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Economic Security as a Scientific Category: Theoretical and Methodological Aspect of Research

Bezpieczeństwo ekonomiczne jako kategoria badawcza: teoretyczny
i metodologiczny aspekt badań

ABSTRAKT

W artykule zostaną omówione problemy dotyczące fenomenu bezpieczeństwa narodowego. Badanie tego zjawiska w aspekcie zarówno teoretycznym, jak i praktycznym jest szczegółowym przedmiotem analizy dokonanej przez autora. We współczesnych warunkach globalizacji ekonomicznej świata oraz integracji państw z międzynarodowym systemem ekonomicznym, pojawiają się problemy bezpieczeństwa narodowego. Poziom rozwoju ekonomicznego państw determinuje ich potencjalne możliwości w zakresie bezpieczeństwa. Bezpieczeństwo ekonomiczne państw jest zależne od poziomu rozwoju gospodarczego danego kraju i jego regionów. Jest ono gwarantem niezależności ekonomicznej państwa oraz rozwoju warunków społecznych współczesnych społeczeństw.

Słowa kluczowe: bezpieczeństwo narodowe, bezpieczeństwo ekonomiczne, kryteria oceny bezpieczeństwa ekonomicznego, środki do zapewnienia bezpieczeństwa ekonomicznego

The attention of the state and society to questions of the national security protection of Russia became characteristic feature of the beginning of the XXI century that influenced to form scientific approaches for studying this phenomenon in the theory and practice. In turn processes of transformation and reforming of economical and legal bases of the Russian Federation functioning can't but take into account the national security of the state. Besides, globalization of world economy and integration of Russia into the international economic system also bring to the forefront a problem of national security protection of Russia in modern conditions. The external economic factors of national security become priority in

the case of providing economic security of Russia because the level of economic development of the country determines its potential possibilities of protection against external and internal risks.

Economic security of the country depends on the level of national economy development, its competitiveness in the world market. According to the foreign practice, economic security is the guarantor of the state economic independence, promoting social and economic security of society, weakening of social contradictions, increasing of citizens' welfare. In this regard providing economic security of Russia is considered among important national priorities of development of the Russian state and society. It should be added that traditionally economic security is positioned as an important qualitative parameter of economic system of the country, defining by its opportunity and ability to normal functioning and development of a national economy by steady resource provision, to maintenance of a worthy standard of living of the country population and systematic realization of its national interests. Economic security of Russia consists of its regions' economic security. The main principles of economic security conception of Russia are formulated in modern scientific literature. However, questions of providing regional economic security are insufficiently studied, because of many reasons. First, there are specific features of regional development of economy of the Russian Federation territorial subjects, which leave a certain mark on requirements to providing economic security of each separate region and transformation of economic security evaluation criteria. Secondly, there is the lack of uniform universal methodological approach to research the questions of providing economic security at regional level. And, at last, there are certain difficulties in the course of carrying out economic security evaluation of the Russian Federation territorial subjects regarding the solution of the problem about statistical data standardization.

These factors significantly complicate formation of the uniform standards of an economic security evaluation at the level of the Russian Federation territorial subject and development of strategic and operational programs of its providing, considering the peculiarities of regional economic development which have essential impact on purposes, procedures and the actions realized by central and local authorities. Thus, the actuality of the research of the contents and ways of providing economic security of Russia and its regions, and also development of concrete practical recommendations how to increase the level of economic security within creation of security management mechanism for providing and maintenance economic security is becoming obvious.

One of the important national priorities of the Russian Federation at the present stage of the exchange relations development is providing economic security of the country and its regions [1, 2]. According to the Strategy of National Security of the Russian Federation, the concept of national security means "a condition of the personal security, society and the state from internal and external threats which allows

to provide constitutional laws, freedoms, worthy quality and standard of living, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and sustainable development of the Russian Federation, defense and safety of the state” [3]. The structure of national security can be presented in the following view (figure 1) [13, p. 76].

