



American Relations with Kazakhstan during 2001-2012: An Analytical Study

Dr. Faisal Javaid
Assistant Professor
Department of International Relations
FUUAST, Karachi – Pakistan
faisal.javaid@fuuat.edu.pk

Dr. Shahnawaz Muhammad Khan
Assistant Professor
Department of International Relations
FUUAST, Karachi – Pakistan
shahnawaz.khan@fuuast.edu.pk

Dr. Uzma Siraj
Assistant Professor
Department of Pakistan Studies
Federal Urdu University Islamabad
uzma.siraj@fuuast.edu.pk

ABSTRACT

The rise of Central Asian states got special attention from world powers due to their potential energy resources and strategic importance. Among the regional states, Kazakhstan is playing a vital role in worldwide politics because of its geopolitical position and richness in oil and gas assets. It is the leading landlocked state in the world and regionally the most developed nation. When the United States announced “War on Terror” after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre, all the Central Asian states strictly condemned those attacks and then became significant for American regional politics, since their borders attached to Afghanistan. Kazakhstan welcomed the US stance and showed cooperation with the U.S. against its War on Terror. Since 1991, U.S. and Kazakhstan collaborated with each other in several fields, especially for the removal of nuclear arms. This research paper analyzes American relations and policies with Kazakhstan in the domain of politics, economics, and security. The study was based on qualitative method. It finds that American relations with Kazakhstan are focused on the promotion of a democratic form of government, policies regarding oil and gas pipelines and weakening the Kazakh dependence on Russia.

Keywords: *America, Kazakhstan, War on Terror, Central Asia, Russia, China.*



INTRODUCTION

The relations between the United States and Kazakhstan had been established after the downfall of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). After recognizing it in 1992, the United States concentrated on Kazakhstan due to worries about the remaining Soviet atomic weapons. America wanted the care of fissile material and signed an agreement with Kazakhstan to remove former Soviet nuclear weapons in December 1993 (Nichol, 2010). In this scenario, the Political and military cooperation between the two states expanded, especially since 2001.

Kazakhstan had turned into the most developed nation in Central Asia over the previous decade as a consequence of its quick oil-driven development and pro-active foreign policy. Kazakhstan's importance to the United States' foreign policy for the Central Asian region has extended beyond energy politics. The United States remained dedicated to its dialog of the Energy Partnership with Kazakhstan, along with their commission for Joint Science and Technology. Moreover, Kazakhstan was the nation in Central Asia with which the United States kept up an effective working Strategic Partnership (Starr, 2014, pp. 11-12).

It has been observed that Washington and Astana were having major economic partnerships owing to the extensive engagement of American oil companies in Kazakhstan. In view of the importance of oil exports for both sides and in particular, the importance of American investment and technology to the development of the Kazakh oil resources, the two sides had every reason to avoid conflict and confrontation with one another. In reality, the promotion of a democratic form of government was the chief American interest in Kazakhstan. The relationship had always been characterized by a certain ambiguity which was human rights and the rule of law, and primarily related to Kazakhstan's development as a democratic state.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The study has several clearly defined goals which will mainly focus on American-Kazakh relations. Thus, the study will emphasis to attain these objectives;

1. To find out the strategic importance of Kazakhstan in the region toward America;
2. To discuss American political, economic and security interests in Kazakhstan;
3. To investigate American political, economic and security relations with Kazakhstan;
4. To examine American policies toward Kazakhstan.

