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THE INFLUENCE OF CIVILIZATION FACTORS ON INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY AND ITS ROLE IN CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The article examines the factors determining India's foreign policy, among which a special place is occupied by the foundations of civilization and the specifics of the country's development, formed in the period of ancient India. It is emphasized that over the last decades, India's main goal was to achieve the status of one of the leading countries in the world. In this context, special attention is paid to India's active foreign policy activities aimed at increasing its role and influence on a global scale, as well as in the South Asian region, where the country seeks to become a leader. Indian civilizational principles, formed over thousands of years, became an important basis not only for socio-economic development, but also for the formation of the country's international image. These principles have helped India not only to achieve significant success in the field of economic growth and modernization, but also contributed to the creation of a balanced and calculated foreign policy. The country made a major emphasis on maintaining neutrality and national independence in international affairs, which allows it to maneuver between various global and regional political forces. The article pays special attention to the analysis of India's neutral position regarding the problem of the Russian-Ukrainian war. Such a position is due to the deep civilizational features of India, its historical traditions of neutrality in international conflicts and the desire to maintain a strategic balance in relations with various states. These principles, in turn, should not interfere with the development of a constructive dialogue between India and Ukraine. A balanced approach to foreign policy gives India the opportunity to strengthen its diplomatic relations with various countries, including Ukraine, and promote the further development of bilateral relations, while maintaining neutrality in controversial international issues. Thus, India, relying on its historical and civilizational heritage, is successfully moving towards achieving the status of a global leader. Its foreign policy, based on the principles of neutrality and independence, allows the country to strengthen its position in the international arena without entering into severe global and regional confrontations and actively support peace and stability in the world.

Keywords: *civilizational factors, foreign policy of India, India's position in the Russian-Ukrainian war, prospects for Ukrainian-Indian relations.*

Formulation of the problem. The Republic of India is one of the states that has great respect in the world today, it has proven its commitment to the principles of neutrality and non-interference in the affairs of other countries against the background of successful economic and social development in recent decades. This huge and still successful Asian country is a recognized democracy in the world. It succeeded in the late 20th and early 21st centuries not only to define plans for the further transformation of a pluralistic society, but also to carry out significant socio-economic transformations that contributed to the creation of a new image of the country at the international level, that became an important prerequisite for increasing its role on the world stage.

An important confirmation of the relevance of the presented topic can be explained by the results of official visit of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India to the USA in July 2023. The format of the Indian-American meeting at the highest level, a wide range of international issues discussed (including those concerning Ukraine), a demonstrated tendency to significantly spread and deepen multilateral cooperation and interaction between the two states, the content of bilateral documents, not a formal, but a friendly atmosphere under the time of the meetings of J. Biden and N. Modi at different levels become a vivid evidence of India's high authority on the international arena and its significance, influence on the development of the

most important events of the modern world [3]. It should be noted that in the summer of 2024 N. Modi made a visit to Ukraine, which became a significant event in Ukrainian-Indian relations [7].

At the same time, India's restrained position on the problems of the Russian-Ukrainian war, its non-adherence to Russian economic sanctions, neutrality in the adoption of important international UN resolutions condemning Russian aggression, large purchases of oil and gas in the Russian Federation cause certain concern (and sometimes indignation both in the USA, Ukraine, and in other countries). In this sense, it seems expedient and extremely relevant to single out and analyze the main (leading) factors, features of the formation of the foreign policy of modern India, both in the context of clarifying the peculiarity of its positions on specific international issues (including military conflicts, wars), and in the context of studying the role and significance of its international authority and experience, especially taking into account the growing interest in this topic and the great "confusion" in its interpretation in many modern Ukrainian publications.

The purpose of the study is to analyse the specifics of Indian foreign policy in view of the influence of civilizational factors on the historical formation of the main principles and foundations of India's foreign policy, which are unchanged even in the modern period and determine its global strategy and vision of international relations.

