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The Development of US-Russian Relations Since 2001-2016

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Abstract

This research seeks to determine the relationship between the United States and Russia about five major events: the war in Afghanistan, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea, the war in Iraq, the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Smart PLS 3.0 is used to acquire and analyze the data for this study, which is based on 78 respondents. Five major events, including the war in Afghanistan, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea, the war in Iraq, the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, have significantly disrupted the relationship between the United States and Russia, according to this research. This research is founded on primary data collected to determine its findings. As a result of the research findings, this study significantly contributes to the existing body of knowledge. This research has important theoretical implications that must be considered for this study. In addition, the research has some practical implications that should be considered when attempting to improve relations between the United States and Russia. To contribute to the body of knowledge, prospective researchers must consider certain future directions of this research.

Introduction

Relations between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Russia significantly promote international stability. As a result of Russian-American relations, the world views them as fluctuating between a competitive and cooperative nature following the ambitions and interests of both parties (Mbah & Wasum, 2022). Noting that there was never a direct military confrontation as a result of mutual deterrence, the nature of relations is distant and asymmetrical, as they are affected by and interact with numerous variables and issues, despite the desire to establish bilateral cooperation between the two parties and normal work on a global scale. Nevertheless, this desire may vary based on the political conditions and nature of the political administration in the two countries. Therefore, it was necessary to compare the policies of the American administrations during the era of the presidents who have led the United States since 2001, as well as the impact of this period on the nature of these relations, which are governed by various issues and trends. Accordingly, the investigation began with a question: Do successive US and Russian administrations affect the course and nature of relations between the two countries? What are the most influential variables that have shaped the nature of Russian-American relations regarding issues and crises? What are the American and Russian administrations' positions?

During the last few decades, US-Russian relations have undergone numerous transformations, as this transformation was associated with the concept of the "new millennium", and the transformation in US-Russian relations was associated with a change in the quality of leadership on both sides during this period (Richter, 2019). The most conservative

administration has assumed power on the American side, dividing the world into two groups: those who concur with the new American administration and seek its favor, and those who oppose it (Malik et al., 2022). As for the Russian side, its leadership was interested in bolstering the country's leadership role and stature, but in a pragmatic manner. Therefore, the vision of the Russian Federation's leadership during that time was to establish dialogue and bilateral partnership principles for new strategic relations and bilateral cooperation in the interest of international security.

Strategic stability and threat mitigation. Due to the competitive nature of its relationship with the United States during Putin's presidency, Russia sought to strengthen its ties with other nations to the greatest extent feasible. It worked to improve its diplomacy to avoid the isolation imposed on it after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and to counter any Western attempt to encircle Russia. On the international stage, the Russian government tended to restore Russia's role and international standing and play more active external roles, such as during the Iranian nuclear crisis. This research seeks to determine the relationship between the United States and Russia about five major events: the war in Afghanistan, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea, the war in Iraq, the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This research is founded on primary data collected to determine its findings. As a result of the research findings, this study significantly contributes to the existing body of knowledge. This research has important theoretical implications that must be considered for this study. In addition, the research has some practical implications that should be considered when attempting to improve relations between the United States and Russia. To add to the body of knowledge, future researchers must consider the implications of this study's future directions.

Review of Literature

Numerous events and interactions between 2001 and 2004 contributed to the transformation of US-Russian relations, particularly during the assumption of power by two new presidents in both countries. As Russian President Putin aspired for Russia to return to the international arena gradually, it is anticipated. On the other hand, US President George Bush Jr. assumed the position of the forty-third president of the United States, who raised the slogan "Prosperous America" as numerous changes and crucial interactions characterized this period, which reshaped U.S.-Russian relations (Mbah & Wasum, 2022).

