
PERCEPTION OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Arturas Simanavicius*

**Lithuanian Sports University, Sporto str. 6, LT- 44221 Kaunas, Lithuania,
emeil: arturassim@yahoo.com*

Jurgita Subonyte**

***University of Iceland, Sæmundargata 2, 101 Reykjavik,
email: laiskeliukas@gmail.com*

Žaneta Simanavičienė***

****Mykolo Romeris University, Ateities str. 20, Vilnius,
emeil: zasiman@mruni.eu*

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Abstract. The article examines the perception of economic security, the analysis of economic security perception responds to this information. In fact, the perception of economic security came from the cross-section of economics and political science. Scientists from different countries are currently talking and preparing various analysis about economic security. Until now, there is no unified concept of economic security, and every scientist provides his understanding of economic security. Various structures are presented, such as economic sovereignty, economic independence, stability, sustainability. The article aims to show what another understanding of economic security is.

Keywords: economic security, national security, concept of national security, perception of economic security.

INTRODUCTION

In each country activity, the problem of economic security is important and priority. Every human activity is characterized by certain threats and risks that need to be assessed in the pursuit of public, business, and personal goals. On the other hand, due to economic development imbalances and various opportunities, the significance of security is increasing. Failure to assess the consequences of security and economic reforms for human, society and the state can lead to painful failures that can even ruin the state, the vitality of society. As a result, the country's economic security is currently playing a particularly important role, as it shows the direction of the right socio-economic solutions and plays a key role in driving the drivers of economic growth.

The concept of economic security was introduced in the United States, around 1930, when the country was looking for ways to get out of the economic crisis. 1934 US President Roosevelt has set up a special Federal Committee on Economic Security to normalize and stabilize the

social situation in the country, creating legislation for the social insurance of the unemployed and the accumulation of state pensions. Since then, the issue of economic security has always been important and has gained more and more importance as the economic situation aggravates. Researchers devote great attention to economic security worldwide. As global competition grows and new strategic risks are exacerbated by the global financial crisis, the role of economic security is increasing, and it is particularly important to find a link between economic security and small and medium-sized businesses, as small and medium-sized enterprises are one of the key components of a market economy, has a decisive influence on regional economic growth and the stability of social relations. Low capital requirement, quick response to market changes and flexibility to adapt to them, new markets or niche filling, creating competition for large companies, servicing large companies, creating new and often better quality products, services, production processes, favorable family-friendly business form, possibilities for efficient professionals further training is the main advantage of small and medium-sized enterprises, revealing their effectiveness and importance.

The **object** of the article – economic security.

Purpose of the article – to analyze economic security by revealing its development concepts, showing how vary the perception of economic security.

Research methods: analysis of scientific literature, analysis of statistical data, methods of qualitative analysis and document analysis for the assessment of economic security perception.

THE RISE OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

The first reflections on security appeared in ancient times. „Security“ first time mentioned in the The Book of Ezekiel of the Old Testament. Translated from Greek, security means managing the situation. In this way, Aristotle linked security awareness with self-preservation.

The very concept of security began to be used in 1190 and meant a state of peace in the human spirit. However, this concept until the 17th century has been rarely used in this form. XVII-XVIII c. Almost all countries have agreed that the main goal of the state is common prosperity and security. During this period, the concept of security has a new meaning, i.e. calm situation, absence of real danger (physical, moral) and also new material, economic, political conditions, relevant organizations and institutions that help to create this provision. Interpretation of the concept of security is necessary for a more detailed understanding of the concept of economic security. Current modern approaches to security treatment have emerged relatively recently - in the 20th century. it was decided by the ongoing wars, the increased risk

of technogenic and ecological catastrophes. In this end, the concept of security has undergone changes, transformations from an individual to society, a state, a global space. Such changes have led to the importance of the security issue and become a priority policy for each country. If theoretical economic security research dates back to the 19th century, then institutional structures related to economic security began to be established only in the 20th century. The concept of economic security in global economic science and practice appeared in the 20th century. It is generally accepted that the concept of economic security was introduced by US President Ruzvelt in 1934, when the understanding of the necessity of economic state regulation led to the abandonment of the state practice of classical practice of economic interference and the creation of the Federal Committee on Economic Security. Since then, economic security issues have always been relevant.

