

The article on the Russian-American partnership

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**The strategic partnership between Russia and the United States:  
historical experience and prospects**

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**1. Common features and peculiarities of the Eurasian and North  
American local civilizations**

In recent years, the contradictions and confrontations in various spheres between Russia and the USA have sharply escalated: they have reached an unprecedentedly high level in the history of the relationships between these two great powers. After two decades of warming relations and strengthening partnership the cold war resumed in its worst form. The economic and information war is declared, waves of sanctions are coming one by one, the arms race is growing – all this can lead not only to mutual destruction but also the death of civilization and all life on Earth. This is deeply troubling not only for the peoples of those countries, but also for the billions of people around the world. It is fair enough to raise the questions:

- Is this dangerous trend inevitable and long-term or is it a short-lived zigzag on the natural trajectory of their centuries-old partnership?
- What are the reasons of this dangerous confrontation?
- What expects us in the future: further escalation of confrontation or strategic partnership in response to the formidable challenges of the 21st century?

We will try to answer these legitimate questions, based on civilizational and historical approaches, the methodology of integrated macro-forecasting developed by Russian scientific schools.

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1. The common features and peculiarities of the Eurasian and North American civilization are: - Russia and the United States are the leading powers of two great local civilizations such as Eurasian and North American, which have much in common in their historical destiny and characteristic features of the civilizational code – the six components of the genotype of a civilization.

The Eurasian civilization was formed in the 16th century having in its historical genesis a thousand-year Greek and Scythian civilization (The Bosporan Kingdom) and an eight-centuries Eastern Slavic civilization of the Novgorod-Kievan Rus which was the largest and the most developed European state with extensive economic, cultural and geopolitical connections with other European civilizations. The Eurasian civilization emerged as a result of the development of vast territories of Siberia, the Far East, and Central Asia. It has a mixed multinational and multi-confessional nature, acting as a field for interaction between civilizations and states of the East and the West. The historical roots of North American civilization also date back to the 16th century as a result of colonization of North America by settlers from Western Europe, primarily Britain and France. It also has a mixed character including representatives of Western European, African, Latin American civilizations, relics of indigenous peoples of North America as well as immigrants from other regions of the world. A distinctive feature of the North American civilization, like the Eurasian one, is its multinational and multi-confessional nature. Common features characterize all six components of the genotype of the Eurasian and North American civilizations, namely, natural-ecological, socio-demographic, technological, economic, socio-cultural and geopolitical. Both civilizations are located in the Northern hemisphere on a vast territory including the Arctic zone of continents with a harsh climate, characterized by a relatively low population density and huge natural resources – mineral, land, resources and freshwater resources, which makes it possible to self-sufficiency and export of natural resources. At the same time, both civilizations are exposed to significant environmental risks, especially in the context of negative climate change, increasing waves of natural disasters and catastrophes.

In terms of population, both civilizations are characterized by an average population in the range of 100 to 500 million people, unlike the civilizations of giants with a population of more than 1000 billion people (Chinese, Indian and Muslim) and small civilizations (Oceanic and Japanese). The composition of the population is multiethnic and multiracial. The vast

majority of the population professes Christianity, but most of them belong to other world religions. A significant proportion of the population is occupied by a growing flow of migrants.

The United States and Russia are among the leading countries in technological development, they have high scientific, technological and military-technical potential. They became leaders of the scientific and technical revolution of the 20th century, namely in space exploration and nuclear energy. Although Russia lost a significant part of its scientific and technological potential as a result of the crisis of the 1990s, at the beginning of the twenty-first century a course for technological breakthrough was adopted which is especially evident in a military-technical field.

Both civilizations have strong economic potential, but there are significant differences. In the 20th century, during the two world wars and as a result of the economic crisis of the 1990s, the Eurasian civilization suffered huge losses, which led to a sharp deterioration of economic indicators. And the North American civilization found itself in the most favorable conditions, received a powerful impetus for development in the First and Second World Wars and in the course of globalization became an economic superpower. However, in recent years, it has lost its position in competition with China and as a result of deformation in the structure of the economy and creation of the "bubble economy". The US and the USSR headed the opposing systems of capitalism and socialism, but since the 1990s, after the establishment of capitalism in Russia, their differences in the economic structure have sharply declined.

The socio-cultural structure of these two civilizations also has much in common, namely a high level of science, education and culture, close systems of ethics and religious Outlook. Emigrants from Russia made a significant contribution to the development of science, education and culture of the USA, especially after the civil war. As an example, we can cite the outstanding Russian-American scientist Pitirim Sorokin who is the largest macro-sociologist of the 20th century, the father of American sociology, the founder and Dean of the Social Sciences Faculty at Harvard University, the author of the doctrine of socio-cultural dynamics and convergence theory of the USA and Russia.

