

## The Globalisation in the Security Space

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**Abstract:** As objective, we propose to show ways in which the globalization affects/jeopardizes the security space. We will also give an answer to the question on how to anticipate and keep under control certain undesirable events, which in a specified time, would represent a potential threat to national or international security. About the globalization, as a contemporary phenomenon, it has been written and talked a lot because under the current security environment there are more conspicuous the manifestations of some factors that influence it. Within just two decades, the “world order” has undergone considerable changes. Do we know who are those who win from globalization and those who lose because of globalization? The gain could be that by extending this process, the barriers and limitations of rights of movement between countries and continents would disappear. Losses due to globalization: massive increases in serious diseases, lack of control between countries and continents have caused the high level of international crime; the existence of global terrorism risk; vulnerability of security environment. Therefore we consider that we need to focus on how the new challenges arising from globalization tend to crystallize in the international security environment in general and in Romania in particular.

**Keywords:** world order; transnational societies; security system

### 1. Globalization between History and Reality

The economic exchanges and political events that took place earlier the World War until after World War II, led to a drastic reduction at the level of trade and economic cooperation. Once hostilities have been enclosed, there have been a lot of international, financial and economic organizations (International Monetary Fund, World Bank for Reconstruction and Development, etc.) Immediately after the Second World War, due to the reconstruction and development process of many countries from Europe and Asia, the international trade has increased greatly. After two decades after the onset of accelerated development process of the global economy, they begin to increasingly see the effects (beneficial and destructive) of trade exchanges at global level.

During the Cold War, we discover two rival systems, a liberal democratic and capitalist one, and the other under the influence of Moscow, addicted to a super-planned and super-centralized economy. Globalization in this period manifested in a beneficial manner to the countries of the democratic space, while for other countries in the other block enclosed in its own ideological boundaries, globalization was an absent phenomenon. After the Cold War there will be emphasised the real differences caused by globalization phenomenon. In the countries with market economy system it was known and applied the globalization

by the emergence of transnational corporations, while in the space dominated the communist ideology, it became an urgent need to modernize the economy and the entry into an international network of trade in goods, services and capital.

The combination of technological progress, lower transport costs and liberalization policies in the European Union and elsewhere, has led to the increase of commercial exchanges and foreign investment flows between countries. This has important consequences for the functioning of the EU economy. Globalization brings enormous benefits and opportunities for most states as well. For the EU, things are more complex. Europe has to face fierce competition from both low-cost economies such as China and India and from innovation-oriented economies such as USA.<sup>1</sup>

Increasing international economic integration, or the *globalization* as it is called, offers many opportunities. EU firms have easier access to new markets and also to extending funding and technology. EU consumers have access to a wider variety of products at lower prices. This opens the prospect of significant potential gains for the Union. The European Commission estimates that about one-fifth of the increase of EU standards - in the last 50 years it is attributable to globalization. This is why the Union was firmly in favour of greater economic openness.

However, the public often associate globalization with job losses and pressures to reduce wages and working conditions. These anxieties are based on fears that an increased competition from low wage countries puts too much pressure on local producers and workers and this may lead to closure or partial closure, relocation of their factories at home and abroad (see the Nokia from Jucu). Although these concerns are not new, they seem to have been exacerbated by the emergence of countries like China and India, on the global trade arena. In particular, the widespread use of information technologies increasingly erodes the boundaries between what can and what cannot be marketed.<sup>2</sup> The International Monetary Fund has defined globalization as “the growing international integration of markets for both goods and services, and capital.” The term “globalization” is used to explain and give meaning to the content specific to modern capitalism, although not all processes which are component parts of globalization are new.

