

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, PROCESSES, AND TECHNOLOGIES

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BRICS+ Is a Strategic Platform for Cooperation Among Countries in an Unstable Global Political Environment

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Abstract. The article analyzes the opportunities and main directions for developing the BRICS+ partnership and those who wish to join, emphasizing the importance of ensuring national conditions for the balanced development of all areas of the state's life, including the economy, science, industry, education, information space, and social environment. The emerging strategic platform for cooperation should contribute to solving humanitarian issues and creating conditions for political and economic development, which will serve as an important foundation for the sustainability and prosperity of countries. This can only be achieved through the construction of a unified and indivisible security construct on the Eurasian continent.

Keywords: BRICS+, partnership, strategic cooperation, political space, and areas of life

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Introduction

The issue of development and strengthening of political stability has acquired particular significance in the context of modern challenges and conflicts. The main trends of global development in the short and medium term are associated with the transformation of the state's role, the emergence and fixation of a different set of functions and characteristics depending on the degree of globalization of a country, and the emergence of new decision-making centers in the global space that use economic, socio-cultural, and information reforms and political methods of pressure.

In the context of global geopolitical turbulence, the stability of the political space has become a determining factor in the effectiveness of economic and social transformations. The development of states is now dependent not only on natural and geographical conditions and resource potential, but also on the quality of political management, taking into account the ethnic and religious diversity of the population.

Globalization, having a negative impact on the global community, causes concerns among various social, national, and religious groups who fear losing their identity, culture, language, and religion. The increasing interdependence of the world and the emergence of global challenges and threats determine the behavior of major global and regional geostrategic political centers, among which the BRICS+ alliance plays an important role in shaping the global and regional political, economic, and social landscape.

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Materials and Methods

The need for a comprehensive approach to the BRICS member countries' strategies in various countries led to the use of interdisciplinary analysis, which revealed the multilateral interaction of international actors and the transformations of situational global processes that influence the formation of multipolarity, national interests, political consciousness, and human rights. In particular, the dialectical method provided a comprehensive approach to analyzing the components of necessary international cooperation, while the structural-functional approach allowed for the exploration of the elements of specific political interests in conjunction with the diverse possibilities for realizing these interests in the context of the variability of modern realities.

Theoretical approaches to the study of political stability in the development of global political processes (institutional theories, models of democracy) are based primarily on Western material. Based on the theory of stakeholders, we can observe the emerging trends towards strategic partnerships, which are manifested in the emergence of informal communities and political and economic institutions [1–3]. Geopolitical conflicts, social inequality, and ineffective governance create conditions for instability, undermining trust in government institutions and complicating the process of political and economic renewal.

Results and Discussion

Cooperation and Partnership Are an International Issue

The diversity of political information and factors creates a need for unifying values such as stability, order, social justice, and a strong state. These factors formed the basis for the creation of the informal BRICS group, which later became BRICS+ [4]. The 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in July 2025 demonstrated to Western countries that the time of their *conditional dominance* was in the past. By responding proactively to the US-European aggression, Russia has given a new impetus to the development of BRICS and other associations of leaders of the global South and the global East. Cooperation with the BRICS countries is not a policy of competition, but a clearly defined course for decades to come and beyond. All attempts by Western countries and the United States to counter the ideas of justice and equality in international relations have had the opposite effect. Despite past contradictions and ideological differences, there is a growing convergence between the global South and the global East, creating a system that does not allow for the hegemony of a single country.

The main focus of the BRICS+ countries' partnership and those who wish to join is to ensure national conditions for the balanced development of all areas of the state, including the economy, science, industry, education, information space, and social environment, as cooperation contributes to solving humanitarian problems and creating conditions for economic development, which is an important foundation for the stability and prosperity of countries. This can only be achieved through the construction of a unified and indivisible security construct on the Eurasian continent. The basis of this is not the creation of a military alliance or sanctions for those who disagree, but rather the provision of support to countries that enable them to pursue business and creative endeavors. Additionally, globalization increases the dependence of regional economies on external investment and technological exchange. Limited access to international markets and financial resources can hinder economic diversification and sustainable development, while

dependence on hydrocarbon exports and uneven income distribution contribute to political instability.

