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# BILATERAL RELATIONS REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN AND GERMANY

After the backup Soviet Union founded new countries old them regions. Also, unified two German countries in Europe. Such as arose new independence states, one of the Republic of Uzbekistan, other was the Federative Republic of Germany in Eurasia region. This is states established diplomatic relations at the short time. Bilateral relations are rising during independence's years. Successful relations put into practiced not only economical but also cultural relations too. Uzbek-German cultural relations well established within public diplomacy. We showed cultural relations in the sphere of public diplomacy in this article.

Key words: relations, public diplomacy, Germany, days of culture, 1996, 1997, Friendship Society, Cultural Centre.

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## Өзбекстан Республикасы және Германия арасындағы екінші келісім

Кеңес Одағы құлағаннан кейін ескі аймақтардың жаңа елдері құрылды. Еуропада екі неміс елі біріккен. Тәуелсіздіктің жаңа мемлекеттерінің пайда болуы сияқты бір Өзбекстан, екіншісі Еуразия аймағындағы Германия Федеративтік Республикасы болды. Бұл мемлекет қысқа уақыт ішінде дипломатиялық қатынастар орнатты. Тәуелсіздік жылдарында екі жақты қарымқатынастар артып келеді. Табысты қарым-қатынас тек экономикалық қана емес, сондай-ақ мәдени байланыстарды да тәжірибеге енгізеді. Қоғамдық дипломатия аясында өзбек-германдық мәдени байланыстар жақсы дамыды. Бұл мақалада біз қоғамдық дипломатия саласындағы мәдени байланыстарды көрсеттік.

**Түйін сөздер:** қарым-қатынас, қоғамдық дипломатия, Германия, Мәдениет күндері, 1996, 1997, Достық қоғамы, Мәдениет орталығы.

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### Двусторонние отношения между Республикой Узбекистан и Германией

После распада Советского Союза были основаны новые страны. Также объединены две немецкие страны в Европе. Так возникли новые государства: Республика Узбекистан и Федеративная Республика Германия в регионе Евразии. Эти государства установили дипломатические отношения в короткие сроки. Двусторонние отношения растут в годы независимости. Успешные отношения привносят в практику не только экономические, но и культурные отношения. Узбекско-германские культурные связи хорошо сложились в рамках публичной дипломатии. В этой статье мы показали культурные связи в сфере публичной дипломатии.

**Ключевые слова:** отношения, общественная дипломатия, Германия, Дни культуры, 1996, 1997, Общество дружбы, Культурный центр.

#### Introduction

At this time, the integration of Uzbekistan into the international community is one of the priorities of the country's foreign policy, when the era of transition to a new stage of diplomacy between nations in the current globalization process, peaceful settlement of disputes and problems in the system of international relations. Therefore, at one of five priority directions, the Strategy of Action, of the Republic of Uzbekistan's development in 2017-2021 has highlighted the strengthening of inter-ethnic and inter-confessional peace and harmony in the area of security, religious tolerance. In addition, the State Program on the implementation of the Strategy of Action in the Year of People's Communication and the Human Interest has set a special task for the activation of «public diplomacy» in the foreign policy of the country.

President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoev mentioned the six important tasks for the development and prosperity of Central Asia in the international conference «Central Asia: One Past and a Common Future, Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Mutual Prosperity» in the city of Samarkand in November 2017. Among them was the question of the development of public diplomacy. «We want to continue an active cultural and humanitarian dialogue, organize regular cultural days and various creative events in our countries, develop education and tourism exchanges as the most important means of public diplomacy», – said Sh. Mirziyoev.

It is not surprising that President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev proposed to consider the possibility of establishing permanent institutions of the people's diplomacy in the organization at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Astana in 2018. The history of public diplomacy is connected with the history of international relations. In the past, the «Great Silk Road», as well as the development of trade, economic and cultural relations between states, cities, and peoples can be considered as the first form of public diplomacy.

The first President Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov noted the socio-political problems in any country can be solved only by increasing the cultural relations of the country. The role of public diplomacy in this area is significant. People's diplomacy serves to strengthen cultural ties, promote interethnic tolerance, and develop tourism, sports, and culture.

#### The meaning of public diplomacy

In the context of globalization, the role and place of public diplomacy in international relations, peace and stability, and at the strengthening of mutually beneficial ties between nations are constantly increasing.

