

**ECONOMIC SECURITY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE REGIONAL STABILITY
OF THE STATE**

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Annotation: The article examines the economic security of Uzbekistan as an essential element of security. Economic security is essential to ensure stable development of the national economy. Particular attention is paid to the analysis of threats to economic security.

Key words: Economic security, threats to economic security, national security, internal threats, external threats, regional development.

Аннотация: В статье рассматриваются вопросы обеспечения экономической безопасности Узбекистана как неотъемлемый элемент безопасности. Экономическая безопасность является главным условием для обеспечения стабильного развития национальной экономики. Особое внимание уделяется анализу угроз экономической безопасности.

Ключевые слова: Экономическая безопасность, угрозы экономической безопасности, национальная безопасность, внутренние угрозы, внешние угрозы, региональное развитие.

In the process of restructuring national economies in countries with transition economies, there is an increase in threats to economic security, which leads to a significant decrease in the level of economic security in these countries. This situation can be dangerous from both a political and economic point of view, especially in the context of integration into the complex structure of the global economy.

Technologies are actively being introduced into all sectors of the economy, manifesting themselves both in the form of digital assets through new business models and in the form of the industrial Internet of Things. This creates conditions for the formation of extensive data arrays, both within individual industries and between them. In the social sphere, technologies are becoming the basis for connections and communications, due to which almost everything around becomes part of the global digital space. This creates the prerequisites for using the collected data to assess and forecast the economic development of society.

Economic security is a complex category located at the intersection of political economy and political science, and is closely related to such concepts as economic independence, stability, vulnerability to external pressure and economic sovereignty [3]. Economic security includes both the fight against existing threats and the prevention of potential risks and events that can harm the economic interests of the country.

It is necessary to answer two questions:

How to classify threats?

Which regions may be exposed to threats?

Most foreign and domestic researchers, when classifying threats to economic security based on a number of conditions and factors, distinguish:

- internal;

- external.

Internal threats include the following:

1. Structural deformation of the economy is a serious threat, since it can negatively affect the state of key industries that play the role of locomotives in the development of the region. Particularly vulnerable to such risks are regions where the manufacturing industry dominates, including those specializing in mechanical engineering and petrochemistry. For example, if we consider administrative-territorial units as objects of regional analysis, it can be noted that the Andijan and Samarkand regions, where the automotive industry is actively developing, may face similar potential threats.
2. The backwardness of the technological base in most industries is characterized by high energy consumption and low product quality. Updating this base involves the introduction of energy-saving technologies and improving the quality of goods. Such threats are most often observed in industrial and industrial-agrarian regions.
3. Modernization of technical and technological infrastructure is the key to the quality of manufactured products and competitiveness in both domestic and foreign markets. In addition, excessive monopolization of the economy, manifested in rising prices and bad faith fulfillment of obligations, is also a serious problem, especially in regions focused on the extraction of mineral resources.

Low levels of investment activity and deteriorating social conditions are serious problems that most often arise in regions that were once prosperous, but subsequently became depressed for various reasons.

It is believed that the digital economy, being a new basis for the development of the economy, business and the social sphere, should be based, first of all, on solving issues of economic security at both the macro and micro levels. At the moment, the issue of forming economic security in the digital economy of Uzbekistan has not been sufficiently developed. The assessment of the digital economy does not include the most important indicators of the sustainability and security of its development, such as: which manufacturers' information technologies are being introduced in Uzbekistan, whether a system for the reproduction of domestic technologies has been created, which country's budget receives funds from the sale of digital products in the country, whether standards, regulations and methodologies are being developed that will subsequently allow the promotion of digital goods and services in foreign markets, etc.

In regions with developed transport infrastructure, there is a risk of wear and tear of communication networks. Such vulnerable zones include areas through which railways or large pipelines pass.

The deepening of territorial inequality in the economic, environmental and social development of regions is becoming increasingly noticeable. An example of this is the Aral problem, which illustrates how the deterioration of the environmental situation can lead to a variety of related difficulties. In recent years, the summer months in this region have become drier and shorter, and winters - longer and colder. The vegetation period has shortened to 170 days, and pasture productivity has fallen by almost 50%. In the coastal areas of the Aral Sea, the amount of precipitation has significantly decreased. In addition, the transfer of salt dust from the exposed bottom of the Aral Sea by the glaciers of the Pamir and Tien Shan leads to accelerated melting

of these glaciers, which threatens the depletion of fresh water reserves for all of Central Asia. From the above, it is clear that the main factor that led to this environmental crisis is the careless and consumerist attitude towards natural resources, as well as the lack of attention to potential threats specific to the region. This disaster could have been prevented if the problem had been assessed in a timely manner, before it occurred. Indeed, it has been argued that “environmental deterioration does not occur overnight; it is a process that develops over a long period of time, in other words, environmental problems accumulate gradually” [2].

