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Manuscript

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**INFORMATION SECURITY AS A FACTOR OF ENSURING POLITICAL
STABILITY OF THE SOCIETY**

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Research rationale is based on the fact that the second half of the twentieth century, mankind entered a new stage in its development, which was associated with a sharp increase in the value of the intellectual product in social life and social production. This stage was reflected in the emergence in the 60s. XX century, the concept of "information society" and in a number of concepts of the information society, where the value of information was substantiated as an important public resource, not only added to such traditional resources as power, financial and economic, but also beginning to play a leading role among them.

The significance of the information resource began to unfold back in the years of the Cold War, when the ideological confrontation and economic competition between the two social systems began to be accompanied by a "psychological war" using the mass media. With the end of the Cold War, the world has not become more harmonious and safer - its geopolitical configuration has changed, and the ideological veil has been removed from previous conflicts and the pragmatic goals of the leading forces in the world arena have been revealed, connected either with the political (control over the elites) or with the economic (control over resources), or with cultural and civilizational (mind control) influence. The severity of confrontation in the modern world is only growing, as is the growing range of problems related to the protection of national interests, ensuring national security and maintaining the political stability of society. These problems have received coverage in modern socio-political literature, at the same time there is a lack of research, the authors of which consider them in interconnection and interdependence.

The relevance of this work is explained by the fact that the author is trying to partially fill the gap in theoretical studies, the focus of which is on the relationship between information security and the political stability of society.

In addition, the relevance of the topic of this study is due to a number of foreign policy circumstances. First, the fact that in the modern world the geopolitical confrontation is increasingly shifting into the information space: it turned out that it is much cheaper and more effective to exercise control over the

elites and public consciousness than military seizure of territories, although in some cases the latter is also used. The National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation says that today the increasing confrontation in the global information space is exerting an increasing influence on the nature of the international situation, due to the desire of some countries to use information and communication technologies to achieve their geopolitical goals, including by manipulating public consciousness and falsifying history. It is important to show what threats confrontation in the global information space is fraught with, as well as to provide a theoretical basis for practical actions to counter these threats.

Secondly, the relevance of the topic is due to the fact that today it is Russia that has become the target of numerous information attacks by Western countries. The information security doctrine of the Russian Federation states the emerging tendency "to increase in the foreign mass media the volume of materials containing a biased assessment of the state policy of the Russian Federation. Russian media are often subjected to open discrimination abroad, and obstacles are created for Russian journalists to carry out their professional activities. At the same time, it is noted that aggressive actions using information technologies are aimed at undermining the sovereignty, political and social stability, and the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation. Modernity is replete with numerous examples of information aggression aimed at creating a negative image of Russia in the minds of the Western inhabitant, generating a massive mood of mistrust in Western society and ensuring support for a hard line and a policy of sanctions against the Russian Federation. It is equally important that these sanctions and "exposing" campaigns are aimed at provoking discontent with the ruling circles in Russia itself, and thereby undermine support for the authorities among its population, destabilize the political situation and, ultimately, lead to a change ruling regime.

Finally, the relevance of the research topic can be justified by the fact that political stability is influenced not only by information campaigns of external origin. The internal political struggle also has its own information component. Control over information resources makes a major contribution to the results of

this struggle. The nature of the course of the political struggle, its result, as well as the stabilization or destabilization of the political situation in the country depend on who controls the media, how and for what purpose they are used.

All of the above makes it necessary to substantiate mechanisms for ensuring political stability through the study of information security issues, diagnostics of information threats, development of effective mechanisms to counter these threats and neutralize them.

The degree of scientific elaboration of the topic.

The topic of this work is at the intersection of two problem areas - information security and political stability.

The problem of information security is relatively new - this makes it open to discussions and scientific developments. The high dynamism of the development of information technologies leads to their continuous complication and the emergence of new information threats that require new research.

Today the problem of information security is covered in domestic and foreign scientific monographs, scientific journals, periodicals. Russia and other states have developed national doctrines of information security, it has become the subject of legal regulation.

