

CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

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Abstract: Fulfilment of existential needs has been a top priority for human since its inception. Success in achieving this is conditioned by several different factors, which in different ways and with different consequences prevented people from fulfilling their needs. The result of the action of different forces was always the same, i.e. human suffered pain. Starting from natural disasters, which he did not understand, to other people who wanted to steal his prey, the environment became more and more dangerous. Joining different groups brought certain advantages in the field of joint action, against certain dangers, but at the same time new conditions of life and realization of life's needs. In social groups, new relationships were developing, which were driven by previously unknown forces, which represented new dangers. Therefore, human no longer had individual problems, but they were raised to the social level, and with that the level of complexity of mutual relations between people increased. Human is simply forced to protect his values in order to fulfil his needs. In order to realize this, he had to create an environment in which there is no danger, that is, a safe environment. The creation of such an environment was influenced by many factors, i.e., forces in nature and social groups.

Emergency situations are a significant danger to modern society. Observed in terms of intensity or consequences, the hazards that cause them generate significant problems for society. The last decades of the 20th century are full of an increasing number of emergency situations, which significantly disrupt social security, at the local, regional and global level..

Key words: social security, emergency situations

1. ELABORATION OF THE PROBLEM

Human history is full of events, with dramatic and devastating effects, due to which he suffered negative consequences. Events and situations that threatened human survival appeared in different forms, with different intensity and characteristics. In such a situation, during his evolutionary and socio-cultural development, human tried in various ways to remove the dangers in his environment that limited and hindered him in realizing his needs. Different events worked in different ways, but one thing was common, human suffered pain and was prevented from satisfying all his needs. The troubles that befell human were unpredictable, multidimensional, without time and space limitations, and the effects were disastrous. Various efforts to prevent or at least reduce events with negative effects have resulted in different measures that people have taken to achieve a certain degree of protection. Although scientific achievements are at a very high level of development, human and his social community are still threatened by the same or similar dangers, the effects of which are multiplied from the aspect of increasing the danger capacity due to technological development and the increase in the number of inhabitants per spatial unit.

A special place in the spectrum of dangers for human society is occupied by emergency situations. Contemporary views on the security of society give a significant place to emergency situations on the scale of danger, especially if we consider the number and frequency of the phenomena they include.

2. THE CONCEPT OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Man and society are in constant temptations related to ensuring their own survival. Consequences, whether designed or real, imply human suffering. Suffering, as a rule, has effects on society as well as on the individual. However, society is in a situation to always apply certain mechanisms for its protection, while the individual does not have that privilege, because in many cases it depends on society. Precisely, due to the necessity of the authority holder agreeing on the position of whether it is necessary to act in a certain situation, the individual remains deprived of help, at least for a while. Dangers that have long-term consequences, with an impact on part or the entire society, with disruption of the normal functioning of society, cause special conditions of society, that is, crises. In crisis situations, security becomes more important. Safety becomes a priority activity. Society becomes more sensitive to the effects of various dangers and wants to protect itself from them.

2.1. Contemporary security challenges

For a long time, the concept of security has been constructed in relation to military threats. However, the progress and development of the technical and technological capabilities of the modern world, in addition to the improvement of military threats, has reached a level where non-military security threats have also increased. So that security is no longer a primary understanding of the nature of threats, but also an understanding of the way in which a security threat is shaped and manifested. This approach arose out of the need to respond to an increasing number of threats in the security sphere. Due to major political and economic changes at the end of the 20th century and an increasing number of non-military threats to security, the center of gravity is shifted from a state-centric focus to the individual and society. (Hymans, 2006)

The diversity of social, political and economic factors in the new social context cast a shadow on the primarily social character of security, due to the inevitability of its technical aspect. This fact points to a more dimensional perception of security, arising precisely from the need to interpret that security is not just a presumption of fulfilling basic life functions and the survival and action of an individual or group.

