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2021 - INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE AND TRUST

Foreword

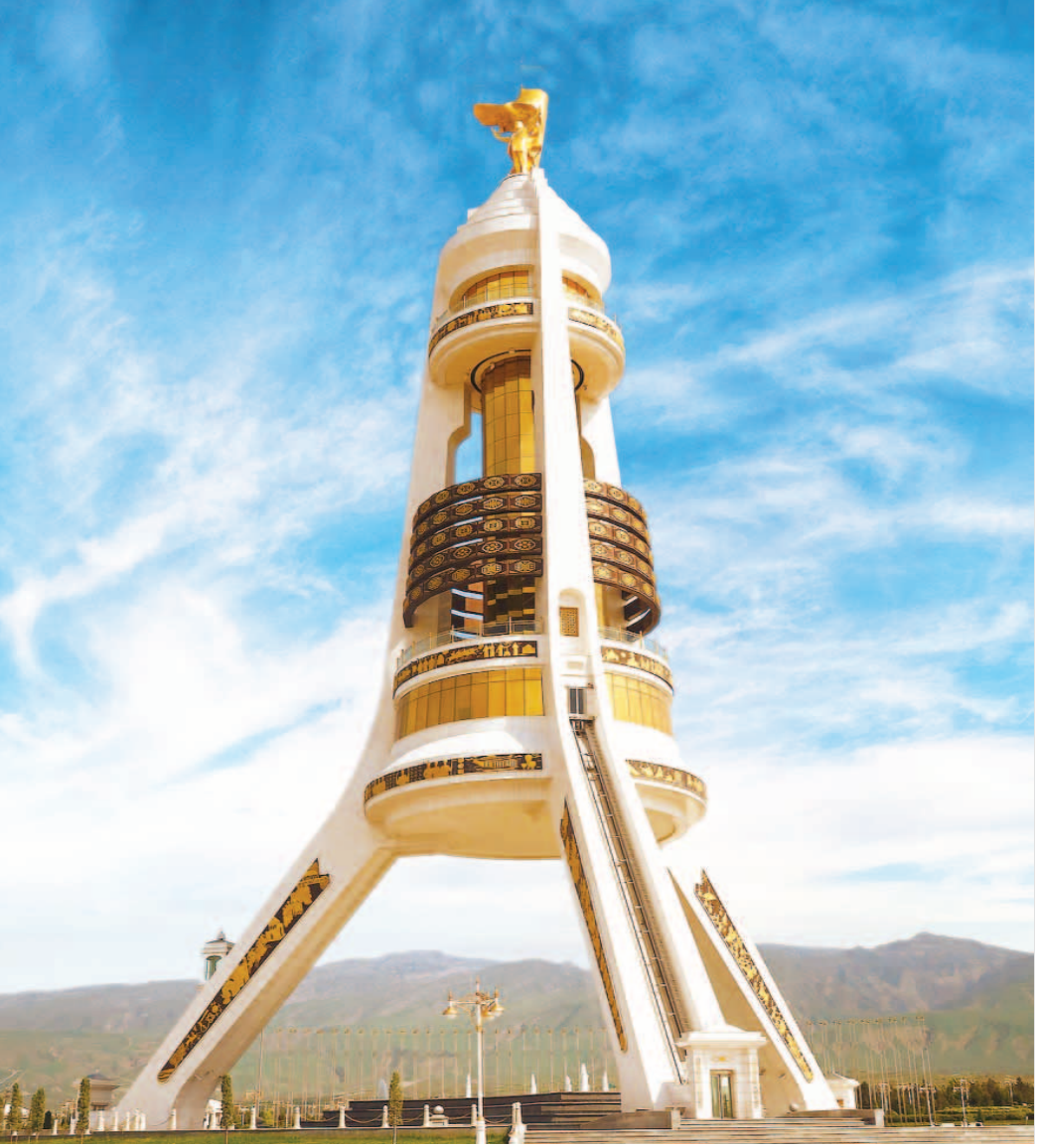
The principles, ethos and practices of Turkmenistan's policy of neutrality that demonstrates an enduring faith in peaceful coexistence, harmony and benevolence, are deeply rooted in the culture, society and history of the people of Turkmenistan. It is with great pleasure that the ECO presents this Special Edition of the ECO Chronicle highlighting some of the significant aspects of neutrality in the national development of Turkmenistan as well as its effective role in external relations of the country.

ECO attaches utmost respect and significance to Turkmenistan's neutrality. ECO was among the foremost forums to have acknowledged the neutral role of Turkmenistan in the global affairs. At the third ECO Summit held on 15 March 1995 in Islamabad, the heads of state of the ECO welcomed the idea and philosophy of the President Turkmenbashi about his country's neutrality. Subsequently, in December 1995, the 50th Session of the UN General Assembly adopted a special resolution which confirmed the status of Turkmenistan's permanent neutrality at international level.

Today, under the patronage of the President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, the international community is witnessing the dividends of that seminal decision in ensuring international peace, security and sustainable development. The idea of neutrality for Turkmenistan combines the prospects for the country's own development and national interests with the objective requirements of today's world. It corresponds to the geographical, historical, and ethno-cultural realities of Turkmenistan and the national character of its people and their desire for good neighbourly relations based on mutual respect and tolerance.

The policy of neutrality of Turkmenistan, coupled with the model of cooperation of ECO with no political agenda, provides tremendous opportunity for achieving collective regional socio-economic progress. Particularly, as a current chairman of the ECO, the role of Turkmenistan, based on the ECO Vision 2025 and the organization's strategic objectives as well as Turkmenistan's policy of permanent neutrality, is considered very significant in accomplishing the sustainable development and prosperity in the region.

Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour
ECO Secretary General



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In The Name Of God

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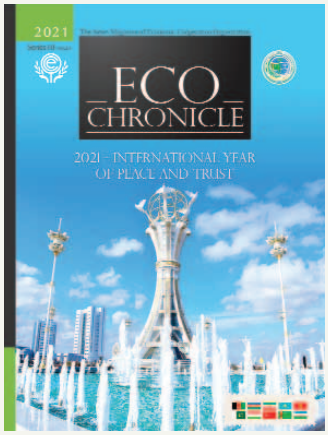

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President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov Addresses the International Conference Policy of Neutrality and its Importance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development

The President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov inaugurated the Conference on "Policy of Neutrality and its Importance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development" on 12 December, 2020. The Conference was hosted by Turkmenistan to mark the International Day of Neutrality. The conference was especially convened in honour of the 25th anniversary of permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan. The President of Turkmenistan participated and addressed at the solemn session of the Conference.

Here is the transcript of the speech of H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov:

Dear participants of International Conference!
Ladies and gentlemen!

First of all, let me welcome you at the ceremonial session of International Conference "Policy of Neutrality and its Significance in Provision of Universal Peace, Security and Sustainable Development", which is dedicated to the 25th anniversary of Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan. Let me express my gratitude for your participation in this forum and enthusiasm to share your valuable proposals and opinions on important themes of its multi-dimensional agenda.

Dear participants!
International recognition on the status of Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan gained on December 12, 1995 has become an important and, without exaggeration, a historical event for our country. It has determined the direction and content of the foreign policy of Turkmen State; made powerful positive effect on internal development; fulfillment of major national plans in the economic and social spheres; and establishment and strengthening of democratic institutes.

Special feature of international recognition of Permanent Neutrality of our country was that the status had been supported and consolidated by unanimous decision of the General Assembly by a special Resolution for the first time in the UN practice. Leading states of the world, including the countries, which are among the permanent members of the UN Security Council, were the co-authors of the document. Therefore, Turkmenistan's neutrality has received international legitimacy, having become an integral part of the world politics and diplomacy.

Today, on behalf of the people of Turkmenistan, I would like to express sincere gratitude to all states for their support and active participation in the development and adoption of historical resolution on permanent neutrality. I would also like to appreciate the efficient work of the UN Secretariat and its staff for providing organizational support in the adoption of the Resolution. Undoubtedly, international recognition of our neutrality had not been a one-time event but the adoption of the Resolution by the General Assembly has been forestalled by big and painstaking political activity and numerous rounds of diplomatic talks.

In this regard, I would like to mention constructive position of the state members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, which adopted the statement on support of Turkmenistan's neutrality at the Summit in Islamabad in spring 1995. Subsequently, the Neutrality of Turkmenistan received a unanimous support at the Summit of Non-Alignment Movement in Columbian Cartagena.

I am speaking of these events to highlight another important and, in my opinion, a very remarkable reality that 25 years before during breakthrough phase of finishing of block confrontation, elimination of usual schemes and configurations of international policy, the neutrality of Turkmenistan has received comprehensive support including from the states, which sometime have complicated relations between each other, professing different views and doctrines on development of modern world.

I am confident that prepositions for use of neutral model as one of stabilizing factors of the world politics have been formed up objectively at that time. I think that we have managed to explain and, in some cases, to

convince our partners that appearance of neutral peace-loving state in important geopolitical region on the map would be a considerable factor of positive development of regional and international processes.

Certainly, meaningful historical practice of joint living of Turkmens with other nations for the centuries was an important driving force behind choosing of Neutrality. During the various periods in our history, it had always been based on peace-loving, respect, tolerance and transparency.

After the independence, we turned these concepts into clearly defined principles of foreign policy and found the most suitable and organic model of neutrality for their successful practical application. We named it Positive Neutrality, having highlighted the character and orientation of our international cooperation and desire to build good and equal constructive relations with all states. Turkmenistan has offered them friendship, cooperation, equal rights, and being a neutral state and having undertaken the obligations for non-interference to internal affairs, respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-participation in multilateral military and political treaties and unions.

Support of such course has been reflected in resolutions and other decisions made by international organizations and aimed at practical implementation of the principles of Neutrality in international affairs. Today, with feeling of pride and gratitude to the world community, I would like to specifically mention that the United Nations General Assembly has unanimously adopted the Resolution on the Role and Importance of neutral policy in support and strengthening of universal peace, security and process of sustainable development at its 75th session in December 2020. This important document, which was co-authored by 34 UN state members, confirms high positive role of the policy of neutrality in realization of current objectives of the global agenda.

It is also a great honour for me to state that the Council of the Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Cooperation Organization has also unanimously adopted the Resolution on Role of policy of neutrality in support and strengthening of international peace, security and sustainable development in the region of the Islamic Cooperation Organization and around the world at its 47th session on October 27 - 28, 2020 by Turkmenistan's initiative.

Turkmenistan has strictly followed these principles for 25 years for steadily pursuing peace-loving and balanced sovereign policy. First of all, we have managed to protect and improve the relations with neighboring states. Based on centuries-old practice, cultural and spiritual similarities, we have managed to provide the succession of traditions of good neighborliness and understanding to form actual mechanism of cooperation with neighbours backed by common goals and priorities as well as realization of historical ties of peoples and neighboring states. It allows us solving the objectives for supporting and strengthening peace and stability; development of economic, trade and humanitarian relations; and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals together.

Neutral policy of Turkmenistan is a significant factor of regional security as an important aspect of global strategic balance. Together with neighboring states and in close

cooperation with the UN, we work on establishment of the mechanisms for prevention of controversies, assertion of atmosphere of understanding, trust and predictability in Central Asia.

The territory of neutral Turkmenistan has been numerously selected as an acceptable place for organization of talks on various complicated issues of regional agenda. In general, the principles of neutrality and its peace-loving capabilities for regulation of confrontations, prevention and elimination of the conflicts, offer it a unique place in international and diplomatic relations resultantly it is receiving recognition on the highest level. This is indicated by the opening of the UN Regional Center of Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia with its headquarter in Ashgabat by the decision of the UN General Assembly with support of Central Asian countries in 2007. The practice showed that it was timely and far-seeing measure. The work of the Center has received high appraisal of the world community. The UN Security Council, assessing the outcomes of activities of the Regional Center, has repeatedly noted the importance of preventive diplomacy for early regulation of disputes and supported the efforts of this structure in Central Asia.

In 2017, the UN General Assembly has adopted the Resolution on the Role of the United Nations Regional Center of Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia on the initiative of Turkmenistan. Fifty seven states representing the all continents were the co-authors of the document. During the present session, Turkmenistan will continue working on mobilization and use of the potential of neutrality and preventive diplomacy. We have developed a new draft of the Resolution on the role of the Regional Center of Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, having introduced additional elements, in particular on institutional registration of Preventive Academy and consolidation of the mechanism of Central Asian Experts Forum. Turkmenistan has also presented the draft Resolution of the General Assembly on role and importance of the policy of neutrality to support and strengthen universal peace, security and sustainable development.

In addition, the Group of Neutrality Friends for peace, security and development, which has already enrolled more than 20 states, is established on our initiative for systematic

work on promotion of the principles of neutrality in the practice of contemporary international relations. Undoubtedly, it shows growing understanding of importance and future of the principles of neutrality in current scenario.

In general, we believe that today, joint efforts for de-escalation of tensions and support for stability based on universal standards of international law should be the main priority of states, international institutions, think tanks and mass media. It is also necessary to restore trust and respect in bilateral and international relations based on the principle of equality and recognition of legal rights and interests of the concerned parties. We are confident that each state can make significant and valuable contribution to achieve this goal. In this regard, following the principles of neutrality, peace-loving and confidence in goodwill of international community, Turkmenistan has proposed to declare 2021 as International Year of Peace and Trust. This proposal has been supported by the UN General Assembly and we plan to organize a high-level conference in Ashgabat in 2021 which may be proved as an important milestone for establishing multilateral dialogues as well as finding ways and means for the peaceful solutions of world and regional issues.

Dear participants!

Turkmenistan's neutrality, friendly, constructive and respectful relations with all states, established cooperation with the UN as well as its specialized agencies and participation in the relevant activities of other international organizations make favorable opportunities for our country to contribute in solution of the most significant issues of modern world more efficiently.

International initiatives of Turkmenistan also gained importance in the spheres of global development such as energy security, transport cooperation, ecology, food security, access to water resources, protection of refugees' rights and many others. We have established our own approaches to these issues in order to fully realize the potentials of the states and international organizations based on obvious and transparent principles.

Having colossal world reserves of natural gas, Turkmenistan is a supporter of fair and equal access to energy resources of the planet.

Establishment of reliable and stable system of energy routes taking into account the interests of all concerned parties is one of the ways to achieve these targets. Our country has initiated the broad international dialogue on energy issues and developed the relevant draft resolutions which have been supported by the UN General Assembly. During current session, we have also presented the Draft Resolution "reliable and stable transit of energy carriers and its role in provision of sustainable development and international cooperation". Turkmenistan is confident that the system of fair distribution of energy would serve as a key factor for global progress, economic growth, expansion of people's wealth and stimulation of beneficial cooperation.

In our opinion, it is necessary to avoid unilateral policies for supply of energy resources for eliminating discrimination barriers and creating transparency in pricing. Turkmenistan observes similar principles in the perspectives of transport cooperation and we believe that the initiative of global dialogue on transport issues is directly related to the fulfillment of the UN backed Sustainable Development Goals.

Enforcement of the role of international transport is intended to stimulate the growth of the economies of states and regions through integration of transport and transit routes and elimination of disproportions in the level of development and advancement of different segments of these routes. In 2016, Turkmenistan has hosted a Global Sustainable Transport Conference and plans to organize an International Conference of Transport Ministers of developing landlocked states in Ashgabat in 2021. We will also intensify the efforts in the UN for obtaining support for the draft resolutions urging cooperation in the sphere of sustainable transport.

At the same time, Turkmenistan pays priority attention to the ecology and climate change. Turkmenistan proposes initiatives aimed at achieving rational balance between economic activities and protection of the environment at the international meetings such as the Sustainable Development Summit RIO+20, the 7th World Water Forum, Sessions of the UN General Assembly and other relevant organizations.

