

Ensuring National Security in the Economic Sphere: The Experience of Foreign Countries and the Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

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Summary. The experience of foreign countries should be carefully studied when adopting conceptual documents on ensuring national security and establishing relevant institutions in this direction. This article is devoted to the study of the problem posed. As the object of research, not international organizations and country alliances, but countries belonging to four categories were selected as examples. First, the most developed countries of the world in economic, social and other areas and having sufficient experience in the problem under study, the USA, Western Europe and several Far Eastern countries, were selected. Second, the countries of Latin America, which have experienced a long history of colonialism and are currently trying to live independently, but are facing a number of problems. The third countries are the Republic of Türkiye and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which are geographically close to us and absorb the bulk of our foreign trade turnover. Finally, these are countries that have a common Soviet history with us in the 20th century and the same past in the field of security during this period.

Keywords: national security, national strategy, globalization, conceptual documents, sustainable growth, sustainable defense, economic sovereignty.

I. INTRODUCTION.

The globalization process, while accelerating the development of the world economic system, is accompanied by a large number of problems. At the same time, many economic processes and events that we encounter occur regardless of our will, and are also characterized by a large number of contradictions. World experience shows that the weakening of the state's attention to ensuring national security in the economic sphere can lead to serious consequences. In other words, the timely detection of threats to the economy by the national security system and adequate response to them are of paramount importance in protecting the interests of individuals, society and the state. If we take into account the consequences of the "economic" COVID-19 pandemic, which shook the entire world almost 3-5 years ago, the relevance of the topic chosen as the object of research increases somewhat.

Applying the above to our country, we would like to state that Azerbaijan is an attractive target for the world's struggling countries. Interestingly, these countries sometimes compete with each other, even if they are represented in an alliance. This means that each country has its own national interests. They want to possess our resources through various structures and technologies. They want to strengthen their political and economic position in the region by using our geographical opportunities and other advantages over the countries of the region. Such approaches from the outside can take the form of espionage, or can lead to data manipulation and economic devastation, etc.

Currently, Europe and all other developed countries are concerned about the rapidly growing position of China. Therefore, part of the modern policy on ensuring national

security in the economic sphere, including plans for the strategic period, is aimed at protecting China from its advance. At the same time, other countries in Europe and in the world that support peace and security are concerned about Russia's behavior towards Ukraine and all civilized countries.

II. Ease of Use (Main part) EXPERIENCE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

United States. The concept of national security historically combines the spheres of political, military and economic security. The development and application of doctrinal documents on ensuring national security, including the protection of economic security as a direction of this sphere, and the creation of relevant state institutions were first initiated in the United States.

Ensuring economic security in the United States is one of the priority areas of the state. For this purpose, both the legislative branch and individual executive branches are authorized. Modern policy documents on America's economic security were formed after the end of the Cold War. In the current century, the "US National Security Strategy" was first announced in 2002 and has been amended and updated several times over the past period. The latest version of this document was approved on October 12, 2022 [8. 47 p.]. It is likely that this process will be repeated again in the near future in connection with the election of a new president. This document, which is considered the "Biden-Harris Administration National Security Strategy", indicates the importance of strengthening the country's economic security. America's policy in this direction is aimed at further increasing the country's economic power and preserving its strategic position in the world. According to the strategic document, the economic part of the US National Security Strategy is aimed at solving the following three main issues:

1. The US National Security Strategy includes ensuring economic security by making the American economy and the global economy resilient to economic shocks.
2. The US believes that it is necessary to influence global development and socio-economic prosperity by expanding investment and trade between countries.
3. The US believes that poor countries also need to actively participate in ensuring global development.

The main state body in the United States for ensuring national security is the National Security Council, established in 1947 and subordinate to the President. The Council is a consultative body, is engaged in resolving issues related to national security and coordinates the activities of organizations operating in all areas of this field.

