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MEDIATION IN DIPLOMATIC CONFLICTS. EXAMPLES FROM LATIN AMERICA

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Mediation plays a key role in resolving diplomatic conflicts, especially in regions where established relations between countries are of strategic importance. The article explores the importance and effectiveness of mediation in the region by looking at specific cases of their use.

Over the past decades, Latin America has faced many diplomatic disputes related to borders, trade, resources and other important issues. In such a context, mediation has shown its ability to resolve conflicts through third party mediation. The article analyzes successful examples of mediation, such as the resolution of border conflicts between Colombia and Venezuela, and the peaceful settlement of trade agreement disputes between Chile and Peru.

Special attention is paid to the role of mediators and their strategies in overcoming protracted and acute controversies. The importance of neutrality, trust and diplomatic skill in mediation processes is emphasized. In addition, the article analyzes the impact of mediation on long-term relations between countries, emphasizing the positive results in cooperation and reduction of tensions.

By analyzing case studies, the authors emphasize that mediation plays a key role in resolving complex tensions between countries. The article emphasizes the role of mediators and the strategies they use to achieve successful outcomes. Neutrality, trust and diplomatic skill are highlighted as important components of successful mediation.

In the context of Latin America, a region with many diplomatic disputes, the article analyzes examples of successful mediation, such as the resolution of border conflicts and trade disputes. These practical cases confirm mediation's ability to alleviate tensions and promote peaceful conflict resolution

Finally, the article emphasizes that mediation plays an important role in peace and stability in Latin America by facilitating the resolution of diplomatic conflicts. The article's examination of successful practical examples of mediation demonstrates that this method has great potential for resolving complex international disputes and enabling interaction and cooperation between states in the region and beyond.

The main conclusion of the article is that mediation has significant potential for application in diplomatic conflicts in Latin America. It helps to create conditions for cooperation between countries and supports stability in the region. Examining successful case studies and analyzing mediators' strategies makes the article relevant and informative for researchers, diplomats and anyone interested in international relations and conflict resolution

Keywords: cooperation, diplomacy, mediation, mediators, neutrality, stability, strategies, trust

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1. Introduction

Diplomatic conflicts have always been an integral part of international relations. They can arise from territorial disputes, differences in economic interests, cultural differences and other factors. Resolving such conflicts requires the ability to ensure a peaceful and fair settlement, preserving relations and dialog between the parties. In this context, mediation acquires special significance as an effective tool to help find compromise solutions and balanced ways out of complex situations.

To examine the role and effectiveness of mediation in diplomatic conflicts, we will look at the experience of Latin America. This region, rich in diversity of cultures, languages and interests, has been the scene of many international controversies. Nevertheless, Latin America also provides us with many examples of the successful use of mediation to resolve diplomatic conflicts. In this article, we will look at a few of them, exploring what mediation approaches and mechanisms have been used and what lessons can be drawn for global conflict resolution practice.

By analyzing examples of mediation in Latin America, we can better understand how contemporary international relations can take advantage of traditional and new mediation techniques to find paths

to peaceful and negotiated conflict resolution. Ultimately, our analysis can help expand our knowledge of the applicability of mediation in global diplomacy and emphasize its important role in building sustainable international relations.

2. Literature review

The modern world faces a constant stream of international conflicts that can have serious political, economic and social consequences. Diplomatic contradictions between states based on differences in interests, culture, resources and territory are an integral part of world relations. However, it is not always easy to find a settlement that takes into account the interests of all parties, promotes long-term stability and supports peaceful dialog.

In this context, mediation acquires special significance as an approach, aimed at finding compromise solutions and dialog between conflicting parties. However, questions related to the effectiveness, approaches and methods of mediation in diplomatic conflicts remain relevant. How can mediation be successfully applied in the context of international relations? What lessons and examples can be drawn from mediation practices in Latin America?

We will analyze the role of mediation in diplomatic conflicts using case studies from Latin America. The study will look at successful cases where mediation has played a key role in conflict resolution and contributed to the peaceful coexistence of states. By examining the application of mediation in real-life situations, we will be able to better understand its potential, challenges and prospects in contemporary international relations.

To study this question, the following literature was reviewed:

1. Is a study [1] that analyzes foreign policy and diplomacy in Latin America, focusing on the perceptions, actors, and agendas of regional and international relations. The book presents a variety of perspectives and analytical viewpoints on diplomatic action and Latin America's influence on the world stage. The diversity of authors and approaches provides a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics of the region's foreign policy, its actors and interests, and their role in international relations.

2. An original account [2] of contemporary US-Latin American relations, this book utilises neo-Gramscian and historical materialist approaches to build a novel conceptual framework for analysing mediation, extending critical theory in new and exciting directions.

3. Is a study [3] of how diplomacy can contribute to sustainable peace through environmental reform. The book examines the role of diplomacy in promoting the public good and sustainable development, highlighting the importance of cooperation between states, international organizations and civil society to achieve peace and sustainability. It analyzes practical methods and approaches that can be used to create an enabling environment for sustainable conflict resolution and cooperation for the public good.

4. Is a collection [4] that analyzes diplomatic interactions and political relations in Latin America. Edited by Davis Harold Eugene & Finan John J, this collection of articles explores the historical dimensions of diplomacy in the region, discussing both ideological and pragmatic aspects of Latin American foreign policy. The book provides an analysis of the various periods and events that have shaped Latin America's diplomatic practices and allows readers to gain a deeper understanding of the region's interactions and influence on world politics.

5. The Latin America in the World Handbook explains how Latin American countries have responded to and contributed to changing international dynamics over the past 30 years in mediating diplomacy. It provides a comprehensive view of Latin America's global interactions, looking at specific mediation processes and issues linking governments and other actors, social and economic, in the region and beyond [5].

