

SECURITY AND NATIONAL DEFENCE FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS IN ALLIED CONTEXT

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Abstract: *Some of the fundamental national interests including national security and defense tend to gain more importance and make the transfer to the defense and collective security imposed by intergovernmental organizations, the representatives of globalization. Most states of the EU are also members of the NATO, therefore the collective defense and security problem have to be studied and watched through the principles and complementary actions of the two organizations.*

Keywords: *state, national interest's, fundamental values, national security and defense, collective defense, globalization, security system, security environment.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Speaking in the present tense of the Romanian national state existence, when we have full NATO and European Union membership, the national interest's issue of national defense and security is solved by the security and Euro-Atlantic defense policy system.

This fact does not diminish Romania's efforts to contribute to the collective effort of security and defense and to show that it is a security provider in the membership context of the alliance.

The items considered for implementation of Romania's full integration in these two organizations are represented also in the European security strategy starting with the European Security Strategy 'A Secure Europe in a Better World', 2003, The EU Internal Security Strategy – "Towards a European Security Model", 2010, The Europe Strategy 2020 - "A European strategy for a smart, ecological and convenient for the inclusion, growth", 2010, and the current NATO strategic Concept "Active engagement, Modern defense" adopted by the heads of state and government at the NATO Summit, Lisbon, 2010.

The national aims are to optimize the national efforts to respect the allied and community commitments.

It is necessary to take into account that the efforts are developed in terms of promoting democracy and human rights, ensuring the primary needs of the population, energy security, promoting stability and peace in the neighborhood of the Romanian state, developing the necessary national defense and successful participation capability in allied activities, reducing the number of possible threats and the number of Romanian vulnerabilities and also adapting the security institutions to the allied and community requirements.

The South-East security environment, area where Romania is situated is affected by the following risks and vulnerabilities: "frozen" regional conflicts; weapons of mass destruction; international terrorism; organized crime; poor governance of states; energy security; territorial claims; ethnic and religious conflicts (Yugoslavia from 1991 to 1992, Ukraine in 2014). As globalization and regional integration is considered, these factors affect the security of state actors but also of the individual, providing at the same time new opportunities to which we have to adapt.

When analyzing these issues it should be taken into consideration the specific of the wider Black Sea region and the Western Balkans, with all the risks and specific security problems, influenced by the position of major state actors from the area who are directly affecting the situation of Romania, an EU member state and NATO on the border of these two intergovernmental organizations.

It is worth mentioning that these problems appeared and strongly developed after 1990, on the same time with the collapse of the USSR and the dissolution of the Warsaw Treaty, being present, even though aren't accepted by the world.

The fact Romania throughout it's leaders, actually chose to be a member of the most powerful collective security structures - NATO and EU, it is very important and guarantees to us, the citizens the preservation of fundamental national interests.

2. THE CONCEPT OF NATIONAL INTEREST, CATEGORIES AND FORMS OF MANIFESTATION

For a better understanding of national interest issue in the context of security and contemporary operational environment, we have to know very well the concept of national interest, the categories and forms of manifestation as a whole and also the factors that affect it directly.

The study of the national interests must be correlated with the analysis of fundamental values and national will and coordinated with the expression of the existing political authority at state level and with the conditions in which the political authority operates and develops the state actor. The geopolitical context, the state's level of power, including the available power tools are important for the analysis of the national interest concept.

Individual and collective perception is a defining element in the relationship of the elements mentioned before. It would be very well if these two types of perceptions are convergent and complementary, having the same finality of the national interests. By the process of perception are established variants of answer in response to various stimuli which have different scales reported to state or non-state actors. Reported to the level of development every nation has a different perception towards things that could affect the national interest.

