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SAFETY AS A FACTOR OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNDER GLOBALIZATION CONDITIONS

BEZPIECZEŃSTWO JAKO CZYNNIK ROZWOJU SPOŁECZNO-GOSPODARCZEGO W WARUNKACH GLOBALIZACJI

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Abstract: Contemporary social and economic development (regional and local) occurring under very dynamic conditions triggered mostly by globalization requires effective and professional safety-targeted actions aiming at stabilising undesirable threats as well as to develop safety strategies. This is crucial as a safety category requires its adaptation to each and every social and economic reality which subsequently confirms its flexibility and evolution. This is directly related to the economic policy being created which is going to use features of the Polish economy and society, which are to provide a competitive advantage over other economies and denotes that in conditions of a new service-oriented economy, safety is becoming the most significant element of development. This factor cannot be omitted in any strategic documents that constitute specific procedures determining the category of national security. Undoubtedly, however, it appears to be increasingly deficient in these sectors of socio-economic life, in which there is increasing social disorientation, and thus the risk increases.

Keywords: social and economic development, safety, globalization.

Streszczenie: Współczesny rozwój społeczno-gospodarczy (regionalny i lokalny) zachodzący w bardzo dynamicznych uwarunkowaniach wywołanych przede wszystkim globalizacją, wymaga skutecznych i profesjonalnych działań na rzecz zapewniania bezpieczeństwa, które mają stabilizować bieżące niepożądane zagrożenia oraz kształtować strategie bezpieczeństwa. Kategoria bezpieczeństwa wymaga bowiem dostosowywania jej do każdego realiów społeczno-gospodarczych, a to z kolei potwierdza, że jest ona bardzo elastyczna i ewolucyjna. Ma bezpośredni związek z kreowaną polityką gospodarczą, która będzie wykorzystywać cechy polskiej gospodarki i polskiego społeczeństwa stanowiące przewagę konkurencyjną nad innymi gospodarkami. Oznacza to, że warunkach nowej gospodarki, zwanej gospodarką usługową, bezpieczeństwo staje się najistotniejszym czynnikiem rozwoju, który nie może być pomijany w żadnych dokumentach strategicznych stanowiących swoiste procedury determinujące kategorię bezpieczeństwa narodowego. Staje się on zatem coraz bardziej deficytowy w tych wycinkach życia społeczno-gospodarczego, w których następuje coraz większa dezorientacja społeczna, a tym samym pogłębia się ryzyko.

Słowa kluczowe: rozwój społeczno-gospodarczy, bezpieczeństwo, globalizacja.

1. Introduction

The advanced process of the globalization of the world economy requires recognising safety related assumptions not only on a global or national scale but first of all on a regional and local level. The threats might have been smaller if regional and local development factors had been better used especially in respect of effective management. It should aim not only at counteracting, but first of all at fighting crime by means of wide initiatives (e.g. education about safety).

It seems that everyone knows best about safety, just as with health and education. However, such an approach has consequences as not everything is so simple when looking at this category (threats) solely from one point of view. "Modern times and the accompanying civilization development constitute a complex and demanding area generating the need for elaborating often more than one well-thought-out approach (strategies) appropriate to place, time, type of threats and people who may be affected by those threats" (Wiśniewska-Paź, 2018, pp. 9-10). The new economy illustrates that despite abilities to predict risks and to counteract them, new ones appear whose specificity is being recognized. Counteracting is not an easy process as we live in a world of permanent deregulation. In the latest theoretical concepts of spatial development, it is argued that this is a complex process and takes place in turbulent conditions, therefore it must be based to a large extent on exogenous factors of a qualitative nature (and often they are immeasurable) that are exposed to global phenomena. Undoubtedly, security is becoming such a factor on an increasing scale.

This paper aims to indicate safety as a factor stabilising the processes of growth and social and economic development under globalization in the context of new threats appearing and causing a social risk. In order to achieve this goal, the following research questions were posed:

1. Does globalization change security, if so, in what direction?
2. To what extent does the increase in social risk translate into security?
3. Will security be a rare good in a post-industrial society?

This paper makes use of a research method mainly involving a critical analysis of the literature on the subject using sources and a descriptive method.