6. The book [6] describes how the influence of mediation in diplomatic relations is strong.

7. The implementation of the grain deal is needed to meet demand in developing and least developed countries, especially in Africa [7].

8. Is an analytical overview [8] of the foreign policy strategies of Latin American countries, exploring their balance between ideological attitudes and pragmatic approaches. The book presents an analysis of the diverse factors that shape the region's foreign policy, including ideological trends, economic interests, regional interactions, and global challenges. It also reveals important case studies and examples that help to understand how different countries in Latin America have balanced their ideological principles with the realities of international relations, emphasizing the importance of pragmatism in shaping foreign policy decisions.

9. Is a collection [9] of essays and articles, created in honor of Honorary Envoy Allan J. Wagner that explores contemporary challenges and trends in diplomacy in the digital age. The book analyzes how the digital revolution has changed the way international relations are conducted, discussing the impact of social media, cybersecurity, digital diplomacy, and other aspects on contemporary diplomacy. The collection presents a variety of views and perspectives from leading experts in international relations and diplomacy.

10. Is a textbook [10] that offers a set of simulations and practical exercises for studying peace negotiation processes in deeply divided societies. The book allows students and researchers to immerse themselves in the complex mediation and negotiation scenarios that characterize conflicts in such societies. It helps analyze strategies, tactics, and principles that can be applied to achieve peace and harmony in deeply politically and culturally diversified settings.

11. Is a study [11] of the field of politics and diplomacy, examining key aspects and issues related to political processes and the settlement of various disputes. The author analyzes the interaction of various actors in the political arena, exploring the influence of factors on the formation and mediation of political decisions. The book provides a broad overview of topics related to political activity and can be a useful study for those interested in mediation, political science and political processes in the modern world.

12. Written by Paul Sharp and Geoffrey Wiseman [12], is an important study on the impact of diplomacy in shaping world politics. The book highlights the key points and tools of diplomacy and analyzes the role of diplomacy in conflict resolution and the creation of international relations. Based on extensive research, the authors show how diplomatic efforts and strategies influence the shaping of the world stage. This book is of interest both to students of international relations and diplomacy and to those interested in the dynamics of world politics.

13. Is a book [13], edited by Pauline Kerr and Geoffrey Wiseman, that provides a comprehensive overview of the theories and practices of diplomacy in the context of globalization. It examines various aspects of contemporary diplomacy, including the many global challenges, faced by modern states and international actors. The book provides an analysis of different schools of mediation in the field of diplomacy and explores how diplomacy adapts to the rapidly changing conditions of world politics. It can be a useful resource for students, researchers and practitioners interested in the dynamics of international relations and the role of diplomacy in a global context.

14. The book [14] describes how, like other Latin American states, the main goals of Peru's foreign policy since independence have been sovereignty, territorial integrity, regionalism, continental solidarity, and economic independence based on the mediation of diplomatic relations.

15. Book [15] explores Mexico's foreign policy using the 'mediation' approach. It describes and explains main external actions from the country's independence in the nineteenth century to Andrés Manuel López Obrador's administration. The principal argument is that Mexico has resorted to mediation due to geographic, historical, economic, security, and political reasons.

3. The aim and objective of this study

The purpose of this article is to explore the role and effectiveness of mediation in diplomatic conflicts and analyze successful examples of its use in Latin American practice.

To accomplish the aim, the following tasks have been set:

1. Exploring the role of mediation in international diplomatic conflicts
2. Analyzing Successful Mediation Cases in Latin America
3. Identifying the prospects and challenges of mediation in diplomatic relations
4. Emphasizing the importance of mediation in ensuring sustainable international relations.

4. Materials and methods

The study of mediation in Latin American diplomatic conflicts utilized a variety of materials and methods to examine the topic from different angles.

The sources examined included academic articles, research studies, books and publications in the fields of international relations, diplomacy and conflict studies that highlight the role and practice of mediation in Latin American diplomatic disputes. This included an analysis of contemporary publications from the last five years, as well as a retrospective study of earlier works.

The methodological approach was based on qualitative analysis of texts, comparative analysis of mediation practices in different Latin American countries, and case studies of diplomatic disputes and their resolution using mediation.

The generalization and analysis of the data obtained made it possible to identify general trends, advantages, limitations and lessons of mediation in diplomatic conflicts in Latin America, which is reflected in this research paper.

5. Results and discussion

Mediation plays a key role in resolving diplomatic conflicts by providing a valuable tool for reaching peaceful and sustainable solutions between the parties. In today's world, write Federico Finchelstein and Juan Pablo Scarfi, where diplomatic controversies can have global implications, mediation is becoming an integral part of international relations [1].

Consider the roles mediation plays in the context of diplomatic conflicts [2].

– Mediation provides a neutral and objective platform for the parties to discuss their differences. Mediators facilitate the exchange of arguments and points of view, creating a favorable environment for dialogue. This allows the parties to identify common interests as well as ways to find compromise solutions.

– Mediation aims to find solutions that satisfy the interests of both parties. Mediators help to balance different needs and demands by creating a framework, within which a fair and satisfactory compromise can be reached. This avoids one-sided solutions that can exacerbate the conflict.

– Mediation helps to reduce emotional and political tensions between the parties. A neutral mediator helps to settle disputes, preventing them from escalating into violence or larger conflicts. This preserves stability and prevents negative consequences for society.

– Mediation seeks to create solutions that are sustainable in the long term. Mediators help parties to consider the future consequences of their actions by devising ways that do not upset future balances and interests.

– The key role of the mediator is to rebuild trust and improve communication between the parties. By creating a safe and constructive environment for communication, mediators help the parties to overcome disagreements and misunderstandings.

In general, mediation in diplomatic conflicts contributes to creating a positive and productive space for finding solutions. It combines elements of dialogue, compromise and fairness, making peaceful conflict resolution possible even in the most difficult situations.