The huge scale of the territory and the heterogeneity of natural and climatic conditions, the multinational composition of the population

determined the similarity of the USA and Russia, which are the federation-type states with strong central authority.

The periods of decentralization and state disintegration were observed three times in the history of Russia (in the beginning of XVII century, in the beginning and the end of XX century), but every time the need for a centralized state power was restored. After the formation of the United States as a result of the unification of disparate colonies, a trend to disintegration of a single state was observed during the civil war, but then a strong central state was restored with significant state authority. After the socialist revolution in Russia, the divergence of the sociopolitical system of the United States and Russia intensified sharply, but as a result capitalism restoration in Russia and establishment of a presidential republic, the state and the political structure of both countries became much closer. Both powers claim leadership in the geopolitical space. In Russia, it was clearly manifested after winning over Napoleon and formation of the Holy Alliance upon the initiative of Alexander I; in the formation of the Comintern with the goal for the world revolution; after the Second World War, as a result of the world socialist system being formed, and transformation of the USSR into one of two superpowers. The collapse of the USSR, CMEA, Warsaw Pact, the world socialist system threatened to transform Russia into a second-class geopolitical power, running in the US favor. However, since the beginning of the XXI century, Russia has led the trend of restoring a multipolar world order. Since 2014 despite the attempts of the United States to isolate Russia in the geopolitical space, in fact, it has returned the role of the world leader (along with China) in the fight against a unipolar world order under the US hegemony. At the same time, the US is losing its hegemony in the existing multipolar world.

Therefore the Eurasian and North American local civilizations, and the USA and Russia as their leaders, are of the same type in nature and composition of the civilization genotype, but can act as competitors struggling for leadership in the geopolitical space.

However, we should not forget about the fundamental differences between the Eurasian and North American civilizations, including the system of civilizational values, which is one of the sources of mutual misunderstanding and contradiction.

The genetic roots of the Eurasian civilization should be sought in the ancient Greek civilization at the time of its dawn with predominance of the integral socio-cultural system and priority of moral values. In VI-V centuries BC. dozens of ships with young Greeks founded cities in the northern and eastern Black Sea and Azov regions – so-called policies with a democratic order and high culture. A unique mixed Greco-Scythian civilization emerged, embodied in the thousand-year Bosphorus kingdom, based on the dialogue and partnership of the Greek civilization, Scythian proto-civilization and local tribes.

The second genetic root of the Eurasian civilization is the Byzantine civilization with its Orthodox religious system. In Novgorod-Kievan Russia on the historical rivers of the Dnieper and the Volga, on the main routes of civilizations - from “Varangians to Greeks” and from “Varangians to Arabs”

The third source of the Eurasian civilization was the interaction with the oriental civilization during the rule of the Golden Horde for centuries.

The impact of the Western European values in the periods of Peter I, Catherine II and Alexander I can be considered as the fourth source.

Thus, the civilization code of the Eurasian civilization organically includes elements of the dialogue of civilizations, cultures and religions of the East and the West, which strengthens the viability of this civilization in conflicts, during external invasions and wars.

It was not accidental that the first book on the theory of civilizations and the political economy of civilizations by academician Andrei Storch was published in Russia two centuries ago (in 1815), and half a century later, the first book on the theory of local civilizations by M. Y. Danilevsky was printed.

The North American civilization is a child of the Western European civilization, and their genetic roots should be sought in the ancient Roman civilization with its focus on material values, sensuous socio-cultural structure, conquest of other territories with the help of military forces, economic and religious violence. It represents the Anglo-Saxon world in the period of formation and flourishing of the British Empire. The formation of an independent North American civilization and its budding from the West ended only in the middle of the 20th century after the World War II. The US geopolitical domination emerged, it entered into rivalry and confrontation with another superpower, the Soviet Union, represented by the rapidly

expanding ideas of socialism. In certain periods that confrontation reached a critical point on the verge of a thermonuclear war (the period of the Caribbean crisis). However, the fundamentals of the Yalta peace were generally respected and there were ways for dialogue and sometimes partnership between the two superpowers. After the collapse of the USSR and the world socialist system, the restoration of capitalism in Russia and endless concessions of M.S. Gorbachev and B.N. Yeltsin, the establishment of the United States developed the idea of their exclusive right to determine the world order and impose its civilization values on other countries. It substantiated the concept of the XXI century as "the century of America". Such an idea, firmly rooted in the minds of the ruling elite, is the foundation of the current aggressive US policy as the world hegemon, which immediately causes a response from Russia and other civilizations. It was Russia that proclaimed and led the world movement towards a multipolar world order, which caused a wave of Russophobia among the regressive members of the American establishment.