By changing the consideration of the reference object of security, there is a change in the meaning of many concepts related to security. Among the mentioned concepts is the coin of security culture, which appears in a new light in the consideration of security, and indicates behavior in the context of security. However, this phrase had its foundation before, but now it gets its full meaning by placing the individual on the pedestal of the concept of security. (Joseph Nye, 2006) The unstoppable and permanent process of reshaping security has reflected changes in the perception of the concept of security. Thus, the state is no longer the main subject of interest in the study of security science. The primary place of the state was taken over by transnational and international organizations, nations, national minorities, various professional and marginalized groups, and as the most numerous factors of security - individuals. (Joseph Nye, 2006)

In light of attempt and intention to define the content of the concept of security, the phrase challenges, risks and threats was created. The justification for the emergence of such a phrase has its roots in the complexity and multidimensionality of security as a phenomenon.

Efforts to identify and learn about all the causes that lead to the appearance of danger to the value of society have led to the emergence of security challenges. With reason, because the causes of danger have a direct connection with the threat to the same values, which are found in economic, ecological, political and other phenomena. There is a correlation between challenges and threats to society's values, with challenges being a more general term, which, according to the above, refers to all phenomena, regardless of whether they have a threatening character or not. The perception of phenomena that represent challenges is the moment that determines whether a phenomenon will receive the epithet of endangerment, depending on factors, causes and possible effects. Therefore, a challenge as a phenomenon represents a value-neutral concept, until the moment of establishing correlations between phenomena, which are the subject of security consideration.

Given that security challenges directly depend on the type and characteristics of the phenomena that determine and manifest them, it can be concluded that the characteristics and mode of action of the original phenomena determine the nature of the challenges to society's security. The forms and ways of endangering society are influenced by two groups of factors: the first are those which generate, enable and develop them, and the second are those which prevent, limit and disable them. (Kekovic, 2009) The fact is that these groups of factors act divergently on phenomena, that is, they indicate that phenomena can have a positive and negative character. Positive character is reflected in the absence of danger, and negative in its presence.

2.2. Vulnerability of society

The concept of vulnerability is most prevalent in the global change literature and disaster studies communities. Vulnerability stems from poverty, exclusion, marginalization and inequity in material consumption. (Barnett, 2001) At the social level, vulnerability can be seen as the inability to avoid danger, or being uninformed about an impending threat, or such political powerlessness and poverty that you are forced to live in conditions of danger. (O Riordan, 2001)

Vulnerability gains importance in the process of assessing the danger to society or an individual. Vulnerability can refer to the characteristics of a person or group in terms of their capacity to anticipate, cope with, be resilient to, and recover from the impact of natural hazards. (Blaikie et al., 2001) This approach includes a combination of factors that determine the degree to which some level of security is at risk from individual and isolated events in nature or society. In this sense, the term is used for cases of greater vulnerability. The opposite of

vulnerability, in this case, is the term resilience. In this approach to vulnerability, a time dimension is incorporated, considering that there is damage caused to the means of livelihood, not only to life and property, and the more vulnerable groups are those who reconstruct their life needs in the most difficult way after the realization of the threat. Vulnerability is closely related to socio-economic position.

Vulnerability can hardly be measured directly, but it can be estimated by applying certain, specially developed methodologies. Given that vulnerability serves as an indicator of certain system deficiencies, it automatically implies the existence of the possibility of increasing negative capacity with an increase in the number and intensity of deficiencies. Namely, every system, by itself, tends to change the existing state, regardless of its quality at that moment. The concept of vulnerability lies between potential danger and risk. Potential danger is characterized by elements that determine its movement and change of state, from positive to negative. The mixture of vulnerabilities of each separate element determines the overall vulnerability of the system. From the above, it can be concluded that vulnerability enables a more precise and easier determination of the risk level of individual events and portfolios of events.

2.3. The environment as a security threat

Many scientists agree with the thesis that security objects are not only states threatened by military threats, but also levels above and below the state. Therefore, there is a need to look at security as a phenomenon and function from different angles. This approach is caused by the fact that in crisis situations, a large number of victims and damages occur, even though, apparently, all protective measures have been taken. Protection measures were focused mainly on protection from military threats, so the security systems in the states were developed in that direction. National security had to be revised and expanded to include resources, environment and demographic topics. (Lonergan, 2001) National security is no longer only related to combat forces and armaments. It is linked to river basins, crops, forests, genetic resources, climate and other factors that are rarely seriously considered by military experts and political leaders, all of which together can be crucial to national security.

