GLOBALIZATION, GLOBAL PROCESSES AND SECURITY ENVIRONMENT UNDER SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONDITIONS

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Abstract: *The globalization, sustainable development and security environment are some terms which are daily used. On this background main theoretical initiatives appeared on correlation between national security and international security, having individual security as core element. History proved the individuals' security on national plan can't be fully accomplished.*

Despite the intervention of democratic and legitimate state to settle the rest, order, and harmony in society its action proves to be limited. Under present conditions of globalization the most important security issue, particularly under the general place conditions is focused on life quality, main element of sustainable development of manifestation.

Keywords: *security, globalization, sustainable development, state, nation, individual rights.*

1. Globalization and global processes – introduction

L ately, it has been estimated that some words have had a very frequent use covering both everyday life and high competence aspects. From this perspective, globalization is one of the concepts that falls in everyday use.

According to Zigmunt Bauman: "The word GLOBALIZATION is on everybody's lips; a bauble has quickly become a slogan, a magical incantation, a paspartu able to open the gates for present and future mysteries. For some, globalization is something we must achieve immediately if we want to be happy, for others, the source of our unhappiness resides in globalization. However, it's certain for everyone that globalization represents the implacable destiny the world is heading towards, an irreversible process affecting us all equally and in the same way"[1].

This concept justifiably stems from the economists' studies. Thus, in 1983, the economist Teodore Levitt developed the idea according to which, on a global market, the production process has two distinctive phases: in the first phase, the new products sell very well on the developed countries' markets, after which they become obsolete.

From this moment, the respective products enter the second phase, a global phase, when they sell on increasingly large markets until the entire population of the globe is involved in this. Such a process is undoubtedly accompanied by low costs and prices and also by a beneficial tendency to harmonize the consumers' tastes everywhere.

Later, in 1990, Michael Porter made the distinction between a multinational corporation – operating in several countries without unifying the production, marketing and financial operations – and a global company – aiming at a coordinated strategy, with a synergic development. In 1990, Kenichi Ohmae stated that the big global companies abandon their national identity, operating globally by themselves, outside the state's strict control[2].

Undoubtedly, the factors that led to the emergence and development of globalizing phenomena were revolutionary innovations in technology and the growing liberalization in production and exchange, and in the use of capital and labor, elements of the sustainable development.

The issue of globalization has had economic effects not only on individuals, businessmen, governments, nation-states and the state unions, but it has had a near unstoppable impact on labor markets, financial

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[1] Zygmunt Bauman, *Globalization and its social effects*, Antet Press, Bucharest, 1999, p.5.
[2] Guillermo de la Dehesa, *Winners and losers in globalization*, Historia Press, Bucharest, 2007, pp.9-21.

markets, economic growth and convergence processes of national economies. Like any social-political process, globalization cannot be considered as an unlimited source of benefits for humanity, especially for areas where productivity and efficiency are very low, but it cannot be blamed either for all the ills that some social structures are required to overcome. Sustainable development encourages all modern forms of technological development, provided that the requirements of the natural environment, both nationally and globally are met.

Effectively, globalization seems to be a certainty with a lot of uncertainties. The fact is that now there is talk of globalization, globalized economy, global environment, global policies, global terrorism, global security, etc. As such, the definitions of globalization are as many as are the different approaches of the phenomenon that mentioned them.

Thus, for the Romanian economic environment, globalization represents, as appropriate, "a way or a system of receiving and approaching, on long-term, the major contemporary issues caused by multiple interacting economic, technical, political, social, cultural, environmental processes and phenomena etc. and predicting their resolution in a broad perspective by the international community. In such a globalist vision, the ensemble acquires properties or attributes that components do not have"[3]. The definition implies the complicated process of interdependent planning of the great problems of mankind by the international community, understood as an important international "actor". The great difficulty is that the whole international community does not act synergistically and optimally, but as a sum of entities, often with different and often contradictory interests. However, it is easy to understand that the object and subject of globalization comprise state entities, some initiating and supporting their favorable globalizing phenomena while others are in a position to bear the negative consequences of these processes.