In particular, we have called for the need of joint efforts to protect the biodiversity of Caspian Sea and relevant ecological balance. Turkmenistan has also initiated the development of Central Asian Water Strategy, the UN Special Program for the countries of Aral Sea basin, fulfillment of the Regional Environment Protection Action Plan as a single ecological program for Central Asian countries and number of other measures.

Our country was an author of the Draft Resolution on Cooperation between the United Nations Organization and International Fund for Saving of Aral Sea which was supported by the General Assembly and has become an important platform for establishing joint efforts for recovery of the Aral disaster, improvement of economic and social conditions, quality of life and health of the population.

Undoubtedly, all mentioned initiatives are mainly related to the region where Turkmenistan is located. However, similar principles and approaches are applicable in other parts of the world for securing the future of our generations, safety of nature of our planet and protection of the global environment.

After joining the Paris Treaty on climate change, the involvement of Turkmenistan to implementation of the global ecological agenda has received new impulses and following the principles of this comprehensive document we have constituted our own objectives and support of international efforts on its implementation.

Neutral status also opens favorable opportunities to Turkmenistan in international humanitarian activity, in particular in provision of assistance to refugees and stateless persons. Being a permanent member of the Executive Committee of the UN Higher Commissioner for Refugees and member of International Migration Organization, Turkmenistan has

made significant contributions to the solution of this complex global issue. The first international conference, "Refugees in Muslim World", during which important agreements had been reached was held in Ashgabat in 2012. We work persistently with our partners on their execution. We are planning to organize the second international conference on this subject together with the UN Higher Commissioner Office for Refugees next year. Regarding our national efforts in this direction, I would like to mention that so far around 26,000 people have received Turkmenistan's citizenship since 2011.

Now I would share some of the steps taken by Turkmenistan under our approach towards ongoing situation in Afghanistan. Over the years, Turkmenistan has rendered targeted economic and humanitarian support to Afghanistan. It is expressed in construction of medical and educational facilities in the neighboring country, beneficial supplies of energy, study of Afghan students in Turkmen universities, regular humanitarian aid sent to Afghanistan and other assistance programmes. All of these are sponsored by Turkmenistan from its own resources. I can assure our friends from Afghanistan and international community that this support would be continued in the future based on a systematic special program of provision of humanitarian support to Afghanistan developed by our country.

Implementation of large infrastructural projects with participation of Afghan side, especially in spheres of energy, transport and communications, economic and social restoration of Afghanistan, its successful integration to regional and global economic processes. Working steadily in this direction, our country has initiated the project of construction of Turkmenistan - Afghanistan - Pakistan - India gas pipeline. The construction of power and fiber optic lines along Turkmenistan - Afghanistan - Pakistan route as well as railroads connecting Turkmenistan with Afghanistan is carried out.

We plan to continue working on implementation of important projects with participation of Afghanistan and other neighboring countries. We are also ready to continue our cooperation with international organizations, especially with the UN, in provision of comprehensive support to fraternal people of Afghanistan. Regarding political aspect, I would like to reconfirm the position of Turkmenistan that being a neutral state and close neighbor of Afghanistan, our country is ready to provide its political space and necessary organizational place to all relevant parties interested in peaceful and political stable Afghanistan. We are confident that there is no alternative process to negotiation process.

The coronavirus pandemic is causing serious threat to the mankind that the world has faced these days. It has affected the health of dozens of millions of people on the planet, and unfortunately, caused death of numerous people. The pandemic has also indentified the weaknesses of present structure of international relations. First of all, this is a lack of willingness on the part of international community to consolidate the efforts in combating of this threat. In this case, I have to speak about insufficient level of trust and political will. Right after the beginning of the epidemic, Turkmenistan has announced its position clearly - it is necessary to consolidate the efforts of all states, their solidarity and mutual assistance in combating common threat.

Regarding practical measures, our country has recommended for launching of channels of relevant international diplomacy and proposed number of certain measures aimed at making the conditions for establishment of direct contacts between medical associations of different countries, stimulation of joint developments and long-term programs of cooperation. Turkmenistan also proposes to organize International forum of medical scientists on the problems of combating against new infections in Ashgabat in 2021.

Dear participants!

Before concluding my statement, I would like to reiterate that neutrality policy of Turkmenistan is applicable to almost all

spheres of international cooperation. It has huge potential in establishment of cooperation and understanding and offers an important role in realization of fundamental goals and strategies of the United Nations Organization. Important feature of our neutrality is that this is a living creative process, which is enriched with new ideas and practical developments and is adapted to changing conditions. However, its peace-loving, creative and humanistic character remains unchanged. Next year, Turkmenistan will mark the 30th anniversary of its independence.

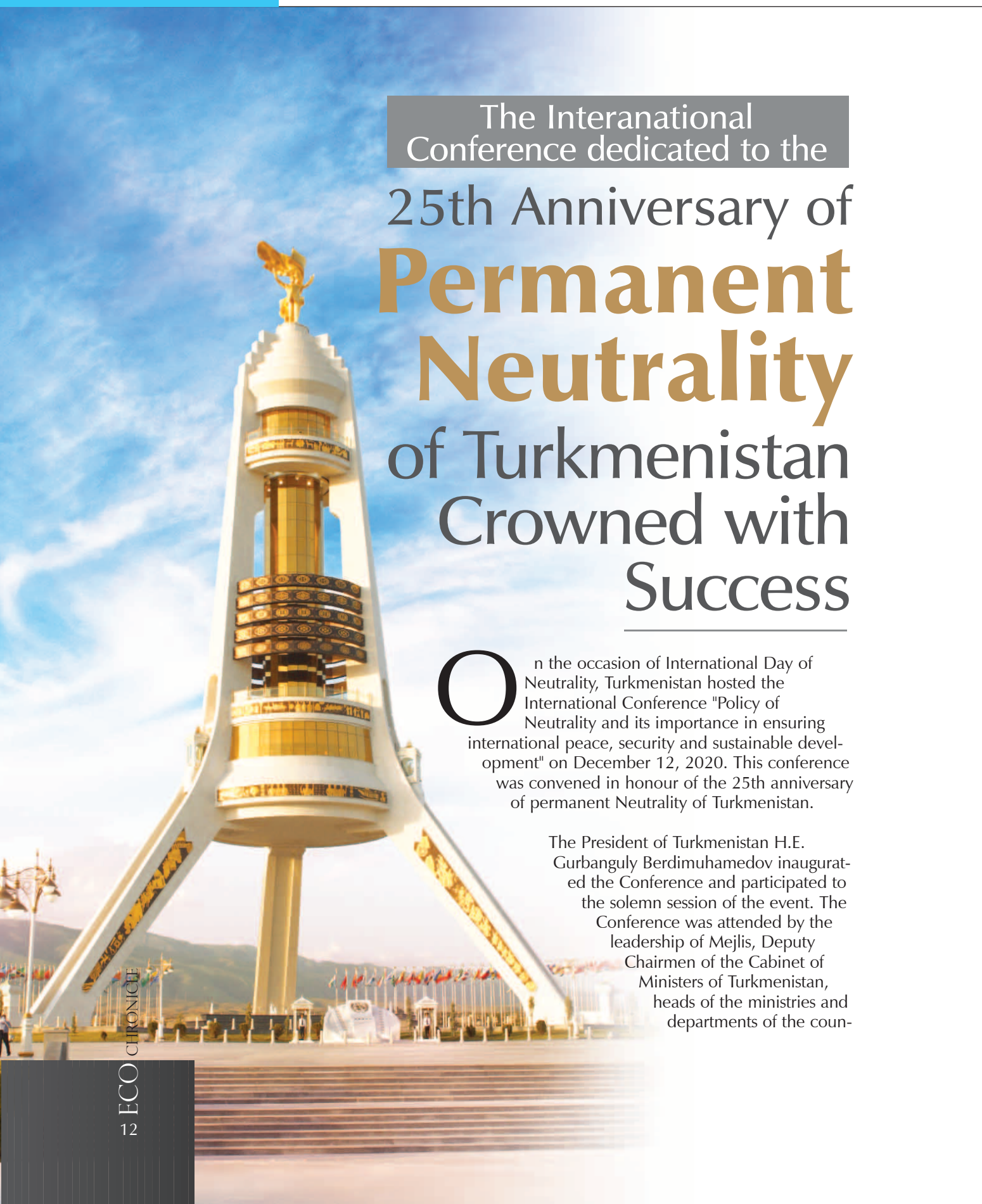
We have managed to achieve many things during this period to become dynamically developing state with strong economy and social sphere; and respected and competent member of international community. Mainly, this success has resulted from steadily pursued policy of neutrality. That is why I always used to say that independence and neutrality are two indivisible concepts for Turkmen people. Based on these two main foundations of our stateliness, the modern Turkmenistan is confidently marching towards new heights of cooperation, progress and prosperity together with its numerous friends from all over the world.

Dear participants of the conference!

Concluding my speech I would like to state that our country will celebrate another historical date - the glorious 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan's independence in 2021, which is announced by the UN General Assembly as International Year of Peace and Trust at the initiative of Turkmenistan. Model of political, social, economic and foreign relations advancement of the country chosen 30 years ago, based on the principles of peace-loving and humanity, has demonstrated its efficiency. Our main achievement is that we have founded independent sovereign Turkmenistan with powerful innovative economy, high level of living standards of people and well recognized international stature.

In future, our powerful state will continue to put all efforts for strengthening peaceful and friendly relations in the world for a happy and prosperous life of humankind.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to extend my cordial congratulation on forthcoming 2021 - International Year of Peace and Trust! Let this year bring us prosperity and happiness!



The Interanational Conference dedicated to the

25th Anniversary of Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan Crowned with Success

On the occasion of International Day of Neutrality, Turkmenistan hosted the International Conference "Policy of Neutrality and its importance in ensuring international peace, security and sustainable development" on December 12, 2020. This conference was convened in honour of the 25th anniversary of permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan.

The President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov inaugurated the Conference and participated to the solemn session of the event. The Conference was attended by the leadership of Mejlis, Deputy Chairmen of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan, heads of the ministries and departments of the coun-

try, chiefs of the diplomatic missions and representations of international organizations in Turkmenistan, rectors of the higher educational institutions of Turkmenistan, heads and representatives of local mass media, as well as the accredited foreign press.

The opening speech was made by the President of Turkmenistan. The head of state thanked the participants for participation and underlined the vital role of international cooperation with countries and international organizations for the sake of peace, stability and sustainable development in the region and beyond. He explained that neutrality does not prescribe staying away from the world affairs. On the contrary, neutrality calls for unification and peaceful collaboration, while respecting each other's sovereignty, rights, interests and views.

The participants listened to the video statements of the UN Secretary General António Guterres, OIC Secretary General Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, Chairman of the Executive Committee - CIS Executive Secretary Sergei Lebedev, ECO Secretary General Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour, SCO Secretary General Vladimir Norov and UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay.

In his speech, H.E. António Guterres stressed the active and positive role of Turkmenistan in promoting peaceful, friendly, mutually beneficial relations between the countries of the Central Asia and beyond. Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen underlined the importance of the efforts of Turkmenistan in resolving international issues through peaceful dialogue.

In his speech, Mr. Sergei Lebedev emphasized that the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution on permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan by unanimous support of the Member States serves as a proof recognition of peaceful foreign policy of Turkmenistan. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Secretary General Vladimir Norov underlined in his speech that the status of permanent Neutrality fortifies the reputation of Turkmenistan on the world arena as a country that strives to promote mutually beneficial cooperation between all the states and nations. The UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay stressed the importance of neutrality in resolving the global issues through peaceful means and culture of peace.

The Conference was also enriched with the speeches of the UN Secretary General's Special Representative for Central Asia, the Head of the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia Natalya Gherman, the Head of the OSCE Center in Ashgabat Natalya Drozd, as well as the

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Turkmenistan Alexander Blokhin. They highly appraised the values embedded in the notion of permanent neutrality that is observed by Turkmenistan. The speakers highlighted that Turkmenistan proves in practice that neutrality, peacefulness and good-neighborliness have been and remain the basis of its foreign policy. The participants expressed a similar vision of the results of the external policy of Turkmenistan thriving on the permanent neutrality concept.

After the main session, the International Conference continued in plenary sessions in the institutions of higher education of Turkmenistan. Each session was attended by the high-ranking officials of Turkmenistan, heads of representative offices of international organizations in Turkmenistan, students and mass media. The representatives of international organizations participated to the plenary sessions through videoconferencing.

There were seven sessions. One session was entitled as "the Role of Neutrality in Strengthening Peace and Security." It was attended by the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov, Rector of the Institute of International Relations of Minister of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Turkmenistan Jumamyrad Gurbangeldiyev and representatives of international organizations via video communication, During this session, the video statements of the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Director General of the UN Office at Geneva Tatiana Valovaya, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Mariano Grossi, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Martin Chungong, Director of the Conflict Prevention Center of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Central Asia Tuula Yrjölä, Diplomat Vladimir Goryaev, Regional Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for Central Asia Hans Friedrich Schodder, Regional Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Central Asia Ashita Mittal were heard. Speakers at the meeting stressed that the status of positive neutrality of Turkmenistan contributes to the strengthening of peace and security at the regional and global levels.

Another session was convened in the International University for the Humanities and Development in Turkmenistan under the theme "Contribution of States and International Organizations to Global

Peace building Processes." The video statements of the Director General of the United Nations Office in Vienna, Executive Director of the UN office for Drug and Crime (UNODC) Ghada Fathi Waly, Director-General of Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Fernando Arias, Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) Lassina Zerbo, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) Deborah Lyons, UN Women Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia Alia El-Yassir, Director of Decent Work Technical Support Team and the International Labour Organization Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Olga Koulaeva were heard at this session. The speakers of the session reiterated the growing role of Turkmen neutrality and its positive effect on the promotion of peace building activities in the world with the participation of states and international organizations.

One more session that took place within the framework of the International Conference had focused on the economic cooperation and trade. Its theme was the "Mutually Beneficial Economic Cooperation, Free Trade, and the Role of International Organizations in Promoting Cooperation for Sustainable Development." The session was held in the Turkmen State University named after Makhtumkuli. This session was attended by the heads and representatives of the trade complex of Turkmenistan, and video messages of the heads of respected regional and international structures playing an important role in promoting trade and economic partnership in the world and in the region were heard.

It was emphasized at the meeting that Turkmenistan places a special emphasis on the economic aspect of neutrality. The participants exchanged views on the development of economic cooperation and trade facilitation in the region of Central Asia and in the world. During his speech, Secretary-General of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Kunio Mikuriya, emphasized the interest of the organization he leads in further strengthening and expanding partnership with Turkmenistan. He also said that this organization fully supports the "open doors" policy implemented by Turkmenistan. Dimitri Kerkentzes, Secretary-General of the International Bureau of Expositions (BIE), stressed Turkmenistan's commitment to expanding multilateral partnerships in key sectors of the international economy.

Another session was dedicated to the issues of development of multimodal transport corridors and reliable infrastructure as a factor of sustainable development. The session in the hybrid format was attended by heads and representatives of regional and international structures actively promoting multilateral cooperation in the field of transport. Among the participants, the heads and representatives of the UN Economic and Social

Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the International Road Transport Union and of others. Participants heard video messages of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Armida Salsia Alishakhban, Secretary General of the International Road Transport Union (IRU) Umberto de Pretto, Regional Coordinator for Central Asia of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Dmitry Godunov and others.

During the session, the importance of the initiatives formulated by the President of Turkmenistan on the formation of international transport corridors of regional and continental importance was emphasized. Large international transport projects are being implemented with the participation of Turkmenistan, including the Lapis-Lazuli Corridor. Achievements and successful implementation of international projects are largely due to the neutrality of Turkmenistan. As Umberto de Pretto stated, Neutral Turkmenistan makes

a significant contribution to the development of international cooperation in the transport sector and in the formation of modern infrastructure, which is one of the integral factors of global sustainable development and economic integration. He also noted that Turkmenistan, being in the center of the Silk Road, is an important economic link between east and west.