Generally speaking, in the dictionary (DEX), the interest is explained as *"a concern on how to succeed in; a concern on how to obtain what is useful, pleasant, necessary, important, and it suits a situation; the effort made on an action to satisfy certain needs: advantage, benefit, gain, profit, having social importance and being helpful to the community. Active and sustainable orientation, intense desire of knowing and understanding someone or something."*

The national interest is defined in different ways by individuals or institutions according to the perception of the surrounding realities:

- *"represents a numerous-normative system having a modeling and role-model role that expresses and promotes functional requirements of the nation, filters everyone's perception, determines attitudes and influences the participation at the national and international life, acting as a control function concerning the political interaction system"*.

In this case the definition involves a concept that relates permanently to the security environment. (Cobuz Constantin-Marcel, 1995);

- *"it is a customized form of interest from the perspective of a corporate life and work, coagulated into a form of political organization that is the national state"* (Buse Dorel, 2012);

- *"it reflects the identity of the people: its geography and culture, political preferences, social consensus, and the reached level of prosperity"* (PH Liotta);

- "the interest has a dual quality. It is an instrument of analysis for the researcher and the analyst of the international political phenomenon but also an action instrument for actors.

I used as an analytical instrument to describe, to explain and to evaluate the sources of a nation's foreign policy and its proper character.

As an instrument of political action, it serves as means of proposal, justification or condemnation of policies" (Rosenau James, 1994);

*- "reflects the dominant, relatively constant and institutionalized perception regarding the national values. It aims to promote, protect and defend - by legitimate means - the Romanian nation values that guarantees its existence and identity, on which it builds the future and it is integrated into the European and Euro-Atlantic community and participates in the globalization process. With their range of expression, these are addressed - primarily - to Romanian citizens living in the national territory, and - equally - to all the other people living in Romania and Romanians living or working abroad." (***) Strategia de Securitate Națională a României, 2007)*

National interests can be classified according to the importance and manner of implementation. More exactly the most important national interests are grouped into basic national interests which refers to respecting the sovereignty, the independence, the territorial integrity, etc. - elements which are not negotiable.

Then we are speaking about those which are regarding the negotiation in order to apply it, such control agreements, and those which are negotiated permanently (eg. the using of airspace at peace).

USA classified the national interests into vital interests, crucial interests, very important, important and secondary (The Commission on America's National Interests, 1996).

National interests taxonomy classifies the groups in: economic, military, social, political, long-term interests, short-term interests and medium-term interests.

According to the National Defense Strategy, 2010 edition, national interests are represented by the existence of the state, its normal activity, its aspirations and essential needs to affirm the values and the national identity.

The fundamental national interests are the independence, the national character of the state, the sovereignty, the indivisibility and its unity.

It should be clearly that the defense of Romania's national interests becomes an obligation of every Romanian citizen.

Considering the definitions of national interest we conclude that this also includes the foreign policy.

The concept itself indicates the diplomacy's meaning which represents in the same time the state's foreign policy aspirations for which every country works for and which should be materialized in practical actions.

The national interests are those elements which animate the states actions reported to the international relations.

An interest becomes a national interest if it performs a significant percentage of the following indicators: the degree of generality (covering some problematic groups), the degree of sustainability, the possibility of appliance in political practice.

The national interests pursue ensuring the security and maintaining the welfare of the debated subjects.

The reality is that, the national interest is based on national values represented in practice by quantifiable objectives, having internal and external applicability through means and practical procedures.

To realize the national interests it's necessary to achieve the established objectives and to respect the national values.

The objectives, the values and the national interests are essential to establish and implement the National Defense Strategy, National Security Strategy and foreign policy in international relationships where Romania is a member.

The enduring nature of national interests is undoubtedly, the interests are described in the Romanian Constitution. Being an EU and NATO member, Romania accepts the same values as the other members in the allied context.

To highlight and defend the national values and interests, Romania complies with international treaties, with the principles of international law and cooperates with all international organizations involved in ensuring regional and global peace and security.