From another perspective, "Globalization is a dynamic process of liberalization, openness and international integration on a wide range of markets, from work to goods and from services to capital and technology… In the final analysis, globalization is based on freedom: freedom to trade with the world and to capitalize on the relative advantage of each country,

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[3] Niță Dobrotă, coordinator, *Dictionary of Economics*, Economic Press, Bucharest, 1999, pp.228-229.

the freedom to invest where capital gains are higher, at a tolerable level of risk and freedom to open business in the country you choose, be it a business to achieve higher profits or a part of a higher market or to seek individually, wages and/or better working conditions"[4].

The definition insists on liberalization, openness and international integration, freedom of action are the watchwords, the subject of globalization is the major global geographic expanses where, of course, are state entities, its subject remains undefined, it may be about successful companies worldwide.

In our view, globalization is the international institutional framework by which companies promote their own interests, without the states' need for protective and intermediary action. In such a context, capital can move freely, companies do business worldwide, citizens can move freely, the national legislation framework is subject to the global regulatory framework and the basic principles of human action are subject to the criteria of effectiveness, efficiency and profit.

The essential features of globalization result from the following findings: a significant decline of mass production territorially and the growing diversification of markets, the growing importance of services in overall economic activity; a growing proportion of the value of individual products is the design, marketing, legal and financial advice; the standardization of products associated with scale territorial economies is replaced by emphasizing the differentiation in accordance with local or specialized demands; the national levels of economic organization decrease in importance as the global levels of organization expand due to the global nature of finance and technology; the increase of the number of government activities that are regulated by international agreements; the pronounced development of transnational nongovernmental and unofficial networks etc.

The current globalization turns out to be the expression of the intensification of multiple interconnections – political, economic, cultural and, not least, military. The globalization trend after 1980 is a superior social step, a consequence of the true revolution in information technology and data processing. This process of aggressive intensification of interconnections obviously has a contradictory nature, involving both

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[4] Guillermo de la Dehera, *op.cit.*, pp.17-18.

integration and fragmentation, homogenization and diversification, globalization and localization, enrichment and impoverishment, obviously of some by the others.

Looking back in history, we can say that the global ideas and actions followed the society's evolution. For any individual, the global actions are those actions exceeding his concrete time and space. We believe that, for the primitive man, the organizational regulations of hunting territory and fruit and roots gathering represented premises of „globalization". Listening to the feudal populations represented another premise of globalization. The great empires of antiquity and feudalism can be understood as tendencies to extend and strengthen the power of a State over major territorial extent due to global interests – the appropriate globalist of those times. In the ample process of global expansion, as a reality of the balance, boundaries and border states were imposed, where the global strength belonged to a well-defined person, king, emperor, etc., as a representative of the recognized national entities.

In antiquity and feudalism, the State, represented by its leader, had unlimited power over all citizens, properties and goods depending on a certain shootout and border configuration. Even the wars in those days would wage by the will and in the name of the emperor, king or ruler.

The capitalism emerged amid the consolidation of private propriety in workshops, factories, enterprises and companies together with the finance one, followed by the gradual conjugation between the large owners and the state central authorities, especially linked to the propriety. But these political and economic entities, realizing the need for a central protecting authority initiated the removal of the state *led by an autocrat*, to replace it with a state of representation and regulation, built on democracy understood and applied at their level of large owners: the so-called "bourgeois-democratic" phase in order to justify their political ascension in order to remove the autocrat and his great feudal supporters (the phase of revolutions led by Cromwell, Robespierre etc.). From then on, the national states turned into instruments of private and financial property, aimed at ensuring the legal development framework of the property. The desire to eliminate foreign competition and undisturbed development of their business determined the firms within the boundaries to expand their activity from a certain local spectrum to a national framework, under state protection, and

this is the manifestation of monopolistic interests of firms and the firms' national expansion. Then, by means of the wars and colonial rule, they gained international status - with express national state – then they acquired transnational status, but this time at the expense of nation states they economically subjugated[5].

