

FUNDAMENTAL THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS FOR EXAMINING REGIONAL INTEGRATION PROCESSES

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ФУНДАМЕНТАЛЬНЫЕ ТЕОРЕТИЧЕСКИЕ ОСНОВЫ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ ПРОЦЕССОВ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЙ ИНТЕГРАЦИИ

HUDUDIY INTEGRATSIYA JARAYONLARINI O'RGANISH UCHUN NAZARIY ASOSLAR

Abstract: This article examines the fundamental theoretical frameworks used to analyze regional integration processes. It critically reviews classical, explicative, descriptive, prescriptive, and economic integration theories, highlighting their contributions and limitations. The study emphasizes the evolution from federalism and functionalism to neofunctionalism, communication theory, liberal intergovernmentalism, network approaches, new institutionalism, social constructivism, the legalist approach, and economic integration models.

Keywords: Integration theories, federalism, functionalism, neofunctionalism, economic integration, regional cooperation

Аннотация: В статье рассматриваются фундаментальные теоретические основы анализа процессов региональной интеграции. Критически анализируются классические, объяснительные, описательные, предписывающие и экономические теории интеграции, выявляются их вклад и ограничения. Подчеркивается эволюция

от федерализма и функционализма к неофункционализму, теории коммуникации, либеральному интергосударственному подходу, сетевым методам, новому институционализму, социальной конструктивистской парадигме, легалистскому подходу и моделям экономической интеграции.

Ключевые слова: теории интеграции, федерализм, функционализм, неофункционализм, экономическая интеграция, региональное сотрудничество

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada hududiy integratsiya jarayonlarini tahlil qilishda qo‘llaniladigan asosiy nazariy ramkalar ko‘rib chiqiladi. Klassik, tushuntiruvchi, tasnifiy, normativ va iqtisodiy integratsiya nazariyalari tanqidiy tahlil qilinib, ularning hissasi va cheklovlari aniqlanadi. Federalizm va funksionalizmadan neofunksionalizm, kommunikatsiya nazariyasi, liberall intergovernmentalizm, tarmoq yondashuvi, yangi institutsionalizm, ijtimoiy konstruktivizm, legalist yondashuv va iqtisodiy integratsiya modellari orqali rivojlanish ko‘rsatib beriladi.

Kalit so‘zlar: integratsiya nazariyalari, federalizm, funksionalizm, neofunksionalizm, iqtisodiy integratsiya, hududiy hamkorlik

Introduction

The idea of integration has been very important to political science and international relations for a long time, especially when it comes to understanding how different states and societies come together. Historically, the Western European model of integration has been the most talked about in academic circles. However, modern researchers are increasingly questioning this view and calling for approaches that are specific to the situation (Baykov, Bogaturov, Shemyatenkov). There are more than forty definitions of integration, which shows that it has many different sides, including political, economic, social, and legal ones.

Literature review

Until recently, the prevailing notion in both domestic and Western political science was the universalization of the Western European integration model. Contemporary

scholars (A.A. Baykov, A.D. Bogaturov, V.G. Shemyatenkov) assert that this impeded the development of a comprehensive philosophy and technique of integration. The term "integration" has also been the subject of scholarly controversy. There are more than 40 definitions to date. The writers of the encyclopedia "Globalistics" define integration as "a concept in systems theory, signifying the interconnectedness of differentiated components into a whole, as well as the process that results in this state. In the preliminary phase of developing a universal integration model, it is prudent to conduct a critical review of existing theories and methodologies, discovering similar patterns and correlations. Classical integration theories amalgamate two conceptions that sought to envision frameworks for the organization of post-war peaceful cohabitation and the advancement of European states, while also addressing external threats and problems. A pursuit of "perpetual peace" was initiated by advocates of federalism, including A. Spinelli, K. Friedrich, J. Elezer, A. Mark, G. Brugmans, and P. Duclos. They regarded a federation as the sole feasible form of interstate organization.

Collaboration that might "establish an optimal synergy between the central institutions of the federation and its constituent entities," address intricate issues through collective endeavors, enhance influence in the global arena, and avert potential power usurpations. They differentiated federation from a "union" of states or confederation, emphasizing the necessity of explicit constitutional steps to institutionalize the union. A major deficiency of the federalist paradigm was its exclusive emphasis on the political dimensions of integration processes, neglecting economic and socio-cultural factors. By the late 1940s, efforts to "impose" a federal governing structure "from above" via intergovernmental agreements were fruitless. The functional approach (sectoral integration) evolved concurrently with the federalist approach, providing a more durable and realistic model for integration development. D. Mitrany was the creator of functionalism. The major objective of the functionalists was the prevention of interstate conflicts; yet, in contrast to the federalists, they contended that international cooperation was not the central emphasis.

Operational content. This approach's practicality was novel. Political unification was anticipated to transpire organically as a result of the economic outcomes stemming from functional interactions across many domains. States were regarded as "insufficiently perfect entities to address economic, social, and technical issues that can be swiftly and effectively resolved solely through interstate cooperation."³ The economic recovery and achievements of European integration in the 1960s validated D. Mitrany's assertion regarding "hybridization" and the erosion of national sovereignties.

The federalists' theoretical rationale for dismissing national sovereignty and advocating for integration yielded to the pragmatic, objectivist arguments of the functionalists, owing to the tangible accomplishments of the sectoral model. Neofunctionalism emerged as a reaction to the political dynamics of integration processes within a uniting Europe. E. Haas was the foremost proponent of neofunctionalism. The primary distinction from functionalism was the acknowledgment of the significance of the political element in the evolution of integration and the rejection of the automaticity of transformations in advancing integration. Advocates of this methodology emphasized the preeminent influence of non-state entities in global affairs. Spontaneous political engagement among active political factions fosters integration, and transformations arise through self-organization and spillover effects. This effect suggests a chain reaction, wherein the demands of economic, social, and other domains necessitate enhanced collaboration and coordination by supranational entities. The economic domain is the least affected by sovereignty transfer concerns; therefore, it is prudent to initiate integration efforts within this sector. Neofunctionalism, in contrast to earlier theories, is established on more stringent scientific principles, enabling it to possess a universal geographical scope and the capacity for identifying global integration processes. Communication theory, initiated by Karl Deutsch, was formulated to stabilize the system of interstate contacts while minimizing costs to sovereignty. A sociological examination of the correlation between integration and social communication revealed the significance of the conditions necessary for the formation of extensive sociopsychological communities. Deutsch determined that the establishment of multinational organizations—termed "security communities" for the purpose of problem-solving—would ultimately enhance the

"integration" of their constituent elements. This did not diminish the significance of the peacekeeping function of states.

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