

## Political Strategy: Theoretical Foundations And Essential Characteristics Analysis

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### Annotation

The concept (category) of strategy has been studied in various scientific fields through numerous researches and analyses, and this process continues consistently. Based on the study and generalization of existing research to a certain extent, it can be said that in the modern global world the content and essence of this concept are evolving, and its scope of application is expanding. Therefore, a deeper study, comprehension, and generalization of the essence and meaning of the concept of strategy is becoming increasingly relevant.

**Keywords:** strategy, political strategy, military strategy, internal threat, external threat.

In today's turbulent and global era, taking into account the military-political situation and processes in the world and the region, ensuring political strategy in society is one of the most important issues. The relative easing of the military-political situation in Uzbekistan's neighboring countries is a favorable development, creating new dimensions for national progress. Based on this, it is important to clearly define the tasks that need to be carried out in order to ensure military strategy in our country.

Before understanding the concept of political strategy, it is appropriate to clarify the notion of strategy itself and logically comprehend what it means. It should be noted that the concepts of strategy, risk, danger, and threat—now regarded as phenomena—are reflected in every sphere of human life and activity. In particular, the subjects and objects of these categories, as well as their fields and the socio-philosophical and logical-political-legal content of the integrated system, are gradually changing, taking shape, developing, and improving under the influence of ongoing global events and processes.

Indeed, if we look at the earliest periods, there were various internal and external

factors that threatened human survival. Internal threats were manifested in conflicts among people themselves—within primitive groups, clans, and tribes—over natural resources and tools. External threats, on the other hand, appeared in natural phenomena and attacks by wild animals. These included earthquakes, rain, lightning, wind, floods, avalanches, and others. Such natural events not only frightened early humans but also instilled fear in them<sup>1</sup>. However, as humanity developed and its activities became more civilized, the process of ensuring strategy also improved and expanded. The main goal of this process was to ensure one's security by protecting oneself under specific conditions. In this regard, it is necessary to analyze the theories aimed at eliminating these factors. The phenomenon of "strategy" is among the ancient concepts that emerged centuries before our era. In ancient times, "strategy" was defined as the principles of warfare, including the art of command, and it studied war based on two criteria:

1. As a manifestation of human social life.
2. From a specific military perspective, that is, the use of force with the aim of defeating the enemy.

<sup>1</sup> Xodjixodjayev, F.M. Harbiy xavfsizlik tushunchasi evolyusiyasining dastlabki bosqichi va uning davlatchilik

The study of war as a phenomenon of human social life constitutes a branch of dynamic sociology. The examination of the use of force for military purposes, on the other hand, forms the subject of the theory of military art. By studying both past and contemporary military phenomena, strategy seeks, on a broad scale, to provide explanations of the essence of military events and even to attempt probabilistic generalizations in order to predict them. It should be noted that complete prediction is not always possible; however, today strategy has risen to a higher level and is entering a new stage—one of scientific classification and partial generalization.

The term “strategy” (from the Greek “strategia” — “stratos” meaning army + “ago” meaning to lead) has the following meanings:

1. In the military sphere: the art of conducting warfare; the general plan for carrying out war and military operations. For example, blitzkrieg (lightning war) strategy.
2. The science of waging war. A course on strategy. Lectures on strategy. The theory of military strategy.
3. Figuratively: the art of leading socio-political struggle; also, strategy is understood as a method of governing the state. In general, the Greek term “strategy” is used to denote the art of properly directing and prospectively developing governance<sup>2</sup>.

According to the National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan, military strategy is the highest sphere of military art. It encompasses the theory and practice of preparing a country and its armed forces for war, as well as issues related to planning and conducting war. It studies the laws of warfare, develops methods and forms for preparing and carrying out strategic operations,

determines the goals and tasks of fronts, fleets, and armies, and allocates forces across theaters of military operations and strategic directions. Military strategy is closely linked with state policy and is derived from the requirements of military doctrine. Policy sets tasks for military strategy, and military strategy ensures their implementation. Military strategy and the armed forces it is unified for the armed forces, and its recommendations are mandatory for all their branches. Military strategy plays a programmatic role in relation to operational (maneuver) art and tactics, while at the same time taking into account their capabilities<sup>3</sup>.

In the *Concise Explanatory Dictionary of Socio-Political Terms*, the term “strategy” derives from “stratos” (army) and “ago” (to lead) and is used in three categories:

1. The highest sphere of military art;
2. The science of conducting war;
3. The art and science of leading socio-political struggle<sup>4</sup>.

In the modern period, when the concept of “strategy” encompasses a wide range of meanings, the scholar Y. Bulanov analyzes it as follows: as a political term, “strategy” today possesses its own distinct concepts and categories at both theoretical and practical levels of science. He substantiates that it includes the following notions:

1. The art of long-term planning;
2. The skill of management and leadership;
3. The art of directing political and social processes;
4. The art of mobilizing the population toward specific goals;
5. The art of rational use of available resources;
6. The art of ensuring distribution and efficiency<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> O'zbek tili izohli lug'ati. O'zbekiston milliy ensiklopediyasi. T.: “Davlat ilmiy nashriyoti”, 2000-2006. –167 b.

<sup>3</sup> O'zbek tili izohli lug'ati. O'zbekiston milliy ensiklopediyasi. T.: “Davlat ilmiy nashriyoti”, 2000-2006. –1002 b.

<sup>4</sup> Madvaliyev A., Mahkamov N., Ko'chimov Sh., Mirahmedova Z., Saidno'monov A. Ijtimoiy-siyosiy terminlarning qisqacha izohli lug'ati, 2021. –226 b.

