

NATIONAL SECURITY AND INSECURITY

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ABSTRACT

NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY COVERS BOTH THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE, GIVEN THAT IT OUTLINES THE CORE INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND SETS GUIDELINES TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE THREATS AND MANAGE FAVORABLE OUTCOMES. SECURITY REPRESENTS NOT ONLY ROMANIA'S CRUCIAL ISSUE, BUT ALSO THAT OF THE ENTIRE HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS DEFINITION REMAINS THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT WITHIN OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION AND ADAPTATION IN ORDER TO FACE NEW CHALLENGES AND DANGERS IN THE NEW SECURITY ENVIRONMENT.

KEYWORDS: SECURITY, INSECURITY, NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY, NEW SECURITY ENVIRONMENT

The beginning of the 21st century opens a new era in international politics, in which security² and, together with it, the competition for the assertion and consolidation of the new players in the game of world power takes central stage in determining the evolution of the world and the establishment of the new world order³.

The new developments in security require measures for the redefinition, reconfiguration and reconstruction of new pillars of the right to individual, national and collective security and for the regulation of new forms of cooperation.

Several Romanian specialists are of the opinion that "security means a nation's capacity to prevent a war or, failing that, to win a war, in order not to lose its integrity and national independence"⁴.

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² Flavius Cristian Mărcău, Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, "The vision about international security at the beginning of the XXI century", in *European Scientific Journal*, april 2013 edition vol.9, no.11, 301-311

³ V. Paul, I. Coșcodaru, *Centre de putere ale lumii*, (București: Editura Științelor Sociale și Politice, 2003), 13-30.

⁴ Constantin Gheorghe Balaban, „Modificări în arhitectura globală de securitate”, în *Revista Impact Strategic*, nr.1/2005, Centrul de Studii Strategice de Apărare și Securitate, București, 19.

The category of national security⁵ is the basic notion that designates the essence, the nucleus of the various types of security. It can be interpreted as the capacity of the state territorial community to meet, despite the existence of objective dangers, its self-preservation requirements.

At this level, security is defined as the entirety of political, economic, military, social and cultural conditions required in order to guarantee the sovereignty, independence and promotion of national interests. Any threat to these five dimensions is perceived as a threat to national security. Security can be clearly defined from a military and economic point of view, but in the case of political, socio-economic and cultural security, the opinions are divergent. There can be cases when the measures taken for protecting a country's culture are interpreted as discriminating, ethno-centric or racist⁶.

Since, as of late, the concept of "security"⁷ has been expanded to more fields than just the military, certain authors have felt that "the concept of national security does not lead in itself to a clear and precise wording or definition. It refers to a vague variety of risks, whose probability is little known, and to several contingencies whose nature we can barely perceive"⁸.

The paradigm of national security is rooted in the idea that the state is the main actor of international relations. The change of paradigm took place in the '80s and '90s, the concept of national security becoming the subject of new debates between traditionalists, on one hand, and positivists, constructivists and post-modernists, on the other. The issue resulting from these debates refers to the need for there to be a distinction between national security and international security. Yet this is a false issue, because security, at any level, refers to the security of human beings, which transcend all borders⁹.

The Dictionary of American Government defines national security as a condition of military advantage or defense, a favorable position in international relations and a state of defense that allows for a successful resistance against hostile or destructive acts, internal or external¹⁰.

According to the Dictionary of International Relations, security is the absence of threats against important values¹¹.

In Romanian specialized literature, national security has been defined as "the status that a state needs to have in order to be able to develop freely and act unrestrictedly for the promotion of its own fundamental interests"¹², "a state characterized by a series of social, economic, political, environmental, cultural etc. conditions that are appropriate for the normal unfolding of life and the activities of individuals and human communities within a geographically limited area, during a rigorously determined period of time"¹³, "a state of dynamic balance of a system, in which various organized or disorganized processes take place, and the subjective element, inherent to the security policy, determines a frantic chase for security, the result being quite the opposite"¹⁴.

⁵ See Flavius-Cristian Mărcău, „Security as a determining factor of quality of life in a state from an insecure regional area”, in *Annals of the Constantin Brancusi University of Targu Jiu-Letters & Social Sciences Series 4* (2016): 77-85.

⁶ Mirela Atanasiu, „Conceptul de „securitate” în legislația internă și internațională”, în *Impact strategic*, nr. 3/2008, 75.