Another important session took place in the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan on the topic "Ensuring Sustainable Development through Realization of Global Potential of Energy Diplomacy in a Modern Context." At the session the speeches of the Minister of Energy of Turkmenistan Charymyrat Purchekov, Secretary-General of the Energy Charter Urban Rusnak, Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Francesco La Camera and of other leading experts of international and regional structures were heard.

In his video statement Urban Rusnak highlighted the initiatives of the President of Turkmenistan aimed at the strengthening of global and regional security, as well as the stable economic development of the countries of the region, formation of regional and interregional transport-transit corridors and protection of the environment. These proposals gained wide international recognition and consonant with the principles embedded in the Energy Charter. The participants of this session highly appraised the efforts of Turkmenistan on advancing the energy security and exchanged views on strengthening cooperation at regional and world levels.

Another session was dedicated to the climate issues. Its theme was the "International Cooperation in Environmental Protection and Climate Change Issues." During the session, the Minister of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan Magtymguly Bayramdurdyev, the United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Olga Algayerova, Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Lee Yon and others gave speeches.

As was noted at the meeting, during the period since gaining neutrality status, Turkmenistan has made progress in many directions. Active cooperation in the field of environmental protection deserves special respect and is critical for the sustainable development of the region. The importance of water diplomacy in the framework of a long-term environmental strategy was also emphasized. The President of Turkmenistan repeatedly states the need to actively promote "water diplomacy".

European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell said, "Turkmenistan has demonstrated that Neutrality can

be a factor in constructive international dialogue, contributing to the strengthening of international cooperation and sustainable development." In this context, he emphasized the strategic proposals of Turkmenistan to promote environmental protection in the region, primarily around the Aral Sea. All speakers noted that in order to address the environmental issues, climate change and water issues, it is necessary to develop active cooperation at the regional and international levels.

The Humanitarian Dimension of Neutrality - Contributing to Sustainable Development and 2030 Agenda: Leaving No One Behind. That was the topic of one of the seven sessions that were organized within the International Conference. As Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Jagan Chapagain noted in his speech, the status of permanent neutrality determines the directions of regional and international cooperation, contributes to the strengthening of peace and security, and develops friendly relations between countries. The important role of Neutral Turkmenistan in the implementation of humanitarian aid and response to natural disasters in the region was also noted. Turkmenistan and IFRC and KP have been closely cooperating and expanding their partnership in the field of humanitarian assistance for many years.The Secretary General of TURKSOY noted that the Neutrality of Turkmenistan provided broad opportunities for the development of peace and friendship between the peoples of not only the region, but also the whole world. The speakers of the meeting stressed that humanitarian cooperation is one of the most important components of Turkmenistan's foreign policy.

The seven plenary sessions that have touched upon the key aspects of national and foreign policy of Turkmenistan presented a unique platform for the joint work with the foreign partners of Turkmenistan.

Upon the results of the International Conference dedicated to the 25th anniversary of permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan, the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan R. Meredov hosted a roundtable where the review of the event took place and the results were summed.

In accordance with the outcomes of the International Conference entitled "Policy of Neutrality and its Importance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development," the Final Ashgabat Document was adopted. The Conference received a positive international appraisal and support.

The ECO Secretary General H.E. Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour attends the Conference on Policy of Neutrality

and its Importance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development

The ECO Secretary General, H.E. Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour participated in the Conference on "Policy of Neutrality and its Importance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development". The event, held on December 12, 2020, was dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the Permanent Neutrality Policy of Turkmenistan.

Delivering his statement, Dr. Soleimanpour noted that the principles, ethos and practices of neutrality that demonstrates an enduring faith in peaceful coexistence, harmony and benevolence, were deeply rooted in the culture, society and history of the people of Turkmenistan.

Appreciating the President of Turkmenistan H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov for his initiative of permanent neutrality and continued patronage of the policy, the ECO Secretary General acknowledged the rightful exploitation of such values by Turkmenistan.

Underlining generous aspects of neutrality, the ECO Secretary General high-

lighted the relevance of ECO as an economic organization which is purely based on the mutual cooperation of the member countries.

While mentioning the principles of neutrality and the ongoing constructive, interactive as well as cooperative approach in the ECO Region, the ECO Secretary General emphasized that the region's potential and advantageous opportunities could be realized through cooperative approach for various regional plans and projects in order to achieve the sustainable development goals.

The ECO Secretary General, inter alia, highlighted the organization's priority for developing regional energy sector, conveying some plans and projects, including ECO Clean Energy Center, ECO Regional Electricity Market and Regional Energy Strategy, aimed at accelerated development and growth in the region.

Dr. Soleimanpour underscored that the promotion of such a kind narrative of neutrality coupled with the notion of cooperation could be instrumental for objectivity, coexistence, growth, development and collective socio-economic progress.

Turkmen-Iranian Relations during the years of Neutrality

On December 12, 1995, the UN General Assembly approved a special resolution on "Turkmenistan's Permanent Neutrality". For the first time in the history of the world, this resolution gave Turkmenistan an international legal level. Since then, Turkmenistan's neutrality has been recognized as a positive tool to solve important issues of the present age and to build fruitful cooperation in strengthening friendly relations and good neighborliness between governments and people.

In Turkmenistan, adherence to the principles of neutrality is highly important to international cooperation, especially its development in domestic and foreign policy. Currently, Turkmenistan has diplomatic relations with 147 countries and is a member of 47 international organizations. So far, Turkmenistan has participated in 150 conventions, treaties and other multilateral international documents and has established warm diplomatic, trade and economic relations with many countries around the world.

Following the principles of neutrality, Turkmenistan's foreign policy attaches considerable importance to good neighborly and friendly relations with the countries of the world, particularly with neighboring countries. Living with respect for the relations and good neighborliness of our ancestors is one of the main principles of our government's foreign policy. In this respect, it is gratifying that the cooperation between Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran is reaching new levels. The history of Turkmen-Iranian fraternal relations with a thousand-year history is a valid basis for mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. Today, with the continua-

tion of the ancient Silk Road trade relations, the basis of these relations, including cooperation in political, commercial and economic sectors, fuel and energy, transportation and communications, can be regarded as promising fields. In this regard, Turkmen-Iranian relations are exemplary.

The traditional friendly relations between Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran are based on the principles of mutual respect and equality. Turkmenistan and Iran established diplomatic relations on February 18, 1992. For the past 30 years, relations between the two countries have been continuously established within the framework of reputable international organizations. It should be noted that Turkmenistan and Iran have similar views on regional and global events. Furthermore, Iran was the first country to uphold Turkmenistan's neutral rights. In particular, at the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan in 1995, President Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani reaffirmed his support for Turkmenistan's international neutrality, which further strengthened the relations between the two countries.

These important events in the history of relations between the two countries are the continuation of fruitful joint actions that cover diverse areas of cooperation. It also an indicator of the mutual closeness of views and approaches in cooperation with governments and highly important regional and international political issues. An excellent example is cooperation in political, trade and economic fields, transport, energy and other fields. In particular, Tajan-Sarakhs-Mashhad and Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran railway lines, Artagh-Lotfabad, Karpjeh-Kordkoy and Dolatabad-Khangaran natural gas pipelines, Balkanabad-Aliabad and Mari-Mashhad power lines, and the reservoir "Friendship" were jointly established over the years.

Turkmenistan's cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran in political and economic fields has been further developed during the years of independence and neutrality. In this regard, it should be noted that the Joint Economic Cooperation Group between Turkmenistan and Iran and the Turkmen-Iranian trade negotiations play a crucial role in the development of trade and economic relations.

At the same time, Turkmenistan and Iran effectively cooperate with each other to support their initiatives to develop regional and international relations in order to find harmonious solutions to important issues of the time within the framework of reputable international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

We are confident that the cooperation between the two countries of Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue with mutual benefit in order to strengthen the interests of the two brotherly nations in the future.

The article is contributed by the Embassy of Turkmenistan in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Permanent Neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan:

A Pledge for Peace and Prosperity

"Neutrality is a creative work that combines political, economic, historical, and cultural issues"

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov

At the end of the twentieth century, an independent state - the state of Turkmenistan - appeared on the world map. Of course, this meant that the centuries-old aspirations of the Turkmen people turned into reality and the beautiful green flag of the state became a symbol of the national independence of the Turkmen people in front of the world community. The international prestige of the independent state of Turkmenistan was elevated in the eyes of the states of the world and the ancestral peace-loving and benevolent national traditions of the Turkmen people became a testament to the peoples of the world. It is also a great honor to be awarded the Permanent Neutrality by the United Nations to the State of Independent Turkmenistan. Let's take a look at some of the events of that time related to this situation.

At the 3rd Meeting of the Heads of State of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) held in Islamabad in March 1995,

it was recognized that Independent Turkmenistan was pursuing a policy of neutrality in the region and in the world. It was noted at the meeting that the capitals of Switzerland, whose neutrality had recognized in 1815, and Austria, whose neutrality had been recognized in 1955, had become reconciliation centers in Europe and around the world. It was further noted at the Summit that the time has come to establish such a reconciliation center in Asia. It was emphasized that Independence Turkmenistan, based in Central Asia, and Ashgabat, the capital of Turkmenistan, have all the facilities and conditions to become such a coordinating center in the region. The Islamabad Declaration, adopted unanimously by the 3rd Meeting of the Heads of State of the ECO Member States, supported the proposal for the permanent positive neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan.

In October 1995, the XI Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement was held in Cartagena, Colombia

and during the Conference the state of independent Turkmenistan became the 114th member of this great influential movement. The meeting also decided to appeal to the United Nations to support the neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan. This historic decision was a significant step forward in gaining the status of neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan.

It was a great and glorious event that on December 12, 1995, the United Nations General Assembly, with the unanimous support of the representatives of 185 countries, adopted a special declaration on the permanent neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of Neutral Turkmenistan declares that everyone is guaranteed the rights and freedoms enshrined in the constitution, laws and generally recognized norms of international law of Turkmenistan. The political, economic and humanitarian aspects of foreign policy have been restructured in accordance with the country's ideals of neutrality. It was called "Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy Program as a Neutral State." Thus, the recognition of the permanent neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan by the United Nations meant that it had a qualitatively new place in international relations and deservedly exalted its dignity.

World-renowned political scientists and historians have pointed out the need for Turkmenistan to pursue a policy of permanent neutrality from the first days of its independence, and that it is related to such important situations. First, the policy of neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan is based on the ancestral spiritual world, traditions and customs of the Turkmen people from ancient times. The noble qualities of peace-loving, good-neighborly relations with neighbors and peoples of the world, patience and humanitarian principles, and the condemnation of war and strife are characteristic of the spiritual and cultural world of our people. The fact that the Turkmen people have always been known in the history of the world as an ancient people, which is always characterized by humanitarian and friendly brotherhood, is one of the proofs of the above. Second, the geographically favorable location of Independent Turkmenistan makes it a crossroads of strategic trade and economic relations between Europe and Asia, a unique bridge between the two continents. As is well known, in the past centuries, trade between Europe and Asia, the West and the East, was carried out through Turkmenistan through the ancient Great Silk Road. In the new historical context, there was a need to restore the ancient "Silk Road". Third, Turkmenistan has 30% of the world's "blue fuel"

reserves and enormous reserves of other natural resources. There was an urgent need for the country's Open Doors and Positive Neutrality Policy to establish and develop cooperation with independent states interested in developing Turkmenistan's richest gas, oil and other mineral resources.

The permanent neutrality of independent Turkmenistan had already begun to bear fruit in 1996 in terms of maintaining

peace and tranquility in the region. From the end of 1995 to the middle of 1996, three rounds of Tajikistan's talks were held and the Ashgabat Declaration on Peace in Tajikistan was signed. UN Secretary-General's Special Representative Gerd Merrem, who arrived in Ashgabat to assist in the talks, praised Tajikistan's talks in Ashgabat and the conclusion of a peace agreement. Also in early 1997, an international conference on humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan, another neighboring state under the auspices of the United Nations, was held in Ashgabat. It was attended by more than 250 representatives of various UN agencies and international organizations. In the spring of 1998, a two-day exchange of views on restoring peace in the Afghan state was held in Ashgabat under the auspices of the United Nations. Of course, these two international events aimed at restoring peace and prosperity in the Afghan state have also yielded positive results.

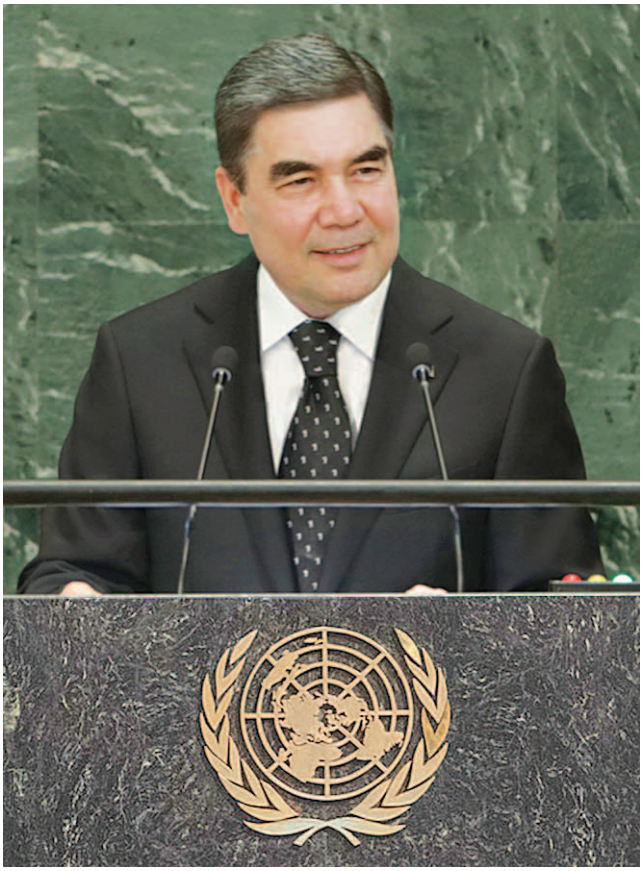
The permanent neutral status of independent Turkmenistan has become a major principle in the world's politics and has proved as an important factor in resolving regional and global political, economic and humanitarian issues. The Legal Status of Neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan State has been twice recognized by the United Nations. This fact reaffirms that the prestige of Neutral Turkmenistan remains high in modern international relations and world politics, a time when political conflicts are coming to agreements and resolutions.

The neutral status of independent Turkmenistan is also an important example of the realization of national interests as well as Turkmenistan's achievements in all spheres of development in accordance with the historical, geopolitical and cultural principles of the country. In the field of international relations, the Permanent Neutrality of Independent Turkmenistan acts as an inalienable symbol of relations between the states on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutually beneficial cooperation. Derived from the wisdom of Turkmenistan's esteemed President the magnificent work entitled "The Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan" defines the people's, state interests and world significance as follows: "Neutrality of Turkmenistan is our inalienable value, an integral part of our lives, our main goal. Neutrality has given the Turkmen people a peaceful, peaceful, prosperous and prosperous life. It serves as a reliable guarantee for the realization of deeply meaningful ideas of Independence. Along with independence, Neutrality is the cornerstone of all our successes."

The article is contributed by Meretguly Öwlýägulyýew, Professor at the Turkmen State Institute of Finance and Agajan Ataýew, Senior Instructor at the Turkmen State Institute of Finance

Neutrality of Turkmenistan: Significance and Legal Basis

Thanks to the far-sighted and constructive political course of our esteemed President, Turkmenistan has achieved great success in its domestic and foreign policies. Achievements in domestic policy include democratic principles such as promotion of democracy as well as economic development. Achievements in foreign policy are related to the legal status of permanent neutrality.