## **2. The historical experience of the strategic partnership between Russia and the USA**

Russia and the United States have common historical roots. It is worth recalling the fact established by anthropologists and archaeologists that the American continent was populated by the Homo sapiens species in two waves - about 20 and 10 thousand years ago during periods when the sea level was much lower and people moved from Northern Eurasia to North America through the isthmus in place of the modern Bering Strait. During these periods in the north of Siberia there was a comparatively mild climate, herds of mammoths wandered, hunted by primitive communities. Gradually, primitive migrants settled throughout North and South America.

The next wave of migrants from Russia to North America was observed in the XVIII century, when Russian America was formed on the territory of Alaska - parts of modern Canada and California; the economic ties with local northern peoples and western colonists developed until Russia sold Alaska to the United States in 1867.

Russia actively supported the North American states in their struggle for independence in the period of 1775 -1883, opposing the attempts of Great Britain to restore colonial domination.

After the Russian-Japanese War, the United States helped Russia maintain its position in the Far East when the Portsmouth Treaty was concluded in 1905. In the First World War, Russia acted together with the United States and France with the support of the United States. However, during the Civil War, the United States took part, albeit on a small scale, in intervention against Soviet Russia.

After the civil war, the United States provided significant support in struggle against hunger in Russia in 1921-1922 and helped rebuilding a war-torn economy. This support was especially significant during the period of industrialization in the USSR, when Russia bought equipment for industrial giants in the USA, and hundreds of qualified engineers from the USA helped to build it. This was an important factor in supporting the US economy during the crisis of 1929-1933 and became an example of the economic partnership of the two powers with all the differences in their socio-political structure.

The Russian-American strategic partnership reached its peak during the Second World War in the struggle to crush German fascism and Japanese militarism. The partnership was carried out on a broad front - from coordination of major military operations to supply of large-scale weapons and food. A massive movement for cooperation with the USSR developed in the United States; Pitirim Sorokin was one of the active participants, he published a book on convergence of the United States and Russia (1944). In February 1945 the long-term basis of such strategic partnership was laid at the Yalta Conference at presence of the leaders of the three great powers, members of the anti-Hitler coalition, and implemented in the UN as the main instrument for building this partnership. However, since 1947, the US claims of world domination caused the cold war between the two superpowers and the military and political alliances headed by them - NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries. The military confrontation intensified, local military conflicts arose in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, the world was on the verge of a nuclear war as a result of the Caribbean crisis (1962), however the principles of the Yalta peace were still preserved, the unleashing of a new world war was avoided, an active dialogue was conducted in the UN, strategic partnership projects in space exploration (the Soyuz-Apollo project) and development of the Arctic (within the Arctic Council) and Antarctica were implemented. After the visit of N.S. Khrushchev to the United States many American innovations were accepted in Russia.

Since the second half of the 1980s, the process of the convergence of Russia and the United States and their strategic partnership sharply intensified. The unprecedented agreements were reached to end the Cold War and destroy the most dangerous types of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery. Since the 1990s, neoliberal market reforms in Russia opened up floodgates for a wide range of American transnational corporations and information flows to Russia, as well as migration of a significant number of Russian scientists and programmers to the United States. A close socio-economic system of monopoly capitalism was established in Russia and other post-Soviet countries. Russian leaders followed the US foreign policy and economic interests.

The ruling elites of the United States claimed to establish a unipolar world order under American domination. After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, a lot of measures were taken out and implemented to eliminate undesirable political regimes in a number of countries, not minding the open military aggression, in circumvention of the UN Security Council. It all caused a backlash from Russia, China and other countries that defended the principles of a multipolar world order. This position was vividly expressed in a speech by Russian President Putin at a conference in Munich in 2007. Russia began to pursue an even more independent foreign policy trajectory that met its national interests, opposing the aggressive policies of the United States and NATO. There was a trend for confrontation between the United States and Russia, which has intensified especially after the coup d'état provoked by the West in Ukraine and the following reaction of Russia. The United States, with the support of the Western Europe, began to apply tough sanctions against Russia, aimed at its international isolation and undermining of the economy, unleashed an information war and an intense arms race. In disregard for promises made in the end of the 80s, the borders of NATO came very close to the territory of Russia. Thus, the place of strategic partnership was taken by confrontation between the two great powers, which reached its climax in 2017-2018. The aspiration of the ruling circles of the United States (the "inner government") for its domination in the world and the shaken political leadership in the country. However, these attempts did the opposite to the desired result and were doomed to failure. The continuation of strategic partnership between the two great powers is the future. The objective laws are provided below.



