

SECURITY CRISIS

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Abstract: *Crisis is a phenomenon that increasingly occupies both theory and practice in various areas of human activity. In theoretical works on the crisis, most often, we come across the views that contemporary crises are significantly different from the so-called. rudimentary notions of that phenomenon, and its basic property reduces it to complexity and multidimensionality and gives it the attribute - modern. Various authors try to define "modern" with a multifaceted approach, trying to determine at least some general set of recommendations for resolving the crisis.*

This paper deals with the security crisis, for the basic reason that every crisis, from the individual to the global level, is essentially security. In modern conditions, security is an essential need of man and his communities and a prerequisite for their survival and development. Therefore, the goal of this paper is to offer a theoretical framework for the security crisis, on the one hand, and to indicate some directions of crisis management, on the other hand. The general conclusion of the paper could be formulated as follows: Interest is the generator of security crises, but also the key to their resolution.

Key words: *Crisis, Security, Security crisis, Interest*

1. INTRODUCTION

Bishop Nikolaj Velimirovic wrote: "Every man fights three battles in his life." The first with nature, the second with other people, and the third with oneself. And nothing in the world makes a person so insignificantly small as the fear of death." (Velimirovic, 1914). Therefore, from the time of its existence, man was threatened by nature, by another man and by himself. Hence, a rudimentary form of security (security) appears when a person.

Professor Zivota Radosavljevic writes: "Crises have existed since the existence of man as a conscious and rational being." The original crises were related to man's struggle for survival,

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i.e. when he did not have enough food to ensure his own, or his family's, survival. Man in hunting groups still had the problem of preserving his territory for hunting and of opposing other groups to hunt in their territory. Later, the crises spread to other spheres, as such they produced different consequences from which man learned and tried to eliminate the reasons for their occurrence. (Radosavljevic, et al, 2024). In connection with what was said previously about the rudiment of human security, it can be said that the crisis arose when security did, and the terms "security" and "crisis" appeared at a certain stage of language development. What is common to both terms, and the endangerment (insecurity) of man and the crisis were created by man and nature.

Today, science and theory have defined the terms "security" and "crisis", although both of these terms are said to be: the most frequent and not unambiguously defined.

The subject of this paper is the security crisis. The general goal of the work is to define the security crisis, as a special type of crisis in contemporary international relations, as well as to identify its basic characteristics. In reaching the goal of the work, due to the scope of the article, the port-full methodological procedure of deriving terms will not be used, but the fact that at this level of scientific development, a certain set of terms (terms) is relatively precisely determined.

2. THEORETICAL DETERMINATION OF SECURITY CRISIS

2.1. Crisis

The term "crisis" is derived from the Latin word "crisis". The word "crisis" is identical to the Greek word "xoiois" which "originally, quite generally, means any interruption of a until then continuous development and, in a narrower sense, a decision-making situation, which means a turning point, a turning point, or the peak of a dangerous development." At the same time, it signifies a situation with extreme ambivalence of development possibilities" (Krystek, 1987:3). The fact is that an incalculable number of authors tried to define the term "crisis". Hence, it is safe to say that there are as many definitions of the term kirza as there are authors who have dealt with the definition of that term. Thus, Kesetovic and Kekovic write: "The crisis is used as a 'box for everything', i.e. as a concept that includes all types of negative events, or even more broadly, to all situations that are unwanted, unexpected, unpredictable and almost unimaginable, and cause disbelief and uncertainty and require a quick decision" (Kesetovic, Kekovic, 2008:7).

By analyzing the multitude of definitions of crisis, we can come up with one of its general definitions: "The process that leads to the dysfunctionality of the organization, which arose at the moment of inadequate response to changes in the environment, or in the organization itself, due to poor use of resources or management work, and results in a reduction organization and the survival of the organization in a certain time frame, which can be influenced differently, which gives the crisis an ambivalent character" (Forca, Zupac, 2024). The fact is that crises appear in all spheres of human activity, and affect the levels from the individual to the global world. Such a situation prompted analysts to try to derive some common characteristics of the modern (contemporary) crisis, as well as its projections in the future (Table 1).