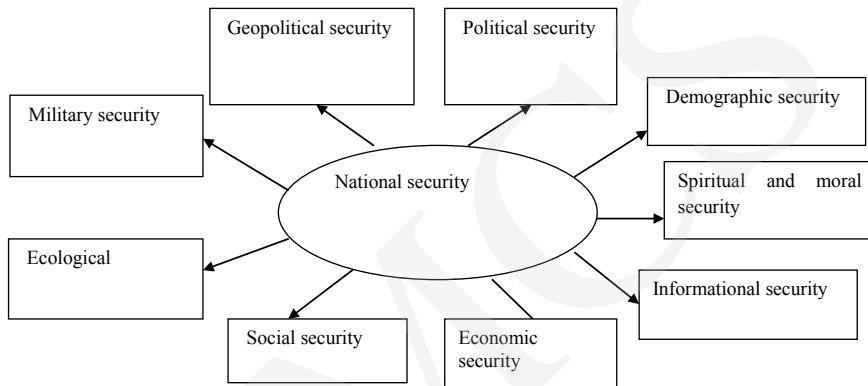


Figure 1. The structure of national security of the Russian Federation

According to the majority of experts, economic security is the most important feature of the structure of the country national security. Actuality of the research both providing economic security and scientific approaches to definition of this concept appeared during transition of Russia to market system and didn't lose the importance of it up to the present. According to the world practice, problems of economic security should be considered in the context of the national security protection of the whole state.

Economic security as a structural component of national security system along with national defence capability, social security and protection against ecological disasters is directed on neutralization of threats of the country growth and development. Thus all directions are interconnected and they complement each other (Figure 2) [27, p. 196].

Economic security as an economic category is relatively began to use recently in domestic economic literature that is caused by absence of identical concept in foreign economic science where it is accepted to apply the term “national security”. According to V.V. Morunov, the methodology of definition the category “economic security” in Russia differs from the meaning of this expression abroad [25, p. 102]. As it is mentioned above, economic threats of Russia development, appeared during market transformations in economy of the 1990th, put in the forefront the need of research of theoretical and methodological and applied aspects of providing economic security of the country. Macroeconomic conditions, in which approaches of theoretical understanding of this problem were formed and developed, effected on the genesis of category content of economic security [25, p. 102].

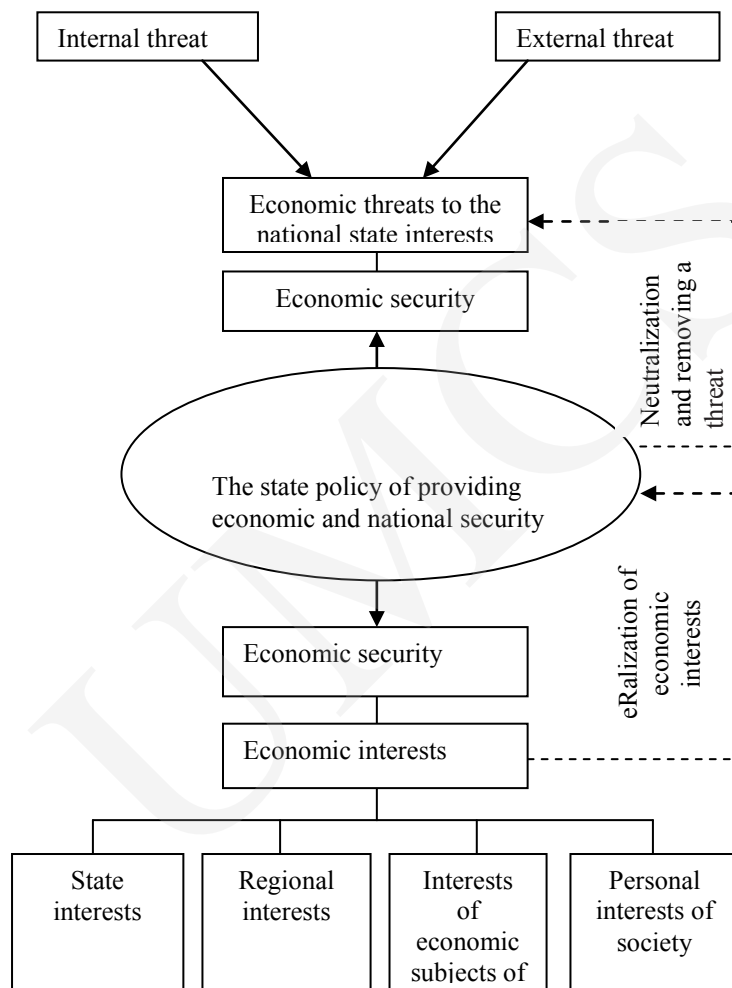


Figure 2. The category content of “economic security”