### **3. The objective need for a strategic partnership between Russia and the United States**

Overcoming the current confrontation and transition to a strategic partnership between Russia and the United States are dictated by the objective laws of social development and its interaction with nature at the new historical stage of the civilizations' dynamics.

#### ***3.1. Laws of changes in very-long-term dynamic cycles of world and local civilizations and historical pendulum oscillations***

The transition from a 200-year-old industrial world market-capitalist civilization to a humanist-noospheric integral civilization, from a five-hundred-year-old fourth generation of local civilizations with the dominance of the West to a more active and differentiated fifth generation under the leadership of the East has been observed from the end of the 20th century. This transition was predicted by Pitirim Sorokin and substantiated in the writings by the leaders of the modern Russian school of civilizations.

The transition began with a deep and protracted civilization crisis in the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries. From the 2020s the transition to the upward wave of the next civilization cycle will take place. At the same time, the century-long trend for a shift of creative efforts of civilizations from the West to the East, predicted by Pitirim Sorokin<sup>2</sup> and Arnold Toynbee, is being implemented at the same time - another swing of the historical pendulum. Starting from the second half of the 20th century, the USA was the world leader, now it is becoming more and more obvious that the leadership is moving towards rapidly developing China, and within establishing a sustainable multipolar world order - towards Russia, instead of the US geopolitical dominance. Sooner or later, the US ruling circles will have to adapt themselves to this historical trend in order to find their place in the integral world civilization and the system of local civilizations of the 5th generation. The opposite scenario is the clash and mutual destruction of not only Russia and the United States, but also the entire world of civilizations.

<sup>2</sup> Sorokin P.A. Major trends of our times. M: Nauka, 1997

<sup>3</sup> Yakovets Y.V. At the origins of a new civilization. M: DELO, 1993;

Yakovets Y.V. The Past and the Future of Civilizations, Edwin Meller Press, 2000

Kuzyk B.N., Yakovets Y.V., Civilizations: theory, history, dialogue, future. Volume II, M: INES, 2006

### ***3.2. Newton's Second Law and the "Challenge-Answer" Law of Toynbee's Civilizations Dynamics***

We know Newton's Second Law from school textbooks: "every action gives rise to an equally strong and oppositely directed action". This physical law also extends to the development of society in the form of the "Challenge - Answer" Law of Civilizations Dynamics formulated by Arnold Toynbee. Civilizations meet with new challenges and are modified in response to them. If the answer proves inadequate, the local civilization can disappear from the historical scene, which was observed many times during the five thousand years of history.

It can be proved by examples of recent times: the attempts of the United States to preserve its hegemony in the world often bring the opposite of the expected results. The desire to strike international terrorism in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya led to strengthening of the terrorist movements of the Taliban and the IS. The desire to undermine the Russian economy and isolate it in the geopolitical space yielded opposite results: Russia freed itself from dangerous dependence on the United States, strengthened its economy and its defense-industrial potential, became an obvious leader in consolidation of a wide range of states opposing the North American hegemony. The US-declared economic war against China, Russia and Western Europe will turn into a heavy loss for the US economy and another deep economic crisis due to the loss of markets and the quasi-currency function of the US dollar.

As a result, the US ruling circles will have to abandon illusions of being unique and desire for world domination, and take their place as one of the great powers in the global partnership of local civilizations, restoring their strategic partnership with Russia to ensure a sustainable multipolar world order.

### ***3.3. The laws of polarization and socio-political partnership as a part of moral and religious polarization***

In transitional periods of deep crises the law of polarization and socio-political partnership of civilizations and states, social strata and generations is in effect. A deepening polarization of progressive and reactionary forces on the world arena and inside states is observed in the period of the crisis

<sup>4</sup> Toynbee A. Understanding the history. M: Progress, Kultura, 1996.

development. It always leads to aggravation of geopolitical and socio-political contradictions and the waves of conflicts, including wars and revolutions. At the second stage, partnerships of civilizations and states, social forces and generations are formed at opposite poles and the struggle between them intensifies. At the third stage progressive and conservative forces are consolidated, reactionary forces are defeated, in the face of growing threats for global and national development. Such a scenario was observed in 1930-1940s, when, after the fascist Germany and its allies attacked the USSR, the anti-Hitler coalition was formed; it united socialist and leading capitalist powers against the general threat of the world domination on the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo axis. In the nearest future we should expect consolidation of progressive and conservative forces against the general threat of the US domination and self-destruction of the civilization in the flames of the global thermonuclear war.

