

# The Essence Of Developing The Military Sphere Of The New Uzbekistan Society Under The Influence Of Internal And External Political Factors

O'sarov Gayrat Kodirovich

University of Military Security and Defense of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Associate Professor of the Cycle of National Pride and Military-Patriotic Education at the Military Aviation Institute, Uzbekistan

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**Abstract:** This article examines the essence of developing the military sphere of the New Uzbekistan society under the influence of internal and external political factors. In addition, the article analyzes the challenges arising from these internal and external political factors and approaches their solutions by taking into account their specific characteristics.

**Keywords:** Military policy, internal factor, external factor, smart army, people's army, modernization, subjective factors, objective factors, digital technologies, army, concept, trend, forecast, transformation.

**Introduction:** The development of the military sphere in New Uzbekistan is closely linked to a combination of various factors, particularly internal political processes and external influences. In this regard, the analysis of military reforms requires a comprehensive consideration of such issues as the state's political course, the functioning of democratic institutions, economic resources, the regulatory and legal framework, and international relations. Especially after 2016, the political renewal initiated in Uzbekistan, the sharp acceleration of reforms, and a governance style based on the principle of dialogue with the people opened the way for fundamental changes in the military sphere as well.

Within the framework of this article, on the one hand, internal political factors influencing the development of the military sphere in New Uzbekistan are analyzed, and on the other hand, the role of foreign policy factors in this process is examined. At the same time, the concept of "military policy" is considered as one of the most important vectors of public administration, associated with such large-scale objectives as ensuring national security, sovereignty, and stability, fostering youth development, and strengthening patriotic spirit in society. In this context, the reforms of the Armed Forces, modernization of weapons and military equipment, improvement of the professional

qualifications of military personnel, fundamental renewal of the military education system, strengthening of public oversight, and expansion of international military cooperation are all harmoniously integrated with political factors serving national interests.

**Internal Political Factors** — One of the key internal political factors in improving the military sphere in New Uzbekistan is the process of political reform. The liberalization of the public administration system, the strengthening of the role of the Oliy Majlis, and the establishment of mechanisms of public oversight over the activities of the government, ministries, and agencies have also extended to the military sphere. In particular, the role of parliamentary control and mass media has increased in matters concerning the targeted use of funds allocated to the Armed Forces, the protection of the rights and interests of military personnel, and the strengthening of military legislation. At the same time, the widespread promotion of democratic values in society, the decisive fight against corruption, the обеспечение прозрачности при отборе и назначении военных кадров, as well as the strengthening of discipline in military and economic activities, serve as important internal political factors. In this direction, the enhanced activity of the military prosecutor's office, the conduct of large-scale

inspections regarding violations and abuse of office, and the development of programs aimed at increasing legal awareness among military personnel demonstrate that public administration in Uzbekistan is based on the principles of openness and the rule of law.

Another significant internal political factor is the political decisions and personal leadership of the head of state. The advancement by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of the principle "The Army and the People Are One," the strengthening of social protection for military personnel, the revision of the activities of higher military educational institutions in accordance with contemporary requirements, and the continuous dialogue with the public in the process of military reforms reflect the presence of clear political will. On the basis of presidential decrees and resolutions, new plans and programs are developed annually, which, alongside strengthening defense capability, contribute to ensuring political and social stability.

From this perspective, the activities of the "Ma'naviyat va Ma'rifat" centers, within the framework of which explanatory and educational events, spiritual and enlightenment meetings, reading promotion campaigns, and round tables are organized in military units, are also regarded as a significant factor of domestic policy. The primary objective is to foster a high level of patriotism, legal awareness, and political maturity among military personnel.

**External Political Factors** — The influence of external political factors on the development of the military sphere in New Uzbekistan is primarily determined by the international geopolitical situation, regional security issues, and global trends in armaments. In particular, the improvement of the atmosphere of cooperation among Central Asian states, threats of extremism and terrorism, transnational crime, border disputes, and contradictions related to the management of water and energy resources all affect the development and directions of Uzbekistan's military policy.

As a result of the policy of expanding friendly relations in the region based on President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's principle "Central Asia is our common home," Uzbekistan is actively developing cooperation with neighboring states in the areas of military-technical interaction, joint exercises, border security, countering cross-border threats, and mutual assistance in emergency situations. On the one hand, this situation contributes to strengthening regional stability; on the other hand, it creates favorable conditions for enhancing the combat readiness and technical potential of the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan.

Among the external political factors, the development

of military relations with foreign states occupies an important place. In particular, joint projects are being implemented with countries such as the United States, Russia, Turkey, China, and South Korea in the fields of armaments and military equipment, logistics, digital security, and the aerospace sector. Such partnerships enable Uzbekistan to introduce modern technologies, enhance the professional qualifications of military personnel, develop joint research projects, and strengthen its export potential. In addition, military-diplomatic cooperation contributes to reinforcing Uzbekistan's political standing within the global and regional security architecture.

Cooperation within international and regional organizations, such as the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and the Commonwealth of Independent States, also exerts a positive influence on the development of the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan. As a result, Uzbekistan identifies the reform of the military sphere as a priority direction in both domestic and foreign policy, aiming to make a meaningful and worthy contribution to regional and international security.