## 2. Economic Tendencies under the Globalization Spectrum

World trade continues to grow at a much faster rate than the production: the opening of their economies and the mutual dependence degree are growing. Large-scale imbalances can occur when there is a need for international cooperation and development and further strengthening the international monetary system. The

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/sgp/legal\\_texts](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/sgp/legal_texts)

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/sgp/legal\\_texts](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/sgp/legal_texts)

most part of investments continues to flow towards the developed world. The advantage that the United States has to other countries and regions in terms of productivity and competitiveness, as well as research and technology, will remain and could even grow. The world is in demographic dynamics almost out of control. Can the world's population be fed? It increased to seven and a half billion. At the same time food, already scarce in some regions, matters more as a strategic product. Uneven development, the backwardness of certain regions such as Africa, rising unemployment and increasing income differences are sources of tension. The discontent of those who lose redistribution of workforce at global level can weaken the political basis of democratic political systems.

In order to continue the process of European integration, it needs to meet from the economic point of view the global security and environmental challenges. EU must deal with threats generated by regional conflicts, terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, organized crime and illegal migration. It must keep pace with the U.S. economy and with the dynamic of the Asian region. Now the EU is one of the biggest trading powers, exporter and importer of capital, the first aid provider and the main advocate of environmental protection, with a currency that is a serious competitor for the dollar. It is one of the main actors in shaping the global trade rules. However, its economic strength, for now, it is not accompanied by an appropriate political role. It can maintain its global economic influence and strengthen its political role, by implementing employment and objectives of economic growth, policy development and community institutions.

After signing the Treaty of Lisbon (Maftai, 2009) solving key institutional problems of the EU, for quite some time, is a common task in the next few years. It is the responsibility of the EU to determine the best combination of deepening and enlargement and European integration, which will allow the most effective solutions to problems arising from the global challenges and the EU's own evolution. Romania can use best the benefits of globalization and to protect from its adverse effects through European integration, cooperation in the region, and combining its efforts with the EU. For Romania's modernization to succeed it must adapt to global, regional and European tendencies, and to be able to influence them. The virtual participation in the international politics, economic, technological and environmental development and the cooperation are important factors for the success of modernization. The level of traditional military threats against Romania is low in the medium term, but the risk posed by the natural hazards or the man-made disasters, and the international organized crime, have increased significantly.

### 3. The Security Components of Globalization

Global security challenges nowadays, can be identified in the economic and social tensions, extremist ideologies, ethnic exclusion, international terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the means of their delivery, natural and manmade disasters, health public risks and epidemics, illegal drugs and arms trade. In this context we can speak of international organized crime. Their effects can be aggravated by exposures that arise from the failure of some states. The traditional threats continue to be a significant risk in some regions, while they were reduced in other places. The risk of any traditional military threat in Europe - and North America is low in the medium term. It is necessary to react, but to threats from other parts of the world, to the traditional conflicts that affect the residents of the states in a given region, and, indirectly, the whole Euro-Atlantic area.

It is very important for us to highlight the issue of migration. Migration is a consequence of globalization. The international migration, from our point of view, is definitely a great danger to world civilization and culture (see the rise of Muslim population in Europe, Australia). It will take a more decisive influence in the world. It plays an important role in strengthening the European knowledge-based economy, in times when the workforce is reduced, but at the same time, there is a tremendous pressure on labour markets, on the social benefit systems, and it raises the question of integration of immigrants belonging to different ethnic groups. However, the population flows cannot be stopped, and the purpose of migration policies must be designed so that the process can be kept under control.

### 4. Romania in the Globalized European Union

We consider that Romania, as a full member of the European Union must become more active economically, diplomatically and military, leaving behind a passive, reactive and a former communist state mentality. *“Romania's foreign policy is based on the priority participation in the European project, on the membership of a North-Atlantic Alliance adapted to globalization challenges, a strong transatlantic relationship and an active neighborhood policy. Our country will continue to assume its responsibilities as member of NATO and EU, contributing as of now to the success of the missions undertaken with our allies.”* (National Defence Strategy, 2010, p. 15)

Romania can achieve a development program having as objectives, modernising the infrastructure, enhancing human and economic competitiveness, increasing employment and improving environmental quality. Romania has to catch up with the more economically developed EU countries and it must use the opportunities offered by its geographical position. Its interests are best served by a real and rapid integration into the EU, maintaining its openness and democracy in a transparent

and efficient way. In the European market, it is essential for the Romanian economy the competition of capital for establishing a manufacturing and services basis which is becoming more and more developed.