The political stability of the global space is closely linked to the construction of political institutions that can unlock the economic and technological potential of each nation-state. In such circumstances, functioning political institutions become a key tool for implementing economic reforms, attracting investment, and ensuring social justice. In this context, the third international BRICS+ Fashion Summit, which took place in Moscow from August 28 to 30, became an important platform for professional communication and the development of international cooperation. The summit raised the issue of finding a balance between openness to external players and protecting the interests of national brands. The dependence on hydrocarbon exports and the uneven distribution of income were also discussed.

Western capital, which claims to be the key moderator of the inviolability of the main principles of globalization, the political elites of the West have lost the ability to assess global realities in a sober manner, and in order to achieve their own geopolitical goals, they are ready to collapse the entire system of trade and financial institutions through the disproportionate use of sanctions. However, recent events have transformed this paradigm.

The national elites and political regimes of the BRICS+ countries, as well as the ideologies they promote, act as forces of positive development that highlight the diversity of global political structures. In this context, it is important to consider the factors that limit the achievement of political and economic stability:

- External interference, including wars (Syria, Lebanon, Israel) and pressure from global powers (the United States, Russia, China, and Iran).
- Corruption, nepotism, and sanctions, which lead to an inefficient distribution of resources.
- Demographic imbalances, where young people lack opportunities for personal fulfillment.

The formation of clear, transparent, and adaptive institutions, the implementation of long-term strategic plans, the strengthening of the role of civil society, and the neutralization of external pressure can all contribute to reducing conflict levels and strengthening political regimes. The 2030 Agenda emphasizes the need to strengthen institutions, ensure access to justice, and create inclusive societies [5]. International institutions are exploring ways to unify or harmonize principles of good governance, which requires a reevaluation of approaches to political coordination, the exchange of best practices, and closer cooperation among states.

The modernization of management systems and the introduction of innovative approaches are becoming essential conditions for achieving political stability and sustainable development. Despite the apparent importance of the concept of effective public administration, there is no universally accepted definition of this term in the academic community. The differences in approaches are due to the diversity of cultural, political, and economic systems, resulting in multiple interpretations and emphases. Additionally, different linguistic and cultural traditions influence the understanding of key terms [6]. For example, the concepts of *good governance* in English and *good management* in Russian may have different connotations and associations, which requires caution in translation and interpretation. For instance, V.A. Achkasov emphasizes the need for a systematic approach to governance that takes into account the interconnectedness of political,

economic, and social factors [7]. He highlights the importance of adapting best global practices to national conditions and cultural characteristics, and notes that the effectiveness of governance depends on the harmonious interaction of political, economic, and social systems, as well as on the state's ability to adapt to changes in the external environment.

In our opinion, the models being developed should, firstly, take into account cultural and historical specifics, which is especially important for countries with a rich historical heritage and diverse traditions. Secondly, it is important to focus on the dynamic process of adapting state institutions to rapidly changing internal and external challenges, such as political conflicts, economic crises, and social transformations. Thirdly, it is essential to involve civil society and economic actors in the management process, ensuring the participation of all stakeholders in achieving sustainable development. International organizations such as the United Nations, the World Bank and the OECD offer their interpretations and criteria for the effectiveness of public administration, which contributes to the development of international standards and recommendations. However, their approaches do not always take into account national peculiarities and may require adaptation to specific conditions.

In its *dialogue* with them, the BRICS+ alliance is creating a platform for more flexible and holistic context-specific governance models that can synthesize international experience with local traditions, take into account social diversity, and respond to the challenges of globalization and regional instability. The development of such models will contribute to the strengthening of public institutions, improving their efficiency, and ultimately enhancing the political stability and quality of life for the people of the BRICS+ countries. The Rio Declaration reflected the importance and necessity of transitioning to settlements in national currencies, reforming the global governance system, developing artificial intelligence, and addressing climate change in a balanced manner, emphasizing the need for joint global efforts “to ensure the governance of artificial intelligence that supports shared values, considers risks, fosters trust, and promotes broad and inclusive international cooperation in accordance with national laws, including building the capacity of developing countries with a central role for the United Nations” [8].

In recent years, BRICS+ has shown a clear division of roles: resource suppliers like Russia, Brazil, and South Africa, and their consumers, China and India. This creates conditions for a strong economic bloc, less dependent on external factors. With the inclusion of five more states, BRICS+ has significantly increased its importance in the energy market. Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Iran, major oil exporters, have brought its share of global production to 41% with their presence in BRICS.

Economic factors, including reliance on oil revenues and weak private sector development in some countries, limit the application of market mechanisms. However, some states (e.g., UAE) are successfully integrating New Public Management elements, aiming to diversify their economies and increase efficiency.