Tuesday, September 11, 2001, was not only an important day in the history of the United States but of the entire world, as this event altered the course of relations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation, as President George W. Bush was forced to interrupt his visit to a Florida elementary school. In his initial statement regarding the

incident, the president stated, "America has been exposed to a national tragedy today, and every effort will be made to track down the perpetrators. " The American president comforted and supported any action taken by the United States against parties whose characteristics were not yet clearly defined. Now that the majority of the evidence points to Al Qaeda, which was led by "Osama bin Laden" at the time, and which took refuge in Afghanistan, especially after the release of the audio recording of Bin Laden, in which he confirms the perpetrators of the operation are his men, we can say that this stage may have its first characteristics that began with the change in both countries at the turn of the century. As the new administration had an amazing view of its relations with countries that could be described as countries that are not aligned with the American decision, and it exerted pressure on these countries to adapt their policies to conform to what suits the American decision ([Al-Ali, 2016](#)), it was adamant in its pursuit of American hegemony by any means. At the same time, Vladimir Putin aspired for Russia to adopt political rationality as its guiding principle while preserving the Russian ideal of a return to the international stage.

Russia may have been reborn since Vladimir Putin became president. Governance, Russia (the sick man), referred to during President Yeltsin's rule, witnessed his decision to choose the Putin movement as his successor, which some characterized as the only correct decision made during Yeltsin's reign ([Richter, 2019](#)). In addition to the ingenuity, he acquired during his years of service with the KGB, he possessed a sterling reputation, an iron will, and a dogged determination. Putin was not the only person who believed Russia should strengthen its international relations and embrace a more rational approach to foreign policy. Rather, the Russian leaders who accompanied him are a new and unfamiliar approach to Russia, as they have not deviated from the image of the former Soviet Union portrayed throughout the century. The twenty Russians play a significant role in international leadership ([Awad, 2010](#)).

The attack had the effect of destabilizing the prevalent belief that superpowers cannot be touched. President Bush Jr. attempted to restore the confidence that the world's superpower had lost due to these events, and he called on all nations to unite in combating terrorism and eradicating its global roots. Afghanistan was thus selected as the first country to be accused of harboring the first suspect in the September 11 terrorist attacks, "Osama bin Laden" and his adherents from the Al-Qaeda organization. The United States declared it would not differentiate between terrorist organizations and the nations or governments that harbor them ([Malik et al., 202](#)). Before the conflict in Afghanistan, the United States declared that it intended to protect the planet from future terrorist threats. As a result, it requested assistance from various nations of the world. As a natural consequence of the American appeal to nations of the world to eradicate terrorism in alliance with the United States of America, most countries have responded positively. Moreover, with the approval of the international community to combat terrorist organizations, the question of

Afghanistan's priority in this military intervention arose, as well as the reasons why the United States chose Afghanistan as the first step in its war on terrorism ([Al-Olayawi & Al-Taie, 2022](#)).

In any case, the United States made the decision to intervene militarily in Afghanistan, with the approval of all countries that joined the coalition against terrorism. The war in Afghanistan began on October 7, 2001, and the declared objective of the invasion was to find Osama bin Laden and other top leaders. The members of al-Qaeda, the destruction of al-Qaeda and the eradication of the Taliban regime supported and protected al-Qaeda twenty-six days after the events. On the other hand, American forces began to move towards their objectives in Afghanistan, and it was remarkable that Russia joined this coalition and the ranks of the United States of America. Putin has abandoned anti-Americanism by incorporating his nation into this anti-terrorist coalition ([Mohammed & Maatouk, 2015a](#)).

The Caspian Sea region is located in northwest Asia and has an estimated area of (370) thousand square kilometres. It is of great geostrategic and economic significance. Its vast hydrocarbon reserves attracted the attention of global and regional powers, particularly after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in the final decade of the twentieth century. In addition, the Caspian Sea has been transformed into a lake shared by five countries (Iran, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan), who disagree on the legal basis for dividing their wealth. Despite this region's oil and natural gas wealth, the five Caspian countries face difficulties. A policy that prevents these countries from investing these resources and transferring them to global markets without the intervention of regional powers like Iran, Turkey, and Russia and international powers like the United States. Therefore, sea countries and external powers could conclude bilateral agreements, making this region a site of global competition ([Qalajieh, 2016](#)).