Pitirim Sorokin substantiated the law of the “Negative moral and religious polarization” during the period of the crisis with transition to positive polarization as one of the principles that help to find a way out of the crisis. A wave of negative polarization has been observed in the world since the last quarter of the 20th century in the form of moral degradation of sensual socio-cultural system, spread to post-socialist countries, and strengthening of religious extremism and fanaticism, as well as repeated strengthening of international terrorism. It is caused by the information dominance of TNCs in the United States, seeking to eliminate civilizational and cultural diversity and impose a way of thinking on the whole world, especially among the new generation. The answer to these threats is the common desire of China, Russia and progressive layers of intellectuals to preserve the moral principles of society and family, overcome religious fanaticism and extremism, to keep civilizational and cultural diversity. The efforts of the Russian school of civilizations are aimed at spreading studies of the new generation on the basis of the University of Civilization Dialogue, providing access to textbooks and information channels. All this will contribute to strengthening the recent trend of positive moral and religious polarization, which is facilitated by the development of dialogue and partnership between intellectuals and concessions.

<sup>5</sup> Yakovets Y.V. The law of polarization and socio-economic partnership, *Economic strategies journal*, no. 5, 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Sorokin P.A. *The major trends of our times*. M: Nauka, 1997

### ***3.4. The law of generations change***

The implementation of the above positive trends would contribute to the law of generations change, which takes place every three decades. Currently, the world population can be divided into four interactive generations: the outgoing generation of the 1960s of about 0.5 billion; the prevailing generation of the 1990s is more than 3 billion people; the coming generation of the 2020s (15 – 39 years) is over 2.5 billion people, and the emerging generation of 2050s (15 years) is about 1.5 billion people. After 2 decades the generation of the 1960s will come down from the stage of history, the 1990s generation will decrease to 1.5 billion people, the generation of the 2020s will grow to 3.5 billion people, the 2050s generation will increase up to 3 billion people and a new generation of 2080s will appear in the number of 1 billion people. And in two decades the racial and civilizational composition of the world population will change: the population of the Caucasians will reduce to 0.1 of the world's population; the overwhelming majority will belong to the Indian, Chinese, Islamic and African civilization - more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the world's population; less than  $\frac{1}{5}$  of the population will represent North American, Western European, Eastern European, Eurasian, Japanese, and oceanic civilizations and, according to the laws of democracy will not be able to determine the global strategy. If the generation of the 1960s was a romantic and innovative and provided a record-high rate of economic and social progress in the third quarter of the twentieth century, the market and the pragmatic generation of the 1990s lost the legacy received in the setting of civilizational crisis. The 2020s generation will perform the historic mission of overcoming civilizational crisis and entering the path of the formation of the humanistic and neospheric integral civilization and sustainable multipolar world order in order to pass this heritage to the 2050's generation.

What should also be noted is the periodic priorities change of the United States' foreign and domestic policy, studied in monographs of the American political scientist A. M. Schlesinger, "Cycles in American history".<sup>1</sup> He noted that with the change of political leaders generations nearly every 1.5 – 2 decades there is a change of political priorities, where the top priority is given to foreign economic interests before national interests and vice versa. After the end of the Cold War and once the détente period set in, the domestic policies issues has become the top priority since the mid-1980s. Since 2001, the priority was given to foreign economic dominance of the United States

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<sup>1</sup>Schlesinger A. M. Cycles of American history (1986). — M.: [Progress Publishing House](#), 1992

that was expressed in the United States uniqueness concept in the foreign aggressions. With the election of Donald Trump a turn to the priority of political issues has set in, although the aggressive circles of inertia relied on the global hegemony of the United States consolidation . You can expect this trend to intensify in the coming years.

Broadly similar cyclical fluctuations in political priorities are observed in Russia. From the mid 1980s the geopolitical interests of the USSR as a world superpower were overthrown, which was expressed in the dissolution of the CMEA, the Warsaw Pact and the disintegration of socialistic world system and the Soviet Union. Russia obediently followed the shape of the foreign policy and geoeconomic interests of the United States. Since the beginning of 2000s the importance of the foreign policy interests that were clearly evident in the Munich speech of Vladimir Putin in 2007 has been gradually gaining importance. Large efforts were devoted to the formation of the EurAsEC, then the EAEU to strengthen strategic partnerships with China and India. Russia implemented an independent foreign policy that met its national interests, and confronted the United States, which resulted in open confrontation since 2014. However, in 2018 in the new political platform of Vladimir The domestic policy issues, the solution of socio-demographic problems, and the technological breakthrough, expressed in his March Message to the Federal Assembly in 2018 and the Decree of May 7, 2018, have come to the fore. Thus, prerequisites for weakening geopolitical confrontation and the transition to a strategic partnership on a number of key areas in the upcoming years were created.