Mr. Cobuz Constantin-Marcel believes that the national interest has the following features: “relative realism; the transparency, achievable by publically following and direct participation of the interested citizens; horizontal and vertical heterogeneity explained by intrinsic values of national interest; mobile dependence as a result of random dynamic international environment, values dynamics, hierarchy of components dynamics and the degree of perennial; functionalism”. (Cobuz Constantin-Marcel, 1995: 45-63)

In conclusion, the Romanian State, member of the Euro-Atlantic community preserves and promotes its national interests through various ways including maintaining and affirming the rule of law, defense of democracy, the way of creating favorable conditions for the free expression of citizens' rights, the act of respecting the human rights and ensuring the safety of the individual, the development of national economy in community context so as to be able to reduce the disparities that exist reported to the European states, the active participation in security and defense policy, supporting the national identity, the full integration into the European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

The economic development should be achieved by attracting foreign capital and foreign investment in their participation in the European common market and having „the four freedoms of movement”, the application of tax cuts, a sustainable economic development on the principles of competitiveness, the active relationship with non-state actors (international organizations).

These goals are not viable without a constant and lasting involvement of the political factor and its instruments of power.

Regarding the fundamental interests (vital) of Romania consisting in a national defense and security costumed firstly by defending/maintaining the sovereignty, the independence and the national integrity, followed by the protection of national identity in the new Euro-Atlantic area, things which are relatively clear and the Romanian state must address to the full integration in both NATO and EU structures.

The problem which remains unsolved in EU or in the federalization of Europe current case is that of state's total sovereignty, because now we are discussing about the disposing of part of it to the union.

3. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENCE INTERESTS AND THE COMMON EUROPEAN INTERESTS AND NATO ALLIANCE

Some of the fundamental national interests including national security and defense tend to gain more importance and make the transfer to the defense and collective security imposed by intergovernmental organizations, representatives of globalization.

The same seem to happen with financial problems or those related to the production made by multinational companies.

If regionally or globally the security is provided by oriented collective organizations

and institutions in the field of security and local internal conflicts, ethnic, religious or national, state although slightly weakened need to increase its duties.

Specifically Romania must solve the problem of national defense interests and national security through active actions by maintaining the unity and territorial integrity within its possession border reported to recognized international treaties, defending civilians from any attacks, participating responsible for all major collective actions, civil or military, organized and led by the EU or NATO.

Participation in joint military operations with similar items of the member states, involves national financial, logistical and human effort, proper equipment and therefore the application of recent NATO and EU, "smart defence", "pooling and sharing" and "connected forces", implies doctrines and procedures while adapting to the requirements of NATO and the EU, improving the C2, cooperation and useful information exchange, more exactly interoperability and standardization.

It's necessary to respect the commitment of NATO member states to provide 2% of PIB for national defense ministry, which will be reflected in equipment and training.

The manifestation of globalization by promoting collective security and defense system was specific to Romania after the Second World War as part of the Treaty of Warsaw, but also after the end of the Cold War when it opted to join NATO and the EU. Today, in 2014, when we celebrate 10 years since Romania's accession to NATO, 65 years after the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty and 20 years since the establishment of the NATO Partnership for Peace, we speak of fully integration into the Alliance and the EU, about the sharing of euro-atlantic values, and about the national and community interests.

To be a membership of these two intergovernmental organizations represents the

full success of Romanian foreign policy during the transition to parliamentary democracy after 1990. This provides full guarantee of security to Romania in a historical stage full of unpredictable and asymmetrical threats in a complex where things are not stable in terms of security environment (eastern European area and the wider Black Sea region). Political dialogue focused on specific region issues including security and defense are the basics for the new security situation and challenges.

Romania is not just a consumer of security; it actively participates in NATO and EU operations, civilian or military, having capabilities to success in multinational operations, which is a real security provider.

The principle of cooperative security is applied by our country having a real success, developing complementary initiatives in Eastern European space. Generally, Romania's interests belong to Alliance and the European community.

The national security interests ensure the protection, prosperity and security of Romanian citizens in conjunction with the stability and continuity of the state as a whole.

The European Union is an intergovernmental organization founded on the common interest of the Member States that joined the common values. Union is based on the following values: *"respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons who belong to minorities. These values are common for the member states in a society where pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men"* (***) The second Article of the Treaty regarding the European Union).

