CHALLENGES TO LITHUANIAN NATIONAL SECURITY

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Summary. This article presents actual problems, related to national security, which occur in Lithuania in the process of globalization. Despite ongoing changes in people's lives, the most important needs of each individual are needs for security and welfare. Each state may have different national security threats; therefore, it is difficult to guarantee personal security without ensuring national security, without securing the state from external threats.

The aim of this article is to reveal the problems of ensuring Lithuanian national security. The article consists of three parts: first part is devoted to present national security concept. National security concept is associated with traditional concept of security, where the main subject of security is considered the state, and a major threat to national security is considered a military attack.

Second part of the article presents institutional national security system in Lithuania, which was established after the restoration of Independence of the State. At the moment the leading institutions which guide the ensuring of national security in Lithuanian Republic are the President of the Republic of Lithuania, the Government and the Seimas. Executive and other institutions are the State Defence Council, the Ministry of National Defence, and the Commander of the armed forces and the Defence Staff, the armed forces, the police, the State Security Department, the Civil Resistance Training Centre, the Department of Civil Defence, the Weaponry Directorate. Lithuania was integrated into the International defence, economic, environmental and similar international organizations that aim to ensure security on national and global basis.

Main threats to Lithuanian national security are identified in the third part of the article. There are different kinds of threats to Lithuanian national security, such as military, political, economic, social and environmental. The most dangerous threats are related to: criminal activities, such as terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking, smuggling, illegal arms trafficking, drug trafficking, illegal migration, which transcends national borders; economical crisis, which influences increasing emigration and social instability in Lithuania; dependency on supply of raw strategic materials and energy from other states.

Keywords: national security, external threats, international organizations, globalization.

INTRODUCTION

Globalization affects peoples' lives in many states;[1] nevertheless, the ongoing changes do not alter the system of the hierarchy of the human needs: the most important needs of each person are needs for security and welfare. Therefore person's right to safety is enshrined in numerous international documents: Universal declaration of Human Rights states that "Everyone has a right to

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[1] Sean Kay, "Globalization, Power, and Security, Security Dialogue, SAGE Publications, 2004 Vol. 35 (1), 10 p.

life, liberty and personal security"[2], European Convention on Human Rights says that "Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. "[3].

Those provisions of the Declarations do not give exact definition of content of the term „personal safety". The question is whether there is possibility to guarantee personal security by failing to secure the state from external threats, in other words, without ensuring national security? Does a person feel safe under conditions of economic instability? How many external threats influence safety of a state and the members of its society? On the other hand, how internal conflicts or disharmony among the members may affect national security?

Obviously the issue of national security is a priority of every state. However, it is obvious that each state may have different national security threats.

An object of the research is the system of ensuring national security.

The aim of this article is to reveal the problems of ensuring Lithuanian national security.

The following tasks were raised:

- to present the concept of national security;

- to reveal the institutional system for safeguarding national security;

- to identify threats to Lithuanian national security.

Research was made applying analysis of legal acts, literature search and other methods.

NATIONAL SECURITY CONCEPT

As stated by A.Wolfers, „Security in any objective sense measures the absence of threats to existing values, and the subjective sense of fear that these values will be attacked."[4] In order to define the term „security", we have to look for the object of security, in other words, we have to answer the question - „whose security"? National security is associated with so-called traditional concept of security, where the main subject of security is considered to be the state.

Traditional concept of security is related to public or national security, and a major threat to national security is considered to be a military attack. "Historically, security was understood in terms of threats to state sovereignty and territory"[5]. During the Cold War period, security in Europe was perceived as a military term. In order to ensure national security states usually focus on military threats. Traditional security policy is based on the idea that all other public or individual interests

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[2] Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Valstybės Žinios, 2006, Nr.: 68, Nr.: 2497, Article 3 .
[3] European Convention on Human Rights, http://www.hri.org/docs/ECHR50.html; [2010 09 10] Article 5
[4] Wolfers, A., Discord and Collaboration, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1962, 150 p.
[5] Nicholas Thomas and William T.Tow, The Utility of Human Security: Sovereignty and Humanitarian Intervention, Security Dialogue, 2002, SAGE Publications, Col. 33(2), 177 p.