EVOLUTION OF ECONOMIC SECURITY CONCEPT

The definition of the substance and content of the category of economic security makes it possible to answer the question of economic security as a scientific subject. The subject of economic security, on the one hand, is related to the ability of the economic system, the economic operators, their parts to objectively protect against threats and, on the other hand, to specific state functions as a macroeconomic regulator for economic security and for that purpose by setting up special institutes.

The perception and description of economic security came from a cross-cutting junction; economics and political science. Perhaps, therefore, in the present time, there is no unified understanding of economic security. Often, scientists, by examining the essence of economic security, give their own definitions using different combinations of economic sovereignty, independence, stability, sustainability, and economic interest.

In the opinion of foreign scientists, the economic security of the state is primary and is determined by the necessity of state sovereignty in making internal decisions, thus also in the international situation; maintaining the country's economic independence by raising the standard of living.

We will briefly analyze the development of the concept of economic security in the United States, Japan, the European Union, China, Russia, and Lithuania. The concept of economic security has been used to use another term - national security. The concept of national security (Kazlauskas, 2010; MacFarlane, 2006) as a philosophy of sustainable development of the state was related to the so-called Westphalia Peace (1648) events, during which the concept

of sovereign, sovereign ruler became the basis of a new international order in national states. The earliest concept of national security was mentioned at Yale University (USA) in 1790. The historical perception of national security has included political, military and economic areas. Theodore Roosevelt in 1904 In his report to the US Congress, he based the connection of the Panama Canal as a national security interest (Diaz-Espino, 2014). 1934 US President Franklin Roosevelt, re-elected US President during the Great Depression, used a combination of words - national economic security in his report to the nation. 1934 In the USA, the first "Economic Security Committee" was set up, the main purpose of which was to stabilize the social environment in the country. The concept of national security became the main principle of US international politics in 1947, when President Gari Truman signed the National Security Act on July 26th. As President of the United States Bill Clinton created the "National Economic Committee for the establishment and maintenance of national economic security measures". Every year, the US administration prepares and publishes a document entitled "National Security Strategy", which is a declaration of a democratic course, with opportunities and challenges facing the country. The content of this strategy is strictly regulated by law:

1. US interests, goals and aspirations that are international in nature and vital to US national security.
2. External policies, the nature of international commitments, and the level of US military capabilities that have to stop aggression against the American state and implement a national security strategy.
3. The proposals relate to the short-term and long-term use of political, economic, military and other elements of American state power to protect national interests and the achievement of vital goals and aspirations for US national security.
4. Assessing US Opportunities in Implementing National Security Strategy.
5. All other data necessary to inform the US Congress about the National Security Strategy. There is a dual way of presenting the document; secret and public.

Before World War II, the concept of defense and defense capabilities was used more. 1947 In the USA, the Law on National Security was adopted and the National Security Council was established by the President. As President of the United States Bill Clinton created the "National Economic Committee for the establishment and maintenance of national economic security measures". According to American scientists (Machovsky, 1985; Maull, 1984; Murdoch, 2001), economic security must meet two conditions:

- Preservation of the country's economic autonomy, the country's ability to make decisions for its own interests in economic development;

- Maintain an existing standard of living and its further growth.

Machovskij (1985) believes that economic security must ensure a high degree of independence from the partner in vital economic parameters, i. e. that can even affect political decisions and may be unacceptable from a commercial point of view. Maull (1984) describes economic security as the absence of sharp threats to core values. This threat arises when external economic parameters change so that the conditions for the destruction of the existing social-political system are created. More specific is Murdoch (2001), who thinks that threat only occurs when changes occur:

- the volume and distribution of income and wealth;
- at employment level, inflation, access to raw materials on the market and so on.
- economic sovereignty, i.e. the ability to control a wide range of policy instruments and resources.

In this way, according to American experts, the basis for understanding economic security is ensuring the sovereignty of the state by adopting both internal and external political. In this sense, economic security is understood primarily as a defense of the country's interests. However, the full-fledged scientific category of economic security in the US was not formulated. The situation in the European Union is different.