<sup>5</sup> Буланова Е.А. Политика и стратегия в механизме государственного регулирования социально-экономических

Issues of strategy have concerned humanity since ancient times. Considering that in earlier periods the concept of “strategy” primarily referred to military governance and security matters, views on this principle can be found in the works of thinkers such as Herodotus, Oukidid, and Khsefonon. Although these works were not specifically devoted to strategy, matters related to strategy began to be more systematically developed in the period after the Common era in later periods, these ideas can be observed in the works of emperors such as Frontin, Poliyen (late 4th century), Mavrikiy (*Strategikom*), and Lev VI the Philosopher (9th century, *On Military Organization*). As a result of the historical study of military art, the following important points can be noted:

1. Having a strong army as a means of achieving the objectives of war;
2. Creating a favorable environment through effective policy;
3. Concentrating sufficient forces in the probable theater of war, without fearing defeat in secondary theaters within the limits of capability;
4. It is preferable to shift from defense to offense;
5. Concentrating troops in one place rather than dispersing them;
6. Persistently continuing achieved successes until the enemy’s moral and material strength is exhausted;
7. Applying all measures to maintain and boost the morale and readiness of the troops;
8. Conducting war with maximum determination and intensity.

The general principles of military art have been recognized since ancient times. Early attempts to determine the essence of military phenomena and to generalize them can also be found in the works of Herodotus, Oukidid, and Khsefonont.

By studying the political condition of a state and its intended objectives, it becomes easier to determine under what circumstances war may arise. After identifying potential adversaries, it is possible to define the main objectives of the war and the direction of operations. Thus, analyzing the political situation of a state and its goals allows for identifying the conditions under which war may occur. Once the enemy is identified, the objectives of the war and the directions of operations are formulated.

Preparation for war must meet the following requirements:

1. Organization of the army and its size;
2. Preparation of the means of warfare (military and financial);
3. Engineering preparation of the theater of military operations and the country (railway networks, construction of defensive and strategic facilities, etc.);
4. Establishing supply depots along the line where the army will be concentrated near the border before the start of military operations;
5. Strategically strengthening the army, that is, preparing mobilization near the border and transporting troops to the assembly areas.

In another interpretation, the term “strategy” is derived from the Greek word “strategos,” meaning “the art of the general.” This term originated in the military sphere, and historically it is known that only generals developed military strategies to achieve victory<sup>6</sup>. Throughout history, strategy enabled rulers to develop comprehensive ideas about battle plans and their outcomes in order to secure victory. This is because it served as a key criterion for the development and progress of statehood, and the introduction of this phenomenon into science began to evolve through the

процессов. Вестник Чувашского университета. №3, 2006. – 148 с.

<sup>6</sup> Raxmatullayeva N.O. Strategik menejment. –Toshkent.: “Fan va Texnologiya”, 2019. – 7 b.

systematic classification of research activities over time.

Today, the concept of “strategy” is widely used in various fields. It is applied in the social development of the state, including the economy, healthcare, education, and the structural organization of government institutions. Strategy is the understanding and forecasting of the outcomes of future developments. Only a leader with strategic thinking, rich knowledge, and experience can effectively compete in conflicts and clearly understand the necessity of resolving disputes through strategic ideas in order to strengthen the position of the state and authority<sup>7</sup>. In this regard, according to the political scientist V. Kvint, “Strategy, as a theoretical concept and an independent fundamental category, unlike other sciences, is undergoing its initial stage of formation and development.” This suggests that while the phenomenon of strategy has existed as a political category since ancient times, in the 21st century it has been reinterpreted in new ways by scholars. V. Kvint also emphasizes that one of the most important principles of strategy is to keep one’s own strategy confidential until the opponent’s plan has been identified<sup>8</sup>. Thus, the formulation and implementation of any strategy necessarily require strong knowledge, capacity, and experience.

The scholar Sun Tzu, in his work *The Art of War* (544–496), interprets the principles of strategy as follows: “The main principle is never to rely on the goodwill of others or on chance, but rather to actively acquire knowledge and prepare for defense; victory cannot be achieved either through an unexpected attack on the enemy or by forcing it arbitrarily”<sup>9</sup>.

Today, there are numerous strategic categories and directions such as “political

strategy,” “military strategy,” “economic strategy,” “ideological strategy,” and “religious strategy,” all of which serve the development, security, and progress of the state and society. In conclusion, it should be noted that the scientific-theoretical foundations of the concept of political strategy, its essence and content, as well as its role in political processes, have been comprehensively analyzed. It has been determined that political strategy is a systematic form of activity aimed at defining the long-term goals of societal development, harmonizing political interests, and ensuring the effective use of available resources. It serves not only to gain or maintain political power but also as an important mechanism for ensuring the stability of the state and society. The analysis shows that political strategy is closely interconnected with political tactics, decision-making processes, and governance technologies, and it is one of the key factors determining their effectiveness. The success of a strategy directly depends on the accurate assessment of the political environment, consideration of internal and external factors, and a deep understanding of the needs and interests of society. This necessitates a scientifically grounded, comprehensive, and flexible approach to the development and implementation of political strategy.

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<sup>7</sup> Kvint V. Strategiyalash nazariyasi va amaliyoti. –Toshkent.: “Tasvir”, 2018.–27 b.

<sup>8</sup> Kvint V. Strategiyalash nazariyasi va amaliyoti. –Toshkent.: “Tasvir”, 2018. – 26 b.

<sup>9</sup> Сун Цзюь. Lart de guerre. –Paris.: 1993.

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