Mediation is a dispute resolution process based on the intervention of a neutral party, known as a mediator, to help conflicting parties find agreement and compromise solutions [3]. In the international context, mediation acts as an alternative dispute resolution method that provides the involvement of an independent third party to help the parties find common ground and find informed solutions. However, mediation is different from arbitration and litigation, as the mediator does not make a judgment, but helps the parties to find mutually acceptable solutions between themselves.

If we look at global examples of successful mediation to settle interstate disputes, a striking example is the grain deal in the second half of 2023, where Ukraine found the necessary diplomatic arguments and offered Turkey to restore the “grain corridor” without Russia.

Thus, at the G20 summit, held in New Delhi, India, on September 9–10, 2023, the G20 leaders called for the implementation of the grain deal to ensure unimpeded supplies of food and fertilizers from Russia and agro-industrial products from Ukraine. This is stated in the final declaration of the G20 summit “We appreciate Turkey’s efforts and the UN-brokered Istanbul agreements consisting of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the United Nations Secretariat for the Promotion of Russian Food and Fertilizer Products to World Markets and the Initiative for the Safe Transportation of Grain and Food from Ukrainian Ports (the “Black Sea Initiative”), and call for their full, timely and effective implementation to ensure immediate and unimpeded supplies of food and fertilizers from Ukraine to the United Nations.

Mediation in diplomatic conflicts represents an important legal aspect of international relations. This method of conflict resolution offers countries the opportunity to avoid lengthy and costly litigation and to reach a peaceful agreement through the mediation of neutral parties. The use of mediation in diplomatic disputes has a broad legal context and can include aspects, such as the interpretation of international law, treaty obligations and the rights of sovereign states.

In examining mediation in Latin American diplomatic conflicts – let us highlight some, successfully conducted negotiations that have contributed to the resolution of disputes and peace.

Here are some examples:

1. The Barrio Ventura Agreement (Nicaragua and Honduras):

Mediation by the Organization of American States (OAS) helped negotiate the 1986 Barrio Ventura Agreement between Nicaragua and Honduras. This treaty ended the conflict between the two countries and provided a solution to the territorial boundary dispute.

2. Agreement for the Peaceful Resolution of the Conflict in El Salvador (Chapultepec Agreement):

In 1992, with the help of United Nations (UN) mediation, the Chapultepec Agreement was reached between the government of El Salvador and the rebel group FMLN (Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front). This agreement ended a 12-year civil war and brought peace to the country. The document was signed on January 16, 1992.

3. Havana Accords (Guatemala):

Mediated by the State Harmonization Commission (CICIG) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CIDH), the Havana Accords were signed in 1996 between the government of Guatemala and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unit (URNG). This treaty ended 36 years of internal conflict.

4. Agreement between Colombia and FARC (True Agreement):

In 2016, the True Agreement was signed between the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). This agreement ended a long conflict and paved the way for peace in Colombia. The agreement was signed on August 24, 2016.

5. Costa Rica-Nicaragua Border Agreement:

In 2018, mediation by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CIDH) helped resolve a long-standing dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua over their border territories. The agreement was signed on March 16, 2018, and provided clear rules to define the border.

These international treaties have been important for peace and stability in Latin America and emphasize the role of mediation in resolving international conflicts in the region.

These examples emphasize the importance of mediation in resolving diplomatic conflicts in Latin America and its ability to help resolve complex disputes and bring peace. Mediators play a key role in building legal and political foundations for peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution.

In the context of international disputes, mediation is of particular importance. It allows parties in conflict to avoid lengthy and complex litigation, which can exacerbate tensions and incur significant costs. Mediation also helps to maintain interaction and dialog between countries, which is an important factor for sustainable international relations. In addition, mediation upholds the ideals of peaceful conflict resolution, helping to create stability and prevent conflict from escalating into violence. All of this makes mediation an integral part of the modern international legal order and a means to ensure a world order based on dialogue, respect and justice.

In the Latin American context, mediation plays an important role in the resolution of diplomatic conflicts, helping to resolve differences between countries and ensuring the preservation of peace and stability in the region. Due to the complex political and cultural dynamics of the region, diplomatic disputes can be particularly challenging, and this is where mediation plays an important role in mediating and finding compromise solutions.

An example of the successful use of mediation in diplomatic disputes in Latin America is the 1998 border agreement between Ecuador and Peru, mediated by the United States and Brazil. This agreement resolved a long-standing conflict over borders and water supply zones, reducing tensions and creating a basis for further cooperation between the countries. This example shows how mediation can serve as a bridge between diplomatic interests, helping to overcome barriers and find common solutions even in difficult situations.

Mediation is a voluntary dispute resolution process, in which an independent third party, the mediator, helps the conflicting parties to find a mutually acceptable solution. This method is based on cooperation, open dialog and the search for compromise solutions, rather than the use of force or legal procedure. In Latin America, where diplomatic and international disputes can be complex and sometimes subject to historical tensions, mediation plays an important role in finding peaceful and sustainable solutions.

Several factors contribute to the importance of mediation in resolving international disputes in Latin America. First, the practice allows countries to preserve their sovereignty and dignity, as they participate in the process of solving their problems through dialog and consent, rather than through third-party intervention. Second, mediation helps to establish and maintain positive relations between countries, which is important for peace and stability in the region. The use of mediation also helps to reduce tensions and prevent the escalation of conflicts, which is particularly relevant in a region with historical cleavages and potential sources of friction.

Examples of international dispute resolution through mediation in Latin America

1. Colombia-Venezuela Agreement on Border and Boundary Issues (2010): For a long time, Colombia and Venezuela had unresolved border disputes and border issues that could lead to serious tensions between the countries. With the mediation of the U.S. and other international actors, an agreement was reached between the countries in 2010 where they agreed to resolve the border disputes and create a common border commission. This agreement not only resolved the conflict, but also built confidence between the countries and ensured a peaceful neighborhood.