In the past at different times several states got the status of neutrality. Some of them remained faithful to their status, being committed to their obligations. Yet, over time some countries refused their legal status for various reasons. In international law neutrality is defined as the legal status which recognizes the state's obligation to refrain from any kind of war as well as from joining any military alliances and blocs that may involve in military clashes, except the state's self-defence against armed attack.

Some states acquired this status on the basis of treaties. As an example, we can refer to the neutrality of Switzerland. It was recognized in 1815 based on the Treaty of Paris. Another way of acquiring the status of neutrality is the adoption of the Constitutional Law, for instance the Republic of Austria. In Turkmenistan's case, the status of permanent neutrality was recognized by the United Nations. In this regard, the acquisition of the legal status of neutrality by Turkmenistan is in the form of innovation for the institute of neutrality.

Following are some peculiarities of the neutrality of Turkmenistan:

By origin - recognized. The UN General Assembly adopted resolutions on the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan on December 12, 1995 and on June 3, 2015;

by nature - permanent. It is not limited by time, it is in effect both in war time and peace time;

By content - positive. This means that the neutral policy of the country is a policy of action to maintain peace and stability and develop friendly relations and cooperation among states.

After independence, Turkmenistan chose a foreign policy aimed at good-neighbourly relations, peace, mutually beneficial cooperation and humanism. The first intentions to implement the neutral foreign policy were announced at the meeting of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe held in Helsinki on July 10, 1992.

To achieve the legal status of neutrality, the government of Turkmenistan conducted effective negotiations with a range of foreign countries and leading international organizations. In addition, the necessary legislative work for the legal status of neutrality was carried out at the national level.

On March 16, 1995, the Parliament of Turkmenistan adopted a decree "On the approval of the policy of the permanent positive neutrality of Turkmenistan", which states "To approve the principle of permanent neutrality as a basis for its foreign policy, which fully meets the interests of the state, the national, historical and geographical peculiarities and mentality of the Turkmen people".

In this regard, the meeting of the Organization of Economic Cooperation held in March in 1995 supported the initiative of Turkmenistan on the status of permanent neutrality. Then the proposal was unanimously supported by the Non-Aligned Movement, which stands for peace in the world and opposes military clashes.

The historic 50th session of the UN General Assembly held in 1995 was written in the annals of the history of Turkmenistan. A special resolution 50/80A on the "Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan" was adopted at this anniversary session with the unanimous support of all UN member states.

This historic resolution calls the member states of the United Nations to respect and support this status of Turkmenistan and to respect its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The adoption of this historic resolution of the UN General Assembly means recognition by the world community of Turkmenistan as a neutral state. And further, such a document was adopted for the first time in the activities of the UN. 185 member states of the world community voted for the adoption of the resolution at the General Assembly session.

After the recognition of permanent neutrality of our state at the world level, it was fixed in a number of legislative acts of the country adopted on December 27, 1995. First of all, it should be noted that relevant additions have been introduced into the Constitution of Turkmenistan. For instance, the norms of the Resolution are reflected in Article 2 of the Constitution of Turkmenistan.

Moreover, the Constitutional Law "On the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan" was adopted. This legislative act consists of 12 articles,

which define the political, economic and humanitarian areas of the legal status of permanent neutrality. It also sets forth international obligations undertaken by our country. After 20 year experience of the neutrality of Turkmenistan, it was reconfirmed by another resolution of the UN General Assembly at the 69th session on June 3, 2015. 47 states were co-authors of the document.

Turkmenistan, steadily following the principles of the legal status of permanent neutrality, responsibly fulfils its international obligations. This can be exemplified by negotiations for the peaceful settlement of the inter-Tajik conflicts and the restoration of peace in neighbour country - Afghanistan. Another confirmation of the essential peacekeeping role of the Turkmen neutrality in the region is the opening of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in Ashgabat in 2007. Since its establishment Turkmenistan has been effectively cooperating with it, contributing to the strengthening of the preventive direction of the country's foreign policy and diplomacy.

The "Foreign Policy Concept of Turkmenistan for 2013-2017" states that Turkmenistan's foreign policy will be based on the legal status of neutrality and recognizes the United Nations as its main strategic partner. The sessions of the UN General Assembly provide ample opportunities for the presentation of the humane and constructive policy of our state pursued by the National Leader. In the Prosperous Epoch of the Powerful State, a range of initiatives of local, regional and global importance were announced at the UN sessions.

The effectiveness of Turkmenistan's permanent neutrality is also evidenced by the adoption, at the 71st session of the UN General Assembly, of the Resolution proclaiming December 12 as International Day of Neutrality. In addition, at the initiative of the president of Turkmenistan, the UN General Assembly adopted another Resolution proclaiming the year 2021 "International Year of Peace and Trust", September 2019.

In 2020, Turkmenistan marked the 25th anniversary of the recognition of the legal status of the neutrality of Turkmenistan by the world community. On the occasion of this significant event the year 2020 was proclaimed as "Turkmenistan is the Homeland of Neutrality". Moreover, in 2020, large-scale celebrations and events had been held at the national and international level and in December the country held an international conference devoted to this policy of neutrality.

The foreign policy pursued by the President of Turkmenistan based on the legal status of neutrality fully meets the national interests and the neutrality policy turned into an effective tool for mutual understanding and cooperation among peoples.

(The article is contributed by Maya Orazova, Senior Lecturer, Department of World Languages, Institute of International Relations of the MFA of Turkmenistan)

Turkmen Private Agricultural Producers Increase the Exports

Private farms, members of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan engaged in agricultural production, are constantly increasing their exports. In the last three years, the export of agricultural products to foreign markets has increased fivefold.

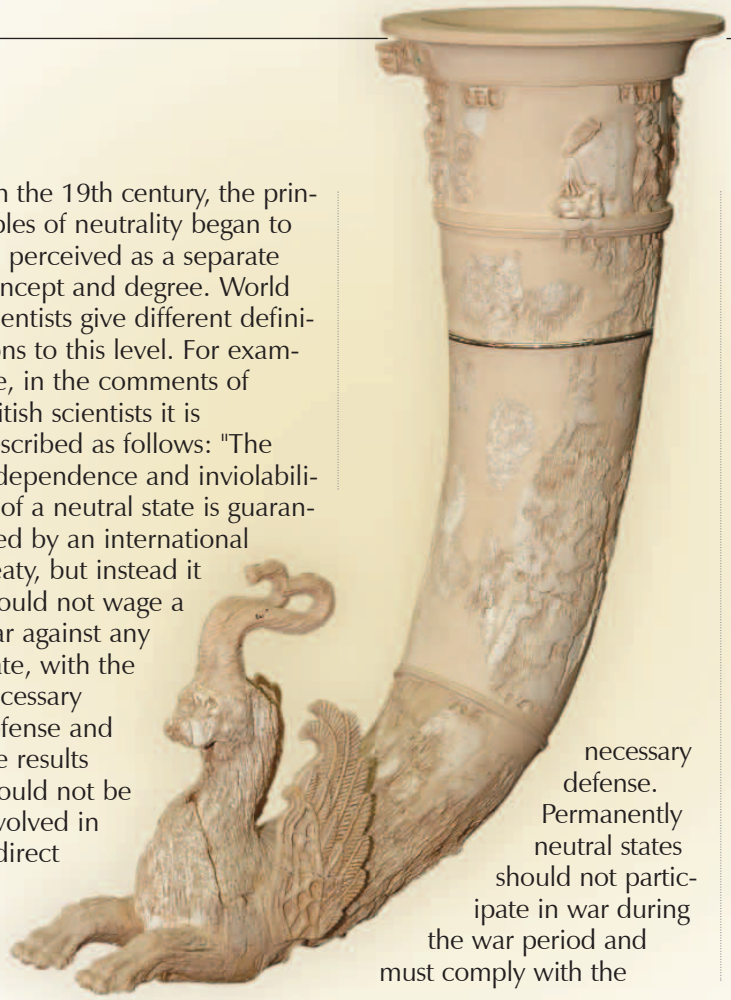
According to the official data, the volume of exports in the first two months of 2020 exceeded the total number of exports in 2017. Turkmen entrepreneurs are increasingly engaged in construction of greenhouses in order to increase the export of agricultural products. In 2019, around 300 hectares of land have been allocated to private businesses to grow tomatoes year-round. The figure is twice as high as in 2018. Turkmen businesses shipped over 21,000 tons of tomatoes, worth over $23 million, to Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia in 2019. Exports of legumes have increased several times over the past three years. During the period, the export of gourd products and grapes increased 2.5 times and 7 times correspondingly.

Evolution of Neutrality an Important Instrument of

Neutrality is the trust of the people of Turkmenistan in peacefulness and development. The permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan means the peaceful direction of foreign policy, the peaceful development of international relations, the promotion of global security and sustainable development, as well as active international cooperation, which contributes to the development of friendly relations and cooperation relations between countries. In 2020 Turkmenistan marked the twenty-five years of neutrality since the recognition of the resolution on the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan by the most prestigious organization in the world - the UN.

The consciousness of the Turkmen people is focused on treating people as the most precious value. The fact that the country has been the heart of the Great Silk Road for many centuries has allowed its national culture to become closer to the cultures of other peoples. This phenomenon, in turn, formed among the Turkmen a habit of peacefulness, openness to the world, adherence to the principles of neutrality, without interference in the internal affairs of other peoples. This fact is fully confirmed by various memorials and agreed agreements of historians, lawyers and philosophers that have come down to Turkmen since ancient times.

In the ancient world, obligations of neutrality were expressed in special agreements. The Parthians had to retreat when the armies of the Seleucids II invaded the Great Parthian Kingdom, which had just gained independence in 237 BC. A way out of this situation was found by King Arsak as a result of a treaty of neutrality with the Greco-Bactrian state, and in 236 BC., he was able to defeat the army of the Seleucids, when the Kushan kingdom became stronger and began to compete with Parthia. They were able to defend their lands, having concluded such a treaty with Parthia and the Roman Empire, a treaty of neutrality with Khorezm before the Seljuks war against the Ghaznavids, the choice the neutral direction of the commander of the Yomut troops of Ammaniyaz Serdar, preventing his army from participating in the war when the Khyva army invaded Mary in 1847, Atamyrat Khan also chose this direction when the Khyva Khan Mademin Khan invaded Sarakhs in 1855, shows that the habit Turkmen follow the principles of neutrality comes from ancient times.

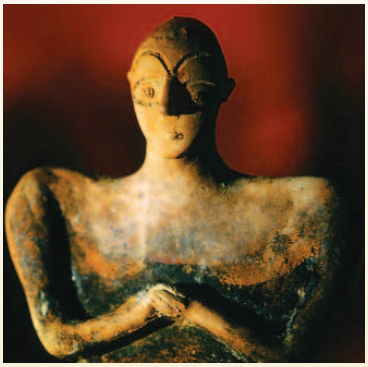


In the 19th century, the principles of neutrality began to be perceived as a separate concept and degree. World scientists give different definitions to this level. For example, in the comments of British scientists it is described as follows: "The independence and inviolability of a neutral state is guaranteed by an international treaty, but instead it should not wage a war against any state, with the necessary defense and the results should not be involved in indirect actions that could lead to interstate war".

and Permanent Neutrality as International Law

Non-interference in a war between states during hostilities is one of the foundations of a permanently neutral state. Declaring war on a permanently Neutral state to another state invalidates its Neutrality, but a permanent neutral state can use its strength for necessary defense. Permanently neutral states should not participate in war during the war period and must comply with the requirements of the 1907 The Hague and some other international treaties. A permanent neutral state must pursue a policy that does not lead to war in peacetime. It is possible that such a policy would not have been given to the belligerent states or alliances if this state did not enter into military blocs and alliances. Our policy of neutrality is also guided by these principles.

On December 12, 1995, the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan was recognized unanimously with the support of 185 states at the UN General Assembly, one of the most prestigious organizations in the world. On this day, the history of the Turkmen people was written in golden letters. It is a great honor for the state of Turkmenistan to be the first to receive the status of a permanent neutral state from the United Nations.



Neutrality allowed every Turkmen to follow the path of their ancestors and follow national traditions. This sacred word, which has become the pride of hearts, today sounds like a guarantee that each person will live a

peaceful, happy life. Today, every citizen of Turkmenistan sees permanent neutrality as a guarantee of a peaceful life and confidence in the future. Today's Foreign Policy Neutrality, chosen by our country, attracts the attention not only of the Asian region, but of the whole world. The basic principles of the policy of permanent neutrality, which form the basis of Turkmenistan's foreign policy, are also based on the common good. They consist of the following:

-The permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan is aimed at developing friendly, mutually beneficial relations with the countries of the region and the world;

-Turkmenistan pursues a peaceful foreign policy and builds its relations with other states on the basis of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in their internal affairs;

-Turkmenistan undertakes not to take part in wars or military conflicts, as well as to engage in political, diplomatic or other activities that may lead to war or military conflict;

-Has the right to seek assistance from the UN in the event of military aggression against Turkmenistan;

-Permanent neutrality in Turkmenistan does not mean the absence of its own national army.

The Turkmen people are a people respecting the traditions of neighborhood and brotherhood, and in an era of prosperity, such positive relations are characterized by the development at interstate, regional and international levels, and Turkmenistan's constant neutrality is a beacon in this work. In this regard, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov said: "Turkmenistan is committed to the principles of Independence and Permanent Neutrality of our Motherland and will lead us to a bright

future based on the path of peace, friendship, brotherhood and mutually beneficial cooperation." It shows the new principles of the concept of neutrality in the world.

Loving freedom more than life, having made a sign of their honor, word, dignity, having gone through difficult thousand-year paths, it is not difficult to imagine how desirable the concepts of Independence and permanent Neutrality are for the Turkmen people. In this regard, the national Hero Arkadag said: "Neutrality has opened up wide opportunities for us to live in peace and harmony and strengthen our sacred Independence."

Independence and permanent neutrality are forces that ensure unity, a prosperous life, directing the endless power of the people in a certain direction. But it is necessary not only to possess these forces, but also to direct them on a new path for the benefit of Turkmenistan and its people. And this can only be done with the help of a wise leader who will lead only to progress.

Today, the Turkmen people have such a national Leader. The years of independence are a period of peace that has revived the Turkmen destiny. During this period, Turkmen entered a period of transition, the era of the New Renaissance and great reforms

from February 19, 2008 to the era of prosperity of the Sovereign State on February 24, 2012.

In a period of prosperity and power, in Neutral State, the doctrine proclaimed by the Honorable President: "The State is for the people!" shows its clear results. The content of the national doctrine includes education, science, culture, progress, and the goal is the spiritual and moral renewal of society, raising people's awareness and personal responsibility for the development of the changes that have occurred, and all this is to develop and improve education on a scientific basis.

In period of prosperity and power, the country actively participates in international politics under the leadership of our esteemed President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov. Thanks to the efforts of the National Leader of our people, glorious directions are passing. In these ancient places, where traces of cave dust were laid, the foundation of a new Happy Life is being laid. The prestige of the country is further enhanced by the achievements of independence and permanent neutrality. The value of this sacred concept is enhanced by the prudent wisdom of the esteemed President in the

Age of well-being and becomes the foundation of our society.

Unity, solidarity and goodwill are essential conditions for prosperity. They are an integral principle of the Turkmen people. Compliance with these principles has made us an authoritative state in all organizations, starting with the UN. Today Turkmenistan has established diplomatic relations with 138 countries of the world. The permanently neutral country is currently a member of 44 international organizations participating in 131 international conventions and treaties.

On December 10, 2007, the UN Office for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia was opened in Ashgabat - one of the new principles in international relations. Open to Central Asia and the Caspian region, the center is the first in a very delicate and uncomplicated system of world diplomacy.

The UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia is currently working to save the Aral Sea, use the region's agricultural opportunities to ensure food security, ensure peace in Afghanistan and restore its economy, protect motherhood and children and protect the rights of refugees and the whole world, coordinate specific measures aimed at deepening mutually beneficial political relations, expanding economic cooperation, developing good-neighborly relations and further strengthening the international legal framework for stability and security.

The efforts of Permanently Neutral Turkmenistan and its Respected President to promote peace throughout the world are being implemented not only as an important initiative, but also on the basis of concrete actions. Among them are the opening of the International Seaport, the international railway Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran in Turkmenbashi. This new path will help ensure sustainable development and security in Asia, as well as add additional stability to the entire system of political relations on the continent.

Turkmenistan proves that neutrality is not only an honorary degree, but also an active struggle for peace and reconciliation. Our esteemed President strives to bring the level of neutrality closer, in no way restricting relations with neighboring and other countries, but to develop mutually beneficial and good relations with all countries of the world.

The fact that now the countries of the world are looking

at Turkmenistan with great interest is the result of a balanced foreign and domestic policy of our esteemed President. In his external relations, the esteemed President is guided by the internal needs of the country. In this regard, foreign policy is primarily a way of protecting and recognizing the interests of the state.

Supporting stability and security in the world, establishing friendly relations with countries of the world and close cooperation with major international organizations, especially with the United Nations, are the priorities of our country's foreign policy. The international initiatives of the esteemed President of Turkmenistan aimed at energy security, sustainable use of water resources, security of all peoples of the world, ensuring global peace throughout the world and jointly combating threats to humanity are rooted in the interests of all mankind. Because it takes time for everyone to work together as one soul, one body to ensure lasting peace, global security and sustainable development on Earth. These are the main goals of the United Nations Millennium Development Program. All efforts of the President are aimed at ensuring that Turkmenistan makes a worthy contribution to the implementation of these goals.

It is the greatest happiness to understand the importance of neutrality, to feel its value in your heart and to live in its depths. Peace, tranquility and unity are qualities that are inherent in the blood and spirit of the Turkmen people. Even harsh historical trials failed to change the essence of the Turkmens in this regard.

In the history of diplomatic art, Turkmenistan was able to come to the fore, relying on its level of permanent neutrality. As the President noted, "Turkmen neutrality is now considered an integral and important part of ensuring stability at the regional and international levels." Neutrality is a doctrine that calls on peoples to peace and happiness throughout the world. In the history of international relations, the young Turkmen state explored the use of permanent neutrality in solving foreign policy problems and managed to add its own innovations to modern diplomacy.

The article is based on the contributions of Divanova Jemal, Judge of the Mary District Court of Turkmenistan and Geldiyev Ahmet, Teacher of the Department of Social Sciences of the State Institute of Energy of Turkmenistan

Neutral Turkmenistan

Committed to Agenda for Sustainable Development

Turkmenistan has participated actively in formulation of the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) and was among the first states to officially adopt all 17 SDGs and mainstream them into the national development plans and strategies. Experts see the preparation of Turkmenistan's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) not only as an important part of follow-up and review process but also as an opportunity to strengthen national policies to achieve sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda is country's main strategy, which will enable both deepening the social orientation of existing national policies and achieving country's balanced development in three dimensions - social, economic and environmental. Given the indivisibility of SDGs, Turkmenistan applies an integrated approach to their implementation, as reflected in the VNR report.

Since the adoption of SDGs, Turkmenistan has achieved significant progress in its social policy, began the market transformations, and stepped up climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. The positive results in providing the population with affordable and high-quality medical services and education are being maintained; while the reforms continue aimed at improving healthcare and education systems. The country has embarked upon the development of market relations accompanied with the continuation of the socially-oriented economic growth and greening of economic sectors, rational use of natural resources and effective adaptation to climate change. At the

same time, special attention is being given to inclusivity of national reforms, and ensuring equal opportunities and full participation of women in economic, political and cultural life of the country. A Working Group comprised of deputy heads of ministries and government agencies, civil society organizations and academia, was established to oversee the SDG implementation and monitoring and their further integration into national, sectoral and regional development programs. The VNR report preparation ensured full participation of all stakeholders leaving no one behind; it reflects the vision of public and civil society organizations, private sector and youth, and represents the cooperation results between Turkmenistan and the United Nations system. The preparation of the VNR report offered an opportunity to look anew at the measures being undertaken in Turkmenistan, and identify the steps forward in further implementation of SDGs:

One of the key lessons learnt is the need to continue efforts for strengthening the statistical capacity. Turkmenistan will work on development of the national SDG indicators framework, collection of comprehensive, reliable and disaggregated data, and establishment of the national SDGs database. This will ensure the completion of setting the baseline for the Turkmenbashi international seaport is the harbour and cargo port in Turkmenbashi city. Enabling the financing for development is a key component in implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Turkmenistan is improving its public finance management system, including through fiscal regulation in order to mobilize domestic resources. At the same time, Turkmenistan hopes to continue fruitful collaboration with the UN agencies and international organizations and rely on their all-round assistance in this work. Yet, it is important to supplement the increase in domestic finance with international assistance. Therefore, being committed to addressing the issue of financing for sustainable development, Turkmenistan believes that it is important to promote partnerships and cooperation with the United Nations system, Bretton Woods institutions and international development banks, as well as to provide access to concessional and innovative financing for the middle-income countries. Turkmenistan looks forward to the assistance of international community in this important endeavor.

Turkmenistan remains coherently committed to issues of building peaceful societies by realizing human rights and human dignity, disarmament and non-proliferation, promoting global and regional cooperation and engagement frameworks, and working together in addressing global challenges. Turkmenistan will continue working on development of the United Nations Special Program for the Aral Sea Basin to address water and environmental issues in Central Asia. Turkmenistan's initiatives aimed at consolidating international efforts to addressing the major issues of the global agenda cannot be implemented single-handedly - they require an active engagement of international community, along with technical assistance and investments from international organizations and multilateral banks.

Turkmenistan's Permanent **Neutrality Policy** is the basis of International Cooperation in the Study of Cultural Heritage

In the prosperous period of Turkmen sovereign state, the permanent neutrality of the country is a guarantee of the peaceful life of the Turkmen people and has become a permanent sign in Turkmen's history. Turkmenistan's Permanent Neutrality, recognized by the world community, has further enhanced Turkmenistan's international prestige as a state that promotes good neighborliness, peace-loving, mutually beneficial and equitable cooperation with countries and peo-

ples of the world, and adheres to its international obligations.

The state of neutrality is stated in Basic Law of Turkmenistan (Article 2 of the Constitution) the principles of neutrality has become the principle of its national law. A number of documents have also been adopted, which form the basis of the international legal basis for the permanent neutrality of the country, respecting the culture, traditions and values of other peoples. According to these documents, within the framework of the multifaceted international cooperation of our country, it is possible to establish mutually beneficial relations with other countries, to cooperate in the field of mutual enrichment and rapprochement of cultures, to study heritage and to spread the world.

Turkmenistan's Foreign Policy Program as a Neutral State confirms Turkmenistan's international obligations in the long run, defines the main directions of its relations with foreign countries and international organizations, the political, economic and humanitarian aspects of its implementation. The cultural aspects of the international cooperation of neutral Turkmenistan, the establishment of good and cultural relations with other countries, the cooperation in the field of mutual enrichment of cultures are provided for in the humanitarian aspect of the Program.

"Turkmenistan builds its relations with other states on the basis of respect for the culture, traditions and customs of their peoples, their historical memory and encourages the intermingling and enrichment of cultures among nations and peoples".

The document, approved by the President of Turkmenistan on March 20, 2008, "Strategies for Implementing the Foreign Policy Strategy of Neutral Turkmenistan for the Period 2008-2012" outlines the strategic directions for expanding and normalizing international cooperation of the country, including cultural and scientific cooperation.

Thanks to the comprehensive reforms carried out under the wise leadership of Turkmen national leader in the prosperous period of the sovereign state, Turkmenistan has reached new levels of international cooperation. For example, the Concept of the Foreign Policy of Neutral Turkmenistan for 2017-2023, approved by the Resolution of the President of Turkmenistan on February 18, 2017, sets out the main goals and principles of the foreign policy of our country, specific directions and tasks for the specified period. Particular emphasis is placed on cooperation in the study and dissemination of the

cultural and historical heritage, national values of the Turkmen people. Turkmenistan defines its policy in this regard on the basis of the slogan "Relation through culture". As stated in the Concept, Turkmenistan will continue to work effectively with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote the cultural and historical heritage of the Turkmen people around the world.

The multilateral foreign policy is being implemented in accordance with the specific directions set out in the Concept of Foreign Policy of Neutral Turkmenistan for 2017-2023. As it is known, during the years of independence the state of Turkmenistan has established international cooperation in the protection and restoration of its rich historical and cultural heritage. An example is the cooperation that began in 1993 with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The policy pursued by UNESCO allows for the inclusion of both the principle and the principle of its work, international and legal framework, in bilateral and principled, scientific and cultural processes at the international level. The organization also plays an important role in addressing the issues of World Heritage Preservation. Today, the President attaches great importance to the comprehensive development of cooperation with UNESCO. The active cooperation of Turkmenistan with this organization, the contribution to the development of international relations in the field of science and culture, the work carried out in the field of restoration, protection, study and promotion of the heritage of our ancestors is widely recognized. Turkmenistan is implementing programs to study and preserve the unique histori-

cal and cultural monuments of UNESCO. One such program is the Great Silk Road project. As part of this project, the analysis of our dozens of unique historical monuments along the Great Silk Road presented by our country with the participation of Turkmen scientists and international experts is underway.

Within the framework of international cultural cooperation to date, the epic "Gorogly" (December 24, 2015), "Kushtdepdi song and dance ritual" (December 7, 2017), "Turkmen national carpet art" (2019 December 9-14) are included in the Intangible Cultural Heritage List of the UNESCO. With the inclusion in UNESCO List, these intangible values are spreading around the world as unique works of art.

By pursuing its foreign policy as a permanent neutral state, Turkmenistan, on the basis of the State Program for the Development of the Cultural System in Turkmenistan for 2019-2025, is a partner in the study and preservation of its historical and cultural heritage, national values and historical monuments, disclosure to the world scientific community and future generations as our national wealth. In this regard, as a result of the preparation and submission of data and documents of outstanding examples of carpet weaving in accordance with the requirements of UNESCO, on December 9-14, 2019, the Turkmen National Carpet Weaving Art was included in the list of intangible cultural heritage and spread internationally.

International scientific cooperation in the protection and study of objects of historical and cultural heritage of the country is based on "State Program for Improving the Efficiency of Research and Innovation Technologies in Turkmenistan for 2017-2021" as well as "State Program for the Development of Humanities in Turkmenistan". Based on the tasks arising from the programs, large-scale work is being carried out in the country for the comprehensive study and restoration of the unique cultural values, historical and cultural heritage, and unique monuments created by our people over the centuries.

In general, Turkmenistan is known as a neutral state based on the principles of peace, goodwill and friendship in its foreign policy around the world. The benevolent foreign policy of neutral Turkmenistan serves fully the fundamentals of neutrality and contributes to strengthening of international cooperation in the study and protection of the historical and cultural heritage of Turkmenistan.

.The article is based on the contributions of Maya Akmyradova and Serdar Annayev, teachers of the State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan

Permanent Neutrality is an Inexhaustible Source of People Oguznama

"Studying and analyzing the rich heritage of folklore and disseminating the original, researching the historical and cultural heritage of the Turkmen people, is one of the important tasks".

(The President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov)

In the prosperous period of the Sovereign State under the wise leadership of Turkmen's Arkadag and Heroic President, the literary and cultural values that describes patriotism of our ancestors, bravery, pure love, creative ability, secular and religious beliefs, moral principles, humanitarian values and humanitarian sentiments are respected. The study, publication and dissemination of the values related to the intangible cultural heritage are carried out internationally on the basis of the theoretical doctrine of the President on the correct study of the history, cultural and literary heritage of the people. The role of Turkmen science and artistic values in world culture is defined and their contribution to the formation of the perfect spiritual world of mankind is highly valued.

History and the art of fiction are two trees that are rooted in one another, their roots and their source are the people. The artistic creativity and Turkmen folklore reflect the history, life, morals, traditions, customs of the

people, worldview, talent, desires and motives. Turkmen fine art has such values due to the glorious history of the people and Neutrality values have given it a source of perfection and enrichment.

The history, culture and creativity of Oguz are profound, at the same time extensive, and their contribution to world cultural values is great. Such depth and breadth have made his work very artistic and delicate as a world art. The gradual improvement of human consciousness, worldview, creative ability, and talent in historical periods and spiritual epochs has ensured the harmonious development of the artistic and historical foundations of folk works. Our ancestors paid special attention to the artistry of their creations, to the fact that their emotions, morals were pure and sweaty, and that their artistic images were influential and exemplary. Despite the artistic and historical period of Turkmen folklore, culture, morality, goodness, spirituality and freedom have become the basic principles. Spirituality, humanity, freedom, patriotism, purity are the sacred principles of Neutrality. Therefore, as our Arkadag President has repeatedly reminded us, it is important to study on a scientific basis the history, cultural, literary heritage, traditions, language, moral principles and their influence and contribution to the world culture of the Turkmen people. In this regard, Turkmen folklore is valued as a more ancient literary source. The origin, formation and transformation of folklore into the fine art have national and common characteristics. According to the results

of science, the history of the creation of folk works pervades the millennia. The ancient creativity of the most ancient people in the East was rooted in the sacred value of the people's neutrality, which has enriched it over time.

Over time, the transition from generality to singularity, from narrow-mindedness to multi-meaningness, from generality to complex individuality, is a legitimate condition that determines the early formation and development of folklore. It is a natural developmental feature of folklore to move from a monotonous artistic mind to a rational mind, and then to a variety of philosophically based rationalizations. Turkmen folklore has also been formed into this legitimate origin and development and has become a word art. The President of Turkmenistan, our Hero Arkadag Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov noted, "Turkmens are one of the most ancient peoples who have made a significant contribution to the treasures and cultural and spiritual development of world culture. The Turkmen people are rich in hundreds of historical and cultural monuments, literary values and manuscript sources that have permeated them for thousands of years. Our rich national heritage, which encompasses the roots of centuries of human history, literary and spiritual values, and the most exquisite works of art that have been circumcised for centuries, is one of the main spiritual foundations of our time. Turkmenistan is an ancient place of cultural and spiritual revival that unites different cultures. The great works of our wise scholars and poets, our epics Oguznama, Gorkut Ata, Gorogly, folk works have given wings to the souls of generations

and purified the human hearts at all times".

This means that the creativity of the ancient people is also ancient, and is very rich in meaning, all kinds of solutions, various artistic means, images, philosophies, expressions and other values.

Because Turkmen folklore is a national artistic value, and their theoretical division is also national.

Folklore consists of groups, types, genres, types, which meet the theoretical requirements of the fine art, and include its meaning, art, system of images, performance.

Turkmen folklore is divided into three groups: "poetic folklore", "folklore" and "epics".

"Poetry Folklore" is conditionally made up of three types.

1. Poetic folklore related to tradition, breeding , agriculture. This category includes huvdi, monjugats, wedding songs, agy, kushtdepdi, dates, seasonal poetic works, prayers, praises, superstitions, zikr, jahar, porhan songs.

2. Poetry folklore not related to tradition. This includes songs, tirme songs, harayas, laleles, dönemler, yareýjanlar, lollujanlar, talhyns, proverbs.

3. Poetic folklore of children. This category includes riddles, tongue-twisters, and poetic works of all kinds in folk games.

Turkmen folk tales are divided into two categories, "legendary type" and "fairy-tale type", and differ from each other in terms of performance, authenticity, description, source, and aesthetic service. Legendary types: myths, legends, stories. Fairy-tale type: short stories, parables. These

genres are also divided into different types.