Referring to the domestic scientific literature, we note that the general theoretical problems of information security research are raised in the works of T.V. Vladimirova, I.A. Lazarev, T.A. Polyakova et al. Considering information security as a part of national security policy, it is necessary to indicate the important role of A.V. Vozzhenikov, M.M. Kucheryavy, V.I. Lopatin, A.A. Prokhozhev, Y.S. Ufimtsev, etc.

The origin of information threats, their growing role in the modern world, as well as the use of information technologies as methods of information warfare, their place in modern military doctrines are reflected in the works of V.A. Achkasov, S.N. Grinyaev, A.V. Manoilo, V.K. Novikov, A.I. Petrenko, S.P. Rastorguev, D.B. Frolov/ Informational challenges to national and international security are considered in the substantive work of I.Y. Alekseev and other

scientists of the Moscow PIR Center. Information confrontation in world politics and international relations is paid attention to by Y.V. Kosov and Y.V. Vovenda.

The communicative aspects of military security were developed in the research of A.A. Kovalev and E.I. Kudaykin.

A rather extensive literature is devoted to the technical and technological aspects of information security and activities related to its provision: in particular, the issues of protecting critical information infrastructures are considered by A.V. Vereshchagina, E.S. Zinovieva, A.V. Korotkov, A.A. Kononov, S.I. Samygin, A.V. Kuznetsova, D.S. Chereskin. The study of the problems of cyberterrorism and cybercrime is the subject of the works of V.A. Vasenin, O. V. Kazarin, A.A. Salnikova, R.A. Sharyapov, V.V. Yashchenko. The issues of using social networks and new media in politics, public administration, and international relations are raised by O.V. Demidov, I.I. Zasursky, A.V. Krutskikh, M.V. Litvinenko, B.N. Miroshnikov, S.P. Rastorguev, Tsvetkova N.A. The same problems are of interest to such foreign experts as E. Grinberg, D. Dresner, G. Farrell and others.

Of interest is the work devoted to cyber threats on the Internet by such researchers as O.V. Demidov, M.B. Kasenov. The use of information technologies in various spheres of public life and the problems of their protection are studied by I.Yu. Alekseeva, I. V. Avcharov, A.V. Berdzkiy, G.V. Grachev, N.N. Moiseev and others. Problems of state regulation and the safe use of information technologies are considered by G. V. Alekseev.

The study of information wars and the problems of ensuring information security in Russia is the subject of the works of I.N. Panarin and A.A. Streltsov; the latter made a significant contribution to domestic research on the legal aspects of information security.

It should be noted the theoretical contribution of foreign experts to the study of information security, such as W. Benson, Ch. Brooks, K. Grow, D. Jean, F. Craig, M. Carey, K. Gears, J. McEleney, D. Sutton, D. Short, etc. It is important to note that foreign authors, as a rule, do not share the concept of information security and cybersecurity, which leaves an imprint on the entire semantic content of their

research. To a certain extent, this bias towards the technical and technological side is also inherent in domestic research.

That is why the appeal to the socio-cultural aspects of information security remains relevant.

According to the topic of the dissertation, it is important to turn to the theoretical developments of the problem of political stability. Here, in the domestic and foreign literature, a number of research areas have developed.

Thus, theoretical and methodological issues of research and ensuring political stability are raised in their works by S.A. Barov, V.A. Gladyshev, V.M. Granichev, A.I. Zubkova, B.I. Krasnov, L.S. Postnikova, O.R. Semchenko and others.

The issues of institutional conditions for ensuring and maintaining political stability are discussed in the works of V.N. Kolesnikov, A.I. Solovyov, O.F. Shabrov.

Foreign policy issues occupy an important place in the study of political stability. The influence of international relations, the geopolitical factor on political stability, especially in the context of "velvet revolutions", "information wars" aimed at destabilizing the political situation, was reflected in the studies of L.N. Astafiev, E.N. Borodinov, M.D. Kovalev, A.V. Manoilo, V.M. Mitin, A.I. Petrenko, D.B. Frolov and others.