Overall, globalization covers the aspects of phenomena expansion in order to cover the ensemble and the global processes are the results of globalization manifesting as a whole within the ensemble. The current economic, social and political reality is undoubtedly the result of two major processes: technological innovation and globalization.

Technological innovation has made great strides in deciphering the unknown, and the globalization allowed for technological developments to be available to citizens everywhere, by removing barriers of any kind. Removing barriers of any kind has led to neglecting major responsibilities to sustainable development.

2. Globalization and the generation of collective unhappiness

Undoubtedly, human history is the history of space, speed and time trinomial. Large and small social events are the cause and effect of the combination of the three components of the equation of becoming.

In this context, globalization has not only become one of the most fashionable academic words for politicians, business people, but also for any participant in the human transformations show.

For the latter, globalization is something that fills their lives for better or worse, mostly worse. It comes from somewhere, they do not know where from, and works relentlessly, especially when it is the question that many people retrench and accept new sacrifices.

In themselves, they ask and want to know who produces it, for what and for whom, in whose name it occurs and why it is involved in all discussions justifying decisions taken over their head and especially against them.

Globalization has become pervasive, for some it is synonymous with the overall progress, while for others it has become a scapegoat, the cause of

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[5] Other opinions: Eugen Bădălan, Mircea Udrescu, Constantin Mincu, *Logistic conditionings in the age of globalization*, The Scientists' Academy Press, Bucharest, 2010, pp. 7-78.

everything that goes wrong in the world, especially in areas where poverty is spreading. From now on, the economic and financial crises are caused by globalization. Since they are not related to human actions anymore, speculative capitals and governments, they are generated by globalization.

The real revolution produced by globalization in international markets has forced states to rethink their positions, adapting them to new realities, characterized by the fact that investors, or financial capital and global firms, first make states compete with each other, then reveal to the public the area they will invest in. Since the macroeconomic component of the states began to decline, they are objectively directed to become more involved in improving their own human capital and the general market conditions domestically: a good education system, good infrastructure, a well structured and articulated financial system, an impartial judiciary system etc. becoming the ingredients that support states in attracting funding for large projects.

However, it appears that a certain social reality characterized by the combination of institutionalized corruption with legal and political uncertainty, which is found in many less developed countries, but also in some developed countries, encourages speculative investments and financing, which, instead of being followed by a better general level of life, bring an even greater poverty and frustration among the working people.

Therefore, states which enjoy a beautiful international recognition are those that contribute transparently to the proper functioning of markets through a clear collaboration between the public and private sectors, either national or international. Such states ensure that their rules are well understood and sanctioned, are in full compliance with international standards, with the guidelines provided by international organizations for each country and are conducive to the development of practical systems of education, health, social protection and the removal of violence. All these are fundamental requirements for sustainable development. In response to the demands of globalization, the states waive some of their macroeconomic prerogatives, but focus more on microeconomic policies and balanced cooperation between the state and the civil society.

Overall, globalization is accompanied by obvious success in many fields, but also by numerous financial and economic crises. Globalization seems to favor everyone, but is perceived as guilty of widening the gap

between the rich and the poor, even by a greater impoverishment of those who were already poor, and by different levels of development of the other countries.

Globalization has brought with it a lot of poverty and social discontent. In such cases, there is a tendency to blame the rich countries or international bodies like the IMF, WB etc., strongly accused of favoring the world elite. Beyond the social discontent caused by poverty and insecurity, there is a general form of collective unhappiness generated by globalizing phenomena of civic and educational conduct in both rich countries and in countries where poverty is expanding.