Periodic reviews of the National Security Strategy do not fundamentally change the overall policy of the US Government, and simply update American policy in this direction by adapting to changes and challenges in the global world.

European countries. France. Approaches to national security issues in France are similar to the system being formed in the United States, especially in terms of design. In France, the national security concept is more of a political document and is actually developed in accordance with the national-ideological approaches of this country. By the way, the geography of French capital investments abroad can be partially explained by this approach. The main feature of the French economic security strategy is the recognition of national companies as the decisive object of the country's economic security [1. Pg. 67)]. Two important documents were adopted in France: the "White Paper on Defense and National Security" and the "Defense Code". The first document, along with various aspects of national security, reflected the country's sovereignty and legitimacy, the protection of its international reputation, cooperation with other countries in defense, and other areas. The second document outlined the general directions of defense, financial affairs, legal and necessary administrative situation.

Institutionally, economic security issues (French: de sécurité économique) are subordinated to the Directorate General for Foreign Intelligence - Directorate General, which is subordinate to the French Ministry of Defense. The Intelligence Directorate, which is part of the structure of this organization, operates in 4 directions: geopolitical intelligence and security; the fight against organized international crime; the fight against terrorism and economic security [9].

One of the similarities between France and some other countries in ensuring economic security is that the President has special powers, as defined by the Constitution adopted in 1958 [10]. In addition, the Prime Minister and the government as a whole play an important role in developing policy on national security issues. It is worth mentioning the "General Secretariat for Defense and National Security Affairs", which is responsible for interagency coordination in defense affairs. The functions of this Secretariat are similar to the activities of the National Security Council in the United States and are just as important.

Germany. In Germany, threats to the economy are perceived as threats to the country's overall security. There is no separate federal institution or unified legislative framework for ensuring economic security. The state body responsible for developing policy in the security sphere is the Federal Ministry of Defense. The Federal Agency for the Protection of the Constitution, along with the federal police authorities, is subordinate to the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

In Germany, unlike in many countries, ensuring economic security is socially oriented. Therefore, ensuring the socio-economic interests of the population is stated in state policy documents. The main strategy in the economic sphere is aimed at developing a sustainable market economy and ensuring its guarantees. When it comes to foreign economic relations, an important point is aimed at expanding the sales market and preserving the current situation, including protecting economic sectors from attacks by other states. One of the main areas of national economic security is ensuring energy security. In order to supply itself with energy carriers, Germany is striving to diversify its sources of supply and transportation to the maximum extent. As a vivid example of this, we can cite pipelines laid from Russia.

In terms of the experience of ensuring economic security, one of the important issues that Azerbaijan can learn from Germany is, in our opinion, the state's policy on maintaining and developing scientific and technical potential. In Germany, the state implements a stimulating policy aimed at annually increasing the financial resources allocated for scientific and technical progress and the development of science-intensive industries.

Other European countries. Among other European countries, Great Britain, Italy and Spain do not have an officially formed concept of economic security. However, the economic policy of the state in these countries is aimed at protecting economic interests and ensuring economic security. In these countries, an effective state system has been created to solve the tasks ahead in this area. The basis of this system is the development of a regulatory and legal framework, a clear division of responsibility and powers of state authorities, and the existence of programs approved by law at all stages of development and reflecting economic priorities.

Brazil. In Brazil, the concept of national security gives an important role to ensuring economic security. Here, sustainable economic growth is indicated as the main factor in ensuring economic security. Back in the last years of the last century, a document entitled "Main Aspects of the New Policy in the Field of National Defense of Brazil" was approved. According to experts, Brazil's new defense doctrine, like the United Nations document entitled "Sustainable Development Concept", for the first time introduced the category of "sustainable defense" and thus combined security and the economic well-being of the state [2. 178]. In other words, economic security was directly linked to the rate of economic growth. Thirdly, although Latin American countries pursue an "open door" policy in the field of international economic cooperation, it is characteristic for them to identify the concept of security with the concept of "sovereignty." This means that economic security will be equated with the concept of "economic sovereignty".

