

NATIONAL SECURITY: A STRATEGY FOR NEW CENTURY

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Introduction:

The concept of security signifies the existence of a threat, a potential threat to an individual or institution and the ability to protect. The concept of security has multifarious dimensions including human security, national security, and international security. The individual-centric approach to security is known as human security and the state-centric approach as national security. National security denotes the security of nation-states, to nationals, values, norms, and institutions. The threat to security of the nation-state emanates from internal and external sources. And nations have adopted different means to address this threat or perceived threat. This includes augmenting its own economic and military power; or through the formation of an alliance with like-minded nations.

The five essential elements of the holistic view of national security are: regarding the people's security as the ultimate goal, achieving political security as the fundamental task, taking economic security as the foundation, with military, science and technology, cultural and public security as means of guarantee, and promoting international security so as to establish a national security system with Chinese characteristics. The strategy to ensure national security is a very complicated issue in the modern world and it requires a tremendous amount of manoeuvring based on a thorough understanding of strategic culture

1) Economic Security:

Economic security involves not only protecting the capacity of the economy to provide for the people, but also the degree to which the government and the people are free to control their economic and financial decisions. It also entails the ability to protect a nation's wealth and economic freedom from outside threats and coercion. Thus, it comprises economic policy and some law enforcement agencies but also international agreements on commerce, finance, and trade. Recently, it has been defined by some in a human security context to mean eradicating poverty and eliminating income inequality. Economic security is committed to provide sustainable and healthy development of the economy, enhancing economic strength of the country, and solid physical foundation for national security. The term 'economic security' focuses on the idea of a newly independent nation emerging after the rise of colonialism and imperialism. These newly independent nations gained political independence. However, economically, these nations remained dependent on the developed countries. Their financial relationship continued as well. The proliferation of economic security policies in emerging economies presents both risks and opportunities for the United States and its allies. If poorly implemented, economic security policies risk stifling investment and innovation and may promote corruption and crony capitalism. Worryingly, they may also advantage Chinese firms over those of developed democracies. On the other hand, allied nations have the opportunity to disseminate best practices and in doing so, to foster more resilient supply chains, mitigate Chinese economic coercion and predatory investment, and enhance their control over critical technology. Engagement will be most effective when it is based on a sound understanding of the economic and national security context unique to each emerging market.

2) Environmental Protection

When people don't have enough food, water, shelter, or the natural resources needed to live, that creates unstable situations. It has always been implicitly recognized. In the last 25 years, it's become more explicitly understood, both in defense strategy as

well as in the environmental community. Because of that, we've seen a convergence between traditional national security thinking and environmental protection and policy development. They have come together to form, arguably, a new field of environmental security.

Everyone is accustomed to thinking of national security threats as being event-driven—the attack. In the Cold War, that was the threat of an out-of-the-blue nuclear strike. More recently it was the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Event threats drive a lot of the preparations in the national security community. It shows that there are slow-onset threats as well. And climate change is one of those. CNA prepared a report, National Security and the Threat of Climate Change that described how climate change is a threat multiplier for instability. As an example, Pakistan is already a political tinderbox, a base for terrorists, and a strategically important location for the United States. It's also a place where climate change may lead to flooding in the short term and water shortage and other natural resource challenges in the longer term. Nations are trying to understand how the changing environment might augment other threat conditions. That's the idea of the threat multiplier how do environmental impacts interact with the political dynamic in any particular location? And then how do you do appropriate planning in a national security context?. You just have to look at the maps of growing water scarcity and shortage to realize that because we're rapidly depleting aquifers globally and because glaciers in key regions of the world, like the Himalayas, are melting at a very rapid rate, while at the same time populations are increasing, that will mean increased stresses. A global picture of where and how that's occurring is important to the national security community. This is where the field is now emerging. We haven't until recently, had enough data to really be able to understand and measure exposure of populations and severity of threats in any meaningful way. As we come into an era of big data, we increasingly have the ability to gather, manipulate, and understand data, to see severity and exposure at local and regional levels. That lets us make judgments about how those environmental factors might combine with other political, economic, and social forces to affect national security.