For example, two decades ago, a senior official of the U.S. administration, former state secretary of education, noted with regret: "The nation we live in today is more violent and vulgar, most trivial and cynical, more ignorant and without remorse, more deviant and depressing than the one in which we once lived .... people kill other people and commit suicide with greater ease. Men and women abandon each other and abandon their children without much hesitation. American marriage and family are weaker, more fragile and less normative"[6]. The indiscriminate cultivation of individual freedom, an individual who appears to be above any kind of responsibility, opened the doors of countless manifestations of human savagery.

As such, nobody is surprised by systematizations like „Today, civilization is really in a crises which has a sole analogy in history, the crises that determined the emergence of Christianity. All traditions are worn, all beliefs are obsolete; on the other hand, the new program hasn't been established yet and hasn't penetrated the consciousness of the masses. Hence what I call dissolution. This is the most frightening moment in the existence of human society. Everything gathers around people who want the best in order to make them inconsolable: prostitution of consciousness, triumph of mediocrity, mixture of truth and falsehood, principle trade, meanness of passions, laxity of morals, suppression of the truth, lies rewarding. I have few illusions and I do not expect that tomorrow, in our country, as by a miracle, to revive the courage to express opinions, the good

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[6] William J. Bennett, *The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators. American Society at the End of the Twentieth Century,* 1999, p.9.

faith of newspapers, government morality, citizens' reason and the sense of community of the plebeians."[7]

Globalization has been a brutal roller over the recent past educational summits and left behind a fast-food education, a kind of mass cultural industry that produces useful standardized smatterers, emotionally ready to enroll with ease in cohorts supporting the vocal representatives of the moment, of the place, of the time etc. An education of sufficiency, of non involvement specific to those who do not ask questions and if they still ask simple questions, they eagerly learn the clichés offered indiscriminately.

Therefore, it is difficult to refute those who, unfortunately, draw conclusions such as: "... some live without trouble to think about it, some talk about things without read, some take desire for reason, the concepts have become words to handle , music is more an opportunity to display their pulsions, not even as entertainment ... We live today, generations born later - however we weigh things - after a series of cultural fractures in the middle of late modern society: we are more informed, but at the same time, more overwhelmed by harmless facts and cultural insecurities than any previous generation"[8].

The leveling tornado of globalization in education has also hit those who are accused of exporting globalization since it's the only way we can explain the teaching objectives formulated by Harvard University as "the capacity to communicate well with diverse audiences ... learning to live and to work effectively with other people ... improving the ability to think clearly and critically ... developing a clearer, stronger set of ethical principles ..."[9]. School falsely made to serve the student already has a false educational halo. The graduation diploma no longer reflects a certain level of knowledge, but confirms the fact that the student attended classes for a predetermined number of days. The student's interest is now about getting a diploma, not acquiring knowledge, because a diploma is valid anywhere in the world. From now on, the school interest is changing and that does not necessarily seek the highest level of knowledge assimilation, but the

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[7] Apud Andrei Marga, *Crises and after crises. The change of the world.*, EIKON Press, Cluj-Napoca, 2012, p. 288.
[8] Ibidem, p.289.
[9] Derek Book, *Our Underachieving Colleges. A candid...*, 2006, pp.58-61.

inclusion of as many students, paying tuition fees. The mass interest of students and the schools are turning to an average of mediocrity.

3. Globalization and the security environment

For many people, the national security paradigm stems from the idea that the state is the main actor in international relations. Towards the latter part of the twentieth century, there were major theoretical approaches regarding the relationship between national security and international security, with the individual security as their central core.

Regarding personal safety, the English philosopher John Locke argued that man, the most important social cell, being the owner of his own person, has the right to address threats by himself, accepting as inevitable the tensions and conflicts between individuals. Likewise, the German philosopher Hegel expressed his belief that violent struggle is not an accidental occurrence in human affairs, but a necessary element in the process by which one proves to be a person.