Japan. In Japan, ensuring economic security is not a separate sphere and is considered an integral part of protecting national security. Japan's main economic policy in this regard is aimed at timely detection of external threats to economic interests and repelling them. Ensuring the stable functioning of the national economy is considered important. The main activity of the Japanese government is aimed at strengthening the country's economic potential by increasing the competitiveness of Japanese exports and labor productivity. Important issues that concern the political authorities of Japan are the creation of food and other strategic reserves, stable supply of the fuel and energy base, diversification of raw materials sources, protection of the environment and non-renewable natural resources. Along with these, Japan prefers a strategy of close cooperation with countries with which its economic ties are deepening, especially with countries where Japanese capital is represented.

South Korea. In South Korea, ensuring economic security is approached from the perspective of economic development and a sustainable social society. In a broad sense, the main threat to national security is North Korea's behavior in the region and its "defense" policy. In 2020, South Korea developed and adopted a document called "Korea's New Course. National Strategy for the Great Transformation" and

is currently being successfully implemented [11]. According to statements by country officials, the new course defined in this strategic document laid the foundation for the next 100 years of Korea's development. Later, in 2022, they announced a "National Strategic Plan" for the development of new technologies. As in Japan, South Korea's economic security is identified with the presence of reliable resource sources and supply "channels" th.

Russia. In Russia, all organizational, methodological and coordination work on issues of ensuring economic security is concentrated within the framework of the country's Security Council. The Russian Security Council is adapted to the activities of the institution we are talking about in the United States. The main working body operating in the Security Council to ensure economic security is the Interdepartmental Commission on Security in the Economic Sphere. The members of the Commission are representatives of state authorities responsible for the development and implementation of the country's economic policy. The Commission also includes heads of scientific centers and institutes. The Federal Assembly, the legislative body of Russia, also takes an active part in the development of state policy on protecting national security in the economic sphere.

In Russia, the "State Strategy for the Economic Security of the Russian Federation" was adopted in 1996. Later, in mid-2017, the "Strategy for the Economic Security of the Russian Federation until 2030" was approved [11]. This key strategic document was developed to implement the national priorities set out in the "National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation".

Ukraine. The Ukrainian Government is primarily concerned with defending itself from the war with Russia, liberating the country from occupation, and eliminating the consequences of the war in the future. For this reason, it has had to change the geography of its foreign economic relations. Currently, Ukraine approaches economic security issues only from a military and political perspective and objectively prefers defensive tactics. The government is obliged to make timely corrections to the state structures formed so far and the experience gained. In accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the main coordinating body in the field of national security is the National Security and Defense Council, which is subordinate to the Government. This Council includes the Prime Minister of the country, the Minister of Defense, the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the head of the Security Service, in accordance with their positions. In addition, they may also include heads of other central executive bodies of the country. The Chairman of the Council is the President of Ukraine.

Other post-Soviet countries. Ensuring economic security in the Republic of Belarus and other post-Soviet countries began to take shape in the 1990s. Institutional approaches emerged as a result of the necessary reforms carried out in the special services that previously operated in these republics. At the same time, we can say that these countries benefited from the Russian example in many issues. There is considerable consistency in the text of strategic documents and legislative acts on the protection of national security and its component economic security. This feature can be applied to almost all post-Soviet republics.

The most important information base, infrastructure, human resources, and other resources of the former Soviet state

security agencies have passed to Russia and, to some extent, to Ukraine.

Republic of Türkiye. In this country, which is of great importance to us, the state is given a special role in ensuring economic security. The state's prominence in the implementation of economic reforms and the country's economic development strategy stems from an objective necessity. In the Republic of Türkiye, this necessity was related to the elimination of socio-economic and technological backwardness in the country until the 1990s of the last century. Especially since 1995, after Türkiye joined the European Union Customs Union, the difference in social and economic spheres between the countries has become prominent and the issue has become even more relevant. Such an approach has brought great benefits. There has been a structural change in the Turkish economy, it has become an industrial country, and is currently among the top twenty economically leading countries in the world.

