

# **Project work**

## **Ethnic problems in modern Central Asia**

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Almaty, 2018

# Plan

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“For me, the term Central Asian region rather comes from the outside, in particular, the Europeans view these countries as a single region. However, the Central Asian countries themselves do not see themselves as part of a single and holistic region,” says Professor Torsten Bonaker.



# Factors of ethnic conflicts

## Socio-economic

- Cultural and language
- Ethnodemographic
- Ethno-territorial status
- Historical
- Interfaith
- Separatist



In modern Central Asia (with the exception of the specific situation in Tajikistan), in general, it was possible to maintain stability in inter-ethnic relations, as compared with other regions of the former Union. This is due to a number of factors: the traditional poly-ethnicity and multiculturalism of the region, the habit of living in peace and harmony with neighbors, the stability of political leadership, the totality of economic, political, historical, spiritual, and social characteristics.



As the famous Kazakh researcher G.M. Mendikulova: “In modern political science, the term irredenta, or non-united nations, means ethnic minorities inhabiting a territory adjacent to a state dominated by their fellow tribesmen. Outside their country, unrelated nations (unlike diasporas, which are created by migrating ethnic groups to other countries that are not their historical homeland), were the result of conquest (conquest), annexation, controversial borders or a complex of colonial models.”





One of the bloodiest ethnic conflicts in modern Central Asia is the tragic events of 2010 in the south of Kyrgyzstan. The uneven distribution of the population of Central Asia leads to extreme overpopulation of certain regions in which, in the conditions of a shortage of water and land resources, social benefits (electricity, infrastructure) and jobs, inter-ethnic relations remain strained. As an example, one can cite complicated relations in the border areas of the Fergana Valley between the Kyrgyz on the one hand and the Uzbeks and the Tajiks on the other.



According to official figures, during the conflict, 442 people were killed, more than 1,500 injured. According to unofficial information, in the first days of the unrest, about 800 people died. In the evening of June 14, independent media voiced the figure in more than 2,000 dead.





In modern Central Asia, it is conflicts between the titular ethnic groups, whose numerous diasporas, as a rule, live in all neighboring states, are now the most dangerous. The incompleteness of the demarcation of borders, the strengthening of nationalist sentiments, discrimination of the non-titular population in a number of republics, the poverty of the majority of the population and the high rates of its natural growth cause a significant conflict potential in countries of the region.

Feature of ethnic conflicts in Central Asia is their close relationship to the interstate. Hence the probability of the potential proliferation of ethnic conflicts in the interstate. The most acute and long been the Uzbek-Tajik conflict.

The most difficult element of ethnic conflicts in Central Asia is a territorial issue.



Interethnic conflicts potentially threaten the stability and security of all states of Central Asia, including the Republic of Kazakhstan. In this context, it seems appropriate:

1. It is necessary to prevent the "politicization" of the border issues between Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, and escalating them into ethnic plane.
2. In accordance with the instructions of the President of Kazakhstan, to complete the delimitation of boundaries.
3. In the process of delimitation of borders it is necessary to strictly take into account the areas of resettlement of ethnic groups, the prevailing conditions and areas of economic activity, according to the nationality of this or that state, etc.
4. In international relations it is necessary to take into account the historical affinity and closeness of virtually all ethnic groups in Central Asia.



## References:

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/central-asia-wars-and-ethnic-conflicts>

[https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-1-349-22213-1\\_10](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-1-349-22213-1_10)

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