The concept of economic security is rather structured, and all elements of this system are closely connected each other. It is possible to examine this conception according two criteria: spacial and social directed (figure 3) [27, p. 79]. Besides, interaction of economic security elements leads to formation of the difficult multilevel system including such structural elements, as: economic independence, stability of national economy, ability to self-development and progress [27, p. 197]. In turn Y.U. Radyukova and I.N. Shamayev stress the following components of economic security forming hierarchical system [27, p. 198]:

- the macroeconomic – economic security (economic security of national economy),

- the mesoeconomic – economic security of regions and branches,
- the microeconomic – economic security of the enterprises (firms) and households.

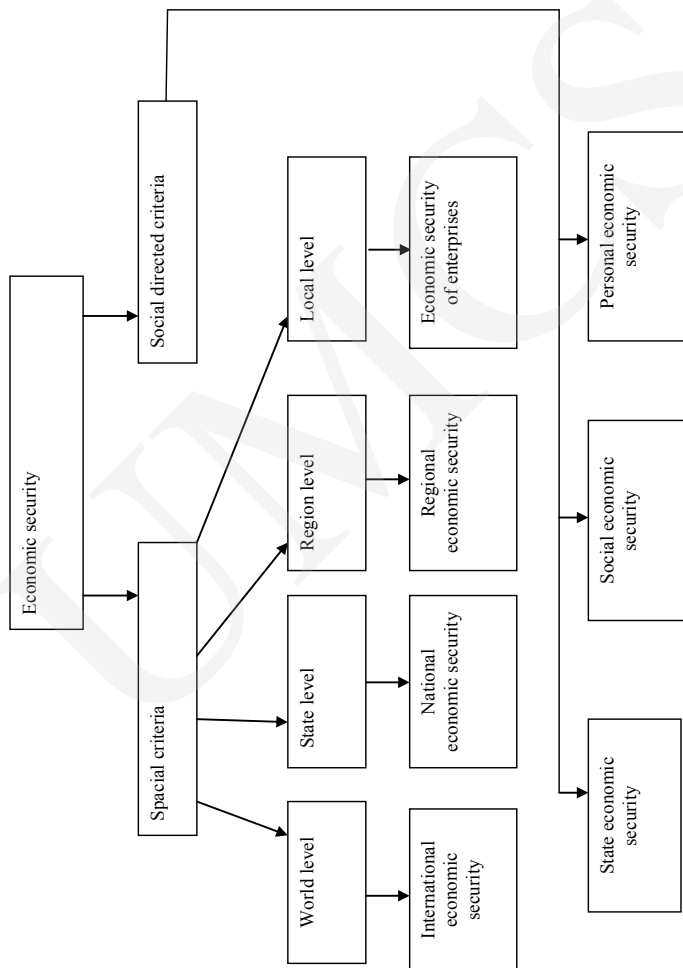


Figure 3. Economic security criteria

The multidimensionality and complexity of this phenomenon in the Russian science and practice caused the existence of a number of different approaches to the treatment of the definition “economic security” (table 1).

