

Geopolitical role and population development of the Republic of Kazakhstan: recent developments and prospects

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Abstract

Present research is an attempt to define the influence of the demographic factor on geopolitical development of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is of a specific interest herein due to its strategically important geographical location and presence of natural resources. Taking into account these factors, Kazakhstan has certain claims on leadership in the region. At the moment, Kazakhstani geopolitical leadership is based on economic achievements of the country and its political stability. At the same time demographic factor is quite sensitive from the strategic point of view. Kazakhstani population is relatively inconsiderable in number for its region. Moreover, some negative tendencies of distribution of population and its structural changes are causing concern. The government is aware of the gravity of these problems and is making certain efforts to change the situation. Nevertheless, it is very important to acknowledge the demographic factor as strategically important.