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**SPIRITUAL SOVEREIGNTY IN THE SYSTEM OF ENSURING THE
NATIONAL**



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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of
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Relevance of the research.

Spiritual sovereignty in its broad interpretation acts as the spiritual basis of national sovereignty in general. In a narrow interpretation, this is a separate type of sovereignty, which corresponds to a special state of security — spiritual security, which is an integral part of the national security system.

The theme of spiritual sovereignty is the ability and willingness of the Russian state and society to independently form, preserve and disseminate a system of values, ideological orientations and cultural and moral norms that ensure the socio-psychological stability, cohesion and cultural identity of the Russian nation, as well as protect its spiritual foundations from external and internal ideological, informational and cultural influences that pose a threat. national interests are becoming particularly important in the current conditions. Our country's conduct of a special military operation (SVO), the imposition of illegal sanctions against Russia by the governments of unfriendly countries, the implementation of a large-scale information and psychological warfare aimed at destroying the Russian mentality and spiritual sovereignty - all this is superimposed on the general international context (lack of an effective system of international law, globalization processes, fierce competition, in particular including on issues of spiritual sovereignty, attempts at Russia's spiritual isolation on the world stage, etc.).

Russian Russian Orthodox Church, as well as the Russian language and everything related to the "Russian World" are being subjected to ideological attacks. Hence the increasing importance of the problem of protecting spiritual sovereignty, which is becoming one of the most important in the national security system of our country. The issue of preserving and developing Russian traditional values is becoming increasingly important, since it is these values that form the basis of the national identity and worldview of Russians. Russia has traditionally viewed itself as a civilizational center with a unique cultural and spiritual mission. The preservation of spiritual autonomy is perceived by Russians as a continuation of historical continuity, and Russian traditional values are seen as the basis of national

identity and social cohesion. The ability to defend spiritual autonomy enhances Russia's status as a subject of world politics, capable of offering alternative civilizational projects.

The modern world is characterized by rapid technological changes and intensive information exchange, which creates the risk of losing the uniqueness of national spiritual values and cultural identity. New technologies are actively used to spread alien ideologies and practices (young generations of Russians are under special attention here, as well as inciting conflict between generations), and the need to confront them makes spiritual security a basic part of digital security.

All these reasons make the topic of Russia's spiritual sovereignty extremely important. To this should be added the lack of elaboration of a number of theoretical aspects of the topic in political science discourse: the lack of a strict definition of this concept, the uncertainty of its relationship with related concepts ("cultural sovereignty", "mental sovereignty", etc.), the lack of a comprehensive understanding of its role and place in the national security system, as well as directions, methods and forms protection of this sovereignty, which implies a multidimensional analysis of the phenomenon of "spiritual sovereignty". Spiritual security today is not just a part of the national security system, but its semantic core and ideological content. It is intertwined with all other types of security (information, public, state) and serves to legitimize the domestic and foreign policy of the state. This is an attempt to create a society's value immunity and form a competitive civilizational model in the context of global ideological confrontation.

The object of the research spiritual sovereignty in the national security system.

The subject of the research is the content, role and importance of spiritual sovereignty, the directions of its strengthening and protection in the system of ensuring Russia's national security in the context of modern challenges and threats.

The purpose of the research is to reveal by means of political analysis the place and tasks of spiritual sovereignty in the system of ensuring national security of Russia, based on the author's approach to the interpretation of this sovereignty, its relationship with other types of sovereignty, importance in countering modern challenges and threats, as well as to substantiate the directions of further development of spiritual sovereignty to strengthen the national security of our country.

The objectives of the research: - based on the results of the analysis of the concept of spiritual sovereignty in the history of political science and its modern interpretations, to substantiate the author's approach to the definition of this concept and to specify its content in relation to different types of sovereignty and subjects;

- to identify the content, place and role of spiritual sovereignty, its differences from other types of sovereignty in the system of ensuring national security of Russia;

- to conduct a historical and political analysis of the formation of Russian spiritual sovereignty, identify its essential characteristics, and establish roles in the national security system of our country based on a methodology that combines civilizational, concrete historical, and situational-political approaches;

- to identify current challenges and threats to the spiritual sovereignty of the Russian Federation and to substantiate its importance in the concessional war; to reveal a system of measures aimed at preserving and strengthening Russian spiritual sovereignty;

- to identify areas for improving state policy to preserve and strengthen spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system, as well as to argue for the increasing role of civil society (using the example of the media) in strengthening spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system;

- to substantiate the importance of digitalization in strengthening spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system, as well as threats and challenges caused by digitalization processes.