2. Agreement on Maritime Boundary Delimitation between Peru and Chile (2014): For many years, Peru and Chile had a maritime boundary dispute that complicated their relationship. With the mediation of the UN International Court of Justice, the countries reached an agreement on the delimitation of maritime zones, which resolved the dispute and allowed for a peaceful neighborhood. This example shows how mediation can help resolve even complex territorial disputes and create sustainable solutions.

These examples demonstrate the importance of mediation in resolving international disputes in Latin America and its ability to promote peaceful and stable relations between countries in the region.

Mediation as a method of conflict resolution has a number of significant advantages over traditional methods, such as litigation or the use of force. In Latin America, these advantages are particularly relevant given the complexity and sensitivity of many conflicts in the region. First, mediation allows the parties to retain control over the dispute resolution process while taking an active role in finding a solution themselves. For example, in the long-term boundary dispute between Colombia and Venezuela, cited above, the parties themselves participated in the mediation process and reached a mutually acceptable decision on the boundaries.

Second, mediation helps to preserve relations and dialog between conflicting parties. In a region where historical and ethnic divisions can be particularly acute, this plays an important role. For example, in Bolivia, after the conflict between the government and indigenous peoples in 2011, mediation helped to restore dialog and prevent further escalation. Thus, mediation in Latin America demonstrates that it can

provide not only practical but also interpersonal aspects of conflict resolution, making it a more attractive alternative to traditional methods.

Latin America, despite its cultural and geographic diversity, is also a region where diplomatic conflicts arise and are resolved. These conflicts can have different sources, including border disputes, national interests, trade disputes, quarrels over resources, and even ideological differences. For example, for a long time, Colombia and Venezuela have had disputes over border and boundary issues, caused by territorial disagreements. Such conflicts can create tensions and negatively affect relations between countries, and sometimes even escalate.

Diplomatic conflicts in Latin America can also have international dimensions. For example, the dispute between Argentina and Great Britain over the Falkland Islands is a long-term diplomatic problem. This conflict has historical and territorial roots, and its resolution requires international mediation and diplomatic efforts. Such complex conflicts often require finding creative solutions and agreements that satisfy the interests of both sides.

However, diplomatic conflicts in Latin America also provide an opportunity for peaceful solutions and cooperation. Mediation, as a method of conflict resolution, can play an important role in reaching mutually acceptable agreements and ensuring stability in the region [4]. Examples of this approach include successful agreements on borders, maritime zones and trade relations that have promoted peaceful neighborhoods and mutually beneficial cooperation among Latin American countries.

Let us also take a closer look at the typical diplomatic conflicts, faced by countries in the Latin American region.

There are a number of typical diplomatic conflicts that can arise between countries in the Latin America region [5]. Some of these include:

- Disputes over borders and territorial issues are among the most common conflicts in Latin America. Problems can arise from unclear boundaries, disputed territories, or historical disagreements over ownership of certain land areas. An example is the long-running border dispute between Guatemala and Belize.

- Trade conflicts may arise from violations of trade agreements, imposition of duties or other trade restrictions. These disputes can affect economic interests and relations between countries. An example is a trade dispute between the United States and Mexico over trade in agricultural products.

- Resource conflicts can arise over control of natural resources, such as oil, gas, water, etc. Countries may fight over the right to extract and use these resources on their territory or in international waters [6]. An example is the dispute between Venezuela and Colombia over oil extraction rights in the Caribbean Sea.

- The region also faces the threat of terrorism and drug trafficking, which can cause diplomatic tensions. Countries may face security issues, fighting terrorist organizations and controlling drug production and distribution.

- Border crossings and immigration issues can cause disputes between countries. Issues related to refugees, migrants' rights and countries' responsibilities to assist in humanitarian crises can become sources of conflict.

These typical diplomatic conflicts emphasize the difficulties, faced by Latin American countries, and the need to find peaceful and diplomatic ways to resolve them [7].

Here are examples of conflicts over trade, borders, resources and other areas in the Latin American region.

Trade Conflict.

In 2019, the U.S. imposed high duties on steel and aluminum imports from Brazil and Argentina, justifying it with unfair currency manipulation practices. This caused discontent and resentment from both countries, who considered the measures unfair. The conflict forced the countries to seek alternative ways to cooperate and resolve the dispute.

Granitzen dispute.

The dispute between Guatemala and Belize over the territorial boundary has been going on for decades. Guatemala continues to claim part of Belize's territory, causing tension between the countries. Despite various attempts to resolve the dispute, full agreement has yet to be reached.

Resource Disputes.

In the context of resource conflicts, we can consider the example of the dispute between Venezuela and Colombia over oil rights in the Caribbean Sea. Venezuela has claimed rights to a large part of this area, prompting protests from Colombia. The conflict can affect both economic and geopolitical interests of both countries.

Terrorism and drug trafficking.

The problem of drug trafficking and related organizations has a heavy impact on the security and stability of the region. For example, the Sinaloa drug cartel in Mexico has long been an active player in drug trafficking and has committed crimes not only in Mexico but also in other Latin American countries.

Immigration and humanitarian issues.

The increased number of migrants and refugees trying to leave Latin American countries in search of a better life is causing social and political problems in the region and beyond. Conflicts can arise from the inability of countries to cope with migrant flows and provide adequate conditions for them.

These examples underscore the diversity and complexity of conflicts in Latin America, which require careful analysis and effective solutions to ensure stability and peace in the region.

