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## **Historical Sciences**

# **THE ROLE AND POLITICAL IMIDGE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIP SYSTEM**

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## **Abstract**

The article is devoted to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its activities in the field of consolidation of Arab States.

The current political problems of Arabic world, the context of international relations in the Middle East region were analyzed. Also, a brief description of the conflicts of the Middle East region in the twentieth century is given. The image of the organization of the Islamic conference in the field of international relations is considered.

**Keywords:** geopolitics, Arab consolidation, unification, ideological conflicts, politics, solidarity.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The present time, which is characterized by the constant transformation of modern world politics, the role and status of not only countries, but also international structures are increasing. One of the most important factors of international relations is international organizations, and today most of them have a potential to have an impact on international politics.

The political platform of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (38th session of Foreign Ministers held in Astana on June 28, 2011, the Organization of the Islamic Conference was changed to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), which is a political platform for the Muslim world is a major international organization which stays after UN.

In the second half of the century, the intensification of world politics, the constant and dynamic transformation of international relations, formation became as an objective factors. The massacre of Masjid al-Aqsa on 21st of August, 1969, shook the Muslim world around the world and it resulted in the unification of

several Muslim countries around the world and the convening of a special conference, which in turn resulted in the organization of the Islamic Conference. In fact, the emergence of the organization was a matter of ripening times. The only thing that is needed for the political unification of the Muslim world is when it comes to the Turks, and this is the case with Jerusalem.

Another major reason is that Muslim countries are under colonialism as the Third World countries, they are being influenced by various Western countries, and that they have economic and political dependence, and most importantly, the fate of most Muslim countries remains in the hands of European states and governments made the desire to unite in the way, and the realization of this wish has become a reality.

Many countries in the Middle East have been the centerpiece of cross-border conflicts between certain forces, groups, transnational corporations. Nevertheless, it has been widely reported in history that the wealth of energy resources, the cradle of ancient civilizations, does not always bring happiness and prosperity to the countries in these regions.

In geopolitical struggles, the region has become one of the most affected regions. Despite the fact that today, both in different races, ethnicity, and in the territory of the second millennium, Muslims in the 20th century are increasingly eager to pursue the world's development and to restore their glorious history as free and independent states. It is a factor that is to understand the glorious past, the sense of being worthy of ancestors, the desire of the superpowers to liberate themselves from the colonial policy, and the feeling that they are expelled from the rancor of "extermination and despotism" to the unification of the Islamic states and the way in which integration is achieved.

"The idea of uniting Muslims around the world through the creation of an international organization has been among the first world leaders in Palestine since the First World War, and the mufti of Sheikh Muhammad Amin al-Husseini was one of the first to do so". Of course, the unity of the Arab states and the integration of the Arab states have been made in the framework of historically different arenas. For instance, the League of Arab states, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, of the Gulf and a number of other organizations took part in developing the integration.

Despite the extensive nature of their activities, they were not always successful. The main reasons for inefficiency are the aspirations and competitiveness of the regional states, the fact that external forces are unlucky in the unification of Muslim countries, and the continuing influence of the Islamic world, as well as the different interests of the Islamic world.

## II. RESULTS

In the second half of the last century, Arab-Israel wars, the seizure of Jerusalem by Israel, and the abolition of many Palestinians from their lands have led to a complete shift in the situation. Until so far, the Middle East Arab countries focused on the policy of domination, but now they are urged to join together on the basis of compassion, and the common threats to unite. The mutual disagreement between the Arab states on each other has begun to agreement. Cooperation with countries such as Egypt and Syria, which has a prominent position in the Arab world, with Saudi Arabia, showed that the movement towards integration of the Middle East countries to the unification and solidarity period.

Saudi Arabia's Faisal has begun the process of convening a conference of senior Islamic leaders. As a result, on August 25, 1969, a month before the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) the meeting with 14 Arab foreign ministers was held in Cairo. Saudi Arabia's initiative to convene the Islamic Conference was unanimously supported. On September 25, 1969, it must be emphasized that a growing need for many independent Muslim countries to meet the need for cohesion and the desire for the Muslims to protect and preserve sacred cities, emotions together. The prestige of the new organization was that it was determined not only by the Muslim Arab countries, but also by other member states of the Islamic religion.

The political basis of the Organization of the Islamic Conference is to preserve the national sovereign states, preferring the Islamic unity. However, it can be said that the Organization of the Islamic Conference is an organization that is unaware of short-term tactical tasks, but rather an organization that has been created, based on many reasons and political factors. In the organization, Islamic unity is one of the most important ideologies, and is seen as the preferred way of achieving Islamic progress by the heads of state and government. The main reason that unites Muslim nations is the struggle against colonialism and the preservation of Islamic values, lifestyle and sacred factors, which are reflected in the organization's program documents.