Last researchers' analysis of the problem. It should be emphasizing that India's position in the Russian-Ukrainian war has been very actively discussed recently in the Ukrainian mass media and Internet publications. Publications of well-known scientists, specialists and journalists are devoted to this issue. It is worth noting the publications of O. Vorozhbyt [5], A. Hrytsenko and I. Kusa [8], H. Erman [10], O. Lukash [13], A. Svitlevska [17].

The publications of these authors contain a large and diverse factual material, proposals, considerations. It is observed a very small number of authors and scientific works among Ukrainian studies on the analysis of the influence of leading factors (primarily cultural and civilizational) on the formation of India's foreign policy. Among them deserve attention scientific works of O. Bordilovska [2], P. Ignatiev [12], O. Lukash [14-16] in which this topic is partially and fragmentarily presented. It seems appropriate to generalize and analyze these publications and, relying on the results of the analysis of previous Indological studies, focus on the following aspects of the specified problem. The scientific work of O. Chuvpylo [18] analyses the principles and norms of Gandhism in the socio-political life of India.

In our opinion, a significant contribution was made by a famous Indian scientist J. N. Dixit [20], as well as representatives of the Western scientific school – M. McClish [23], R. Payne [24].

Presenting main material. In conducting research on this topic, it is necessary, first of all, to emphasize the fact that the leading factor in the formation of India's foreign policy course is the task of persistent and active economic development. Its results are well known today: the country is among the five countries in the world with the highest GDP indicators, and according to the UN, it ranks seventh in the rating of the most developed economies in the world in 2022-2023, after such leaders as the United States, China, Japan, Germany, Great Britain, France. This is undoubtedly a huge success and a colossal result of the persistent efforts of India, which from the middle of the 20th to the beginning of the 21st centuries has gone through a difficult path from a colonial country to a leading world power.

In addition, it is worth adding the demographic factor – the population of India is growing rapidly and the latest data indicate that it has reached the mark of 1.4 billion which exceeds the current population of China: according to this indicator, India becomes the first in the world. The tasks of successful economic growth and provision of a rapidly growing population (with a huge percentage of young people) are singled out as the main, leading locomotives of the development of the country's multilateral foreign policy. They determine the development of India's fruitful international relations with countries of various regions of the world in order to provide the Indian economy and society with natural energy carriers (primarily oil and gas, which are limited in the country), raw materials for production, modern equipment and technology, food products and other essential goods. Especially this economic factor leaves a significant mark on the entire complex of India's foreign policy in recent decades and brings a more pragmatic character to the forms and methods of its implementation (where the national interests of development prevail over all other issues of international relations, including determining India's position towards the Russian-Ukrainian war, its neutrality in the adoption of resolutions and the introduction of sanctions regarding this problem).

The second most important factor ("locomotive") of Indian foreign policy appears the international civilizational (global and regional) factor. The main goal of India at the end of the 20th – beginning of the 21st century was the achievement of the status of a leading, great power of the world. An important component of this process was the active activity of India in the direction of increasing its role and importance

in the status of a South Asian regional leader [6]. However, an extremely important feature is that during this period the actualization and modernization of Indian civilizational principles in the country's foreign policy was appeared. These principles traditionally act as the main basis of international relations and background of Gandhism, "pancha-sila", the Non-Aligned Movement, the concepts of "one world" and "unity in diversity". As a result, in a broader sense, the increase of the role and importance of civilizational foundations in India's foreign policy become more and more clear.

