

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The purpose of this project is to study public discourse in Kyrgyzstan and its relationship with pursued by this state foreign policy. Kyrgyzstan is a country in post-Soviet Central Asia – a unique region, which lies at the crossroads of great civilizations, and which is a conglomerate of cultures with the Soviet, Islamic, nomadic and many others elements. This region is the where the so-called “New Great Game” is taking place, that is a rivalry of leading great powers – the U.S., Russia, China, as well as regional powers such as Turkey and Iran. Each of these countries want in the most efficient way to pursue their interests there, often has a negative impact on the social, political and economic situation of those republics. In this project I will examine how in Kyrgyzstan – a small state with the highest degree of democratization and imitation of Western models of transformation among all the states of the region – the struggle of the great powers and its own position in this game is perceived. As a result, we shall complete our knowledge about the dynamics of international relations in the area with internal perspective.

I decided to pursue research on this topic because of my fascination with the region – its culture, history, and international position after the collapse of the Soviet Union. This region, and thus Kyrgyzstan itself, is often misunderstood by Western scientists, analysts and politicians. By examining it through a discourse analysis, I would like to give a voice to those concerned, to present the point of view of local social elites.