

# **Geopolitical Impact of National Interest of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Competition NATO and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Central Asia**

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## **Abstract**

National interests are the core component of foreign and domestic policy decision-making for any country. One of the strategies to achieve national interests is to cooperate within regional organizations' framework or be active while looking at other countries' interests with priority given to a country's periphery. The Central Asian region, as one of the regions of interest to regional and supra-regional powers, is currently the arena of SCO-centered competition between China and Russia, as well as the presence and tendency of NATO, centered around the U.S. to compete with Russia and China. As a country with several geopolitical regions, Iran can not be successful in its regional and international strategies without considering these regions and not being a member of the regional organizations affiliated with these regions. The present study was collected by the qualitative method and the nature of the descriptive-analytical method approach and a survey method (interview) with ten experts in the security and Central Asia field who were selected and appropriately saturated by purposeful and available sampling