Nowadays, the Indian leadership is making significant efforts to realize the main goal of its foreign policy strategy – joining the club of the world's leading states. This is evidenced by the fact that the most important international events and forums are often held with the participation or under the auspices of India or on the territory of India. For instance, the 49th summit of G7 (May 2023, Hiroshima, Japan); a working meeting between V. Zelenskyi and N. Modi, and the discussion by the leaders of the two countries of the "Ukrainian Peace Formula", where the Prime Minister of India clearly expressed his position to the President of Ukraine regarding the Russian-Ukrainian war: "I'm very good understand your pain and the pain of the citizens of Ukraine. I can assure you that India and I personally will do everything in our power to resolve this issue" [9]; it is India's active and careful preparation for G20 summit conducted in New Delhi (September 2023); the historic Indian-American meeting at the highest level between US President J. Biden and Indian Prime Minister N. Modi, which took place in the USA on June 21-23, 2023, and where a range of issues related to situation in Ukraine were discussed; SCO summit held on July 4, 2023 in New Delhi, where India showed a very restrained and cautious position regarding India's acceptance and participation of the "disgraced" Russian leader in the work of this summit in an "off-line" format.

Note that all these important international events are influenced by India as a unique world civilization, where civilizational features are based on the values of traditional Indian religious and philosophical systems (primarily Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and others). These teachings, which have a common basis, still determine the mentality of the nation and absolutely all directions of social life of Indians, including the strategic line of behaviour in the international arena. The concept of ahimsa has been formed in India since ancient times (nonviolence), around which all principles of human life, general social behaviour, including international relations, were built.

When analysing the features and specifics of India's foreign policy, it must be borne in mind that since ancient times, Indian philosophy has considered man as a small particle of the universe, all these particles had no advantages before God and in this sense are equal before him. The tradition of mutual respect and appreciation for the ideas and views of others, the principle of non-violence, tolerance (in our time "balancing") comes from above mentioned Indian philosophy. The priority of peaceful coexistence, non-violence between rivals in Indian foreign policy, which we observe even today, originates from the worldview concepts of ancient Indians, whose religious ceremonies are always accompanied by prayers for peace for all living in the world. It should be noted that almost all important ancient Indian sources dealing with foreign relations and politics proclaim the priority of peace in the settlement of any disputed issues.

It is interesting that in India, for the first time at the national level, the strategy of relations with neighbours, based on the principle of non-violence, was adopted by Emperor Ashoka (about 273-232 BC) he was the third emperor of the largest in the Indian history Mauryan empire.

Indian ancient sources contain known facts that after a bloody war with the neighbouring state of Kalinga, Ashoka completely revised his worldview principles. Influenced by Buddhist teachings, for which the concept of ahimsa is central, he rejected war as a means of resolving international conflicts altogether. In the future, war was traditionally considered by Indians as a last resort in politics, instead, the ability to live in harmony with neighbours, the ability to use the gains of others and teach them using own values, was highly valued in India. Therefore, to nowadays, war as a phenomenon is perceived by Indians very negatively, as the very last resort, which should be avoided as much as possible, extinguished it by methods of diplomacy and negotiations.

It is worth noting that India practically had no territorial ambitions in its history and did not seek military conquests of either its small or large neighbours. For several millennia, it is difficult to find examples of aggression in external activities in India. Of course, Indian history was not without wars, but they were mainly of a local nature, and as a rule, they were a manifestation of a defensive (security) strategy. It should be highlighted an interesting feature: Indian society much more often accepted and absorbed invaders into it. In her time, I. Gandhi noted in this regard that various conquerors invaded India many times with the aim of plundering and seizing territories, but almost all of them remained in the country and brought their share into the Indian peculiar culture, i.e. enriched it, which on practice confirms the viability of the ancient Indian

concept of “unity in diversity”.

Indian civilization for many thousands of years professed the principle of non-violence and this factor should not be underestimated in our time, because this tradition has its continuation in the modern foreign policy strategy of India. The priority of peaceful ways of solving any disputed situations, tolerance to the customs of representatives of other peoples and religions largely determined the traditions of state behaviour of Indians, which can be observed even in the modern period. They are known under the general name of Gandhism, and especially this concept is decisive for understanding the guidelines of the foreign policy of modern India.