are subordinated to national interests. Therefore, it is essential to protect national borders, institutions, values and people. The main objective of the state is to protect the country from external aggression and to preserve the integrity of the state. In order to increase the latter perception of safety, countries began to increase their own power, thereby increasing insecurity of other countries. The arms race started and it posed a growing sense of insecurity and tension. Even in joining the international organizations, which aimed at ensuring of security, states could not feel safe, because a nuclear weapon has emerged at that time. "The end of the cold War generated a major re-evaluation of normative and policy assumptions as these apply to international relations"[6]

International Community started to share ideas about the need to find another security enhancement models, for example, the Organization of European Security and Cooperation in Europe began to develop different concepts of security, which, in essence, called for parties to make obligations not to increase their own security at the expense of security of other countries[7]

The traditional concept of security perceives the country as the main entity that has to ensure it's own security and survival. Normally, creating of security strategies is concentrated on public authorities and actual execution of such strategies rarely involves members of society. It should be noted that a safe state does not necessarily mean the safety of its citizens. It is considered that protection of the citizens against foreign military attack – is a necessary, but not a sufficient condition to ensure the security of the citizens. "Citizens of states that are "secure' according to the traditional concept of security can be perilously insecure in terms of their daily existence".[8] According to Andrew Mack, "In theory, states are responsible for protecting their citizens, in reality, they often violently repress them"[9].

In order to reveal the content of „security", there are usually defined threats that may reduce safety. However, it should be noted that the content of the security concept is dynamic - it can vary depending on outside when new threats to individual and state arise. As mentioned above, the biggest long-term national security issue has been considered a threat in form of a military attack, which encouraged countries to unite in order to achieve common security goals. Recently, considerable threats to countries are caused by terrorism, environmental problems, which lead to a common need for countries to find solutions together. Over the past decades, it is impossible for the states to operate separately in order to ensure their national security. Law on Lithuanian Basics of

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[6] Nicholas Thomas and William T.Tow, The Utility of Human Security: Sovereignty and Humanitarian Intervention, Security Dialogue, 2002, SAGE Publications, Col. 33(2), 177 p
[7] Conference on Security and Co-Operation in Europe Final Act, The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe; http://www.osce.org/documents/mcs/1975/08/4044_en.pdf ; [2009 04 30]
[8] Newman Edward, A Normatively Attractive but Analytically Weak Concept", Security Dialogue, 2004, SAGE Publications, Col. 35(3), 358 p.
[9] Mack Andrew, A Signifier of Shared Values, Security Dialogue, 2004, SAGE Publications, Col. 35(3), 366 p.

National Security also provides that "the system of Lithuanian national security is developed as a common European security and transatlantic defense system".[10]

The national security interests of Republic of Lithuania are linked to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, democratic constitutional order and the preservation of civil society, respect for human rights and freedoms and the protection of their implementation. In order to protect and implement these interests a national institutional system is necessary.

INSTITUTIONAL NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM IN LITHUANIA

According to Lithuanian Law on basics of national security, Lithuanian national security should ensure citizens of Lithuania, their communities and organizations, the President, Parliament, Government, Army, Police, Department of State Security, other governmental bodies, which are created for this purpose.

Internal security institutions began to be established since the restoration of Independence of Lithuania. The first Minister of Internal Affairs was appointed On 1990 April 11. The Government of Republic of Lithuania issued Resolution On 1990 May 17 which declared the main functions of the Ministries and, accordingly, Ministry of Internal Affairs was to implement the state's policy in the prevention of criminal activities, to ensure public security and public order.

The Police Law of Lithuanian Republic was passed on December 1990, and divisions of internal affairs were reorganized in the Police commissariats. The Police Law of Lithuanian Republic defined the scope of the activity of Police: the prevention, detection and investigation of criminal and other illegal activities, the protection of public order, public security, civil rights, liberties and property, as well as environment. Police functions were assigned to supervision of traffic safety, emergency care and provision of social assistance to the people.