The connection between the problems of political stability and the policy of ensuring national security, including in modern Russia, was theoretically reflected in the studies of S.A. Vorontsov, A.V. Ponedelkov, R.K. Usmanov.

Among foreign authors whose works raise a whole range of issues related to the problems of ensuring political stability, as well as countering threats to national security, such as G. Almond, R. Dalton, J. Dewey, E. Greenberg, D. Garrow, M. Castells, A. Cornell, R.L. Lebow, J. Möller, J. Powell, A. Roberts, K. Strom, E. Toffler, T. Hammes, S. Huntington, E. Haywood and others. A number of works have appeared, the authors of which consider the problems of political stability in individual countries.

Concluding the review of the literature related to the topic of this work, it should be noted that in recent years a number of dissertations have been defended in the Russian Federation, which investigate various aspects of information security and political stability. the scientific degree of the candidate of political sciences Y.V. Vovenda. Legal aspects of information security are considered in dissertations for the degree of Doctor of Political Science of M.A. Efremova, A.A. Chebotareva. E.S. Zinovyev, which raises the problems of international cooperation in ensuring information security.

Among the dissertations, the authors of which investigate various aspects of ensuring the political stability of society, one should note the doctoral dissertation of M.V. Danilov, in which political stability is viewed through the prism of mechanisms and technologies of politicization of society. Political processes in the modern information society are in the focus of O.F. Volochaeva. The influence of the media on political stability in modern Russia is considered in his substantive work by E.I. Hannanov. Of interest is I. Dina's Ph.D. thesis, where the author compares the processes of political stabilization in Russia and China. In his Ph.D. thesis, A.V. Firsov's political stability is considered in the context of national security policy.

At the same time, it should be noted that despite the great attention paid in modern literature to various aspects of information security and political stability and the appearance of the first works, the authors of which try to connect them, so far this area of research has not received sufficient coverage and needs further development.

Source base of the research. The dissertation uses several groups of sources that are of fundamental importance for the study of problems of information security, political stability, as well as their relationship.

The first group of sources consists of scientific works, thanks to which the theoretical and methodological foundations of the dissertation were determined, its main provisions were formulated and the basic directions of research were determined.

The second group of sources was made up of official documents of state power. These are, first of all, documents of a regulatory nature, the most important of which are the Constitution of the Russian Federation, federal laws and Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation, as well as strategic planning documents that determine the priority directions of state policy in the field of ensuring national and information security.

The third group of sources consisted of dissertation research on various aspects of ensuring information security and political stability. An overview of these sources is contained in the section of the introduction devoted to the degree of scientific elaboration of the research topic.

A separate group of sources consisted of reference publications, analytical reviews, and statistical data, as well as materials from the personal blog of G.A. Atamanov, and media data.

The breadth and diversity of the source base suggests that the problem of the relationship between information security and the political stability of society can be fully investigated due to the availability of theoretical and empirical material of the required volume and quality.

The hypothesis of the research is that the political struggle in modern conditions is increasingly shifting to the information sphere, and information resources are becoming the most important instrument of confrontation, both in the domestic political arena and in the sphere of international political relations. The use of information resources for political purposes creates risks of social and political destabilization. The author believes that the minimization of such risks and the achievement of political stability in society are closely related to the state information policy aimed at ensuring information security.

The goal of this research is to substantiate the dependence of the political stability of society on ensuring its information security, as well as to identify ways and means of ensuring information security.

Achieving this goal involves solving the following **tasks**:

1. clarification of the concept of "information security" through the analysis of scientific approaches to its interpretation;
2. identification of the content of activities to ensure information security of political actors in modern conditions;
3. analysis of the main theoretical and methodological approaches to the interpretation of the concept of "political stability of society" and the development of the author's approach to its definition;
4. determination of ways to create and maintain political stability in modern society on the basis of a conflictological approach and the use of information and communication technologies;
5. identification of the main threats to the political stability of Russian society, including in the information sphere;
6. determination of ways and means of ensuring political stability of the Russian society through ensuring its information security.

The object of the dissertation research is the political stability of society.

