Abstract
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(Bachelor degree)

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2. Title: Space as the sphere of confrontation between two superpowers during “The Cold War” (1957-1991).
3. Author: Khudoverdyan Ilya Liparitovich.
4. Research Supervisor: Maslova Olga Borisovna
5. Specialization: 46.03.01 – History of international relations
6. Bachelor degree
7. Higher School of political management and innovation management
8. Chair of historical and socio-philosophical disciplines, orientalism and theology
9. Topicality of the research: Space exploration is a huge catalyst of modern science and technology, having become in the unprecedentedly short period of time one of the main levers of the modern world process. This science stimulates the development of electronics, machine building, computing machinery, energy and many other fields. In the second half of the 20th century, when the level of the development of science and technology reached the required standard, humankind at last was capable of breaking into the outer space.

   In the conditions of arms race, space was used not only for the decisive superiority in the military and technical competition. The struggle in the space can also be considered as the struggle for the superiority between two main ideologies.

   The topicality of the theme is also conditioned by the growth of interest in space lately. Particularly, on 21 March, 2017 the US president, Donald Trump, signed the bill of financing the NASA piloted flight to Mars. The president also set the NASA a goal: after 2018 to land man on the Moon again.

   Roscosmos (the state corporation having control of the space industry in Russia) in March 2017 announced the enrolment of astronauts – candidates for the flight to the Moon.

   China is worth mentioning too. There they promised to accelerate the development of their space industry. Particularly, to become the first country in the world to achieve the soft landing of the probe on the reverse side of the Moon (this
is planned to be done about 2018), and also to launch their first probe to Mars by 2020.

Thus, the rise of interest in space might trigger a new confrontation in this sphere, specifically regarding the fact that the NASA is already planning to stop financing the International space station after 2024 according to the NASA researcher Ellen Stofen.

The arms race level the president of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin spoke about on 1 June 2017 at the meeting with the heads of the international information outlets within the framework of St. Petersburg International Economic forum may also mark the beginning of a new competition in space.

The fact that on 30 March 2017 the American SpaceX company for the first time launched the previously used missile-carrier Falcon 9 deserves attention. So, in the future it will be possible to reduce the cost of launching space vehicles which also contributes to the growth of interest in space exploration.

**Objective of the research** is the examination of space as the sphere of confrontation between two superpowers during “The Cold War”.

**Tasks:**
- to examine the previous history of space confrontation;
- to study the history of launching the first artificial satellite of the Earth;
- to highlight the struggle between the USSR and the USA for the first piloted space flight;
- to show the “Moon race” of the two superpowers;
- to analyze the project of the joint experimental piloted flight “Soyuz-Apollo”;
- to study the programme of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research** is that its materials can be used in the process of teaching both at the theoretical and practical lessons in the discipline “Modern and recent history”. They can also be used in the development of the teaching aid in the same academic discipline.
Results of the research showed that the period when the Soviet Union and the United States tried to show each other and the world at large their own superiority by creating advanced technologies was truly “the golden age” of space exploration. In the conditions of the arms race the USSR and the USA used space both as a struggle for the superiority of two main ideologies.

You can’t say for sure who won in the space confrontation. Both superpowers made an invaluable contribution to the development of space exploration.

The 1990s put an end to the “Cold War” and to space confrontation. Russia and the USA decided to stop wasting efforts to duplicate each other’s achievements and instead to unite their scientific, technical and economic resources for the joint realization of space projects. Such approach will enable the two great superpowers to achieve far more tremendous goals in space than those they would achieve if they continued acting single-handed.

Recommendations:

1. In the course of further study of the history of confrontation between the USSR and the USA in space during the “Cold War” one has to pay more attention to the personalities who made a serious contribution into space exploration.

2. When considering further space exploration by the two superpowers one needs to highlight equally broadly the achievements of the space powers and to analyze in greater detail the project of the joint experimental piloted flight “Soyuz-Apollo”.