Public diplomacy is a free social work carried out by a group of active individuals, civil society and non-governmental organizations aimed at promoting the state's diplomatic function. In the broad sense of the concept of public diplomacy, it is understood that continuous dialogue, mutual understanding, interactions and enrichment of cultures among peoples.

Public diplomacy as a historical category is interpreted as the form of public-political, cultural relations of public associations that are not part of the government in many sources. At the same time, public diplomacy arises as a result of the interaction of non-governmental organizations in a particular country with societal and political processes with other public and public organizations.

Public diplomacy plays an important role in formation friendly international relations of Uzbekistan with political, diplomatic and economic ties. The scientists, science and culture representatives, educational institutions, public and religious organizations, as well as public associations founded by fellow citizens play a key role in the development of public diplomacy.

Public diplomacy is one of soft power's key instruments, and this was recognized in diplomatic practice long before the contemporary debate on public diplomacy (Melissen, 2005: 4).

Traditionally, diplomacy is defined as «the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations». Unlike such government-to-government or diplomat-to-diplomat-based diplomacy, public diplomacy extends its realm to non-governmental individuals and institutions. According the definition of the University of Southern California (USC) Center on Public Diplomacy, «public diplomacy focuses on the ways in which governments (or multilateral organizations such as the United Nations) acting deliberately, through both official and private individuals and institutions, communicate with citizens in other societies. Public diplomacy as traditionally defined includes the government-sponsored cultural, educational and informational programs, citizen exchanges and broadcasts used to promote the national interest of a country through understanding, informing, and influencing foreign audiences» (Kim, 2002: 136).

# Cultural relations on sphere of public diplomacy

It is known that the establishment of the public diplomacy in Uzbekistan goes back to the early years of independence. On this way, according to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan in March 25, 1992 № 142, which called «The National Association of Cultural and Educational Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan», was established. The Association was a member of societies, associations, clubs, movements and other forms of citizenship of the Republic of Uzbekistan with a view to promoting international humanitarian, cultural and economic ties, mutual understanding with foreign countries, forming, developing and strengthening friendships and cooperation, as well as enhancing contacts with compatriots living abroad.

The external mining cooperation, formed in connection with public diplomacy, has given its results in a short time. In 1992, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan received 36 representatives from 9 countries (England, Germany, Israel, India, Malaysia, Turkey, USA, France, and JAR).

In 1993, about 160 countries recognized the independence of Uzbekistan and established diplomatic relations with 60 countries. The First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov visited GFR, France, England, the Netherlands, Japan, and India in 1993. As a result of the visits, an agreement on cultural cooperation was signed with India, Turkey, Germany, France, Great Britain, and China.

The counties, which were situated in two regions – Uzbekistan and Germany, differences in the culture and the language. However, relations between the peoples of two countries began on the past within public diplomacy, have reached a new level with the signing of the Treaty on Cultural Cooperation between the Governments of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Federative Republic of Germany on April 28, 1993.

On April 28, 1993, the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany signed the Agreement on Cultural Cooperation. The cultural relations between the two peoples in the two regions, both culturally and religiously diverse, are developing rapidly.

Cultural relations between peoples dates back to the middle ages. In the historical and scientific literature, we read a lot of time about the Turkish inscriptions. The name of the Turkish-Rhenium is the result of the findings of the same inscriptions on the Turkish Motherland-«Enasoy» River and the Rhine River flowing through the territory of modern Germany. This shows that at that time people entered the cultural relations within the framework of public diplomacy. This process has intensified in the time of Amir Temur, which formed the centralized state on the territory of our country. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the relations between our peoples did not stop in the form of public diplomacy. This process has intensified in the years of independence.

The Decision the Resolution of the «On holding the Days of Culture of Uzbekistan in Germany» by Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 10, 1997 No. 128 on carrying out of Days of Culture of Uzbekistan in the development of public diplomacy became a unique step. According to him, in 1997 Uzbekistan Culture Days were held in Germany. The opening ceremony of the «Uzbekistan Culture Days» held in Germany was a great concert. The concert program included four singers, 5 musicians and 12 dancers from Uzbekistan (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.486. L.1-2).

Within the Days of culture, on March 20, 1997, the Puppet Theater team arrived in Bonn with an 8-day visit. Khakimov Khabibula Azimovich chaired the State Puppet Theater of Fergana region. The theater has featured a show titled «One Thousand and One Nights» based on new, eastern fairy tales in its repertoire (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.486. L.45).

