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## **«NEW SILK ROAD» - CHINA PROJECT**

**Introduction.** Many decades have passed since the idea of the Silk Road was introduced to the world research community focusing on historical issues, which have contributed immensely to the activation of interrelation in trade relations. Silk Road is not viewed to have had great impact on the history of nations, but vice versa – it has transformed and found its place within the current views. In modern world, one has an opportunity to ascertain that the concept of common path of development and prosperity is getting implemented in everyday life.

**The objective of the paper** is to discuss and analyze the idea of Silk Road as one of the main vectors of the Chinese foreign policy.

The Great Silk Road is a plan of construction of a multipolar world based on an open process of interaction. An economic belt covers the whole Eurasian continent and, according to the Chinese experts, «the scope and potential of the market are unique». Without doubt, the advantage of the project is that China has powerful economic opportunities and is ready to invest into diversity of projects that will contribute to the strengthening of trade ties; it will also discover new ways and prospects to Chinese goods on the mart [7].

The establishment of multilateral relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in format «16+1» allows to increase the level of trust to China, that, absolutely, will help to promote a project. The priority directions, in proposed format, the People's Republic of China assumes: the development in the electricity sector, evolution in the field of regional transport structure and also in the production of industrial equipment.

As for Ukraine, it is considered as a preferred partner in economic implementation into the European region. Our country has powerful agricultural and industrial production, abundant natural resources and possible high-powered scientific and technical potential [4]. In spite of slight growth of Ukrainian infrastructure, the ambassador of China Du Wei said : «Without Ukraine the implementation of the initiative («The Silk Road») will be incomplete, even unthinkable. Therefore, Ukraine was one of the first of more than 60 countries to have joined the «Silk Road».

**Conclusion.** To draw the conclusion, it should be mentioned that China Project is just an aspect of a foreign policy capacity. Foremost, it aims to wash away the economic borders, free movement of capitals, resources and the influence of the state as the main subject of international relations. Thanks to these, the role and place of the Chinese products will increase. However, realization of common projects with China will help to resolve inner problems of the countries, especially in relation to

Ukraine. This is an outstanding possibility to raise the economy, to increase the living standards and try to create and to impose its own rules within the project «One Belt – One Road».

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## **WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

**Introduction.** The problem of women’s access and participation in politics is extremely important today and has received considerable attention worldwide. Gender equality in politics is a fundamental indicator of a modern democratic society. According to international standards, both men and women should have equal rights and opportunities to fully participate in all aspects of the political process. In practice, it is difficult for women to gain access to the politics, and this is a violation of human rights [5]. According to statistical data, states where number of women in political positions is equivalent to the number of men demonstrate stronger economy and successful development, as well as in domestic and foreign policy [1].

That is, **the objective of the paper** is to discuss the issues of gender equality and, namely, women in international politics. The basic international document for the protection of women’s rights is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women adopted in 1979 [6]. The Convention provides equality between women and men through ensuring women’s equal access to, and equal opportunities in, political and public life – including the right to vote and to stand for election – as well as education, health and employment [6]. At present, women occupy only 22 per cent of national parliamentary positions globally [2]. This means that women are under-represented in all aspects of the political process often through social and cultural barriers, lack of education, quality of life and resources to the political organization of women.

The most successful area in involving women in politics is the European Union. According to the European Commission in 2015 in EU average women occupy 29% of seats in parliament [1]. Northern European countries have impressive and highest indices of women’s representation in political institutions. Almost 50% of members of parliament in Finland, of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden are women [2]. Islamic