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CHAPTER 23

THE FORMATION OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER: CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACE BY TÜRKIYE AND AZERBAIJAN

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to analyze the process of the formation of the new world order and to examine the role and actions of the permanent veto-wielding members of the United Nations Security Council within this process. The five permanent members of the UN Security Council with veto power - the United States, Russia, France, the United Kingdom and China - have always used their rights for their geopolitical interests, violating the principles of international law. The study argues that the pursuit of geopolitical and strategic interests by these states has often contributed to international instability rather than the promotion of peace and security. Russia's re-starting of war against Ukraine, its annexation of territories, The U.S. President Trump's desire to make Canada the 51st state of the U.S., his desire to take Gaza under his rule, his proposal to remove Palestinians from Gaza and settle them in Egypt and Jordan, the legalization of genocide and deportation against a people, its proposals to Ukraine to stop the war with Russia, its proposals to exploit the natural resources in Ukraine, its statement that negotiations with Russia will be without Ukraine, its attempts to subjugate Greenland, its views on Panama, causing Israel to go to war with Iran, etc., France's exploitation of the economies of African countries, as well as small island states, and the fact that it is one of the main countries causing climate change prove that these countries are pursuing a neo-colonial policy. The United Kingdom and China are also supplying weapons to the warring parties instead of encouraging them to make peace. Another objective of the research is to examine the contributions of Türkiye and Azerbaijan to regional and global peace. Within this framework, the diplomatic initiatives of both countries, their mediation efforts, humanitarian assistance, and support for international legal norms are evaluated through a comparative approach. Particular attention is given to Türkiye's and Azerbaijan's roles in conflict-affected regions, including humanitarian aid, post-conflict reconstruction efforts, and diplomatic engagement. In such a situation, the formation of new centers of power is inevitable. The Organization of Turkic States, D-8 and other cooperation platforms have the potential to become alternative centers in international relations. For its contributions to peace, Türkiye could become a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Keywords

New Realities in International Relations, The New World Order, Türkiye, Azerbaijan, A Center of Power

Introduction

The UN is an international organization that unites the world's nations. The geopolitical rivalry between the five permanent members of the Security Council with veto power - the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and China - has often led to unfair decisions being made in this body. In the modern era, factors that undermine international security - the application of power politics, military intervention under the pretext of "lack of democracy", promises of accession to NATO and the European Union, wars, international terrorism, nuclear weapons, climate change, environmental security problems, etc. - have engulfed the world. Although the importance of the existence and functioning of international organizations operating in accordance with international law, especially the UN, a universal organization, was stated, this did not happen due to the ambitions of the current veto-wielding states. The U.S., Russia, or France taking over the decision-making process at the UN, interfering in matters within the internal jurisdiction of other states, and failing to comply with international law norms lead to the collapse of the UN (Dadashova, 2020). The UN's failure to respond to the massacres in Gaza proves this. The UN itself has declared that "there is no safe place" in Gaza and that it can no longer provide security in the region "under the UN flag." The UN announced that it could not guarantee the safety of 600,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) waiting for safe shelter in the region, and that more than 50 UN-provided shelters had already been "impacted" by the ongoing war, including five that had been "directly hit" (BBC, 2023). The United Nations, unfortunately, could not even protect its own personnel in Gaza. 500 people died rushing to help people in Gaza. 326 of them were UN staff (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025).

Although the UN reported that nearly one million Palestinians who fled their homes are in urgent need of food, water, and fuel, no humanitarian aid was provided to the people. Russia's draft humanitarian resolution on Israel and Gaza was not adopted by the UN Security Council. Western countries, including the US and the UK, voted against it because the document did not condemn Hamas. Speaking at the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan once again brought the idea of "The world is bigger than five" to the attention of the world community. He recalled the first words of the first article of the UN Charter: "The purpose of the UN is to maintain peace and security» (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025). The President highlighted the importance of ending the dominance of the five permanent members for a fair solution to global problems (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025). He emphasized that the genocide in Gaza has been going on for 700 days, and showed photos of starving children and women waiting in line with empty containers for aid, and said: «Can there be peace in a world where children die of hunger and lack of medicine?» (BBC News Türkçe, 2025).

"The roots of the United Nations, founded to prevent humanity from ever experiencing the scourge of war again, are full of values that can shed light on the dark times we are living in...We stand ready to strongly support this process, guided by our vision of transforming Istanbul into the headquarters of the United Nations. It is our common responsibility to take steps to restore the United Nations to its regenerative spirit on its 80th anniversary. We will continue to say "the world is bigger than five" until we build a system where the strong are not right, but the right are strong. Our task is not to abandon the system, but to repair it and make it work again. Undoubtedly, a more just, fairer world is possible. Türkiye will patiently continue its fight for making of a more just world" (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025).