The «Tomosha» Children's Theater Studio participated in the concert. The program called «The Oriental Bazaar» feature folklore scenes with Uzbek folk dances and customs. Together with Uzbek folk songs, Tomosha Children's Theater Studio performed samples from world folk songs (O'RMDA F.M-7. In.1. C.486. L.58).

The exhibition «Fine Arts and Sculpture of Uzbekistan on the Threshold of the Twentieth Century» was held in Germany in April 1997. The exhibition featured 50 works of Uzbek artists. Including 40 pieces of fine art and 10 sculptures (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.486. L.13-14).

Within the framework of the second, half of the Uzbek culture in Germany had held a colloquium the subject «Uzbek Lyrics of Chulpan and XX Century» and «Evening of Uzbek Literature and poetry». The exhibition «National Applied Art of Uzbekistan» and the «Uzbek National Music and

Dance Night» were also held (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.589. L.128).

«Uzbek Literature and Poetry Days» was held in Berlin on November 4-10, 1997. Three of the great representatives of Uzbek literature and folk dance participated in this. Days of cinematography of Uzbekistan were held in Berlin on November 10-17, 1997. There were shown 6 Uzbek films and 5 short films such as «Toshkent-non shahri», «Meeting with Samar».

Days of Culture of Tashkent in Berlin were held in Berlin on November 10-16, 1997 as part of Cultural Days. During the Days of Culture, the exhibition «Tashkent-Berlin: a complex exhibition of works of fine and applied art of partner cities» was demonstrated (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.588. L.9). The photo exhibition «On the Way Reform Uzbekistan», which demonstrated the changes that took place in Uzbekistan during cultural days, was also held (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.588. L.34).

The relations between the two states in Eurasia Uzbekistan and Germany are regularly implemented in all spheres. Friendship societies and cultural centers play an important role in the development of relations between states. The Uzbek-German Friendship Society and the German-Uzbek Friendship Society in Bonn are of particular importance. Friendship societies and cultural centers are developing relationships within our nation-wide diplomacy.

The role of «Uzbekistan-Germany» Friendship Society and «German-Uzbek» societies, which unite representatives of the two nations in the development of cooperation within the framework of public diplomacy, are unique.

The Uzbek-German Friendship Society is a self-governing, non-governing public association with the aim of developing cultural and enlightening relations between the Uzbek and German peoples (Jamiyat nizomi, ud.uz.uz.information.about.40).

The Uzbekistan-Germany Friendship Society was established on October 27, 1998, and is registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tashkent. The society is a non-governmental organization, which unites the self-governing, Republican community, formed to promote cultural and educational relations between Uzbekistan and Germany. It serves to illuminate the rich culture of the people of Uzbekistan and Germany.

Conducting concerts, exhibitions, complex events, telecasting, information exchange and roundtables, conferences, and achievements of the German people in the field of culture, art, education,

science, are dedicated to the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Society cooperates with the Committee on Interethnic Relations and Foreign Relations with the Cabinet of Ministers, the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Germany, the German Embassy in Uzbekistan and other German institutions in Tashkent, and the German Cultural Center «Wiedergebert» in Uzbekistan. The German-Uzbek Society in Bonn is a permanent partner in Germany. One of them is the member of the German-Uzbek Society, which visited Uzbekistan on July 24-31, 1995. V. Fraygang brought humanitarian aid amount of 30 million German marks to Uzbekistan.

The «Uzbekistan-Germany» Friendship Society has been cooperating with the «German-Uzbek» Society in Bonn. At present, cultural issues play a crucial role in strengthening interstate cooperation. Dialogue, mutual cultural exchanges and exchange of information – all this creates a solid foundation of trust and solid foundation. The Uzbek-German Friendship Society always strives to find partners in the fields of science, culture, art, education and entrepreneurship and thus create a favorable investment climate in the country (http://ud.uz.uz.).

«Uzbekistan-Germany» Friendship Society is organizing friendly meetings and contacts for public diplomacy. Diplomatic relations between Uzbekistan and Germany with the participation of the German-Uzbek Delegation to Bonn on May 3, 2017, which arrived in Uzbekistan from April 24 to May 4, 2017, the 25th-anniversary event was held. Members of the Council of Friendship Society of Uzbekistan attended the event for Cultural-Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the members of the Uzbek-German Friendship Society, the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications Development, heads of communication enterprises, students of the University of World Economy and Diplomacy. The delegation visited Uzbekistan in Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara, and Samarkand. During the visit, meetings were held on joint projects in Tashkent. Students of the University of World Economy and Diplomacy have prepared presentations on the Navruz celebrations and have been included in the UNESCO Cultural Heritage List. Guests have familiarized with the national values of the festival, as well as photo exhibitions «Uzbekistan-Germany».

