The Potentialities of Russia to Re-Sovereignty over the Caspian Sea

Ahad Pashalou¹, Mohammad Zohdi GoharPour²* , Mosayeb GharehBeygi³
¹University of Tehran
²University of Tehran
³University of Kharazmi

Received: 22 Feb 2016 ; Accepted: 15 June 2016

Abstract:
Russia after the collapsing of Soviet Union ignored and left behind the Caspian Sea for a short time due to giving preference to relationship with West. Discovery of new sources of energy in the Caspian region and the significance of the geopolitical position of this region in Europe, Asia and the Middle East and the key role that plays in the power balances in the world, also West attention spatially America and the signing of several major oil deals with coastal republics, concerned the Russian government. Therefore, Russia makes a swirl in its foreign policy in this area to create new strategies and stimulates Russian government to get back on the region and Once again, take their sovereignty back, through the use of military, political and economic power (according to the priorities of the Eurasian and economic policy integration in the countries of the Caspian basin that considered as a disadvantage).

There is the question due to recent changes in Russia after the Soviet collapse that whether Russia has necessary tools for apply its sovereignty on the Caspian Sea? With a little accuracy to actions, potentials and characteristics of Russia, this theory forms that Russian by using capacities, political, military and economic, has the necessitous tools to re-sovereignty of its power in the Caspian.

Keywords: Caspian Sea, Sovereignty, Resurgence, Trans-regional powers, Russia

Introduction
During the lifetime of the Soviet Union, the great powers were limited in the Caspian region. Caspian was only under the influence of Soviet, due to Soviet dominance to the large part of the Caspian Sea and unwillingness of United States of America to conflicts

With Soviet and in the other side, the recognition of superpowers spheres of influence by each other. Hence, there was relative stability in the region. Nevertheless, after the collapsing of Soviet, several powers attended in the region. Thus, while before the collapsing of the Soviet, a dominant power makes integrity
and stability in the region, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, provided the tendency for Competitions and challenges in the region. In such a circumstance, the major powers were acting as a destabilizing factor in the region. With collapsing of the Soviet Union, the Caspian coast became four countries (Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan) instead of one. While in Soviet period, there were only two countries in the Caspian region. With this change, the domination of a superpower that will not allow others to intervene and penetration in the region, eliminated. The consequences were the emergence of a power vacuum in the region that tempted the powers to intervene in the region. Replacing the weak states was another consequence of this change. Power vacuum in the region, the region leader’s weakness in the managing of their governments and their need to support from others yet enriched energy resources, were among factors that increased the importance of the region and more compete for dominance in the region (Hashemi: 2001, 97).

Currently, the most influential powers in the Caspian region are America, Russia, Europe Union and China. Each of these countries pursues their own interests in the region, which sometimes are in competition and conflict with the interests of other powers. In this conflict, economic potential, military, politics will play a greater role (Naghib Zadeh: 2001, 82). Today, Russia has more prosperity, stability and authority than in the early 1990s (International Institute for Caspian Studies: 2007, 4). With a little accuracy to actions, potentials and characteristics of Russia, this theory forms that Russian by using capacities, political, military and economic, has the necessitous tools to re-sovereignty of its power in the Caspian.

**Methodology**

Having a method to achieve the objective is one of the necessities in each scientific research, especially if the appropriate methods to be used. Formulation and presentation of research methods is and necessities of a study. In other words, "the research can be considered as a regular practice that results in responses to the questions posed in Subject research is obtained". Methodology of this study is descriptive and required information has been collected through library research. The information gathered from sources such as books, magazines, online articles, newspapers, etc.

**Area of study**

The Russian Federation is an independent state that after the collapse of the USSR ((Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) became a member of the Commonwealth in late 1991. Russia is the largest country in the world, with an area of over seventeen million square kilometers and this area is 6/12 percent of the world’s lands. This country includes 66% of the former Soviet Union. Today, Russia is a European-Asian country, as about 73 percent of its territory located in Asia and the rest in Europe. However, only 27 percent of the population of this country lives in Asia and the rest are in the European countries (Geographical Organization of Military Forces: 2010, 1).
The Russian Federation is an important neighbor of The Caspian Sea. The sea is the largest lake in the world and the border of Asia and Europe, north of Iran and is located in the confluence of Central Asia, the Caucasus and Iran and its Western coast, forms the east limits of the Caucasus. Area of Caspian Sea is written in several sources 68,000 square kilometers. This lake due to topographical and hydrological characteristics split to three parts of the North, Middle and South Caspian.