As a result of the presence of the Caspian Sea in the area of international competition, the US was able to exert influence in the region via the US-Azerbaijan alliance, which led to more conflict, competition, and instability as a result of the different political, military, and economic interests of the competing parties. In 2001 AD, Russia moved toward signing an agreement to sustain relations and principles of cooperation with Iran based on activating economic ties and cultural exchange to maintain their shared influence in the Caspian Sea and Central Asian regions. Therefore, Russia worked to prevent the entry of any international alliances that could contribute to strengthening relations between countries surrounding the Caspian Sea or its bilateral ties with external powers. Russia also attempted to maintain its objectives to assure global oil reserves for economic development, particularly given its relatively large share of the worldwide oil reserve balance ([Golovchenko et al., 2020](#)). As Russian natural gas exports ranged between (26-35%) of natural gas during that period, Russia must take more effective measures to secure and transport oil and gas

fields, whether by finding a legal formula that addresses the arbitrary division of the Caspian Sea's wealth between its countries, by following strategies that work to confront Western interference that works to ensure the so-called future European energy security, and by engaging the Turkish petrodollar. To Iran, this poses a threat to Russia's strategic ally in the region, Iran, while also impeding American access to the region via its ally Azerbaijan, which acquired most of the oil-rich Caspian Sea territory without coordination with other nations. In addition, extracting wealth from the sea requires a lot of expenditures that are out of proportion with the size of the Russian economy (Al-Mamouri, 2017).

The relationship between the United States of America and Russia remained cordial until the American invasion of Iraq fractured the international community. Russia was so opposed to this war that it threatened to use its veto in the Security Council if the United States used the United Nations to wage war against Iraq. During that period, Russia appeared to have gained regional and international independence. This was accompanied by the emergence of a clear-cut Russian foreign policy based on activating Russia's role at the regional and international levels so that it is not subject to hegemony or extortion, calling for a multipolar world that allows for maneuvering and influencing the course of international events, and rejecting the United States' unilateral control over the global system. The American administration provided a set of justifications to persuade American and international public opinion of the legitimacy of the Iraq War. These justifications centered on the failure of the government of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to implement United Nations resolutions related to allowing weapons inspection committees to conduct their work in Iraq. In addition to the existence of ties between the government of former president Saddam Hussein and Al-Qaeda, other terrorist organizations represent a threat to the international system's security and stability.

As a result, the United States endeavored to establish a connection between the September 11 terrorist attacks and Iraq, as the administration shifted to Iraq, which has become the primary target of the American anti-terrorism campaign. In addition, the American occupation of Iraq in April 2003 represented a significant turning point in Iraq's history. International and regional relations in terms of their interim and future effects on the fabric of relations between the countries of the region and the global powers that have direct strategic interests in the region, and from this point, the relations began to take on a competitive aspect between the American and Russian sides, which became evident when the American administration underestimated the significance of Russia's role in the fight against terrorism. Putin was aware that the value of trade exchange between Russia and the United States in 2001 amounted to 10 billion euros, while it amounted to 75 billion euros between Russia and Europe, or seven and a half times more, meaning that Russia could do without the United States. Therefore, on behalf of Europe, he implied that Europe should compensate for the American military influence and secure its energy

supplies so that Europe could prevail against America (Khoud, 2003). The United States has endeavored to expand the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and increase its membership. The Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland became the first former Warsaw Pact members to join NATO. In November 2002, at a meeting in Prague, NATO ministers decided to formally invite Estonia, Latvia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania to join the military alliance. Croatia, Albania, and the Republic of Montenegro also submitted requests to join NATO, which angered, alarmed. It heightened the concerns of the Russian Federation, which viewed the requests as an American challenge to NATO's border access (Al-Zaher, 2008).