The Government of newly restored independent State had to take care of the security of state's territory in order to implement the state's policy of fighting against crime, ensuring public order and public security. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania in 1990 25 April established the Department of National Defense. Despite difficult conditions at that time, the staff of this Department time started developing Lithuanian Armed Forces and national defense system. One of the main tasks of the newly created department was national border security.

The Homeland Security Department formed Border Guard Service, which was reorganized several times. Finally, on the 1st of May, 2001 it was reorganized into the State Border Guard

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[10] Law on the Basics of National Security of Republic of Lithuania, Valstybės žinios, 1997-01-08, Nr. 2-16

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Service under the Lithuanian Ministry of Interior and was prescribed to carry out the following tasks:

- guaranteeing the inviolability of national borders and the border protection policy;

- ensuring implementation of international treaties, laws and acts of the Republic of Lithuania, which are under jurisdiction the State Border Guard Service and are related to the issues of legal regime of borders;

- preventing criminal activity, ensuring detection and investigation of crimes, securing human rights and freedoms, public order and public safety.

The Government of Republic of Lithuania on 1991 October 16 adopted a Resolution No. 435[11] and Department of National Defense was liquidated. The Ministry of National Defense was established instead of the Department of National Defense. The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania announced on 1992 November 19 that the Lithuanian army was restored[12].

The main institutions with aim to ensure state policy in areas such as public safety, border security, control of illegal immigration, prevention and control of crime and other illegal activity, protection of public order, emergency management were formed and guidelines for institutional development has been provided by the Development Strategy until 2010[13], which was prepared by the Interior Ministry.

At the moment the leading institutions which guide the ensuring of national security in Lithuanian Republic are the President of the Republic of Lithuania, the Government and the Seimas. Executive and other institutions are:

- the State Defence Council,

- the Ministry of National Defence,

- the Commander of the armed forces and the Defence Staff;

- the armed forces;

- the police;

- the State Security Department;

- the Civil Resistance Training Centre;

- the Department of Civil Defence;

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[11] Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania „On Lithuanian Ministry of National Security Regulations". Valstybės Žinios, 1994, Nr.: 99- 1979.
[12] Recovery Act of Lithuanian Republic Army, Valstybės Žinios, 1992, Nr.: 34 - 1030
[13] Order of Lithuanian Minister of Internal Affairs on the Public Security Development Strategy until 2010 confirmation, Valstybės žinios: 2003 Nr.113-5092

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- the Weaponry Directorate.[14]

Despite that the above-mentioned state institutions necessary for security protection has been built successfully, it was clear that in case of external aggression Lithuania had insufficient defensive capability to defend itself. Therefore from the first days of the restoration of independence, Lithuania was integrated into the international defense, economic, environmental and similar international organizations.

The most significant International organizations for ensuring security, which member became Lithuania, are the following:

- United Nations (Lithuania became a member on 1991 09 17)[15];

- Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (1991 09 10)[16]

- Interpol (1991 11 04)[17]

- World Customs Organization (1992 06 18)[18]

- North Atlantic Cooperation Council (1991 12 20)[19]

- Partnership for Peace Program (1994 01 27)[20]

- International Atomic Energy Agency (1993 11 18)[21]

- NATO (2004 03 29)[22]

THREATS FOR LITHUANIAN NATIONAL SECURITY

There are identified key sectors, affecting national security:

• Military,

• Political;

• Economic;

• Social;

• Environmental.

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[14] Law on the Basics of National Security of Republic of Lithuania, Chapter 12 , Valstybės žinios, 1997-01-08, Nr. 2-16

[15] United Nations in Lithuania, http://www.un.lt/ [2010 09 25]

[16] Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, http://www.osce.org/ [2010 09 25]

[17] Interpol, http://www.interpol.int/Public/ICPO/Members/default.asp [2010 09 25]

[18] World Customs Organization, http://www.wcoomd.org/home.htm [2010 09 25]

[19] Lietuvos kelias į NATO,
http://www.kam.lt/lt/tarptautinis_bendradarbiavimas/nato/lietuva_dalyvavimas_nato/lietuvos_kelias_i_nato.html [2010 09 25]

[20] Ten pat

[21] International Atomic Energy Agency, http://www.iaea.org/ [2010 09 25]

[22] Lietuvos kelias į NATO,
http://www.kam.lt/lt/tarptautinis_bendradarbiavimas/nato/lietuva_dalyvavimas_nato/lietuvos_kelias_i_nato.html [2010 09 25]

If there is a security risk in these sectors, state, society, and its members are affected to some extent.