**Politics of Russia**

Generally, when the national authority is relied on national authority, foreign policy can be successful. Any actor, who wants to have more influence in the international transactions, should also corroborate its national power and authority. Russia as a great power, separates from America through the Bering Strait. On the other hand, extended to Baltic coasts of is adjacent to Poland. Hence and in accordance with international and domestic environment, Russia changes and modifications its foreign policy every few years (Department for Political and International Studies: 2009, 201).

Specification in geographic, ethnic and religious characteristics of Russia made to the foreign policy ideas and different approaches pursued at different periods in the country. In general, the post-Soviet Russian foreign policy can be divided into three categories:

- Westernism
- Eurasianism
- Centralism

**Westernism:** Tendency to West in Russian foreign policy has a long history. According to this idea, Russian needs the West for the development in the economy, culture and democracy and this gives a special place to Russia in the international system. This thought dominated on politics Russian from 1991 to 1996. In these years, West was considered as a friend and Islam as an enemy (Shrif Alzia: 2008, 88). This approach, after the Soviet collapse and in the Boris Yeltsin period performed as an uncontrollable process. During this period, Russia's strategy based on two principles:
The Potentialities of Russia to Re-Sovereignty over the Caspian Sea

- Complete trust to the international economic institutions for economic development
- Optimism to cooperation with the West in foreign policy

This politics continued from the Cold War to the end of the Yeltsin period. They hoped with setting aside Marxist ideology, have entered a new stage of the strategy with West particularly the United States. But with economic crisis of 1988 Kosovo, crisis and most importantly NATO enlargement to the East Exacerbate suspicions towards the West and led to the end of the period (Vaezi:2010, 4).

Eurasianism: Based on the Eurasianism, Russia is an Asian and European country and according to the West has been ignored the interests of Russia in Asia. Therefore, interaction and relationship with Middle Eastern countries should be considered. According to this perspective, Russia is a great power and has perpetual benefits not perpetual friends. Opposition to mono-polarity in international system and America's unilateralism is a version of this perspective (Sharif Alzia: 2008, 2). Eurasianism theory is not only anti-Western or anti-democratic, but also According to Sergei Stankovic, member of Council of Russian foreign policy emerged in order to make a balance between the extreme eastern and western trends And has not errors of the Gorbachev period that considered extreme Westernism and radicalism theory like "common European home" (Beygi and Motahar Nia: 2009, 262).

3- Centralism: This perspective, has evolved form of nationalism (opposition against Westernism minded, willing to Eurasianism) that invigorated at the period of President Putin. The main characteristics of this cohort is the realism and pragmatism, who believe that Russia has no permanent friends and enemies and they do anything (even negotiating with the enemy) for interests of Russia. The priority of economy is logic of centralism and they try by absorbing investments and transfer of technology to increase the power of the Russian economy due to the Russia's economic problems (Ministry of Foreign affairs, Department of Studies: 2009, 295).

Foreign Policy of Russia

Russian foreign policy always has two aspects: near abroad and far abroad. After the Soviet collapse, Regional was the most important strategic policy in Russian foreign policy. In other words, Russia's Eurasian policy is priority of Russia's foreign policy. Graham Smith, Izocuratis and Tofienr have been written about Russia's foreign policy, the articles that include five aspects:

1- Culture 2- International Identity 3- performance Typology and perspective 4- general approach for maintaining of internal stability 5- The general approach for maintaining stability of Geopolitical borders (Hatefi: 2011, 37).

