

УДК 327.83

H. O. Shchyhelska, Ph.D, Assoc. Prof.

Ternopil Ivan Pul'uj National Technical University, Ukraine

THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE FOREIGN POLICY OF HOST COUNTRIES

The actuality of the given topic is determined by the fact that under the conditions of intensification of migration processes, reinforcement of consolidation of immigrant groups, the expansion of democracy and multiculturalism policies, the ethnic lobbyism has become one of the most significant power leverage both in the economy and policy of many countries. The practice of using the political potential of Diasporas for the development of their Motherland and its international relations has increased.

Diaspora communities will continue to play an important role in shaping contemporary conflicts. For example, during the four months of demonstrations in Ukraine that led to the toppling of President Viktor Yanukovich at the end of February 2014, the Ukrainian diaspora provided direct support for the protest movement by raising money and lobbying governments in their new countries. The sheer size of the Ukrainian diaspora suggests that it will continue to influence developments in Ukraine: according to the Toronto-based Ukrainian World Congress, an estimated 20 million Ukrainians live outside the country, compared to 46 million that live in Ukraine [1].

We emphasize the recent increase in the lobbying activity of the Ukrainian Diaspora in the US against the Russian aggression. The Diaspora criminalizes these aggressive actions and focuses its efforts on the support for the protection of the sovereignty and integrity of Ukraine.

Diasporas, settled on the territory of the USA, in particular, the Ukrainian Diaspora, have, undoubtedly, a greater impact on the situation in international relations, since the United States as a country which occupies a unique position actually regulate the evolution of the international system and continue holding the leading position on the global arena.

Participants of dozens of campaigns appealed to American politicians to support Ukraine; picketing those who "spread" Russian propaganda and the active information campaign in the Congress to promote legislation to protect the national interests of Ukraine took place.

It has been noted that recent events in Ukraine have become a detonator of political activity of the Ukrainian diaspora. In all countries where the Ukrainians live, powerful mass protests against the occupation by Russia and to preserve the sovereignty of Ukraine, picketing of the Russian embassy, actions of solidarity with Ukraine were held.

Summing up, we can conclude that the Ukrainian diaspora has significant potential to strengthen Ukraine's position in the international arena, to lobby the declared foreign policy interests in the countries of residence and international organizations, to promote the improvement of the image. Given the increasing role of ethnic lobbying in the world politics, it is necessary, according to the author, to study the experience and mechanisms of cooperation of other states, which see in their diaspora a powerful factor of political, economic, informational influence in the countries of residence and successfully use it to develop the concept of the world Ukrainian lobby and a strategy of realization of national interests in the international sphere and specifically in each host country.

Література

1. Carlton L. Communities Without Borders: Diasporas and home country influence [Electronic resource]. - Access mode: <http://www.entremundos.org/revista/uncategorized-2/communities-without-borders-diasporas-and-home-country-influence/>