But, with the emergence and development of the state, the people's natural right to justice and to defend a certain state of security was transferred to some specialized institutions of the state. Of course, in large part, the person's security was transferred to the state, and the established state power was considered legitimate and supporter of universally accepted moral principles. Although interpersonal violence was more subdued with preventive and curative actions undertaken by state institutions, the conflicts could not be eradicated completely. From this perspective, in relation to the notion of conflict, it is estimated that a democratic state is not intended to eliminate conflicts, but to invent procedures that allow them to express themselves and to remain negotiable. In this regard, the status of free organized discussions is appreciated, and in terms of these ideal free discussions, the parties' plurality is justified which, for advanced societies, represents the most adequate context of conflict resolve. As such, in order to ensure his safety, the individual as a member of the politically organized society, must submit to state authority because the state itself, known to be the most righteous, the most democratic, the most liberal etc. is revealed to

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be a synthesis between legitimacy and violence with the moral power to claim and the physical power to coerce.[10]

History has shown that individuals' security within the national circle cannot be fully achieved. Despite the intervention of the democratic and legitimate state to establish peace, order and harmony in society, its actions prove limited because the states' uncertainty, as that of peoples and individuals, is directly proportional to the extent of their freedom. If you want freedom, insecurity must be accepted.[11]

Most threats to individuals derive from the environment in which they live, materializing in social, economic and political pressures. The social threats, although with an extremely wide range of manifestation, can be classified into four groups: physical threats, economic threats, threats to rights and threats to social position or status.[12]

Of course, over time, there have been more and more people stating that, no matter how many threats there may be to its members, the state is preferable to any situation implying its absence.

At the upper level of the individual security, national security is inextricably linked to the state, and the analysis of this state of security is based on the links between the dynamics of internal security and the external one, and the way this interrelation is expressed determines the qualitative appreciation of the state's general security. Each of the three components of the state – the idea of the state, the physical base of the state and the institutional expression of the state – suggests separate security objectives. Undoubtedly, the central objective of national security is the nation, in terms of which it is empowered with authority and it has to be responsible. From this perspective, we have identified and developed four links between state and nation, as follows: nation-state, state-nation, partial nation-state and multinational state.[13]

Out of the numerous theoretical developments of the above systematizations, we will focus on the following: In the first case, the

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[10] Căutişanu Lorenzo, *National and European-collective security, research essay,* Carol I National Defence University Press, Bucharest, 2011, p. 52-53
[11] Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of international politics,* Polirom Press, Iaşi, 2007, p.237
[12] Căutişanu Lorenzo, p.53
[13] Buzan Bary, *Peoples, states and fear. An agenda for international security studies during the Cold War,* Cartier Press, Kishinev, 2000, p.198

nation-state, the nation precedes the state, the link between nation and state is strong, the state has legitimacy internally and a unitary perception externally.

With regard to the nation-state, the state played a decisive role in the cohesion of the nation, hence the obvious responsibility of the state to give authenticity and dynamism to the nation in order for, on behalf of the established nation, the state to be able to express actional coherence, internal unity and external credibility. In fact, the third model, the partial nation-state represents dismantled nations. Partial state-nations represent a continuous source of conflict, insecurity, both for the domestic and international environment. In such an area, the national element itself renders the idea of state uncertain. The fourth model, the multinational state, represents the state exercising its security authority and responsibility over several nations. Not strong enough to become a unifying element, the multinational state is vulnerable to separatist activities and internal affairs management.[14]

The facts presented above allow us to issue the opinion that strong states are a necessary condition both for internal security, especially the security of the individual, as well as internationally. At the opposite pole are the weak states, a true source of personal insecurity, domestic instability, which outsource easily, becoming a source of international insecurity.