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The theoretical and methodological basis of the dissertation research was a combination of various research approaches and methods, among which it should be noted: the systemic approach, represented by the theory of political systems; structural-functional approach, which made it possible, through the analysis of the functions of the political system, to determine the conditions for ensuring the political stability of society. The systemic and structural-functional approaches allowed the author to determine the basic conditions for ensuring the political stability of society. A significant place in this work is occupied by the

conflictological approach, which has become a necessary tool for diagnosing and identifying ways to achieve political stability in society. The communicative-cybernetic approach made it possible to assess the role and importance of political communication and information in ensuring or, on the contrary, breaking political stability.

In addition to those listed, in his dissertation the author relied on a number of methods, the use of which was dictated by the purpose and objectives of the research. In particular, the historical-descriptive method was necessary in order to show how the role and place of information and communication in the life of society and in the sphere of political relations changed; how scientific ideas about security and national security have changed over time. The method of comparative analysis (comparative) made it possible to see differences in approaches to understanding information security in domestic and foreign literature, as well as to differentiate different societies by the type and level of their political stability. With the help of a situational analysis, the current situation in the political life of Russian society was determined, and it was also shown to what extent external factors influence the provision of its political stability. The need for content analysis was dictated by the use of official documents of a regulatory nature and strategic planning documents in the study. The predictive method made it possible to show the consequences of the widespread use of information and communication technologies in the political sphere of public life.

Finally, in this work, the author uses a modeling method to create both a theoretical model of political stability and a model of threats to the political stability of society, taking into account their information and communication component.

The scientific novelty is made up of the following results of the dissertation research:

1. Based on a comparative analysis of various approaches contained in domestic and foreign scientific literature, identifying their advantages and disadvantages, the author's definition of information security is proposed as a condition for ensuring the sustainability and stability of the political system of society.

2. It is shown that in the conditions of the information society there is a virtualization of politics - it is increasingly shifting into the symbolic space of Internet communications, control over which becomes the most important condition for ensuring information security and political stability of society, due to which, despite the importance of the technological side of information security, its socio-cultural aspects come to the fore, implying the protection and preservation of the value, ideological and cultural foundations of society.

3. The author's definition of the concept of "political stability" is proposed, its differentiation from the concept of "stability of the political system" is carried out.

4. Based on the use of the conflictological approach, information and communication conditions and ways of ensuring the political stability of society have been identified.

5. Based on the consideration of political and non-political (economic, cultural, informational) factors, a model of threats to the political stability of Russian society is proposed.

6. The relationship between the state information policy, information security policy and the level of political stability of society has been established.

The main provisions for the defense:

1. Numerous approaches to the definition of information security, as a rule, appeal to either a static or a dynamic understanding of security itself. In our opinion, information security is a complex, syncretic phenomenon in which both procedural (dynamic) and static (content) characteristics are merged. The position is taken into account when analyzing the essence of information security, in

accordance with the principle of complementarity, of all approaches to its definition.

Based on the foregoing, we can define information security as the ability of a system of any type (political, social, technical, etc.) to maintain its qualitative certainty, integrity and stability in conditions of the destructive impact of any informational factors.

There is every reason to say that in matters of information security, its subjects and objects coincide, since everyone is equally interested in protecting their information and protecting it from someone else's destructive information. At the same time, among the numerous subjects of information security, the state occupies a special place due to the fact that it has exceptional capabilities and resources to effectively solve problems in the information sphere.

2. Activities to ensure information security in modern conditions involves an integrated approach that takes into account, first, the regulatory and legal direction of activities; secondly, technological; finally, thirdly - sociocultural. In our opinion, today the relevance of the third - sociocultural - direction, associated with the protection and preservation of the value, ideological, cultural foundations of society, is sharply increasing.

A feature of modern politics and social relations is their shift towards virtualization. Political confrontation in the international and domestic political arena is moving from traditional political institutions towards the symbolic Internet space. Politics is increasingly being carried out not in the interaction of parties and movements, but in television and radio broadcasts and in social networks. The ideological struggle is replaced by a competition of political brands and images purposefully created by modern media. Control over them becomes the key to success in the political struggle and a condition for ensuring information security and political stability of society.