LITERATURE REVIEW



American Interests in Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan was a strategically important state in the region toward America. U.S. interests in Kazakhstan were to maintain and ensure the growth of the country as a safe, stable and democratic state. Kazakhstan remained important to American interests as a prominent economic and political power in the region (Mankoff, 2013). The United States wanted Kazakhstan to be a regional leader in security, energy, and governance issues (Coffey, 2017). After criticism of the United States regarding the Andijan unrest in May 2005, Uzbekistan had closed its airbase for Americans. Then America shifted its policy towards Kazakhstan, and it became the most important regional partner (U.S. Department of State, 2005). Kazakhstan, as a secular state, having acknowledgment of ISIS threat showed interest to cooperate with the United States to stop the instability in this region from extremist forces. As it also has a good background for cooperation with U.S. over nuclear non-proliferation. Kazakhstan is an energy-rich country and a significant strategic player in the world, having a sizeable GDP in the region. The U.S. and its allies have enough opportunities for investment and trade, especially in the energy sector of Kazakhstan (Coffey, 2017).

American relations with Kazakhstan

Political Relations

Both countries established their embassies in 1992 (Martirosyan, 2005, p-67). Kazakhstan was a vital power in this region due to its topographical area, extensive domain (the ninth biggest nation by region, the surmised size of Western Europe), plentiful natural assets, and economic development. It is likewise a key intersection of the world, sitting as it does between Russia, China, and India and inside striking separation of the harried allies, Iran and Afghanistan. Since independence, Nursultan Nazarbayev, one of the great pioneers of the previous USSR had been the president of Kazakhstan till 20 March 2019. He was declared the “leader of the nation” and was also granted the right for policymaking after retirement and immunity from prosecution (Nurshayeva, 2010). Kazakhstan's officials seek equivalent relations with all the extraordinary powers which have engagements in the territory. The U.S. was unmistakably not ready to diminish its impact in Kazakhstan. China and Russia were also a major player in the region, and they were cooperating against America. Kazakh President, Nazarbayev adjusted relations in the middle of Russia and the United States by sending low-cost oil to Russia and turning into a vital part of Washington's war against terrorism (Wagner, 2011).



During Kazakh President's tour in 1994 to the United States, he and the then U.S. President marked an Agreement on Democratic Corporation and Kazakh-Govt.'s commitments for economic development and human rights were recognized and during his December 2001 and September 2006 tours, Kazakh President rehashed these promises in combined proclamations with the U.S. President (Nichol, 2009, p-16). Both states confirmed the imperativeness of vote-based improvement and were focused on quickening Kazakhstan's endeavors for establishing a system that put its residents in the political methodology, for example, an autonomous media, nearby government toward oneself, and decisions regarded free and reasonable by International Standards. Two legislatures were signatories to worldwide human rights agreements and basic participation associations whose objective was to help popular government and human rights, including the OSCE. The U.S. helped the endeavors to advance the vote-based system, reinforce religious opportunities, and support common society in Kazakhstan (Bush, 2006, p-173).

After Kazakhstan's freedom, both nations have created a colossal mutual association. Washington looked to participate with Kazakhstan in order to achieve several strategic objectives and, to eliminate all Soviet weapons located on Kazakhstan's territory, to ensure American participation in the development of hydrocarbon resources, and to channel the transportation of these commodities over routes that Washington deemed in its own best interest (Rumer, 2015,-pp. 43-44). After 9/11, the relationship deepened in the areas of counter-terrorism, vitality extraction, and logistical participation in the war in Afghanistan. Washington considered Astana a solid accomplice, having effectively underpinned the nation's candidature for the administration of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in 2010 (Wagner, 2011).

United States supported Kazakhstan with USD 2.05 billion (included all kinds of support), through 1992 to 2010 and a vast piece of United States help has backed Comprehensive "Threat Reduction projects" (Nichol, 2013, p-23). In March 2010, Kazakhstan and the United States dispatched the new arrangement of their respective collaboration the "Component of two-sided counsels" on political and security participation, including counter-narcotics and counter-terrorism, tenet of law, human rights and education (Kazakhstan-US Relations. (n.d).)

