

Armed Forces of New Uzbekistan Modernization in the Defense System and International Cooperation

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“The combat readiness of the army, its ability to withstand any forces that threaten the security of the state, directly depends not only on the provision of weapons and military equipment, but also on the deep knowledge, level of training and strict discipline of each soldier.”

Kamronbek Tokhtabakiev

ABSTRACT: This article details the history of the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan, their defense power, as well as the military-intellectual potential carried out at the Ministry of Defense, the defense potential of our country in the era of globalization. The reforms carried out by the Ministry of Defense in cooperation with foreign countries are also covered in detail.

KEYWORD: armed forces, defense potential, military discipline, military skills, military intellectual potential, military service.

The army is necessary to protect its territories from the attack of enemy forces, but this is not the only purpose, another of the main tasks of the army is to maintain order within the country and prevent any illegal coups.

From the first days of independence of our country, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, paid serious attention to the organization of the country's defense and the development of legal criteria for its activities of our Armed Forces. On the basis of

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the military-political and military-strategic situation in the region and analysis of the development of political processes in the world, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan were created, capable of protecting the interests of the state.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed a number of regulatory documents on the organization of the Armed Forces of our country. Among the first of them is the signing of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 6, 1992 "On the establishment of the Ministry of Defense and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan".¹ Their goal was the gradual creation of a professional army, the creation of a small, compact, but mobile army, equipped with modern military equipment and weapons, capable of independently and reliably protecting the security of Uzbekistan. A number of decisions taken by the Government over the years of independence have increased the prestige of military service among our people and the youth of the country. All this made it possible to provide the Armed Forces with local servicemen born in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

When forming the Armed Forces, the Republic of Uzbekistan complied with all the requirements of international documents, such as the legal norms of the United Nations (UN), the Helsinki Final Act on Security and Cooperation in Europe. After the completion of the organizational period of the creation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the next task was to reform them, taking into account the requirements of the time. First of all, based on the strategic and tactical aspects of the use of troops, the creation of troops and special forces capable of protecting Uzbekistan was directed to the basis of the structure of the Armed Forces.

In recent years, the consistent construction and reform of the national army has radically changed the appearance, organizational structure, command and control system, and the training system for military personnel; the troops have been provided with the latest weapons and equipment. At the same time, taking into account the geostrategic position of our Republic, as well as the emerging military-political situation in the region, the structure and tasks of military districts and troops were revised. Measures are being taken to provide the troops with the most up-to-date weapons and military equipment.

In practice, the Republic of Uzbekistan has its own modern, compact, mobile national army, capable of reliably protecting the security and stability of our country, the inviolability of our borders, and the peaceful life of our people. It should be noted that in peacetime the Armed Forces ensure the territorial integrity and security of the Republic of Uzbekistan, are one of the means of eliminating security threats, and in wartime the Armed Forces are able to fully fulfill the tasks of protecting the security and sovereignty of the state. Today, systematic work is being carried out in the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan to improve the professional skills of military personnel, the combat capability of military units and subunits, and to improve the system for organizing combat and spiritual and moral training of troops.

During the period of independence, the army of Uzbekistan has passed a very difficult and honorable way. We all know and highly appreciate that in the difficult years of the formation of our young country, our Armed Forces served as a reliable guarantee of the independence of our country, the peaceful life and well-being of our people, and the successful implementation of democratic reforms. Thanks to the fundamental reforms we have carried out in recent years, we have managed to create a fast and compact national army in a historically short time, capable of reliably protecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the inviolability of our borders.

¹ <https://my.gov.uz/ru/authority/142>

In such a great historical process, relying on the rich heritage of our people in the military field, such great commanders as Jalaliddin Manguberdi, Amir Temur, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur, who continue the fighting traditions of our ancestors, physically and spiritually, the fact that our servicemen, those who have mastered the technique and are ready to overcome any trials and hardships for the sake of the interests of the state and the people, always take an active part. In this sense, if we say that our brave and courageous soldiers, who are always true to their sacred oath and are a strong shield to protect the country, they are true patriots of Uzbekistan.

