

RELATIONSHIPS OF SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND SECURITY POLICY

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Abstract: *Hardly went by a week in the recent past without publications of studies or predictions about questions of sustainability or the global scale climate change issued by one of the international organizations or governments. Today we know that mankind will face serious challenges in connection with these two topics in the future. The environmental strain and the global warming up will have major consequences, which may touch our views about security.*

Keywords: *sustainability, climate change, security.*

1. SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENT

That was the security and security policy idea's essential and key question – and it is the question at present too – that what fall within the interpretation of security concept. It may be fundamental dilemma that just the military conflicts, matters of deploying military forces and the role and international relationships of a state in ratification of a nation's or a country's interests are belonging to the matter of security policy. It's a difficult question, there are debates between scientists and politicians in the special literature since decades about what should or allowed to or possible to include in matters of security.

The security policy interpretations that were born right after the conclusion of World War II are definitely turned into captives of the bipolar world system or a potential war to be fought with WMDs. The competition that took shape owing to the opposition considered to be antagonistic between the two global systems is gone primarily on ideological, social and military scene. Looking back at this age it is hard to find such area involved the arts, culture, science or sports, which was not been affected by the spirit of cold war. Fortunately did not shape up an open armed conflict between the two super powers the USA and the Soviet Union, which are leading the two

global systems and the two greatest military alliances, the NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The Earth and the Mankind are avoided the specter of a nuclear war of which the soberly thinking politicians, military leaders and scientists are already knew that a total scale nuclear war is impossible to win.

The security policy even in the darkest age of the cold war is registered such sources of danger which are threatened the social, political and economical stability. These sources of danger did not mean any risk neither in politics nor in security studies at the age of bipolar world system for the primacy of military security. Ideas connected with security became open from the 70's [1]. This opening and the keeping of interpretation of security within conventional field gave rise to serious debates in spheres of experts and scientists dealing with security studies [2].

In earlier 90's many great people believed that "the beautiful world is getting close". Unfortunately we are miscalculated. Since the bipolar global system collapsed lot of security risks became dangerous, which were under control by the super powers in the age of the bipolar world.

It wouldn't be imaginable that a local war breaking out on an ethnical and religious basis in Europe between 1945 and 1990. This became true on the Balkans after Yugoslavia

disintegrated. Also well known that the effects of different security risks are present themselves asymmetrical.

I think do you know that the security risks of terrorism are different in Pakistan or in Middle Eastern Europe. Despite it worth a glance that what are the security risks we have to calculate with after the Cold War.

2. THE RISKS OF SECURITY AFTER THE COLD WAR

- Nuclear war,
- The ABC weapons owned by terrorists and unstably states, for instant Iran or North Korea,
- International terrorism,
- Religious and ethnical conflict,
- Global inequality,
- Overpopulation,
- Migration,
- Organized crime,
- Environmental hazards.

I strongly believe you will have an important question. What is security, what is safety or what are risks of security? The answer is rather difficult, because a lot of politicians and scientists are controversial for this problem. The experts of security policy are using many definitions. What are the common criterions? I think the definitions have two common criterions: firstly the threat of existence and secondary the need of extraordinary measures.

3. SECURITY RELATIONSHIPS OF SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Did humanity take seriously the problems related to sustainability, environmental hazards and climate change? We have just a simple answer: did NOT, although there were sufficient warning signs. I'd like to emphasize some of these.

- In 1973 the Club of Rome published the Meadows-report with the title "The Limits To Growth".
- In 1987 the UN and the Brundtland-board (led by Norwegian prime minister Gro

Harlem Brundtland) published the document "Our Common Future" which raised the idea of sustainable development into the common knowledge.

- In 1992 the UN held „Conference on Environment and Development" where the members are accepted the document AGENDA 21.
- In 1997 The Kyoto Protocol, which is to control the scale of greenhouse gas emissions, was signed at the 3rd Conference of the Parties.
- In 2002 in Johannesburg at the World Summit on Sustainable Development they analyzed previous results and settled further tasks.

Nowadays it clearly proved that the problems of sustainability, environmental pollution and climate change are resolvable at a global scale only. Choosing method of global solution is rather difficult because the interests of well-developed and less-developed countries are conflicting. It's really hard to harmonize supranational and national interests. The Kyoto Protocol is a good example for this. The treaty, which became effective in 2005 hadn't ratified by the USA and Australia until the present day. There is biting criticism against the Bush-government in the USA and foreign lands too, because the United States, the leading economical power of the world does not support the Kyoto Protocol.

4. POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In the past years of 21st century we had to ask such questions that why had to die – according to certain sources – more than 200 thousands by a devastating tidal wave in 12 countries on the 26th December 2004 [3]? The answer is quite simple, mangrove forests were cut for expanding tourism – which is some of the world's main economical branches – and for increasing living space on areas destroyed by the tidal wave. The men took into possession such territories that were non-populated earlier. Nowadays not even countries having prosperous economy are

capable to give satisfactory answers for the extreme environmental phenomena. In July 2003 the summer heat had more than 20 thousand victims in Italy and 19 490 had died by the same heat wave in France [4].

In the past years the Commission of the European Committees and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was published several reports on possible consequences. The analysis – containing really interesting conclusions – made for the order from British government by a research group led by Sir Nicolas Stern is published in the recent past. The surveys are based on different scripts but there is a common characteristic: the lightest possible consequence is also having serious results. Based on the reports it is practical to separate the possible consequences into direct and indirect consequences – see COM (2007) 354 final, Stern Report 2006 [5].

The possible direct consequences

- Lack of water;
- Growth of the sea level,
- Decline of the biodiversity,
- Extreme weather,
- Crop land change,
- Non-renewable energy runs out, etc.

The possible indirect consequences

- New geopolitical game and conflicts,
- Post modern migration, territory migration,
- More disasters,
- More epidemics;
- Drought and growth of dustbowl,
- Starvation,
- Flood,
- High strain of the infrastructures

Every possible consequence is touching security. In the security policy ideas and measures we will have to consider the environmental points of view and expectable effects of climate change more increased than before. I'd like to mention only three of the possible consequences. According to different international organizations 30 or 40 percents of animal and plant species will become extinct.

The decreasing of drinking water supply will have unpredictable consequences. There is no need for special clairvoyance to prognosis

that wars would be fought for healthy water.

Without underestimating the danger of international terrorism we have to know that questions of sustainability, ecological challenges and effects of global warming up will get high priority amongst security threatening factors. The problems of environment charging and the expectable effects of climate change are threatening our life like the insidious disease of cancer. The deleterious effects are influencing slowly but the consequences will be serious. At present days we don't even know how to defense against the risks. According to the Stern-report the probable consequences will be measurable to the world wars of the 20th century and the great economical world crisis.

5. THE PROBLEM IN THE CENTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST

Besides the mentioned professional reports, these problems of sustainability and climate change came to the front in the international political public life also. The "G8" countries¹ – congregating world's leading economical powers and Russia – published a declaration on their summit in Heiligendamm of Germany in June 2007 about that they engage to reduce CO emission to the half of the present level for 2050. Angela Merkel – who was the consecutive chairman of the EU in the first half of 2007 – had a key role in the ratification of this declaration. It is also assigned to her that the questions of sustainability and climate change were come to the fore in the Community.

In the later month there were strengthening signs that the quality of life on Earth is changing and numerous species of Earth's life is in danger because of the problems of sustainability and the global warming up – which is strengthening because of the greenhouse effect. It is proved that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in the category of documentary awarded the Oscar to the film co-operated with vice-

¹ Members of G8: United States, United Kingdom, France, Japan, Canada, Germany, Italy, and Russia.

president Al Gore and directed by Davis Guggenheim. This creation shows people the effects and hazards of the global warming and brings these effects face to face with people. In 2007 the Nobel Peace Prize was given separately to this American politician. He won this acknowledgement collectively with the UN Inter-governmental Climatic Changes Committee. In my opinion the information of the international media and the assistance of well-known people can render help in that the opinion of society and the government properly tune-in the problem of sustainability and climatic changes.

6. POSSIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As I mentioned earlier that the problem of sustainability, and climatic changes is cannot solved locally. As much as we accept the Stern report, that the effects can only comparable to the two World Wars, it is clear we have to do something. In global level must set plan of actions, which can rise above local or national interests. Otherwise deterioration of the environment will endanger the condition of existence at more and more area of the earth, which can conduct armed conflicts.

One thing is certain that we have to spread the approach of the security policy to other elements. The sustainability and the environmental and ecological problems are belongs to these elements. Only just we can prevent the mentioned consequence or decrease the impacts. We have to make studies about the history of mankind in the angle of what climatic changes passed which or changed the natural environment and the supporter capacity of the Earth.

After the historic drawn of lesson, we have to analyze the sustainability and the probable

effect of the warming relying upon these findings we must set plan of actions and the tasks. In this respect the primary question is tune the global, continental, sub-regional, national, regional, local interests. We have to notice that the mentioned execution levels are connected each other. In the future it must not be done examine by the side of competitiveness and development. The economical and technical development can not solve alone the environmental and global warming problems.

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