The color revolutions were aspiring for the replacement of old ruling elites that took place in Georgia (2004), Ukraine (2005) Kyrgyzstan (2005) and Uzbekistan (2005). They were mainly supported by Washington, but eventually declining American position (Rywkin, 2010, pp. 93-102). The Difficulties which all NGOs, foreign and local, faced in Kazakhstan especially since those incidents reflected Kazakhstan's growing concern



about the possible U.S. backed color revolutions. The consolidation of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in which Kazakhstan was a member and its unanimous demand in 2005 for U.S. military withdrawal from Central Asia, including Kazakhstan, clearly indicated a growing concern among Kazakh leaders about U.S. objectives in their countries and a growing interest in expanding China and Russia relations (Peimani, 2009, p-137).

The United States and Kazakhstan signed a number of agreements and MoUs, after several bilateral officials' visits, on nuclear security and nonproliferation, trade and investment, military and security, counterterrorism, energy, health, and education, etc. America also launched Annual Bilateral Consultations (ABCs) in 2009 for Central Asian states and started strategic partnership relationships (Umarov, 2014). In February 2012, their relationships have evolved toward the level of a vital organization dialog by changing the two-sided Annual Bilateral Consultation (ABC) into a Strategic Partnership Commission. The initial gathering occurred in Washington in April 2012, in which financial, political and investigative employed to examine arrangements for mutual ventures (Nichol, 2013, p-3). It concurred that United States Secretary of State and Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan would co-seat the Strategic Partnership Dialog. (Kazakhstan-US Relations. (n.d.)) Its second gathering was hung on July 9, 2013. The colossal dialogs on respective and territorial issues in the Strategic Partnership Dialog incorporated the accompanying: Afghanistan and Regional Integration, Nuclear Security and Nonproliferation, Security-Cooperation, Development and Democracy, Trade, Energy and Investment, Technology and Science, People to People Contacts (Office of the Spokesperson, U.S. State Department).

Unites States upheld the movement of the U.S. Democracy Commission to create a system of equitable changes, with the full interest of all non-legislative associations and political gatherings. The reason for this system was to recompense to Kazakhstani non-administrative, non-business associations for particular undertakings that upheld the improvement of vote-based establishments in Kazakhstan. It was identified with building vote-based foundations; to help the formation of NGOs that centered advancing democracy, for example, lawful changes, women's rights, and encouraging a solid and free media and so forth (Kazinform News Agency, 2014).

The democracy issue has strained Kazakhstan-American relations on both sides. On the Kazakh side, there has been a general suspicion of American democracy promoting efforts, NGOs and activists of human rights in the country pose a threat. On the American side, there has been frustration regarding Kazakhstan's lack of democratic reform, its human rights violations, and its inconsistency on contracts with foreign commercial



entities, particularly American oil companies (Roberts, 2012, p-1). Over the last twenty years, these factors did not strain relations to an extent that threatened the two countries' overall positive relationship, but they had limited that relationship and prevented it from blossoming into a sustainable long-term partnership. Kazakhstan demonstrated the following human rights problems; restrictions on political gathering, the right to speak freely, religious gathering, the press and affiliation, confinements on the exercises of nongovernmental associations, confinement on nationals' rights to change their administration, prisoner and detainee misuse, unfortunate jail conditions, military initiation that prompted demises, isolation and brutality against women, human trafficking and societal separation, pervasive defilement, particularly in law implementation and the legal framework (United States Department of State, 2013 April 19).

Human Rights Action Plan of Kazakhstan (2009-2012) was a merged system of cement steps in the development of legislature and practices to secure human rights and the instruction of the populace in regard to human rights. It was endorsed by the Kazakh President and making a positive motion in the advancement of the nation's components for the insurance of human rights on 5 May 2009 (United Nations Development Programme Kazakhstan, 2009). U.S. President swayed Kazakhstan to completely actualize this Plan (House, W, 2010). In March 2013, a gathering of Kazakh NGOs reported that the administration had generally neglected to satisfy a National Human Rights Action Plan. This document expressed that while a couple of suggestions have been executed, the four-year period has seen the lessened opportunity of affiliation, discourse, and religion get-together and political cooperation (Nichol, 2013, p-10). The U.S. stayed dynamic on a full cluster of human rights worries. With financing from the American Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor propelled a preparation program for human right shields that would manufacture the limit of human rights activists to screen and archive the human right circumstance in Kazakhstan (U.S. State Department, Diplomacy in Action. 2004, p-134).