2. Globalization and its aspects

At present, globalization is one of the most significant phenomena affecting diverse areas of existence of a human being and safety (Łuczyszyn, 2017, p. 210), whereas the related processes occurring in the world, and the accompanying liberalism impose onto our economy and society (communities) new challenges of creating a modern development policy aiming to diminish the gap to richer states of the European Union. In general terms, this goes beyond national boundaries with all actions. Globalization involves the promoted concept of “one world” which is very much diversified. Nevertheless, globalization itself ceases to be treated as a mere *idée-fixe*, securing everybody with the future of a happy life in the “global village” as the world predominantly tends to evaluate it and the accompanying processes as something inevitable. In practice, for instance an everyday observation of economic phenomena shows that growth and broadly understood development go with an improvement of the quality of inhabitants’ life.

This entails a growth in the labour force in the household sector, facilitating access to education and training, leading to an increase in the education level of society and an improvement in the qualifications of citizens, growth in employment and work efficiency resulting in lower unemployment as well as enhanced professional activity. However, in parallel one more often faces family crises, a growing number of addicts, the poor, the homeless, and those living on the breadline. This is confirmed by different types of economic discrepancies, which may denote that the nature of the threats to be faced is highly diversified and results from global dangers. One of them entails adjusting to a consumption-oriented lifestyle as well as the slow disappearance of social solidarity¹. This means that a state policy aiming at quick, stable, social and economic development must account for safety not only in general terms but also in detail².

Referring to the dimensions of globalization, it may be said that all of them are of an analytical and reflective nature. For instance, the criterion of material differences (poverty, social divide) does not always constitute the basis for the dangers occurring in a region or micro region (a local community). This does not mean that regardless

¹ It also refers to defence of the state as according to the latest research, few Poles would be willing to make sacrifices for their homeland in the event of a crisis or war.

² The national, regional and local level.

of discrepancies in revenue distribution in the social and economic area, both groups i.e. the privileged and the poor do not have problems, they may be of a different nature.

Globalization has neither omitted nor eliminated criminal behaviour as there are examples of crimes committed in newly developing metropolises or large cities. This seems rather obvious, however it needs confirming all the time and indicating that “bigger benefits are derived by those who are seeking not only work but profit, not only stabilization and safety but maximisation and the possession of goods” (Łuczyszyn and Łuczyszyn, 2017, p. 204) which is becoming more possible in bigger centres as crime is diversified there. “An example may be given by the territorial processes and the networking of global economic processes needing to include Polish cities into the implementation of national innovation policy and regional innovation strategies as well as the safety policy of our state. Hence the favourable integration of Poland into the structures of the European Union rising its place in the European and world league of work is conditioned by a change into the paradigm of regional and local development of Polish cities enabling to create and execute urban strategies for innovative development and pro-innovative urban strategies. “Such a situation will favour the development of Polish metropolises and metropolitan areas, which in turn will trigger innovation in areas of safety areas, first of all prevention. Nevertheless, one must remember that this innovation and creativity will also refer to the other side seeking new forms of committing crime” (Łuczyszyn, 2017, p. 217). This confirms that looking for connections between the problem of safety and globalization intuitively felt and recognised from the point of view of cooperation between the services and local authorities, is not an easy task. The diversification of this impact favours the multiplication of research approaches towards searching for interdependences between occurring changes and the level of safety. “More often, the above-mentioned equalities are enhanced resulting from the economic and social status, human relations are dehumanized, the entire neighbouring environment is commercialized” (Jaworska, 2007, p. 87). Under such circumstances it is necessary to carry out research on the relations between globalization and safety in view of possible global threats (terrorism, cyber terrorism, organised crime) as well as local threats (nature pollution, unemployment, education). Therefore, safety is not only the most important factor of development (national, regional, local) but is also an element of every scientific field.

When discussing this problem, it is important to consider the issue of the degree of safety or its lack. This seems to be a consequence of spatiotemporal differences in the occurrence of threats, and more or less advanced forms of response and prevention. Therefore, safety cannot be analysed as “the state of no threats” (Malec, 2006, p. 15) but also as “the state enabling the country to develop normally, to successfully achieve objectives through the organised protection and defence against huge threats using the forces and measures from all areas of state operations” (Gierszewski, 2013, p. 12). It is crucial to have “freedom of action not accompanied by the feeling of

threat which is the state of mind determined by a specific form of international order, a condition for survival, a rational standard of living” (Stańczyk, 1996, p. 15-16).