The hypothesis of the research is the assumption that as external and internal threats to the national security of the Russian Federation increase, the role of spiritual sovereignty in countering them will only increase, since it is this sovereignty that expresses the spiritual basis of the inalienable legal property of an independent state, necessary for it to exercise the exclusive supremacy of its power throughout the country and in the international arena, for conducting independent policy in spiritual and other spheres of public life. In order to strengthen spiritual sovereignty, Russia must not only strengthen its spiritual values and cultural traditions, preserve the memory of its history, thereby protecting its own identity and cohesion within society on a single basic spiritual basis, but also present a civilizational and cultural project attractive to other countries and peoples based on the priority of universal human values. values refracted to modern realities.

The theoretical basis of the research consists in fundamental developments by domestic and foreign authors on theoretical and methodological issues of the state, civil society, national security and its security system, spirituality and the spiritual sphere of public life, and also includes the works of researchers directly devoted to spiritual sovereignty, its content and functions, areas of preservation and strengthening.

The methodological basis of the research was made up of general scientific methods (a systematic method applied to the analysis of the national security system; a structural and functional method used in the study of the place and role of spiritual sovereignty in the national security system; a historical and logical method used in the study of spiritual sovereignty as an object of historical and political analysis, as well as to reveal the processes of formation of the Russian spiritual sovereignty); The methods of political analysis (civilizational, concrete historical, and situational-political methods) were used to study the issue of the stability and variability of Russia's spiritual sovereignty; The political and cultural method is used to analyze the political and cultural features of Russian spiritual sovereignty.; the scenario method - when developing scenarios for the further development of Russia's spiritual

sovereignty in the face of threats and challenges to it), including using digital technologies (corpus analysis, content analysis, discourse analysis with artificial intelligence (AI), multimodal analysis - was used when studying a significant amount of texts in electronic media, which made it possible to identify key words and collocations in the study of problems of spiritual sovereignty and related topics). In addition to those listed in the work, empirical research methods (questionnaires, interviews, methods of empirical data analysis) were used.

The empirical basis of the research consisted of: - the results of sociological research conducted by Russian analytical centers and devoted to the study of issues of Russians' perception of traditional values and institutions, attitudes to spiritual sovereignty: VTsIOM "Traditions in the era of change (09.12.2023)"; "Family in the system of Russian values" (22.11.2024);. "Social justice. Monitoring (02/18/2024)"; "Russians have their own pride" (05/26/2025); "Traditional values: expectation and reality" (June 2025); FOM: "Traditional Values in Russian Society" (08/11/2024), etc.;

- the results of the author's sociological research conducted in January-June 2025 and devoted to the analysis of the role of the media and a number of social networks (in particular, VKontakte) in strengthening the national security system of the Russian Federation (a content analysis of publications on two highly rated regional publications in each of the 8 federal districts of Russia, as well as in a number of central publications and foreign media);

- official data posted on the websites of Russian public authorities, as well as the Federal State Statistics Service.

Scientific novelty of the research consists in revealing the multidimensional role of spiritual sovereignty in the national security system of our country as the spiritual basis of national sovereignty in general and, accordingly, of all types of national security, and as its independent type, as well as in substantiating the

increasing importance of this role in this system as challenges and threats increase in the current political situation inside Russia and on the world stage. Consequently:

1. The author's interpretation of spiritual sovereignty is substantiated, based on an understanding of its duality: on the one hand, as an ideal construct that reveals the essential features and general mechanisms of the functioning of the value autonomy of its subjects, and, on the other hand, as a real phenomenon that is filled with a certain content in a concrete historical embodiment, reflecting the specifics of the subject composition and the features of the political, cultural and other context; In this regard, the author argues for the duality of its role in the national security system.: as the spiritual basis of all types of sovereignty and as an independent type of sovereignty realized in the spiritual sphere.

