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Azerbaijani – German political relations (1991–1996)

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ABSTRACT: This article discusses relations between Germany and Azerbaijan in the first six years of independence of this South Caucasian Republic. Especially, was paid attention to the visits by representatives and role of negotiation in the development of relations.

Keywords: German policy in Azerbaijan; parliamentary friendship group.

Introduction.

Official Baku attaches great importance to close cooperation in the direction of the EU and integration into Euro-Atlantic space. Azerbaijan develops its relations with Germany as one of reliable partners in Europe. Playing an important role in world economy and the politician, the Federal Republic Germany supports expansions of bilateral cooperation in all areas. After independence, Azerbaijan attaches great importance to developing bilateral relations and at the present time Azerbaijan is strengthening relationship with the European economic powerhouse.

A brief history of relations.

During the study of relations between Azerbaijan and Germany a number of the historical moments had been revealed. Since, in the late 19th century, early 20th century, has been created German colonies in the South Caucasus. Since 1819, beat new German colonies, their quantity periodically increased [8, 37]. The first colony was established in the village of Helen (Khanlar, the current area Goygol), then in 1888 in Shamkir and in Agstafa in 1902, etc. In 1863, the German company Siemens brothers were based on is located in the large copper deposits Gadabey smelters. Prior to the beginning of the XX century copper smelted from these plants accounted for two thirds of the total amount of copper produced at the South Caucasus. In addition, the company was built by Siemens Brothers Cobalt plant on the basis of cobalt deposits in Dashkasan [1].

As a result of building of these factories the set of people has been employed, financial position of the population has improved.

The relation between the countries and a turning point in the first years of independence.

Germany is one of the first countries which recognized Azerbaijan's independence in January 12, 1992. On February 20, 1992 diplomatic relations were established between Azerbaijan and Germany, which led to the opening of the embassy. September 2, 1992 opened the Embassy of Azerbaijan in Germany, 22 September 1992 - German Embassy in Azerbaijan. After the establishment of diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Germany communication between states constantly developed. G. Sadikhov was appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. The first period was headed by Charge d'Affaires Michael Shmunk, but it was subject to the Ambassador of Georgia to

Germany. In late 1995, the embassy became independent in February 1996 he was appointed Shmunk Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Azerbaijan in Germany.[7]

With the establishment of relations between Azerbaijan and the Federal Republic began with the official visits. For the first time in March 1992, representatives of the Bundestag, led by Hans Vogel, Joseph visited Azerbaijan. During mutual visits at various levels of the legal framework for multilateral cooperation between the republics were established in compliance with the signed documents. These trips are served with one side of the strengthening of relations and on the other side of the opening of the arena for international politics. [6, 212]

The turning point in the relationship started after coming to power H. Aliyev. June 15, 1993 in connection with the internal and external situation, H. Aliyev noted the need to address particular attention to the relationship with Germany to join in the parliament.

On June 25, representatives of the European Union and the U.S. ambassador to Germany, Thomas H. Terstege visited Baku and in the course of negotiations the German ambassador stressed the position that his country is interested Karabakh conflict settlement only through peace and negotiations. During negotiations, Aliyev said that Azerbaijan attaches special importance to cooperation with Germany among European countries. It is no coincidence, shortly after the meeting, Germany sent food to the sum of \$ 2 million in humanitarian assistance for refugees and families of fallen soldiers [6, 214]. On 10 September, representative from "Deutsche Bank" discussed the adoption and the legal framework for mutual cooperation and an agreement to prepare the political, economic and financial cooperation on a wide range of issues [3, 20]. This once again shows the importance of visits to strengthen and develop relations.

The relation in 1994–1996, and the culmination of relations in these years.