Table 1. Modern approaches to the definition “economic security”

Author	Definition
M.V. Belskyh	Qualitative state of the country economy, which it is desirable to keep or to develop in progressing scales from the point of view of the society [8, p. 22].
V.H. Tsukanov	Opportunity and readiness of economy to provide worthy living conditions and developments of the personality, social and economic and military-political stability of society and the state, to resist to the influence of internal and external threats [31, p. 31].
L.P. Goncharenko, etc.	The most important qualitative characteristic of economic system, defining its ability to support normal conditions of the population activity, steady providing with resources of development of national economy, and also consecutive realization of Russia national interests [34, p. 18].
G.V.Vechkanov	The economic category, characterizing such state of the economy at which are provided sustained economic growth, optimum satisfaction of public requirements, rational management, protection of economic interests at national and international levels. Economic security is the most important component of national security, its material base which provides economic, socio-political and military stability in the conditions of the influence of adverse factors [32, p. 27].
V.K. Senchagov	The set of conditions and factors providing independence of national economy, its stability and ability to continuous updating and self-improvement [33, p. 39]. The state of the economy and power institutes at which it is provided the guaranteed protection of national interests, a social orientation of policy, sufficient defensive potential even under adverse conditions of development of internal and external processes [30, p. 36].
V.F. Latypov	The characteristic of a national economic complex and its components from the point of view of its ability to progressing development on the way of the steady growth of welfare of all segments of the population, in the conditions of social and economic stability and the effective international cooperation directed on the positive solution of internal and external problems, creating threats to vital interests of society [17, p. 178].
E.I. Levina, E.V. Gatina, K.S. Golubev	The characteristic of the national economy functioning, expressing its ability: to create and support favorable living conditions for people; to provide a stable and sustainable development of national economy; to react correctly to arising adverse factors and conditions; to neutralize operating threats to the population's welfare and to the national economy [18, p. 151].
N.V. Dementiev	The state of the economy at which it is provided the effective satisfaction of public requirements on the national, the international levels, and thus is fully provided protection against negative impacts and harming an economic complex of the country [13, p. 78].

N.M. Kalinina	The ability, opportunity and readiness of economy (economic system) on the basis of effective management to provide stability and sustained economic growth, satisfaction of society's requirements and protection of national interests in various spheres from internal and external threats [14, p. 17].
I.Y. Bogdanov	The state of the country economy, which, at first, in volume and structural parameters is enough for providing an existing statehood, its independent of external pressure political and social and economic development; second, it is capable to support the level of the legal income providing to absolute majority of the population welfare, conforming to the standards of civilized countries [25, p. 103].
S.E. Metelev	The scientific economic category providing existence of abilities, opportunities and readiness of national economy to guarantee social stability and economic development of the country in a context of the most effective satisfaction of society's requirements and protection of the state's interests in various areas against internal and external threats [21, p. 77].
T.E. Kochergina	Such condition of economic system at which it has opportunity to reproduce itself according to purposes in invariable scales, with constant quantitative and qualitative characteristics [9, p. 38].
I.S. Tsybin, V.R. Vesnin	Such functioning condition of community (from a separate family to the whole mankind) which provides invulnerability and independence of realization of its economic interests in relation to possible threats and negative consequences [16, p. 47].
A.P. Gradov	The state of national economy providing satisfaction of the vital needs of the country in material benefits irrespective of emergence in world economic system or within the country of socio-political, economic or ecological circumstances of insuperable force [with 12, p. 227].
D.V. Gordienko	Condition of national economy security from external and internal threats at which it is capable to provide forward development of society, its economic and socio-political stability in the conditions of existence of adverse external and internal factors [26, p. 44].
A.I. Illarionov	Such combination of economic, political and legal conditions which provides in long-term prospect production of the maximum quantity of economic resources per capita in the most effective way [15, p. 29].
L.I. Abalkin	The set of conditions and the factors providing independence of national economy, its stability, ability to renewal and self-improvement [32, p. 27].
S.A. Afontsev	Resistance of national economic system to endogenous and exogenous shocks of the economic or political origin, appearing in its ability to neutralize potential sources of negative shocks and to minimize the damage connected with real shocks [24, p. 62].
B.A. Rayzberg	The conditions created by the state, guaranteeing prevention of drawing to the country economy irreparable injury from internal and external economic threats [10, p. 5].