While the 1990s of the 20th century were a period of regional and international conflicts, the era of wars began in the 20s of the 21st century. Very complex international political processes are taking place in the world. Two conflicts are clearly visible in the world: The conflict between the West and Russia. Russia sees NATO's eastward expansion and the aspirations of countries that have gained independence to join the European Union as threats to its borders. The development shows that Russia wants to reassert itself in the territories of the former Soviet Union. Under the Biden administration, the United States expressed strong political support for Ukraine's closer integration with Western institutions, including NATO and the

European Union. Russia perceived these developments as a direct threat to its security and borders, which contributed to heightened tensions and the outbreak of war in Ukraine. Biden's emphasis on multilateralism as a core tenet of his foreign policy reflects his strategic approach to global leadership, framing the United States as a "beacon of the world" that seeks to address international threats through cooperation rather than isolation (Mister Gidion, 2025) After the next president, Donald Trump, withdrew support for Ukraine, the European Union countries continue to support Ukraine. This makes it clear that the United States' goal is to weaken Russia through Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union states through Russia, on the other. The U.S. is also using Israel to colonize the Near and Middle East (Jim, 2024). This is also proven by Israel's support for the massacres in Gaza and its attacks on Iran, Qatar, and Syria.

In such circumstances, new centers of power emerge. In the new world order, Azerbaijan and Türkiye are two brotherly states that complement and strengthen each other, both in bilateral and multilateral cooperation, as well as in the Organization of Turkic States. At such a time, it is of great importance for the Organization of Turkic States, as well as the D-8 OIC, which unites Muslim states, including Turkic states, to become a powerhouse in international relations. In order for the TDT to become a powerhouse, it must conduct its relations in the political, economic, and cultural fields from the perspective of commitment to Turkish identity. Free movement, free living, a common army, and a common market should be established among the member states of the organization. It is necessary to create conditions for closer formation of Turkic world relations by highlighting elements such as common history, cultural values, norms, and language in interstate relations.

1. International Political Processes: Realities

In the first months of his presidency, the United States President Donald Trump's desire to make Canada the 51st state of the United States, the relocation of the Gaza population to Egypt and Jordan, his desire to take control of the territory, his proposals to stop the war with Russia in Ukraine, his proposals to exploit the natural resources in Ukraine, his attempts to subjugate Greenland, his views on Panama, his plan to exploit the gold deposits in the now-destroyed Gaza, his failure to recognize the state of Palestine, his pressure on other states to recognize it, and other claims prove the United States' neocolonialist policy. The United States' goal is to settle Jews in Gaza and directly subjugate those territories to the U.S.

After the regime change in Syria, the United States, which did not want Türkiye to conduct a large-scale military operation against the Kurdish armed forces in Syria, tried to prevent it. US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken made this statement at a joint press conference with French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot in Paris (Baku TV, 2025). While reconstruction efforts are underway in Syria, Israel's strikes on southern Syria, carried out with the support of the United States, hinder state-building and interfere with Syria's sovereignty, indicating the objectives pursued by the U.S. in the region (Apa.az, 2025). The fact that Israel, with the support of the U.S., is attacking southern Syria at a time when there is construction work in Syria, obstructing state building in Syria, and interfering in its sovereignty also indicates the United States' goals (Apa.az, 2025). Israel is the United States' scheming hand in the Near and Middle East. None of Israel's attacks are outside the control of the U.S., but are done with its consent. At the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, Trump stated that recognizing Palestine as a state would reward Hamas (BBC news Türkçe, 2025). He argued that recognizing the Palestinian Authority as a state would mean "rewarding Hamas". The U.S. simply has to give the order for Israel to stop its war against Palestine. But the U.S. doesn't want the war to stop. One of its main goals was to provoke Iran into a war with Israel. And he did it. The U.S. military joined the operation in the 12-day war between Iran and Israel. It bombed three Iranian nuclear facilities with B-2 bombers and Tomahawk missiles launched from ships in the Indian Ocean. In response, Iran bombed the U.S. air base in Qatar, the largest military base in the region (Musavat, 2025).