Table 1. Characteristics of the modern and future crisis (Source: Iren Boin and Patrik Lagadek in: Forca Bozidar, Goran Zupac, 2024)

MODERN CRISIS	THE FUTURE CRISIS
Large consequences (effects), large number of people affected Great economic price that surpasses the capabilities of the classic insurance system Unprecedented (new), generic and combined problems affecting vital resources Dynamics like an "avalanche" due to a multitude of resonant phenomena Emergency systems have poorly responsive, outdated, unenforceable or even counterproductive procedures External uncertainty that does not decrease during the crisis Long duration with threats that change over time Convergence, i.e. a large number of emerging actors Crisis problems in communications Significant hazards of all kinds	There is a pre-crisis and a post-crisis state, and the change is irreversible The crash was not caused by a single event, but by a global resonance of different events Basic procedures are not applicable The breakdown brings the frequency of crisis recurrence in a new and seemingly incomprehensible way Breakdowns become resistant to conventional response Since "decomposition" is the most noticeable, one gets the impression that the crisis is impossible to stop The breakdown permeates the entire field of operations. The fundamental problems react on each other, preventing any isolated treatment. There is a sense of loss

2.2. Security

The second term in the phrase "security crisis" is the word "security", which is derived from the word "security". Without pretensions, it can be stated that the word security is one of the most frequent concepts in the modern world and that, in this sense, it has many approaches to defining it. According to Dillon: *a-sphaleia* (Greek), means the negation of the term *sphallo*, which means: lie, error, ruin, ruin, collapse, fall, defeat, disappointment, frustration, stumbling, etc. (Dyllon, 1996:124). On the other hand, according to Caldwell and Williams: *securitas* (Latin language), which is derived from the term *securus*, i.e. the coin *sinecure* (sine, which means without and *cura*, which means trouble, concern, caution, suffering, pain, etc.) which means no care, no concern, no trouble, absence of worry, calmness, tranquility (Caldwell, Williams, 2006:5).

Probably the shortest definition of the term security was given by the famous professor Barry Buzan, who says: "Security is the absence of threats to the reference object" (Buzan, 1991). At the same time, the reference object can be a human-individual, society; country; international order and environment. In accordance with the aforementioned reference objects, the concepts of security by levels were also developed in theory: human security; National security; international security and the general concept - global security.

Before Buzan, the recognized American theoretician Arnold Wolfers dealt with the definition of security, whose definition is used extremely widely today in defining national and international security. Regarding security, Wolfers says: "Security, in the objective sense, measures the absence of threats to acquired values, and in the subjective sense, the absence of fear that these values will be attacked" (Wolfers, 1952:481). For example, Wolfers' definition of security was also used in defining the national security of the Republic of Serbia, where it was determined: "The national security of the Republic of Serbia is the objective protection of national values and interests and the citizens' subjective sense of security" (National Security Strategy, 2019).

When it comes to national (state security) and international security, for a long time war (military threat) was the key, even the only source and form (challenge, risk and threat) of endangerment. However, even during the Cold War, the researchers of the Copenhagen School of Security extended the concept of security to other sectors outside the military: political, economic, social and ecological (See: Buzan, 1991; Buzan et.all, 1998; Weaver, et.all. 1993, Weaver, 2008).

Observing security systemically, or using the "grammar of security", as Ejodus points out (Ejodus, 2012:106), we can distinguish: 1) what threatens security - the subject of the threat, 2) what opposes the threat - the subject of security and 3) that what is being defended/protected - the reference object of security (Forca, 2021).

What threatens the safety of man, his communities and the environment? The answer is simple - they are threatened by other people, as individuals and their communities (states, coalitions) and nature (natural accidents and disasters).

Who opposes security threats? Man as an individual and his organizational systems, named as security systems, are opposed.

Who (what) is defending/protecting? In a general sense, man, his communities and the environment are protected and defended. However, the theory and practice of contemporary international relations, especially when it comes to national (state security), introduced the term "national interests". Thus, the national interest has become the key reference object of security. On the other hand, interest is also a key source (cause) of conflict in international relations (Forca, 2021).

2.3. Defining a security crisis

Respecting the nature of the provisions of the concepts of risk and security, the nominal definition of a security crisis can be as follows: *A security crisis is a complex and multidimensional (integrated) man-made and/or natural crisis, or their combination, which arises as a consequence of the actions of man and/or nature, and leads to dysfunctionality of the reference safety object, including its disappearance, which requires decision-making and adequate response.*

3. CONTENT AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SECURITY CRISIS

Starting from the aforementioned definition of a security crisis, and respecting the expansion of the term security, as stated, as the basic contents of a security crisis, we can list other types of crises that make the security crisis complex, integrated and multidimensional.