Therefore, contemporary globalization apart from the positive economic, social and political aspects also brings new threats in terms of conflicts transforming into some kind of pathologies which include: organised economic crime, drugs and car-related offences, terrorism, cyber terrorism and human trafficking³. This real history of the contemporary world and current economic reality displays the threats mentioned above with an intensity unseen before. Everyday life alarms us with terrorist activities which constitute a new material for analyses and elaborations, And each time one identifies more covert forms of threats. Undoubtedly, this huge pathological phenomenon is favoured by the current world economic system with its financial and social diversification. World leaders, such as the United States and Great Britain and their allies, are threatened with terrorist attacks to a larger extent compared to other countries, in particular those whose income is less dispersed. Therefore, economic risks are mainly identified in finance and should be targeted by all services in charge of counteracting terrorism in the world, and in Poland. It should be remembered that in the world of organised crime there is a structure “generating a financial profit in a criminal manner” which may denote that terrorism or other criminal pathologies will never be fully eradicated and shows how difficult it is to fight them.

3. Factors and determinants to the dangers of crime under the circumstances of globalization

Crime related phenomena (pathological) are affected by factors and determinants of a particular and general nature (Świętochowska, 2001, p. 2). The first one is connected to the individual features of people involved in pathological behaviour, in particular in the growing aggression reflected by an increasing number of crimes. The other is of general nature, which first of all includes political, economic, social and demographic factors and determinants which are defined by globalization in a political, economic and social and demographic dimensions.

The choice of the pace of economic transformations affects, among others, the depth of recession, its nature, unemployment, and the size of budget deficit, whereas in the social domain this includes the depth and the range of frustration, expansion of the ‘grey area’ in the life of society, law and the economy, immigration pressure, hopes related to internal mobility, the growth of social pathologies, competitiveness, altruism etc. In the political domain, this influences stabilization or destabilization, identification of citizens with political institutions or their alienation.

³ We know much more about the threats from the literature on the subject, the media, experiences from other countries, nations and societies.

There is no doubt that the course of systemic transformation processes in Central-Eastern Europe (including Poland) can be evaluated as flexible on the one hand, but on the other it has caused a lot of unrest and uncertainty. One may say that, for example, in the area of the regional and local development system, changes consisting in privatization and liberalization were accompanied by a constant effort targeted at securing various types of safety. Nowadays, a nation state has a significant role, whilst it is unable to face new challenges. This phenomenon shows how state structures are subject to change and decomposition under the pressure of contradictory requirements. It seems disturbing that nation states should not be able to avoid dual power with transnational corporations. This results from dilemmas which the state is facing, i.e. whether to remain as an observer of global changes or to accept a corporate style and be active in a market environment. The biggest religions, Christianity and Islam, also fight for their place in the global system together with all kinds of non-governmental organizations and the mafia and criminal organizations. It should be emphasized that under the circumstances of globalization, the entire world system of markets (financial and commodities) is not stable, which means that it is not balanced. The behaviour of markets is often spontaneous and chaotic.

There is a serious concern that globalization is becoming a world generator of new unexpected threats. A good example is *new nationalism* connected to national movements in Europe which appeared at the end of the 20th century. This is reflected in a new ethnicity meaning that immigrants coming to Europe do not want integration but wish to maintain their uniqueness. In view of global threats one may talk about the so-called 'long-distance nationalism' meaning the participation of immigrants living in various countries in conflicts in another country. The consequence of these threats is often the so-called 'crawling biological conquest' involving a change in the ethnic composition of a region. This situation also leads to the frequent division into 'natives' and 'strangers'. The former possess full citizen rights, the latter do not possess any. An inequality in citizen rights appears, which is clearly visible in the European Union states. This proves that factors and political determinants significantly affect the continuous creation of new dangers, in particular regional conflicts and other pathologies.

In reference to the above-mentioned terrorism, one must agree that the existing advancement of the globalization process, defines as one of the main causes of posing this global threat the unfair distribution of income as illustrated by the figure below, which compares this division into redistributing consequences of taxes in the economy.

The OK curve represents the ideal (absolute) distribution of income in society. It should be interpreted as follows: if the income at society's disposal equals 100%, then according to the absolute equality curve, the percentage share of people in the income corresponds to the ideal structure of income. This means that, e.g. 10% of the population has 10% of disposable income, 50% has 50% of disposable income etc. By going up the ideal income equality OK, the share of the population in the overall

