



16 NEW INTERNATIONAL INSIGHTS

Kuralay BAIZAKOVA, Yann ALIX,
Pierre CHABAL (eds.)

THE COMPLETION OF EURASIA ?

CONTINENTAL CONVERGENCE
OR REGIONAL DISSENT IN THE
CONTEXT OF 'HISTORIC TURNS'



PETER LANG

Published with the support of:
-Fondation SEFACIL, Le Havre
-LEXFEIM Research Centre in Law, Université Le Havre Normandie

FONDATION
Sefacil
LOGISTIQUE - PORTUAIRE - MARITIME

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© 2023 Peter Lang Group AG, Lausanne
Published by Peter Lang Editions Scientifiques Internationales -
P.I.E., Brussels, Belgium
info@peterlang.com - www.peterlang.com

ISSN 2466-7137
ISBN 978-2-87574-778-5
ePDF 978-2-87574-784-6
ePUB 978-2-87574-785-3
DOI 10.3726/b20719
D/2023/5678/08

Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek.
The German National Library lists this publication in the German National Bibliography;
detailed bibliographic data is available on the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>.

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Eurasian partners for Kazakhstan during the power transition

FATIMA KUKEYEVA

The foreign policy of Kazakhstan, under president Tokayev, elected in 2019, could face deep alterations, still in the present period of power-transition, due to internal (economic, social, political) and external (geopolitical, geo-economic) factors. The modern realities of international relations require the development of adequate mechanisms for the foreign policy strategy that can not only preserve and increase the achievements of the state but also provide answers to the new challenges and threats. Such a browse through theoretical and methodological starting points (1) and through the Russian vector in Kazakhstan's multi-vectorial foreign policy (2) will shed light on Kazakhstan in the Eurasian Economic Union (3), paving the way for the exploration of the end of the power-transition in Kazakhstan (4).

1. Theoretical and methodological starting points

Browsing through some conceptual dimension, this chapter uses the prism of various theories, connected with the global liberalisation and democratisation of international relations. It probes more specifically into the foreign policy of President Tokayev from the viewpoints of the theories of geopolitics, rational choice and dependency/interdependency.

Definitions. There exists a difference in the definition of the concept of "transition of power" in Western and post-soviet scientific literature. In the first case, the theory and practice of the power transition is associated with the redistribution of power between states in the system of international relations. In the second case, the association is with the problem of maintaining the state's subjectivity and achievements, in the context of a change in leadership in countries with the strong presidential power.