The use of mediation in diplomatic disputes in Latin America has been of significant importance in finding peaceful and negotiated solutions to conflicts between countries in the region. One outstanding example of the successful use of mediation is the situation between Chile and Peru, where the countries had a long-standing territorial dispute, known as the «War for the Pacific». In 2014, with the mediation of international organizations and neutral parties, it was possible to reach an agreement on the border and end the tension between the countries.

An important feature of mediation in diplomatic disputes in the region is the active participation of international organizations and neighboring countries as mediators. For example, the Organization of American States (OAS) plays a mediating role in resolving disputes, including issues of democracy and human rights. This demonstrates the importance of multilateral efforts to find just and sustainable solutions to conflicts.

The use of mediation in diplomatic disputes in Latin America contributes to the preservation of stability and peace in the region and supports the principles of international law and cooperation. However, it is important to realize, that not all conflicts can be resolved through mediation, and sometimes a more complex and lengthy process of diplomatic negotiation is required [8].

The principles and stages of mediation in the international context as applied in Latin America are similar to generally accepted mediation principles, but are tailored to the specificities of the region and diplomatic disputes. It is important to recognize, that each conflict may have its own unique characteristics, but the general mediation process includes the following principles and steps:

Principles of mediation [12]:

1. Neutrality and impartiality: The mediator is a neutral party with no interest in the outcome of the conflict, thus ensuring the trust of all participants.

2. Voluntariness: Participation in mediation should be voluntary for all parties and they should be willing to actively participate in the process of finding a solution.

3. Confidentiality: An important aspect of mediation is the confidentiality of the process. It allows the parties to discuss their interests and concerns openly without fear of repercussions.

4. Cooperation: Mediation participants must be willing to cooperate and seek mutual understanding in order to find a common solution.

Stages of mediation:

1. Preparation: In this phase, the parties to the conflict are identified, a mediator is selected, and the first contact between the parties and the mediator takes place.

2. Information gathering and interest identification: The mediator helps the parties to identify their interests, needs and concerns, and gathers information about the conflict.

3. Generating options: The parties jointly generate different options for resolving the conflict based on their interests.

4. Discussion and selection of a solution: All proposed solutions are discussed and then the parties select the most acceptable option.

5. Agreement: When the parties agree on a specific solution, it is formalized as an agreement or action plan.

In the international context of Latin America, mediation can be a very effective tool for resolving diplomatic disputes, given the cultural and political specificities of the region. The mediation process helps countries find a compromise solution, reducing the risks of conflict escalation and contributing to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region [9].

Mediation as a method of diplomatic conflict resolution has been successfully adapted in Latin American regions.

A detailed examination of approaches to adapting mediation in resolving diplomatic disputes in Latin America reveals the following:

- cultural and historical adaptation
- International and regional organizations as mediators
- Use of artificial intelligence and technology
- public involvement
- Establishing mechanisms to implement solutions.

Adapting mediation to diplomatic conflicts in Latin America has required flexibility, regional sensitivity and cooperation between States and international organizations. This approach contributes to conflict resolution, peace and stability in the region.

The application of mediation in diplomatic disputes in Latin America leads to interesting case studies demonstrating the effectiveness of this approach:

1. Grenada-Venezuela (1983): At the time of the U.S. armed intervention in Grenada, relations were strained with Venezuela, which accused the U.S. of violating its sovereignty. A group of diplomats from other Latin American countries were brought in to mediate the conflict. Mediation helped to ease tensions and find a compromise solution.

2. Colombia-Venezuela (2010): This conflict stemmed from the killing of a Colombian rebel on Venezuelan territory. Mediation involved former leaders from different countries who mediated the negotiations. The result was the normalization of relations between the countries.

3. Nicaragua-Costa Rica (2011): A dispute between these countries over population centers and borders caused armed clashes. The United Nations Secretariat and mediators from other countries were able to reconcile the parties and develop a mechanism to resolve the conflict.

4. Colombia-Ecuador (2008): Borders were violated during a Colombian army operation in Ecuadorian territory. Mediation by the Organization of American States (OAS) helped the parties find a common understanding and prevent further tensions.

5. Haiti-Dominican Republic (1990): A dispute over migration and the status of Dominicans of Haitian descent led to strained relations. Among the mediators, the Organization of American States (OAS) contributed, allowing the parties to agree on a settlement plan.

Analyzing successful cases of using mediation for conflict resolution in Latin America, we will highlight the effectiveness of the mediation approach in achieving peaceful solutions and easing tensions in the region [13].

Let's look at some key aspects and general lessons from successful cases.

In the Latin American region, a multilateral mediation approach is often used, involving several countries and international organizations as mediators. This creates a broader dialog and increases the legitimacy of the solution.

Organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations Secretariat, often play a key role in mediation in the region. Their involvement gives the process greater credibility and helps the parties find common ground.

In successful mediation cases, attention is paid to the interests of all parties to the conflict. Mediators help to identify common positions and find compromises that take into account diverse interests.

It is very important, that the agreements reached are implemented and monitored in the long term. Establishing mechanisms for monitoring and implementing agreements helps to build trust between the parties.

Mediation is used to resolve conflicts at both the inter-state and intra-state level. It allows for broader coverage and the resolution of diverse types of conflicts.

Successful cases of mediation in Latin America emphasize that this approach has the potential to reduce tensions, promote peaceful resolution of disputes and create conditions for long-term stability in the region. They also confirm the importance of the active role of international organizations and mediators in the mediation process.

Consider positive examples of mediation in border disputes, trade disagreements in Latin America.

1. Border dispute between Ecuador and Peru (1998):

Year: 1998.

Background: A long-standing border dispute between Ecuador and Peru over territorial boundaries has led to armed clashes in the past. The dispute concerned the Cordillera border area, which is rich in oil and natural resources.