Russia is trying to keep the regions of the former Soviet space, including the South Caucasus, within its sphere of influence. Russia has long sought to secure its geopolitical, geo-economical and other interests

by using its mediation mission in the conflicts in the South Caucasus, including the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which was created as a result of Armenia's military aggression, violated the territorial integrity of Georgia by recognizing the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, and of Ukraine by annexing Crimea. Not content with this, he started a war with Ukraine. There are also ideas that Russia is creating conditions for Israel to attack Palestine in order to confuse the West in the Near and Middle East. The global blockade in the Russia-Ukraine war is clearly evident. The West, which has been fueling the war, is no longer providing Ukraine with the assistance it needs. Newly elected U.S. President Donald Trump stated, "If I had been president at that time, I would not have allowed the war to happen." But the situation changed after Trump came to power, saying about Ukraine, "They may become part of Russia someday. They may not," and stating that it would be foolish to continue providing Ukraine with free aid. He offered to give the United States access to the extraction of valuable minerals on its territory in exchange for \$500 billion in aid to Ukraine (Lent.az, 2025). Ukrainian officials said the actual amount of US aid was about \$90 billion, almost 5 times less than the requested amount (Azertag.az, 2023). Europe has shown its eye on Ukraine's resources by putting forward an alternative proposal in response to Trump's \$500 billion deal proposal (Azpolitika.info, 2025). Ukraine offered Türkiye the reconstruction of the country after the war in return for the U.S. and the EU deal. During the meetings between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelensky in Ankara, the Turkish President expressed his readiness to support Turkish companies in helping Ukraine overcome the devastation of the war (Qafqazinfo.az, 2025).

The United States' foreign policy approach, which increasingly prioritizes its interests in global governance, has given its rival China a significant advantage. China, which emerged from the 2008 economic crisis with little loss, is now the most powerful competitor for the U.S. In international relations, competition between states has led to the emergence of the concept of power in order for states to maintain their existence (Tokatlı, 2023). Despite the United States' attempts to reach out to China, China is standing by Russia. Chinese companies supplied at least 55 million euros worth of military-grade components and materials to sanctioned Russian firms between 2023 and 2024 (Sfera.az, 2025). One of China's main problems is the Taiwan issue. The biggest obstacle to resolving this is the United States' support for Taiwan. That is why China does not want Russia, a rival to the U.S., to weaken and stands by it. Russia also already knows that in a war with Ukraine, European countries will not buy energy and gas from Russia, and is cooperating with China to sell its gas to China and weaken the United States. Russia and China are also leading members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which aims to be an alternative to Western economic power.

Great Britain and France are already trying to appear on the international stage as powerhouses. As for the political processes in Gaza, Great Britain and France recognized the Palestinian state. The United States, however, strongly opposed this. Standing with the occupying Israel discredits the United States.

France also pursues neocolonial policies in various forms. It exploits the economies of African countries, as well as small island states, and is one of the main causes of climate change. The French government violates the rights of its citizens, even going so far as to murder them. At the Conference of the Parties 29 summit of small island developing states, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev openly stated that France was violating human rights:

"French Polynesia suffered serious environmental degradation from 1966 to 1996 due to 193 nuclear tests conducted by France. France is responsible for severe contamination and radiation of the soil and water there. The radiation level has exceeded 4900 percent. If we add to this the 17 nuclear tests carried out by France during its years of occupation of Algeria, we can see the damage that this country has done to the planet's ecosystem. No list of crimes committed by France in its overseas territories would be complete without mentioning the regime's recent human rights abuses. President Macron's regime killed 13 people and injured 169 others during this year's legitimate Kanak protests in New Caledonia. 1,700 people have been arrested. Also this year, 38 people have been arrested during protests in Martinique and Guadeloupe. Along with all this, France has not been condemned by the European Commission, the European Parliament, or the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. This is political hypocrisy." (President.az, 2024).

African countries and small island states are expressing their protest against France.

France protests Türkiye's establishment of a new government in Syria. Macron said in a meeting with a group of ambassadors that France "will not leave the terrorist YPG/PKK alone" in response to the Turkish President's statement that the terrorists "will either submit or be buried." (Azertag.az, 2025). Syrian leader Ahmed al-Sharaa, in response to France's demands for reform and other issues, said: "We changed the government, and we will set the rules. Your words are not being heard as demands, but only as advice." (Telegraf, 2025). Macron called on the West "not to support the new Syrian government."