Today's era of globalization and fierce competition, armed conflicts and confrontations in different parts of the world, including in our region, new threats and dangers poses urgent tasks for us, the solution of which cannot be postponed. In such a responsible situation, the role and importance of our armed forces, security agencies and law enforcement agencies in ensuring and protecting peace and tranquility, constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens in our country is growing.

At present, in the context of a rapidly changing dangerous situation, ongoing globalization and changes in the entire system of international relations, the military-political situation in the world, the range of dangers and threats to international and regional security is expanding. As a result, the situation in the world will become more complicated, this will lead to a global escalation of hotbeds of tension and the emergence of new ones. In such conditions of globalization, the role of the Armed Forces in ensuring military security is of great importance. The Law "On Defense Doctrine" expresses the firm position of our country on military-political issues. In particular, the defense policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is based on the following principles:

- not to use military force against other countries, except to prevent and repel military aggression;
- non-sharing of security, preventing the strengthening of one's own security at the expense of the security of other countries;
- not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, to resolve disputes peacefully;
- not to participate in military-political blocs, to reserve the right to withdraw from any interstate structure in the event of its transformation into a military-political bloc;
- sufficient level of protection;
- military construction is similar to the characteristics of modern military conflicts;
- refraining from the production, acquisition, storage, distribution and deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction;
- adherence to the principles of the treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;
- to prevent the deployment of foreign military bases and facilities on its territory.²

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev made an important decision on the development of the Armed Forces and further strengthening the country's defense capability, as well as the widespread use of modern information and communication technologies and advanced innovations. implementation of automated control tools and complexes, ensuring information and cyber security. Today, the combat readiness of any army depends not only on whether it is equipped with modern weapons and military equipment, but also on how well the personnel masters the control of the same modern military equipment and how well they can control it in combat conditions.

² Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated 09.01.2018 No. ZRU-458 ON DEFENSE DOCTRINE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

The system of training military personnel includes such higher military educational institutions as the Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Chirchik Higher Tank Command and Engineering School, the Higher Military Aviation School of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Military Institute of Information and Communication Technologies of the Ministry of Defense, the Military Medical Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic Uzbekistan, as well as the Training Center for Junior Specialists of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Temurbeklar Maktabi Military Academic Lyceum.

As is known, in recent years the country has implemented a set of planned, consistent and large-scale measures aimed at further developing the education system. In order to improve the educational and upbringing process, to train comprehensively trained military specialists with deep professional knowledge, skills, and a broad outlook, the system of training, retraining and advanced training of military personnel of the Ministry of Defense has been transferred to a fundamentally new basis. The training of military personnel, primarily those with deep professional knowledge, modern-minded and highly intelligent officers, is one of the important areas of activity of the Armed Forces. In this regard, a new training system has been introduced in higher military educational institutions, reflecting the main trends in the development of the military sphere and military art, incorporating fundamentally new areas of military specialties and science, taking into account foreign experience, modern forms and methods of warfare.

Over the past years, the national army has increased the effectiveness of the combat strength of groupings of troops, improved the training of military personnel, and is equipped with modern weapons and military equipment. The Armed Forces, while preserving historical and national traditions, have mastered the world practices of military development and military art, and have become capable of solving any tactical and strategic tasks to ensure security, peace and tranquility in the country.

In accordance with the order of the President "On measures to prepare and conduct the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Day of Defenders of the Motherland" and the program approved by this document, spiritual and moral, military -patriotic and sports events under the motto "The people and the army are united." Among the military districts, a competition "For the Battle Banner of Amir Temur" is being held, aimed at further strengthening the unity of the people and the army, taking into account the peculiar features, customs, values, history and culture of each region of the country. In cooperation with the ministries and departments that are part of the Armed Forces, prominent artists create musical works and songs aimed at educating young people in the spirit of patriotism and love for the Motherland, increasing a sense of pride in the national army.

This year, the Academy of the Armed Forces held an international scientific and practical conference "The Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan - a reliable shield of independent Uzbekistan" with the participation of military attachés accredited in our country, representatives of state and public organizations, interns of research and educational institutions, as well as teachers of higher military educational institutions of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan.³

The powerful, trained, well-equipped and self-sufficient army of Uzbekistan is the guarantor of the peaceful life of the people and is ready to repel any threat from external forces. Taking into account the experience of conducting modern armed conflicts and the tactical methods used in them, studies of modern tactical methods were carried out at the training grounds of the Ministry of Defense.⁴

³ <https://mudofaa.uz/ru/43615/>

⁴ The Armed Forces of the country are the guarantor of peace and security. Competence, responsibility, devotion to duty. Newspaper People's word.