However, the alliance's members other than the United States remained unenthusiastic about its expansion after its last major development in 2004. To encircle Russia, the United States supported efforts to invite other countries to join the alliance. In the middle of 2006, Albania, Croatia, the Republic of Macedonia, and Georgia convened in Dubrovnik, Croatia, to advance their membership aspirations. The United States has expressed explicit support for the three Balkan nations but has also advocated for the admission of Georgia and Ukraine (Dunay & Lanchowski, 2007). Putin explicitly cautioned American officials in response to Russia's rejection of the expansion plans. Consequently, if it remains on the agenda, the NATO expansion will contribute to continuing tensions between the United States and Russia.

As for the period between 2003 and 2004, it was merely the result of the preceding stage. Russia, anticipating a shift in the attitude of the United States and the West towards it, found itself in a precarious position when the United States began to impose its will. It presents itself aggressively as a monopoly to lead the world. It is present with an unusual degree of force in lands formerly regarded as under Russian sway. Rather, it has moved close to the Russian border and is mobilizing its forces to combat the Taliban in the aftermath of Kabul's fall, forcing Russia to reconsider its position. As a result of this incursion into regions that have historically, politically, and geographically been in Russia's orbit since the tsarist era under the pretext of battling terrorism, Russia's strategic orientations and paths have shifted.

During this time, relations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation deteriorated due to Russia's belief that the United States supported the color revolutions. In these revolutions, nonviolent resistance, protests, and demonstrations were employed, in addition to using a specific color or flower as a symbol. Three primary hues distinguished these revolutions: rose-red in Georgia in 2003 AD, orange in Ukraine in 2004 AD, and yellow as the lavender flower in Kyrgyzstan in 2005 AD. At the time, Russia accused the United States of supporting these revolutions with money and equipment, and the United States responded by exercising military, economic, and even diplomatic power against Russia's allies around the globe. To impair Russia's position in the

international system, the United States exerted diplomatic pressure on nations cultivating ties with Russia (Qalajieh, 2016). Based on this literature, the following hypotheses are formed:

Hypothesis 1: The war in Afghanistan disturbed the relationships between Russia and America.

Hypothesis 2: The competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea disturbed the relationship between Russia and America.

Hypothesis 3: The war in Iraq disturbed the relationships between Russia and America.

Hypothesis 4: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) expansion disturbed the relationships between Russia and America.

Hypothesis 5: The Russian Invasion of Ukraine disturbed the relationship between Russia and America.

Methodology

This research's data analysis is founded on information collected directly from respondents. This study's respondents were international affairs think tanks keen on the relationship between the United States and Russia. Because it was extremely difficult to target a significant number of populations for data collection, 78 respondents were targeted. These respondents were surveyed using a questionnaire to capture the data, measured using Likert scale items. This study's data were collected using a random sampling technique. This study has developed the scale items for each variable. Indeed, the existing studies in the scientific literature lacked measurement instruments for data collection. To operationalize the variables for this research, the process of scale item development was crucial, as the study reviewed a large body of literature. Thus, the investigation followed a comprehensive procedure. As the scale items were compiled, their validity and dependability were evaluated through data collection and analysis. Exploratory factor analysis and confirmatory factor analysis were utilized to determine the validity and dependability.

Initially, 30 respondents provided information to ascertain the validity and reliability of the data. Respondents were motivated to provide relevant information for this study. The exploratory factor analysis results for composite reliability and Cronbach alpha were determined using the AMOS 24 statistical instrument. In addition, the results demonstrated that the devised items are reliable, as the study validated that the data were collected using appropriate measurements. In addition, the correlations between the variables were examined using the confirmatory factor analysis results. These findings demonstrate that there is a correlation between the variables, as well as the relationships between the studies. In this way, the scale items devised for this study are taken into account in significant ways by the research findings. Finally, these items were used to collect data for this study's findings. This study utilized Smart PLS 3.0, an appropriate data analysis instrument, to determine the results of measurement and structural model assessments.