2. Türkiye in the New World Order

In recent years, Türkiye has become an important player both regionally and globally, spanning a wide geography from the Caucasus to Central Asia, from the Middle East to Europe. The initiatives of the Organization of Turkic States, cooperation in the D-8 organization, which includes Türkiye, Pakistan and Azerbaijan on the recommendation of Türkiye and can implement projects for the development, peace and security of the region, projects implemented in the field of energy and transport corridors, as well as humanitarian and cultural policies, strengthen Türkiye's position in the new world order. In the international arena, the power of states is measured not only by economic and military potential, but also by strategic alliances, regional cooperation and shared values. Türkiye and Azerbaijan are strategic allies and, in addition to bilateral and multilateral cooperation, are members of the Organization of Turkic States, which has shared values.

Türkiye, as a just state, strives to establish peace and security in the world and provides humanitarian aid. The fact that the Turkish President, in addition to mentioning the Palestine and Syria issues at the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, stated that resolving the nuclear issue with Iran through diplomacy and security in Iraq are important for the region, that he will continue to work towards a ceasefire between Türkiye's northern neighbor Russia and Ukraine within the framework of the Istanbul process, that he will continue efforts to resolve the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia within the framework of the Ankara process, that he is working diligently to maintain peace and stability in the Balkans, that he invited the international community to end the injustice that the Turkish Cypriots have been subjected to for half a century, to recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, and to establish diplomatic, political and economic relations, and that he considers the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia to be the most important issue and that Türkiye will not abandon the people of Afghanistan during the reconstruction period, proves once again that Türkiye has a say in a large geography. The Turkish President, who pursues a just and peaceful policy, also stressed the importance of resolving the Kashmir issue through dialogue based on the expectations of the Kashmiris and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, ending the conflict in Sudan, and resolving the conflicts in the Great Lakes Region of Africa and the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025).

2.1. Türkiye's Position in Syria

Türkiye has been closely assisting the Syrian people in their self-determination and government formation after the overthrow of the Bashar Assad regime, and stands by the Syrian people. Türkiye has told the remaining terrorists in Syria to either submit or be buried. Türkiye is the only country supporting regime change in Syria. It is Türkiye that has resettled 4 million people who fled Syria. With the overthrow of the Assad regime, Türkiye has achieved its goal. Now, the main goal is to ensure the safe return of refugees to their homeland and to help the Syrian people determine their own destiny without interference from anyone. Türkiye is actively participating in the construction work in Syria. Türkiye is developing land transport to facilitate freight traffic with Syria, which is the mainstay of trade exchange between Syria and Türkiye (Azertag.az, 2025). President of the Republic of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan discussed with interim President Ahmed al-Shaara the issue of integrating the so-called Syrian Democratic Forces

into the Syrian National Army in order to ensure Syria's territorial integrity. Although the US identifies these terrorist groups as the Syrian Democratic Forces, they are terrorist organizations that pose a threat to Türkiye and are affiliates of the PKK (Crossmedia.az, 2025). At the meeting, the Turkish President called on the world community to recognize and accept the new realities that Syria is experiencing:

«Today, Syria is experiencing a difficult period of development, so we have no right to leave Damascus alone with its problems and challenges. An active dialogue has been established between our countries at the level of special services and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.» (Azertag.az, 2025).

Türkiye is assisting Syria in defense and security matters in the new state-building process. The Turkish and Syrian Defense Ministries have signed a memorandum of understanding covering joint training and consulting in the military field (Bakupost.az, 2025). This agreement is a very important aid for Syria, which is starting a new construction to receive joint training and advice from the Turkish army, which has high knowledge, experience, and skills (Apa.az, 2025). At the UN General Assembly, the Turkish President emphasized that they will support the constructive work in Syria:

«We will support with all our capabilities a united Syria, free from terrorism, especially ISIS, and where security is established. As stability takes root in Syria, the winners will undoubtedly be the Syrians, as well as neighboring countries and our entire region.» (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025).

2.2. Türkiye's Position on Palestine

The President of the Republic of Türkiye, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, strongly criticized Israel's recent actions since the beginning of the war, especially the bombing of hospitals that killed more than a thousand people, and called on the international community to take action to end this brutality. One of the conditions of the ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip is that Palestinian prisoners will not remain in Palestinian territory after their release. The Turkish President also said that they are ready to accept the released Palestinians along with other countries (Qafqazinfo.az, 2025). Speaking to the press at Atatürk Airport before his visit to Malaysia, Indonesia and Pakistan, he said

No one has the power to remove the people of Gaza from their eternal homeland, which has existed for thousands of years. Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as Palestine, belong to the Palestinians... In our view, the proposals put forward by the new US administration regarding Gaza under pressure from the Israeli government have no value. (Ordu.az, 2025).