On the basis of the subjective and level-based types of analysis, the content of spiritual sovereignty at the personal and collective levels is revealed; on the basis of the institutional analysis, the specifics of the spiritual sovereignty of the state as a manifestation of its general sovereignty are revealed.

2. The place and role of spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system are revealed, its manifestations in the spiritual sphere of public life are highlighted; in connection with the varying interpretations of spiritual sovereignty, different explications of the concept of spiritual security are formulated, and the relationship of spiritual security with other types of security is determined.

3. The definition of Russian spiritual sovereignty is reasoned from the point of view of its content, on the one hand, reflecting archetypal codes (archetypes), stable identification models generated by belonging to a certain civilization, and, on the other hand, acting as a real phenomenon of national history and culture with specific content refracted to political and other realities. modernity. The heuristic of this approach is proved, which makes it possible to explain the stability and at the same time the variability of this phenomenon.

4. Modern challenges and threats to the spiritual sovereignty of the Russian Federation, both external and internal, are identified, which are aimed at all the elements that make up the structure of this sovereignty (its subjects, the system of spiritual values, the ability to choose spiritual priorities, readiness to defend spiritual sovereignty in everyday life), and variable scenarios of its development are presented in terms of possible implementation. identified challenges and threats; The purpose and objectives of the concessional war are revealed as a war aimed at destroying the spiritual sovereignty of the victim country, which in this case is Russia, and in this regard, a system of measures is proposed aimed at preserving and strengthening the spiritual sovereignty of our country (political, legal, cultural, moral, educational, informational, institutional, social-psychological, organizational, financial nature).

5. The main directions of improvement of the state policy of the Russian Federation on preservation and strengthening of spiritual sovereignty, which is included in the general policy on ensuring national security of the country, are defined.; The main trend of such a policy is highlighted, which consists in the transition from responding to threats to the proactive formation of a spiritual and value environment, in connection with which the key role of civil society and, in particular, the media, in strengthening spiritual sovereignty as an important element of national security, ensuring the preservation of cultural identity, traditional values and morals of Russians is revealed.

6. The ambiguous influence of digitalization on the strengthening of spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system is argued: on the one hand, as contributing to such strengthening, and, on the other hand, as creating new challenges and threats in the system of ensuring spiritual security and national security in general.

Provisions of the research submitted for defense:

1. From the standpoint of philosophical and political analysis, spiritual sovereignty - It is an ideal construct that captures the essential properties and general

mechanisms of functioning based on the value autonomy and self-determination of its subjects, which is expressed in their ability, ability, and willingness to independently (and within the boundaries established by law and morality) form, disseminate, and defend a hierarchy of values, meanings, and spiritual and moral guidelines based on cultural and cultural values. historical identity, sovereignty of the will and moral immunity, and on this basis make independent decisions in spiritual and other areas of public life. Being filled with specific content reflecting the peculiarities of the subjects of this sovereignty, as well as the specifics of the political, cultural, etc. context of its implementation, spiritual sovereignty becomes a real phenomenon. Duality in understanding spiritual sovereignty: as an ideal construct and as a phenomenon of reality.

In the system of types of sovereignty, spiritual sovereignty also plays a twofold role: it acts as the spiritual (ideal) basis of state, political, economic and other types of sovereignty and at the same time functions as its independent type, realized in the spiritual sphere, which is based on independence (value, intellectual) in making basic decisions in all segments (science, morality art, religion, education, law, philosophy) and functional components (spiritual production, spiritual consumption, spiritual relations) of this sphere.