Data Analysis and Findings

This study examined the results of measurement model assessment and structural model assessment for the relationship test between various variables. For data analysis, Smart PLS 3.0 was used in this study. The measurement model results are used to examine convergent and discriminant validity. The convergent validity results in question Cronbach's alpha, factor loadings, composite reliability, and extracted average variance. The factor loadings test determines the individual-level validity of research items with a recommended threshold of > 0.60 (Shevlin & Miles, 1998). In addition, Cronbach alpha results are used to determine the validity of research measurement items and data as a whole, with a recommended threshold of > 0.70 (Tavakol & Dennick, 2011). On the other hand, the findings of composite reliability are utilized to determine the overall level of reliability of research items with a recommended threshold of > 0.70 (Raykov, 1997). The findings of the average variance derived are then used to determine the conclusions of variables between the research data with a recommended threshold of > 0.50 (dos Santos & Cirillo, 2021). The results of this study's convergent validity are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Convergent Validity

Variables	Factor Loadings	Cronbach Alpha	Composite Reliability	Average Variance Extracted
Relationship between Russia and America	0.69	0.88	0.79	0.59
War in Afghanistan	0.77	0.85	0.83	0.67
Competition of Energy Resources	0.84	0.94	0.77	0.65
War in Iraq	0.78	0.75	0.78	0.78
Expansion of NATO	0.77	0.87	0.84	0.69
Russian Invasion of Ukraine	0.73	0.89	0.89	0.74

The measurement model results are also utilized to determine the discriminant validity of the research data. The test of discriminant validity is used to determine how any research findings differ from a data collection standpoint. However, the Heteritrait-Monotrait (HTMT) method was used for the discriminant validity test in this study. Based on the findings of this study, the recommended threshold of HTMT 0.90 (Gold et al., 2001) is met using this test to determine HTMT. In this manner, the research findings are deemed to have discriminant validity.

The structural model's findings are used to determine path findings and to evaluate hypotheses. Consideration is given to these findings for this investigation. (Ramayah et al., 2018) The t-values greater than 1.96 are deemed appropriate for the data and hypotheses of this study. According to the results of hypothesis 1, the Afghanistan conflict significantly strained relations between Russia and the United States.

Table 2. HTMT

Variables	Relationship between Russia and America	War in Afghanistan	Competition of Energy Resources	War in Iraq	Expansion of NATO	Russian Invasion of Ukraine
Relationship between Russia and America						
War in Afghanistan	0.775					
Competition of Energy Resources	0.742	0.739				
War in Iraq	0.738	0.728	0.726			
Expansion of NATO	0.729	0.721	0.717	0.711		
Russian Invasion of Ukraine	0.711	0.709	0.701	0.659	0.648	

According to the effects of hypothesis 2, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea severely strained relations between Russia and the United States. Thirdly, according to the findings of hypothesis 3, the conflict in Iraq significantly disrupted relations between Russia and the United States. In addition, the results of hypothesis 4 demonstrated that the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) considerably strained relations between Russia and the United States. Lastly, the results of hypothesis 5 demonstrated that the Russian Invasion of Ukraine substantially strained relations between Russia and the United States. The findings regarding the hypotheses are reported in [Table 3](#). In addition, t-value results are reported in [Figure 1](#).

Table 3. Path Findings

Paths	T Statistics > 1.96	Results
Hypothesis 1	7.373	Accepted
Hypothesis 2	6.765	Accepted
Hypothesis 3	7.112	Accepted
Hypothesis 4	4.382	Accepted
Hypothesis 5	4.927	Accepted
Hypothesis 6	5.833	Accepted