Solution: A peace agreement was reached under the mediation of the Organization of American States (OAS). The parties agreed that the boundary would be determined on a «watershed-by-watershed» basis, which involves dividing territories by mountain tops and watersheds. The decision was taken after lengthy negotiations and included mechanisms for resolving future disputes.

2. Brazil-Argentina trade disagreement (2015):

Year: 2015.

Background: The dispute between Brazil and Argentina concerned trade policy, including the importation of agricultural products. Argentina imposed restrictions on imports of Brazilian agricultural products, which led to Brazilian resentment and the threat of a trade war.

Solution: Through United Nations (UN) mediation, the parties reached an agreement to gradually lift import restrictions. Mechanisms were put in place to gradually resolve differences, helping to avoid escalation of the conflict and ease tensions in trade relations.

3. Chile-Argentina border dispute (1984):

Year: 1984.

Background: The border dispute between Chile and Argentina dates back to the colonial era. The main point of contention was the Lago del Desierto zone, which has geostrategic and economic importance.

Solution: After lengthy negotiations and under the mediation of Pope John Paul II, an agreement was reached. The parties agreed to maintain the status quo and to establish a special management regime for the Lago del Desierto area that ensured common access to resources and dispute resolution.

These examples illustrate the successful use of mediation to resolve border disputes and trade disagreements in Latin America. Mediation allows parties to find compromises, providing stability and reducing the likelihood of conflict.

Mediation in Latin America has its own unique characteristics due to the historical, cultural and legal aspects of the region. These peculiarities influence approaches to mediation and its practical implementation.

Latin America is known for its rich cultural diversity and varied national identities. This has an impact on the mediation process, as cultural backgrounds and values can play a key role in conflict resolution. Mediators take these factors into account to ensure that the cultural norms and traditions of the parties are respected.

There is an active involvement of international organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations Secretariat, in conflict resolution in the region. These organizations play an important role in mediation by providing platforms and mechanisms for negotiation and agreement.

Many countries in Latin America face social and economic problems, such as inequality, poverty and political tensions. Mediation can be a tool for resolving not only international but also internal conflicts [14]. It can contribute to stability and social harmony.

These characteristics emphasize the importance of adapting mediation techniques to the unique conditions of Latin America. A flexible and respectful approach to the cultural and legal nuances of the region contributes to more successful mediation outcomes and promotes peace and stability.

Mediation practice in the Latin American region is influenced by a number of cultural and historical factors that are important to consider when conducting successful mediation processes [10].

Latin America is characterized by great cultural diversity. Each country has its own unique traditions, languages, religious beliefs and customs. This diversity can influence the structure and approaches to mediation. Mediators need to be sensitive to these differences to ensure that cultural norms are respected and that the parties are able to express their interests and needs.

Many Latin American countries have experienced a period of colonialism and violence, which has left traces in their history and social consciousness. This can create deep intercultural and social rifts that are reflected in conflicts. Mediation can help heal these wounds and promote reconciliation.

Many countries in the region face problems of social inequality and poverty. This can create conflicts related to access to resources and opportunities. Mediation can be a mechanism to resolve disputes related to socio-economic issues and help improve justice and equity [15].

Religious and spiritual traditions play a significant role in the lives of many peoples in Latin America. They can influence values, moral norms and perceptions of justice. Mediators can use this aspect to build trust and reconciliation.

All these cultural and historical factors emphasize the need to respect and adapt mediation to local conditions and specificities. A flexible approach, the ability to understand and accommodate cultural nuances and respect for national identity are key to successful mediation in Latin America.

Both state and non-state actors play an important role in mediation processes in the Latin American region. Their joint participation contributes to the effective resolution of conflicts and the creation of stability:

1. State actors

Latin American states can play an active role in mediation processes, especially in international diplomatic disputes. They can act as mediators or mediation organizers, as well as provide support and resources for the successful implementation of the process. For example, Brazil played an important role in resolving the dispute between Colombia and Venezuela in 2010 by making its territory available for negotiations.

2. Non-state actors

Non-governmental organizations, community groups, activists and even indigenous peoples can also actively participate in mediation processes in Latin America. They can provide expertise, create dialog platforms and give voice to disadvantaged parties. An example is the participation of the «Congress of Peoples» in Colombia in conflict resolution with indigenous peoples. Non-state actors often help to create an atmosphere of trust and participation of all stakeholders.

Thus, the joint impact of state and non-state actors in mediation processes in Latin America can significantly increase the chances of successful conflict resolution and contribute to the creation of sustainable peace.

Mediation in Latin American diplomatic conflicts offers a number of significant benefits. First, it allows the parties to maintain friendly relations and avoid the escalation of armed clashes. This is particularly important in a region that has faced serious armed conflicts in the past. For example, mediation helped to resolve a conflict between Ecuador and Peru over territorial disputes in 1998.

Second, mediation facilitates the participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and disadvantaged groups. This allows for a diversity of interests and needs to be taken into account,

which can lead to more sustainable and equitable solutions. For example, in the case of mediation between Colombia and indigenous peoples, their cultural and land rights were taken into account.

However, mediation also has limitations. In some cases, especially when the conflict involves deep historical differences or state interests, the parties may lack trust in the mediator or fear the transparency of the process. There is also a risk that a lengthy mediation process may lead to protracted conflict resolution, especially if no agreement can be reached. In general, however, mediation in Latin American diplomatic conflicts offers significant opportunities to resolve disputes in a way that is inclusive of all parties and ensures stability in the region.

There are various international organizations and agreements that regulate mediation and conflict resolution procedures in the region.

1. Organization of American States (OAS): The OAS, in the form of the Pan American Union, began its work in 1889 – with the First American International Conference held in Washington, DC. It was then that the basis for its institutions and regulations was prepared and the founding of this association was approved. The year of creation of the Organization of American States is considered 1948 - the year of signing its Charter. It came into force in 1951. The OAS is often involved in conflict resolution in Latin America and may use mediation in this process. They are responsible for maintaining peace and security in the region.