The division of the epic group of Turkmen folklore is unique. Since the epics are made up of a mixture of storytelling , it is more convenient to divide them into themes. Our ancestors did not use the words "epic" or "epos", but called works epic, sometimes mesnevi, large, narrative, and poetic blends. Epics were created in more ancient times. At first it was in the form of a story, a legend, a fairy tale. In the first millennium BC, works related to the story and poetry appeared among the Oguzs. The heroic works about Oguz originated four thousand five hundred years ago. In the V-VI centuries of our era, stories of heroism, love, legends gradually became artistic epics as a result of the development of human artistic thinking, creative ability.

Epics are divided into 'heroic epics', i.e., epos, 'love epics', 'life epics', 'career related epics', 'book epics'. Heroic epics include Oguznamalar, Gorkut Ata, Gorogly, Yusuf-Ahmet, love epics Shasenem-Garib, Huyrlukga-Hemra, Sayatly Hemra, Asly-Kerem, and other epics. Nazdepe, Tulum Hoja and other epics, professionally related epics, Nejep oglan, Gulpam and other epics, his book epics include Iskendernama, Ibrahim Edhem, Hatamnama, Rustem Zal, Shanama, Hazrat Ali and other epics are included.

In the word art, classification is not divided into just one area. Our ancestors created their own classification in the history and artistic development of art. This classification is related to the name of Oguz and can be divided into conditional forms as follows:

In the art of word art, classification is not divided into just one area. Our ancestors created their own classification in the history and artistic development of art. This classification is related to the name of Oguz and can be divided into conditional forms as follows:

1. Family Oguznamas. The history of Oguz, the history of its descendants, the works of art belong to the genealogy of Oguz. Oguznamalar has been popular among the people since ancient times. Ancient myths, legends, and epic stories about Oguz were used as sources. The Oguznama of Rashid al-Din, Salar Baba, Abulgazi, Andalib was a

bridge between art and history. The genealogy was later continued in connection with the names of the ethnic groups.

2. Heroic Oguznamas. Folk works about Tumarly, Shirak, Rustem, Oguz Khan, Efrasiap (Hus Tonge), Gorkut Ata, Gorogly, Keymir Kor are heroic Oguznamas. These works artfully embody the achievements of the Turkmen people throughout their history.

3. Love Oguznamas.. "Shasenem - Poor", "Zohre - Tahir", "Huyrlukga - Hemra", "Sayatly Hemra", "Asly - Kerem", "Perhat - Shirin", "Arzy - Gammar" and all other works dedicated to love have formed love poems.

4. Dana Oguznamas. Proverbs and sayings rooted in the wisdom and wise thoughts of the Turkmen people are a clear example of this. We know about 3,500 Oghuz proverbs written before and during the 16th century. Muhammad Ali, who lived in the 16th century, collected Oghuz proverbs and prepared a collection of nearly 2,000 proverbs, The Book of Haza Oguznama ("This is the Book of Oguznama"). The second value of wise Oguznama is the collection of unique proverbs created in the wise Oguznama tradition "Emsaly-Turkana" ("Turkish ancestral word"). The collection was based on the Oghuz wisdoms that Abbasguly Maragayi, a literate man of his time, collected from the people. The collection was written on the instructions of Huseyinguly Khan, the governor of Mazendaran, the father of Agamammet Gajar Khan. The collection of proverbs of Maragai guarantees that the proverbial wisdom of our ancestors has been perfected through the genealogical tradition of the wise Oguznama tradition of artistic folklore.

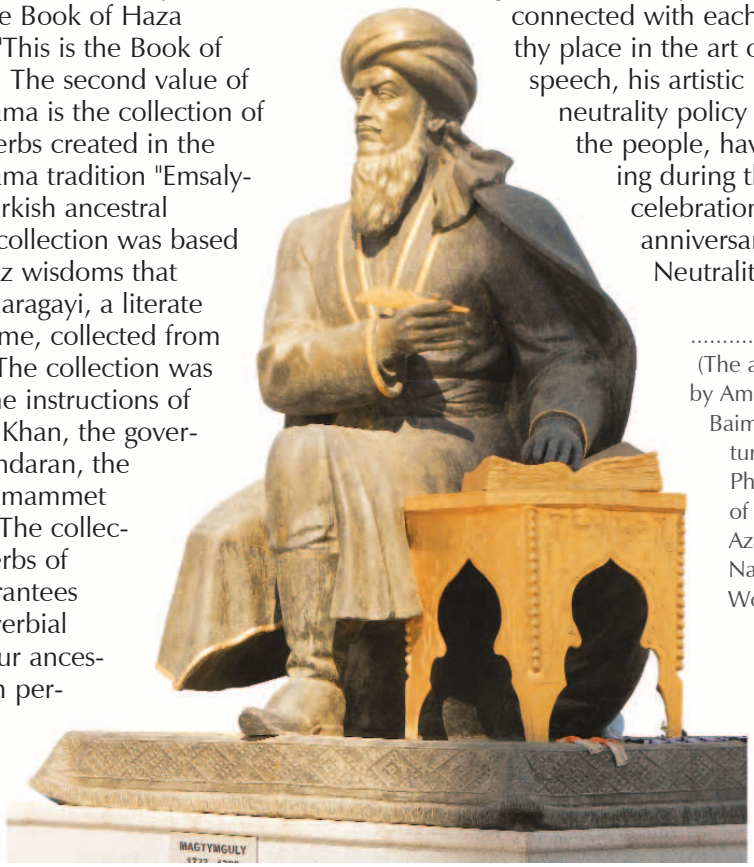
5. Educational Oguznamas.This includes works dedicated to children and created by children themselves. Tongue-twisters and educational works are educational resources.

6. Tradition Oguznamas. This type of work on the traditions, customs, and superstitions of the Turkmens forms this form.

7. Narrative Oguznamas. Turkmen myths, legends, stories, fairy tales, short stories, parables, stories in epics are short stories.

8. Poetic Oguznamas. Ancient goshuks, songs, yareyjans, lollujans, donems, agy, lales, talhyns, monjugatdy, wedding songs, huvdi, kushtdepdi and other poetic works were poetic oguznamas.

The classification of Oguznama traditions has been established over the centuries and has been perfected from generation to generation. They are interrelated art connected with each other. His worthy place in the art of oriental speech, his artistic reflection of the neutrality policy and principle of the people, have a new meaning during the international celebrations of the 25th anniversary of Permanent Neutrality.



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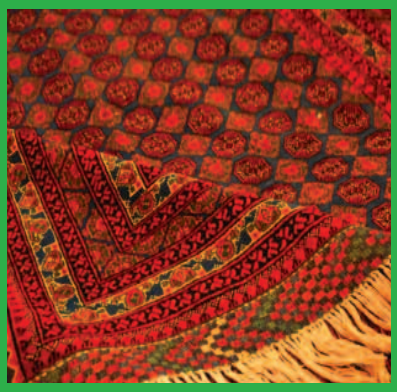
(The article is contributed by Amanmyrat Baimyradov, senior lecturer, Doctor of Philological Sciences of Dovletmammet Azady Turkmen National Institute of World Languages)

Above and Foremost the Human Values:

A Concept of Constructive Neutrality and a Principle of Foreign Policy of Turkmenistan

Since its first days of independence, Turkmenistan started a program of construction of national state and its development in accordance with the trends and character of regional and global progress as well as building a system of foreign relations and of searching for optimal ways of participating in international relations on the basis of its own national interests.

The construction of a new state, taking account of unique national characteristics, mentality and traditions has led to a close correlation with the requirements of stability in the region and of strengthening international security. Following this logic, Turkmenistan has chosen as its main priority a course of stable development. The tasks of guaranteeing internal policy stability are aimed at the creation of conditions for a fundamental reformation of the state structure and economics.



These conditions are vital to the realization of the great transcontinental, economic, resource and, most importantly, human potential of Turkmenistan. The foreign policy line of the state is bent to securing stability throughout the state that allows efficient trade and economic cooperation arrangements with neighboring countries, and the realization of systematic integration into the world market. According to the chosen course of reformation, the new institutions of state authority and regulation corresponding to the traditions, customs and mentality of the people have been formed in Turkmenistan in a short period. The political system has been raised to a new qualitative level and, at the same time, social shocks and splintering into political groupings have been avoided.

The strengthening of state principles has

led, simultaneously, to the persistent observance of the fundamental security of the population and systematic transition to market economy. It has been promoted by the policy of the state regulation of major branches of the economy and provided the population with a guaranteed minimum of social and welfare provisions.

Discipline and public order enforcement have been raised to the proper level. Such a re-orientation of internal policy is not accidental. The world's historical experience witnesses that significant economic success is achieved by those countries which manage to effectively use the state regulation of economic processes, including a transition to a market economy and the widespread development of entrepreneurship.

Side by side with the creation of the internal political conditions for Turkmenistan's development, active work on the elaboration and realization of a foreign policy course has been under way, and this work is based on a new concept of peace and regional cooperation. Careful study of the centuries-old history of Turkmen people, who were able to keep their national identity and the territorial integrity of their land for about thousand years after the break-ups of the great empires founded by the Turkmens, shows that the most effective foreign policy course of Turkmenistan can be realized through the principle of neutrality.

The traditions of peacefulness and good neighborliness, the mentality and cultural originality of Turkmen people are also appropriate for this. Among the obvious factors that have stipulated and made real the embodiment of the political aims of neutrality are the following: First, there are the specific historical features of Turkmen people, who have always distinguished themselves by their peacefulness, good neighborliness, diligence and originality. Faithfulness to traditions and religion, respect and reverence to the elder (be that the head of a family or of the whole state) are also essential qualities of Turkmen society. Such solidity of the social foundation may be to a great extent explained by the natural and geographic specialties of Turkmenistan - survival in desert areas, where each drop of water is equal to a golden grain, would be impossible without a solid family model and peace between neighboring people. Second, there is the wealth of minerals given to the Turkmen land by nature; namely, the great resources of natural gas and oil and unique deposits

of non-ferrous and rare-earth metals which are the material basis for the development of national and foreign economic relations.

It may also mentioned that the rich agricultural potential of Turkmenistan which provides the country with great prospects of entering the world market. The people of Turkmenistan have concluded, after considering the need for stabilization and development in Central and South Asia and the geopolitical and ethno-cultural situation

of the country that an internationally recognized status of permanent neutrality is the path to follow. That is why since the very first days of independence, when the foreign policy strategy of Turkmenistan was being elaborated, the principles of neutralism have been adopted. The course for acquiring the recognized status of neutrality has been supported by practical measures of both a political and an economic character. The idea of neutrality taken as a concept has been pursued constantly at the official and working meetings of the President of Turkmenistan with leaders of other countries, and put logically into bilateral and multilateral documents with the participation of Turkmenistan. For that the definite aim is set to let the states of the world community form the right understanding of the foreign policy direction of Turkmenistan.

Here comes a very reasonable question: How did the Turkmen phenomenon of neutrality draw the attention of the world community when the idea of neutrality of a state itself is not new?.

The Turkmen model of neutrality radically changes the existing views on neutrality and, first of all, is based on modern international law, which is a law of peace. It is based on a new concept of co-operation and progress for peace in the region. The proposed formula of stabilization is vital for any society where human beings are declared to be of the highest value. For each individual, it means family, peace among friends, and peaceful country. For social strata and population groups it is mutual social understanding and support, absence of conflicts and of tension. For nations it means inner and interethnic consent and mutual understanding. For the state it means stability, guaranteed development, and the absence of wars and civil disasters. For the region it means geopolitical cooperation, reliable partnership, territorial immunity and security of borders. Lastly, for the international community it means a pledge to peaceful and evolutionary progress on a global scale.

From the beginning, the Turkmen people have realized that the new status is the guarantee of stability and prosperity, civil consent and social concord in the country. Turkmen mothers praise peace that gives confidence that their sons go to military service only for the purpose of defending their motherland, not for fighting in some other place.

If Independence Day is the most important holiday for the Turkmen people, the Day of Neutrality is the second most important holiday in Turkmenistan. After the adoption of the UN resolution on the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan the new reality required legislative consolidation of the international status of the country. The appropriate amendments to the Constitution were adopted by the People's Council on December 27 1995. The council approved the decision to adopt the appropriate Constitutional Law of Turkmenistan 'About the Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan,' a declaration of international obligations of neutral Turkmenistan in the area of human rights, and also the concept

of the foreign policy of Turkmenistan as a neutral state. These basic documents became the basis, the foundation, defining clear guidelines for the foreign policy course of Turkmenistan. The legislative consolidation of Turkmenistan's neutrality at the level of a special UN resolution and the adoption of the appropriate constitutional law provides a full guarantee of the neutral status of the country. The guarantees of the international community include the observance by all the UN members of the obligations related to Turkmenistan and unity in their actions for keeping and strengthening its neutral status. Therefore, there is an important point here that this status cannot be changed or cancelled without the agreement of all UN members. According to its neutral status and the obligations reflected in its law on neutrality, Turkmenistan does not participate in military blocs and alliances, does not allow the creation of military bases on its territory or its use by other countries for military purposes. The armed forces of Turkmenistan serve the purpose of defending its independence, sovereignty and territorial unity. The significance of the permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan is expressed in the pursuance of a peaceful policy.

The constitutional law of Turkmenistan also envisages that the country develop international economic cooperation on the basis of the equality of rights, mutual benefit and the taking into account of the interests of all sides involved in the process. Ashgabat considers this cooperation to be the most important instrument for strengthening mutual trust between countries and regions, keeping peace and stability. In such circumstances permanent neutrality is an important guarantee for foreign investment and international capital flows into the economy of Turkmenistan. Such status in many cases consolidates the world's financial and industrial elites' trust in the country.

A human being is declared under the constitution to be of the highest value in the society and state in Turkmenistan. The appropriate provision is reflected in the constitutional law on Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan too.

Turkmenistan recognizes and respects human rights and freedoms, accepted by the world community and adopted as norms of international law. Ashgabat creates political, economic, legal and other guarantees for their effective realization. Besides that, Turkmenistan, having as its base generally accepted legal documents, takes an active part in international humanitarian actions.

The Role of Permanent

Neutrality in the Development of Education System in Turkmenistan

Neutrality is a historical choice of the people of Turkmenistan and the will of the people is its guarantee.

The idea of neutral state for Turkmenistan emerged in the first years of independence.

After gaining independence, the country has proclaimed "Open Doors Policy" in its indoor and outdoor policy. Within the framework of "Open Doors" policy, large - scale projects have been carried out to promote the prestige of the county in the international arena.

On the strength of national traditions and geopolitical specifics of Turkmenistan, the question of acquiring status of permanent neutrality arose in that time as objective and essential necessity.

On December 12, 1995, the UN General

Assembly adopted a special Resolution on Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan.

The adoption of this resolution was an important milestone for the Turkmen people and the state, making the wise and farsighted foreign policy, strategy, triumphant brilliant idea a reality and it was clear evidence of the care about welfare of the people of Turkmenistan. At the 71st Session of the UN General Assembly held on February 2, 2017, the Resolution on Recognition of December 12 as the International Day of Neutrality was adopted unanimously. "The new Resolution reflects crucial essence of peacemaking, constructing experience accumulated by the country for more than two decades. During these years, the Neutrality of Turkmenistan established a reputation of an effective mechanism of entering into fruitful cooperation, strengthening friendly, good neighborly relations among states and nations.

By establishing foreign economic and social relations demands taking into consideration the changes taking place in the world. Confidently entering into the system of modern international relations, Turkmenistan is in the of movement of establishing wide diplomatic relations with the countries of the world and actively developing constructive cooperation with the UN, the European Union, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and other major international organizations.

In recent years, the education system of world has been developing through globalization and internationalization of national education system. Bringing the higher educational establishments to the level of the world standards is the main task of our times. The tasks of transition to more new methods of education, using the gained world experience and scientific approaches in practical life, creation of high technological educational institutions are being realized more actively.

