

THE IMPACT OF CURRENT TRENDS OF THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER ON THE SOCIOECONOMIC SECURITY OF CIS COUNTRIES

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Key words: new economic order, economic security, competitiveness, economic growth, regionalism

Introduction

A characteristic feature of the development of many post-soviet countries is their relative isolation from the global market and the main economic processes occurring globally. Most often, these countries speak of globalization in general and its negative impact on the formation of national economies in particular. There is also the other extreme: the view, and sometimes the conviction, of many officials that globalization is an absolutely positive and irreversible process on a global scale. Often, many of those who adhere to this view forget about the existence of a countervailing trend in the global economy: regionalization. Not only is it a countervailing trend, but, according to many theorists, it also contributes to the realization of competitive advantages of countries within various regional blocs [Rosett, 2007, 33; Treece, 1998, 54-62; Uchitelle, 2017]. A successful example of this is the EU, with its experience of gradual and sustainable development.

Methodology

A number of methods are used in our study to reveal current trends of the world economy with their possible impact on developing nations. While discussing the trends of the new international economic order, the method of economic analysis of trends are used for such important processes as the steady development of information technology, which enables the coordination of company work on a global scale; the liberalization of the international monetary system, which provides opportunities for profit from exchange rate fluctuations; a significant reduction in political hostility and conflict, which enables penetration into new markets and the formation of economic unions; the growing role of post-Soviet, developing, and Eastern countries in the global economy and international organizations, which leads to a certain redistribution of power; the strengthening of Eastern markets, which opens new markets for goods and services and makes these markets attractive to outside investment; the transition from the manufacturing sector to the service sector, which makes knowledge one of the most important components of exports; the use of space for industrial purposes, which opens up new prospects for entrepreneurship. This method help to better understand both the essence of the new developments along with the reasons and causes of each trend. The latter allow us to make scientifically sound forecasts not only for individual countries or groups of post-Soviet countries, but also for the new international economic order, which has become increasingly apparent in recent years. In addition, the method of comapartive analysis is used to see different

levels of political and economic impact on local markets. Based on collected data and examined causes of various trends we use the method of scientific generalizations to better comprehend those with common nature for a group of countries.

Literature review

Despite the fact that most post-Soviet countries are only formally and partially integrated into the global economy and will not be able to seriously compete with industrialized countries in the foreseeable future, all, or almost all, of the above trends are nonetheless having an ever-increasing impact on the formation of national economies and their future development [Liz Shchepetylnykova & Oleksiyenko, 2024, 103]. However, it is necessary to consider the need to reduce (and eventually completely eliminate) the negative impact of economic threats, which allow to achieve the desired level of genuine political independence and ensure socioeconomic security [Gordon, 2012, 11-16].

Any economic programs developed and implemented by the leadership of post-soviet countries, entrepreneurs, or scientists can claim success based not only on a realistic assessment of the socioeconomic situation but also on a thorough professional analysis and systemic features. Research conducted solely in individual sectors cannot ensure long-term economic development [Quoc et al., 2025, 4–21]. Research into economic phenomena, as well as the analysis of a range of problems and the correct selection of solutions, must become a necessary prerequisite for the formation and phased implementation of strategic programs aimed at economic revival [Chan, 2022]. In this context, perhaps the most significant problem today is socioeconomic security, which encompasses all subsectors and their associated economic, social, moral, psychological, and political consequences [Zhao et al., 2021, 18-74].

Although some studies disregard favorable or, more often, long-term, uncertain and negative external influences, we can clearly recognize the following reality: circumstances dependent on any individual, and particularly on the authorities – in this case, artificially created obstacles – are sufficient to keep post-Soviet countries like Armenia and Georgia from being considered developed, developing, or even underdeveloped countries for a long time to come, but rather non-developing, politically and economically vulnerable.

Analysis

We attempt to portray the proposed steps, dependent on the state authorities that, by gradually easing current administrative barriers and obstacles, will form solid foundation of the declared independence – social and economic security, as exemplified by Armenia.

Factors Hindering Economic Security in the Public Administration System

A simple review of the structure of the ministries operating in Armenia today is sufficient to confirm the following conclusions:

First, some ministries clearly duplicate the core functions assigned to other departments and ministries;

Second, given the above, the activities of these departments often (both in terms of decision-making and their practical implementation) lead to mutual contradictions;

Third, even at the intra-ministerial level, functional contradictions between individual departments and divisions cannot be ruled out;

Finally, systemic economic management and the implementation of national programs are artificially complicated.