The problems associated with high population density are particularly pronounced in some regions of the country. One such example is the Fergana Valley, where, for example, in the Andijan region, the population density exceeds 400 people per square kilometer. The long-term persistence of internal threats to economic security makes the country more vulnerable to external threats.

External threats include the following factors: the economy's dependence on imports, a negative balance of foreign trade, an inefficient export structure characterized by excessive export of raw materials, loss of competitive positions in international markets, an increase in external debt, irrational use of foreign loans, as well as the uncontrolled withdrawal of foreign currency funds abroad and their placement in foreign banks.

Taking into account the priority national interests and threats to the economic security of the state, measures of state policy in this area are formed. These measures cover scientific and technical, economic, social, as well as political, military, environmental and information spheres aimed at ensuring the overall national security of the country. In this context, the key task of Uzbekistan in the field of economic security is to create conditions for increasing international competitiveness, which is achieved by optimizing external and internal development factors and efficient use of resources.

What are the key conditions for successful regional development?

To ensure the economic security of the region, it is necessary to create the following conditions:

independence in economic terms;

stable and sustainable development of the regional economy;

constant growth of economic indicators at the regional level.

Thus, economic security includes three essential elements:

- Economic independence, reflecting the level of provision of the region with financial and other resources necessary for the implementation of an independent economic policy and the development of effective forms and methods of economic security management.
- Stable and sustainable development of the regional economy is characterized by its ability to effectively respond to various external and internal influences, quickly recover from negative changes and reach new levels of development, as well as ensure continuous expansion and renewal of the territorial and economic complex.

Continuous growth of the regional economy is achieved through the use of advanced innovations, the introduction of modern methods and forms of labor organization, as well as the development of effective tools for regulating investment and innovation activities. This also includes ensuring a safe standard of living for the entire population of the region.

The lack of any of the listed conditions can become a serious problem for ensuring the economic security of the region. Sustainable and safe development presupposes both internal and external stability of the regional system.

Internal stability is determined by the development of key sectors of the economy, maintaining a positive balance of foreign economic activity, as well as ensuring employment and a decent standard of living for the population.

External stability, in turn, is manifested in the stability of the balance of payments, maintaining a positive foreign trade balance and the availability of a reserve fund to mitigate economic fluctuations.

The economic security of a region is its ability to effectively resist various negative impacts, quickly restore its territorial and economic potential with minimal expenditure of resources and time, as well as consistently improve the quality of life of its residents and ensure sustainable development of economic entities.

In this regard, when developing economic policy, regional governments should take into account the need to introduce government support measures aimed at developing key sectors of the economy that have a significant impact on the economic security of the region.

The following proposals may be priorities for regional policy aimed at ensuring economic security:

- 1) Implementation of institutional reforms that will facilitate the coordination of efforts of public institutions to improve the level of economic security of the region;
- 2) Creation of an effective system for managing economic security in the territory;
- 3) Development of government initiatives aimed at supporting high-tech and competitive basic industries and sectors of the economy, which will help strengthen the economic security of the region;
- 4) Formation of an attractive investment climate that will ensure the inflow of foreign investment.

Active implementation of social policy aimed at reducing wealth inequality among the population of the region;

Support for initiatives that contribute to the growth of investment activity in the region;

Development of the local securities market (stock market);

Improvement of the standard of living of citizens;

Rational and efficient use of regional resources;

Organization of educational programs for training specialists in the field of modern methods of analyzing economic activity and making management decisions aimed at sustainable business development.

Management of the economic security of the region's development is carried out through the creation of forecasts and programs for socio-economic development. An important aspect of this process is the assessment of the economic potential, which serves as a starting point for the formation of a scientifically based concept of sustainable and safe development of the territory. Forecasting plays a key role in developing a program for the sustainability of the region's economic development, covering various areas of its life, such as the demographic situation,

resource potential, including natural resources, consumer demand, production dynamics by industry and region, as well as the results of introducing innovative solutions into the economy and other aspects.

The final stage of forecasting work should be an integrated economic forecast, which in a generalized form reflects the macroeconomic situation in the region, as well as the pace and key proportions of its economic development. The task is not just to record the potential for future growth, but to direct the forecasting process to the selection of sound strategies for sustainable and safe economic development of the region.

To achieve these goals, it is necessary to create a comprehensive model of the reproduction process of the region's economy and, on its basis, establish an interconnected system of key parameters that contribute to safe and sustainable economic development. It is also necessary to develop tools for managing the economic security of the region.

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