Applying subjective and level analyses, at a personalized level, spiritual sovereignty is a state of inner freedom of an individual, allowing her to independently choose (within a legal and moral framework) spiritual values, moral principles, determine the meaning of her life, realizing the established right to self-determination and self-realization in matters related to worldview, life orientations, value system, autonomy. moral choice, decision-making in the spiritual sphere; At the collective level, the spiritual sovereignty of a society is a state of its spiritual self-determination, the ability to independently produce, store, interpret and translate fundamental values, meanings, identity and cultural codes, as well as the willingness to protect this semantic space from external and internal destruction or the imposition of alien values.; At the institutional level, the spiritual sovereignty of a

state is a manifestation and at the same time the spiritual basis of its overall sovereignty as an independent state, allowing it to exercise the exclusive supremacy of its power throughout the country and in the international arena, to pursue independent policies in spiritual and other spheres of public life.

2. The place and role of spiritual sovereignty in the system of ensuring Russia's national security are due to the fact that it: a) is an independent type of sovereignty, differing from other types of sovereignty in its tasks and scope of manifestation (ensuring sovereignty in the spiritual sphere of public life), objects (protection from external ideological and value expansion and destructive informationalpsychological impact, etc.) and methods of protection (legislative measures, ideological and educational work, spiritual and moral education, etc.); b) acts as the spiritual basis for all types of sovereignty.

The multifunctionality of spiritual sovereignty in the national security system also explicates different understandings of spiritual security.: as an independent type of security, which is an autopoietic social system that is relatively independent and simultaneously implements itself through other functionally differentiated types of security and the security system as a whole.; as a state of protection of the spiritual foundations of the individual, society and the state from internal and external threats that destroy spiritual and moral values, traditions, ideological orientations and cultural and historical identity of Russian society, and spiritual security itself can be considered as an integrative effect of the interaction of different types of security; as a state of protection of the spiritual sphere of public life, meaning guarantees independent formation and development of this sphere.

3. In the content of the ideal construct "spiritual sovereignty" in relation to Russian society, namely, Russian spiritual sovereignty is a multi-layered entity that, on the one hand, reflects archetypal codes (archetypes), stable identification models generated by belonging to a particular civilization, whose specificity is determined by a number of factors, both natural and cultural. of a social nature (for example, the archetype of a "fortress country", a special civilization that "restrains chaos",

protects traditional values and guards certain spiritual boundaries; the archetype of Messianism and an alternative path; the archetype of conciliarity and collective salvation; the archetype of sacrifice and longsuffering; the archetype of the state-defender of the Orthodox faith, etc.); on the other hand, appears as a real phenomenon of national history and culture, filled with concrete historical content, refracted to the political and other realities of our time. This approach makes it possible to substantiate the relative stability of Russian spiritual sovereignty and at the same time its variability.

4. Among the key threats and challenges to Russia's spiritual sovereignty, there are external factors (the instability of the modern system of international relations and the ineffectiveness in many cases of the actions of international organizations designed to deter and respond to aggressive actions of countries; the aggravation of the military-political situation along the State border of the Russian Federation; proxy war, etc.) and internal (unresolved economic and social problems, ideological confrontation between supporters of Russia's distinctive development path and adherents of the Western model, negative trends in demography, insufficient regulation of migration flows and shortcomings of migration policy in general, etc.); Russian spiritual sovereignty is the main target of the concessional war which is aimed at destroying the spiritual code of Russia, and, consequently, its deep civilizational foundations, the property of spiritual subjectivity. To achieve a state of spiritual security, a set of political and legal measures is needed (for example, the consolidation of the concept of spiritual sovereignty in normative legal acts and documents), cultural and moral (for example, state order and support for works of art that strengthen patriotism, traditional morality, and a positive image of historical heroes), educational and educational (in particular, the formation of "the golden fund of Russian culture, its mandatory presence in media and education), information (for example, the sovereignty of the digital environment), financial (allocation of a separate line in the budget for patriotic education programs, support for patriotic art, and the development of domestic IT platforms).