2. Ceasefire and cessation of hostilities agreement: without a doubt a historic moment. The most protracted military conflict on the planet can be ended. In Havana, peace talks in Colombia ended with the signing of a Ceasefire Agreement between the Colombian government and the FARC-EP rebel army. The head of the Colombian government delegation, Humberto de la Calle, and the head of the FARC delegation, Ivan Marquez, signed the final treaty in 2016, the implementation of which should "put an end to more than 50 years of armed conflict." The agreement opened up broad prospects for a peaceful settlement in Colombian society after the end of the civil conflict. In the case of armed conflicts in Latin America, a mediated ceasefire agreement has been established.

3. Mediation processes under the auspices of the United Nations: The UN is involved in mediating conflicts in the region, and UN mediators are involved in resolving emerging conflicts in Latin America. UN Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA; Comisión Económica para América Latina - CEPAL), one of the regional commissions of the UN Economic and Social Council. Established in 1948 as a temporary body, since 1951 a permanent regional commission.

Diplomatic interaction between Latin American states is carried out within the framework of other regional organizations. The tasks of the most general nature are performed by the Latin American Integration Association (LAI), established under the Montevideo Treaty of 1980, which replaced the Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), established in 1960. The functioning mechanism of LAI includes the following elements:

- Council of Foreign Ministers (meets once a year);
- Committee of Representatives, operating on a permanent basis at the expert level;
- A General Secretariat, headed by the Secretary-General of the organization (headquarters in Montevideo, Uruguay).

The main directions in the work of LAI: expansion and regulation of bilateral trade, promotion of complementarity of national economies, full-scale development of economic cooperation to expand the regional market, creation of a common market of Latin American countries.

The Latin American Economic System (SELA), another Latin American intergovernmental organization, created in 1975 on the basis of the Panama Treaty, has similar objectives. However, it has another important purpose – to develop common positions and strategies for Latin American States on economic and social issues when considering them in international organizations and forums of universal character, as well as in negotiations with third countries and associations of States. The organization's highest organ is the Latin American Council, convened annually at the level of foreign ministers. Operational diplomatic work is coordinated by various committees and commissions, as well as by the Permanent Secretariat, headquartered in Caracas, Venezuela.

Subregional political and economic integration in Latin America is realized through the following main structures: the Common Market of the Southern Cone, the Andean Community, the Central American Integration Community, the Association of Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Group of Three. The largest of these, and the most dynamic and influential, is the Common Market of the Southern Cone (MERCOSUR), created in 1991 by the Treaty of Asunción. Globally, MERCOSUR is the second Customs Union after the European Union (EU) in terms of size and economic potential, and the third free trade area after the EU and the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA).

The organizational structure of MERCOSUR is flexible, simple and practical. The member countries already at the initial stage of the grouping set the goal of having a simple and inexpensive system of governance. With mandatory representation of the government of each of the four member countries, it does not envisage the creation of any supranational body. All decisions are taken by consensus in the presence of the participating countries.

Mediation in Latin America has both positive and negative aspects, including the preservation of relationships and the flexibility of the process:

Positives:

– One of the key benefits of mediation in the region is its ability to preserve friendly relations between the parties. In Latin America, where there have historically been conflicts and tensions, maintaining positive ties is important to ensure stability and peace in the region.

– Mediation in Latin America is often adapted to specific cultural and social contexts. This allows the diversity of interests and needs of the parties, including indigenous peoples and disadvantaged groups, to be taken into account. The flexibility of the process contributes to more equitable and sustainable solutions.

Negatives:

– One of the limitations of mediation can be its protracted nature. Conflicts may be prolonged because of the difficulty of reaching agreement between the parties. This is especially true in cases where the conflict involves deep historical differences or complex issues of territorial rights.

– If the parties lack trust in each other or in the mediator, the mediation process can be difficult. This is especially true in diplomatic disputes where state interests and security are important.

So, mediation in Latin America has advantages, such as preserving relationships and the flexibility of the process, but it can also face limitations, including protracted processes and a lack of trust between the parties.

The use of mediation in the international arena in Latin America comes with certain limitations and potential risks. First of all, one of the main limitations is the difficulty of reaching consensus between states with different interests and positions. Mediation requires mutual understanding and a willingness to compromise, and in the case of international disputes, especially those involving territorial or resource issues, such compromise may not be easy.

An additional risk is the potential dissatisfaction of one party with the outcome of the mediation. In case one party feels that its interests have not been sufficiently considered or the decision is unfair, this may lead to further conflict and tension in the relationship [11]. Moreover, some diplomatic disputes in the region may be so complex and sensitive that mediation may not be effective enough and the parties may prefer more formal and rigid methods of resolution.

Applying the mediation lessons and experiences from the Latin American market can provide valuable lessons and principles that can be applicable and useful for other regions of the world. First, one key lesson is the importance of incorporating cultural and historical aspects into mediation processes. Latin American practice demonstrates that taking into account the cultural norms, values and traditions of the parties to a conflict can contribute to more successful and sustainable dispute resolution.

Second, mediation in Latin America shows the importance of including a wide range of stakeholders in the conflict resolution process. This can be particularly relevant in international disputes where complex geopolitical and economic issues are at stake. The participation not only of states, but also of civil society organizations, indigenous peoples and other groups can enrich the dialogue and contribute to a more comprehensive and equitable solution.

Finally, the Latin American experience of mediation emphasizes the importance of flexibility and adaptation of processes to a variety of contexts. The region is characterized by great cultural, economic and political diversity, and mediation here is often adapted to specific contexts and needs. This is a lesson that may be valuable for other regions where there is also a diversity of interests and factors.