The above types of crises can have an internal (national security crisis) and external (international security crisis) aspect.

3.1. Political crisis

Politics is not everything, but it is in everything. The role of politics in relations in one country or on the international level is crucial for the development of those relations. In theory, there is a high agreement that the concept of crisis arose in the ancient era and that it primarily meant three meanings - legal, medical and theological. "In the case of the legal meaning, the word referred to "linear temporality," where political decision-making simultaneously encompasses strategic dilemmas and the ongoing process of citizen participation. More specifically, the legal meaning of the crisis referred to the regulation of civil society, from which the specific political meaning of the word crisis derives, which refers to decisions on key political issues, i.e. war and peace, the death penalty or exile, and only the one who participated in such decision-making had the right to be a citizen - legal decisions during the crisis harmonized

justice and political order" (Koselleck, Richter. 2006:357-400). Therefore, in a legal (and consequently political) sense, the crisis is a key moment for the political community, when it has the opportunity to define a just order through conflicting opinions and a collective decision.

The crisis acquired a pronounced political connotation in the 17th century. "With the advent of the Enlightenment and modernity, the discourse on crisis as a 'disease' of the body politic becomes commonplace. Just as a crisis is the moment when it is decided whether a patient will die or survive, so social and political crises decisively influence the "health" of the body politic. Then the crisis becomes an "epoch concept", first of all, implying a decisive moment, when there is a possibility of fundamental change, when actors are able to choose between two opposing options and when the question arises whether the constitutional and political order will survive" (Koselleck, Richter 2006:369-370).

In modern conditions, the political crisis, both at the domestic and international level, is an expression of the conflict of interests. Its essence is the conflict over power and governance. At the domestic level, political crises can be fueled by the so-called by an external factor, or foreign influences, the essence of which is again - interest. At the international level, especially from a security perspective, political crises are an umbrella process, which in the hegemonic aspirations of individual states, primarily world powers, use other forms of security threats, from the military, economic and social sectors. It is not impossible that environmental crises are also used for political purposes. Let's just take as an example the mutual accusations between the USA and China about the origin of the CORONA virus in 2019 (Forca, Zupac, 2024).

The creators of the sectoral understanding of security, i.e. the expansion of security from the military to other spheres - the Copenhagen school of security, when they write about the political sector, primarily think about its internal and external dimensions, which cause the so-called intentional and structural threats. For example, a typical example of external so-called intentional threats from the domain of the political sector are considered the efforts of Western countries to make Kosovo an independent and independent state. Namely, at the end of the 20th century, there were significant changes in the application of international law. As Thomas G. Weiss points out, "two significant norms of international law have disappeared." Internationally established borders are no longer sacred, nor is secession unthinkable, as it used to be" (Weiss, 1995:196).

On the other hand, the internal so-called structural threats are an expression of the conflict of political elites regarding the organization of government and strategic orientations. For example, in the European Union, since its first forms of integration, the views of federalists and nationalists clash. Federalists tend to strengthen the Union and weaken the influence of individual states, while nationalists give primacy to the states, and "leave" only the necessary set of powers to the Union (Janjevic, 2007). Political conflicts within the European Union, for example, caused Great Britain to leave the EU in 2020. Those conflicts within the EU are particularly noticeable around the attitude towards migrants, since 2015, and especially after Russia's aggression against Ukraine in 2022.

A political crisis rarely occurs independently, and more often it is a consequence of crises in various spheres of human activity. When it comes to the totality of the security crisis, the political crisis is, most often, the cause, that is, the beginning of the security crisis, but also its end. Therefore, the most common "companions" of a political crisis are societal crises, economic crises, military crises and conflicts, as the most drastic form of endangering the security of man and his communities.