Speaking at the UN General Assembly, the Turkish President emphasized that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza: «There is no war in Gaza, there is no talk of two sides. On one side there is a regular army with the most modern weapons, and on the other side there are innocent civilians.» (BBC news Türkçe, 2025). The President stated that the West Bank, where Hamas is not in power, was simultaneously being occupied step by step, and innocent civilians were being killed: «This is not a fight against terrorism. This is a policy of occupation, exile, genocide, or rather, mass murder, carried out under the guise of the October 7 incident.» (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025). The Turkish head of state stated that Israel is not limited to Gaza and the West Bank, but is also threatening regional peace by attacking Syria, Iran, Yemen, Lebanon and Qatar.

The world's governments are watching the massacres in Gaza in silence. The number of people killed in Gaza has exceeded 65,000.

Turkish diplomat Ahmet Davutoglu expressed his views on US President Donald Trump's plans for Gaza in parliament and made a special proposal regarding Gaza:

“Trump says we will not take Gaza, we will not own it. When Trump says this, he does not want the Gaza Strip to exist. The total area of Gaza is 309 square kilometers, but this short strip of land stretches out like an arc between Cyprus and Egypt. There are natural gas fields there, and their goal is to seize those natural gas fields... The last legitimate state of the people of Gaza was the Ottoman Empire. After that, the British

Mandate was established and did not grant citizenship. As the Republic of Türkiye, the legal successor of the Ottoman Empire, the people of Gaza must hold a referendum as our natural historical compatriots and citizens. It should be incorporated into the Republic of Türkiye as an autonomy until the State of Palestine is established. America can come from there and take over Gaza, do they think we won't protect the people of Gaza?" (Modern.az, 2025).

The Republic of Türkiye expects pressure on Israel to be certainly increased to prevent the massacres in Gaza: "What Israel is doing is extremely dangerous not only for Gaza and the region, but also for humanity and peace and justice on a global level." (Report.az, 2025).

Türkiye provides extensive humanitarian assistance to Gaza. Türkiye strongly demands the recognition of the State of Palestine. Speaking at the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, the President expressed his gratitude to all countries that have announced their recognition of the State of Palestine, and called on those that have not yet accepted this decision to take urgent measures. (İletişim Başkanlığı, 2025).

2.3. Türkiye's Position on the Russia-Ukraine War

Ukraine offered Türkiye the reconstruction of the country after the war in return for the U.S. and the European Union deal. During the meetings between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Ankara, the Turkish President expressed his readiness to support Turkish companies in helping Ukraine overcome the devastation of the war (Qafqazinfo.az, 2025). Türkiye is providing economic and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. During a meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Ukraine, Mustafa Levent Bilgen, Deputy Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Olena Kondratyuk, said: "We all know and highly appreciate the important role Türkiye played in the Grain Initiative and the release of prisoners." (Azertag.az, 2024). Türkiye also proposed organizing training for cadets of the Odessa Naval Lyceum.

Türkiye also assists Ukraine in the energy sector. Ukrainian Energy Minister Svetlana Grinchuk met with Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Alparslan Bayraktar to discuss the main directions of Ukrainian-Turkish cooperation in the energy sector. The tasks ahead include updating the contractual framework in the energy sector, resuming the work of the Joint Ukrainian-Turkish Working Group on Energy, launching projects in the field of natural gas supply and storage, as well as the participation of Turkish business in the modernization and development of Ukraine's energy infrastructure (Azertag.az, 2025).

Türkiye has declared its readiness to assist Ukraine in clearing the country of mines (Yenisabah.az, 2025). The Turkish side is also considering proposals to participate in the demining of humanitarian civilian lands, in addition to the sea.

Ukraine asked Türkiye to hold peace talks in Türkiye. This shows that Türkiye, which creates conditions for peace and security in the world and performs a mediation mission, has gained prestige in the international arena as a just state. On July 23, 2025, during the peace talks between Russia and Ukraine held in Istanbul under the chairmanship of Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, a demand was accepted for the release of those held captive for more than three years. The issue of exchanging civilians who fled their homes as a result of the fighting was discussed. The Russian side stated in its statement that an agreement had been reached to exchange at least 1,200 captured soldiers as soon as possible. In the meeting the importance of the participation of the presidents of Türkiye and the United States in the peace talks between the presidents of Russia and Ukraine was emphasized (Azertag.az, 2025).