The impact of military activities on the environment and on environmental security factors, such as shared or extraterritorial resources that require mechanisms for non-violent resolution of conflicts over resources, also plays a very important role in observing the impact on the environment.

The connection between conflicts and the environment can be observed threefold:

- deterioration of the environment (space, atmosphere, biosphere, etc.);
- environmental degradation (due to poverty, injustice, population growth, etc.) and
- environmental degradation which reinforces itself (refugees, food riots, urban violence, etc.). (Holst, 1989)

New global challenges, intensified by demographic and ecological stress, bring certain societies to worrying limits of maintaining security, and therefore can become threats to national and international security.

3. THE CONCEPT OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Scientific and technological progress had very positive implications for human well-being, however, along with the positive effects, there are also a number of negative ones that sharply increase the number of accidents and negative consequences. The causes are found in various phenomena, socio-economic, natural and technical-technological. Regardless of the cause of

the phenomenon, which has been declared as a threat, it has the capacity to cause far-reaching negative consequences, both locally, regionally and globally.

3.1. Specifics of emergency situations

There is confusion related to the terminological and conceptual definition of the phrase "emergency situation". There are several phrases in use, which are used to define a situation¹ that implies a dangerous situation and the existence of negative consequences: emergency situation, extraordinary circumstances, state of emergency, disaster, etc. (Avramovic, Mladjan, 2012). Emergency situation is often equated and perceived as a synonym for a state of emergency. Somewhere, the generic concept of emergency situation also includes an state of emergency, which has a number of peculiarities, while in other cases both terms are used quite unevenly and without sufficient demarcation in parallel, but not always with a clearly distinct definition. It is not a rare phenomenon that the state of emergency is not used as a general term, but rather defines a certain type of exceptional state, that is, emergency situation. Multiple confusions arise especially when different terms from foreign languages are tried to be transferred into the Serbian language, and a particularly big problem is caused by English terminology, which is extremely delicate and specific in this regard.

In our language are found, not only in everyday vocabulary, but also in professional literature, terms such as: extraordinary measures, extraordinary circumstances, extraordinary cases, state of emergency, extraordinary conditions, extraordinary circumstances, emergency situation, public danger, extreme urgency, necessity of defense countries, immediate danger of war, serious unrest, state of siege, armed rebellion, war, time of war, state of war, state of grave emergency, state of extreme emergency, cases of emergency, state of readiness, etc. (Ciplic, 1999)

The complexity of the problem of defining emergency situations is obvious. It can be stated that the common denominator for emergency situations is specificity, extremity, special conditions of origin and development, large negative consequences, urgency of response. The mentioned special circumstances most often represent an increased degree of danger to the life and health of people, the normal functioning of systems in the state, property, cultural values, etc. It is about circumstances caused by the influence of various factors of natural, biological, technical-technological or social nature, which require special organizational, strategic, legal, financial, material and tactical measures in order to normalize the circumstances.

Therefore, in the most general sense, an emergency situation represents the totality of special conditions and factors that occur in a certain zone as a result of an emergency event. Emergency event is a set of circumstances or events of natural, man-made or social origin, in a certain territory, which indicates a deviation from the norms and principles of normal functioning of ongoing processes or phenomena and has a significant negative effect on people, property, the economy and the environment.

According to the mentioned facts, different approaches to the classification of emergency situations exist in contemporary literature. The criteria according to which emergency situations are most often classified are:

- the type and form of emergency events, which are at the basis of given situations;
- the spread of consequences of emergency events and
- the extent and level of engagement of human and material resources and the necessity of remediation of the consequences (Nikolic, Zivkovic, 2010).