5. The main trend in improving state policy to strengthen spiritual sovereignty in the Russian national security system is the transition from responding to threats to proactively forming a spiritual and value environment; this requires: 1) formation and development of the necessary regulatory legal framework concerning spiritual sovereignty, including strategic planning documents; 2) improving the organizational support of spiritual sovereignty: expanding the range of subjects and participants in order to strengthen and develop it (primarily through the involvement of civil society institutions and the civil society community), as well as the necessary tools for this (methods, forms, programs, projects and support mechanisms, in particular, measures to strengthen the institution of the family as the basic subjective basis of Russian spiritual sovereignty); 3) development of indicators of the effectiveness of policies to preserve and strengthen spiritual sovereignty in the Russian Federation in the system of ensuring its national security (for example, the dynamics of the number of patriotic citizens, which is monitored by the results of sociological measurements; the degree of social cohesion in support of traditional values and spiritual sovereignty of Russia and willingness to defend them, which is measured through indicators of social cohesion, the level of trust in public authorities and support for their course, etc.). An analysis of a number of federal and regional Russian media outlets has shown that key concepts such as spiritual sovereignty and Russian traditional values are taking an increasingly significant place in the information field of the Russian media, while in the prevailing majority of cases the tone of such publications is positive or neutral.

6. In the system of national security and its spiritual basis - spiritual sovereignty, digitalization is considered as an object of national security; its independent form, intersecting with spiritual security; a means (tool) to ensure spiritual security and national security in general; an indicator of the level of development of national security. Digitalization in the context of digital self-determination of the individual, society and the state strengthens spiritual sovereignty and extends it to cyberspace. At the same time, it creates new challenges

and threats in the system of ensuring spiritual security and national security in general (cyber attacks, the ability to scale information operations without losing context, the use of fully automated pipelines for generating fake materials using the potential of multimodal generative AI, control of data supply chains and infrastructure monopoly, etc.). AI and neural networks translate the meanings laid down by their developers, which manifests itself both in the selection of information and in its commentary and, ultimately, can lead to a fundamental distortion of the Russian semantic space. The task is to prevent such distortions, based on the fact that the meanings and comments should be relevant to the traditional values of our country.

The theoretical significance of the work lies in the fact that it:

- the categorical and conceptual apparatus necessary for studying the problems of spiritual sovereignty has been further developed (the definition of spiritual sovereignty is given, the content of the concepts "spiritual sphere of public life", "spiritual security" is clarified);

- the understanding of spiritual sovereignty in its variable manifestations as an independent type of sovereignty, the spiritual basis of all other types of sovereignty, the sovereignty of the spiritual spheres of public life, which makes it possible to specify the place and role of this sovereignty in the system of ensuring the national security of our country.;

- a theoretical and methodological approach to spiritual sovereignty has been developed, which makes it possible to reveal it, on the one hand, as an ideal construct, and on the other hand, as a real phenomenon emerging in the process of historical development, which made it possible to explain the relative stability and variability of this sovereignty.;

- a systematic approach to spiritual sovereignty was used, in connection with which its subjects, content, functioning mechanisms, and institutional framework

were highlighted, which made it possible to comprehensively consider the place and role of this sovereignty in ensuring Russia's national security.;

- the content of the state policy on strengthening spiritual sovereignty in the national security system of our country is revealed and the directions of its further improvement are highlighted, according to which the increasing importance of the role of civil society (using the example of the media) in ensuring spiritual security is justified.;

- the author's approach to the interpretation of digital sovereignty is presented and its correlation with spiritual sovereignty is determined, the multidimensional influence of digitalization on the strengthening of spiritual sovereignty in the system of ensuring Russia's national security is revealed.

The practical significance of the research lies in the fact that its conclusions and recommendations can be applied in the activities of public authorities and other structures involved in the Russian national security system. To this end, the paper proposes a set of measures of a political, legal, cultural, moral, educational, informational, institutional, socio-psychological, organizational, and financial nature. The results of the work can also be used in research, consulting, and teaching activities.

Approbation of the research results. The main results of the presented dissertation research are presented by the author in two collective monographs, in 13 scientific articles, including 1 article (co-authored) in a journal indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, 7 articles in publications recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission under the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, with a volume of 7.7 pp . The results of the dissertation research have been tested at 18 international forums and scientific and practical conferences.

The structure of the research. The dissertation research consists of an introduction, three chapters (three paragraphs in each chapter), a conclusion, a list of sources used, and appendices.