In addition, in March 1994, deputy director of political department of the Eastern Europe and CIS countries German Foreign Ministry, the diplomat E. Shtudnis was in the official visit, met with government and parliamentarians. During the visit were discussed in detail the principles of cooperation between the parties, was adopted by listed below principles:

- As the successor to the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan will remain in force, international treaties and agreements signed between the USSR and Germany before changing to new ones;
- The relationship between Azerbaijan and Germany will be established on the basis of universally recognized principles of international law;
- Azerbaijan and Germany will struggle against organizational crime, international terrorism, uncontrolled migration, the purchase and sale of nuclear materials and of smuggling of valuable cultural items on the basis of existing national legislation [2, 125];

In addition, Azerbaijan and Germany have agreed that the Azerbaijani citizens of German origin (their number is more than three thousand) and the German citizens of Azeri origin have the right to maintain culture, national traditions, religion and language and these rights must be protected by law. Visit of Klaus Kinkel, to Azerbaijan in December 1995 affected the development of bilateral relations. During the meetings, signed a contract "on the basis of the relations between Azerbaijan and Germany," contract "on cultural cooperation between Azerbaijan and Germany," Memorandum "On Financial Partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Germany," etc [2, 127]. Kinkel noticed that Germany will help him in difficult moments, but will also support the development of economic relations between Azerbaijan and Germany and the European Union. The culmination of the relationship was an official visit to the H. Aliyev to Germany in July 1996. This meeting led to a deepening of German-Azerbaijani relations, the long-term

prospects for closer relations between these countries, and had great momentum. During the meeting, talked about peace and economic cooperation in the Caucasus and the creation of conditions for foreign investment in the region.[6,219]

Inter-parliamentary relations and the German attitude concerning Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict was another aspect of the relationship. As these years itself Germany was afraid to be extended on a confrontation. Activity of Turkey in the region could not disturb Germany. Moreover, situation in the state of Georgia also have a negative influence on German policy. Considering this situation, the Foreign Minister Genscher in January 1992, Azerbaijan and other South Caucasus countries involved to be member of CSCE [4, 30]. In this way Germany would like to avoid the negative influence of neighbouring countries. Despite effort active participation of Germany on settlement of this question within the limits of OSCE, it remained on the side because of the dissimilarity of Germany and Russia in the first years of independence of Caucasus states.

Another factor influencing the expansion of relations between Azerbaijan and Germany was an inter-parliamentary relation. As it is known, the relationship has begun in March 1993, after a visit of a member of the Bundestag, the German-South Caucasian Parliamentary Friendship Group, D. Sperling. In December of this year's chairman of the group V. Wimmer visited Azerbaijan for the development of of mutual relations after that has come a new stage. All this has contributed for improvement parliamentary system, the adoption of the Constitution of the AR and had a tremendous influence on the legal system. Visit opened an important prospect for assignment of rights and freedoms, the development of inter-parliamentary relations. Members of the Bundestag parliamentary group in the Caucasus and the OSCE parliamentary group stressed the maintenance of Azerbaijan's in Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. They have shown willingness to accept specific obligations on elimination of consequences of the conflict and restoration of cities and villages destroyed during the war [5, 7].

Conclusion.

The relations between two countries have developed the first years only against the background understanding of the situation in Europe and the Caucasus. During these meetings held a broad discussion of the features of cooperation between countries. The main subject of discussions at meetings held by the former president of Azerbaijan, were questions of occupation by Armenia territories of Azerbaijan and the peaceful resolution of conflict. Through these visits, an agreement was signed in the spheres of political, economic and scientific-technical cooperation. Between Germany and Azerbaijan was carried out successful cooperation in the spheres of defence, political security, the fight against terrorism. Azerbaijan, in political and economic terms has become a leader in the Caucasus and the geopolitical and geo-economic position and influence factors influenced the further development of Azerbaijan's position. As a result, the first stages of bilateral relations Azerbaijani-German relationship develops and goes deep, and gradually created an opportunity for Azerbaijan to become a strategic partner in Germany. The economic giant of Europe and the economic powerhouse of th South Caucasus has mutual interests and it will help in improvement of mutual relations.

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Азербайджано-германские политические отношение (1991—1996 гг.)

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АННОТАЦИЯ: В статье рассматривается отношение Германии и Азербайджана в первые шесть лет независимости этой Южно-кавказской республики. Особенно уделено внимание визитов представителей и роль переговоров в развитии отношений.

Ключевые слова: политика Германии в Азербайджане; межпарламентная дружеская группа.