#### **4. The system of the strategic partnership priorities between Russia and the United States**

Civilizational approach gives the opportunity to define long-term priorities of the strategic partnership between Russia and the United States based on the civilization genotype structure and the fundamental interests of the peoples of both powers.

##### ***4.1. Ceasing the arms race. Ceasing of wars and the eradication of terrorism***

Russia and the United States are two nuclear superpowers with the potential for multiple mutual destruction and death in the fire of a thermonuclear war of a global civilization and all life on Earth. The continuing arms race, the

invention of more powerful weapons of mass destruction is not only futile, but also very dangerous. The risks of accidental waging the thermonuclear war by the insane decision of the commander of submarines, the nuclear bomber and operator at an intercontinental ballistic missile launcher, or the hit of mass destruction weapons in the hands of terrorists, who won't hesitate to use them, are repeatedly increased. The more dangerous is the approach of the NATO armed forces to Russian borders and the outbreak of armed conflict in different regions of the world, also the desire of the US to place nuclear weapons in space.

Before it is too late, it is necessary to start resuming negotiations on the confidence-building measures development, concluding international treaties on limiting the thermonuclear potential of Russia, the United States and other powers that possess such weapons, prohibiting the development, testing and production of new types of mass destruction weapons, with the control strengthening of the UN Security Council and international organizations for strict compliance with such treaties. It is also important to agree on the extension of the zones free from the threatening weapons at the boundaries between military-political blocks and the gradual expansion of the armed forces functions in the process of ensuring global environmental security. The initiators of the global security could be Russia and the United States.

#### ***4.2. Preserving natural resources and ensuring environmental safety***

Russia and the United States have sufficient resources, sufficient not only to meet their own needs, but to export to other countries. However, the reserves of these resources are not limitless and exhaust quickly, especially hydrocarbon reserves and a number of non-ferrous metals, so the national interest of both powers is met by the strategy of saving natural resources taking into account the interests of future generations, replacing fossil fuels and raw materials with renewable sources, and maintaining the necessary level of world prices for reproduction.

Equally important common interest is to ensure environmental safety, especially in the face of adverse climatic changes. A promising field for the development of energy and ecological partnership is the development of Arctic energy resources or the reaction to accelerated melting of Arctic ice and unfavorable climatic changes in this region. Russia and the United States can become the initiators of the Arctic Summit, the development and implementation of the long-term energy and ecological program of the Arctic

energy, with the wide participation of Western Europe, China and other interested countries. The project of such a program was developed by the International Institute of Pitirim Sorokin - Nikolai Kondratiev and the Institute of Economic Strategies, commissioned by the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous District, and reported at UN Headquarters in June 2011 and at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development RIO+20 in June 2012.

Equally important is the implementation of the Paris Convention on Climate Change 2015 and the return of the United States to the main executors of this program.

The major joint projects in this area could be scientific and technical investment programs for processing the accumulated mountains of solid waste, comprehensive environmental remediation, the development of rapid warning and extinguishing systems for forest fires that are causing great damage to Russia, the United States and other countries.

Both countries are interested in conducting joint research on the forecasting and monitoring of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and the effects of melting Arctic ice.

**4.3. *The partnership in the field of social and demographic development*** corresponds to the mixed and multinational character of the population of Russia and the USA and the need to face the demographic challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In both countries, there is a trend for a decline in the proportion of the indigenous population, a significant increase in the number of aged people, a large income gap between the rich and the poor, a rapid increase in the number of migrants and the proportion of the population. This necessitates the development of a new social and demographic policy, which in recent years Russia gives the paramount importance to. It would be useful to work on the mutual exchange of experience in developing a new long-term social and demographic policy in Russia and the United States, and on cooperation in developing an international social and demographic strategy following the UN principles and the agreement on regulations of the international migration.

**4.4. *The scientific and technological partnership*** represents mutual interest due to the deployment of the scientific and technological revolution of the XXI century, the creation of VI, and, in the long term, of VII technological paradigms, and the need to implement an innovative renewal of fixed capital

on this basis. In Russia and the United States there is a mutually complementary potential for joint research and investment in this field, as well as practical experience of partnership in space exploration, peaceful use of nuclear energy, and in other directions. It would be advisable to expand the partnership between the academies of sciences, technology and investment companies to accelerate the development of fundamentally new areas of technology and mutual exchange in this field, especially in the areas of research and technology, medicine, alternative energy sources, environmentally friendly, non-waste solid waste technologies, the implementation of a new “green revolution” with an emphasis on organic farming, as well as to continue and develop the cooperation in the exploration of near-Earth and far-out space, and to prevent asteroid and cometary threats.