Economic Relations

America's main interests in Kazakhstan were safeguarded the uranium and nuclear disarmament and also concern Caspian natural resources (Ivascenkova, 2011, p-93). Both States continued cooperation in the energy sector with regard to oil and nuclear energy. Kazakhstan was a real supplier of energy. It was among the main ten oil makers and was likewise the world's biggest maker and exporter of uranium for tranquil, atomic vitality purposes. Kazakhstan was a decent and deliberately critical companion for the United States (US Kazakhstan Relations, 2013). Fuel supply was imperative for building a piece



of two-sided relationship. As the Soviet Union started to break down, the United States' energy partners took what, at the time, was a financial and a political hazard by putting resources into oil and gas advancement in Kazakhstan.

In 2002, pioneers of the American-Kazakh conceded to the formation of the American-Kazakh Joint Energy Partnership Commission (JEPC). The partnership held in Astana in 2009, they consented to keep buckling energy productivity, clean energy innovations, expansion of energy sources, advancement of territorial electric- power exchange, furthermore change of the administrative environment to encourage interest in these ranges (Thu, 2010, p-60).

Somewhere around 1992 and 2010, the United States gave generally \$2.05 billion to specialized help and help for investment in Kazakhstan. The projects were intended to advance business sector change, to secure an establishment for prosperous, open and to address security issues and equitable society (Nichol, 2013, p-23). Meanwhile, in 1993, the United States had furnished Kazakhstan with technical backing in the fields of privatization, financial and money related strategy and business law with the mean to help Kazakhstan to reinforce its monetary changes and completely coordinate into the world business framework (Thu, 2010, p-58). United States' arrangement consideration seemed to move more to Kazakhstan as the most critical United States' "accomplice" in the locale." Conversely, from 2006-2010, Kazakhstan was obviously the top beneficiary of getting military and police support which was almost USD 260 million (Resnick, 2013).

Kazakhstan has the second biggest store and the second biggest oil generation among the previous Soviet republics (Kazakhstan, 2013, p-1). At the end of 2012, Kazakhstan had proven oil reserves of 30 billion barrels (BBL) and it amounted to 1.8% of the world's total reserves (BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2013). Proven reserves of Natural gas were 45.7 trillion cubic feet or 0.7 percent of World's total reserves (BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2013, p-6). Kazakhstan's has two noteworthy seaward oil fields in its segment of the Caspian Maritime, Kurmangazy and Kashagan, which were evaluated to cover no less than 14 billion barrels of improvable stores and about 80 percent of gas reserves were located in the four fields of Kashagan, Tengiz, Karachaganak and Imashevskoe (Kazakhstan, 2013, pp. 4-10).

Regarding energy-transportation participation, the United States vowed to help Kazakhstan for looking alternate courses to convey supply energy assets worldwide. From one perspective, American gigantic organizations, for example, Chevron and Exxon Mobil joined hands in creating the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) complex



with accomplices including Russia. The development of the CPC and advancement of the Kazakhstan Caspian Transport System task offered the likelihood of getting expanded oil out of the Caspian Basin into world markets (Kubicek, 2013, pp. 175-176). The main American aims focused on construction oil and gas corridors that dodge Russia. In spite of numerous designing and monetary difficulties inherent in the building of the oil pipeline through Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC), it was finished in May 2006. Then again, keeping in mind the end goal to interruption the Russian rule in transferring the regional oil and gas stream abroad, American energy organizations have proactively upheld the administration strategy to develop the BTC pipeline which skirted Russia (India, 2010, p-42). An agreement for the Nabucco gas pipeline was signed in July 2009 for providing gas from Central Asia; America showed her concerns about the involvement of Iran (Endicott, 2009, pp. 4-11).