3. Azerbaijan's Regional Leadership and Global Humanitarian Mission

Azerbaijan plays an important role in global processes with its strategic geographical position and energy resources. It is a leading state in the region with oil, gas, and transport projects. Today, Azerbaijan is not

only an energy exporter, but also becoming a green energy center. Based on the formula “One nation, two states”, Azerbaijan and Türkiye are building their future together, not separately. They are partners in projects such as TANAP, Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan, Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum, Baku-Tbilisi-Kars, and the Silk Road. Azerbaijan, located at the intersection of international transport corridors, acts as a bridge between East and West. The restoration of territorial integrity after the 44-day Patriotic War and sovereignty after the 2023 anti-terrorist operation created new realities for Azerbaijan in the region and the world.

Azerbaijan has provided assistance to small island states in projects to reduce the impact of hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods, as well as in water supply, food security, and cultural heritage restoration. More than 10 small island states have benefited from Azerbaijan’s student scholarship program to study at universities. During its four-year chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement, Azerbaijan provided financial and humanitarian assistance to more than 80 countries, including 20 small island states. Allocated \$10 million to support UN joint projects in small island states (President.az, 2024). Donated and funded protective equipment, medical devices, and vaccines to over 80 countries in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (President.az, 2025).

Azerbaijan supports the maintenance of the principles and norms of international law in international political processes. President Ilham Aliyev emphasized at the 80th session of the UN General Assembly that international law ensures international relations, security, and peace, using the example of Azerbaijan:

«The achievements we have made in recent years are not only a victory and success for Azerbaijan. It is also proof that international law ultimately prevails. Our visions are clear. These are peace and development based on international law, non-interference in the internal affairs of states, mutual respect and cooperation. Let us build a world together where double standards are abolished, justice is not selective, the rule of law is respected, and peace is ensured not only by words but also by practical steps.» (President.az, 2025).

President Ilham Aliyev expressed Azerbaijan’s readiness to share its experience in construction work with other countries: “Azerbaijan has entered a new era. We have won both the war and peace. We ended the occupation and began reconstruction. Justice triumphed, sovereignty was strengthened, and peace was de facto secured. We are ready to share this positive experience.” (President.az, 2025).

3.1. Azerbaijan’s Participation in the Construction of Syria

Azerbaijan, along with Türkiye, is providing humanitarian assistance to Syria, which is forming a new government. During the political crisis in Syria, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev participated in the «Support to Syria and the Region» conference held in London at the invitation of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland David Cameron, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany Angela Merkel, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway Erna Solberg, and Emir of the State of Kuwait Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Issues of providing urgent and long-term assistance to Syria, implementing humanitarian and educational projects in the region, resolving the social problems of refugees suffering from the crisis, and providing support to the countries hosting them were discussed. Speaking at the session on «Education» held within the framework of the conference, the Head of State emphasized that Azerbaijan has contributed and will continue to contribute to humanitarian development in Syria, but most importantly, the importance of finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis as soon as possible. The President of Azerbaijan also applauded the countries that took in Syrian refugees (President.az, 2016).

After the change of power in Syria on December 8, 2024, new opportunities have emerged for the development of cooperation between Azerbaijan and Syria. After a twelve-year hiatus, the activities of the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Damascus, the capital of Syria, have been resumed. On February 13, 2025, while accepting the credentials of the newly appointed Turkish Ambassador to Azerbaijan, Birol Akgun, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev stated that Azerbaijan would stand shoulder

to shoulder with Türkiye on the Syrian issue: «Azerbaijan has stated from the first days that it stands with Türkiye on the Syrian issue. Azerbaijan is also ready to contribute to ensuring stability, security and resolving humanitarian problems in Syria in a coordinated manner with Türkiye.» (Aircenter.az, 2025).

In accordance with the relevant instructions of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, in order to support the elimination of the humanitarian problems faced by the Syrian people, on December 30, 2024, humanitarian aid weighing about 200 tons, consisting of various food and grocery products, was sent to Syria via the territories of Georgia and Türkiye (Mfa.gov.az, 2024). Humanitarian aid was distributed in Aleppo, Syrian Arab Republic. 8,000 internally displaced families benefited from 200 tons of humanitarian aid (Apa.az, 2025). On February 15, 2025, President Ilham Aliyev sent a congratulatory letter to the interim President of the Syrian Arab Republic, Ahmed Al-Sharaa. In the letter, he stated that he attached great importance to the development of friendly and cooperative relations between Azerbaijan and Syria, that Azerbaijan was ready to provide necessary support and assistance to Syria, and invited Ahmed al-Sharaa to visit Azerbaijan (Report.az, 2025). On April 11, during the first meeting between the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev and the Transitional President of the Syrian Arab Republic Ahmed Al-Sharaa within the framework of the Antalya Forum, President Ilham Aliyev expressed Azerbaijan's readiness to participate in the reconstruction process necessary to strengthen stability in Syria, while Ahmed Al-Sharaa noted the importance of Azerbaijan's support for Syria in the future in the fields of energy, infrastructure, and security (Aircenter.az, 2025). In a short time, the transportation of Azerbaijani gas from Türkiye to Syria began in August 2025 (Report.az, 2025). US Ambassador to Türkiye and Special Representative for Syria Tom Barrack assessed the transportation of Azerbaijani gas to Syria as an effective step towards humanitarian assistance and stability: "...The Azerbaijani gas that will be transported to Syria via Türkiye from August 2 will generate 800 megawatts of electricity in Syria. This means providing energy to 5 million homes." (Azerbaijan-news.az, 2025).