In fact, we can consider Russia as a Eurasian power that playing a role in Asia and in Europe simultaneously. Meanwhile, the Middle East as the priorities of Russian foreign policy should not be neglect. Russian Eurasianism includes Key concepts about Russia as a coherent and separate civilization of the West. Russia, by creating geopolitical position between Europe and Asia arises as a power of the Eurasia that its role is regional stability. Russia has particular categories in geopolitical and cultural val-
ues. Main focus of Russia is on the restoration and the impact its functions on the trends, particularly trans-boundary regions. Based on this general approach, justification and emphasizing of the military and economic power integration in this region considered as a main part of improvement and regularization (Hatefi: 2011, 38).

Russian President, Vladimir Putin stated in his message to the Federal Assembly: “Collaboration with the CIS countries are the priorities in Russia's foreign policy. These countries have a lot the preferences for Russian major infrastructure projects, energy and transport” (Office for International and Political Studies: 2009, 202).

However, after the Guam Association That formed with the encouragement of America in 1977 and by presenting of “Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldova” to replace the CIS and undermine the Russian position, Russia tended towards the other preferences to access to its goals (such as the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, SCO).

Goals and priorities of Russian foreign policy
A powerful foreign policy requires an internal authority and a government, whose internal institutions and components are inappropriate functionally, cannot be successful in accessing interests in the international scene. Obviously, stronger in government institutions in Russia and more trust of People to them, more significant impact can be achieved for Russia in the international scene. However, Russia’s foreign policy in new international conditions is based on cooperation and competition and not necessarily in contrast with the West (Vaezi: 2010, 3). the following can be considered as the main goals and priorities of Russian foreign policy:

1- ensure for maintaining of strength and sustainable integrity in the territory
2- impacting on general trends in the world
3- providing optimum circumstances for sustainable development
4- co-ownership in the Group of Eight
5- respect to the essential principles of the UN Charter including preservation of the permanent members of the UN Security Council
6- reinforcement of friendly relations With China and India
7- enhancing the position of the Caspian so that states can cooperate with each other with regard to regional interests
8- reducing tactical and strategic retreat of Russia
9- alteration of Tactical and strategic retreat into a new opportunity
10- Hidden progress to improve Russia's position in the international system (Ashraf Alzia: 2008, 77).

Kremlin to achieve the above preferences is pursuing an active-patience policy and performs formation and reinforcing of three main axes in its agenda, simultaneously:

The first stage from 1996 (Establish Year) to 2000:
Cooperation and resolve border issues: the main reason for setting up the SCO was concerning about the intensification boundary disputes and military activity. These concerns resolved largely with signing of the multilateral agreements. In addition, finally In April 26, 1996, five countries Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and decided Tajikistan in the Shanghai city that in order to military
confidence, form an organization in their border areas under the title of “shanghai five group” (Vaezi: 2010, 3).

The second stage (from 2001 to 2004):
Security - economic cooperation: with resolving the concerns about border issues, border countries seeking to consolidate their relationship to each other. In this regard, in the sixth meeting, in the 15 June 2001, conducted agreements in order to fighting with international terrorism, religious extremism and drug and arms trafficking. With joining the Uzbekistan as sixth member, the Shanghai Five renamed to Shanghai Cooperation Organization. In this stage, security issues were very important in the organization.

The third stage (from 2005 to present):
Acceptance observer members and expansion of the domain activities: by accepting of the four countries, Iran, India, Pakistan and Mongolia as observers, capabilities and capacities of the organization has increased considerably. This development, alongside with trans-regional statement of the leaders of China and Russia on the margins of the organization meetings, increased the international role of the SCO considerably.

This two countries, in the an eight-page statement which was exported after the meeting of Kazakhstan, have strongly criticized efforts of United States of America to unilateral management of international crises. In addition, it was asked from America to provide a program for the withdrawal of its military bases from the Central Asia. Based on these requests, U.S. forces withdrew Khan Abad base in Uzbekistan at the end of 2005. Western media interpreted this change as the emergence of a new power in the region (Fazaei: 2009, 22).

Defensive security goals
Russia has numerous problems, both in regional and international levels. In fact, the formation of SCO was a means for achieving security goals of Russia:

Regional level: in the fact, the most significant threats against Russia's national security, including:
- Existence powerful currents, ethnic separatism and extremism in various regions of Russia that new Shanghai Cooperation Organization policy about fighting against terrorism, extremism and separatism, provided an opportunity to Kremlin to control and suppression of the problems above mentioned.