Since the first days of the presidency of esteemed President of Turkmenistan, raising the system of education to the level of the world standards and in accordance with the requirements of the people of the country remained as one of the main

trends and objectives. In this connection and taking into consideration the historical-social conditions of the third millennium, a large scale tasks to be fulfilled for flourishing of the country, for prosperous life of Turkmen people. The esteemed President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, gave impetus to modern reforms in the education system.

ation as well-educated specialists on information technologies is actively carried out. Turkmenistan is aimed at being on high level is such spheres as education, science, culture, modern technologies and economy.

The esteemed President's Decree from March 1, 2013 "On the improvement of education system in Turkmenistan" and the decision on the secondary education issues in Turkmenistan resulted in the prolongation of secondary education up to 12 years. The Honorable President continuously stressed the importance of using multimedia technologies in the education system of our country.

In the Epoch of Might and Happiness changes in the education system are the most important branch of Turkmenistan's policy and it advances under the leadership of our Esteemed President. The education system of Turkmenistan develops on international level. Modern technologies are actively introduced into educational system and the work on preparing young gener-

All schools in the country have been equipped with modern computers, multimedia blackboards and all technical facilities to make study easier and useful. Children at their six years can enter the school according to the Conception of twelve-year education at schools.

Twelve-year secondary schools program is divided into the following levels and categories: 1st - 4th forms of primary education; 5th -10th forms of basic secondary education; 11th- 12th forms of high school education.

The Concept of Developing Digital Education System is also aimed at the updating of this sphere,

which provides all its levels with an electronic information base.

Along with these concepts "the concept of improving the teaching of foreign languages" is approved. The President of Turkmenistan signed the Resolution approving the Concept of improving the teaching of foreign languages, as well as plan of actions for its implementation. At the first stage, in 2018, it is planned to master the world experience in the field of methodological support, improvement of state standards, relevant curricula and training programs.

At the second stage, in 2019-2020, the system of training and retraining of teachers, the educational and methodological base in this area will be improved and monitoring will be launched to control the effectiveness of the implementation of this Concept.

At the third stage, in 2021-2024, it is planned to create a continuous consistent and interrelated system of teaching foreign languages. All this requires the development of new methods of training, the training of highly qualified teaching staff. The development of this concept, which will ensure more effective development of foreign languages, will allow graduates of educational institutions to quickly join the renewed international environment of Turkmenistan.

In Turkmenistan higher and secondary educational system is improved at a great pace, secondary, and higher educational institutions train highly qualified specialists in all branches of economy. In pre-school and school institutions much attention is paid to learning the world's advanced experience, generalizing in and realizing it into practice.

Following these regulations and implementations aimed at improving the quality of education system in Turkmenistan, many initiatives and efforts have been carried out under guidance of ministries,

administrative branch institutions on theoretical and practical basis.

Adapting new reforms into the national education sector of Turkmenistan, using best world practices, is vital importance for maintaining sustainable development of the country. The strategies in developing the education sector are reflected in the "National Program of Social and Economic Development of Turkmenistan for the period of 2011-2030", which identifies the need to establish an education system to comparable to developed countries, and to increase the quality of education as a condition for Turkmenistan's development and competitiveness. In Turkmenistan, all educational establishments are well

equipped to prepare young generations for the complex needs of today's world.

Turkmenistan steadily improves scientific, technical, innovative and technology cooperation with leading foreign organizations and centers. Nowadays, cooperation with major scientific and educational centers of the world, international organizations and foundations has significantly expanded. Introducing the world standards into educational process, the country increased the collaboration in humanitarian sphere with UN, European Union. Joint work is carried out with competent organizations working in Turkmenistan like UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDPA and UNESCO.

The state positions itself in the world as one of the strong world powers that harmonically develops in all directions. New historical milestone of comprehensive progress of the country requires steadfast improvement of educational system together with other spheres of the economy.

A number of collaborative works are being carried out for levering the national education sector to the international standards. Within international education standards, every country uses different approaches in order to integrate into international education standards. On June 15, 2016, the Government of Turkmenistan adopted the policy ensuring a quality education and learning environment. The quality education policy was developed by the Ministry of Education with the technical support from United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

The involvement of the United Nations (UN) agencies (UNICEF), United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) for lifelong learning in Turkmenistan, the National Institute of Education, Methodological Centers of higher educational institutions (HEI). A group of international experts from Canada, Russia and Germany, and other countries, shared best practices with pediatricians, psychologists, neuropathologists, speech therapists, pre-school teachers, and education specialists. It has become the common practice to hold workshops, training sessions, lectures and other forms of joint activities, which involve in the process educational institutions of Turkmenistan and a number of countries of the world. Vivid evidence for fruitful international contacts of Turkmen education professionals is their contribution to the implementation of various projects in the framework of international educational programs, such as Tempus, Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus+, and others.

The President of Turkmenistan pays a great deal of attention to the education system of the country and aims to continuously upgrade it to the newest level. He emphasizes: "The 21st century dictates necessity to keep pace with world progress, advanced achievements of science and education, demands meeting new realities" (Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, "Education- Happiness, Prosperity, Success" 2014, p.150). Improving national education sector and incorporating the latest developments and trends into it ensures the development of the country in all its spheres. Therefore, advancing national system of education remains major focus of the esteemed President.

Cooperation between the Brest State University named after A. S.Pushkin (Belarus, Brest city), Academic Agreement and Cooperation between the Tashkent State Pedagogical University named after Nizami (Uzbekistan, Tashkent city) and as well as Memorandum of Understanding between the Turkmen State Pedagogical Institute named after Seyitnazar Seydi and Volgograd State Socio-Pedagogical University. Having

Turkmenistan's permanent Neutrality is the one of the main sources of our country in the field of indoor and outdoor policy and transformations have been carried out within the framework of permanent Neutrality.

Many educational institutions of the country have established close partnerships with dozens of foreign educational institutions. The Turkmen State Pedagogical Institute named after Seyitnazar Seydi has established close partnership with foreign educational institutions.

The examples of successfully continuing fruitful contacts are: Academic Agreement and

established close partnerships with prestigious educational and scientific centers of Europe, Asia and America, Turkmenistan has achieved considerable growth in the number of its students in these regions.

The article is based on the contribution of Begmuhammet Begseyidov Yusupovich, Senior teacher of social science department, Pedagogical institute of Turkmen State

The Role of Neutral Turkmenistan Ensuring Regional Energy Security

Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan is the base of its domestic and foreign policies.

The Article 9 of the Constitution of Turkmenistan stated that Turkmenistan has a full-fledged entity of the world community and adheres to the principles of permanent neutrality in foreign policy, non-interference to the internal affairs of other countries, refusing to use force and participating in military alliances or associations, promotion the development of friendly and mutually beneficial relations. Turkmenistan views that without maintaining the regional and global security, security of a country cannot be ensured.

On the other hand, since one of the main contents of the global security is an energy security, one of the main factors of international peace is ensuring energy security at national, regional and international levels.

In this regard, the main focus of Turkmenistan during the 25 years of Neutrality remained the establishment of oil and gas complex in the country and creation of the necessary relevant mechanisms. President of Turkmenistan, on the 65th session of General Assembly of the UN, initiated the conceptual regulations at international level in order to provide energy security in future.

At an international conference 'Global Integration of Energy Markets - Ensuring Energy Security' held in November 2011, the President of Turkmenistan noted "Energy security is a main component of foreign economic strategy of our country and it is one of the defined factors of its development". Turkmenistan preaches up for positive and effective cooperation within the UN in order to create strong foundations and trustworthy international legal safeguards of the concerned parties for energy security. In fact, energy security serves as one of the institutional bases of global security and energy supply and required infrastructure is one of the main conditions of the human life and sustainable development in the world. Turkmen Leader made an example of successful completion of construction and operation of new "Turkmenistan-China" and "Turkmenistan-Iran" gas pipelines. President of Turkmenistan mentioned, 'We consider them as the real factor in establishing international energy partnership, influencing positively in general conditions and providing sustainability to the whole system of political and economic relations in Asia'.

Diversification policy takes an important place in energy strategy successfully held by Turkmenistan. Because of favorable geographic location and enormous hydrocarbon resources Turkmenistan has the opportunities to transit energy sources to international market for a long period of time.

Energy policy of Turkmenistan is not only directed to trade and economic principles, but also has the large scaled missions.

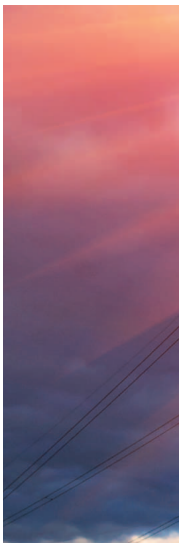
In conjunction with that the realization of "Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India - TAPI" gas pipeline is vital. The implementation of this project in near future is beneficial for all sides.

TAPI has the multilateral importance in developing the region's economy, increasing employment, creating and improving living infrastructure, and keeping and strengthening the sustainable condition in the region.

As the President of Turkmenistan noted in his book "Neutral Turkmenistan", 'Now sustainability of world economy relies on sustainability of world energy'.

That is why, it is necessary to work on useful approaches of partnership. And these partnerships should be strengthened by international law.

The article is based on the contribution of Gylychmuhammet JORAYEV, Senior lecturer of the department of Social sciences of the Institute of Engineering-technical and Transport Communications of Turkmenistan



Permanent Neutrality the Mainstay of the Energy Industry

Every new day and every year of independent neutral Turkmenistan is filled with unforgettable major events and full of great transformations for the Turkmen people. The year 2020 had become a year of peace, unity, patriotism, economic and spiritual revival, diligence, friendship and brotherhood, humanity. With valuable and countless hard work of Turkmenistan's President in different areas of the national economy, and in accordance with the "Concept of the Electric Power Industry of Turkmenistan for 2013-2020", gas turbine power plants, power transmission networks, several power plants in Ahal, Lebap and Mary provinces were built and commissioned in the provinces of the country.

Taking into account the demand of the world market for energy resources, Turkmenistan is transforming and developing the electric power system. In this regard, the country adopted the "Program of energy saving for 2018-2024". The modern and international projects being carried out in the energy sector of Turkmenistan, determine the opportunities for the future energy power of Turkmenistan.

It is important to note that in 2018, a new power plant with a combined cycle gas tur-

bine was built and commissioned within the Mary State Power Plant, which operates on the basis of coordinated management and has a capacity of 1574 MW. This power plant of combined cycle gas turbine operates on the basis of coordinated management with four gas turbines and two steam turbines prepared by General Electric Company. Electric power produced by means of open distribution systems with 220 kV and 500 kV is supplied to the unified electric system of Turkmenistan. These open distribution systems are installed by means of products of world famous companies. On the field of modern power plants video surveillance equipment is installed, and this in turn helps to carry out technical control of complex equipment and their correct use. This station is among the newest engineering developments. Modernity, economic efficiency and environmental safety aspects of this facility are confirmed by licenses of the Federal Institute of Technology "Max Plank" Switzerland, the American Foundation for Healthy Ecology.

The power plant's efficiency factor is 57%, which is 22% higher than in facilities operating under simple management. Commissioning of this modern facility envisages annual saving of 1 billion 100 million m3 of natural gas. In addition, the consumption of natural gas burned as fuel will be significantly reduced and harmful waste discharged into the atmosphere will be reduced by 2-3 times.

In accordance with the "Program of the President of Turkmenistan of social economic development of the country for 2018-2024", the amount of electricity produced in the country is planned to 33 billion kilowatt hours. In order to increase the energy resources, which make up a significant part of Turkmenistan exports, the directions of the energy strategy are being expanded. Within the framework of multilateral global and international forums on stable provision of energy resources held in recent years, energy security issues have become very significant subject of discussion and in 2017 when Turkmenistan chaired the Energy Charter Conference, the general principles and main directions of international cooperation in the energy sector were settled.

As the esteemed President of Turkmenistan notes: "The energy sector of Turkmenistan with the help of projects on innovative basis has not only domestic consumers, but can also provide a stable supply of electricity to the foreign market. And this will give an opportunity to successfully implement the program on industrialization of the country; will raise the develop-

ment of our Motherland to a new level". Guided by these words of the Hero Arkadag, Turkmenistan aims to develop by diversifying the directions of electric energy supply and increase their volumes.

As the Leader of the Nation notes, the foreign policy of Turkmenistan is based on peacefulness and humanity. All conditions have been created for development through diversification of all branches of national economy and investment. One of the main objectives of this industry is to increase processing of fuel raw materials, industrial development of new fields, including the main goal to develop the Turkmen part of the Caspian Sea and gas field "Galkynysh". Another goal of this industry is to use 3D modeling method. Creation of a multilateral gas pipeline system as well as development through diversification of gas pipeline transit through the continents and Asia provides new opportunities for hydrocarbons transportation to the international market.

The adopted program of electric power industry of Turkmenistan for development of industry of the country plays a big role in national economy. The power industry is the power that determines the development of Turkmen society. Oil and gas, the energy industry is one of the preferred areas of the country, and it belongs to the industries that bring great profit. It also creates opportunities to develop and improve the other industries in the future. Export of electric energy, stable supply of electric energy to consumers increase the economic power of national industry.

The following recent works have been carried out to increase the reliable power supply of Turkmenistan and the volume of export of the country's electricity abroad:

-"Kerki" substation with the voltage of 500 kV was built and commissioned

- reconstruction of Vatan and Farab 220 kV substations

- construction of 500 kV power transmission lines from Mary State Power Plant to Kerki substation

-construction of a high-voltage 500kV air electrical line from the Kerki substation to Afghanistan border

-reconstruction of open distributor 500kV of Mary State Power Plant

For many years, Turkmenistan has been comprehensively assisting the brotherly Afghan people. In energy sector, the proof of this is the construction of the Ymamnazar-Andhoy and Serhetabat-Herat power lines. These networks have become an important part of the neighboring country's energy structure. In summer 2018 the Rabatkashan-Kalainau power transmission network with the capacity of 100MW per hour was put into operation. At the same time, one branch of Turkmen electricity was opened to send Turkmen electricity to northern Afghanistan. As part of this, our specialists built several power supply facilities, including a power plant and a 112 kilometer-long power line.

As we all know within the framework of Turkmenistan-Afghanistan cooperation, with the participation of the esteemed President and representatives of the Turkmen-Afghan people, a protocol of meeting of the heads of the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan and the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan was signed. The protocol outlined the decision to increase the export of electric power from Turkmenistan to Afghanistan for 2018-2027. The signing of this document is of great importance for the whole region. And also the Agreement on the project of Turkmenistan-

Afghanistan-Pakistan power transmission lines network was signed. This document defines the volume of electricity supplied to Afghanistan through the new transmission line network. According to this, 300 MW (600 MW in total) of electricity will be sent to Herat and Kandahar.

Advance solution of these tasks will give an opportunity to comprehensively industrialize our country, increase the production volume of the country, which is able to compete in the international market, strengthen the economic capacity of Turkmenistan, and improve the level of public amenities. The head of the state noted that further improvement of the energy sector of our country and diversification on the way of production innovation is of great importance. As the President notes, Turkmenistan is not limited to ensuring a harmoniously developing economy in this area, but is trying to become one of the main states exporting electric energy in the region. Capital improvement works are carried out in the industry, a powerful foundation for the development of production and social sphere is being created.

With the support of the Turkmenistan's President, large-scale projects are being implemented, power transmission networks are being conducted, substations are being built, and power supply networks of the capital and other cities of our country are being reconstructed.

The Leader of the Nation focuses on all issues of high importance for energy cooperation and notes that diversification of energy flow is the most important strategic direction. Increasing power transmission routes is an integral part of energy policy.