Indian experts and political leaders in their works and speeches emphasize that India's foreign policy course usually demonstrates a rather original combination of humanitarian and pragmatic principles: on the one hand Gandhism, with its traditional for India priority of resolving issues in a non-conflict way, and on the other - care on strengthening the security and defense capabilities of the country, aimed at protecting national interests. As noted by the famous Indian diplomat J. Dikshit, there were two dimensions in Indian foreign policy: the first idealism, and the other “realism” (pragmatism) [20, p. 33]. He also emphasized that these two directions are inherent in the Indian science of interstate relations since ancient times and they were formed at approximately the same time, in the second half of the 1st millennium BC. The first were formed under the influence of the idea of ahimsa, which after the adoption of Buddhism began to be implemented by the above-mentioned Indian emperor Ashoka. The second, pragmatic, had its roots in the so-called political school of the famous ancient Indian figure Kautilya (about 321-297 BC), the chief minister (advisor) of Emperor Chandragupta (Maurya dynasty). Both of these directions, idealism and realism (pragmatism), have a common priority resolving conflicts by non-violent means. In many Indian historical sources, especially Kautilya is considered (although this issue is still not fully clarified) as the author (compiler) of the famous and legendary “Arthashastra”, an ancient Indian political and economic treatise, the name of which is clearly difficult to translate from Sanskrit, but, based on the analysis of its content, this name can be translated as “Science of managing, governing” or “Science of politics” [22; 23; 1].

The well-known Ukrainian specialist L. Haydukov in his researches mentioned that one of the parts of “Arthashastra” has the interesting title “About six methods of foreign policy”, which include: peace, war, campaign, waiting situation, search for help and double policy [6], i.e. already here we see a tendency towards a realistic (pragmatic) nature of foreign policy. However, other, later authors reduce them (quite naturally) to two main ones - peace and war, and most sources - philosophical, religious and legal treatises emphasize the need to find peaceful means of solving any problems [2, p. 56-67].

The peaceful views of Indians on the world and commitment to the idea of non-violence led to an extremely interesting phenomenon in the history of the national liberation movement. The Indian struggle for independence from the colonizers took on a completely unique form and methods that were hardly possible to exist in any other country. This special way of gaining independence is inseparably connected with the activities of an outstanding person not only on the scale of India, but also of the whole world M.K. Gandhi. The phenomenon of Gandhism will continue to attract philosophers and public figures around the world for a long time, many scientists, politicians, writers recognize him as an unsurpassed master of political compromise [24].

In forming his theories and views, he relied not so much on world experience as on the traditions of Indian social and philosophical thought. In this context, the famous Ukrainian Indologist O.O. Chuvpylo rightly noted that, in general, the rather eclectic worldview of M.K. Gandhi was mainly formed under the influence of Indian religious and philosophical thought [18, p. 21]. He managed to implement the ethical norms of the Hindus into political activity, declaring non-violence, he preferred to see his homeland free and prevented bloodshed in every possible way. His method of struggle was called “satyagraha” (persistence in truth) and involved the open declaration of demands, civil disobedience and refusal to cooperate with the opponent and had an exclusively non-violent nature.

Gandhism taught not only tolerance, but also independence of thought and action and taught Indians to realize themselves as a great nation. He returned to Indians a mentality, a sense of self-respect and dignity: a nation with such a great past cannot occupy any secondary places in world affairs, cannot be subdued. The foundations of India's foreign policy were laid from it, in particular, an independent course in international affairs.

India's wide use of the five principles of peaceful coexistence “pancha sila” in its foreign policy activities and its active position in the Non-Aligned Movement completely coincide with the Gandhian guidelines, which were creatively, persistently continued and successfully implemented by an outstanding statesman and

politician, Prime Minister of India J. Nehru.

An important factor in creating the image of India as a consistent and peace-loving country was its role in Non-Aligned Movement, where it initiated and actively participated in many important events [16]. Despite the radical changes in the world and the significant reduction of the Non-Aligned Movement's role, which during the three decades of the bipolar world acted as the "third force", many Indians still believe in the expediency of these principles.