International level: the formation of anti-Russian movements such as the color revolutions, America's military presence in the region after the invasion of Afghanistan, establishing of permanent military bases in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, spread of religious extremism, particularly al-Qaeda and the Taliban, trafficking guns and drugs, NATO expansion to the East and Central Asia and the Caucasus, implementation multiple projects, have followed consequences like partnership in military maneuvers, presence of NATO forces in the these countries and designing of the anti-missile shield defense in East Europe, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan (Fazaei: 2009, 28).

Economy of Russia
In the economic structure of the Russian, excels the heavy resources and especially metallurgy, chemicals, machinery and energy.
Russian forest industry is fairly advanced and should be kept in mind which Russian forest reserve is the largest known in the world. Russia, also, has largest reserves of gas in the world and oil exploration is the second. In addition, this country is rich in mining iron ore, bauxite, nickel, tin, gold, diamonds, platinum, lead and Zinc. Many of these resources are located in the Siberia, which characteristics are wide space, low population, harsh climate and long frost. These specifications have created numerous difficulties to extract, transportation and economic efficiency (Ganji: 2011).

The 1990s, was the decade of economic decline in Russia due to significant reduction in production levels declination of domestic investment and losing foreign scientific and technological, stagnation of the agricultural sector, disruption of monetary and financial system, reduction in governmental revenues and the growth of foreign debts (Nouri: 2009, 95). Russian economy after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the formation of Russian Federation, was reduced significantly due to transitional of the economy, improper policies of Yeltsin government and economical indices of this country (Ashraf Alzia: 2008). After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia is still a problem, in building the economy, though abundant natural resources a skilled workforce a strong economic base. Russian GDP, receipts compared with 1991, to 45 %. In late 1997, the Russian economy, the success achieved by varying the policies of the late Yeltsin and Putin on the rise. His control inflation and stabilize the currency of the country. However, in 1998, the Asian economic crisis came to Russia. The consequences of the crisis, falling oil prices and the withdrawal of foreign investors. However, government measures, such as stopping debt payments (cessation of bonds redeemed securities amounted to U.S. $ 40 billion) in 1998 for the first time, able to increase its production by as much as two thirds, according to official statistics, and to control inflation (Iris: 2012). Putin's economic team paved the path of economic development of comprehensive legislation, including the issue of private property and financial systems and money efficiently. Of the other actions, long-term planning and structural reforms diversifying production, reducing dependence on energy revenues and accelerate the development of advanced technologies and emphasis on political and economic institutions in accordance with the economy markets (Mau: 2006, 8).

**Economical Regions of Russia**

Russia is divided into eleven economic regions: the Pacific Northwest, North, Central, and Batka Volga, Central Black Earth region along the Volga, North Caucasus, Urals, Eastern Siberia, Western Siberia and the Far East. Oil and gas are concentrated in Western Siberia. Electricity produced by hydroelectric power plants is thriving metallurgy of non-ferrous metals, wood and forest in eastern Siberia (World Economy, December 2011). Far East, as well, is the center of production of gold, diamonds, fish and seafood products. In the northern region in the first place is the extraction of coal, oil, gas, apatite, nickel and other metals and produces lumber and fishing. Northwest, Central, Volga, Batka, Urals and West are active in machine building, chemical industry, light industry, food industry, energy production and advanced services (Iris: 2012).