Milanko Zoric gives a very interesting list of the causes of the international political crisis: "1) the struggle of rival powers, groups of great powers and military alliances and pacts for the acquisition and redistribution of colonies and protectorates, spheres of interest and zones of influence; 2) the struggle for the conquest of other people's territories and for the acquisition of state territory by annexation, peaceful and armed occupation and in other ways; 3) geopolitical competition or struggle for possession and control of sources of energy and strategic mineral raw materials (oil and natural gas, metallic and non-metallic raw materials) and other natural resources in foreign countries, for the control of transnational oil and gas pipelines and international waterways, canals and straits and others important strategic facilities around the world, as well as the struggle to acquire foreign markets for the purpose of marketing one's own goods and services and displacing opponents; 4) confrontation and struggle for control and supervision over world (and intercontinental, continental and regional) land and sea communications, trade routes and traffic corridors and important strategic directions and facilities on the territories of foreign countries; 5) competition and deep political-ideological differences between great powers and military blocs and the struggle for the geopolitical reorganization of the world, for the redistribution of power and strength in one's favor, for geopolitical supremacy and monopoly position in the world (and transcontinental, continental and regional) frameworks and suppression and the isolation of rival powers, that is, the struggle to acquire, maintain and expand world hegemony or dominance and to impose a new system of international relations; 6) the struggle for the survival and development of a state or a group of states threatened or attacked by another state, a group of states and a military bloc or an international organization" (Zoric, 2010:304).

3.2. Social crisis

The attitude of the creators of the extension of security to other sectors outside of the military, when it comes to the social sector, is interesting. Namely, the primary forms of endangering security (causes of the crisis) in the social sector, according to the researchers of the Copenhagen School, are not the so-called social threats, but the collective identity of society and individual groups within it. In this sense, Eidus writes: "The social sector is not civil protection, for example against natural disasters; nor does social protection and security for employment, health, and does not refer to the physical existence of citizens living in one state" (Ejdus, 2012:178).

"Societal security refers to the ability of a society to preserve its essential features due to changing circumstances and despite possible or real threats... This security is threatened when the community perceives the threat as a threat that endangers its identity." Identity is defined as a set of ideas and practices that identify certain individuals as members of a social group. Nations are abstract, imagined communities, and national identity is the most important reference object of societal security" (Anderson, 1991).

In the understanding of Ola Weaver, Barry Buzan and associates, the societal crisis manifests itself as an ethno-national and religious crisis, and more recently as a gender issue. (Weaver et al., 1993). Its typical causes are: migration, depopulation, horizontal endangerment and vertical threats, as well as issues of sensitive groups (for example, LGBT groups...) - gender (in)equality. (Forca, 2024).

On the other hand, we reach the dimensions of the social crisis in a society, which are primarily focused on the individual (human security), through the elements of social security, such as: unemployment, poverty, health, material and cultural living conditions, reproduction and others. In accordance with the above, Ilic Krstic distinguishes between: social security; social security; social protection and social security. (Ilic-Krstic, 2016:26).

Thus, social security refers to the individual and is predominantly of an economic nature, while societal security refers to collectivities, their identities, and the actions taken to defend those identities. If we look at the aforementioned aspects of this form of security crisis together, we can conclude that it is about: 1) a broader concept of human security, at the level of social groups and society as a whole (society) and 2) a primary concept of human security at the level of an individual (social), which multiplies to society as a whole.

Therefore, a social crisis is a single or multiple crisis in the domain of societal and social disturbances in one society and/or on a global level, which leads to drastic disturbances and threats to human security, which requires quick decisions and reactions.

A social crisis rarely occurs as an isolated event or process. Most often, a social crisis is a consequence of disruptions caused by economic, political, military, and often ecological crises. A social crisis, viewed from the security aspect, can escalate into extremely complex and severe disorders, which can have drastic consequences for the individual, society and the state. From a societal perspective, a social crisis can develop into a loss of the identity of the society or the sovereignty of the state, to the extent that the society collapses, and the state can become a "puppet" used by the powerful for the realization of their own interests. On the other hand, from a social point of view, a social crisis can grow into corruption, crime and antisocial behavior on a large scale, which can undermine overall security with far-reaching negative consequences (Forca, Zupac, 2024).