In the European Union, the concept of economic security has two meanings. The first point is related to the position of the European Union in the global economic system. At the European Union official portal europa.eu various references to the economic objectives of the European Union are collected and the interpretation of the concept of economic security. The European Union stresses the importance of European integration into the process of globalization of a competitive global economy. Compared to other countries in the world, historically, European countries have fewer quantitative resources and working people. The largest official organization dealing with security complex issues in Europe is the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the world's largest regional international organization, developing measures to reduce military confrontation and enhance security in Europe. The OSCE Security Concept consists of several components. It is a political and military dimension, forming the so-called "first basket", the economic dimension - "second basket" and human rights issues at the "third basket". Decisions are taken by consensus.

In France, economic security issues began to be addressed in the 1950s and much attention was paid to the economic security of the business. In the late 1990s, the French government adopted a number of regulatory measures aimed at improving the social and economic security of businesses. This was necessary because of the integration of France into the European Union. The social and economic security of France at the end of the twentieth century was regulated in three directions:

- defining corporate ownership, intellectual property, as well as corporate ownership and protection of information, i.e. asset protection for all companies;
- a permanent monitoring system for competitors on the domestic and foreign markets was introduced and the criteria by which companies lost out to competitors were defined.
- state-based regulation of crisis phenomena in the economy was carried out, as well as business professionals, on the other side. Special attention was paid to identifying and avoiding in time the threats caused by inadequate management decision-making on lack of information (Definition of Security, 2018).

The measures to ensure the economic security of UK, Italian and Spanish companies were similar. A stable and influential economic security system in these countries is based on an effective regulatory and legal framework. An example is Spain (Spain NSS, 2017), where the economic security of companies was ensured by the law "On Improvement and Protection of National Industry". In Italy, the state Schröder Ch (2008) supports foreign companies that are dependent on the goods and services of Italian companies.

Japan is the first country in the Far East that has clearly demonstrated its ability to adapt global governance and technology knowledge to the conditions of Asian society and its national interests. The Japanese government has realized that in the current economic climate, competition is intensifying in the context of economic globalization. Small and medium-sized enterprises are primarily demanding state support and assistance. It should be noted that the Japanese are able to maintain their culture, the traditional foundations of institutions and relationships, to change them only to the extent necessary to improve efficiency and competitiveness during the post-industrial era and global development of the country and its enterprises. Particular attention is paid to the management culture and macroeconomic regulation. Japan has become the world's largest creditor, with gold and foreign reserves in second place (after China). As a result, a high level of competitiveness of Japanese companies has been achieved, leading to a high socio-economic level in the country. The Japanese 2013

year revival strategy urged Japan to actively use foreign development aid to gain a higher percentage of global infrastructure projects and medical markets, which would enable Japan to revive its economy in the light of economic growth in developing countries and support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (Kokubun T, Glosserman B., 2018). Key features in Japan include stability, sustainable development, low inflation and high household savings, a favorable investment environment, quality in education and health care, high living standards, exceptional life expectancy, and so on.

The economic security of Japanese companies is shaped by two main principles: the development of the country's economic stability; creating an internal environment to improve the country's national interests. Japan has some national characteristics, a small share of foreign investment, and the relative closeness of Japanese society, which in turn affects the country's economic security. The general doctrine of Japanese national interests was introduced in the early 20th century. It covered several areas: public security, national military security and foreign economic stability. In addition, the main task of economic security policy was to increase the influence of Japanese foreign policy on the basis of its great economic potential. The achievement of this goal has been achieved through the comprehensive promotion of market relations in the global economy. During the reorganization and development of the Japanese economic security system, two main trends could be identified. Firstly, it is the introduction of the Japanese economy into the world economy, and secondly, its partial autonomy under the alliance with the US. It should be noted that the more Japan sees itself as an influential state, the less conservative aspects remain in its economic security system.