**4.5. *The economic partnership*** is based on the fact that Russia and the US have a similar economic structure, and, after the neoliberal reforms and restoration of capitalism in Russia in the 1990s, the same type of market-capitalist economic system that in the coming decades will have to be transformed into a socio-ecological and innovation-oriented integrated economic system. The vital national interests of Russia and the United States correspond to overcoming the bubble economy, developing effective antimonopoly legislation, overcoming the excessive gap between rich and poor strata of the population and countries, more stable and predictable dynamics of monetary and financial mechanisms and world prices. In this regard, we have multiple opportunities for partnership between Russia and the United States in the UN, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the WTO, and other integration associations and international organizations.

**4.6. *The partnership in the socio-cultural sphere*** is based on the fact that over the last decade there has been a significant convergence on the basis of the spread of the sensory socio-cultural system, prevalent in the United States, towards Russia, with all its contradictions and vices deeply investigated by Pitirim Sorokin. Moreover, there has been a trend of negative moral and religious polarization. Both powers face a long and difficult period of the emergence of an integral socio-cultural layer: the rise of science, the raising of the fundamentality, creativity and continuity of education, the revival of high culture and humanistic and noospheric ethics, the transition to positive moral polarization. It would be advisable to return UNESCO to the United States for



the development of international partnership in the humanitarian sphere, as well as of cooperation in the framework of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the international registration of scientific discoveries (based on the Geneva Agreement of 1978, which was signed but did not come into force), preparation and conclusion of an international agreement on the protection of intellectual property in the digital environment. It would be very useful to expand cultural and educational exchange, especially among young people, and to increase the mutual exchange of tourists (including that based on civilized tourism), which would contribute to the development of trust and mutual respect for the values of the peoples of our countries.

**4.7. *The partnership in the geopolitical sphere*** should be aimed at enhancing the role of the UN in regulating global processes in accordance with the principles laid down in its creation at the Yalta conference in February 1945. The UN is the main institution for dialogue and partnership between civilizations and states responding to the formidable challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Russia and the United States need to be partners in developing a scientifically sound concept and a long-term strategy for transforming the United Nations and strengthening its role in ensuring global security, eradicating terrorism and war, hunger and poverty, thus, implementing the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 approved by the UN Summit in September 2015. Our countries have to combine their efforts to ensure global security of a new long-term strategy in this area of partnership involving the UN, NATO, CSTO and the SCO, and to come to an agreement on confidence building in the relationship between states and integration associations.

## **5. Prospects for the transition to strategic partnership**

In the second half of 2010, the confrontation between the US and Russia reached a critical level. The Cold War was resumed in more acute forms touching geopolitical, economic, information, military and technical, ideological spheres. Developed and accumulated weapons of mass destruction can get out of control at any time and lead to a guaranteed self-destruction not only of the two great powers, but of all mankind. There is a growing wave of international terrorism and local conflicts, paralyzing the efforts of the United Nations to ensure global security, resolve local conflicts and achieve the sustainable development goals.

Nevertheless, the transition to a strategic partnership between the two great powers with the potential for mutual destruction and the historical experience of partnership is logical and inevitable. There are good reasons for this.

**First of all**, nothing unites civilizations and states, nations, social strata and generations as awareness of common mortal threats, and such threats are quite real and are realized by peoples and generations. We need to unite to save the world of civilizations, it is the highest achievement of the people and society evolution saving us from the rapidly growing threats of degeneration and self-destruction.

**Secondly**, it becomes obvious to increasingly wide circles of American society that the path to a unipolar world order under the US hegemony based on the idea of its exclusivity and aggressive actions is deadlock and dangerous, which gives the opposite effect. Attempts to isolate Russia in geopolitical space lead to the promotion of its consolidating role, as evidenced by the strengthening of the cohesion of the SCO and BRICS. The joint efforts of Russia, Turkey and Iran in solving the Syrian crisis, the recently held forum in Vladivostok with the participation of the leaders of the five Far Eastern countries, the conjugation of the Russian idea of the Great Eurasian partnership and the Chinese Belt and Road initiative will further strengthen this trend. At the same time, the United States is in a state of growing geopolitical isolation as a result of the measures taken to withdraw from the Paris agreement on climate change, increase of customs duties, withdrawal from the agreement on Iran, failure of aggressive policies in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria. The desire to break the Russian economy into pieces actually leads to the liberation of Russia from the dependence on transnational corporations and orientation to own sources and resources of development, which has often justified itself after the Civil War and in the post-war decades.