3.3. Economic crisis

The area that is most represented in the theory, when it comes to crises, are economic crises. There are several reasons for the stated claim about the representation of the economic crisis in the theory. First, in a general sense, the economy is the basis for the development of all spheres of human activity. Second, economic strength is the basic lever of social and thus political power. Third, economic crises affect the entire hierarchy of business organizational systems, from the smallest business entities, through corporations, state economies, to global economic security. Fourth, economic disturbances and crises occur in the so-called the business (economic) cycle, which appears almost as an economic law. According to Keynes' understanding of the business cycle, indicate that when things are going well, most people's expectations grow exponentially and represent not only an extrapolation of current trends but are magnified by the effect of the economic multiplier. And vice versa, when things go "down" negative expectations are even more pronounced than the real trend shows. Thus, the line of expectations diverges (with greater fluctuations, compared to the fluctuations of real flows of economic activity, so the crisis and recovery (in both cases, a break in the current trend) as a rule occur unexpectedly. It follows that due to the inertia of expectations in the boom period, there is a faster growth, especially investment and consumption, than the system and the real structure of the economy allow, so everything leads to "overheating of the economy" which is a prelude to the crisis, and conversely, our pessimistic expectations in the period of recession lead to its extension and transformation into depression, which all delays recovery (Đukic, 2010:4). Fifth, the consequences of economic crises can be drastic, both for the business system at the lowest level (until its disappearance), and for the economy of the state and economic relations in the world economic crises are manifested in poverty, unemployment, societal and social threats, up to the growth of corruption and crime.

Although they often appear together, economic and financial crises should be distinguished. When we look at classic economic lexicons, we will see that it mostly says that: "economic crisis is a state of the economic system marked by a drop in production, an increase in unemployment, a low level of prices and low trade activity, which results in a drop in the gross domestic product." If this happens for two consecutive quarters, then the economic crisis

qualifies as a recession" (Revicon, 2010:4). A financial crisis has a somewhat simpler definition: "a situation on the financial market, in which the demand for money is greater than the supply of money (more money is demanded than is available), which causes a drop in liquidity, an increase in the price of capital and a drop in the value of financial companies" (The same).

Economic (financial) crises, as stated, can arise from "purely" economic (financial) reasons/causes. However, viewed within the framework of a security crisis, a financial (economic) crisis can arise for several reasons/causes.

Economic/financial crises as part of the security crisis, i.e. the reasons/causes of which are outside the economy, are primarily politically motivated, are particularly interesting for the subject of the paper. There are two particularly characteristic examples in recent times of the economic crisis, as part of the security crisis, which were manifested as economic sanctions. One example is the UN sanctions against FR Yugoslavia in the last decade of the last century. The second survey is still current, and it refers to the economic sanctions of the collective West against Russia, after Russia's aggression against Ukraine in 2022.

Writing about the scale of the economic crisis that the UN introduced in FR Yugoslavia, Dimitrijevic and Pejic point out:

"According to independent estimates, only 18 percent of economic organizations can work normally under the conditions of sanctions, and about 25 percent are somehow able to survive them." He will consider that at the end of 1992, out of 2.3 million total employees in Serbia, half a million people were actually working. He still does not know the exact number of workers sent on "forced" - but still paid - "holidays", which could turn into unpaid ones if the flow of newly printed dinars dries up. The most visible consequence of the collapse of the economy, however, is enormous inflation, which can partly be attributed to the drop in production and, therefore, the effect of sanctions. It is mostly caused by the uncontrolled printing of money, which will be resorted to in order to fill the fiscal deficit. The situation is beginning to resemble Germany in the twenties of this century: Yugoslavia was by far the world record holder in 1992, with an annual inflation rate of 19,810 percent (37). Since the introduction of sanctions, the dinar has been denominated once and devalued twice - in July and November 1992" (Dimitrijevic, Pejic, 1993:485-620).

Another example is the economic crisis caused by the sanctions imposed on Russia by Western countries, primarily the European Union, and after that country's aggression against Ukraine, in 2022, the European Union introduced 14 so-called sanctions against Russia. package of sanctions, and the results of the first 13 are as follows: 1) sanctions are imposed on individuals and collective entities. So far, sanctions have been imposed against 1,706 persons and around 419 entities; 2) the value of frozen private assets is around 24.9 billion euros, while the value of frozen Russian assets (central bank) is estimated at around 210 billion euros; 3) the value of sanctioned exports to Russia is around 48 billion euros, while the value of sanctioned imports from Russia is estimated at around 91.2 billion euros and; 4) the only thing not subject to sanctions for now is the export of Russian food to global markets (<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/hr/policies/sanctions-against-russia/sanctions-against-russia-explained/>).