In addition to the theory of non-violence, the worldview of Indians presupposes the perception of the world as a whole "one family" (one world), which is a continuation of the traditional Indian philosophical worldview. The concept of "one world" is the basis of modern foreign policy of the Republic of India, according to which the state builds its style and methods of relations with other countries. That is why a unipolar world cannot be accepted from the point of view of traditional Indian political theory. According to the Indian concept of "one world", no country has any reason to rule the world, no matter how powerful it is. However, India has never shared the idea of a bipolar world and that is why it became one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement as a certain alternative to the two poles. Only multivariate, the variety of strong regional centres (multipolarity), coincides with the important Indian civilizational principles of the concepts of "one world" and "unity in diversity".

Analysing the leading civilizational factors in the formation of India's foreign policy, it is worth noting that in the more than 70 years since independence, profound changes have taken place in the way of India's perception in the world. It is now respected not only as a country with a great cultural heritage and a tradition of non-violence, but also as a powerful state capable of defending itself and defending its national interests. The religious-political symbiosis, which has traditionally defined the political history of India for a long time, is becoming relevant again. Taking into account the new global threats associated with the development of globalization processes, the threats posed by the Russian-Ukrainian war and other wars, today we are talking about the relevance and importance of civilizational values non-violence, devotion to the truth, mutual understanding, respect for human rights, freedom, courage in the fight against the manifestation of terror and injustice.

The foreign policy of modern Ukraine, which is going through difficult times of Russian aggression, is built on similar, analogous principles and values. In such a difficult situation, international support is extremely important for our country. It is natural that both the leadership of our country and our entire Ukrainian community would very much like a firmer and clearer position of India in supporting the Ukrainian people in such a terrible, cruel war. But categorically condemning India for the traditional policy of neutrality does not seem appropriate. Because in India's case it is a special, active neutrality. It successfully pursues a policy of "balancing" and beneficial "pragmatism" in today's complex international conditions, maintaining business, political, trade and economic contacts with opposite parties, associations, and formats.

Such format of foreign policy gives India the opportunity not only to solve political and economic tasks in its favour, but also to act as a mediator, a negotiator a kind of "bridge" of probable agreements and proposals of opposing parties for the fair solution of the most difficult issues of "war and peace". India does not openly condemn Russian aggression and terrorism, but at all international forums and platforms it actively advocates a peaceful, diplomatic settlement of this problem, provides Ukraine with significant humanitarian aid (the volume of which will continue to increase, and the directions will expand), performs a very important mission in "detering" the Russian Federation, which is clearly observed during recent international summits, forums, and visits.

This policy can be proved by several examples. The actions and statements of the Indian leadership in 2022, during a meeting with the Russian President, N. Modi made the well-known and vivid statement that now is "not the time to wage war", and he also negatively perceived Russian nuclear threats, alluding to "blackmail and escalation" of international tension, which, as was proved above, is completely incompatible with the principles of Indian foreign policy.

India's restrained position towards the Russian Federation and its leader was also clearly manifested during the preparation and holding of the SCO summit in New Delhi on July 4, 2023, which was planned to be held in an "off-line" format, but at the last moment the Indian organizers seem to have made a decision not to invite the "disgraceful" Russian dictator under sanctions and the threat of an international tribunal and decided to hold the SCO summit in an online format. It seems that this decision was very uncomfortable for Russia's president, his speech was broadcasted on the screen and left the impression of the Russian leader's insecurity in his perspective and instability in his state, which was written about by Indian and other foreign experts. It is likely that the Russian "revenge" for such a course of events at the summit, as noted by Indian

authors, was certain technical “pitfalls” of the organizers on the part of the Russian Federation, who tried to technically spoil the speech of the Prime Minister of India during the ceremonial opening of the SCO forum [19].