**Energy Reserves of Russia**

In terms of oil reserves rates, Russia is ranked eighth. However, is the largest exporter of oil, after Saudi Arabia? In addition, Russia has the largest gas reserves in the world and the largest exporter of natural gas. In terms of coal resources, also, Russia has
the second largest in the world. Oil reserves of this country, estimated at about 60 billion barrels that is about six percent of the total world reserves (cooper: 2009, 18-19). Since 1999, oil production of Russia has been raised. So that between 1999 and 2002, the increase in crude oil production in this country reach to twenty percent and reached a 43/7 million barrels daily. Russian production in February 2002, increased more and more and for the first time behind the Saudi Arabia. The country oil production in 2004 was about 459 million tons, which in 2005 rose to 480 million tons, and exports fell to 285 million tons. The Russian company Luk Oil announced the country’s oil and gas reserves in the Caspian Sea 5 billion and 400 million tons. Russia produces daily 8/9 million barrels of oil, that is the amount consumed 8/2 million barrels in Russia and is exported to more than 7 million barrels. Gas reserve of Russia is more than Saudi Arabia. In 2004, Gazprom alone issued 5/140 BCM of gas, the production of 1/545 billion cubic meters of gas. According to IEO statistics in January 2005, Russia has 8/27 of 6/15 in diameter and 1/15 of the total world. Gas reserves of Russia in 2003, provided 1/26 percent of gas demand in Europe. Analysts predicted that Europe in 2020 may depend on 70 percent of Russian gas (Ibid, 17).

Modern Russia with the help from the energy as a weapon is trying to rebuild his empire. Strategy in 2020 in the energy industry, emphasis on reducing the environmental technological improved in energy efficiency, decreasing energy supply costs, and increase production capacity in the oil and gas industry (Stepanov: 2000, 4). Putin has chosen decision makers in this section from the among of fellow workers and his friends with the change in management of oil and gas in Russia. However, this issue brought controversy which Putin has established a feudal system to control of administration of Russia, but his successful performance on the economy reduced criticisms against him (Kroutikhin: 2008, 25). In 2004, is announced a new economic model by Putin. This model named as Rationalized and by Putin's government implemented. Specialists believe that this is a new model of state capitalism, which runs by the Russian government. Extension of state ownership particularly includes the petroleum industry which developed by confiscation of property of Yukos company and purchasing the Sib Neft company by Gazprom’s Oil (Aslund: 2008, 6). in some cases, countries in the region that sold their energy assets to the non-Russian companies, have been threatened by Russia to energy boycott. Bush and Obama have criticized of the Russia due to using energy as a political weapon (Woehrel: 2009, 1).

Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Export into CIS</th>
<th>Export into UE</th>
<th>Total Export</th>
<th>Source: <a href="http://www.tse.fi">www.tse.fi</a>. The EU-Russia Gas Connection, 8/2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>14/9</td>
<td>121/5</td>
<td>136/4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>14/7</td>
<td>113/8</td>
<td>128/5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>3/7</td>
<td>112/1</td>
<td>115/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2/7</td>
<td>116/9</td>
<td>119/6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3/2</td>
<td>116/9</td>
<td>120/0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agriculture of Russia
In 1991, nearly 97 percent of the cultivated land and 26 thousand large farms were under the control of the government. In April 1992, following the adoption of the new law of land formed 70 thousand family farms, which consisted six percent of the cultivated lands. Until the end of the 90s, was not been enacted an indispensable legislation to allow the sale and possession of the land (Ganji: 2011). Russian agriculture, which provides more than one fifth of GDP, has in the different regions different details. Three fifths of the lands are under cultivation of wheat and barley. Main manufacturers of wheat are shores of Volga, North Caucasus, Central Region, Western Siberia and Black Lands.

Military Issues
The former Soviet Union was the largest military in the world and its armed forces and nuclear power competed with America (Center for Studies: 2010, 305). However, Russia has a part of Geopolitical and geo-strategic advantages of the former Soviet, but it has lost these advantages in the public sector and in terms of political strategy encountered with troubles, particularly in the military issues. Russia in accessing to the sea does not have an optimum position, because it should be hold four fleets separately, which one of them, is far approximately seven thousand kilometers from three other fleets. In addition, lack of continuous railroads from Central Asia towards the strategic point of Persian Gulf (Bandar Abbas), has weakened the Geo-strategy of Russia (Hejazi: 2010, 305).