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Taking into account the experience of developed foreign states, the system of combat training of troops has been revised and improved. The intensity of conducting practical classes and exercises has been increased, innovative forms and methods of training are being actively introduced, including the use of training and interactive complexes. Most of the time is directly devoted to combat training activities (at least four days a week). This indicator, compared with previous years, made it possible to more than double the level of training of troops. Much attention is paid to the professional training of officers, sergeants and enlisted personnel. Conducting practical exercises at night allows you to recreate a real combat situation.⁵

In recent years, the Ministry of Defense has established partnerships with similar departments in many countries. Cooperation in the military sphere has been established with the United States, the Russian Federation, Turkey, China, Pakistan, India, Germany, France, Italy and other countries, as well as with international organizations. In 2021, more than 300 events were held with foreign partners.

Meetings were held with the heads of the defense departments of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, the United States, Russia, China, Poland, and Great Britain. In Tashkent, for the first time, a regular meeting of the Committee of Heads of Bodies for Educational Work (with personnel) under the Council of Ministers of Defense of the CIS member states was held. The participation of the military personnel of Uzbekistan in joint exercises, trainings and competitions conducted in cooperation with military units of the armies of the United States, Russia, Great Britain, Pakistan, India, Turkey, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan was ensured.⁶

In recent years, the number of international exercises and competitions has increased. Last year, quite a few international-level exercises were held at the training grounds of the Ministry of Defense. On them, military personnel gained extensive experience in tactical operations of units in different conditions, including those close to a combat situation. A number of international scientific events were held to exchange experience among the teaching staff of military educational institutions.

At the same time, our servicemen are trained in military educational institutions of leading foreign states. The Institute of Military Heritage and Modern Research of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan has recently been established by Presidential Decree, one of the main tasks of which is to further develop and improve international military-scientific partnership.

In addition, close cooperation is carried out with foreign partners within the framework of military-technical cooperation. As a result of close cooperation with foreign partners, advanced methods of conducting modern combat operations are being introduced into the combat training of troops, the combat readiness of troops is being increased and the time for decision-making by commanders is being reduced. Diversification has been achieved in equipping the troops with military equipment, which, in turn, excludes dependence in supply from one state.

Improving the country's defense activities, taking into account the existing threats to national security in the military sphere, the issue of reforming the Armed Forces is considered an urgent issue today. To do this, it is necessary to study advanced international experience, develop the theory and practice of military art. In this sense, the fight against international terrorism, extremism, drug trafficking and organized criminal groups is a priority for each country. Measures are planned to update the legal framework for supporting the Armed

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<https://css.iz/ru/post/armed-forces-of-country-guarantor-of-peace-and-security-competence-responsibility-devotion-to-duty>

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<http://m.kun.uz/uz/news/2018/06/01/uzbekiston-respublikasi-kurulli-kuclari-akademiasi-talim-strategiasidagi-angica-endasuv>

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Forces, train and retrain military personnel, develop innovative approaches to professional training, enhance the national spirit, and improve the system of physical, spiritual and moral education of military personnel. Work is envisaged to develop the military-industrial complex, intensify military and military-technical cooperation with developed countries, which will further strengthen the defense potential of Uzbekistan.

To this end, it is advisable to expand the scope of military-scientific cooperation in order to ensure regional cooperation and peace in mutual harmony. All systemic measures and efforts of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at ensuring defense and security are aimed at ensuring peace and tranquility at the regional and global levels. Despite the dangers and threats, the clear skies of New Uzbekistan and the inviolability of its borders are in good hands. In addition, we deeply understand the value and importance of the high qualities characteristic of our country, such as loyalty to one's country, purposefulness, and the fact that they occupy an increasingly strong place in our lives, we honor the owners. We deeply respect the bright and indelible memory of our selfless soldiers who bravely died in the line of duty for the Motherland.

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