

## THE COLONIAL POLICY OF MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA IN WESTERN SAHARA: GEOPOLITICAL AND MILITARY ASPECTS

In the mass consciousness, the colonial policy is associated with the activities of Spain, England, Belgium, France and other European countries that had overseas possessions. But the collapse of the colonial system led to the emergence of not only neo-colonialism, but also the colonial aspirations of the colonial system of states restored or created during the collapse. There are several districts on the world map where the national elite, which has gained state sovereignty, pursues a colonial policy in territories inhabited by peoples who do not consider themselves to be citizens of the newly created state. One of such territories is Western Sahara, where the Sahrawi tribes, without recognizing themselves Moroccans or Mauritians, declared their own state — the Sahara Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

**Keywords:** War in Western Sahara, POLISARIO, phosphate mining, Sahrawi tribes, SADR, neo-colonialism.

### References

1. Marokko [Morocco] // Entsiklopediya. Vsemirnaya istoriya [Encyclopedia. World History]. URL: <https://w.histrf.ru/articles/article/show/marokko> (accessed: 30.04.2019). (In Russ.).
2. Strany mira. Kratkiy politiko-ekonomicheskiy spravochnik [World countries. Short political and economic reference book] / Eds.: A. Nikol'skiy, G. Shkarenkov. Moscow, 1960. 438 p. (In Russ.).
3. Zarubezhnyye strany. Politiko-ekonomicheskiy spravochnik [Foreign countries. Political and economic reference book] / Eds.: A. I. Denisov, D. I. Ignat'yev, I. G. Pal'gunov. Moscow, 1957. 991 p. (In Russ.).
4. Zapadnaya Sakhara [Western Sahara]. URL: <http://mbo.khb.ru/files/cor/6818.htm> (accessed: 26.04.2019). (In Russ.).
5. Mokhamed-Fadel' Salem A. M. K voprosu o stanovlenii ekonomiki Zapadnoy Sakhary [On the question of building up Western Sahara's economy] // Vestnik rossiyskogo universiteta druzhby narodov. Ser. Ekonomika. *RUDN Journal of Economics*. 2000. No. 1 (6). P. 119–121. (In Russ.).
6. Moroccan Army of Liberation attacks Spanish enclave of Ifni. URL: <https://www.sahistory.org.za/dated-event/moroccan-army-liberation-attacks-spanish-enclave-ifni> (accessed: 22.04.2019). (In Engl.).
7. Western Sahara: Historical Timeline 1884–2014. URL: <https://culturesofresistancefilms.com/ws-timeline> (accessed: 22.04.2019). (In Engl.).
8. Etinger Ya. Ya. Mezghosudarstvennyye otnosheniya v Afrike (Politicheskiye problemy, evolyutsiya, organizatsionnyye formy) [Interstate Relations in Africa (Political Issues, Evolution, Organizational Forms)]. Moscow: Nauka Publ., 1972. 319 p. (In Russ.).
9. Makutchev A. V. Okkupatsiya vmesto referendum: faktory nachala voyny v Zapadnoy Sakhare v 1975–1976 gg. [Occupation instead referendum: factors of outbreak of the Western Sahara's war (1975–1976)] // Privolzhskiy nauchnyy vestnik. *Privolzhskiy nauchnyy vestnik*. 2016. No. 10 (62). P. 52–56. (In Russ.).
10. Treshnev V. Zapadnaya Sakhara: strana za Stenoy [Western Sahara: the country behind the Wall]. URL: <https://warspot.ru/10031-zapadnaya-sahara-strana-za-stenoy> (accessed: 18.03.2019). (In Russ.).
11. Polisario / Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). URL: <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/polisario.htm> (accessed: 23.03.2019). (In Engl.).
12. Kodirov N. B. Front Polisario i ob'yedineniye Zapadnoy Sakhary [Polisario Front and Western Sahara Union] // Sborniki konferentsiy NITS Sotsiosfera. *Sborniki konferentsiy NITS Sotsiosfera*. 2014. No. 41. P. 29–32. (In Russ.).
13. Morocco, Mauritania and Western Sahara since 1972. URL: [http://www.acig.info/CMS/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=1](http://www.acig.info/CMS/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=1) (accessed: 18.06.2018). (In Engl.).
14. Makutchev A. V. Marokkanskiy «Zelenyy marsh» v Zapadnuyu Sakharu kak model' nevooruzhennoy ehkspansii [Moroccan «Green March» to Western Sahara as model weaponless expansion] // Universum: Obshchestvennyye nauki. *Universum: Obshchestvennyye nauki*. 2016. No. 9 (27). URL: [http://7universum.com/ru/social/archive/item/3707?category\\_id=323](http://7universum.com/ru/social/archive/item/3707?category_id=323) (accessed: 05.07.2018). (In Russ.).
15. 43 Years of 'Green March': Morocco's Occupation of West Sahara. URL: <https://www.telesureenglish.net/news/43-Years-of-Green-March-Moroccos-Occupation-of-West-Sahara-20181106-0012.html> (accessed: 02.07.2018). (In Engl.).