In the context of India’s approach to participation in solving the problems in Ukraine, serious achievements, as already emphasized, were also the results of N. Modi’s official visit to the USA in June 2023, where the joint Declaration signed between India and the USA (this is an important final document) contains special point “25” concerning Ukraine [21]. It states that India and the US are deeply concerned about the conflict in Ukraine and express sympathy for its dire and tragic consequences, highlighting the growing impact of the war on the global economy, including food and fuel, energy security; the leaders of both countries called on the international community to make more efforts to mitigate the consequences of the war, they also pledged to continue providing humanitarian aid to Ukraine, and also called for respect for international law, the principles of the UN Charter, territorial integrity and sovereignty, both countries agreed on the importance of post-war reconstruction of Ukraine.

2024 was marked by an even more significant event for Ukraine: Indian Prime Minister N. Modi arrived on an official visit to our country. Such a visit at the level of the Indian Prime Minister happened for the first time in more than 30 years of the existence of independent Ukraine and has a very important historical significance for the further development of Ukrainian-Indian relations.

The visit marks India’s attempt to show its neutrality and impartiality to the world after a series of accusations of leaning towards Russia. Thus, an analyst on the problems of the Indo-Pacific region, D. Grossman, emphasized that Modi’s visit, above all, was designed to show the steadfastness of New Delhi’s non-aligned orientation [7].

Despite the fact that the visit was quite short, its results are significant. In half a day, N. Modi managed to meet with V. Zelenskyi, honor the memory of the children killed as a result of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, hold an important meeting in the Office of the President of Ukraine to discuss the issues of India’s support for the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, as well as the development of strategic partnership. The Ukrainian-Indian dialogue turned out to be productive and was marked by the signing of four documents covering the fields of medicine, agriculture, humanitarian aid and culture [11].

Each of these documents to one degree or another should contribute to the development of Ukraine and cooperation between countries. For example, the purpose of the agreement on cooperation in the fields of agriculture and food industry is to expand mutually beneficial cooperation, create favourable conditions for market relations and strengthen the food security of countries. The memorandum on Indian grant aid provides for the expansion of economic and technical cooperation, and also creates conditions for the provision of assistance to Ukraine, in particular for reconstruction and restoration, and the memorandum in the field of medicine aims to promote the development of cooperation in the pharmacological field, prevent the circulation of low-quality medicines, guarantee safety and the quality of medicines. The signing of the document on cultural cooperation will help to establish ties between collectives and cultural institutions, as well as to conduct joint cultural and artistic events, which will contribute to a wider study of the history and culture of both countries, as well as a deeper study in Ukraine of the civilizational factors of Indian internal and foreign policy [4].

Conclusions. The brief analysis allows to single out the main factors and features of the formation of the modern foreign policy of India, characterized by the following features of its traditional civilizational development:

- preservation of traditional civilizational approaches in international relations, observance of the basic principles defined by the principles of Gandhism and “pancha sila”, above all non-violence, non-alignment, peaceful coexistence;

- the inheritance of a strategic course (regardless of the change of political leaders and parties), which demonstrates a certain independence in foreign policy, and is also characterized by a national consensus in foreign policy issues, a compromise of all political forces and parties;

- awareness of the importance of the development of geo-economics in the conditions of a globalized world for the purpose of further civilizational progress, a clear understanding of the interdependence between the internal socio-economic development of the country and its success in the international arena;

- increasing the role of multilateral diplomacy, intensifying participation in various management mechanisms and institutes at the global and regional level, using the extensive experience of its traditional peaceful foreign policy;

- the growing influence of civilizational factors on the activation of the regional direction of India’s

foreign policy in South Asia and on the Asian continent as a whole that imposes specific features on the processes of formation of new associations and the role of India in the transformation of the Indo-Pacific region (IPR);

- the approval of a foreign policy course for strategic partnership with the leading states of the future world multipolar system (first of all, with the USA, China, the EU, ASEAN countries, etc.), which is also based on the Indian civilizational principle of “one world”;

Drawing attention to the importance for our country of India’s clear position regarding the Russian-Ukrainian war, the following must be taken into account. The study and research of the leading factors and features of the formation of India’s foreign policy, primarily determined by the specifics of its civilizational development, can have a significant importance for Ukraine. The experience of this state, in particular, its own vision of the world and its place in it, the ability to use its civilizational and cultural features in a global strategy and defend the right to an independent foreign policy course should be carefully analyzed in Ukraine. It also seems useful to study the ways of modernization of this country, the practice of combining internal transformation and success in the international arena to change the country’s image.