Lithuania, like other countries is threatened by a variety of transnational phenomena (such as terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking, smuggling, illegal arms trafficking, drug trafficking, illegal migration), which transcends national borders and become international security risks, dangers and threats.

Lithuanian National Security Strategy states that international terrorism is one of the factors shaping the agenda for Lithuania's security policy. Terrorism poses a grave threat to the international community - and hence the Lithuanian - security. To Lithuania, however, this is an external threat – historically the internal situation does not allow the emergence of internal terrorist groups. The risk stems primarily from international terrorism. Therefore, the Law on Grounds of National Security of Lithuanian Republic as one of the key foreign policy challenges identifies the need of Lithuania to contribute to international efforts to prevent terrorism.

Lithuania may become a potential target for international terrorism. Terrorist acts can be directed at national security together with its infrastructure and objects of strategic importance, as well as units of other countries residing in Lithuania. Lithuania may also become a transit country for international terrorism directed against other countries.

Socio-economic differentiations are prerequisites for other kind of terrorism – it means social terrorism. Acts of social terrorism could be directed against a state or private institutions, whose operations are linked with deteriorating situation of certain groups in society. Economic crisis in Lithuania makes this kind of a threat real.

Lithuania is too dependant on other state's strategic raw materials and energy supply. This factor makes influence to national security and poses a threat not only to economic prosperity, but also to public safety.

Groups of shadow economy and activities of organized criminal groups pose a serious threat to the State and society. Illegal drugs and arms proliferation, human trafficking, illegal business and use of illegally received funds for political objectives are especially dangerous.

A threat to Lithuanian national security is created by the activities of intelligence service of other countries. This activity is characterized by traditional and nontraditional methods and new technologies in order to illegally obtain the information and hence act destructively in order to make influence to the military capabilities, political processes and other social and economic spheres of life.

The global risk can be attributed to the illegal distribution of mass destruction weapons, components of such weapons and production technology. In particular, a constantly growing group of countries and entities having or seeking to acquire mass destruction weapons poses a threat not only to Lithuanian national security, but to the countries around the world. There is a possibility that nuclear, chemical or biological weapons may be used as a means of blackmail or terror as well.

Uncontrolled migration, spreading illegal migration and increasing emigration of Lithuanian citizens are other risk factors for national security. After Lithuania has joined European Union, controlling of migration has become one of the most important tasks. Loss of control of migration as a result of regional conflicts may become a destabilizing factor for Europe as a whole and in conjunction endanger the interests of Republic of Lithuania.

Finally, there are such factors affecting Lithuanian national security as industrial accidents, natural disasters, epidemics and ecological catastrophes.

Each state's priority is national security, therefore Republic of Lithuania like every country, created the National Security Strategy, which sets forth national security interests, security policies, national security policy, national security strategy, and means and methods of risk factors, risks and threats to national security. It is noted that threats and risks to national security are very dynamic, and there are dozens of factors affecting national security: social or economic life and the political situation in the country as well.

CONCLUSIONS

Traditional security concept is based on the idea that all public or individual interests are subordinated to national interests. Therefore, it is essential to protect national borders, institutions, values and people. The main objective of the state is to protect the country from external aggression and to preserve the integrity of the State.

In order to ensure states' safety, countries began to increase their own power, thereby increasing insecurity of other countries. The arms race started and it posed a growing sense of insecurity worldwide. Even in joining the international organizations, which aimed at ensuring the security, states could not feel safe, because a nuclear weapon had emerged.