Vast reserves of diverse natural resources create significant potential for further economic growth of bloc countries and enhance their capabilities, including in de-dollarization. For instance, threats of tariff and sanction wars and pressure on China have strengthened Beijing's position and turned the Russia-China alliance into a crucial factor for democratizing the global system. China, despite its *world's factory* status, supports its domestic market through subsidies. Brazil, protecting

its domestic market from external pressure, imposes significant tariffs, while other countries use protectionist measures to stimulate their exports, support young industries, and increase state budget revenues. Innovations play a vital role in the development of the global digital economy, emphasized Brazil's Minister of Communications. Russia launched the first digital map of special economic zones within BRICS+. The implementation of digital solutions can contribute to increased efficiency and transparency of public services, which is particularly important in the context of sanctions.

The strength of political institutions within each Middle Eastern state, shaped by local political culture and tradition, ensures regional stability. Traditional values, religious norms, and social ties are crucial in societal life and must be considered when developing effective governance models. Middle Eastern countries, situated at the crossroads of historical paths and cultures, possess a unique environment for the development of state institutions.

Modern research expands the understanding of political stability by considering new challenges like technological changes and regional conflicts. For example, the role of social media and information technology in political mobilization has been scrutinized since the Arab Spring. Social media played a key role in organizing protests and disseminating information, impacting the political situation in several countries. In this context, Bolivia's leading state TV channel is partnering with foreign media through TV BRICS. The international media network TV BRICS is developing cooperation with BRICS partner countries and initiating information exchange with the Plurinational State of Bolivia. BOLIVIA TV, the country's leading state TV channel, is the first to join the media network.

Conclusion

Geopolitical competition, sanctions, wars (e.g., in Syria, Yemen), and chronic instability in some states limit rational governance, as the priority shifts from developing institutions and strategies to immediate regime survival measures. Countries that can flexibly leverage cultural capital, historical experience, international cooperation resources, and innovative technologies to gradually improve their institutional quality are likely to be the most successful.

Lack of transparency and limited access to statistical data complicate the measurement of governance effectiveness. In some countries, official statistics may be incomplete or deliberately distorted, especially concerning indicators related to sensitive political and economic issues. Traditional cultural and social structures, such as tribal and family ties, can conflict with formal hierarchical relationships, creating a clash between official and unofficial channels of influence. Furthermore, high levels of corruption and clientelism in some countries undermine the principles of rationality. Socio-political dynamics are often shaped by both internal and external actors, making it difficult to establish long-term strategic courses based on systemic analysis and the long-term interests of the population.

Security becomes a key component of political stability. This includes not only internal security — protection from crime and internal conflicts, but also external security — protection from external threats and ensuring territorial integrity. Control over violence and terrorism is particularly relevant for Middle Eastern

countries, where extremist groups pose a serious threat to stability and citizen security. The strengthening role of regional powers, demographic shifts, and economic transformations can lead to a redistribution of influence on the world stage. Improving practical cooperation and modifying working methods with the development of thematic agendas will contribute to the activities of BRICS+, so that the Association remains flexible, inclusive, and consensus-based.

Additionally, the next step towards ensuring security for BRICS+ countries could be the creation of a collective regional security system, whose effectiveness should be built on agreed standards of conduct and transparent dialogue for their implementation. The choice of security model depends on the participants' goals: inclusive systems are oriented towards joint security, while collective security requires the unification of states to counter external threats. In this regard, political culture, encompassing norms, values, and expectations regarding the behavior of political actors, plays an important role in shaping stable political systems, which are so important and necessary for a multipolar world.

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БРИКС+ как стратегическая платформа сотрудничества между странами в условиях нестабильной глобальной политической среды

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Аннотация. Проанализированы возможности и основные направления развития партнерства в формате БРИКС+, а также перспективы присоединения новых участников, при этом подчеркнута необходимость формирования внутренних условий для сбалансированного развития всех национальных сфер, включая экономику, науку, промышленность, образование, цифровую среду и социальный блок. Формирующаяся стратегическая платформа сотрудничества должна способствовать решению гуманитарных задач и созданию условий для политического и экономического развития, что станет важнейшей основой устойчивости и процветания стран-участниц. Достичь этого возможно лишь посредством формирования единого и неделимого конструкта безопасности на Евразийском континенте.
Ключевые слова: БРИКС+, партнерство, стратегическое сотрудничество, политическое пространство, сферы жизнедеятельности

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