By globalization, for Romania, we understand that concept which expresses the changes that occur in the society and in the world economy, caused by intense commercial and cultural activities at international level. The globalization highlights the increase of commerce and investments because of the interdependence between the countries. Basically the globalization is a stronger emphasis of conditionality on many global levels, determined by the free flow of information, goods, services and ultimately but not the least the capital. All these interdependencies between world states are put into practice by a variety of transnational organizations in various fields. We see this type of organizations in the economic, financial, social, political, and military domain.

Globalization has a use, as very often used term, in international political, economic and military environments. Also, we may speak of the globalization of information and culture, about the spread of television, Internet and other forms of communication and the increased mobility of marketing ideas. (Soros, 2002, p. 23) We can give as an example in order to reinforce the above statement: specifically globalization also means American movies, well known brands of cars, noise, smog, drugs, fast food, McDonald's, Adidas, Nike, Hanna Montana dolls, music of some kind, and many others.

## **5. Considerations on the Binomial Globalization - Security**

We consider appropriate to deal with globalization and its influences on the security of the states, but especially at the global level of the society. The interdependence among the States, in military field is manifested under the form of long distance networks, which involve the use of force and the threat or the promise of using force. With the end of the Cold War, we see an intensification of contacts and complex interconnections between groups that were previously hostile nations. Some treaties / alliances disappear (Warsaw Treaty); new ones form or others expand during the Cold War (NATO). New alliances are formed, the old ones reshape, all in order to face the new challenges and threats to the national security or world peace, in the new environment created by the growing interdependence among nations. The states adopt new measures, they re-establish their security policies towards the formation of alliances, shifting towards integration into new or restructured old alliance to counter the new threats of the globalization era, which no longer are exclusively and can be addressed individually by each country. A very eloquent example, which supports the above statement, is the role that the Al-Qaida Organization has played in the events of 11 September 2001 and its influence on the global security policies.

The political analyst, (Kolodziej, 2007, p. 36) Edward Kolodziej, supports the theory that security is a special form of policy- a species of the more general genre of the policy. All security aspects are political issues, but not all political conflicts are security issues; in case of a dispute where the solution is obtained by the agreement of the involved parties or agreement on shared rules and principles or common institutions, through which they solve the differences by non-violent means. In one such agreement, the political problem does not disappear, but its potential security-related dimension is sidelined until extinction or elimination. Security appears as a central feature of political disputes when the actors threaten or use force to get what they want from each other. In other words, the policy attains two aspects - the dispute and the security issue - when the loss of human lives or the damage to property become even a possibility in terms of one or more involved actors.

The security problems are as old as the history of human interaction in time and space, where threats of force or coercion are involved. As policy, the security is a phenomenon that continues to be created by the human action or intention. Its evolution as a problem may coincide with the policy when it comes to a situation of "just war." Most of exchanged conflicts between people and their agents within the scope of policy do not directly involve violence or its imminent use. These transactions, as the global economic exchanges on the global markets or interstate cooperation in order to cope with global warming, fall under a broader scope of international relations and world politics. They become again security issues, in the absence of a voluntary agreement on the results, when one or all actors involved in the transaction have resort to force or threats to get what they want.

Security is a special type of problem. It includes all those exchanges between people and their agents - states, international organizations, corporations, associations, etc. - in which players not only follow some results, but they are even willing to use violence, coercion intimidation, to get what they want. These exchanges operate under a certain kind of human logic, exposed clearly by the founders of security theory. The same author considers that the exchanges that lead to a voluntary agreement between the actors, do not pass the security test; however, when a mutual agreement for cooperation no longer works- for example, an agreement in the trade domain is rejected or violated or under the control of arms -, a relationship, which did not previously concerned the security, is vested with the attributes of a security problem that must be solved simultaneously and in a synchronized manner with the substantive aspect of the debate.

