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## Power in the world on the basis of "similar scenarios" changes (Eastern Europe, CIS, Middle East and Africa)

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**Abstract:** The "velvet revolutions" and changes of government taking place in Eastern European countries are becoming increasingly important. The disintegration of the USSR towards the end of the 1980s and its immediate elimination from the world political scene meant the final chords for the communist regimes of the Eastern European countries under the influence of this great state. States such as Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia either underwent a change of government or split into smaller states. The Western media called these revolutions the "Autumn of Nations" and made great efforts to present it as a celebration of democracy. We will take a brief look at the "velvet" revolutions that have taken place in these countries.

**Keywords:** *chaos, politics, orange revolution, Middle East, Arab Spring*

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### Introduction

In late 1989, riots broke out in many cities in Czechoslovakia. These anxieties gradually expanded to rallies and public strikes. As a result of the events in the Soviet Union, the ruling regime in Prague was no longer in power. Apparently, taking into account these realities, the regime had to refrain from going against the demands of society. The government made concessions to the people, and Vatslav Havel, a prominent Western-backed dissident, was nominated as the opposition's presidential candidate. As a result of free and democratic elections in 1990, Havel was elected president, and he also led negotiations with the leadership of the Communist Party. The like-minded people gathered at the Czech Civil Forum and the Slovak Society Against Violence could not find a mutually beneficial model for the two peoples to live together. After that, the idea of disintegration of the Czechoslovak state was put forward and implemented [1].

As a result of this peaceful revolution, on January 1, 1993, the independent Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic became subjects of international law. Both countries have chosen the path of integration into European structures. Thanks to the people who have lived together for 90 years, the relations between the Czechs and Slovaks are still very good.

Unlike many other revolutions of that period, the partition of Czechoslovakia took place peacefully and led to successful results. In 2004, the Czech Republic became a member of the European Union.

The economic and political crisis in Poland has also led to a change of government and the country's integration into Western structures. Like other Eastern European countries, Poland was directly involved in the processes taking place in the Soviet Union. The sharp decline in GDP,

economic stagnation, and the dissident movement paved the way for a "velvet" revolution in the country. In 1989, a "round table" was held with the participation of all opposition forces, including the Solidarity movement, and it was decided to hold parliamentary elections on a multi-party basis. In the June 1989 elections, the opposition won. In the December 1990 presidential election, Lex Valnesa, the leader of the Solidarity movement, won. Thus, large-scale reforms were carried out in the country,

However, among Eastern European countries, Yugoslavia had to face more difficult tests. As in other multinational countries, the deteriorating economic situation has led to inter-ethnic conflicts. Unlike Czechoslovakia, the break-up of Yugoslavia into small states turned the area into a hotbed of war. It should also be noted that the disintegration of Yugoslavia into small and weak nation-states was in the interests of the West, as it opened up opportunities for them to maneuver more easily and secure their interests in the Balkans. For this reason, other Western countries, including the United States, were indifferent to the fact that Yugoslavia had become a battlefield.

Interestingly, the political regime in Yugoslavia was not based on the USSR, so the perestroika process did not have a significant impact on it, but with the death of Marshal Tito, the country faced religious and ethnic conflicts. Orthodox Serbia and Montenegro insisted on maintaining the country's socialist model, while Catholic Croatia and Slovenia said Serbia's role in the federation was too strong. Bosnia, Herzegovina and Macedonia, where the influence of Islam was strong, also did not want to live within the federation [2,, 3, 4,5].

In 1991, Croatia and Slovenia seceded from Yugoslavia. In 1992, Bosnia and Herzegovina also declared independence. However, this did not solve the problem, and the country became a battlefield from the beginning. Finally, in 1999, the United States and its allies launched military operations against Serbia, leaving Yugoslavia, once a major Balkan state, completely divided into weaker states.

The dismantling of the communist regime took place in the socialist bloc countries such as Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary. The characteristic feature of regime change in these countries was the peaceful change of the system with the secret consent of the West and the leadership of the USSR. Military intervention and violence were necessary only in certain cases. However, in the following years, the process of change of government in Eastern Europe took a different turn, and the "color revolution" technologies began to be fully implemented.