3. In the dissertation, political stability is defined as such a state of society and its political system, which ensures their reproduction and controlled development under conditions of internal and external disorganizing influences.

This extremely general definition allows us to consider the achievement of political stability as a complex problem, the solution of which should be sought on ways to reduce socio-political tension in society and achieve, on the basis of a compromise, the interests of different politically significant social groups, their agreement on the choice of the direction of further development (economic, political and etc.).

The author distinguishes between the concepts of "political stability" and "stability of the political system". In relation to political stability, the political system and its stability is only an institutional component through which the temporary balance of power of key political actors is expressed. Political stability presupposes not only a specific type (form) of a political system, but also a political orientation of society towards this system.

4. The conflictological approach has great heuristic possibilities in solving the problem of determining the mechanisms and strategies for achieving political stability. According to the author, it is precisely the conflictological approach to the problem of ensuring political stability that can provide the necessary tools for its solution. Social conflict is a normal and natural state of society, at the same time, the desire to reduce the tension of such a conflict (de-escalation) contributes to both institutional stability and social stability.

Note that in a conflict, the incompatibility of the goals and interests of the parties is often imaginary: in reality, many conflict situations have a high "integrative potential" that allows them to unite and reconcile the interests of the parties. Awareness by the parties to the conflict of the very possibility of finding an integrative solution can change their behavioral strategy - it will be aimed not at increasing confrontation, but at reducing it, and at finding a compromise,

agreement and consensus. In the context of the problem of ensuring political stability, such a conflict strategy seems to be the most rational.

The information and communication approach allows us to consider the mechanisms of reducing the level of tension and ensuring political stability in the context of the implementation of those functions of the political system, on which its existence and reproduction depends. The work focuses on functions of information and communication nature, such as political socialization and political communication. Using the mechanisms of political socialization, among which the media play a huge role, the political system "binds" the individual to itself, forms him in a spirit of loyalty and, thereby, ensures its reproduction and its legitimacy.

Through political communication within the political system (between its individual institutions), as well as between the system and its environment, that is, society, the prerequisites for non-conflict interaction of all parties to the political process are created on the basis of their dialogue.

5. The theoretical outlines of the model of threats to the political stability of Russian society form internal and external threats of a political, economic and informational nature. The solution to the problem of external threats is possible provided that internal threats are overcome or neutralized. For modern Russia, the most urgent among internal threats is the current contradiction between real political practice and the formally present political structures.

This leads to a mismatch between social demands and expectations, on the one hand, and the functioning of the political system, on the other. This discrepancy between form and content is a direct threat to political stability, since it hides the real mechanisms of the functioning of the political system. In overcoming this discrepancy, a special role is assigned to information and communication mechanisms.

Openness and accessibility of information, constant communication between the authorities and society can resolve the contradiction: the authorities receive from society the information necessary to make decisions that are adequate

to public expectations and requirements, the society receives information from the authorities explaining the need to make certain decisions.

6. One of the means of ensuring the political stability of Russian society is the state information policy, the goals of which are, first, information support of the state's activities in various spheres of society; secondly, the provision of support for the domestic and foreign policy of the state from the side of society.

The most important direction of the state information policy is the state information security policy, which also has its own external and internal components. External presupposes protection of the national information space from external information influence on the political consciousness of the population of the state, as well as from destructive impact on its information infrastructure. The internal one is aimed at strengthening the political system and the existing political regime, as well as at achieving public consensus on the goals and basic values of society and the state.

Ensuring the political stability of society as a goal presupposes the implementation of such an information policy, which leaves a person with the possibility of free choice and self-determination in the information space, as well as free political choice that does not contradict the national interests of the country. On the contrary, an information policy based on the principle of restricting information, reducing the number of information channels leads to the fact that any information "stuffing" contributes to the growth of anti-state sentiments, while the official information line reduces its stabilizing function.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research.