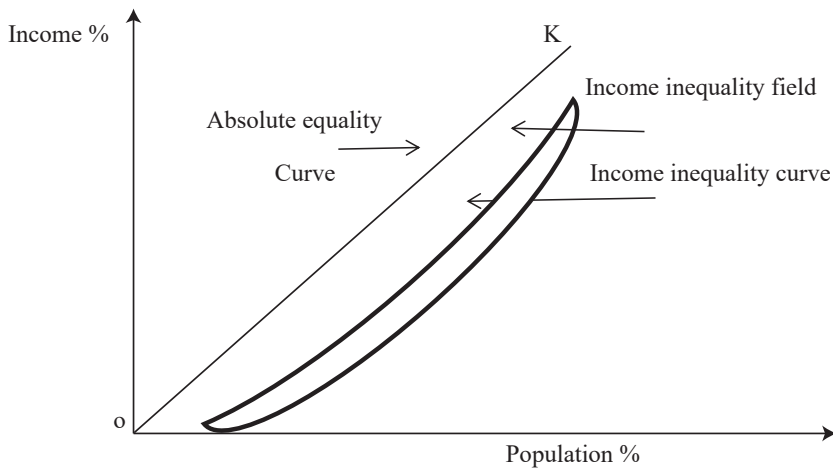


Fig. 1. Income distributions curve

Source: (Owsiak, 1997, p. 181).

income grows at an equal pace. The absolute equality curve is opposed by the OZ income inequality curve. In reality, the distribution of income in society is not even. Its differentiation depends on the economic and social doctrine which is reflected by a greater dispersion of income in more liberal countries such as the United States and Great Britain compared to countries of Western Europe. The dispersion will be different in developed countries and different in the countries with a reputation for having powerful terrorist organizations and their “incubators”. Such an unfair distribution of income seems to be one of the most significant factors determining terrorism in the contemporary world.

Therefore, it can be stated that the liberal orientation of the world economy has brought civilization progress, growth and economic development in selected countries, as well as threats. At the same time, we are dealing with development of a national economic system and with the high demands of society in respect of the state (its government) securing safety in various areas.

Both state-owned and private entities operate in the areas under threat. In practice, this means the identification of a global risk area based on internal and external factors. The former include the use of certain forms like terrorism by organized criminal groups. Such factors involve social discontent with the deepening recession, the above-mentioned income differentiation, poverty and the social divide, the operation of a ‘grey area’ where money is circulated by criminal groups, and the creation of extremist youth political organizations attacking Poland’s open foreign policy, decisive actions aiming to eliminate pathological phenomena with all its variations. External factors are said to affect internal ones, and such a situation poses a risk.

4. Safety and social risk

Ensuring safety has become one of the main objectives of the internal and foreign policy of states also including the policy of regional and local development. When analysing contemporary markets, one may say that competition among countries, regions and micro regions will occur in this area. It will become stronger and will trigger tensions on an international as well as regional and local scale, so there will be symptoms of societal crisis alongside new civilization threats. Using sociological terminology one may talk about social risk (Arnoldi, 2011, p. 12). This risk triggered by economic threats is connected with three sociological approaches presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Leading sociological approaches towards the issue of risk

Approach	Characteristics
U. Beck and A. Giddens	The starting point is the threat posed by the use of modern technologies giving rise to problems for science, politics, the society and the media who have in common complexity and resulting uncertainty, a huge scale of potential dangers and their destructive impact on our imagination about the “natural order”. It results in a decline of trust towards public institutions, in politics it is about who is liable and what scope of actions should belong to the state.
M. Douglas	Draws attention to the impact of cultural logic on perception of risk. Each human being has an opinion about risk related issues.
M. Foucault and representatives of governmentality concept	Interest regards techniques of governing such as crisis management. If the risk is institutionalized it means that it also affects the social structure.

Source: elaborated on the basis of (Arnoldi, 2011, pp.12-13).

The above approaches confirm that the problem of economic safety related in particular to the growth and social and economic growth, globalization (increase in GDP, a drop in inflation and unemployment, integration, localism, reduced sickness rates, a growth in the number of social programmes, increased expenditure on social security) is directly connected to the category of social safety and this safety triggers the risk in its various forms. It may also denote and confirm the thesis about the occurrence of unknown threats which may have various consequences. Undoubtedly, a change to the paradigm of social and economic development consisting in the transition from industrial times to post-industrial times (Fordism to post-Fordism) favours the creation of a new model of economic growth in the European Union. After World War II, a model of “mutual help” was applied together with increased expenditure on social welfare, at present this model is being abandoned for the sake of neo-liberal state. Risk together with insecurity, were accommodated into everyday life. It is possible to say that the 19th century industrial revolution significantly

differs from the current IT revolution. The former provided demand for work and actually secured it, whereas the latter introduces elements of a risk by not giving such guarantees. According to Beck, “in sophisticated modern times, social production of wealth is accompanied by social production of a risk” (Beck, 2004, p. 27).