The article is based on the contribution of Shanazar Allakulyyev and Ayjemal Muhammedova, Teachers of the Department of power plants of State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan hosts

Photo Exhibition and Conference Turkmenistan-Homeland of Neutrality

ECO CHRONICLE

The exhibition held in 2020 to mark the 25th anniversary of Turkmenistan's neutrality and featured the works by Turkmen and foreign photo artists. Its opening ceremony brought together famous artists, representatives of public associations, mass media and students of the higher education establishments. It once again reminded people of the importance of safeguarding peace and harmony on the planet that is one for all. The participants of the exhibition noted that this is peace-loving foreign policy of the President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, equal international cooperation, on which Turkmenistan builds its large-scale plans, bold projects and grandiose programs. In this context, the presented photo gallery reflecting success and forethought of urban construction policy of the President of Turkmenistan aimed at improvement of life level of the population and making of all conditions for work and rest of people is very impressive.

Photos demonstrating architectural symbols of the Monument of Independence and Monument of Neutrality, unique new buildings as well as image of prominent people also attract attention. The exhibition demonstrated the skills of talented photographers from all over the world, who are able to separate bright and special things,

thousand years old traditions and life of the nation from everyday life and to present it in original format to the audience. Unique landscapes and natural phenomenon, original photos of architectural monuments were among skilled works of talented authors. One was able to see unique photos, which reminded the audience how it was important to care of peace and harmony on the planet, which was one for all. Bright colors of photo works united under natural series made special mood of the visitors of the exhibition. Photo collection again proved the epithets that were dedicated to the capital of Turkmenistan like the city buried in green, city garden.

Works of President of Turkmenistan, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, occupied deserved place in the exposition speaking of the history of Turkmenistan, its riches culture and century-old traditions as well grandiose achievements of the era of independence. Part of the exhibition was devoted to the picturesque works, samples of decorative and applied art, ceramics and sculptures, carpets made in the best national traditions by the famous Turkmen masters and young talents. All of them had become illustrations of modern history of the nation. Photo exhibition was continued in the afternoon with video conference session, which was held with the participation of representatives of Afghanistan, Belgium, Germany, India, China, Korea, Russia, Turkey, Uzbekistan and other countries. Participants of the conference stated with delight that Turkmenistan proves by its activity that principles of neutrality, peace loving, and good neighborliness have always been and remain to be the basis of its foreign policy while friendship between the peoples is the main resources of prosperity, peace and stability, guarantee of progress and new achievements. During video conference, its foreign participants demonstrated their works, shared their plans and expressed sincere gratitude for high organizational level of international photo exhibition and conference "Turkmenistan - Home of Neutrality" and making of conditions for successful cultural cooperation. An official ceremony of presenting the photo exhibition participants with prizes and valuable gifts was held as part of the exhibition.

Dubai Oil and Gas Road Show of Turkmenistan 2020

A Landmark Event dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan

ECO CHRONICLE

The International Road Show "Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan 2020" held in Dubai (UAE) became one of the major and landmark events dedicated to the 25th anniversary of permanent neutrality of Turkmenistan.

The forum embodied the principles of economic diplomacy of the Turkmen state in the world arena and the readiness for multilateral equal dialogue in such a vital

area as global energy security. The Turkmen leader puts on the agenda the development of fundamentally new models designed to turn the global energy dialogue into a driving force of global development on the basis of a balance of interests of all its participants, responsible and careful treatment of natural resources, ecology, taking into account the broad public demand focused on the fair distribution of benefits.

All this was discussed at the representative event in Dubai, which gathered more than 300 high-ranking delegates from 113 leading companies, representing 42 countries.

The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) transnational gas pipeline project and the investment potential of the Turkmen hydrocarbon sector based on the stable economic and political situation in the country and the relevant legislative framework were among the main topics discussed by experts.

The representatives of the leading international oil and gas companies expressed their interest in mutually beneficial cooperation in the oil and gas complex of the country and participation in the TAPI transnational gas pipeline project. Among the promising areas of cooperation, considered at the Dubai International Road Show were the attractions of investments into development of hard-to-develop fields, gas chemical projects, implementation of the next stage of industrial development of the giant Galkynysh field to supply natural gas to the transnational TAPI gas pipeline.

As a responsible and reliable producer and supplier of energy resources, Turkmenistan is ready for close cooperation with the interested states of the world, international organizations and financial institutions in order to develop coherent, transparent approaches. In this regard,

the construction of the TAPI gas pipeline is a real investment project, a fact of the growing attractiveness of which are the legislative

guarantees, the state support and personal control over the TAPI construction by President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov.

Foreign experts spoke about the importance of the neutral policy of Turkmenistan, which uses its significant human and natural resources to promote peace, stability and prosperity in the region and in a wider format. Development prospects of gas-chemical and oil refining sector in Turkmenistan cannot be considered without environmental aspect. The high ecological compatibility of the world hydrocarbon production today becomes synonymous with its efficiency.

In this context, a number of foreign companies presented their technologies related to the reduction and capture of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere at oil and gas, oil refineries and chemical plants during the road show.

The plenary sessions of the Dubai Road Show also considered projects to optimize mature fields, improve oil recovery, and discussed new mechanisms for cooperation in investment projects. Professionals exchanged views on global gas sector trends, oil product marketing strategies, etc. New proposals and solutions were voiced to bring Turkmen hydrocarbons and gas deep processing products to foreign markets. Within framework of the international field forum, the members of Turkmen delegation held meetings with the heads of foreign companies and discussed specific proposals from foreign partners who have expressed the interest in building up cooperation with Turkmenistan in the fuel and energy sector.

The heads of the companies "Total" and "Technip FMC" (France), Italian Marie Technimont expressed their interest in taking part in energy and gas chemical projects in Turkmenistan, including through raising funds from financial institutions from Italy - SACE, the UK - the UK Finance and Germany - Deutche Bank. The UAE companies "Horizon Energy" and

"Transpetrol," Romanian "Komet Group" initiated the proposals to increase the productivity of long used oil fields based on new technologies and methods. The UAE Petrofac was ready to continue mutually beneficial cooperation with Turkmenistan in developing the Galkynysh gas condensate field. During the meeting with the heads of Dragon Oil (UAE), the issues of current and planned work on the contractual territory of Cheleken were considered. A representative of the British consulting company "Gaffney Cline Associated," well known in Turkmenistan and in the world, informed that new geophysical data on the Turkmen part of the Caspian Sea was currently analyzed, which will make it possible to formulate a package of proposals to expand investment cooperation.

The success of such a representative field forum "Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan 2020" in Dubai is another evidence of the high reputation in the international arena and universal support for the foreign policy of Turkmenistan, the most important aspect of which is the international energy cooperation. The high organizational and intellectual level of this large-scale event, in the opinion of the meeting participants, contributed to the fact that the forum not only met expectations, but also allowed us to take a fresh look at the role and mission of the Turkmen state in the context of sustainable development of the region and the world. This is another bright indicator that the energy diplomacy of Turkmenistan, which has always been distinguished for its active position and interest in finding new and effective solutions in this area, is highly appreciated by representatives of the world business and expert community.

"The world's energy reserves are the wealth of all mankind. Today, they are not just fuel for the global economy, they provide an opportunity to confidently develop the world economic relations, serve as a guarantee of implementation of the goals of sustainable development, growth of welfare and quality of life of people, their inclusion in the benefits of civilization and progress," the Turkmen leader notes.

International Ecological Initiatives Of NEUTRAL TURKMENISTAN

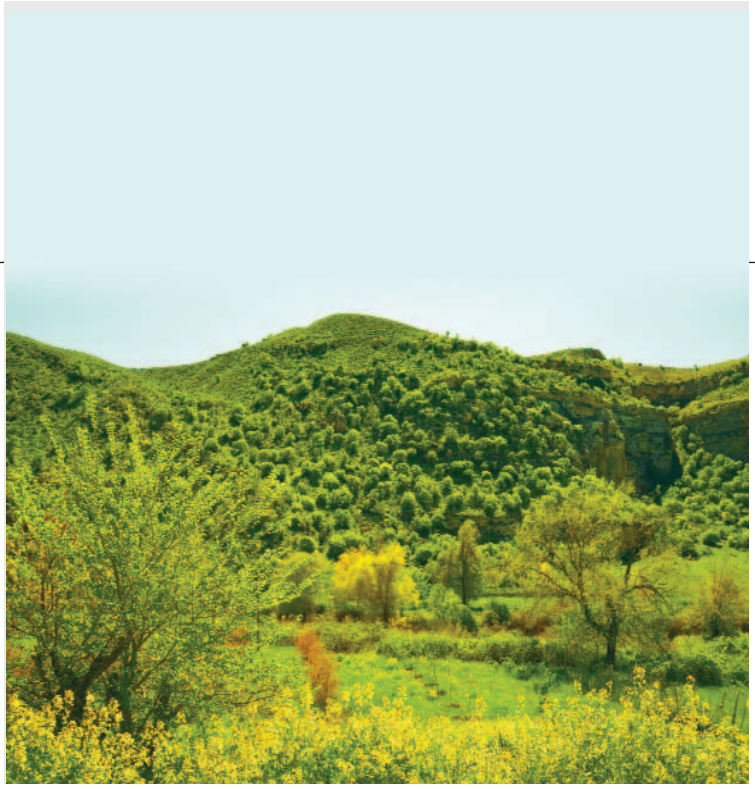
Independent, Permanently Neutral Turkmenistan, by conducting multilateral humanitarian cooperation with international organizations, consistently presents relevant constructive initiatives to the various structures of the United Nations, aimed at the prosperous future of humanity.

One of the key areas of cooperation of Turkmenistan with the United Nations and its institutions, which strictly adheres to the principles of neutrality, is connected with the issues of climate change, environmental protection, and sustainable use of natural resources.

It is a matter of pride for the Turkmen nation that the initiatives set forth by the President of Turkmenistan to improve ecological diplomacy in ensuring sustainable development are among the priority issues that are considered at UN General Assembly.

Development of the draft of the Concept of the Caspian Ecological Program aimed at biodiversity conservation in the Caspian Sea, and the initiative of Turkmenistan on creating a UN Special Program for the Aral Sea region are clear examples that the state accumulated exemplary experience in the environmental protection issues. These new initiatives are widely supported by the world community.

There are numerous scientific theories that human beings are in harmony with the natural, social, and cultural-spiritual environments. It is a matter of pride that it is reflected in the



cultural and spiritual heritage of the Turkmen people, which is passed on generation to generation from our ancestors.

Under the leadership of the President of Turkmenistan all sectors of the economy are developing in accordance with scientifically based programs, the living standards of the population are improving and the cultural sector is expanding. This contributes to the development of society, social consciousness, as well as the culture and education of individual.

The book of the President of Turkmenistan "Traditions of Turkmen Statehood" gives detailed information about the Turkmen people's centuries-old unique material and spiritual culture and national heritage, passed down from generation to generation, carefully preserved and developed. President of Turkmenistan in the section of the book entitled "Prosperity of the Earth and Eternity of Life" states: "Our ancestors instilled in their wisdom the importance of preserving the resources and beauty of the Earth for future generations".

The measures at the international and national levels aimed at the implementation of the strategy of environmentally sound socio-economic development of Turkmenistan. With the adoption of the Law of Turkmenistan "On Ecological Safety", for the first time, it was possible to compile the main environmental safety issues in a single document. The aforementioned legislation includes measures for relationship between legal entities and persons in conducting economic and other activities, and protection of the environment from anthropogenic and natural influences.

The laws of Tukmenistan on Protection of Ozone Layer, on Fishery and Protection of Aquatic biological Resources, on Protection of Specially Protected Natural Territories, on Ecological Audit, on Protection of Atmospheric air, on Ecological Safety, on Ecological Data, and Forest Code", "Water Code" improve and strengthen the legal framework for environmental work in our state.

Turkmenistan, implementing a series of UN conventions on nature conservation, including the Convention on Conservation and Restoration of Land Resources, is actively involved in addressing pressing environmental issues of regional and national importance. Our country consistently underlying importance of coordinating international efforts to address the most pressing issues from the rostrum of UN General Assembly, set forth a number of positive proposals, including water issues and the situation in the Aral Sea, as well as the creation of a UN Regional Center for Climate Change in Ashgabat. In the country ecological projects are being implemented on the basis of national nature protection programs.

Turkmenistan emphasizes important role of developing international cooperation in addressing important environmental issues. Our country, in close cooperation with international structures such as the United Nations

Development Program, the United Nations Environment Program, and the Global Environment Facility, is implementing large-scale environmental programs and projects. Turkmenistan has acceded to and ratified a number of very important UN environmental conventions.

Experience has shown the importance of global community support, a holistic approach and active and systematic UN participation in addressing global environmental issues, including the Aral Sea. The member states of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea have adopted three phases of the "Program of Specific Actions for the Improvement of the Ecological and Social and Economic Situation in the Aral Sea Basin" and are taking appropriate steps in this regard.

Turkmenistan chaired the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea in 2017-2019 and is actively cooperating with Central Asian countries to save the Aral Sea. Turkmenistan has carried out the wide-ranging tasks set out in the "Concept of Chairing the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea".

On August 24, 2018, the Summit of the Heads of the Founding States of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea was held in the Avaza National Tourist Zone under the leadership of the President of Turkmenistan. At the summit issues of cooperation in the field of ecology in the region were discussed, and a Declaration was adopted.

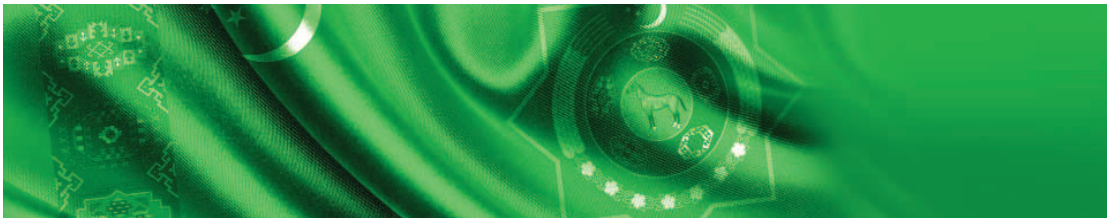
On August 12, 2019, the Caspian Economic Forum was held on the Turkmen coast of the Caspian Sea. The President of Turkmenistan noted that science has a special importance in maintaining ecological balance and unique biological diversity of the Caspian Sea. Practically speaking, this means that all economic projects in the Caspian region must be implemented on the basis of high international environmental standards. In this regard, the President of Turkmenistan made a proposal to create a new Caspian Ecological Program as a set of conservation measures aimed at the protection and sustainable use of the rich natural resources of the Caspian Sea. Not only continental, but also global importance of the Caspian Sea was highlighted. Not only the importance of its energy resources, which are capable of bringing enormous benefits to all mankind, but also the importance of ecological system of this beautiful Sea was underlined, which is unique in the world.

Environmental issues are at the forefront of the global agenda today, as they are directly connected with the future of civilization and the possibility of that future for many peoples. Therefore, environmental diplomacy is becoming an integral part of international politics. In his historic speech at the first Caspian Economic Forum, attaching great importance to this issue, President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov emphasized the need to carry out scientific research in the field of nature protection.

In his speech at the XVIII Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement in Baku on October 25-26, 2019, the President of Turkmenistan particularly underlined the issue of protection of the Caspian Sea, its ecology and unique biodiversity as the global issue.

Independent, Permanent Neutral Turkmenistan has been recognized around the world as a country that has made tremendous efforts to ensure peace, security, and sustainable development on Earth as ecological well-being is the well-being of peoples, states and the whole humanity.

The article is based on the contribution of Ogulgurban Sapargeldiyevna Ezimova, Senior Lecturer and Acting Head of the Department of Social Sciences of the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan



Dedicated to the 30th Anniversary of Independence of Turkmenistan and the 25th Anniversary of Turkmenistan's Neutrality

Economic Cooperation Organization