

GAGAUZIA – A LOCAL THREAT FOR GLOBAL GEOPOLITICS

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As the russian federation invasion into Ukraine evolves it is of a high importance to have a clear strategic view over the next obvious targets for the russian federation- and-PRC military campaign to establish dominance over the northwest of the Black Sea region which is among the priorities for the global security.

The next, but not the last target is Moldova – a country, where russian federation has been following the same pattern as in any other former soviet republic – create an artificial enclave to later “liberate” russophonic or russophile “contrymates”.

Current Western politicians usually take for granted the present control of NATO over Eastern Mediterranean (Adriatic) peninsula.

However, a quick glance at the post-WWII map multiplied with the russian kremlin's mania to regain former domination over regions and nations uncovers further, but not final, russian geopolitical vectors.

According to the strategic plan of the russian masterminds beyond political leadership, they are seeking maximum dominance along the Black Sea coast, with further creation of a corridor to Serbia and eventually other Balkan nations and, subsequently, the Mediterranean, as an intermittent goal. As a byproduct, russian federation is threatening Moldova with annexation. The reason is obvious – eliminate the possibility of merger between neutral Moldova and NATO-member Romania.

Gagauzia is left almost out of scope by the Western analysts, as it does not constitute a significant military interest.

Since December 23, 1994, Gagauzia-Eri compact region has the right of autonomy within the Republic of Moldova. The vast majority of the population of Gagauzia, roughly 155,000, is Orthodox Gagauz Turks [1]. The predominant language is russian [2]. It is also noteworthy that the official e-mail address of the President of Gagauzia is a regular address in the russian domain bashkanat@mail.ru [1].

On February 2, 2014 referendums were held in Gagauzia and more than 96% of voters voted for Gagauzia's right to “external self-determination,” for Moldova's accession to the Eurasian Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and russian federation, founded on January 1, 2010, and against Moldova's accession to the European Union. To some extent, russia's direct influence on Gagauzia is being dampened by Turkey's direct investment in civilian infrastructure and educational programs.

The lessons learnt show that the russian favorite tool is annexation via so-called “self-determination” of “russian-world” citizens of other countries. Gagauzia is exactly that kind of a russian tool, which poses a direct threat to split Moldova and then to turn into a direct military threat for Ukraine.

References:

1. URL: <https://www.gagauzia.md/ru/ato-gagauziya/naselenie.html>
2. Трибой М. Гагаузия: осколок русского мира на юге Молдавии. *BBC News русская служба*. 24 ноября 2017. URL: <https://www.bbc.com/russian/blog-photo-42085858>