A departure from the logic of a fair division of wealth in society also leads to a division of risk which is reflected both in material and non-material poverty. It should be noted that one of the most complex multi-aspect issues regarding social pathologies is constituted by, among others, social divisions resulting from poverty. “It is one of the most significant determinants to social life pathologies in terms of existence, institutional and political aspects. Poverty enlarges distance between particular social layers causing the inability to satisfy needs, individual frustration translated into populist behaviour in the society, and constitutes a risk of pathologies in the social life” (Hołyst, 2013, p. 157). One deals with the terms consumer, post-industrial, and information society, and at the same time with *the paradigm of risk society*, as in parallel *paradigms of social inequality* are being created.

Considering the above deliberation from the system point of view, one may claim that sooner or later the problems and conflicts of the rich society and the society at risk of social divide will collide. The accumulation of wealth at the ‘top’ poses the risk at the ‘bottom’ of society. Due to the above, one must agree with Beck who said that “the risk seems to strengthen and not eliminate a class society. Deficiency is accompanied by a lack of security and excessive risk which should be avoided. Whereas the rich can buy security and freedom from the risk” (Beck, 2004, p. 46).

To sum up, one may claim that the classical concept of dividing states into blocks of influence zones is losing its significance in favour of interest groups of states and particular groups. States and social groups do not perceive a territory in traditional geographical terms but in economic terms meaning economic space as markets of goods and investment. Such an approach leads to newer and newer conflict areas and competition among countries is more intense.

State-owned and private entities operate within the secure area. Citizens understand compliance with economic safety as e.g. stable interest rates and exchange rates, employment security and savings whereas the state is able to freely achieve internal and external political objectives comprising macro-economic, social and foreign policies. This enables states to use the occurring globalization processes for further development. However, these processes are accompanied by the aforementioned risk which is posed by the most advanced level of development of manufacturing forces ever seen in economic history. It is becoming “often *invisible* and is based on *causative interpretations*, manifests itself solely in the (scientific or relatively anti-scientific) knowledge on this subject and may be changed by this knowledge, may be decreased or increased, made more dramatic or ignored and thus *open to social processes of defining*” (Beck, 2004, p. 31). It is exemplified by the media which expose the risk on daily basis, transmitting the threats, and often their “plagiarism” by other countries contradictory to the capitalist logic of development.

5. Conclusion

Apart from the positive economic, social and political aspects, contemporary globalization also involves new threats such as conflicts transforming into mere pathologies. This is confirmed by the fact that the contemporary reality makes use of terms like a knowledge-based society, consumption, network, IT, performance, risk, insecurity or threats involving disorientation, servitude, a loss leading to withdrawal from the social life manifested by fewer activities. This may mean that the newly created economic and social phenomena as well as views regarding the future, threats and broadly understood safety are constantly evolving. "This was presented as a forecast twenty or thirty years ago and is being verified by the authors of the concepts as well as their followers or opponents" (Wiśniewska-Paź, 2018, p. 11). Evaluations and frequent references to concepts by A. Toffler, F. Fukuyama and the already mentioned Beck are good examples.

The literature, the media, experiences from other countries, nations and societies tell us more about development factors in various cross sections and above all about its barriers based on strongly diversified threats. This real history of the contemporary world and current economic reality shows that everyday life provides us with worrying information, each time constituting new material for analyses and elaborations. Such phenomena are favoured by the global economic system which has diversified financially and socially on a regional and local scale. Such developments can be related to conflict economics (which in its mainstream still refers to the assumptions of Karl Marx). In such conditions, their main source will be limited resources, or rather their reallocation through a market mechanism, which directly translates into a level of security. However, the assumptions of neoliberalism indicate that it is the operation of the market mechanism in an efficient state that leads to the elimination of conflicts and an increase in the sense of security. Regardless of the economic trend, however, security is becoming an element that plays an increasingly important role in the functioning of the modern economy and, like other resources, along with the progressing globalization and increasing uncertainty on a local scale, shows increasing demand with limited supply. The situation that occurred during the outbreak of the pandemic showed that security is one of the most important elements of the functioning of various spatial systems. This is why it is becoming an important component of the modern economy, and the development of the theoretical assumptions of the economics of security is insufficient and must undergo further development.

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