Geo-Strategy of Russia
Russian defensive policy is designed to prevent a possible blockade by the enemy. The biggest fear of Russia in the blank borders of Siberia is allowancing of Europe with America, Japan and China. Thus, does not enough just putting the defensive, rather, it intent to break the any connection of America with Eurasian industry. Distance and depth of Russia gives a comfortable which the other major powers have not, such as Germany. Russia to oppose against America penetration in the Eurasian, serves various strategies such as pursuing a strategy towards Europe, which called “political friction”. Russia wants to undermine the relationship of Europe with America and increase the pressure of Europe against United States. On the eastern front, it emphasis further on diplomacy and propaganda until pressure military, as well (Estate: 2009, 129).

Russian Militarism in the Region
Militarization of the Caspian Sea is the most important security threats against the coastal states. This tendency intensified particularly after the Iran-Azerbaijan conflict over the ownership of the resources in June 2001. Increasing of tensions has also added militarization of the region. All of coastal states have increased their military forces in the Caspian Sea, even Turkmenistan as a neutral country. Thus, the idea of militarization of the Caspian may be causes to put the Caspian Basin in the possession of a stronger force. In the current situation, Russia has remarkable military power in the Caspian Sea. This country, gradually, transfers their base in the Black Sea into Caspian Sea, due to discrepancies that happened between Russia and Ukraine. Russian Federation aimed to reinforce its military forces in the Caspian Sea and tries to make subservient the Caucasus and Central Asian republics using its military fleet In the Caspian Sea (Amir Ahmadian and Goudarzi: 2009, 87).
The Potentialities of Russia to Re-Sovereignty over the Caspian Sea

Military Doctrine of Russia

The first document about the Russian military doctrine is known as Document Number 93. The significant Terms of this document are that military security of Russia is possible just in the boundaries of the former Soviet. Initially, this document faced with objections of CIS countries. Nevertheless, took place changes one after another in the newly independent republics and they found that their military security depends on the Russian Federation, merely (Ezzati: 2009, 20).

Military Doctrine of Russia formulated for national security against foreign threats. This doctrine points three basic points:
- Protection from the rights and freedoms of its citizens
- inaugurating peace, economic prosperity and intellectual development
- Preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a whole CIS countries (Ibid: 122)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Aerial Army</th>
<th>Land Army</th>
<th>Human forces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2749</td>
<td>91715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10120000</td>
<td>Oil production (barrels per day)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2740000</td>
<td>Oil consumption (barrels per day)</td>
<td>588 Helicopter</td>
<td>22950 Tanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>742000000000</td>
<td>Proven reserves</td>
<td>1213 Operating base</td>
<td>24900 personnel carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial resources</td>
<td>Navy 12765</td>
<td>tensile Artillery 1354202 Ready to serve</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5600000000000</td>
<td>Defense budget (USD America)</td>
<td>233 Total Navy Ships 4500 Rocket 1200000 Active military force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>483100000000000</td>
<td>Exchange and gold reserves (USD)</td>
<td>1097 Merchant marine 6600 shell 754000 Reserve military force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>222300000000000</td>
<td>Money (USD)</td>
<td>7 Major ports and terminals</td>
<td>14000 Anti-tank weapons Logistic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aircraft carrier 4644</td>
<td>Anti-aircraft weapons 75550000 Labor force</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Destroyer 12000 Logistics 982000 Road cover (km)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Submarine 87157 Railway cover (km)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Russian military and defense potentiality in 2011

Budgets and equipment projects of the Russian armed forces until 2015:

According to the Russian Federation, the state plans to replace approximately fifty percent of its armed forces equipment with modern kinds of them till 2015. It is worth mentioning the military Budgets of Russia reached as 31 billion dollars in 2007 which is four times higher than in 2001 (Ibid: 87). Therefore, Vladimir Putin said in a governmental meeting that Russia plans to spend almost 20 trillion rubles (about 666 billion U.S. dollars) to modernize its weaponry until 2020.

Warning systems

Russia has the best radar systems, which follows any movement from thousands of km and in the event of danger, activates defense systems against it. Totally, Russia has approximately eight radars in its boundaries, which complete with poultry radars in Azerbaijan.