The German cultural center «Wiedergeburt», which operates in Uzbekistan since 1990, and the «Jugendstern» Theater Studio (2000), contribute to the study of the cultural heritage of the people of the two countries and the wide dissemination among the

population. The history of the Germans' residence in the territory of Uzbekistan dates back to the 60's of the 19th century. In 1990, the German national cultural center «Wiedergebur» – «Recovery», which unites regional offices, was established in Tashkent. Its branches are also operating in Bukhara, Samarkand and Ferghana (http://kmods.uz.mita-a-ida.millij-madanij-markazlar.wijedergeburtzbekiston-nemislar-madanij-markazi.?lang=oz).

The priority tasks of the German Cultural Center are the restoration of the most important aspects of German culture, the organization of cheerful festivals of the German people with passionate songs and dances, the teaching of young people to the German language. At these centers, clubs for folk art, theater, and dance are working for young people. The «Sommers prach akademie» Republican Summer Linguistic Camp will be organized with the participation of teachers from Germany within the framework of the German language proficiency program throughout the year.

The theater-studio of «Jugendstern», known as the «Youth Star» will help the center with social, cultural and educational activities. The national dance festival, the annual festival of Germanspeaking amateur theaters, is the main project of young people to stage the works of world classics, modern German and Uzbek authors. A special masterpiece of theatrical art will be held in Germany with the participation of prominent pedagogues and theater professionals to help young amateur actors.

The folk songs of the Senor will always be celebrated for the elderly, the traditional Easter – Ostern with young people, the Catholic Christmas – Weihnacht, the Grave – Ernstankfest, Mother's Day and Father's Day – Muttertag and Fatertag, and Oktoberfest.

The Center hosts seminars on the history of the Germans living and living in the country, as well as the events dedicated to the great artists from Uzbekistan and Germany. Traditional performances by the Sogdiana National Uzbek Instruments Orchestra have been highly appreciated by the public of the works of the great composers of world music Iogann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, Richard Wagner, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Among the latest editions of the «Wiedergeburt» Center are the book titled «The German artists of Uzbekistan», the book «Dialogue of Uzbekistan in German Cultures», «Germans of the Fergana Valley: History and Today».

The activities of the Uzbek-German Intergovernmental Commission established on

the Germans in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1995, as well as regular meetings of members of the Commission with the direct support of the activities of the German Cultural Centers in the country. «Wiedergeburt» is closely cooperating with the German Embassy in Uzbekistan, the Goethe Institute in Tashkent and other German organizations, as well as with the Uzbek-German Friendship Society (http://kmods.uz.mita-a-ida.millij-madanij-markazlar.wijedergeburt-zbekiston-nemislar-madanij-markazi.?lang=oz).

The German language is the second most widely studied foreign language in Uzbekistan. In recent years, more and more attention has been paid to studying the German language in our country, with the German Embassy in Uzbekistan as well as the German Academic Exchange Service.

At the same time, Germany has a great interest in studying the history and culture of Uzbekistan. «Days of Uzbek Culture in Germany» in April-November 1997, «Bukhara Culture Days» in Bonn, K.Adenauer Foundation in Sant-Augustin, in the conference «Amir Temur and his role in world history», «Aral ecological and national and international aspects of the tragedy» (Mansurov, 2000).

Uzbekistan and Germany are a reliable partner not only in the economic sphere, but also in socio-cultural, scientific and technical spheres. Tashkent and Berlin's sister cities, Bonn and Bukhara, Bremen and Samarkand, have a great role in socio-cultural ties between the two countries.

In 1993, Tashkent and Berlin signed an agreement on cooperation. Since then, the two cities have been cooperating and exchanging experiences in all areas. Students, sportsmen, and professionals have come to the fore. There is also cooperation in construction, enterprise rehabilitation, small and medium-sized businesses.

President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov at the Oqsaroy September 25, 2000, received the burgomaster of Berlin, Eberhard Dipgen, not only for the sake of the sister city, but also for the development of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Germany (Oqsaroyda qabul, 2017).