## 6. Globalization - Development and Effects in the Security Space

Globalization describes a new era that stands on the ruins of the old Cold War era. It draws its strength from a world economy on the course of becoming global under the pressure of accelerated development of the technology, especially the computer, telecommunications and transcontinental transport. Globalization makes it increasingly difficult for states to live in isolation from each other. It quickly erodes the boundary between external and internal policy as that between economics and security. Globalization has many benefits, such as cheaper access to interstate communications and transportation, and inconvenience as well, at this point we notice the increase of transnational organized crime actions.

Countries with democratic governments can make policies more flexible and can adapt more easily to globalization, becoming the beneficiary of this phenomenon, while countries with authoritarian and dictatorial regimes are more rigid, they quickly become victims of it. Federal Republic of Yugoslavia or the former Iraqi regime of Saddam Hussein are classic examples. For countries of the world and in particular for Member States of NATO and EU the main challenge is how to seize the opportunities that globalization offers, while minimizing the potential risks. An appropriate response to such a challenge requires a better understanding of the globalization and its effects. It also requires integrated, holistic approaches, in all the national security areas. Globalization is not a static but very dynamic process. It presents in several forms, of which only one is economic. The central elements of globalization are the *increasingly fast cross-border flows of goods, services, labour, money, technology, information, ideas, cultures, organized crime and armament*. Following the increasingly transnational feature of the key risks, in particular organized crime and terrorism, the security is increasingly based on cooperation, hence the thundering evolution of the concept of *cooperative security*.

In terms of national security policies, the globalization requires states to integrate the military and non-military elements of power. The key to such an effort is close coordination of the policy military, economic, public policy, information services, culture, science and technical domains. Politicians and military planners and civilians that must take into account more the aspects of historical, cultural, technological, religious, environmental problems that arise in managing the new security. Globalization produces more than restructuring the economy and communications, but it redefines the nature of world politics and security issues. Globalization nourishes the major tensions that affect the international relations: integration-fragmentation, internationalization, localization, centralization - decentralization. In the field of power, globalization favours the emergence of new centres of power among them the best known are *the transnational companies and international non-governmental organizations*. These new international actors make full use of information era benefits, in order to ensure the fulfillment of their objectives and for asserting and consolidating its presence in the new global game

of power. Finally, the alliances and allies are essential to manage the security aspects of globalization and to ensure both the success of their efforts at the lowest price.

*The positive effects of globalization* are that it will lead to the integration of the states' economies in the global context of international market. This integrating aspect of globalization makes possible the accession of countries which are smaller or have less developed economies to wider markets, to a greater variety of products and goods, to a movement of capital and labour. Removing trade barriers leads to an increase of exports and it attracts investment, thereby increasing the international competitiveness, determining the melioration of productivity and increasing exports, thus improving the level of economic development and integration of the trade and economy of a country. The global competition leads to global cooperation, and trade liberalization exchanges it implies a "greater division of labour between societies." At the same time, the advanced technology provides a communication forum for organizations and individuals who, generally, are ignored. Offering these organizations and individuals the possibility of speech, the technology increases the chances that their preoccupations are known and maybe analyzed.

*The negative effects of globalization* refer to those aspects which show a non-uniform or homogeneous distribution of benefits, which we have noted above, that the phenomenon of globalization could bring. It appears that the countries included in these growing phenomenon record economic indicators, hence poverty reduction, while those that are not integrated in this process are subjects to a deepening of poverty. We believe that globalization is ultimately a zero sum of process. Rich countries become richer while the poor sink further into poverty.

The global financial markets can undermine a country's currency value, forcing its government to change its national economic policy and to adopt the desirable measures and decisions at global level, but sometimes undesirable at national or local level. Furthermore, because of the interdependence created by the globalization, an economic crisis occurred anywhere in the international economy, can be felt by all other economies, sometimes with devastating effects on the national economies (see the current global financial crisis).