16. Western Sahara: War, Nationalism and Conflict Irresolution. URL: <https://www.mepc.org/western-sahara-war-nationalism-and-conflict-irresolution> (accessed: 24.06.2018). (In Engl.).

17. Royal Moroccan Army. URL: <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/morocco/army.htm> (accessed: 21.06.2018). (In Engl.).

18. Avilova A. V., Akimov V. S., Baranova T. N. [et al.]. *Sovremennaya Ispaniya [Modern Spain]* / Ed. V. V. Zagladin. Moscow: Politizdat Publ., 1983. 383 p. (In Russ.).

19. Guerra del Sahara Occidental. URL: <https://www.defensa.com/ayer-noticia/guerra-sahara-occidental-guerra-desierto> (accessed: 16.05.2018). (In Spanish).

20. El Frente Polisario del Sahara Occidental. URL: <https://aquellasarmasdeguerra.wordpress.com/2013/07/26/el-frente-polisario-del-sahara-occidental/> (accessed: 09.06.2018). (In Spanish).

21. Western Sahara. URL: <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/western-sahara.htm> (accessed: 15.06.2018). (In Engl.).

22. Jason Lovell. The Question of Western Sahara// Humboldt State University. URL: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57a80f169f745640fd64a84a/t/5bb30685e5e5f09b62c719f1/1538459280743/Western+Sahara.pdf> (accessed: 09.06.2018). (In Engl.).

23. The Military Balance 1977–1978. Dorking: The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 1977. 124 p. (In Engl.).

24. The Air War over Morocco. URL: <http://www.century-of-flight.net/Aviation%20history/jet%20age/morocco.htm> (accessed: 17.06.2018). (In Engl.).

25. Besenyo J. *Western Sahara*. Pécs: Publikon Publishers, 2009. 198 p. ISBN 978-963-88332-0-4. (In Engl.).

26. The Military Balance 1980–1981. Dorking: The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 1980. 119 p. (In Engl.).

27. The Military Balance 1982–1983. Colchester: The International Institute for Strategic Studies, 1980. 141 p. (In Engl.).

**NOVIKOV Mikhail Sergeevich**, Lecturer of Humanitarian and Socio-Economic Disciplines Department, Omsk Tank-Automotive Engineering Institute.

SPIN-code: 2836-4707

AuthorID (RSCI): 849223

**NOVIKOV Sergey Valentinovich**, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor of Continuing Professional Development Department, Omsk State Pedagogical University.

SPIN-code: 7226-1354

AuthorID (RSCI): 650930

Address for correspondence: bonid89@inbox.ru

#### For citation

Novikov M. S., Novikov S. V. The colonial policy of Morocco and Mauritania in Western Sahara: geopolitical and military aspects // Omsk Scientific Bulletin. Series Society. History. Modernity. 2019. Vol. 4, no. 4. P. 35–44. DOI: 10.25206/2542-0488-2019-4-4-35-44.

**Received 05 June 2019.**

© **M. S. Novikov, S. V. Novikov**