⁷ Flavius Cristian Mărcău, Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, „Analiza asupra conceptului de securitate”, in *Analele Universității „Constantin Brâncuși” din Târgu - Jiu, Seria Litere și Științe Sociale*, no. 1/2013, pag. 52- 64

⁸ Charles Schultz, *The Economic Content of the National Security Policy*, Foreign Affairs, 1973.

⁹ Alexandra Sarcinschi, *Elemente noi în studiul securității naționale și internaționale*, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, București, 2005, pp. 20-21.

¹⁰ *Dictionary of American Government and Politics*, Editua Dorsey, 1988.

¹¹ G. Evans, J. Newrham, *Dicționar de relații internaționale*, (București: Editura Universal Delsi, 2001), 501.

¹² C. Onișor, S. Frunzaverde, *Arta strategică a securității și integrării europene*, (Iași: Editura A'92, 2002), 122.

¹³ Petre Duțu, „Amenințări actuale la adresa securității”, în *Impact strategic*, nr. 4/2004, 64.

¹⁴ M. V. Ozunu, „Securitatea – concept multinațional”, în *Revista Fundației Colegiului Național de Apărare*, nr. 2/2002, București, 39-40.

In a complex, dynamic and conflicting world that is undergoing globalization, a profound understanding of major trends in the evolution of international security and the way in which each country has the chance to become an active part of this process is an essential condition of progress and prosperity¹⁵.

Awareness, understanding and fair assessment of internal processes, the degree of social cohesion and the capacity for public mobilization is a need that is as important for the achievement of national projects¹⁶.

In order to achieve its legitimate interests, the Romanian State, part of NATO and active participant to the new European construction, promotes, protects and defends democracy, respects the fundamental human rights and liberties¹⁷ and acts in accordance with the provisions of international law in order to accelerate modernization and its social and economic development, providing a European standard of life to its citizens and the full assertion of national identity. National interests represent those values undertaken and promoted by the Romanian society that ensure the prosperity, protection and security of its members, as well as the stability and continuity of the state¹⁸.

From the point of view of national interests, national security is the capacity of a state to maintain and promote its national identity and operational integrity.

National interests reflect the dominant perception - relatively constant and institutionalized - regarding national values. They aim for the promotion, protection and defense, by legitimate means, of the values through which the Romanian nation guarantees its existence and identity, based on which it builds its future and according to which it integrates in the European and Euro-Atlantic community, taking part in the globalization process.

National security has two fields of action: internal and external.

Some authors are of the opinion that internal security has the following dimensions: military, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental; to that, I would add informational¹⁹. But these dimensions must not be regarded and analyzed separately, but systemically, because they are undividedly connected and they influence each other. Thus, the economic dimension refers to aspects that are purely economic, as well as to the economic support of the military power. The political dimension refers not only to the relationship between the state and its citizens, but also to the state's international relations. The cultural dimension is included in the social one (as confirmed by the representatives of the Copenhagen school), but it also refers to matters of ethnicity, which is the source of a great deal of conflicts in this century.

The political dimension of security has two levels: an internal level (the state), which can be highlighted by concepts of good or bad governance, and the external level, in direct connection with international security and law. The USA and the EU have introduced these concepts because

¹⁵ Popescu Olivia, *Changing leaders in the context of organizational change*, Communication, Context, Interdisciplinarity - 3rd Edition, The Alpha Institute for Multicultural Studies Published by: "Petru Maior" University Press, Tîrgu-Mureş, Vol. 3/2014, 743-747.

¹⁶ Nicolae Uscoi, *Securitatea internațională*, (Bucureşti: Editura Antet, 2002), 87-88.

¹⁷ Roxana Dobriţoiu, „Brief concerning the institution of the Ombudsman and the law on administrative contentious. Certain aspects concerning the origin of the concept.”, *Analele U.C.B.*, Seria Litere şi Ştiinţe Sociale, nr.2/2015, 60-62.

¹⁸ Luciana Alexandra Ghica, Marian Zulean, *Politica de securitate națională*, (Iaşi: Editura Polirom, 2007), 14-16.

¹⁹ C. G. Balaban, *Securitatea şi dreptul internațional. Provocări la început de secol XXI*, (Bucureşti: Editura CH Beck, 2006), 17.

bad governance is a great potential risk, and good governance is a challenge and a method of accomplishing security²⁰.

Considering that, in the modern world, prosperity and security are the inseparable elements of the same equation, Romania's progress, prosperity and national security can only result from a complex process of promotion and guarantee of national values and interests²¹.