A special aspect of economic security, and thus of the economic crisis, is energy security, that is, the energy crisis. Although the researchers of the Copenhagen School did not separate that aspect, a large part of the researchers, rightly, observes the energy security/crisis separately from the economic security/crisis. Professor Radovanovic gave a definition that explains the pragmatic aspect of energy security: "Energy security is the country's ability to provide enough

energy (in terms of type, quantity and quality), at the right place, at the right time, which will be sufficient to meet the needs of the economy and society, without endangering the environment, at an acceptable price and with the provision of adequate reserves" (Radovanovic, 2019:46).

According to the group of authors, there are four essential dimensions of energy security: 1) Security of supply, 2) Security of energy infrastructure, 3) Stability of the financial market and 4) Geopolitics of energy resources (Filipovic et al, 2018:428-435). In accordance with the above, an energy crisis occurs when some or all of the above elements of energy security are violated. A typical example of the energy crisis arose after the start of the war in Ukraine in 2022, when European EU member states decided not to import natural gas and oil from Russia.

3.4. Military crisis

It is a historical fact that states create an army for the sake of external security. However, it is also known historically that armies created the state. Viewed in this sense, the army is an instrument of state policy. As an instrument of politics, the army is primarily in the matter of foreign policy, i.e. as one of the expressions of the power of the state, and thus: 1) a statement of the application of force in international relations or 2) a factor of deterrence from aggression. On the other hand, the army can often be an instrument of internal politics, i.e. it can be used to solve internal conflicts/crises within a country. In accordance with the above, military crises, most often, arise as a consequence (companion) of political and economic conflicts and crises, which are possible within the state and between states, as well as coalitions.

A military crisis within the state, in principle, can manifest itself as: 1) a consequence of long-term neglect of the army, which leads to a drop in standards and an increase in the dissatisfaction of its members, and 2) as evidence of the use of the army in internal political frictions and struggles for power.

"Typical examples of the aforementioned internal military crisis can be found in SFR Yugoslavia, that is, in the Republic of Serbia, for the last several decades. First, in the final phase of the dissolution of the SFRY, and on the territory of the then FR Yugoslavia, in order to prevent and oppose separatism and armed rebellion in Kosovo and Metohija, the authorities of the FRY used the armed forces, which led to an internal civil war. The use of the army to calm the situation in Kosovo and Metohija in 1998 was assessed by the Western powers as excessive, in the sense that there was foreign interference, that is, NATO attacked the FRY in 1999. Secondly, in the political frictions in the Republic of Serbia, especially after the separation from Montenegro (2006), political parties accuse each other of "destroying" the army and its drastic lagging behind the armed forces of the surrounding area. This fact led to the fact that, due to "political cuts", whole sets of high-ranking military officers and generals were prematurely retired or otherwise removed from service. expressed" (Forca, Zupac, 2024).

The external aspect of military crises arises as a consequence of political and economic conflicts between states and/or collations. Therefore, it is a conflict of interests, which also leads to military crises. In such conditions, a military crisis can manifest itself as: military pressure, border conflict, military intervention or aggression.

3.5. Ecological crisis

In expanding the concept of security beyond the military sector, Professor Barry Buzan particularly emphasized the environmental sector with the words: "If there is no healthy environment, there will be no us" (Buzan, 1991:19-20). Thus, in accordance with the definition of security as the absence of threats to the reference object of security, that object in ecological security, according to Buzan, is the environment.

A large number of researchers were engaged in the analysis of environmental security issues. However, this term is still not sufficiently defined, which is a common characteristic of more recent terms. For these reasons, many have sought to contribute to the explanation of the culture of environmental safety, which has led to the dilution and expansion of the term itself. Thus, certain authors such as John Barnett consider environmental security to be "the ability of a nation or society to resist environmental scarcity, risks and unwanted changes in the environment or tensions and eventual conflicts" (Barnett, 2001:15). Elizabeth Chalecki defines environmental security as the relative safety of the public from environmental hazards caused by natural or human action (Chalecki, 2002). In the direction of this view, an even more general definition by local authors can be pointed out. Thus, Vera Arezina defines this term as follows: "ecological security implies a very complex process of opposing threats from any source of any kind and any component of the natural entity, including human society, whereby a certain degree of protection against threats to existence is realized, needs and interests". (Arezina, 2010:172).

The ecological crisis is a threat to planet Earth and all its inhabitants. It manifests itself through a series of problems and changes that threaten natural ecosystems and the living world. These problems, or patterns and consequences as seen by Colin Stevens, include biodiversity loss, climate change, and water and air pollution. The ecological crisis is a global phenomenon that requires urgent and comprehensive measures to solve it.