A bilateral Investment Contract and an Agreement on the Avoidance of Dual Taxation between the United States and Kazakhstan have been set up since 1994, and 1996, respectively (IBP, 2009, p-27). More essentially, American private organizations have put an additional \$20 billion in Kazakhstan amid the most recent two decades. Many United States' corporations were working in Kazakhstan, through their immediate clear ventures surpassing \$15 billion. The fundamental ventures have been in oil and gas, business administrations, electrical energy areas, and telecommunications (Weitz, 2013, pp. 11-14).

The two nations recognized monetary and business collaboration as an imperative piece of relations, noting the increasing interests of U.S. organizations to execute joint undertakings in Kazakhstan. The United States was one of the biggest and quickest developing exchange accomplices of Kazakhstan. Exchange turnover volume between the US and Kazakhstan added up to \$2.5 billion amid 2013. United States' exports from Kazakhstan generally have been consisting of equipment of transport, electronics, synthetic items, metal merchandise, food, horticultural items, and supplies, while imports were minerals and concoction items, oil and steel items (U.S.-Kazakhstan Trade Facts). The U.S. gave careful consideration to energy collaboration. The main positions in Kazakhstan's business were imprisoned by such American organizations as Texaco, Kerr-McGee/Oryx, Exxon Mobil, Chevron, and ConocoPhillips. The vicinity of U.S. organizations was essentially understood in all huge ventures, for example, AGIP KCO, Tenghizchevroil (TCO), Karachaganak Integrated Organization, Caspian Pipeline Consortium, and so forth (Kazakhstan-US Relations. (n.d).)

Security Relations



James Baker (The former Secretary of State of America) went to Almaty to meet with President Nazarbayev and made strategic relations between two nations in December 1991 (Olcott, 2010). The essential United States security engagement in Kazakhstan amid 1990 continued the protection of atomic, synthetic, and organic arsenal from the previous Soviet Union. Kazakhstan indicated initiative when it denied atomic weapons in 1993. In the security domain, the United States furnished Kazakhstan with significant economic support to kill its atomic warheads, weapons-grade materials, and supporting transportation (Dunn, 2009, p-3). United States and Kazakhstan also marked Cooperative Threat Reduction consent in December 1993, to destroy and devastate the 104 SS-18 rockets and storehouses in Kazakhstan (Giragosian, 2006, p-141). Between 1993 and 1995, with assistance from the Americans, Kazakhstan submitted all Kazakh atomic weapons and their materials to Russia that were later destroyed. Moreover, Kazakhstan exchanged a large portion of a huge amount of weapon-grade uranium to the United States in 1994 and turned into an atomic free nation. The United States had helped the Kazakhstan government via closed 181 atomic test shafts that were finished in May 2000. Kazakhstan had signed, in 1992, 1993, 1994 and 2001 respectively, the START Treaty and the atomic nonproliferation Treaty, Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) (Kassymova, 2012, pp.194-196). The U.S. used \$240 million to help Kazakhstan, under the CTR platform, in taking out weapons of mass decimation and weapons of mass devastation related transportation (IBP, 2009, p-27). Kazakhstan has been applauded for her accomplishments by President Obama at both Nuclear Security Summits in 2010 and 2012 for disposing of weapons. The foundations of Kazakhstan-United States relations had on security and non-expansion; however, these weren't the main parts of the relationship (U.S. State Department, 2014).

The United States had made an arrangement of moves to captivate Central Asia and upgrade military-to-military collaboration. The premise of the American-Kazakh army and guard collaboration was signed on the MoU and Collaboration in the area of Military and Defense Relationships among two states on 14 February 1994, which was to include dialog on defense principle, preparing, and budgeting. An ensuing understanding in 1997 extended United States' military participation with Kazakhstan to incorporate atomic security and defense conversion help (Kazakhstan-US Relations. (n.d).)