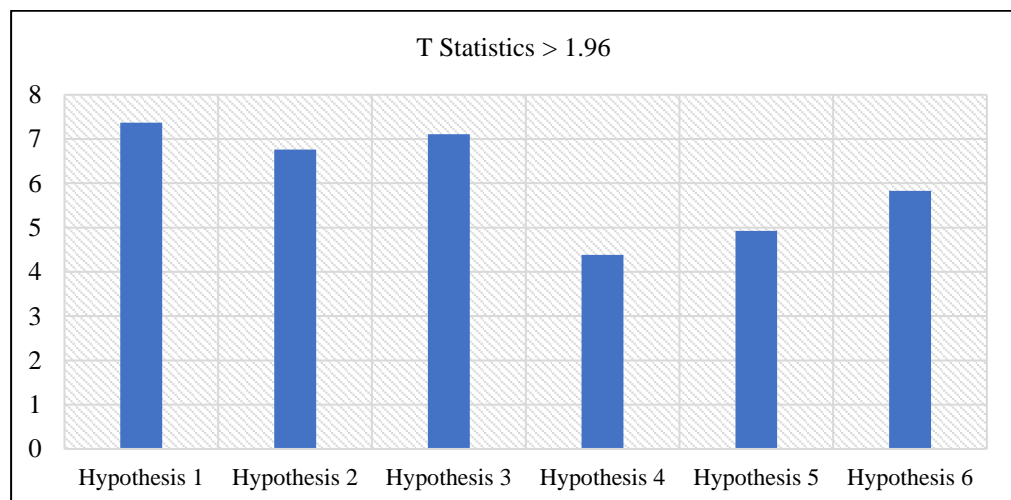


Figure 1. Path Findings Diagram

Discussion and Conclusion

The objective of this research has been met, and the statistical evidence supports the hypotheses appropriately. According to the empirical data analysis of a recent study, the relationship between the United States and Russia was strained because of the war in Afghanistan, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea, the war in Iraq, the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In this way, the findings of this research support the five hypotheses devised for this study. The relations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation during this period can be summed up by how the American administration dealt with Russia under the

leadership of Russian President Vladimir Putin, as an irrational regional power that appears on the international system's stage (Mbah & Wasum, 2022), at a time when the United States is making extensive preparations at all levels to confront numerous potential threats. Therefore, it does not desire to devote significant resources and energies to engaging this rising power. Rather, it wishes to focus on cost-effectively consuming this power's energy without impacting the US treasury or its prestige and international reputation. The future of relations between the two countries is no longer solely determined by hegemony competition, commercial and economic interests, and military and security strategy (Richter, 2019). Despite the lack of mutual trust on the political level and the increasing intensity of contentious issues, each can achieve a degree of equilibrium in their overall relations, as Russian-American links are limited.

On the other hand, the Russian Federation does not consider the development of relations between the two countries to be a priority. The volume of trade between the two countries is not substantial. They do not share a border and only partake in discussions regarding international strategic issues. The historical trajectory of U.S.-Russian relations has been marked by numerous complications on various fronts, leaving an effective and influential mark on international politics. The development of US-Soviet relations from the end of World War II to the inauguration of President Trump confirms that the relationship is characterized by tension and attraction based on the nature of each country's position in the international system (Malik et al., 2022). Moreover, the American-Russian relationship is based on a set of elements that resulted from the interactive relationship between the two countries, as the political elements significantly impact the interactive relationship. The issue of energy security has become one of the most important pillars of the continuation of this relationship, given Russia's energy-related power and influence. On the other hand, the United States suspects Russia will use the energy tool (natural gas) as an inducement or threat, according to this study. Therefore, it consistently attempts to thwart Russia's efforts to dominate this sphere of influence. This increased the global presence of numerous tensions, particularly in the Middle East.

At this juncture, US-Russian relations were characterized by the Russian Federation's return to an active role in the structure of the international system, accompanied by a notable decline in the US role. Military and the threat to withdraw from several agreements reached in the past. Russia has been successful in overcoming the transitional period that followed the Soviet era, the accompanying development and security challenges, and its desire to once again assume a larger role in international politics and correct the imbalance that existed in many of its directions, as it has focused its efforts in recent years to achieve a specific objective. It entails regaining its status as an active player on the international stage and restoring the balance of power that governs US-Russian relations and the global system.