The conclusions and results obtained in the course of this study can become a useful theoretical and methodological basis for further research in the field of international, national and information security, the theory of political systems, the theory of modernization, the theory of communication, etc. The theoretical provisions put forward and substantiated in this work can be found application in the educational process in the development of courses and educational materials of political science, political and managerial, communicative directions.

As a result of the dissertation research, which is of practical importance, one can single out a theoretical model of political stability and a model of threats to political stability. These theoretical models can be used in the practice of political consulting, as well as form the basis of applied political science research.

Chronological scope of the research. The problem presented in the title of this work does not in itself have a strict temporal or spatial reference - any society experiences the relationship between information security and political stability, especially if it is actively included in the system of international relations. At the same time, the present study is chronologically limited to the post-Soviet period of Russian history, i.e. from the beginning of the 90s. XX century. Until now. This limitation is caused by at least two circumstances that give this period a qualitative distinctiveness and difference from other periods of Russian history. The first circumstance is associated with the emergence in our country in the early 90s. a new type of political system and political relations.

The second circumstance is associated with a qualitatively new stage in the development of information and communication systems - the creation of the "Internet" network, which provided a new level of information exchange and global permeability for information flows. Accordingly, information risks and threats that can have a negative impact on the political stability of society have also reached a new level.

Approbation of research results. The main provisions and conclusions of the study were tested at the following All-Russian scientific and practical conferences:

XIV All-Russian scientific conference "INFORMATION-COMMUNICATION-SOCIETY" Information equality and openness: myths or reality (SPb, SPbSETU "LETI" 2017). Topic: "Local network as an information security tool";

All-Russian scientific and practical conference "Information and communication model of interaction between the State and society" (St.

Petersburg, RANEPa 2018) Topic: "Publicity of the media as a factor in ensuring political stability";

XVI All-Russian Scientific Conference "INFORMATION-COMMUNICATION-SOCIETY" Society in the digital era (SPb, SPbSETU "LETI" 2019). Topic: "Mass media as an institution of public policy and their impact on political stability";

XVII All-Russian Scientific Conference "INFORMATION-COMMUNICATION-SOCIETY" The problem of social development: the contradictions of the turn of the epochs (SPb, SPbSETU "LETI" 2020). Topic: "Issues of information security in the context of" digitalization "of public life in modern Russia."

Works published by the author in leading peer-reviewed scientific journals and publications recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission:

1. Kovalev A.A., Pavlov V.V. Questions of Information Security in the National Strategy of Russia and Kazakhstan. Administrative Consulting. 2017. No. 12. S. 44-54.
2. Pavlov V.V. Localization of communications as a way to ensure information security // Administrative Consulting.. 2018. No. 7. S. 174-182.
3. Pavlov V.V. State information policy as a condition for ensuring the political stability of society // Bulletin of the Volga Institute of Management. 2019.Vol. 19.No. 3. S. 107-113.

Works published in other publications:

1. Pavlov V.V. Local network as an instrument of information security // Information - Communication - Society (ICS-2017): Proceedings of the XIV All-Russian Scientific Conference / St. Petersburg, January 19 - 20, 2017 St. Petersburg: Publishing house of SPbSETU, 2017. C.184- 189.
2. Pavlov V.V. Publicity of the media as a factor in ensuring political stability // Scientific works of the North-West Institute of Management. Volume 10. Issue 4 (41). St. Petersburg 2019.S. 187-189.

3. Pavlov V.V. Media as an institution of public policy and their impact on political stability // Information - Communication - Society (ICS-2019): Proceedings of the XVI All-Russian Scientific Conference / St. Petersburg, January 24 - 25, 2019 St. Petersburg: Publishing house of SPbSETU, 2019 . Pp. 226-231.

4. Pavlov V.V. Issues of information security in the context of "digitalization" of public life in modern Russia // Information - Communication - Society (ICS-2020): Proceedings of the XVII All-Russian Scientific Conference / St. Petersburg, January 23-24, 2020 St. Petersburg: Publishing house of SPbSETU, 2020.S. 184-188.

The structure of the thesis. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, six paragraphs and a bibliography.



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