Sharp changes in the international geopolitical environment, competition among leading arms-developing states, cybersecurity challenges, and the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and unmanned technologies also necessitate the further strengthening of the military sphere in Uzbekistan. Processes of digital transformation, the concept of a "smart army," information warfare, the military application of nano- and space technologies, as well as armed conflicts in the Middle East and other regions, clearly demonstrate that military policy today requires in-depth analysis of emerging threats and prompt, effective responses to them.

### **The Essence of Military Development under the Interaction of Internal and External Political Factors**

During the period of New Uzbekistan, military reforms have acquired a comprehensive character due to the harmonious combination of internal and external political factors. Democratic principles, openness, and the rule of law formed on the basis of internal reforms strengthen the people-oriented focus and disciplinary standards within the armed forces. At the same time, under the influence of external factors, the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan actively participate in international cooperation systems, mastering modern technologies and advanced practices. The essence of this integration lies primarily in enhancing the country's defense capability while simultaneously contributing to socio-political stability.

The central idea of the military policy of New

Uzbekistan lies in the formation of a defense system that, while preserving peace, independence, and sovereignty, also ensures favorable conditions for the successful implementation of democratic reforms, economic development, and an effective youth policy. This approach envisions the development of the Armed Forces not only as a “combat force” based on advanced weapons and military equipment, but also as a “people’s army” that has become a reliable pillar of society, actively participating in the resolution of social issues and serving national interests.

Particularly within the framework of domestic political transformations, cooperation with civil society institutions facilitates the introduction of advanced methods in the military sphere as well. The organization of various social campaigns, military-patriotic events, and meetings with youth in military units, involving mahallas, families, non-governmental organizations, representatives of the media, and bloggers, is regarded as an integral component of democratic reforms. As a result, public trust in the Armed Forces increases, creating additional prerequisites for strengthening political stability and promoting the moral and spiritual development of society.

Under the influence of external political factors, Uzbekistan’s military-diplomatic activity at the regional and international levels is also intensifying. The conduct of joint exercises, participation in peacekeeping missions, training of military personnel abroad, and the development of military-technical cooperation with advanced foreign states—including the implementation of large-scale projects for the production or modernization of armaments—constitute an essential part of this process. Through the harmonious combination of internal political reforms and external political integration, the process of military transformation acquires a more effective and systemic character.

### **Political and Social Effects of the Military Development Process**

Under conditions of a harmonious combination of internal and external political factors, the development of the military sphere in New Uzbekistan is accompanied by the strengthening of political stability, enhanced social cohesion, and the advancement of the principles of the rule of law, legal culture, openness, and transparency in society. Since the effectiveness of Armed Forces reforms is directly linked to the level of legal awareness, political literacy, moral education of military personnel, and their interaction with society, the principles of transparency in state policy and public oversight are reinforced simultaneously.

Moreover, within the framework of gender policy in Uzbekistan, the participation of women in military service is expanding, with broader opportunities being created for their career growth and professional advancement. This trend demonstrates that democratic values, principles of equality, and transparency in personnel selection are increasingly reflected in the military sphere as well.

In addition, pursuant to relevant regulatory documents, the role of the army in ensuring citizens’ security during peacetime is being strengthened, as is its participation in assisting the population during emergencies such as natural and man-made disasters, epidemics, and pandemics. This tendency makes it possible to view the military sphere not only through the lens of “defense” and “security,” but also as a system actively functioning within public life, directly interacting with the population and contributing to the strengthening of social protection.

The special significance of military security for the state and society objectively necessitates the continuous improvement and strengthening of the structural elements and components of the military sphere, which requires its ongoing modernization. The development and modernization of the military sphere largely depend on the political will of the state leadership and society, the programs, directions, and methods of implementation, as well as the provision of necessary resources and means.

The modernization of the military sphere represents a process of systemic changes carried out through reforms without fundamentally transforming its core principles and objectives, while preserving their essential nature. This process excludes inertial development and is aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the military sphere’s functioning in a constantly changing environment.

The main objective of the development and modernization of Uzbekistan’s military sphere at the present stage is to prevent military aggression against the country and to create the necessary conditions for its peaceful and dynamic development. This objective makes it possible to define the priority directions of military modernization. The key priorities for the development and modernization of the military sphere of the Republic of Uzbekistan include the following:

- Strengthening the power of the state, including in the military domain, ensuring strategic deterrence, and preventing Uzbekistan from being drawn into wars or armed conflicts;
- Preserving the geopolitical and geostrategic balance of power among leading states of the international community and their coalitions, as well as

contributing to the maintenance of global military-political stability;

- Overcoming potential attempts at the geopolitical isolation of Uzbekistan and improving and strengthening cooperation among partner states in the military-political sphere.

The development and modernization of Uzbekistan's military sphere are inseparably linked to the safeguarding of national security interests, which encompass the balanced interests of the individual, society, and the state in the economic, domestic political, social, international, informational, military, border, environmental, and other spheres. These interests determine the fundamental goals, directions, and objectives of state policy.

