

Engagements of cultural factors in geopolitics

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Abstract

In the research studies of ethnic and religious relations, various theoretical approaches have been applied in modern sciences, starting from the reaffirmation of geopolitics through the cultural and sociological approach. Given the complexity and polyvalent structure of the determinant node based on such issues, it is necessary to emphasize both the possibilities and the limits of the particular theoretical approaches applied in the analysis of these relationships. Culture is one of the permanent and enduring geopolitical factors in time and as part of the experience of a people's history, values, myths and religion, it is essential for the geopolitical analysis of a country's power. From a quick glance we notice that international history acquaints us with the fact that cultural issues have been widely debated and have been the subject of international relations and foreign policies of states. In this context of analysis, it is observed that culture is an essential and enduring part of the nation's identity. It affects the elements of power, which are important components for the realization of national interests, which in turn serve to shape geopolitical scenarios. After the Cold War we have the emergence of many such scenarios, where we mention: the clash of civilizations, the five-pole world, the three-pole world, the creation of different pan-regions and different blocs, the balance of forces and finally the geopolitical scenarios after 9/11. Culture is one of the permanent and enduring geopolitical factors in time and as part of the experience of a people's history, values, myths and religion, it is essential for the geopolitical analysis of a country's power. Issues on culture are inevitably linked to the national identity of a state and if we read carefully throughout the history of international relations it is noticed that, although indirectly, states have always promoted and exported their culture.

Keywords: Geopolitics, culture, civilizations, conflicts, geoeconomics.

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European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN
2510-0429 (online)

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