Therefore, an ecological crisis in ecosystems occurs when there is a fundamental destruction of the ecosystem, the degradation of some of its elements or the disruption of the relationship between their parts. An ecological crisis and disaster can be caused by the action of nature, but also by the negligent action of man. The most common actions of man to endanger the environment include: drastic climate changes (great damage to the ozone layer and the accumulation of pollutants in the atmosphere that create the "greenhouse" effect); degradation of large areas by mining and other activities; jeopardizing biodiversity with many species already irretrievably lost; depletion of resources and high pollution of the environment due to their consumption; continuous destruction of entire forest and other ecosystems; the impossibility to deal with increasing amounts of dangerous, toxic and other waste materials; damage to human health and emergence of new diseases; accumulated amounts of nuclear and other destructive weapons that could repeatedly completely destroy life on the planet; lack of drinking water for 2/3 people; the problem of overpopulation, along with the lack of hygienic housing and insufficient food for a large number of people on Earth (Forca, 2022:209).

The ecological crisis can also include crises that arise as a result of natural accidents and disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, forest fires, tsunamis, and others. These are natural phenomena that constantly threaten the safety of people and the environment in all parts of the world. The catastrophic consequences that these phenomena bring with them can cause ecological crises of a wide scale and of a long duration.

3.6. Characteristics of the security crisis

The security crisis, by scope, affects the individual, social groups, the state, the international community and the environment. In accordance with the subject of this work, the focus is on the characteristics of the security crisis within the country and on the international level.

3.6.1. Characteristics of the internal security crisis

Although in contemporary international relations, where globalization is one of the key processes, it is difficult to isolate opportunities in just one country, nevertheless, it is possible to report certain characteristics of that crisis at the country level. At the same time, one of the characteristics of the intrastate crisis, most often, is its international aspect (conditionality). In

accordance with the above, the following can be singled out as common characteristics of the intrastate security crisis:

- An intra-state security crisis is a set of total or consecutive disturbances in the political, economic, military, social and environmental security sectors, which act as a security threat with possible drastic consequences for society and the state and require an adequate response;
- An internal security crisis is not an event, but a process, which, on the other hand, can start with some major event in the political, economic, military, social and environmental spheres. For example, the security crisis in the former SFRY roughly began with the violent secessionism of Slovenia and Croatia in 1991, which led to civil war and the subsequent disintegration of Yugoslavia;
- An internal security crisis can arise as a set of internal disturbances, as a stimulus or reflection from the outside, and most often - combined. For example, the disintegration of the SFRY can be viewed from a broader perspective, i.e. as part of the post-Cold War crisis process. Namely, in the situation when the Warsaw Pact was dissolved, when the USSR disintegrated and Czechoslovakia disintegrated, it was illusory to expect the SFR Yugoslavia to survive, in which there were secessionist aspirations of some republics, which partly coincided with the interests of some Western powers;
- The most common causes of intrastate security crises are political in nature, and their essence is the struggle for power in the state, or secessionism (separation) of a part of the state as an independent and independent entity. The political struggle for power within the state as a security crisis can culminate in a coup with the use of military force - a "state (military) coup". On the other hand, a typical example of a security crisis from the aspect of secessionism is Cyprus, and there are several examples of attempted secessionism (separatism),
- The sources of the security crisis in the country can be societal, social and economic in nature. Their transition into a security crisis is done by politics through securitization. The basic security forms of manifestation of this type of crisis are social unrest, violent demonstrations, inter-party (inter-party) friction, corruption and crime, up to the assassination of political leaders. A typical form of this type of security crisis occurred in the Republic of Serbia in 2003, and culminated in the assassination of the Prime Minister Zoran Đinđić (2003);
- A special manifestation of a security crisis that can arise from a single event (natural disaster) or endangering the environment over a longer period is an environmental crisis. Although this type of security crisis knows no borders, it is only possible for it to happen in one country. An ecological crisis can have drastic consequences for a country. Apart from the drastic consequences of the disaster (death of people and material destruction), the ecological crisis can lead to an increase in homelessness and poverty, which in turn leads to an increase in all forms of crime and corruption;
- Security crises in a country confirm the fact that their main causes are man and nature. At the state level, it is evidence of the inadequacy of the security system to the challenges brought about by the factors that lead to the crisis, as well as the inability of that system to deal with crisis events and processes.