Looking for the causes of the current situation solely within us would, of course, be unfair. Let's remember that the state structures of the Republic of Armenia, as they exist today, are largely a "tribute" to foreigners, whose "precious," but in reality simply "expensive," advice is paid for (\$800 or more per day) through loans provided to Armenia. At the same time, unilaterally blaming "well-informed" advisors is also not a solution. After all, we have been given the most essential thing – the right and opportunity to choose a reasonable path of development.

On economic and financial security

One of the key prerequisites for ensuring economic security is the proper organization of government bond sales. Currently, the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Armenia issues government bonds with varying maturities to cover current expenses. To encourage investment, the resulting profits are tax-exempt. However, until 1996, demand for these bonds was quite low. However, their issuance is growing. Before 1997, due to the lack of clear rules, government bonds were concentrated in the hands of one or a few buyers. This state of affairs necessitated the development of an effective economic and financial policy. Otherwise, if the latter (perhaps one or two banks) lost economic interest, the stability of the Armenian currency, the dram, would be seriously threatened, given the declining market value of the dram (due to insufficient demand) and the prevalence of working capital. In light of the above, it is also necessary to consider realistically marketing government bonds to prevent the concentration of funds in the hands of one or two large buyers. Later, after social standards stabilize, purchasing power rises, and a middle class emerges, a more proportionate distribution of government bonds can be expected to facilitate the stabilization of the dram.

A whole range of problems related to the country's economic security are directly related to the most important component of national wealth – Armenia's intellectual resources, or more precisely, the gradual "brain drain."

Intellectual resources as a factor in ensuring economic security

It's no secret that, in the years following independence, a significant portion of the population, particularly the intelligentsia, was forced to sell decades of accumulated knowledge, valuable information about Armenia's mineral resources, natural resources, economic potential, and scientific innovations that had not yet found practical application to so-called foreign "specialists" for literally a few hundred dollars.

It would be naive, to say the least, to assume that the "brain drain" from the republic has ceased. Moreover, this has been compounded by the registration of Armenian specialists and scientists who have not yet left their homeland, along with the systematic selection of their original works according to economic and scientific fields.

The provision of grants and the holding of various credit "competitions" by a number of foundations and charitable organizations is nothing more than a logical continuation of the theft of the country's intellectual property—in this case, under dictated conditions and rules. To be convinced of this, one doesn't even need to thoroughly familiarize oneself with all the terms of these "competitions." Typically, this legalized theft is formulated as follows: "Projects that do not win the competition will not be returned. The latter are considered the property of the given institution." The following important point also deserves attention: in any competition, only one institution or individual in Armenia is recognized as the winner, but the number of participants, as is well known, varies in the hundreds. Of course, recognizing all these realities, I do not consider it possible to "declare war" on such structures. Caution is necessary, at least for the simple reason that behind the organizers are not only, and not primarily, enterprising individuals or organizations, but, in most cases, circles pursuing political interests. Instead, it is necessary to conduct consistent educational outreach to the public through the media, thereby increasing awareness of their rights. Furthermore, we propose coordinating these efforts and conducting large-scale marketing campaigns on this issue in various parts of the world. The goal of all these efforts is to achieve fairer contracts and agreements between major international organizations and companies and the authors of innovative projects in Armenia, which will undoubtedly have a positive impact both on the republic's economy and on the interests of the projects themselves.

Guided by this same concern, it is necessary to prevent the "non-return" migration of the working-age population (primarily highly qualified specialists) who find themselves temporarily unemployed. Two solutions to the problem of preventing the "brain drain" can be proposed: 1) by state order, with the help of budgetary funds or with the material and personnel assistance of Armenians abroad, to implement targeted programs in specific sectors of the economy or science; 2) by concluding intergovernmental agreements under which to send temporarily unemployed representatives of specific specialties to foreign countries. The advantages of this option are also obvious and were presented by us to previous Armenian authorities. It should be noted, however, that no law or regulatory sanction can lead in this case to the same result as intergovernmental agreements. For example, under such agreements, the republic can send its knowledgeable specialists, whose capabilities it is currently unable to utilize in its own economy, on assignments to other republics and developed countries for one or two years. This measure will make it possible to:

- a) allocate significantly fewer funds for benefit payments;
- b) meet the material needs of these specialists and their families within the timeframes guaranteed by contracts and with clear remuneration;
- c) collect state tax on the income of seconded specialists, ensuring the flow of additional foreign currency into the Armenian state budget;
- d) create opportunities for Armenian specialists to improve their knowledge and gain experience in various fields, which otherwise requires additional funding from the state;
- d) guarantee, at the interstate level, the return of these specialists to Armenia, along with their acquired material and intellectual abilities;
- e) significantly reduce the devaluation of the dram without introducing new banknotes into circulation to replace uncreated assets (in the form of benefits and various assistance).