The most important of the modern world "new Asian states" is China. In recent years, this country occupies an important place not only at regional but also at global level. China is positioning itself as a developing country. The peculiarity of the Chinese economy (the market in the socialist economy), the unique place of the country, helps it to strengthen its global economic relations, and gives a special color to global economic issues. This is especially true of the economic security problem in China. China's economic security perception is based on economic sovereignty, especially in decision-making. However, Chinese scientists (Zha D., 1999; Zhengyi W., 2004; Harney J. Stearns J., 2018) today in China have no reasons for optimism. Economic sovereignty is strongly influenced not only by internal but also by external interest groups. China's per capita resource supply is also much lower than global indicators. Industry is dependent on foreign financial capital, which squeezes all profits for itself. Many Chinese companies have to obey transnational corporations and become only an element in

their production chain. Thus, the most important threats to China are economic sovereignty. For developing countries such as China, economic security is best defined as the ability to ensure a gradual increase in the standard of living of all citizens through national economic development, while maintaining economic independence. In other words, there are two aspects to economic security: competitiveness and independent economic sovereignty.

In Russia, scientists treat security not only as an economic but also as a philosophical category. There is no consensus on security awareness. However, there are strong economic schools in Russia where economic security research is being carried out: Academician Abalkin L.I. school, Ural School of Science led by Academician Tatarkin A.I. In Abalkin's opinion (1994), economic security is a set of factors and conditions that ensure the independence of the national economy, its stability and sustainability, its ability to continually innovate and improve. There are three main characteristics of economic security in Abalkin School's economic security research:

- economic security is primarily determined by the independence of the country's economy and its ability to pursue self-sustaining economic policies;
- economic security can only be ensured by stable and sustainable economic systems;
- economic security can only be supported by economic systems that are capable of continual renewal and improvement, i. constantly evolve.

According to the Uralic School of Economics (2010), the economic security of the state is determined by a set of economic, political, geopolitical, ecological, legal and other conditions that create different conditions:

- the state's survival at the beginning of the crisis and the future development of the state;
- defending the vital interests of the state in terms of resource availability, sustainability and development dynamics and growth;
- creating internal immunity and external protection against destabilizing effects;
- state competitiveness in global markets and sustainable financial situation;
- creating good living conditions through harmonious development of each personality.

The assessment of economic security perception of Russian scientists was based on four key concepts:

- interests (national, public, social, personal);

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- independence (national economy from external markets, economic policy from external influence);
 - competitiveness (national economy);
 - sustainability (national economy, socio-economic development).

LITHUANIAN ECONOMIC SECURITY CONCEPT

Economic security in Lithuania is enshrined in legal acts: the Lithuanian National Security Strategy and the Law on National Security Basics of the Republic of Lithuania. The National Security Strategy of Lithuania (current edition, 2017) highlights the primary interests of national security:

- the vitality of NATO and the EU, the security, democracy and prosperity of all Euro-Atlantic countries;
- democracy, freedom, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in neighboring countries;
- global and regional security and stability;
- reliable national defense capabilities, backed up by defense needs and commitments to Alliance funding;
- economic and energy security;
- security of infrastructure in sectors of the economy that are strategically important for national security;
- information security;
- cyber security;
- national and cultural identity;
- a safe region from an ecological and public health point of view.

As we see security aspects such as energy, financial security is addressed within the framework of economic security. However, when developing internal security policy, defining its priorities and tasks, economic security is distinguished separately and besides threat analysis, crisis prevention and management are already forming tasks for the Republic of Lithuania in the fields of economic and financial security (2017):

- implement a sustainable macroeconomic policy geared towards fiscal and monetary stability and prevention of financial and economic crises;
- to participate actively in the EU single market and in the EU's economic and monetary union;

- reducing restrictions on economic activity, creating conditions for free and fair competition, striving to create a favorable environment for business (especially small and medium) and innovation development, foreign investment, export diversification;
- implement measures to prevent one Lithuanian or foreign investor from dominating strategic sectors of the economy and preventing the penetration of unclear capital into domestic enterprises, ensuring the protection of strategic economic sectors, enterprises and equipment;
- strive to reduce the social and economic disparities between and within state regions.

The first table shows the link between the economic security challenges and the means to ensure them.