The content of the security concept is dynamic - it can vary depending on the new threats arising to individual and state. The biggest long-term national security issue has been considered a threat of military attack, which encouraged countries to unite in order to achieve common security goals. Recently, considerable threats for countries are caused by terrorism, environmental problems,

which emphasize the need for countries to find solutions together. Over the past decades, it is impossible for states to operate separately in order to ensure their national security.

The safe state does not necessarily mean the safety of its citizens. It is considered that the protection of citizens against foreign military attack –is a necessary but insufficient condition to ensure the security of citizens.

The national security interests of Republic of Lithuania are linked to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, democratic constitutional order and the preservation of civil society, respect for human rights and freedoms and the protection of their implementation. An institutional system is necessary for the protection and implementation of those interests

Lithuania like other countries is threatened by military, political, economic, social and environmental threats. A variety of transnational phenomena, such as terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking, smuggling, illegal arms trafficking, drug trafficking, illegal migration, which transcends national borders, and become potential threats to Lithuanian national security.

Lithuania is too dependant on other state's strategic raw materials and energy supply. This factor makes influence to national security and poses a threat not only to economic prosperity, but also to public safety.

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IŠŠUKIAI LIETUVOS NACIONALINIAM SAUGUMUI

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S a n t r a u k a

Šiame straipsnyje pristatomos aktualios problemos, susijusios su nacionaliniu saugumu, kurios atsiranda Lietuvoje globalizacijos proceso įtakoje. Nepaisant vykstančių pokyčių žmonių gyvenime, svarbiausiems kiekvieno individo poreikiams priskiriami saugumo ir gerovės poreikiai. Kiekviena valstybė gali turėti skirtingas nacionalinio saugumo grėsmes, todėl sunku užtikrinti asmens saugumą, neužtikrinant nacionalinio saugumo, neapsaugant valstybės nuo išorės grėsmių.

Šio straipsnio tikslas yra atskleisti Lietuvos nacionalinio saugumo užtikrinimo problemas. Straipsnį sudaro trys dalys: pirmoji dalis skirta nacionaliniam saugumo sampratos atskleidimui. Nacionalinio saugumo samprata yra susijusi su tradicine saugumo koncepcija, pagal kurią nacionalinis saugumas yra laikomas valstybės saugumu, o pagrindine grėsme nacionaliniam saugumui yra laikomas karinio užpuolimo pavojus.

Antroje straipsnio dalyje pristatoma institucinė Lietuvos nacionalinio saugumo sistema, kuri buvo sukurta po Nepriklausomybės atkūrimo. Šiuo metu pagrindinės vadovaujančios nacionalinio saugumo užtikrinimo institucijos yra Lietuvos Respublikos Prezidentas, Vyriausybė ir Seimas. Kitos vykdančiosios institucijos yra šios: Valstybės gynimo taryba, Krašto apsaugos ministerija, Ginkluotųjų pajėgų vadas ir Gynybos štabas, kariuomenė, policija, Valstybės saugumo departamentas, Specialiųjų tyrimų tarnyba. Lietuva prisijungė prie tarptautinių organizacijų, kurių tikslas užtikrinti ekonominį, aplinkosauginį saugumą, bendrai formuoti tarptautinio saugumo užtikrinimo sistemą.

Pagrindinės grėsmės Lietuvos nacionaliniam saugumui yra pristatytos trečiojoje straipsnio dalyje. Yra įvairių grėsmių Lietuvos nacionaliniam saugumui, pavyzdžiui, karinių, politinių, ekonominių, socialinių ir aplinkosaugos. Pačios pavojingiausios grėsmės yra susijusios su: nusikalstamomis veikomis, kaip antai terorizmas, organizuotas nusikalstamumas, prekyba žmonėmis, kontrabanda, nelegali prekyba ginklais, narkotikais, nelegali migracija, kuri peržengia nacionalinių sienų. Ekonominė krizė, kuri įtakoja augančią emigraciją ir socialinį nestabilumą Lietuvoje, energetinė priklausomybė taip pat kelia grėsmę Lietuvos nacionaliniam saugumui.

Pagrindinės sąvokos: nacionalinis saugumas, išorės grėsmės, tarptautinės organizacijos, globalizacija.

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