An example of this is the "color" revolution in Serbia in 2000, known as the "Bulldozer Revolution", due to the efforts of Western countries. It is possible to say that this revolution started a new wave of "color" revolutions in Eastern Europe. It was as a result of this revolution that the West managed to overthrow Slobodan Milosevic and hold him accountable. Giving such a name to the revolution has its own interesting history. Protesters who seized the central television station used a bulldozer. Allegations of fraud in the presidential election to spark a revolution in Serbia served as a spark. Crowded rallies began across the country. Hundreds of thousands of people had already rallied in Belgrade on October 5. The parliament was seized after clashes between security forces and protesters. then Belgrade television was seized by the masses. The army and police negotiated with the opposition and took a neutral position - everything was based on the tried and tested tactics of "color" revolutions. The government, which lost the support of the security forces, could not control the situation. On October 6, Milosevic was forced to resign. The ruling Democratic Coalition arrested

Slabodan Milosevic on charges of abuse of office and corruption and extradited him to The Hague. Milosevic died in prison in 2006. Thus, the death in prison of a former president who once led Yugoslavia's resistance to NATO can also be understood as a symbol of the West's revenge on him [6; 7]. The army and police negotiated with the opposition and took a neutral position - everything was based on the tried and tested tactics of "color" revolutions. The government, which lost the support of the security forces, could not control the situation. On October 6, Milosevic was forced to resign. The ruling Democratic Coalition arrested Slabodan Milosevic on charges of abuse of office and corruption and extradited him to The Hague. Milosevic died in prison in 2006. Thus, the death in prison of a former president who once led Yugoslavia's resistance to NATO can also be understood as a symbol of the West's revenge on him [6; 7]. The army and police negotiated with the opposition and took a neutral position - everything was based on the tried and tested tactics of "color" revolutions. The government, which lost the support of the security forces, could not control the situation. On October 6, Milosevic was forced to resign. The ruling Democratic Coalition arrested Slabodan Milosevic on charges of abuse of office and corruption and extradited him to The Hague. Milosevic died in prison in 2006. Thus, the death in prison of a former president who once led Yugoslavia's resistance to NATO can also be understood as a symbol of the West's revenge on him [6; 7]. On October 6, Milosevic was forced to resign. The ruling Democratic Coalition arrested Slabodan Milosevic on charges of abuse of office and corruption and extradited him to The Hague. Milosevic died in prison in 2006. Thus, the death in prison of a former president who once led Yugoslavia's resistance to NATO can also be understood as a symbol of the West's revenge on him [6; 7]. On October 6, Milosevic was forced to resign. The ruling Democratic Coalition arrested Slabodan Milosevic on charges of abuse of office and corruption and extradited him to The Hague. Milosevic died in prison in 2006. Thus, the death in prison of a former president who once led Yugoslavia's resistance to NATO can also be understood as a symbol of the West's revenge on him [6; 7].

## **Changes of government in the CIS**

The changes of government in the former USSR are of special importance for Azerbaijan. First of all, these events take place in the neighboring countries with which we have direct contacts, friendly relations, and secondly, the possibility that our country may be included in these plans, as well as the events in the region affect our country as part of major geopolitical games. "colored" revolutions need to be analyzed more carefully. Given these factors, it would be appropriate to consider the changes of government that have taken place in the CIS.

As the first "color" revolution in the former Soviet Union, we can point to the "rose" revolution in Georgia in 2003. After gaining independence, the socio-political situation in Georgia remained tense. The civil wars of the 1990s, the fragmented economy, the refugee problem, the separatist tendencies that pervaded the country, and the dominance of criminal elements were the main factors that increased dissatisfaction among the population. The new "crusades" launched by the West after 9/11 promised changes in the South Caucasus. The internal situation in Georgia, as well as the weakness of the central government, played a key role in implementing these plans.

The November 2, 2003 parliamentary elections were a great opportunity for a change of government. In these elections, political blocs of prominent politicians such as former Justice Minister Mikheil Saakashvili, former parliamentary speakers Nino Burjanadze, and Zurab Zhvania fought against President Shevardnadze and his allies.