Several phases of US-Russian relations were characterized by conflict and competition rather than cooperation, which never reached a satisfactory level between the two parties. The great economy placed Russia in a weak position vis-à-vis the United States, and this was reflected in the US-Russian relations at the time, as well as the position and concerns of the Russian Federation, regional and international, especially from the events of the East, which have come under great American hegemony and influence, even though the relative development that has characterized the Russian economy is coming to an end. The twentieth century has primarily resulted in a balanced Russian approach to relations with the United States, particularly after September 11, 2001. It was characterized as a new Russian strategy based on independence and exploiting opportunities created by the United States' involvement in the events of the Middle East ([Johnston, 2019](#)).

Such as Iraq and Afghanistan and the intersections in US-Iranian relations regarding the nuclear program, but these are developments in the approach to dealing with the Middle East, particularly in the Arab region or Asia, and both countries had their perspectives on opportunities and threats in the various areas of the globe. However, determining the significance of the interest and its level is what determines the nature of the relationship between the United States of America and the Russian Federation and the extent of its development, as what is of interest about American-Russian relations is that despite the diversity of tools of competition between the two countries, the areas of strategic influence in the world are constructed for both of them and strategic, as viewed by the United States via Russia's relations as a permanent member of the Security Council and what it could obtain with limited temptations outside the region. The scope of international, regional, economic, and security organizations, as Russia regards its immediate surroundings as a vital strategic region and an integral part of its national interests. Consequently, it views its relations with the United States in this region as those of a rival nation, and the United States would be a formidable foe if it attempted to approach, contain, or encompass Russia in this region.

Theoretical and Practical Implications

This research has contributed to advancing the academic literature by incorporating new findings. The developed relationships in this research were considered from a theoretical perspective, but the research's empirical findings also supported these conclusions. This study highlighted in the literature the extent to which the Afghanistan conflict disrupted relations between Russia and the United States. In addition, this research found that competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea strained relations between Russia and the United States. Thirdly, this study contributed to the body of knowledge by reporting that the Iraq conflict disrupted relations between Russia and the United States.

In contrast, the literature review demonstrated that the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) disrupted relations between Russia and the United States. The literature review concluded that the Russian Invasion of Ukraine disrupted relations between Russia and the United States. These findings are noteworthy in the literature and are reported critically in this study. In addition to highlighting the literature further, future research is required considering the findings of this study.

This research has practical implications for enhancing relations between Russia and the United States. The stakeholders of both countries are required to work together, and they are prohibited from engaging in any activities that could disrupt the relationship between the two nations. Both nations' administrations must collaborate and strengthen their relationships to gain an advantage. The academicians must be motivated, and additional measures must be taken for the sustainable development of both nations. The power struggle between these two nations should end, and the funds should be used to improve public welfare. Indeed, the war is not the culmination of any actions, and individuals must improve their behavior critically. The end of the war between these two nations will not only benefit the people of these nations but also the people of other nations. People's well-being and the advancement of society necessitate the implementation of strategic measures. The United Nations should develop effective strategies to aid countries in the future to prevent future misfortunes for the people of various communities. A long-term strategy must be developed to end the influence of war, and the government must be motivated to attain its objectives more effectively.

Future Directions

Even though the objective of this research has been attained and significant findings have been analyzed, this research is not without flaws. Five major events, including the war in Afghanistan, the competition for energy resources in the Caspian Sea, the war in Iraq, the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, have significantly disrupted the relationship between the United States and Russia, according to this research. This study's findings are limited because data was acquired only from respected think tanks and public opinion was not considered. In modern times, the public is mature, and the public's perception should be measured for data acquisition and further research findings. This study has only examined direct relationships, so the underlying causes of the conflicts between the United States and Russia remain unknown. In this manner, future studies will be required to determine the qualitative data to identify the factors that have not been previously investigated. In this fashion, these studies would have significantly contributed to the body of knowledge and literature. Future research should ascertain the mediating and moderating effects of Russia and the United States conflicts to contribute significantly to the academic literature.

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