3.2. Position of Azerbaijan on the Recognition of the Palestinian State

After Azerbaijan gained its independence, it established diplomatic relations with Palestine on April 15, 1992. The embassy of the State of Palestine has been operating in Azerbaijan since 2011. Azerbaijan's position on the Israeli-Palestinian issue is clear and precise, both from a political and humanitarian perspective. Azerbaijan has always supported the "two-state" principle, which would lead to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. Back in 2011, President Ilham Aliyev, in a statement to the press during the visit of President of the State of Palestine Mahmoud Abbas to our country, said that his visit was of a historic nature:

...Our political relations are at a very high level. Your visit to Azerbaijan is a clear example of this. A few months ago, the embassy of the State of Palestine in Azerbaijan began its work. This is also a very important event. I am confident that the embassy's activities will create new opportunities for the development of our bilateral relations. Azerbaijan supports the State of Palestine in all international organizations. Azerbaijan has stood by Palestine during all discussions held within the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the United Nations, and will continue to do so. We believe that an independent, sovereign Palestinian State should be established soon, with East Jerusalem as its capital. This is our position, and we defend and will defend this position in all international organizations. On the one hand, this is our fraternal duty, and on the other hand, this position is formed on the basis of international law norms... (Musavat, 2024).

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan approved the «Agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine on Providing Material and Technical Assistance to the Activities of the Embassy of the State of Palestine in the Republic of Azerbaijan», signed in Baku on January 31, 2011 and Azerbaijan provides logistical and technical assistance to the Palestinian diplomatic mission operating in Baku.

Azerbaijan's position is still clear. President Ilham Aliyev stated this in his statement to local television channels:

Our position on the Israeli-Palestinian issue remains unchanged. We have always been in favor of the creation, that is, the existence, of two states. The creation of an independent Palestinian state will put an end to this conflict. I think everyone should understand that. As you know, we have been supporting the Palestinian state for many years. Political, moral, and financial support, and this continues. As you know, we have been supporting the Palestinian state for many years. Political, moral, and financial support, and this continues. The Palestinian embassy has been operating in Azerbaijan for many years. We have also opened a representative office in Palestine, and of course, the sooner this conflict ends and a ceasefire is declared in Gaza, the better it will be for everyone. We wish for this and we also take the activities of the Islamic League as a basis here. Because this is more of an issue for the Arab world, and here is the organization of the Arab world - the Arab League, whatever its position, we share that position. We have actively participated and will actively participate in all the events of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. In other words, our position is completely clear. (President.az, 2025).

Azerbaijan's attitude towards the Palestinian issue is based on the principles and norms of international law. Azerbaijan supports the «two-state» principle in the Palestinian issue in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and provides humanitarian assistance to Palestine. Azerbaijan allocates \$2 million for aid to Gaza (Report.az, 2023). Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov, speaking at an extraordinary session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Jeddah, said that Azerbaijan plans to build a secondary school for 600 Palestinian children in the Palestinian city of Nablus and provide 15 Palestinian students with the «Heydar Aliyev International Education Grant» for 2024-2025 (Modern.az, 2025) and evacuated 14 Palestinian students from the Gaza Strip who had gained the right to receive higher education in our country under the Heydar Aliyev International Education Grant program. The students were accommodated in dormitories (Azertag.az, 2025).

In addition, Azerbaijani Health Minister Teymur Musayev met with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Palestine to our country, Ahmed Metani. Potential opportunities for the development of cooperation in the field of healthcare between Azerbaijan and Palestine and further successful development of cooperation in the future were discussed (Azertag.az, 2025).