3.6.2. Characteristics of the international security crisis

An international security crisis manifests itself as a drastic disruption of international relations between two or more states and/or coalitions and can have a local, regional and global (planetary) aspect. It (the crisis) is the sublimation of political, economic, military, societal, and even environmental crises. The sublimation of the aforementioned crises acquires a security character primarily due to the emergence, duration and outcome of military crises and

conflicts. In the previous text, we highlighted the general characteristics of modern and future crises (Boin and Lagadek). Focusing on the security crisis in contemporary conditions and a closer perspective, its main characteristics can be identified:

- The international security crisis, in the general sense, is caused by the action of man (political, economic, military, social sector) and nature and man (ecological sector);
- As an action of man, the international security crisis, most often, arises in an irreconcilable conflict of interests of opposing parties (states, coalitions, international organizations), at the local (two states), regional (multiple states) and global level, when it affects the whole world;
- As a special form of human action in the emergence of security crises, the non-functioning of international mechanisms responsible for peace and security appears. A typical example is the non-functioning of the UN Security Council, due to the veto rights of the five permanent members of that body (USA, Russia, China, Great Britain and France);
- In relation to the previous position, an international security crisis can also occur due to the behavior of certain world powers from a position of power and force, when international security organizations, such as the aforementioned UN Security Council, are not respected. So, for example, NATO carried out aggression against the FRY in 1999 and Iraq in 2003 despite the decision (Resolution) of the UN Security Council. But these are not the only cases in international relations. For the most part, where the US used military force after the Cold War, with the use of NATO, it was against the decisions of the UN Security Council;
- An international security crisis can also arise as a spillover from an internal security crisis. A typical example is the break-up of the former SFRY, which continued as a crisis in the FRY (Serbia) regarding Kosovo and Metohija;
- An international security crisis can also arise after major natural accidents and disasters, i.e. an ecological crisis, in a wider geographical area or the planet Earth as a whole. The COVID-19 pandemic is a typical example of an international security crisis of a global nature caused by the action of a virus. An ecological crisis can also arise from the combined action of nature and man;
- International security crises are usually a long-term process, which has the shape of a sinusoid, with alternating periods of acute crises and a decrease in their intensity. Certain international security crises, such as the relationship between Israel and Palestine, or the US blockade of Cuba, are typical examples of the aforementioned.

4. CONCLUSION

The crisis is not a scourge of the modern world, but has been known since the beginning of human existence. In rudimentary form, the crisis threatened the basic human need to biologically stay alive. With the development of human society, crises also developed and multiplied. Today, there is no human activity that is resistant to crises.

Security, rudimentarily understood as the absence of threats, has been known for as long as man has existed. Like the crisis, security was primarily related to the biological survival of man.

Therefore, crisis and security are two very close concepts, which primarily refer to man, his communities and the environment.

Crisis and insecurity are primarily caused by man and nature. Hence, every crisis is a security crisis, or more precisely: in every crisis, its security aspect is also recognized.

The theory of science has given birth to a large body of opinions, facts and judgments about crisis and security. That opus in contemporary conditions speaks of the crisis as an integrated phenomenon of a multidimensional character. On the other hand, that opus gives the right to single out the security crisis as a special type of crisis. This is because the security crisis is, in essence, the sublimation of the modern crisis, which is integrated and multidimensional, and covers the scale from the individual, through social groups, the state, the international community to the global aspect expressed in the biodiversity of the Green Planet.

A security crisis is a complex and multidimensional (integrated) man-made and/or natural crisis, or their combination, which arises as a consequence of the actions of man and/or nature, and leads to the dysfunctionality of the reference object of security, and even its disappearance, which requires decision-making and adequate reacting.

In accordance with recognized definitions of crisis and security, a security crisis is a sublimation of crises in the political, economic, military, social and environmental sectors. As such, the security crisis can be conditionally classified into domestic and international.

Some characteristics of the domestic and international security crisis are listed in the paper. What these crises have in common is that they are caused by man and nature. Primarily, the security crisis is caused by man, that is, the conflict of interests between his organizational forms (state, coalition).

In accordance with the struggles that every man leads, as Bishop Nikolaj Velimirovic said, a way out of security crises can arise when the nature of man creates a man of nature out of him.

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