3) Human Security

The security debate was revived in the 1980s and gathered pace through the 1990s as the paradigm of human security emerged and was debated. A corresponding policy discourse engaged major donors, and this overlaid the notion of national security with concepts of human, environmental, economic and international security.¹ Academic and practitioner discussions have moved the concept of security away from one defined by national interest, pursued through the use of force and being dominated by northern and masculine perspectives. The concept of human security takes human populations as the referent objects of security. Because the concept of human security is lacking in context, no serious attention is paid to its relationship with national security. The IRC survey notes that “war means disease” as areas of insecurity saw high mortality rates from disease, but the observation is not pressed further. In Congo, while human security was being developed in policy discourse as a concept to champion the security of populations over the interests of leaders, the events that contributed most forcefully to the insecurity of the population was the effectual destruction of the state, by building-up and then removing Mobutu, and the sponsorship of foreign invasion. The emergence of the norm of human security is a significant novel development in the discourse of security. It evidently refers to certain aspects of individual security that have been neglected in the traditional security studies. It has been proved as more than a slogan and able to draw interest among the international community with respect to its essential connotation. However, a consensus regarding the content of what constitutes a threat to human security is absent due to the fact that all parties involved- states, international organizations, NGOs and civil society- are championing their own perspective of human security based on their respective

interests where national interest continues to dominate. As experiences reveal, the key to attain success is formation of a coalition of like-minded and interested states and non-state actors. Furthermore, the crucial aspect in such a coalition for the promotion of human security to be successful is to find a way to reconcile the competing national interests with human security. Because, without the backing from power, the strongest possessor of which is the states, any attempt for the norm of human security to have a significant effect is unlikely to come about.

4) The Cultural Dimension of National Security

Cultural security is a viable strategy to improve the links between access, equity, quality and safety, better health outcomes and to enhance the cost- effectiveness of health service delivery. "A global culture is evolving under the tide of globalized integration. Global culture is influenced by the culture of developed nations like the US and England. In Eastern culture, the influence of Western culture is clearly found in all spheres, economic, social, and cultural." Due to such cultural aggression, the local culture is on the verge of destruction. The battle for the existence of local culture against the cultural invasion of Western culture continues. Of course, safe cultural security has become an important part of national security. Cultural security can increase Aboriginal people's access to health care, increase the effectiveness of care that is received and improve the disparities in health outcomes. Cultural security is also a way for individuals and systems to work together to support the self-determination, rights and participation of Aboriginal people. Cultural security underpins achievement of better health outcomes for Aboriginal people and is core business for all parts of the NT health system. This framework has provided information about the domains of cultural security, priority areas within those domains and suggested strategies so that individuals, Regional Health Services and other stakeholders can use this document to further progress and embed cultural security in a systematic and sustainable way.

5) The Political Dimension of National Security:

The political security of any state has a direct bearing on all other elements of human security. For instance, the personal security of a citizen would remain in question if he does not enjoy the freedom of speech, press, and voting. Moreover, personal insecurity for the want of political security may lead to instability, thus putting stress on all elements of human security. Likewise, human rights abuses, which are a fundamental threat to political security, catch the attention of international institutions and may put sanctions on states, in case of large-scale violations. This may also expose the state to exploitation by adversaries and become an easy target of hybrid war. Thus, ensuring personal security and community security becomes extremely important elements of human security for the accomplishment of political security. In the post-cold war period, privatization, liberalization and globalization gave rise to a new world order. The traditional roles of the nation-state system changed. Due to globalization, the influence of political elements on the rights and functions of the states increased. The process of integration in globalization has limited national sovereignty. Such multinational communities began to limit the powers and roles of the state. Many important decisions at the national level were taken by non-national anarchists. In such a situation, the question of political security of the nation became important. "In the post-Cold War period, dissatisfaction with the multinational structure, its terms, and rules has been growing among many nations. Awareness of globalization can lead to greater political security. For example, Western European nations, such as France, which is part of the European Union, seem to have a strong nationalist feeling against the process of integration." Awareness of globalization can lead to greater political security, for example China.

6. Energy and natural resources security

It is most often defined as the degree to which a nation or people have access to such energy resources as oil, gas, water, and minerals. It would be more accurate to describe it as access freely determined by the market without interference from other nations or political or military entities for non- market, political purposes.

7. Homeland security

It is a set of domestic security functions that since 9/11 have been organized in a single agency, the Department of Homeland Security. It includes airport and port security, border security, transportation security, immigration enforcement, and other related matters.

7. Cyber Security

It refers to protection of the government's and the peoples' computer and data processing infrastructure and operating systems from harmful interference, whether from outside or inside the country. It thus involves not only national defense and homeland security, but also law enforcement.

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