Overall, the mediation lessons from the Latin American market can be an inspiring example for other regions, helping to shape more inclusive, adaptive and effective conflict resolution practices.

Transferring the lessons and experiences of mediation, gathered in Latin America, to other regions of the world can represent a valuable source of knowledge and practices to improve conflict resolution. First, one of the key aspects that can be transferred is cultural sensitivity and contextualization. Successful examples of mediation in Latin America emphasize that the participation of cultural experts and the adaptation of approaches to local values and traditions contribute to more effective dispute resolution in different parts of the world.

Second, the principle of inclusion of diverse actors in the mediation process can also be useful in other regions. The participation of civil society, activists, experts and other interest groups can enrich the dialogue, provide a wider range of perspectives and contribute to more balanced and sustainable solutions.

Finally, the adaptability and flexibility of mediation, found in Latin America, can be applied in other regions to adequately respond to complex and diverse conflict situations. The approaches, applied in the region, can serve as a starting point for the creation of more universal methods that will be adapted to local conditions and needs.

Thus, transferring the lessons and experiences of mediation from Latin America to examining the examples of successful Latin American practices in conflict resolution provides an opportunity to see what approaches and methods from the region can be successfully transferred and adapted to other parts of the world. One example is the use of the advice of elders and sages in conflict resolution among indig-

enous peoples. This experience may be valuable for regions where traditional forms of discussion and decision-making also exist.

Another successful example is the practice of mediation in family disputes, which is widely used in Latin America. This experience can be transferred to other regions to improve family relations and resolve family law conflicts. A relational and collaborative approach can be useful in many other cultural contexts.

In addition, the experience of using mediation to resolve boundary and resource disputes in Latin America can serve as inspiration for other regions facing similar challenges. The effective use of mediation in such complex and high-stress situations can mitigate tensions and provide participants with a constructive path to dispute resolution.

In conclusion, the analysis of the practice of mediation in diplomatic conflicts, taking into account the experience of Latin America, emphasizes the importance and effectiveness of this tool in resolving interstate disputes. Examples of successful use of mediation in the region show that this approach can contribute to constructive dialog, preserving relations and achieving mutually beneficial solutions. Mediation is a powerful mechanism that can ensure stability and cooperation between countries.

Importantly, the use of mediation in Latin American diplomatic disputes highlights not only its effectiveness, but also its ability to adapt to a variety of contexts and specificities. Mediation approaches that take into account cultural, historical and political aspects prove that this tool can work successfully in the most complex and diverse situations.

Based on successful examples from Latin America, mediation remains an important tool for regions around the world seeking to peacefully resolve conflicts and strengthen international co-operation. This experience is a reminder that dialogue and co-operation can be more productive than confrontation and that mediation has the potential to be a bridge to a peaceful and sustainable future.

6. Conclusions

The study of mediation practices in diplomatic conflicts in Latin America provides us with valuable lessons and examples that can be successfully adapted and applied in other regions of the world. The Latin American experience demonstrates that mediation can effectively contribute to the resolution of complex international disputes, provided that it is properly approached and contextually sensitive.

Thus, as a result of the research, the following can be asserted:

1. Having studied the role of mediation in international diplomatic conflicts, the importance of the role of mediation in resolving international diplomatic conflicts was determined. The mediation mechanism helps to ease tensions, provides more open communication between the parties, and creates a favorable atmosphere for finding compromise solutions. The advantages of mediation include its neutrality, the possibility of providing expert advice and support for the agreement process. However, it should be kept in mind, that the effectiveness of mediation may depend on the political context, the role and engagement of the mediators, and the willingness of the parties to accept compromise. Ultimately, successful mediation can contribute to conflict resolution, peace and stability in the global community.

2. By analyzing successful cases of mediation in Latin America - This paper determined that mediation in resolving diplomatic conflicts in Latin America has high relevance and effectiveness. By analyzing successful mediation cases in the region, it can be seen, that this method has proven its ability to resolve a variety of disputes, including borders, trade disagreements, and other complex issues. Examples of successful mediation, such as the settlement of border conflicts between Ecuador and Peru, show that the use of mediation has helped to create harmony and reduce tensions. Importantly, successful mediation cases in Latin America are often based on neutrality and trust in the mediators, as well as the willingness of the parties to seek compromise solutions. These examples confirm that mediation has the potential to make a significant contribution to maintaining stability and peace in the region, as well as facilitating the resolution of complex diplomatic disputes.

3. In conducting the research, the prospects and challenges of mediation in diplomatic relations were identified. The prospects for the development of mediation in resolving diplomatic conflicts in Latin American countries remain encouraging. Given the complex political and geopolitical environment of the region, mediation can continue to play an important role in finding peaceful solutions and compromises between countries. Successful mediation practices, such as the resolution of border disputes, offer hope for expanding the use of this method to resolve other types of conflicts, including trade and resource disputes. It is also important to develop trust among the states in the region and to establish mechanisms for sharing experience and expertise in mediation. In the future, given the increasing role of regional organizations and international initiatives, mediation can become an integral part of Latin America's diplomatic practice, contributing to stability, cooperation and dispute resolution in the region.

4. It is also necessary to emphasize the importance of mediation in ensuring sustainable international relations. Mediation plays a key role in ensuring sustainable international relations when diplomatic conflicts arise. Instead of escalating tensions and armed conflicts, the mediation approach allows countries to find ways to peacefully resolve disputes. The advantage of mediation is that it preserves dialog be-

tween the parties, preserves and builds trust, and enables them to reach a mutually acceptable compromise. In addition, successful mediation practices set precedents that can, in the long run, contribute to stability and long-term relations between countries. Maintaining and developing mediation tools and mechanisms in international diplomatic relations is an indispensable element in creating a sustainable world system based on dialogue, cooperation and non-violence.

Conflict of interest

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