3.2. Social assumptions of emergency situations

Emergency situations, which have occurred in recent decades, have brought to the fore many issues related to the safety of people and the environment. In addition to attempts to explain emergency situations as purely natural phenomena or purely technical and technological, there are more and more authors who try to explain them through the ever-increasing disruption of the relationship between nature and human society. Such an approach is explained by obvious phenomena in the modern world, such as: the growth of settlements, migration and population concentration, increase in waste, increased consumption of electricity, uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources, etc. There have been multiple attempts to take measures to reduce the negative consequences of the aforementioned phenomena. However, the effectiveness of those measures is being questioned because it is obvious that they are not fully effective. The reason for such a state of affairs lies primarily in human's limited knowledge of phenomena. Rapid technical and technological development contributes to the increase in the well-being of human society, but at the same time it also increases the number and consequences of negative events (Nikolic, 2007). Modern society, or as it is defined in recent literature, "risk society", implies the existence of an awareness of the ever-increasing need for research and finding ways to deal with emergency situations. A large number of countries and institutions have directed their activities towards researching phenomena that cause emergency situations and possible consequences for human society. The latest researches are directed towards reflection and consideration of emergency situations through the application of the concept of sustainable development. Namely, a large number of attempts in the past, which related to the provision of assistance and response after the realization of extraordinary events, showed that such an approach has a large number of shortcomings. The results of the latest research show that it is necessary to pay more attention to planning, coordination of all factors of society and their inclusion in the implementation of measures to prevent or respond to emergency situations, as well as to minimize the consequences for the environment.

4. CONCLUSION

The accelerated pace of scientific and technological progress, socioeconomic changes, pluralism of values and newly created living conditions in the modern world create an imbalance between needs and reality in all spheres of social life. The universal goal is a free human, in a free society, who fulfills his needs without restrictions, in any place and at any time. An imbalance of this kind results in consequences that have, very often catastrophic effects on the protected values of society, and in any case lead to different types of crises, which act exactly the opposite of the universal goal. Such, now changed conditions lead to permanent instability and uncertainty. Modern society is characterized by a distinct degree of fluidity and uncertainty. A large number of new dangers, combined with existing ones, turns modern society into a risk society. Such a statement has a logical basis in the fact that there are more and more dangers created by man without intention, which are the product of technical and technological development. Human society is generally unaware of the existence and consequences of such dangers, until they are realized. A large number of accidents, and the decreasing possibilities of influencing the reduction of the consequences, called into question the existing system of "response and assistance", and opened the way for new reflections on the security aspects of society. Various experts and scientists have realized that it is not enough just to provide help to the suffering values when the accident has already happened. A very important place is given to the principle of "preparation and prevention". Security of society has acquired a new dimension, that is, it is focused on managing risks, crisis and emergency situations. The global form of impact on crises, i.e. the model of behavior, acquires a structure with the elements of: identification, planning, response and stabilization of the situation and removal of consequences. The mentioned concept places the

human being in the foreground as the highest value and the close connection of all subjects, forces and means for managing crisis and emergency situations. The management of emergency situations, as an element of social security, is gaining importance and its application is being discussed at a high level, in the United Nations. Specialized agencies of the United Nations, regional and national bodies, direct enormous energy to create a universal model of behavior and response in emergency situations. The culture of security and emergency preparedness becomes a strategic principle at the world, regional and national level. Raising the security culture becomes the basis for thinking about a society ready for emergency situations, but also prepared for quick and proper response to emergency situations. Creating a safe and healthy environment implies permanent learning from crises and an organizational climate that promotes learning and motivates participation in security activities. This fact justifies the demands of society and the scientific and professional public that the security of society, materialized in the security system, be arranged on a new basis, where man will be in the foreground as the highest value.

The transformation of the traditional function of fighting against emergency situations into a modern role of public management related to the entire life of the social community implies the existence of knowledge, skills and abilities that are in the function of realizing new goals and tasks based on assessments of the threat of society and the state from emergency situations. Emergency management systems reflect the social and economic conditions and frameworks within which they function, which generates different approaches to solving this problem and different management systems. However, the main goal of the emergency management system is the development of preventive measures and activities, both in the integral security system and in the emergency management system.

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