In July 2025, the UN General Assembly adopted the «New York Declaration», which demanded that Israel withdraw from the territories it has occupied since 1967, stop the construction of new settlements, and ensure mutual security between the parties. This document is seen as a new stage leading to the recognition of the state of Palestine. Azerbaijan voted «in favor» of Palestine (Az.rasthaber, 2025). After that, on September 22, the issue of recognizing the state of Palestine was discussed at the UN. Canada, Great Britain, Australia, and Portugal recognized the state of Palestine at the UN General Assembly.

3.3. Azerbaijan's Humanitarian Aid to Ukraine

Azerbaijan's position on Russia's military aggression against Ukraine is clear. At the III Global Media Forum held in Khankendi on July 19, 2025, which brought together hundreds of journalists and experts from different countries of the world, President Ilham Aliyev's decisive response to the question of the well-known Ukrainian journalist Dmitry Gordon: "What do you think Ukraine should do, what would you recommend to us?": «Never reconcile with the occupation, never surrender!» (Musavat, 2025). It clearly reflects Azerbaijan's position. Azerbaijan always stands on a fair position in relation to international political processes. After Russia started the war in Ukraine, Azerbaijan has repeatedly provided humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. The total amount of humanitarian assistance provided by the Republic of Azerbaijan in connection with the crisis in Ukraine has now exceeded \$44 million. (Qafqazinfo.az, 2025). A total of about 90 Ukrainian children who suffered from the war and lost family members were brought to Azerbaijan for medical and socio-psychological rehabilitation. School No. 12 named after Zarifa Aliyeva, which was destroyed as a result of military operations in the city of Irpen, was fully restored, and various humanitarian aid measures were implemented. In response to the appeals received from Ukraine,

Azerbaijan sent humanitarian aid to the Ukrainian people, consisting of electrical equipment worth a total of approximately 1 million 422 thousand manats, in order to restore stable electricity supply to the affected areas due to the current situation. The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan issued an Order on allocating funds worth 3 million US dollars in two installments in 2025 for the purchase and shipment of electrical equipment produced in the Republic of Azerbaijan for the purpose of providing humanitarian aid to Ukraine. (President.az, 2025).

Conclusion

Starting from the 20s of the 21st century, radical changes have taken place in the system of international relations. From this period, the era of wars begins. The UN's inability to fully fulfill its peace and security mission, its resolutions remaining on paper, and the conflicts arising from the geopolitical interests of the permanent members with veto power in the Security Council have seriously undermined the organization's reputation. The UN is silent on the massacres committed by Israel in Gaza with the support of the US, and on Russia's occupation of the territories of Ukraine. International law does not work. The confrontation of powers such as the U.S., Russia, China, the United Kingdom and France complicates the world order and freezes the activities of the UN. The U.S. President Donald Trump's desire to make Canada the 51st state of the United States, the relocation of the population of Gaza to Egypt and Jordan, his desire to take control of the territory, his proposals to end the war with Russia in Ukraine, his proposals to exploit the natural resources in Ukraine, his attempts to subjugate Greenland, his views on Panama, his plan to exploit the gold deposits in the now-destroyed Gaza, his non-recognition of the Palestinian state, pressure on other states to recognize it, and other claims, Russia's attempts to regain control of regions in the former Soviet space, its war with Ukraine, China's military assistance to Russia, France's exploitation of the economies of African states, as well as small island states, Türkiye's opposition to the formation of a new government in Syria, and so on, show that these states, which are permanent members of the UN Security Council, do not abide by international law, pursue a neocolonialist policy, and are not in a position to continue their authority in this organization.

In such a situation, the formation of new centers of power is inevitable. The Organization of Turkic States, D-8 and other cooperation platforms have the potential to become alternative centers in international relations. As the Turkish President said, «Our Turkic States Organization is moving from being a regional umbrella to becoming a global actor.» The Republic of Türkiye rightly believes that it can become a permanent member of the UN Security Council (Modern.az, 2024). The role of Türkiye and Azerbaijan in international political processes is of great importance. Türkiye has become an important voice in a wide geography, from the Caucasus to Central Asia, from the Middle East to Europe, both regionally and globally. As a just state, it strives to establish peace and security in the world, provides humanitarian aid, and takes initiatives to stop wars and establish a new world order. Azerbaijan is always by the side of brotherly Türkiye. Both states state that the application of international law is an important factor serving the formation of a new world order. The victory in the Patriotic War made Azerbaijan a leading state in the region. Azerbaijan supports the maintenance of international legal principles and norms in international political processes. Azerbaijan also contributes to ensuring stability, security and resolving humanitarian problems in Syria, Gaza, and Ukraine in a coordinated manner with Türkiye.

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