Globalization is increasingly influencing our lives. *"We depend on the proper functioning of the many networks that structure the economy and life, be it Internet or transcontinental flights. We depend on the access to raw materials and especially energy, as we depend on the preservation of trade freedom and free access to information. Besides territorial integrity and sovereignty, many of these elements are also vital to our security and prosperity. The outbreak of these crises and conflicts makes us look concerned on the future of European security. At the same time, we consider that this is a turning point where countries must demonstrate their commitment to the values and principles that formed the basis*



*for so many decades of security, stability, peace and prosperity in Europe.”* (National Defence Strategy, 2010, p. 12) Multinational corporations, international financial markets, transnational communications systems (such as Internet or satellite television) and transnational organizations (intergovernmental, such as the European Union or non-governmental), operate outside the control of nation states and yet have a profound influence on what happens inside. Thus, the power that exists outside of nation-states, in the context of globalization, tends to restrict the activities and limit the power of national governments. As we can see, opinions are divided on the benefits or disadvantages of globalization. From a cultural perspective, one can say that globalization has both negative and positive consequences.

Socially, it limits and increases income differences between and within nations and, politically, it increases and reduces economic and political power and it mixes and / or augments cultural identities. The challenges of globalization can be frightening for some. There is no doubt that globalization will force world citizens to participate or to attend to the profound changes of perspective as well, sometimes painful, in the normal way of life. But if the changes are deep and great, the opportunities it offers could be as well. Globalization is positive or negative depending on where and how a country relates to it. (Zulean, 2003, pp. 119-121) The main agents of globalization were originally soldiers, merchants, preachers and adventurers, whose attempts have been known since antiquity, both in the writings of historians and by the great epics bequeathed by great authors of world literature.

Today, the most powerful force that can spread the democracy ideas and human rights throughout the world is in the information technology revolution, which began in the second half of the last century and whose instruments are composed of mobile telephone, TV and Internet. In real time, innovations such as satellite television connect human emotions on different continents, bringing them to tears at the same events from two different sides of the ocean. Free access to information also helps to achieve emotional and political ties at the same time: as the tragic events of 11 September 2001 created an instant wave of compassion in support of American nation, as the devastating tsunami at the end 2004, which destroyed much of the coastal area of the South-East Asia, has also produced a response of human solidarity across the world, hard to imagine not long before. A special attention is paid, in the context of globalization, to the application of great technologies (mostly using the gains of information revolution) in the production process, but also the changes that occur simultaneously, in organizing, management and communication at the level of economic units, state, its institutes and its entire society in general. (Frunzeti, 2006, pp. 12-13)

## 7. May we speak of a Military Globalization?

Globalization is present, as an integrating global phenomenon, also in the international security. In the military organizations, at the national level, there have been noticed a strong and influential presence of a networking process with other similar organizations in neighboring state or from a larger region of the world. Because human and material resources, infrastructure, communications, computer system in general and their security are becoming increasingly invoked as vital for the “global society”, the phenomenon of globalization covers highly visible the security area. It is important then for all states to protect their interests, individually or cooperating with other states under the protective umbrella of a global or regional organization.

Is being increasingly used the concept of integration of national armies in a regional or international structure. It appeared in the specialized vocabulary the notion of interoperability between the armed forces that form the multinational, regional or international army manpower. Globalization, as a global integrator process, offers to security a new dimension through cooperation. This dimension refers to the desire / need for states to join together to seek peaceful solutions to old problems of war and peace. The examples of such direction are the UN or the OSCE. These bodies have failed to fulfil their promises, although the organizational and security policy and cooperation were pretty good. For this reason, there is today an attempt to the concept of security through cooperation, a redefinition of a security system in which all nations and security organizations - be they sub-regional, regional, international or global - to coordinate their efforts. They are called upon to cooperate more closely, in order to achieve the same common objectives - *world peace*, understood as the lack of not only war but also as a medium for economic and social development.

Another advantage that the globalization process brings in the security layers, but also at global level, is the savings that can be done by a multinational approach to national and international security. The economic benefits by reducing public expenditure for defence and to open up the world trade access would benefit the smaller countries that cannot satisfy on their own their security needs. A global defence strategy would have as the main idea that defending the national territory is the only legitimate objective of the national military forces. Cooperative security, in the global context, would have as a central objective the prevention of states to acquire or use another means to an offensive against the state. Sanctions against states that fail to comply would include non-military sanctions, particularly economic, and the use of force will be used only as a last resort and unique way of intervention.