At the same time, it is considered that more diffuse international systems, which aim towards multipolarity, are characterized by frequent collisions of reduced violence and mild intensity. Therefore, there are few who at least in theory, support the idea that the international system is more anarchic than the national system because there is no global government to manage the activity of national states, the latter being mainly concerned with ensuring their own security. However, the analysis of the international security environment uses concepts like: stratification, polarization, power distribution, homogeneity. Against this background, it is considered that a bipolar structure is preferable to international security because it is more stable and controllable versus more diffuse systems. In an anarchic system, the balance of power is an essential principle because international security

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[14] Moise Sorin, *Security concept facets,* Carol I National Defence University Press, Strategic Colloquium, vol.V, April 2006, pp.324-339.

is built and developed based on this. The equilibrium or balance of power is actually a state of things in which no power is in a preponderant position being able to impose its law to others[15].

Regardless of the scope of security that involves state institution, the state security develops on key issues contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as follows: individual rights – the right to life, recognition before the law, protection from cruel or degrading forms of punishment, protection against racial, ethnic, sexual or religious legal rights – access to legal means to prevent the violation of fundamental rights, protection against arbitrary arrest, detention or exile, civil liberties – freedom of thought, conscience and religion, rights subsistence – the right to food and basic standards of health and welfare, economic rights – the right to work, rest and recreation, social security and political rights – the right to take part in elections and participate in government.[16]

Under the current conditions of globalization, the most important aspect of security, especially in the general conditions of peace, focuses on the quality of life, as an attempt to combine the living conditions, activities that give content to individual life, with the recognized human needs, values and aspirations.[17]

It is obvious that any security system - individual, national or global – cannot be built in environments in which the individual doesn't feel protected because, by ignoring this reality, the systems become ineffective, vulnerable, even failures. If the security of an individual is threatened, then the group's security as well as the one of other relational groups is threatened.[18]

In view of the above, the European security environment as part of the overall international security environment, is characterized by: simultaneous coexistence of strongly structured states with the one of the states in a process of structuring, formation and reformation; coexistence of peace situations with the conflict ones, with determinations of a different nature, at the same time with the internationalization of some of these; the existence

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[15] Kenneth Waltz, op.cit., p.278
[16] Weissberg Matthew, Conceptualizing Human Security, in Swords and Ploughshares. A Journal of International Affairs – online version http://www.american.edu.,Spring.2003, Volume XIII, No.1, p.3
[17] Cătălin Zamfir,Lazăr Vlăsceanu, Dictionary of Sociology, Babel Press, Bucharest, 1998, p.79-80.
[18] Thomas Caroline, Global Governance and Human Security, Sterling VA:Pluto Press, 2000, p.6.

of a delicate balance between risks, threats and hazards, on the one hand, and state security, on the other hand; the increased efforts of countries undergoing restructuring to meet the conditions of integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures; the intensification of nationalist positions of ethnic groups within some well structured states; the persistence of border disputes and nostalgia; asymmetric economic and social developments; the penetration and expansion of Islamic fundamentalism; the widening of economic, social and technological disparities between different countries and areas of the continent etc.

The political and geostrategic mutations affecting international security environment have in view the following important aspects: the large of quasi-permanent number of asymmetric conflicts taking place globally determines changes in the relationship between the state of peace and the state of conflicts in favor of the latter, the low intensity ones having the most of the conflicts; hazards, risks and threats in the international environment determine the reconsideration of international organizations' doctrines, in that they should focus on preventing and managing conflicts using coercive component to preserve the fundamental requirements of peace; the geostrategic unipolarity seems to be followed by multipolarity with the reconsideration of the traditional role of international organizations; international terrorism and the fight against it continues to mark the beginning of the millennium for a long time because its causes are very difficult to eradicate etc.

Thus, globalization is the most important and powerful force in creating a new matrix of international security. It is associated with increased insecurity, mainly because of the accompanying interdependencies. The evolution of this process not only transformed the characteristics of risks, hazards and existing threats, but also created new ones, specific to a world marked by evident globalization processes.

From this perspective, ignoring the requirements of sustainable development becomes the most feared factor of individual and group insecurity.

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