The successes of the Republic of India, which the whole world is watching today, should prompt the relevant state structures of Ukraine to think about the next steps in foreign policy towards India: 1) importance and necessity of further constructive development of bilateral relations with this country, despite India’s restrained position in the Russian-Ukrainian war; 2) the use of its international authority and influence for the promotion of the interests and demands of Ukraine, the implementation of the “Ukrainian peace formula” in practice, the increase of humanitarian aid to Ukraine; 3) the development of joint plans and projects to restore the economy of our country after the war, taking into account the great positive experience of Ukrainian-Indian cooperation and the assistance of many Ukrainian enterprises and specialists in the development of the Indian economy, science, and education in the difficult years of India’s post-colonial revival.

Prospects for further research are seen in a deeper analysis of the influence of civilizational features and the foundations of India’s foreign policy regarding the study of its implementation in different regional systems of international relations and, in particular, future actions regarding the Russian-Ukrainian war and the development of Ukrainian-Indian relations.

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Лукаш О. І., Тихоненко І. В. Вплив цивілізаційних чинників на зовнішню політику Індії та її роль у сучасних міжнародних відносинах

У статті розглядаються чинники, що визначають зовнішню політику Індії, серед яких особливе місце займають цивілізаційні засади та специфіка розвитку країни, сформовані ще в період стародавньої Індії. Окремо наголошується, що за останні десятиліття основною метою Індії було досягнення статусу однієї з провідних держав світу. В цьому контексті особливу увагу приділено активній зовнішньополітичній діяльності Індії, спрямованій на підвищення її ролі і впливу в глобальному масштабі, а також у регіоні Південної Азії, де країна прагне стати лідером. Індійські цивілізаційні принципи, що сформувалися протягом тисячоліть, стали важливою основою не лише для соціально-економічного розвитку, а й для формування міжнародного іміджу країни. Ці

принципи допомогли Індії не тільки досягти значних успіхів у сфері економічного зростання та модернізації, але й сприяли створенню збалансованої та прорахованої зовнішньої політики. Країна зробила основний акцент на підтримці нейтралітету та національної незалежності у міжнародних справах, що дозволяє їй маневрувати між різними глобальними і регіональними політичними силами. Особлива увага в статті приділяється аналізу нейтральної позиції Індії щодо проблеми російсько-української війни. Така позиція значною мірою обумовлена глибокими цивілізаційними особливостями Індії, її історичними традиціями нейтралітету в міжнародних конфліктах і прагненням зберегти стратегічну рівновагу у відносинах з різними державами. Ці принципи, у свою чергу, не повинні заважати розвитку конструктивного діалогу між Індією та Україною. Збалансований підхід до зовнішньої політики дає Індії можливість зміцнювати свої дипломатичні відносини з різними країнами, включаючи Україну, і сприяти подальшому розвитку двосторонніх відносин, зберігаючи при цьому нейтралітет у спірних міжнародних питаннях. Таким чином, Індія, спираючись на свою історичну і цивілізаційну спадщину, успішно рухається до досягнення статусу глобального лідера. Її зовнішня політика, заснована на принципах нейтралітету та незалежності, дозволяє країні зміцнювати свої позиції на міжнародній арені, не вступаючи в жорсткі глобальні та регіональні протистояння та активно підтримувати мир і стабільність у світі.

Ключові слова: *цивілізаційні чинники, зовнішня політика Індії, позиція Індії у російсько-українській війні, перспективи українсько-індійських відносин.*