Cooperative security system has the advantage that can lead to lower costs while increasing its effectiveness. There are many critical aspects of the implementation of cooperative security system. The first aspect would be the difficulty to drive all

the armies in such a system, especially the armies of high potential (e.g. Russia). Another critical issue relates to overcoming the gaps on the security and the insecurity between the Northern and Southern hemispheres of the globe.

The economic crisis, which now travels the world, has global effects also on the security of states. *“Since 2008, the international society has witnessed the start of the most serious and complex economic crisis in the last 20 years. The implications of this phenomenon are both geopolitical and strategic, influencing the hierarchies of power and also the states' capacity to assume the international responsibilities. The global economic competition, becoming more intense, can lead to dilution of sympathy for multinational management of issues and increasing political nationalisms. The risks and threats, that the states will have to manage, will become increasingly interdependent, transnational and complex in substance, which will require multiple forms of international cooperation, bilateral, multilateral, regional or even global.* (National Defence Strategy, 2010, p. 12)

Today's military strategies set as the objective of military missions not their destruction, but to determine the acceptance of peace and cooperation. Therefore, when selecting the means, methods and forms of armed struggle, the strategy must limit, wherever possible, their loss and destruction, precisely because the states are in a state of growing interdependence among them. This is why the army requires the research and industry to produce new types of non-lethal weapons that cause limited and selective damage, to have long-range and act in real time<sup>1</sup> (Klimenko, 2002). Therefore, it can be concluded, that globalization is not a recent phenomenon. It is a protracted, stable, objective, dynamic and fast growing process, that falls within the international community's development patterns and that no policymaker or military can afford to ignore.

Some analysts concluded, referring to these issues, that NATO itself is a globalization manifestation of military affairs - with global missions, action and partners<sup>2</sup> (Nazemroaya, 2007). If we take into account NATO's commitment to ensure energy security for its members, it becomes obvious the militarization of the vital centers of the world, mainly the oil and gas pipelines, international waters and maritime corridors used by oil tankers. In conclusion, it can be said that the effect of globalization on the state security and military affairs as a whole, is a very obvious one.

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<sup>1</sup> *Globalization and its impact on military politics and military strategy*, Military Thought, findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\_m0JAP/is\_3\_11/ai\_94329285/pg\_3?tag=artBody.

<sup>2</sup> *The globalization of military power: NATO expansion. NATO and the broader network of US sponsored military alliances*, Global Research, www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=5677

## 8. Some Conclusions

- *Military globalization* can be perceived as a network which is in constant development of military ties and relationships on a global scale;
- In a period in which states have ceased to be the only important actors in the international arena, there is the tendency for some to dominate others which is maintained and intensified, *the war for resources* is still valid and the competition for power and supremacy is increasingly more fierce;
- While the dynamics of international relations favours the efforts to promote the construction of a new international balance, it is imperative that there is a *system for managing issues of insecurity and for timely warning* about the materialization of indicators that portend threats and risks, exacerbated by the existing vulnerabilities at national, regional and global level;
- Just as, or globalization did not happen overnight, most likely *it will not solve the current economic crisis* with all the consequences that generate vulnerabilities on the international security, it will find its resolution instantly;
- The psychological factor of insecurity and mistrust has seized each man, creating a state of total confusion. What is particularly important until then is *providing a general, economic, social and especially political equilibrium* that would prevent the emergence of disastrous effect spark at the national level of different countries or even for all mankind;
- Clear separation between the *developments in domestic and international environment* is increasingly difficult, in the context of conjugated action and interlocking some processes which can create favourable conditions for the predictable and unpredictable emergence of some risks to national security;
- Because the globalization is a surprising global process, which does not wait, Romania will have to integrate as quickly as possible and favourably on the international markets of goods, services and capital, which can decisively influence the Romanian security;
- The use of political ability of Romania to *the possibilities offered by globalization* in order to promote the national interests (economic and security).

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