There are specific political foundations and factors of the organization of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which are reflected in:

- There is a growing desire to unite in the Middle East due to the suffering of many Arab countries;
- The diversity of views among the governments, despite their aspiration to unite the Palestinian people from the persecution, is the basis for the integration of the Arab peoples;
- the need to take serious steps to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian problem, especially the relocation of persecuted Palestinians to their lands and the need to defend the sacred mosque for Muslims;
- the need to protect national and religious interests in the conditions of growing geopolitical struggles and conflicts in the region;
- gradual understanding of disproportionate foreign policy is dangerous for the region's life;
- political, economic, military, financial, and, most importantly, the spiritual potential of the entire Muslim community and the Middle East to form an international organization.

In general, the Organization of the Islamic Conference has played an important role in world political arena as an organization that unites different systems, different economies and continents. It is particularly noteworthy that the organization, along with its leading Arab states, has embraced the aspirations of post-African nations. The Organization of the Islamic Conference became as the conference which unites Muslim societies, regardless of their sectarianism, political views, economic diversity, and the long-term aspirations of the Islamic Ummah.

In the early years of the Organization of the Islamic Conference activity, its effectiveness was marked by its incredibly deep strategic objectives, its support for the interests of the Muslim world, and the high level of political activity. Because the objectives are yet new, and all the states that are members of the membership or the membership of the Union have a new enthusiasm to the organization's structure and its further functioning. However, many factors, such as the internal and external difficulties faced by the organization's activity, the major international pressure on member states, difficulties in implementing the tasks set out in the program documents, the discrepancy in views, the uncertainty in the development of the Member States, the constant conflict of interests, and began to decline.

From the day the Organization of the Islamic Conference has been established, two different tendencies have emerged among member states: The first tendency - is the cooperation between these countries. The basis for our cooperation is that not only Arab states, but also all Muslim nations have the desire to cooperate, to support Palestine, to unite the Muslim world's reputation and status.

The second tendency- is the competition between states, that is, the advancement of competition that has shown that there has been an increase in the number of countries in the process of self-determination, leadership, and aspiration for greater inclusiveness within the organization. Naturally, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, Pakistan and Egypt were among those states. It was becoming more and more clear that each of them would not abandon the desire to transform the Organization of the Islamic Conference into the most important instrument for strengthening its foreign policy and position. We will also comment on **the opinions of the member countries on the existence of a different foreign policy course:**

- Even though, the fight against Israeli aggression, sympathy to Palestinians and protection of the interests of the Islamic Ummah was the main aim, is that the member states have different political positions on Israel;

- Existence of different approaches to political processes in foreign policy issues and lack of solidarity;
- The emergence of different approaches to the foreign policy of the United States, the former Soviet Union, France, and the United Kingdom to the region to exert influence on the region. For example, during the years of Israeli formation and its occupation of Palestinian lands had been exacerbated by the Arab and Muslim unity in the early years, it slowed down over the past period. Some Arab and Muslim countries today have even established diplomatic relations with Israel, and these processes gradually cover other Arab and Muslim countries. The sharp increase in demand for energy resources combined with world development has expanded opportunities for Arab monarchies. The Arab countries, with huge financial resources, able to directly influence the Middle East, have begun to take the lead in the Organization of the Islamic Conference in order to strengthen their political presence in the region. The Organization of the Islamic Conference was heavily damaged by disagreements and constant struggles between Saudi Arabia and Iran's religious-ideologically two different streams - Shi'ism and Sunni. Both countries have attempted to integrate their vision into the organization's program documents and objectives. As the main cause of their rightfulness, they sought to substantiate their position in the Islamic world with the financial, humanitarian and social assistance they provided to the Muslim world, as well as the sponsorship of the Organization of Islamic Conference and the high membership fees. As we have already mentioned, Saudi Arabia is considered as one of the largest donors of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

Moreover, the two polar states that set the world policy at that time were the constant competition of the former Soviet Union and the United States, their interference in the region, geopolitical struggles, attempts to artificially aggravate the processes in the Middle East, and the disintegration of the region such factors as the movement directly affected the activities of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. It has been conducting its policies in the two poles of the Middle East, partly in the middle of the Middle East, which, in turn, seriously hampers the implementation of the program goals that the organization should implement.

Speaking about the political views of the Organization of the Islamic Conference or its internal political situation, it should be noted that the members of the organization were victims of the politics of that time. As it is known, the members of the organization are part of developing countries, their development, the economic, social and political situation was different. The independence and sovereignty of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the international arena remained one of the most difficult. Because, the continuous efforts to undermine Arabian solidarity and the sympathy of Muslim countries contributed ideological controversy to programmatic goals.