Table 1. Connection between economic security challenges and measures to ensure them

Macroeconomic policy	The EU single market	EU Economic and Monetary Union	Economic activity	Unclear origin of capital and domination of one investor	Regional development
Implementing measures					
Financial and monetary stability	Free movement of persons, goods, services and capital	Coordination of economic and fiscal policy strategies	Free and fair competition	Protection of strategic enterprises, equipment	Reducing social and economic disparities
Prevention of financial and economic crises	Tax harmonization	A common monetary policy	A favorable business environment		
		The single currency, the euro	Foreign investments		
			Export Diversification		

Source: made by authors

The analysis of economic security challenges allows us to state that the object of the country's economic security is its economic system and economic indicators, competitiveness, determines Lithuania's overall rise in the EU and in the global context.

National security is also based on economic security. The Law on National Security Basics of the Republic of Lithuania (in its current version, 2018), which sets out the provisions for ensuring the security of Lithuanian domestic policy in the field of economic policy, states that the Seimas is required by law to determine which companies and facilities (including those to be established) have strategic significance for national security, even declared, what this form

of ownership can be. Economic security also includes alternative sources of fuel and raw material procurement, independent of the monopoly supplier, supply of energy resources, foreign investment, foreign entities in the natural monopoly sector and the financial system. It is important to mention that the Law on the Basics of National Security of the Republic of Lithuania distinguishes between external and potential internal risk factors and challenges posed by the geopolitical environment and potential economic risks (see Table 2).

Table 2. External and internal risk factors in the area of economic security

The external geopolitical environment is determined by external risk factors, challenges and potential economic risks	Possible internal risk factors and internal crisis in the economic sphere
Economic pressure, blockade or other hostile economic actions	Decline in jobs, production volumes and national product to critical levels
Dependence of an entire industry on any one country or group of countries	Structural and technological backwardness of the farm
Capital Investment for Political Purposes: Acquisition of Control of Ownership or Management of Energy and Other Industries Important for National Security, Financial and Credit Institutions, Major Communications (Railways, Motorways, Pipelines, Seaports, Airports)	Criminalization of the economy; Uncontrollable scale of economic crimes
Energy dependence on the resources of one country or group of countries; a mild vulnerability to the functioning of the energy system;	Banking-financial system crises and financial panic
The scale of the country's financial system destabilizing foreign debt;	The destabilization of the national currency, the depreciation of the currency reserves of the Bank of Lithuania below the critical threshold
Destabilizing interventions in the Lithuanian financial-banking system and its destructive effects	Internal debt beyond the country's financial capacity

Source: made by authors

As we can see, there are real problems facing economic security, as many risk factors and risks are of a continuous nature and difficult to identify and eliminate in a timely manner.

To sum up, the current approach to the perception of economic security, depending on what is meant by the concept, can be distinguished into three groups:

- Sustainability is a key criteria for economic security, i.e. as a whole, the conditions and factors determining the sustainable functioning of the country's economy, independence, stability, ability to innovate and improve. This opinion can be found in the works of scientists such as L.Abalkin and others.

- The second group of scientists (A. Smith, D. Rickard, A.I. Tatarkin) describes economic security through interest, bearing in mind that the position of economic and government institutions, which guarantees the protection of national interests, the social stability of politics, sufficient military potential, even in internal and external terms. unfavorable conditions of foreign processes.

• The third group of scientists (F. List and others) determines the category of economic security through independence. National economic security is said to be a state of a national economy where economic sovereignty is ensured, economic power is strengthened, and the quality of life rises.

CONCLUSIONS

The prosperity of each country first correlates with income per capita and another important factor is employment / unemployment prospects. An even broader assessment includes social, ecological goals and other non-economic objects - security, stability, life expectancy.

State economic policy has a significant indirect impact on economic security. It should be noted that threats to economic security may come from a variety of external as well as internal sources.

The country's economic security has a hierarchical (personality, state, society), multi-component structure. Economic security is an important component of country security. Such awareness increases the importance of security at all levels, especially in the economy, due to risk factors, uncertainty, accidental and interdependence role.

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Simanavičius Artūras*, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Sport Education, Lithuanian Sports University. Research interests: tourism, tourism risk, national security.

Šubonytė Jurgita**, University of Iceland, Master of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. Research interests: social responsibility, economic security, sustainable development.

Simanavičienė Žaneta***, PhD, Professor, Habilitated Doctor, Mykolas Romeris University, Faculty of Economics and Business. Research interests: economic security, sustainable development, social responsibility.