearly three decades, including a one-child policy easing and more market liberalization to boost the stability of the world's second-largest economy. These big changes have helped dispel doubts about the leadership's desire for the reforms necessary to give the economy a new boost as signs of a slow three-decade rapid growth began to show signs of slowing. At the same time, however, other analysts have speculated that the task of implementing effective reforms is difficult, as they must quickly get through their hard work locally and internationally. Although the scene is ripe for gradual change through flexibility in politics and decisions, The attitude of the party leadership comes at a time when it is launching a wide campaign against corruption at all levels of

the administrative system. Therefore, most analysts believe that effective economic and social terms can not be achieved unless the Open So that these reforms improve the system of punishment and prevention of corruption and build a clean political world.

Kazakhstan with a population of 18 million, plans to reduce its reliance on raw materials by upgrading its status as a commercial transit point. In this regard, the port of Aktau hopes to acquire a share of the growth of Chinese activities as Beijing launched a project called «New Silk Road» worth more than one billion dollars, which aims to build infrastructure of roads, railways and marine facilities around the world to facilitate exchanges with China. Within five years, under the initiative launched in 2013, China has spent more than \$ 70 billion in direct investment in various countries, according to China's Ministry of Commerce. The contractual value of new projects signed by Chinese companies with these countries exceeds \$ 500 billion. Kazakhstan has high hopes for these projects, which Chinese President Xi Jinping said during a visit to the country in 2013.

### References

- Arnold, J. (2006), *Best Practices in Corridor Management*, World Bank, Washington D.C.
- Arnold, J., Olivier, G. & Arvis, J.F (2005). *Best Practices in Corridor Management*. World Bank Report No 45128, World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Arvis, J., Carruthers, R., Smith, G. and Willoughby, C. (2011) *Connecting Landlocked Developing Countries to Markets: Trade Corridors in the 21st Century*, *Directions in Development*, World Bank, Washington D.C.
- Asian Development Bank (2016) *Unlocking the Potential of Railways: A Railway Strategy for CAREC (2017–2030)*, Asian Development Bank, Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC), Endorsed at the 15th CAREC Ministerial Conference Islamabad, Pakistan, 26 October 2016. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/227176/carec-railway-strategy-20172030.pdf> [viewed 30 October 2017]
- Asian Development Bank (2011), *Armenia's Transport Outlook*, Transport Sector Master Plan, Asian Development Bank, Philippines. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/28298/armenia-transport-outlook.pdf> [viewed 15 October 2017]
- Cornell, S. E (2003). *Regional Politics in Central Asia: the Changing Roles of Iran, Turkey, Pakistan and China*. India and Central Asia: Building Linkages in an Age of Turbulence, New Delhi: SAPRA Foundation.
- Denoon, D. B.H. (2015) *China, The United States, and the Future of Central Asia: U.S.-China Relations*, Vol. I., New York University Press, New York and London.
- Dehghan, S. K. (2017), "China's Silk Road revival steams ahead as cargo train arrives in Iran", *The Guardian*, 15 February. <<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/feb/15/chinas-silk-road-revivalsteams-ahead-as-cargo-train-arrives-in-iran>> [viewed 20 September 2017]
- Deutsche Bahn AG (2016) *Trans-Eurasian land bridge – a transport alternative*, Deutsche Bahn AG. [http://www.deutschebahn.com/en/group/im\\_blickpunkt/11887130/20160318\\_china\\_en.html](http://www.deutschebahn.com/en/group/im_blickpunkt/11887130/20160318_china_en.html) [viewed 20 September 2017]
- Fatima, Q & Zafar, S (2014). *New Great Game: Players, Interests, Strategies and Central Asia*. *South Asian Studies A Research Journal of South Asian Studies* Vol. 29, No.2, July December 2014, pp. 623-652.
- Wastnidge, E (2016). *Central Asia in the Iranian geopolitical imagination*. Open University, Department of Politics and International Studies, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom .Veruscript, Unit 41, Pall Mall Deposit, 124-128 Barlby Road, London, W10 6BL, UK