The NATO's Partnership for Peace Program (PfP) in 1995 helped as a main station for the American armed appointment in the region of Central Asia and as a discouragement of impact or obstruction from the conceivably undermining territorial forces of China, Iran, and Russia (Giragosian, 2004, p-48). The Organization effectively backed the nation



in a few ranges, from against terrorism measures and traditional security to characteristic fiasco reaction and relocation (Tanrisever, 2013, pp. 164-466). Kazbrig was a full detachment in Kazakhstan which established a framework for Kazakhstan's backing in the United States driven intrusion in Iraq. Some time ago, it was known as a peacekeeping force named Kazbat and got incredible support from the United States and its associates. In 2003 the Kazakh governing body affirmed transfer army designers to help in alliance actions in Iraq. They hauled out of Iraq in late 2008. Its 29 men were professional servicemen from Kazakhstan's Special Forces and 35th Air Assault Bridge (Marat, 2010, p-108).

In 2003 the United States signed with Kazakhstan a Memorandum of Consent on Mutual Intent to execute the initial 5-year Armed Collaboration Strategy. The arrangements secured the region for reinforcing the battling and peacekeeping limits of Kazbat, airmobile forces, enhance Kazakhstan's maritime abilities and create its Naval Academy, and additionally the improvement of the military foundation for ensuring oil pipelines and other delicate energy base. The United States financed outskirts security preparing project gave 342-foot watch pontoons to Kazakhstan's Maritime Border Guards (McDermott, 2009, p-14).

In 2008, the 2003 military collaboration arrangement was recharged for the period 2008-2013. Essentially, the fundamental components of the past arrangement were rehashed. More than 80 two-sided collaborative occasions were planned to be sorted out amid the given period, of which around 50 would be held in Kazakhstan with the rest of the U.S. (Ibid, p-16) The American side did the accompanying help programs: International Military Education and Training, Foreign Military Financing, Counterterrorism, and so on (Kazakhstan-US Relations, (n.d).)

After the 9/11 terrorist assaults on America, the context of US-Kazakhstan relations changed. As was the case with U.S. foreign policy in general after 2001, U.S. policy throughout Central Asia became focused first and foremost on security issues and the global war on terrorism (Roberts, 2011, p-5). Nazarbayev condemned terrorist assaults on the World Trade Centre and offered support for U.S. counter-terrorist action in Afghanistan (Ivaschenkova, 2011, p-93). Kazakhstan became the first nation in Central Asian which publicly offered a helping hand in America. Kazakhstan supported the U.S. war against terrorism and was prepared to join in against a terrorist coalition, including giving airspace and army installations (Gerleman, 2001, p-5).

Kazakhstan gave consent to permit American jets to fly over its region to convey troops and non-lethal supplies to Afghanistan was such a key venture in the two nations'



collaboration. Kazakhstan and the United States marked a notice of accepting on 10 July 2002, allowing the U.S. military flying machine to utilize Kazakhstan's airplane terminal as a part of Almaty for crisis military landings and military-to-military relations; the accord was required to a limited extent in light of the fact that military flights out of the Manas Transit Center, 120 miles away, could be disturbed by rough climate (Coates, 2012, p-120). Kazakhstan likewise gave Over-flight rights and had permitted transshipment over its domain of supplies bound for American bases at Karshi-Khanabad in Uzbekistan, and Manas in Kyrgyzstan (Crouch, 2002, pp. 1-5). The United States had expanded its help for preparing and gear for Kazakhstan's military and was revamping an army installation at Atyrau in the Caspian Sea to enhance the security of the nation's energy framework (Nichol, 2003, p-3).