Conclusion

Geographic location and having major resources of oil and gas is some of the characteristics that created the strategic importance of the region and the environmental and geographic factors as well as political and economic factors have made the region to one of the competition place for international and regional powers. On the other hand, existence of energy rich sources in the region results to formation of political competitions and games that have been immersed the political, economic and environmental future in an aura of ambiguity. According to these issues, Russia has good potentiality in politics and military for playing the stronger role in the Caspian region and prevention of trespassing of other powers in their backyard, such as:

1-Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the existence of powerful members such as China as economic strength and India as one of the future powers. In addition, the Central Asian countries have provided a fertile field for Russian power in issues of regional and trans-regional.

2-Needs of Caspian countries to Russia in economic, military, technology and security aspects, has provided the intervention of Russian, in these countries and prevented the penetration of other powers.

3- Russia, according to the unsoldering of the Caspian legal tries to take advantages, such as military bases and transmission of energy -by bilateral negotiations with countries of the Caspian region-

4- Russia has pursued a diplomatic approach rather than threats of war, for face against the America and NATO in penetration of them into east of the region.

5- Militarily, Russia is powerful. Due to having the necessary technology in the field of intercontinental missiles, ships, aircraft and military presence in Caspian Sea. Russia, however, have two great strategic problems:

a) lacking of direct rail from Central Asia to Persian Gulf
b) excessive distance of marine

6- Economically, Russia has numerous problems, including the powerful mafia groups and terrorism, government corruption and lacking of foreign investment. Unsoldering of these problems will be encountered Russia with actual problem in dealing with trans-regional powers in the Caspian region.

References

Amirahmadian, Bahram & Goodarzi, Mahnaz;"Caspian sea Russian interests and Iran’s security,"Ghoomes publishing company ltd, Tehran-Iran, 2010
Asiri, Mohammad Reza, the Participation and contrast of Russian and west´s interests in Caspian sphere. , Tehran, centers Asia and the Caucasus journal scientific, No21, 1998.
Bayghi, Hassan and Motaharia, Mahdi; the Review of Russian´s foreign policy original from beginning to now. Tehran: international studies & research institute,2010
Caspian sea international institute ,, Iran-Russia relation After the cold war ;central Asia and the Caucasus journal” scientific primitive magazine, No 61,spring 2008
The Potentialities of Russia to Re-Sovereignty over the Caspian Sea


Dadandish, Parvin & Vali Kouzehgar Kaleji; “A critical study of regional security complex theory by using the security environment of the south Caucasus;” Rahbord, the scientific Research journal of the center for strategies Research, Autumn 2010


Fazaee, Mohsen; Shanghai cooperation organization; the opportunities for Chinese and Russian’s participation. Tehran, center Asia and the Caucasus Journal Scientific, No68, 2009


Hashemi, Gholam Reza (2002) Internal Factors affecting the regional security in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Caucasus Studies Quarterly, Tehran, Iran, No.40


Heydari, Mohammad & Hamid Reza Mohammadi. “Geopolitical Evolution of the last decade of the 20th century and their impacts upon the national security of the IR. Iran” Geopolitics Quarterly (An International), summer 2007, serial No:8, volum:3 No:2

Hejazi, Hossein, common wealth states. Tehran: international studies & research institute, 2010


Karami, Jahangir, the foreign policy changes of Russia (identity, state and west issue); Tehran, foreign ministry publication, 2005.


National Geographical organization publication, “the Geography of countries of world (RUSSIA)” Tehran, National Geographical organization publication.

Noori, Alireza, “Russians role in the world politics and tension in relation with the us in Putins era” Tehran, central Asia and the Caucasus Journal Scientific

Russian federation “institute for political and international studies (IPIS)” Tehran, 2009


Shori, Mahmoud, and the multiple approaches in Russian’s foreign policy, Tehran: the studies center of Euroasia, 2005.

Skelyarf, Leonid, the countries of Caspian sphere in twenty one century (competi-
tion and cooperation zone), translated by: Mehran Mohsani, Tehran, center Asia and the Caucasus journal scientific, No21, 1996


Vaezi, Mahmud (2010) Evolution Process of Shanghai Organization (SCO); Strategic Study Institute; Tehran, Iran


EU – Russia gas connection: Pipes, politics and problems; Ed. by Kari Liuhto, PEI Electronic Publications 08/2009