In accordance with the stated objectives, the development and modernization of the military sphere are oriented toward the following directions:

- Bringing the military sphere of Uzbekistan to a level at which it can ensure reliable and guaranteed protection against military dangers and threats;
- Improving interaction between the institutions of the military organization and state authorities, as well as strengthening their activities in the field of operational and strategic management;
- Advancing the military sphere to a qualitatively new level that corresponds to the characteristics of next-generation warfare, the requirements of the modern defense doctrine, and contemporary principles of conducting military operations.

The development and modernization of the military sphere are carried out under the influence of a wide range of factors. These factors are differentiated according to various criteria, are diverse in nature, and considerable in number. Given that the development and modernization of the military sphere constitute a purposeful process initiated and implemented by the subjects of military-political activity, their determinants may be classified into subjective and objective categories.

Subjective factors include the political will of the country's leadership to carry out modernization, the optimal determination of goals and methods of transformation, scientific support of the process, and other relevant conditions. Objective factors encompass all the real capacities of society necessary for the implementation of modernization.

The factors influencing the development and modernization of the military sphere may also be divided into material and non-material (spiritual) components. Material factors include armaments, military equipment, and military property; the material

and technical base of the defense-industrial complex; the country's mineral and raw material resources; infrastructure for the deployment and concentration of troops; and the operational preparation of potential theaters of military operations.

Non-material (spiritual) factors include spiritual values, culture, science, law, politics, religion, and other components of social development. From an evaluative perspective, factors are classified as stabilizing (positive) and destructive (negative, hindering the modernization process).

Within the system of classification of modernization factors, their division into external and internal categories is widely applied. External political factors are conditioned by the new geopolitical and geostrategic situation that has evolved globally over centuries and are determined by its dynamics.

In the context of society's transition to a new technological paradigm, one of the priority directions in the functioning of the military economy and the defense-industrial complex is the creation and application of advanced information technologies—such as the internet, network systems, cyberspace infrastructure, and digital technologies. In recent years, digital technologies have developed particularly dynamically. They represent a discrete system based on methods of data encoding and transmission, enabling the rapid execution of a wide range of tasks.

Digital technologies play a special role in the development and governance of all sectors of the country's economic complex. At present, the concept of "electronic government" is being created and expanded on their basis; they are actively used in political and public administration marketing, in the development and functioning of mass media, in the formation of public opinion, as well as in such fields as robotics, automation, radio and telecommunications systems, and many other areas.

Thus, the development and modernization of the military sphere imply bringing it to a condition in which its functioning ensures national and military security, state sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as the defense of the country.

The modernization of the military sphere can be carried out exclusively on the basis of a previously formulated modernization model. The model of military modernization represents its prospective image. It reflects a projected and desired state in which the military sphere is capable of fulfilling its primary socio-political function.

Forecasting the future state of the military sphere makes it possible to determine its main objective,

priority directions, and vectors of modernization. Therefore, the concept of a military modernization model may be understood as a conceptual analogue of its current condition, a defined reference framework, and a representation of its future development.

Trends in the development of the military sphere and the projected options for its transformation are linked to the military dangers and threats facing the country, as well as to the state's capacity to neutralize them. Depending on the level of existing and potential future military risks, two projected scenarios for the development of the military sphere can be identified.

According to the first scenario, as threats increase, the military sphere correspondingly strengthens and expands. This interdependence acquires the character of an objective regularity. Under the second scenario, when the level of military-political confrontation declines, the military sphere is rationally limited to a scope sufficient to ensure defense and consistent with the country's capabilities. In strategic planning for the development of the military organization, the Armed Forces, and the military sphere of society as a whole, it is essential to take into account potential future external and internal military threats and risks.

An analysis of contemporary theories of warfare and the numerous regional conflicts developing on their basis suggests that possible future wars against the Republic of Uzbekistan may be directed not only against its statehood but also against society as a whole. In this regard, countering such potential threats must be carried out through the efforts of the entire society and across all spheres of its vital activity.

Thus, the harmonious combination of internal and external political factors shapes the content and essence of the development process of the military sphere in New Uzbekistan. As a result, the country has established a solid regulatory and legal framework, consistently continues to equip its Armed Forces with modern weapons and military equipment, strengthens its international authority through active participation in military diplomacy and peacekeeping missions, and implements large-scale measures aimed at reinforcing democratic principles and patriotic spirit within the army.

Undoubtedly, certain issues requiring further resolution remain in the course of these transformations, including increasing the export potential of domestic defense industry enterprises, training highly qualified specialists in digital technologies, further improving the system of social support for military personnel, and expanding the geography of military-technical cooperation.

Nevertheless, under contemporary conditions, owing

to the synergy of internal political factors (democratic reforms, economic stability, public oversight) and external political factors (regional cooperation, international diplomacy, global security), profound transformations, systemic and carefully planned reforms are being observed in the military policy of New Uzbekistan. It is precisely this interconnection that becomes the decisive factor in shaping the Armed Forces of New Uzbekistan as a modern, professional, highly effective, and people-oriented army.

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