Losses from Economic Espionage

Economic espionage significantly damages intellectual capacity, particularly the development of engineering and technical thought, the application of advances in these and related fields, the gradual recovery of the economy, and the improvement of export capabilities. From an economic security perspective, not only is the excessively open telecommunications system and the granting of monopolies to foreigners a concern, but also the lack of the required secrecy of engineering and production capabilities required by international norms. Even in countries with the most advanced market economies that have declared themselves highly democratic or claim to be so, the state reserves the right to use law to protect individual entrepreneurs or major industrialists by protecting copyright and preventing economic espionage.

Research has shown that the US economy suffers approximately \$62 billion in losses annually due to economic and industrial espionage alone. Consequently, government assistance to local production is not limited to steps to prevent economic espionage.

Food security of the nation

Concern for protecting local producers inevitably extends to such a subsector of economic security as food security. We note the following patterns of food security observed in various countries. In Europe, North America, and Japan, for certain reasons, authorities sometimes prefer to support certain food industry subsectors through government contracts or subsidies, which, if operating on a self-sustaining basis, could be squeezed out by external competition. In reality, numerous food processing companies operating at a loss take advantage of state protectionism. In other words, the state sometimes prefers production with expensive labor and high production costs to cheap, competitive foreign products, which simultaneously create a certain dependence on the country, especially for essential foodstuffs, i.e., those of strategic importance.

Of course, the Republic of Armenia cannot afford such a luxury, even a justified one, of maintaining loss-making enterprises at any cost. Instead, it is proposed to prioritize the

allocation of preferential loans (especially long-term ones) to agricultural processing enterprises within the framework of the republic's already developed food program, establishing tax breaks for newly established food processing facilities, increasing agricultural procurement volumes, and thereby ensuring a certain social stability in rural communities, mountainous, and border areas. However, even this does not address the most fundamental food security issues. We would like to highlight another crucial one: given the fact that any country, especially one located within a limited territorial space, cannot aspire to a closed natural and economic existence, which, as is well known, can be achieved through economic isolation, a careful approach to importing goods from other countries is necessary. This must stem from long-term food security interests and be reflected in relevant laws and decisions, accompanied by effective implementation and inspection of goods and services that meet international standards. Laboratory testing of imported food products is particularly vital, as it will minimize the incidence of poisoning and illness, thereby not only ensuring the country's food security but also increasing public trust in the government, which, in turn, is an important prerequisite for economic recovery.

Conclusion

Considering, on the one hand, the evolution of statehood formation and the dynamic nature of expected economic growth, the obvious improbability of effectively resolving all issues with a single solution, and, on the other hand, the urgent need to promptly address a wide range of problems, we propose to establish a Department of Economic Security under the Government of the Republic of Armenia (incorporating this body into a separate ministry seems inappropriate), which will be called upon to:

1. Develop, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Science & Education, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection a concept for the economic security of the Republic of Armenia, a detailed program, and a corresponding policy based on it, based on Armenia's strategic interests;
2. Entrust oversight of economic security policy to the Department and the RA Security Council;
3. In cooperation with the Government of Armenia, establish a national economic management structure – Department of Economic Security – taking into account the infrastructural capabilities of individual ministries necessary for the activities of this department, while avoiding duplication of functions, and ensuring a harmonious combination of activities for the implementation of national programs.
4. When selecting national-scale economic projects and investment projects in individual sectors, based on basic research on economic security and under equal investment conditions, submit relevant proposals to the Government of Armenia aimed at providing certain benefits to prevent the inevitable capital flows from Armenia.

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Socioeconomic security can be considered one of the cornerstones of statehood and economic growth. Consequently, all efforts by state and non-state structures aimed at improving macroeconomic indicators and boosting the national economy may be seriously jeopardized if the necessary steps are not taken to ensure the country's economic security. Improving the customs system, technical literacy in banking transactions, obtaining and using loans, as well as the functions of the national currency and its mechanisms, also play a unique role in matters of economic security. In certain areas, close cooperation between economic agencies and the national security system is also advisable. A consistent fight against active local and foreign criminal groups and illegal economic clans also plays a significant role in matters of economic security. There can be no more rapidly and effectively acting mechanism or lever for stimulating local production than the movement to acquire our own, local products.