O.A. Grunin, A.D. Makarov, A.S. Skaridov O.A. Safonov	The material basis of national security guaranteeing sustainable, stable development of the country, and its independence [28, p. 3].
V.V. Morunov	A certain state of the economy at which in the conditions of economic (internal and external) sovereignty and existence of the competitive environment by subjects of the economic relations (including governing bodies and managing subjects) it is provided the steady (constant) economic growth and the whole sustainable development of economy, and, as a result, follows: the optimum satisfaction of the personality, society and the state needs, rational economy management, and also it is provided: protection of economic interests (at national and international levels), security from internal and external threats, and influence of negative factors, integrity of economic space [25, p. 105].

Systematizing the definitions of the concept “economic security” given above as scientific category within this research it is necessary to specify its essence and the contents. So, economic security represents the scientific economic category providing existence of abilities, opportunities and readiness of national economy to guarantee social stability and economic development of the country in a context of the most effective satisfaction of society’s requirements and protection of the state’s interests in various areas against internal and external threats. It should be noted especially connection of economic security with concepts of stability and development (economic growth), as the lack of economy stable development involves essential reduction of its survival opportunities, low resilience to internal and external threats. In turn, stability as the significant characteristic of economic system defines degree of durability and reliability of its components, system communications, and ability to stand against to internal and external threats. The directions of providing economic security at federal and regional levels are shown in table 2 [1; 3–6; 11, p. 17; 19, p. 151–152; 20, p. 98; 22, p. 224; 23, p. 27; 29, p. 36; 33, p. 526–527].

Table 2. Economic security measures

Key measure	Level of management	
	Federal	Regional
Information and analysis measures		
1. Monitoring of vulnerability of economic interests.	Monitoring of threats to the Russian Federation economic interests.	Monitoring of levels of social and economic development of regions (territorial subjects of the Russian Federation).
2. Current and predictive valuation of economic development.	Indicators system of valuation of the Russian Federation economic development.	Indicators system of valuation of the region economic development (territorial subject of the Russian Federation).

Regulative influence measures		
1. Improvement of regulatory legal base and carrying out institutional transformations.	Adoption of federal laws, codes, the Russian President Decrees, Regulations of the Government of the Russian Federation, etc.	Adoption of laws, regulations of legislative and executive power of territorial subjects of the Russian Federation within its competence.
2. Elimination of crisis tendencies.	In the whole country, in separate branches, regions.	In the region, the cities, at the enterprises within its competence.
Direct acting measures		
1. Programs of recovery from the crisis.	The Russian Federation.	Region (territorial subject of the Russian Federation).
2. State regulation of regional development.	Development and realization of target programs of social and economic development of regions.	Participation in realization of federal target programs of social and economic development of regions and employment of extrabudgetary funds.
3. Counteraction to the threats to the country interests.	Improvement of a financial system, lobbying of interests of domestic producer in the international market, alignment at the level of a maximum of extent of regional economic development.	Increase of economic, social and budgetary efficiency of the region management (territorial subject of the Russian Federation).

In modern economic conditions prime importance is paid for problems of providing economic security at the level of territorial subjects of the Russian Federation within the development of the concept of the country national unity.

Summarizing the work material, it is possible to say that in modern science economic security represents the scientific economic category providing existence of abilities, opportunities and readiness of national economy to guarantee social stability and economic development of the country in a context of the most effective satisfaction of society's requirements and protection of the state interests in various areas against internal and external threats. One of the conditions of effective progress of domestic economy and also providing economic security of the Russian Federation, is the Strategy of the Russian Federation national security till 2020, developed by the Government of the Russian Federation as an official system of national priorities, purposes and measures in domestic and foreign policy, defining a condition of national security and level of a sustainable development of Russia in long-term prospect.

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SUMMARY

This article is devoted to the problems of providing economic security in the Russian Federation. Methodological approaches to research of economic security characteristics as an economic category are considered in this article as independent scientific fields. The special attention is paid to the analysis of scientific definitions of economic security within each of methodological approaches. The definition “economic security” is concretized on the basis of differentiation this definition from a methodological position of the research. The analysis of economic security evaluation criteria is carried out, and also measures to its providing for Russia are systematized at the federal, the regional and the local levels.

Keywords: national security, economic security, economic security evaluation criteria, measures to providing economic security