By analyzing the lack of political effectiveness of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in 1969-1990, it can be said that the Middle East, which has just developed and driven its economic life, suffered from various wars and conflicts, was experiencing a real test. However, the issues of eliminating economic decline, active participation in international economic relations, and transition to technical and technological renewal have made it impossible for member states to link Western countries. To put it logically, this has created a great link between the organization and, on the other hand, the lives of its members. Nevertheless, the organization has made several tough decisions and has been put into practice. Although, the organization tried to stop the conflict between different groups in Lebanon, the long-lasting bloody wars between Iraq and Iran, the war between Iraq and Kuwait, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as the Palestinian conflict, lack of a mechanism, and lack of capacity to apply strict sanctions, could not lead a peacekeeping mission. In some cases, the success of the peace process has a special place in some Member States or United Nations initiatives. The emergence of new states in the world map at the end of the 20th century has led a new era in the OIC folklore. Admission of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan and other countries has expanded the organization. The courtiers were divided into three groups- Arab courtiers with prestigious oil, Central Asia and some European countries; - Unstable African countries. While the growing number of member states has raised the issue of solving new problems and solutions to the organization, the SCO has united the opposing member states and maintained stability in the Muslim world for their co-operation. The OIC was not only the basis for integration, alliance and solidarity among the Middle East Arab countries, but also all Muslim countries. American scientist S. Huntington notes that "there is no intergovernmental organization on religious grounds in the Christian, Orthodox, Buddhist and Jewish states, and for the Muslim governments there is such an organization" - the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation is a platform for communication, where stakeholders can cooperate on economic, cultural and other issues, and today, as a phenomenon of particular political and legal phenomena, is of great importance not only for the development of Islam but also for the world. Factors positively influencing the activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation are:

- Union of the Organization's Member States (Islamic Religious).
- Member States have strategically important raw resources;
- Availability of significant resources affecting the economies of the countries;
- The membership of the powerful states in the international arena, as well as the coverage of the large region of the IRA.

The factors that adversely affect the activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation:

- The inheritance of many problems that have not been resolved by previous international organizations, as the Organization of the Islamic Conference has emerged when the confidence in international organizations has diminished in all countries due to the diversity of organizations and their inefficiency;
- leadership in the international arena, as the largest organization of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, is in most cases a leader in other Muslim-majority political leaders;
- Contradicting the national and strategic interests of the participating States;
- Has led to the weakening of the activity of the OIC as a single, uniform regional structure, taking into account interests of the leading countries;
- The membership of the OIC member states is territorially different in different continents.

### III. CONCLUSION

Changes in the geopolitical situation did not go beyond the OIC, but the new challenges facing the old problems that had not been resolved during the organization's activities - demographic changes in the Muslim world, mass migration, Islamization of Islam, and socio-economic issues. These issues have now become a political issue not only of the OIC or the member states, but also on the global scale. Despite the high level of leadership of the OIC, it is difficult to prevent and eliminate the threats and danger that may arise. This is why the organization has been asking questions about how to resolve this issue and dispute, and the issue of establishing or reorganizing the organization's next vector has grown steadily. It is very important for the international community to reform, as it has been in previous prisoners, to reflect on the goals and objectives of international relations at that time.

Stage-by-stage reforms have been taking place since the establishment of an organization to further enhance the effectiveness of the OIC. For example, the improvement of mechanisms of action, the renaming of the organization, the expansion of powers of the Secretariat, the introduction of the Commission on Human Rights, the system of control over the mandatory payment of membership fees, and the other modernization of the organization.

Issues on how can the Organization of Islamic Cooperation be transformed and how these reforms will benefit from resolving emerging issues. We can explain these ideas as follows:

Conflicts arising in the Islamic world and unresolved problems within the organization are just a transformation for increasing the effectiveness of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. As the membership of each organization has its own priorities and interests, which is contrary to the interest of other members of the organization, the effectiveness of the activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation is not always evident.

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# РОЛЬ И ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИЙ ИМИДЖ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ИСЛАМСКОЙ КОНФЕРЕНЦИИ В СИСТЕМЕ МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОТНОШЕНИЙ

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## Аннотация

Статья посвящена политическим факторам становления Организации Исламской Конференции и её деятельности в области консолидации арабских государств.

Анализируются актуальные политические проблемы арабского мира в контексте международных отношений в регионе Ближнего Востока; дается краткая характеристика конфликтов ближневосточного региона происходящих в XX веке; рассматривается имидж организации Исламской конференции в области международных отношений.

**Ключевые слова:** геополитика, Арабская консолидация, объединение, идеологические конфликты, политика, солидарность.

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