

REFERENCE FOR ORIGINAL SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

from

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HABILITATION PAPER

Sidova, D., 2023. Human Security through European Territorial Cooperation: Benefits, Challenges, Perspectives (following the example of the Republic of Bulgaria). Sofia: Scientific and Technical Union of Mechanical Engineering "Industry 4.0", ISBN 978-619-7383-32-4

The monograph has 291 pages and contains five chapters:

- I. Human security – content and development
- II. Methodology for analysing the provision of human security through European territorial cooperation
- III. Freedom from fear through cross-border cooperation
- IV. Freedom from scarcity through transnational cooperation
- V. Freedom for a dignified life through interregional cooperation

The bibliographic list includes 245 sources, of which 60 are in Bulgarian, and the remaining 185 are in English.

The first chapter focuses on the Concept of Human Security from a theoretical and historical perspective. The essence, specific characteristics, features, and principles of the Concept of human security are clarified. The historical development of the concept is followed, including the key stages of its formation as a political and legal priority at the international and European levels.

In the second part of the First Chapter, a comparative analysis is carried out according to several criteria between the Concept of human security and the Concept of "broad security", and its results are of a contributing nature. The strategic role of the Concept of Human Security in the Concept of National Security, the Concept of Human Rights, and the Concept of Human Development is discussed.

It is proven a sub-thesis that the Concept of human security, although "young" in terms of development, is established as a generally valid and generally significant concept that has a direct relation to every sphere of human life, development, and well-being. Its guarantee and provision contribute to the guarantee and provision of the other analysed in Chapter One.

The first part of the Second Chapter is a scholarly contribution, as two fundamental criteria are identified on which to build the analysis in the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Chapters. The first criterion is derived based on the theoretical analysis developed in the First Chapter and is linked to the theory of social constructivism. The second criterion is related to the function that European Territorial Cooperation has the potential to fulfil in terms of human security. The introduction of the two research criteria - criterion for constructivism and criterion for functionality - makes it possible to link the theoretical nature of the monographic work and its practical focus.

Another important scientific contribution is the introduction of specific four metrics (number of implemented projects, total value of the implemented projects, total value of the European funding of the implemented projects, and number of participants in the implemented projects), based on which in the Third, Fourth, and Fifth chapters the structure comparative analyses, with each of the metrics reflecting the provision of specific resources in favour of human security.

In the second part of Chapter Two, special attention is paid to the three pillars (freedom from fear, freedom from scarcity, and freedom for a dignified life) and the seven dimensions (political security, personal security, health security, economic security, food security, environmental security and community security) of the Concept of Human Security, which contribute to its significant place. Each pillar is examined together with the dimensions most closely related to the essence of the analysed pillar. Pillars and dimensions determine the first main criterion of analysis - the constructivist one.

The last part analyses the second criterion - functionality, which refers to the three types of European territorial cooperation - cross-border, transnational, and interregional. Their essence and specific characteristics, spheres of activities, and benefits are clarified.

Chapter three analyses the benefits of cross-border cooperation against freedom from fear with its three dimensions – political security, personal security, and health security. The comparative analysis of the four metrics contributes, as a result of which it is proven that the Bulgarian-Greek cross-border cooperation deteriorates its capacity in terms of ensuring freedom from fear, especially in matters of personal security and health security.

The analysis in Chapter Four focuses on the benefits of transnational cooperation in securing freedom from scarcity with its two attendant dimensions of economic security and food security. The contribution point is related to the benchmarking of the four metrics, through which it is proven that the benefits of transnational cooperation for freedom from scarcity are increased, contributing to a better provision of human economic security and food security.

The fifth chapter represents a kind of analysis of the benefits of interregional cooperation, which is a component of the criterion of functionality, through which freedom from scarcity is ensured, which is a component of the criterion of constructivism, with the two adjacent dimensions - ecological security and community security. As in the previous two chapters, the structured

comparative analysis of the four metrics contributes, proving that the capacity of interregional cooperation, in which the Republic of Bulgaria participates, is not utilized well enough to ensure freedom for a dignified life.

In the Third, Fourth, and Fifth chapters of the monographic work, trends in the development of the role of the three types of European territorial cooperation in ensuring human security are outlined and recommendations relevant to the identified deficiencies are formulated, which can also be perceived as a scientific contribution of the author.

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

Sidova, D. (2021). HUMAN SECURITY CONCERNS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN INTEGRATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS IN NATO AS A GUARANTEE FOR REGIONAL STABILITY. Skopje: Center for International and Development Studies
Skopje. ISBN 978-608-245-725-3 pp. 66-79

The meaning and value of human security in the context of the ecological dimension are analyzed. In addition, the article explains what environmental human rights are and how NATO perceives them through the prism of its strategies, priorities, and activities. The territorial scope is on the Western Balkans and the partnership between this region and NATO, which is essential and crucial to the prevention and mitigation of environmental risks and threats. The contribution is related to the formulated recommendations for establishing NATO as a leader in guaranteeing environmental human rights, which in turn will ensure stability in the Western Balkans in the context of environmental security.

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

Sidova, D. (2022). The role of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in the protection of cultural heritage. In Dimitrov, Vl. (comp. and scientific ed.) Cultural heritage - state and perspectives. Collection of reports from a conference in honor of the 90th anniversary of the birth of Prof. Lyuben Prashkov, NBU, S., 416-435, ISBN 978-619-233-229-7 (print edition), ISBN 978-619-233- 230-3 (electronic edition <https://publishing-house.nbu.bg/bg/elektronni-izdaniq/knigi/kulturno-nasledstvo-systoqnie-i-perspektivi-sbornik-s-dokladi-ot-konferenciq-v-chest-na-90-godishninata-ot-rozhdenieto-na-prof-ljuben-prashkov>)

The study examines the nature of cultural property protection through the lens of NATO's legal and strategic documents, as well as key international documents such as the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The functions and competencies of the responsible bodies in the NATO structures involved in the protection of cultural heritage are analyzed. The focus is also on the experience and practices of the Alliance on the example of the missions in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Libya. The contributory character derives from the formulated recommendations for improving NATO's role in enhancing cultural security through the protection of cultural heritage.

CHAPTER FROM A COLLECTIVE MONOGRAPH

Sidova, D. (2021). Human security. In Staykova, Ev. and Yule. Hadjichoneva (editor and scientific editor) Sustainable urban development - lessons for Sofia (collective monograph), NBU, S., 267-292, ISBN 978-619-233-176-4 (print edition), ISBN 978- 619-233-177-1, electronic edition <https://publishing-house.nbu.bg/bg/elektronni-izdaniq/knigi/ustojchivo-gradsko-razvitie-pouki-za-sofiq>

The role of human security in sustainable urban development is explored. Emphasis is placed on the system of human security in the Sofia Municipality (SM) in the specifics of "freedom from fear", which is one of three main pillars along with "freedom from scarcity" and "freedom for a dignified life". Along with this, the state of the human security system in the SM and its ability to achieve sustainable urban development are analyzed. Two are the most important contributions of the publication. The first is the structuring of a SWOT analysis of the system of human security in SM through an expert assessment to identify the most significant strengths and weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. The second is the developed TOWS analysis, through which four exemplary strategies have been formulated, with a recommendatory nature for the period 2021-2027, the purpose of which is to improve the role of the human security system in the SM to sustainable urban development.