Interestingly, all of these individuals once held high positions in government and had good relations with existing government officials. This factor was no less important in the successful completion of the revolution. Immediately after the election, allegations of falsification of the results were made, and foreign observers claimed that the results had been falsified and that Mikheil Saakashvili's political bloc had won. Events began to unfold rapidly, with the support of the Western media drawing the attention of the world community to the tensions in Tbilisi. Western-funded political associations and non-governmental organizations, as well as local media outlets, have shown unprecedented activity, accusing the government of rigging the election. Already on November 22, during the first session of the newly elected parliament, the opposition's protests took a very serious turn. On the same day, Saakashvili's opposition seized parliament with roses, cut off President Shevardnadze's speech, and suspended parliament. The famous "Rose Revolution" got its name from this event.

After that, the course of events showed that in accordance with the "color revolution" technology, a secret agreement was reached with the leadership of the police and the army. Even Georgian police special forces refused to support the president, disobeying his orders. Russia was anxiously watching what was happening in its immediate neighbor. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov arranged a meeting of opposition leaders with Shevardnadze on November 23 to intervene. Following this meeting, President Shevardnadze announced his resignation and resigned.

According to a scenario developed by Western political technologists, power passed into the hands of the opposition through peaceful protests. Nino Burjanadze, then speaker of parliament, served as president until a new vote was held. Mikheil Saakashvili won the January 2004 presidential election. In March of that year, Saakashvili's Democrats won the election and won a parliamentary majority. Thus, a new stage in the history of Georgia has begun, and unlike those covered in the Western media, the views of ordinary Georgians and political analysts on this period are ambiguous. Tensions with Russia, defeat in the August 2008 war, Russia's recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia as independent states, The economic crisis and the failure of the European Union and NATO to support Georgia have ultimately led Saakashvili's party to lose the parliamentary elections. Former President Mikheil Saakashvili currently lives outside Georgia and a criminal case has been opened against him in his homeland.

The most noisy change of government in the CIS took place in Ukraine. Interestingly, this country has twice fallen victim to "color revolution" technologies. In this former Soviet republic, as in Georgia, the masses were dissatisfied with the government. Ukraine, one of the developed industrial and agricultural republics of the former USSR, was drowning in corruption and economic hardship, despite its enormous economic potential.

The defeat of Viktor Yushchenko and Yulia Tymoshenko to Viktor Yanukovich in the November 2004 presidential election was a spark for the revolution. Kiev's Independence Square — Maidan —

was packed with people, sometimes hundreds of thousands. Since Ukraine's independence, the West has spent about \$ 5 billion on the country's media and NGO sector, with the goal of building public opinion to change the government in Ukraine at the right time, isolating the country from Russia and playing its geopolitical game.

According to the results of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich won the election. However, the protests in Maidan changed the country's agenda, and the Supreme Court of Ukraine decided to annul the results and repeat the second round. Viktor Yushchenko won the second round of voting. This revolution is known in history as the "Orange Revolution" because Victor Yushchenko's flags were "orange". The victory of pro-Western forces in Ukraine was an important step in changing the balance of power in the region. This change of government is also seen as the next stage in the "color" revolutions that began in Serbia and continued in Georgia. However, this was not the only revolution experienced by the Ukrainian people. Ten years later,

The change of government in 2014 is better known as "Maidan" and "Euromaidan". When the Ukrainian side decided to suspend the association agreement with the European Union in late 2013, the vast majority of the pro-European population was dissatisfied with the government. For Ukrainians fed up with Viktor Yanukovich's corrupt government, it was an excuse to flock to these squares. By the end of November, thousands of people had gathered on Maidan. Conflicts between the parties intensified after the use of police force. As of December 1, about 1 million people had gathered in the streets of Kiev. The events continued in a tense atmosphere, with dozens of demonstrators killed by snipers on February 20-21. Despite an agreement between the president and the opposition, Viktor Yanukovich had to flee the country.

Maidan led to tragic consequences for Ukraine. Russian forces organized the "self-defense" of Crimea and annexed the peninsula to Russia. Then the armed conflict began in the Donbas. The Donetsk and Luhansk regions are virtually out of Ukraine's control. With the victory of the opposition candidate Petro Poroshenko in the next presidential election, the process of transferring power to the pro-Western opposition came to an end.

A change of government in the CIS based on similar "scenarios" has not bypassed Kyrgyzstan. Interestingly, in Kyrgyzstan, as in Ukraine, there have been two "color" revolutions. In 2005, the Lily Revolution took place, and in 2010, another change of government took place.