In Türkiye, national security agencies were formed during the Ottoman Empire, if we do not take into account the reforms and changes carried out over the past 100 years. Currently, the National Security Council operates in the country (12). The head of the Council is the President of the Republic of Türkiye. However, the implementation of current affairs and supervision of the Council's activities are carried out by the Secretary General of the Council. The slight difference of this Council from similar state structures in other countries is that its members are mostly composed of heads of military and defense agencies. Functionally, the National Intelligence Organization (*Turkish: Milli İstihbarat Teşkilatı – MIT*) has a special importance in ensuring national security. This Organization is the successor to the "National Security Service" organization established in the early years of the Republic.

The main conceptual document on the protection of national security is the "National Security Policy Document" (*Turkish: Milli Güvenlik Siyaseti Belgesi*). Known as the "secret constitution" of the state and known in public as the "Red Book", this document was updated and completed in late 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the modern era. This policy document is considered secret and its text is not fully disclosed to the public. Towards the end of last year, the "National Strategy and Action Plan for Cybersecurity in Türkiye for 2024-2028" was approved. The role and importance of information technologies in Türkiye's economic development are highlighted in this document.

Thus, as we see, when it comes to protecting national security in the Republic of Türkiye, the defense of the country from a military-political perspective has come to the fore since the early days of the Republic's establishment.

Islamic Republic of Iran. In the Iran, as in Türkiye, the role of the state in ensuring national and economic security is very large. This necessity is related to the elimination of the existing backwardness in the socio-economic and other areas. At the same time, it is related to the sanctions that this country has been subjected to since 1979 and the restrictions imposed on international economic cooperation. That is why, in our opinion, the state policy on ensuring economic security in Iran is determined in two main directions:

1. The policy of "self-sufficiency" and the struggle to "stay afloat" in connection with the current global conditions.

2. The easing, reduction and, if possible, the complete abolition of the sanctions imposed on this country.

In order to realize the mentioned strategic line, the country's behavior in the modern era is, of course, accompanied by appropriate diplomatic negotiations.

Along with these, the protection of national security is strengthened by information security. The main central executive authority for the country's security is called the Ministry of National Security and Information of Iran. At the same time, one of the directions of the Ministry's activity is focused on economic security, and these issues are entrusted to the curatorship of one of the deputy ministers [14].

Generalized coordination work in the field of protecting national security in the Islamic Republic of Iran is entrusted to the Supreme Council for National Security.

III. STRATEGY OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

In the Republic of Azerbaijan, a single institutional center coordinating the activities of state bodies and private structures authorized by the constitution to deal with issues of protecting the economic security of society and the state, as well as commercial and economic entities, has not yet been created. However, this does not mean that ensuring economic security has been left out of the state's care and attention. We can analyze the strategy of protecting national security, including economic security, in Azerbaijan by approaching it from the prism of 3 stages and several strategic directions covering the stages.

- First stage. The period covering the first ten years of our independence.
- Second stage. The period covering the first twenty years of the century we live in.
- Third stage. The last years and the target period up to 2030.

In the early years of our independence, the Republic of Azerbaijan was subjected to numerous terrorist attacks and open aggression by Armenia. As a result, our country was forcibly drawn into war. As a result of the enemy's behavior, our lands were occupied, and the country's economy suffered huge damage [1. Pg. 49-50]. At that time, 14% of the Azerbaijani population became refugees and internally displaced persons. Thus, our country faced deep socio-economic problems. As the first country among the Soviet republics to encounter threats to national security, we had to take measures in this area. State policy documents were adopted and army building began. The main strategic goal of the Republic of Azerbaijan was to stop the war and economic decline at any cost. Ensuring national security was approached primarily through the prism of creating a national army. Later, the "Contract of the Century" was concluded and the implementation of the work arising from the terms of these agreements began.

