Economic sanctions and U.S. foreign policy on Iran

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The purpose of the study is to analyze the main foreign policy documents that form the U.S. policy of sanctions, according to the sectors of Iran’s economy that are subject of authorization from 1979 to 2012. The analysis of basic spheres of economy, which are subject sanctioning, is carried out, in accordance with the legislation of the USA for the last thirty years, the evolution of the American system of discriminatory limitations is traced in relation to Islamic Republic.

Key words – U.S. foreign policy, sanctions, Iran, a rms and nuclear nonproliferation, Iran’s nuclear program.

I. Introduction

Economic sanctions have played an important role in U.S. foreign policy throughout the twentieth century. A major saction policy towards the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) – is a major factor in international relations of recent decades. For more than thirty years the U.S. applies a lot of effort to limit Iran in political diplomatic and economic spheres. All actions of the United States in this area are based on the method of discriminatory restrictions and preasure as actions (from Latin sanction – irrevocable resolution) – a compulsory measure applied to the violators of certain legal rules. The relevance of the research topic is predicated on the fact that U.S. sanctions on Iran affect the interests of those countries that cooperate with Iran in various fields.

II. Origins of the U.S. sanctions implementation on Iran

Since 2010, the United States supported the British boycott of Iranian oil and gas, which announced a progressive increase in the Islamic Republic’s nuclear potential. The catalyst was the conclusion of the report of the IAEA in November 2011 – “Iran in 2003 made actions aimed to develop nuclear weapons, did they or not their research associated with experimental programs in this area” [1].

Although the current U.S. sanctions were imposed after the revolution in Iran 1979, the U.S. supported the boycott of Iranian oil and gas. In 2013, Western and American companies are increasingly investing in the energy sector of Iran, and the United States has imposed sanctions on companies, including foreign companies, that have invested in Iran's energy sector over 20 million.

III. Economic spheres of IRI sanctioned by the U.S.

Concerns over Iran’s nuclear program arose later and was a convincing factor for economic containment of the Islamic Republic. Significant penalties were limiting various areas of economic development, from trade to investment in manufacturing weapons and nuclear materials.

Regarding the spread of weapons, the 23 October 1992 the U.S. Congress passed the law Iran-Iraq Arms Nonproliferation Act [2], which was intended to prevent Iran from manufacturing weapons “chemical, biological, nuclear, or those that could be used as advanced conventional weapons”.

In the area of trade and investment March 15, 1995, U.S. President B. Clinton signed Executive Order 12925, which set forth economic sanctions against Iran.

Economic sanctions affected the fuel complex of IRI. In particular, in August 1996 the U.S. Congress passed the Iran-Iraq Arms Nonproliferation Act of 1996 [3], which was intended to prevent Iran from manufacturing and selling refined fuel to Iran or for the supply of equipment to the Islamic Republic, which increases its cleansing power. However, Russia immediately launched a new nuclear program, sanctioning those companies, including foreign ones, that have invested in Iran's energy sector over 20 million.

Property, assets and capital of IRI also were sanctioned by the U.S. After the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington on September 11, 2001, the United States imposed economic sanctions against Iran and Libya. The United States imposed sanctions on Iranian oil and gas, as well as all companies involved in the sale of refined fuel to Iran or for the supply of equipment to the Islamic Republic, which increases its cleansing power. However, Russia immediately launched a new nuclear program, sanctioning those companies, including foreign ones, that have invested in Iran's energy sector over 20 million.

Many experts are skeptical about sanctions on energy resources, considering them a negative development. The alternative to sanctions is the development of nuclear weapons. In the event of a nuclear attack, the United States would lose its ability to respond effectively. The United States would lose its ability to respond effectively.
cooperate” in other areas of regional policy, said Elliott. In addition, countries that rely on imports of Iranian gas, especially Turkey, unlikely support a ban on imports of fuel, experts say. IR and international energy giants show the same power to circumvent the sanctions and gaining alarming proportion. En ergy giants like Royal D utch Shell PLC and Total PC is starting to hide their business, which is in inked to Iran, writes T he W all Street J ournal, while the Iranian association of shipping creates a series of fake companies to avoid economic pressure.

Last sanctions that have been imposed on the IRI set forth in U.S. law “On national defense funding for 2012 tax year” which was signed by the U.S. President Barack Obama December 31, 2011 [8], according to which unilateral sanctions imposed against the Central Bank of Iran and other Iranian financial institutions.

However, experts differ in opinion on the effectiveness of sanctions a s a tool to con vince hostile countries a bandon nuclear extension programs. [7] In the case of Libya and Iraq, many analysts point out the role that had economic sanctions to de ter weapons d evelopment progras ms. I n Iran, there is evidence that has an e conomy m per economic d evelopment. [1] Washington hopes that the pressure on the Iranian economy will force the leadership to change the course of its nuclear program. K. Elliott of the Center for Global Development believes that the best for the United States will be better coordinate their efforts with the European Union. Also the expert at the Center argues that sanctions should be o nl y one of a number of diplomatic tools [2].

Conclusion

Thus, the distinctive feature of the U.S. le gislative and executive regu lations, which s erved as th e bas is of f or discriminatory policies against the IRI is their extraterritorial nature. The action of laws and orders was distributed to foreign c ompanies a nd governments of other countries that have already implemented the supply of nuclear and missile technologies, goods and services to Iran. The ex traterritorial nature of the IRI g roup of documents causes dissatisfaction of countries who want to work in or with the Islamic Republic.

The U.S. sanction policy on Iran hasn’t undergone major changes in the history of the Islamic Republic. Each new administration that came to power in the United States is determined to implement additional sanctions and restrictions, so that the leadership would not compromise on the development of nuclear and missile programs and get for Iran’s return to the negotiating table with the United States. This is the common interest of Tehran and Washington were not fulfilled. Continuation of sanction policy on Iran showed the futility of the restoration of US – Iran relations.

Politics of President Barack Obama according Iran contrasted with the ad ministration of George W. Bush by attempting to link the sanctions with negotiations about Iran’s nuclear sector. However, the government of the Islamic Republic is not going to get the same concessions as in the beginning of 2010. The Administration of the Congress focused on adopting and implementing additional sanctions of the U.S., EU and their allies together to force Iran to accept the agreement of nuclear weapons renunciation.

References