The February-March 2005 parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan were marked by fraud. As with other changes of government, election fraud served as an excuse for a "color" revolution. Askar Akayev, who has ruled the country since 1992, fled Kyrgyzstan with his family to Russia. Thus, power passed into the hands of various opposition forces. The early presidential election ended with the victory of Kurmanbek Bakiyev.

The response to this revolution did not take long. In 2010, popular unrest began in Kyrgyzstan. In a short time, a change of government took place, and the president and government were removed from office. At the same time, changes were made to the country's constitution. Some forces are trying to portray this change of government as the result of peaceful protests, calling it a "yellow

revolution." However, it was obvious that the opposition was acting violently. Thus, Kyrgyzstan has once again become a place of "color" revolutions.

*Power changes in the Middle East and North Africa.* The changes of government, which envisage a complete change in the political map of the Middle East and North Africa, were prepared with great precision. It was no coincidence that media coverage of these events, the emergence of opposition forces within the ruling regimes, and the use of military force against some regimes indicated that a political process known as the "Arab Spring" had been prepared in advance.

These changes, expressed in various sources as "Arab Spring", "Twitter Revolution", "Facebook Revolution", began in 2011 in Tunisia. Mohammad Bouazizi, a young man selling greens in December 2010, set himself on fire to protest against the ruling regime, which led to President Ben Ali's flight from Tunisia in January 2011. After that, there were changes of government in Egypt and Yemen, the military intervention in Libya overthrew the Gaddafi regime, and a civil war broke out in Syria, which had tragic consequences for millions of people. There were also protests and clashes between government forces and civilians in other countries in the region.

A few days after the change of government in Tunisia, protests broke out in Egypt on January 25. Cairo's famous Tahrir (Freedom) Square has become a symbol of resistance to the dictatorship. In particular, the "Day of Wrath" marches, which took place every Friday after prayers, were reminiscent of the death penalty for the ruling regime. After the army's president refused to defend him, Hosni Mubarak resigned in February and handed over power to the Armed Forces. The Egyptian revolution ended with the Muslim Brotherhood winning the election.

Unlike Egypt, the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi's 40-year rule in Libya has come at the cost of bloodshed. Unable to achieve their goal through peaceful protests, Western circles decided to intervene. As a result of this armed intervention, Libya was dragged into a civil war, the country's economy and infrastructure were destroyed, and billions were lost. The brutal assassination of Muammar Gaddafi and the spread of these cadres on the Internet showed that certain circles are ready for any inhumane behavior to achieve their goals.

**In Syria** As in Libya, when peaceful protests failed, the country became a bloodbath as a result of arming terrorist groups and the opposition. The civil war that started in Syria continues today due to the intervention of various countries. The war has already spread beyond Syria to Iraq. The confrontation between forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and the radical Islamist and pro-Western opposition continues. The Syrian state is experiencing the tragedy of the Middle East. The country's economy and trade are in a state of stagnation, and people are migrating in large groups in search of a better life in Europe. Although Turkey embraced a large wave of migrants, it did not work well for the Turkish state, and Turkey did not receive the necessary support from Europe and the United States.

In the aftermath of the Aleppo war, in which the Syrian civil war took on a new form, uncertainties remain over the outcome of the Astana talks, which bring together the Syrian opposition, the Assad regime and regional actors Turkey, Iran and Russia. It is important to understand the impact of the talks and their possible outcomes on Turkey's foreign policy, both regionally and globally.



Considering the negative impact of the Syrian crisis on the course and achievements of the Middle East policy, which Turkey began to rebuild its ideological and strategic base in the early 2000s, we can say that Turkey is one of the countries most eager to end the eight-year civil war. In particular, since the start of the Syrian war in 2011, the West has been one of the best places to observe the tragedies of the US-post-hegemonic international system. The process of dismantling the regimes became a testing ground for various "velvet" revolutions. The experience gained in this process was later applied to changes of government in the CIS. It is impossible not to see elements of the same technology in the changes of government in Georgia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan. However, in the CIS republics such as Belarus, Azerbaijan and Moldova, for some reason, they could not implement these scenarios.

## Conclusion

Beginning in 2011, revolutionary processes called the "Arab Spring" began in the Middle East and North Africa. These ongoing processes mean the deaths, injuries, refugees, disintegrations and civil wars of millions of people, and hundreds of billions in economic damage. When peaceful protests in these countries do not work, options for armed intervention and civil war are used, which is a major threat to global peace.

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