The Union aims to the welfare of the member states promoting the common values listed before, acting only based on its competences for achieving the objectives presented in the treaty.

EU values and human interests are protected through appropriate policies that form the space of justice, freedom and security, promoted by the existence of the EU Pillar 3 as TUE, in conjunction with the free movement of population, goods, capital. Common interests and common will of the founder member states to carry out together are the elements which are the basics of the union formation and activity.

Some of the common interests of the member states targeted by the establishment and functioning of the EU are considered to be the strengthening of national economies, the convergent development necessary to increase the production, improving economic and monetary union by maintaining a stable and unique coin.

Therefore we can speak about true directions of development: economic, political, social, environmental, psychosocial and military.

From the point of view of the common defense and security, it is intended to amplify the PESA which could generate a common defense, if the heads of state and government vote this, strengthening the power and position of Europe in a globalized world.

Most states of the EU are also members of the NATO, therefore the collective defense and security problem have to be studied and watched through the principles and complementary actions of the two organizations.

One can talk about a true Euro-Atlantic security community with complex institutions able to cover a wide range of issues of mutual interest. EU - NATO cooperation in security and defense developed while in the circumstances of challenges and threats that affected equally the organizations and the member states themselves. In this context, there have developed a true economic partnership between the United States and Europe, supporting the implementation of national economic interests.

The values and common interests of NATO states are the same with those of the

EU which are: the rule of law, democracy, welfare, freedom, market economy, solidarity, individual freedoms, peace and stability in the regional and global common heritage.

Lately the US-Europe or NATO-EU relations are marked by: the interests of the USA to Asia-Pacific region (Dale Catherine, Towell Pat, 2013), the economic reforms and political support for the states in North Africa and the Middle East including a partnership to strengthen the security in the region (***)Department of Defense, 2012), the affirmation of the powers emerging in this area mainly China and India, the NATO's interest especially for Article 5-crisis resolution type, the increasing of the military and political power while Russian interests are redirecting in its neighborhood (the case of Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova). In these circumstances the EU should assume a more important role for its own security and defense, primarily through the reviewing of the financial support of PESA and NATO's contribution to security in Europe's neighborhood, the reviewing of the foreign policy towards Russia in the Ukrainian crisis conditions and the gas crisis that will manifest more interest within the winter of 2014-2015, the reviewing of different types of military and civilian operations that they can organize and conduct (Article 5 with NATO or the independently crisis management) in the near or distant area of interest, the ways how they can get involved in the Asia-Pacific in cooperation with the USA etc.

4. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, we can say that the national interest will continue to be represented and promoted by the state, but a remodeled state actor and adapted to the requirements of living in larger communities. The values, objectives and national interests will not be diminished in importance in globalization, but their practical implementation will differ methodologically.

The basics on which the national interests are built regardless their type are considered by some experts the sustainable economic development, the growth and the ensuring of the national security, the promotion of democratic values and good governance, the retrieval of coherence identity and social cohesion.

In the current security environment and the complex system of international relations that is created between state and supranational entities, the relationship between national interest and community interest (supranational) is one of determination from simple to complex, meaning the fact that the state actor and its interest in the prosperity and security, from a clearly defined political point of view, led to the formation of political and military organizations that must meet the hopes of those who created them (the national interests are priority compared with the community ones). Having an equity interest, meaning the power from the relationship between other actors, the state is determinate to take measures to strengthen the position of the bodies created. The interests of persons belonging to national and sovereign states should never be omitted.

The interests of member states expressed by their values and objectives must be realized through concrete ways at supranational level. At the same time, with the development of the new community organizations institutions and implementation of their policies, new community interests appear that the member states must recognize them as their own values.

The international organization promotes its own interests within initiatives launched by various member states which have to be discussed and adapted to the union so that it can represent the common interest.

The member needs animates the organization and action of the military-political organizations and their implementation contributes to the full structural integration.

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