The role of art and theater days in the countries was highlighted in the development of cooperation between the two countries in the cultural sphere. Particularly, in October 1996, in Tashkent, the German Art Days Week in Uzbekistan, in Berlin in March 1997, «Days of Uzbek Art in Germany» in Berlin in April 1997, «Days of Uzbek Theater in Germany» in Berlin in 1997, «Days of German

Theater in Uzbekistan» was carried out (Govorim i igrayem po-nemeski, 2017).

In the Republican Youth Theater, in November 2017, the X Theater Festival of Theater Troupes of German-Speaking Ambassadors in Uzbekistan was held. Students from schools, lyceums, colleges and universities who are fluent in German have also participated in the event. For the first time in four days the amateur theater companies of German «Wiedergeburt» cultural centers of Uzbekistan, located in Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Ferghana, have been shown in German (Govorim i igrayem po-nemeski, 2017).

The «Zolushka», created based on Grimm fairy tales from the Bukhara Theater, initiated the Jubilee Festival. The title of «Happiness is...», presented by the German Cultural Center in Samarkand, showed that life was more important than money and knowledge. The Ferghana Cultural Center presented the «Square World» and the «Small History of the Great City» show by the Center of Tashkent (Govorim i igrayem po-nemeski, 2017).

On October 15-24, 2000, the Festival of Theater Societies of Central Asia was held within the Silk Road Theater Tour project. At the conference on the scene of the famous theater «An der Rur», Yuldash Akhunbabaev Republican Youth Theater of Uzbekistan hosted the «General Masaharaboz» theater and «Eski masjid» theatrical studio in Karshi with «Kobil and Khobil» (Mansurov, 2000).

In November 2017, the World House of Culture hosted a presentation of Uzbekistan's musical art in Berlin, Buxom and Wuppertal. The creative team led by People's Artist Abbos Kasimov took part in it with a bright and attractive appearance (When the East meets the West, 2017).

In today's extremely difficult times of contradictions and conflicts in the world, the role and influence of music art, which makes millions of people of different nationalities, languages, and religions unrelenting to each other without interruption (Prezident Shavkat Mirziyoyevning «Sharq taronalari» o'n birinchi xalqaro musiqa festivalining ochilishiga bag'ishlangan tantanali marosimdagi tabrik so'zi, 2017).

On December 4-19, 1995 in Leipzig, Germany, France and Uzbekistan, 10 artists from Uzbek artists participated in the festival, based on the decision of the Joint Commission of Uzbek-German Cultural Cooperation and the musical program of Uzbekistan, Germany, and France. In 1995, musicians from the Sogdiana Orchestra performed in Leipzig for 10 days. The next concert, based on the musical cooperation program of the three countries, was

held in Tashkent from 26 November to 4 December 1996. The event was attended 19 peoples, including 11 from France and 8 from Germany (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.484. L.63).

We can see that the «Sharq Taronalari» Music Festival has become a link between eastern and western nations, with the participation of German nationals. Four musicians from Germany participated in the 1999 musical festival. These are Ulf Buhlt, Jiaxi Saravani Godratilax, B. Cristiana, and Stefan Viona. On October 23, 1998 the musical ensemble, «Georg Glazl Quartet» performed in Tashkent (O'RMDA, F.M-7. In.1. C.484. L.63).

At the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in October 2000 a presentation of musical compact disc called «Uzbekistan-Bavaria Interaction» was held. This disc in Germany was composed of sixteen musical pieces performed by the Chamber Orchestra of Folk Musical Instruments «Sogdiana» under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan and performed by Georg Glazl Quartet of Munich.

The team has been on a creative tour for several times in Germany. This CD is based on a joint concert with the folk music performers of the Bavarian band (O'zbekiston-Bavariya muloqoti, 2000).

In December 2009, at the University of Munster at the Federal Land of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Germany and the administration of the University of Munster initiated the event «Uzbekistan's evening». It should be noted that the intergovernmental agreement signed on April 11, 1995, on the 26th article of the Vienna Convention for the deepening of socio-cultural, technical and economic cooperation between the countries at the level of the countries is of great importance. According to this agreement, diplomatic personnel, as well as employees of accredited companies and organizations of Germany and Uzbekistan, journalists, tourists, are free to travel on the territory of the country without any restrictions.

### Conclusion

The intensification of such socio-economic, cultural, artistic, and scientific-technical cooperation between Uzbekistan and Germany is undoubtedly the result of the ongoing cooperation and contradictions between the political forces of the world in the first decade of the new century, the international community's staunch resistance to political processes, in the issues of struggle, in common with the harmony of views.

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