**Thirdly**, the gap between the vital long-term national interests of the United States and the self-serving aggressive aspirations of the reactionary strata, the political and economic elite and the US special services is becoming increasingly clear. This has manifested itself in the unexpected results of the last presidential elections, and will be intensified with generational change, as discussed above. The healthy forces of the American people will be ultimately

consolidated and embark on the path of dialogue and partnership in a rapidly changing world.

**Fourthly**, the trend towards a partnership will be promoted by the trend towards convergence of the US and Russia, deeply grounded by the great Russian-American scientist Pitirim Sorokin during the Second World War and in his latest monograph “The Main Trends of Our Time” (1964). This trend was especially intensified in the late XX and early XXI centuries as a result of overcoming the division of the world into two systems and will continue to be observed. This creates a favorable background for the transition from confrontation to partnership.

A turning point in such a transition could be a thoroughly prepared meeting of the leaders of the three great powers – the US, Russia and China – to develop a scientifically-tested basis for a long-term strategy for overcoming the global crisis, strengthening confidence building measures and establishing a stable multipolar world order based on dialogue and partnership between civilizations and major powers, with the leading role of the UN. This would be the starting point for the UN, the Group of Twenty and other international organizations and associations to develop a system of long-term strategies and programs that ensure a transition to global security and strategic partnership in the context of the upswing of a new, very long-term civilizational cycle.

### **Conclusions**

The above mentioned provisions provide the basis for the following main conclusions:

1. The Eurasian and North American local civilizations, headed by Russia and the United States, are similar in nature and have equal features and significant differences in the components of the civilizational genotype and the place in the world of the fifth-generation local civilizations. However, there are no inapplicable antagonistic contradictions between them and there is a wide field of opportunities for the dialogue and partnership in response to the challenges of the 21st century.
2. The historical analysis demonstrates that the general trend of their strategic partnership prevailing in relations between Russia and the United States for several centuries was evident in the period of the development of Russian America, the war for the independence of the

United States, the First World War, the period of the global crisis of 1929-1933, and especially during the Second World War in the struggle against German fascism and Japanese militarism. This dialogue and partnership were not interrupted during the period of the “cold war”, and even intensified since the middle of 1980-ies with the end of the “cold war” and implementation of joint measures to prevent the thermonuclear war. Deviations from this general trend can be defined as zigzags in their general trajectory of cooperation and partnership and did not develop into overt military actions.

3. The exacerbation of the contradictions between Russia and the United States in recent years, the revival of the “cold war”, the unleashing of the arms race and the growing danger of a suicidal clash of civilizations is temporary transitional in nature, and is due to the desire of the US reactionary circles to establish a unipolar world order with the US leadership even in the face of the shady military operations and economic and other sanctions against Russia. This is largely due to the change of long-term cycles and transition from the 4th generation of local civilizations with the dominance of the West to the 5th generation under the leadership of the East. However, in the conditions of the upward wave of the new civilization cycle and the inevitable change of generations, the transition to cooperation and partnership between the two great powers - Russia and the United States in response to the challenges of the new century - is objectively determined. This transition is based on the “challenge - response” laws in the dynamics of Arnold Toynbee’s civilizations, polarization and sociopolitical partnership of civilizations and states, social strata and generations under the conditions of deep crisis, negative and positive polarization of Pitirim Sorokin. From 2020 we expect the trend of strategic partnership to prevail.
4. The studies show a wide range of strategic priorities for a long-term partnership between Russia and the United States in order to end the arms race and eradicate wars and terrorism, ensure global environmental security, harmonious social and demographic development, efficient implementation of the 21st century scientific and technological revolution achievements, establish an integral socio-cultural system and shape of a sustainable multipolar world order based on partnership of civilizations. It is necessary to develop joint programs and projects to follow these priorities.

5. However, to implement this strategy, it is necessary to develop a scientifically grounded long-term strategy for the development and interaction of civilizations and states, including the leading powers - Russia, China and the USA, that determine world dynamics, with a focus on the development of a humanistic and noospheric civilization and a sustainable multi-polar world order, based on partnership of civilizations and states with the UN leadership. The scientific basis of such a strategy has been developed by Russian scientists and represented to the UN. Its cornerstones were laid by the great Russian and American scientist Pitirim Sorokin in 1919. It is necessary to use the upcoming conferences devoted to the scientific heritage of Pitirim Sorokin at the Likhachev Readings at the St. Petersburg Humanitarian University of Trade Unions, St. Petersburg State University, Syktyvkar State University named after Pitirim Sorokin and Harvard University in order to use this legacy for implementation of ideas in the further convergence of Russia and the United States and the resumption of the strategic partnership.