At the beginning of the '00s, the major objectives of Romania's security policy were to meet the criteria required to join NATO, and those required to accede to the EU. During the second half of the last decade, the national security system was modeled for purposes of full integration and development of the capabilities of facing new risks and threats. Romania's national security policy evolved during the past ten years in order to adapt to the new regional and international realities.

In the context of the changes occurring in the international security environment (terrorism, organized crime, proliferation of the arms of mass destruction, climate change etc.), Romania has adapted its security policy in order to cope with the new threats and risks.

The security policy is materialized in the security strategy. It provides the policy with the theoretical, practical and methodological tools in order for the political goals and objectives to be met.

The strategy is a method, and a strategic method is always enforced in accordance to the national framework, in alliance or coalition parameters. The strategy has a 5-year medium-term coverage horizon and also contains long-term provisions for the achievement of national and collective security and defense objectives²².

The National Security Strategy is the basic document²³ that defines these interests, as well as the objectives for their accomplishment, being the highest political and normative expression of the Romanian State and, at the same time, the instrument that establishes and directs the actions of the entire national security system.

The 2001 strategy listed the following under main issues threatening the state: terrorism, the vulnerability of transport systems to terrorist attacks, the access to confidential information systems, damaging of the country image, economic and financial aggression, deliberate triggering of environmental disasters. At the same time, globalization has a major impact on redefining the concept of national security, which is thus given an interdependent, multi-dimensional nature.

With Romania's accession to NATO (2004) and the European Union (2007), the national security parameters have changed, and the need for them to be identified and provided in a new strategy emerged.

The main security interests are identified as being "full integration in the European Union and responsible undertaking of the NATO membership; preservation of the integrity, unity, sovereignty, independence and indivisibility of the Romanian State; the development of a competitive, dynamic and successful market economy; radical modernization of the educational system and efficient capitalization on the human, scientific and technological potential; increase in the welfare of citizens, the living standard and the general health of the population, the affirmation and protection of culture, national identity and spiritual life, in the context of active participation to the construction of the European identity"²⁴.

²⁰ Ionel Nicu Sava, *Geopolitica. Teorii și paradigme clasice. Școala geopolitică germană*, (București: Editura Info-Team, 1997), 43

²¹ Nicolae Uscoi, *Securitatea internațională*, 91-92.

²² Gheorghe Văduva, „Strategie națională și strategie de alianță. Repere conceptuale”, în *Impact strategic*, nr. 2/2005, 99.

²³ *Strategia de Securitate Națională a României – garantarea democrației și a libertăților fundamentale, dezvoltare economică și socială susținută și durabilă, aderare la NATO și integrare în Uniunea Europeană*, (București: Președinția României, 2001), 5-8.

²⁴ *Strategia de Securitate Națională a României*, 2006, 6.

The current Security Strategy widens the specter of non-conventional risks and threats and diversifies the typology of the crises and conflicts manifesting on a national or international level²⁵. This new context leads to a multiplication of the dimensions afferent to the state of the national security and safety, including political, economic, financial, military, civil, social and environmental aspects, which also requires the identification of internal and international resources that can be used in order to defend Romania's fundamental interests²⁶.

Internal security refers at the same time to citizens' safety as well as public security, border security, energy, the security of the transport and vital resource supplying systems, as well as the protection of the critical infrastructure. From a structural point of view, it includes social security and legality assurance, the fight against terrorism and organized crime, the security of financial-banking activities, of IT and communication systems, protection against disasters and environmental protection²⁷.

Security remains an essential issue not just for Romania but for the entire human society, and its definition remains the most important aspect for the official documents of international security and defense organizations who are currently transforming and adapting them in order to cope with the new challenges, threats and hazards afferent to the new security environment.

²⁵ Sorin Purec, *The Origins of the European Nationalism*, Annals of the „Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, Letter and Social Science Series, supliment 1/2015, 229-235.

²⁶ Popescu Olivia, *Decision making process during organizational change in Romanian companies*, Globalization and intercultural dialogue: multidisciplinary, Arhipelag XXI, vol. I/2014, 338-343.

²⁷ Nicolae Roman, „Perspective privind factorii de risc din mediul de securitate intern și internațional și schimbările pe care le generează în ecuația securității naționale”, în vol. *Perspective ale securității și apărării în Europa*, (București: Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, 2009), 22.

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