Kazakhstan's backing has been imperative for maintaining the United States' military fight in Afghanistan. The U.S. and its partners passed on vast amounts of non-deadly goods starting Europe toward their forces helping in the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan over Russia, the Caucasus, and the region of Central Asia. Kazakh Govt. was a significant part of the Northern Distribution Network (NDN). The NDN contained three principle area courses; all of them focalize and cross Kazakh's domain earlier prompting Afghanistan (Weitz, 2013). With the crumbling of relations between the United States and Pakistan, the Kazakh hallway has gotten to be considerably more imperative to the eventual fate of that complex area (US Kazakhstan Relations, 2013).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The current research paper extracted from the researcher's doctoral thesis. The qualitative study conducted through content analysis of contemporary and historically researched documents. The study consists of primary and secondary data related to the American policies and activities in the Central Asian region with special focus on Kazakhstan. Most of the data got from secondary sources which consist of relevant books and research papers, regional newspapers, research reports, and projects of think tanks. The relevant materials from online sources were also used during the research. Primary sources such as treaties and MOU's between the America and Kazakhstan, statements of officials (Presidents and Foreign Ministers) of America and Kazakhstan were also helpful. Russian and Chinese policy toward American involvement in this region have been examined.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION



The above-reviewed literature finds that the Central Asian states would not be ignored in the global political arena due to regional location and its border attached to Iran, Afghanistan, Russia, and China. This region became very important for the USA because its natural resources and war against terrorism. The study inspects that the U.S. gave special focus on peaceful removal of remaining Soviet atomic weapons in Kazakhstan since independence and both states have also cooperated in this regards and signed CTR in 1993. The study also observes that Kazakhstan is a very significant state in the region due to a number of reasons; it has well developed and substantial GDP in the region; it has magnificent asset of oil, gas, and uranium; it has huge landlocked territory in the world and its long border attached with Russia, China, and Caspian Sea. The study also analyzes that energy is the main motive for US attraction.

The study finds that the U.S. has a number of interests in Kazakhstan such as nuclear non-proliferation, counter-terrorism, to get energy resources, expansion of democracy, human rights, free market and the rule of law. The study examines that America and Kazakhstan joint through several agreements and MOU's. The research witnesses that U.S. transformed its relations through Annual Bilateral Consolation and Strategic Partnership. The research observes that promotion of democracy is the main American agenda in Kazakhstan. The study observes that American focus after 9/11 was on campaign against terrorism in Afghanistan and Kazakhstan that allowed American planes to fly over the region and move the forces and permitted non-lethal supplies through the Northern Distribution Network. The research also examines that American attention and policies shifted to Kazakhstan after U.S. backed color revolutions and faced challenges from Uzbek and Kyrgyz authorities over military bases. Kazakhstan also has several concerns about American aims in the region such as American democratic and regime change agenda. The research explores that China and Russia wanted to maintain these regional states under their control and to counter American interests in the region and to pressurize the regional states for this purpose.

CONCLUSION

Kazakhstan is the biggest land-locked state in the world and rich in oil, gas, and uranium. Unites States and Kazakhstan's cooperation has increased since independence due to uncertainties about remaining Soviet atomic weapons. They collaborated for the safe removal of nuclear weapons and their cooperation has increased in political and Security fields. American interests in Kazakhstan were regarding energy, promotion of democracy and fissile material. After 9/11, Kazakhstan became the first nation in Central Asia to publicly offering a helping hand in America. Kazakhstan supported the U.S. war against terrorism and was prepared to join in against a terrorist coalition, including giving



airspace and army installations. Both states signed a number of agreements and MOUs, after the several bilateral officials' visits, on nuclear security and nonproliferation, trade and investment, military and security, counter-terrorism, energy, health, and education, etc. Kazakhstan is the first regional state to which American established strategic partnerships. The issue of democracy has strained the relations between Kazakhstan and America. Kazakhstan has concerns about American backed color revolutions in the region and Kazakhstan also wants to maintain its balance relations with Russian and American.



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