Therefore, we can characterize the provision of our national security during that period with two main strategic approaches of the state:

1. Our defense and preservation of our independence.
2. Creating a platform and preparing a solid foundation for ensuring our economic security.

The Security Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan was officially established in 1997. To date, the activities of the

Council have been significantly expanded and improved.

The Regulations on the service of the Secretary of the Security Council were approved in 2019. According to the new Regulations, the service of the Secretary of the Security Council received the status of a "higher category state body" that carries out organizational and analytical-information support for the Council's activities.

In the second stage, our country became economically and therefore politically stronger. The work on building a strong army was accelerated. During that period, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan "On National Security" (2004) was adopted [4] and in 2007, the "National Security Concept of the Republic of Azerbaijan" was approved [6]. In addition, the "Military Doctrine of the Republic of Azerbaijan", which is considered the main political document in the field of state defense, was approved in 2010 by the decision of the Parliament - Milli Majlis [7]. A Working Group was established in the field of national security policy [5]. Various state commissions operating in the direction of ensuring our national security were established. At the same time, several strategic programs for the development of socio-economic sectors were adopted and projects were implemented. By Decree No. 1138 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated December 6, 2016, a "Strategic Road Map" was approved in 11 directions for the development of various sectors in our country. At the end of this period, as a vital issue for our country, our lands were liberated from occupation.

Even if we do not describe the chronology of historical events that occurred in the past in detail, it is possible to say that the protection of our national security was approached from the perspective of the following strategic directions.

1. Continuing the construction of the army.
2. Practical steps taken to ensure our national and economic security.
3. Work done to protect the sovereignty of our country and restore its territorial integrity.

In the final stage, in our opinion, the provision of our national security is again approached along three main strategic lines.

The first strategic line is related to the current conflicts in the world. In addition, it is related to the hostile policy of the Republic of Armenia, especially the diaspora organizations of ethnic Armenians living in different countries and their militarized terrorist wing, against our country. Based on this, approaching our national security from a military-political perspective and continuing the army building should be a priority.

The second main strategic line of the recent period is aimed at continuing our economic development and solving social problems. Therefore, in the second period, the concentration of state policy on socio-economic security, including environmental protection and ensuring "green energy", that is, ecological, humanitarian, food security, draws our attention. In this regard, various state programs have been adopted, and some have already been implemented.

The third main strategic direction is related to the adoption of new technologies in accordance with the requirements of the 21st century and their development in our country. In order to continue the strategic development course, Azerbaijan adopted a document entitled "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Social and Economic Development" at the beginning of 2021. The document begins with the thesis "a

powerful state and a high-welfare society". It lists 5 important national priorities in the current decade, such as a sustainable, competitive economy; a society based on dynamic development and social justice; and a clean environment [15].

IV. CONCLUSION

In order to implement these listed strategic directions, our country can benefit from the experience and examples formed in the state policy of various countries of the world in the field of ensuring national security.

In the first strategic approach of Azerbaijan, the example of the Republic of Türkiye, which is our closest ally, can be useful.

In the second strategic approach, we can benefit from the examples of developed countries. True, although there are different approaches among them, the humanitarian, social and economic achievements they have generally achieved can be a stimulus for us. For example, Azerbaijan can benefit from the experience of the US or France in the form of establishing a single integrated alliance with its closest allies.

The third strategic approach should be adapted to the requirements of the modern era, and science and technology should be developed. In this regard, the "Strategic Roadmap for the Development of Telecommunications and Information Technologies in the Republic of Azerbaijan" was approved in December 2016 [16]. Generally speaking, the national security policies, strategic-conceptual documents and institutional approaches of countries such as Germany, Japan, South Korea, and Singapore, among the countries we have researched in this direction, and the national security system in general, can be useful for our country to achieve great achievements.

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