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On the Socio-economic Roots of International Terrorism

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ABSTRACT

In this article are analyzed the aspects of the phenomenon of “international terrorism”, the issues of ensuring international security and public safety in the development of globalization, the role of the social and economic conditions as key factors of the development of international terrorism. The author pays special attention to the analysis of the most significant changes in the socio-political, technological and economic conditions of society that have contributed to the emergence of international terrorism.

KEY WORDS

the international terrorism, public safety, globalization, social and economic factors, society

Terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime and corruption threaten to the transition to the innovative development model, aimed at improving the quality of life in Russia. These threats to public security are closely linked, but the most important for improving the morale and the investment climate is the struggle against terrorism, which, like the drug business in the CIS has a pronounced international character. Counterterrorism is not only the most significant domestic problem without a solution of which the new industrialization and successful modernization of Russia are not possible. But it is also the common task for all CIS countries with visa-free travel, free trade zone, forming a common capital market. Finally, this is a common problem of globalization of the world economy, and therefore the phenomenon of terrorism should be studied by different sciences, including political economy. The latter should examine the social and economic roots of terrorism as a global threat and to elaborate political and economic recommendations to counter terrorism. The approximation of “zones of chaos” to the borders of Russia in the so — called “Arab Spring” and the expected 2014 withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan gives a particular relevance to this study.

It should highlight the real globalization-related changes in the socio-political, technological and economic conditions of society that have contributed to the emergence of international terrorism.

1. The globalization of the economy, meaning the creation of a world market for goods and services, capital, information and technology, labor forces, environmental emissions, has both positive and negative implications. Globalization has enabled a number of developing countries, such as China, India, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia to increase production dramatically and improve the living standards of their people, joining their workforce with technologies developed in the countries of the “first world”. However, at the same time the resistance has increased and the impose on the people with their own culture and their own achievements of civilization alien to the American or European way of life. Globalization through television and the Internet has allowed the backward countries people to see the striking disparity in their wealth, and other regions of the world and use global communications for striking vital points of the states that extremists and terrorists believe to be the perpetrators of all ills.

2. The demographic worldview changing is a result of falling birth rates in developed countries, reducing mortality in developing countries, increasing migration and changes in the ethnic composition of Europe and the United States population, the rapid growth of cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the average number of births per woman in developed countries due to changes in the value orientations of the family, increasing the proportion of persons who are not in a traditional marriage, the development of means of contraception was reduced to one and a half, and only in the United States exceeds two, thanks to African Americans and Latin Americans. As a result, the population of the EU and Japan will have reduced by 2050 to 12–17%, and in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, if not to take emergency measures — even in larger scales. In the countries of the Commonwealth the average age ranges from 39 in Ukraine, 38 in Russia, 23 in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, 24 in Uzbekistan [1, p. 190].

Constantly receiving information about the high standard of living in developed countries, people in developing countries are seeking to migrate to the United States and Western Europe. As a result, these regions, the phenomenon of “social heterogeneity” [3, p. 115].

These issues are of vital importance for Russia, but there are no barriers to social advancement of its non-Russian population, and the cultural differences of labor migrants from CIS countries due to the common Soviet past are not so significant as, say, between the Pakistanis and the British in Leicester or the Turks and Germans in Berlin. However, as the rejuvenation of labor migrants from CIS cultural differences become significant. The main problem is created by illegal immigration. There are the following facts: in 2013, according to the Federal Migration Service, about 9.5 million people have driven to the Russian Federation from the CIS, of whom

1.05 million. [6, p.27] officially carried out their career. The other legally disenfranchised migrant workers are trafficked; they become dependent on the underworld. This gives rise to ethnic extremism, splitting the society.

Thanks to the joint efforts of the immigration authorities in Russia and the CIS countries — exporters of illegal labor, the number of migrants is steadily declining. Moreover, among the measures to combat illegal immigration, the economic and anti-corruption measures are in the first place. Thus, the possibility of legalizing labor to work on individuals in Russia through the system of patents in 2013 withdrew from the “gray” schemes 193 thousand workers [6, p. 27]. In the future, on the basis of electronic passports and cards it is possible to establish accurate records of migrant workers. Particularly the transition from quotas to various forms of organized recruitment of workers is of vital importance.

In the 1990s — early 2000s Russia’s population, despite the significant migration from Central Asia and the Caucasus, was reduced to more than 800 thousand people a year. The share of Russian population was the most declining. For example, the birth rate in the Chechen Republic (29.3 births per thousand), the maximum in Russia is several times higher than in, say, St. Petersburg (10.4) [5, p. 80]. It is predicted that by 2020 the proportion of the Muslim population in Moscow and St. Petersburg may have exceeded 25%. In recent years, the birth rate in Russia has increased, but it does not change the general trend: in the age of marriage enters the inconsiderable in number of 1990s generation. Ethnic diversity, different density and birth rate of the population in different regions of Russia suggest a differentiated social policy in the regions.

In order to increase the birth rate and maintain the structure of the national composition of sparsely populated areas the additional stimulation of families

in specific regions of Russia is needed. Thus, in a number of subjects of the Russian Federation in the North-West and the Far East the birth rate should be stimulated in excess of nationwide standards, equally for all living in these regions Russian citizens, regardless of their nationality and religion. In regions with high fertility, such as the North Caucasus, as compared with the stimulation of fertility there would have been more important to ensure full employment, improving their standard of living.

3. The growth of the shadow economy, income from the sale of drugs and other criminal operations, laundered through offshore centers. According to the Institute of German Economy in Cologne, the turnover of the shadow economy in Germany in a quarter century has increased from 6% to 16% of GDP. The share of wages paid in the shadow economy is 8–9% in Switzerland, Austria and the United States, 12–16% — in the UK, the Netherlands, France, Germany, Ireland and Canada, 18–19% — in Denmark, Norway and Sweden, 22–23% — in Belgium and Spain, 27–28% — in Italy and Greece. In Russia this share, especially given the illegal migrants, not less, and in many other states of the CIS is even higher. The activities in the shadow economy — unregistered petty trade, repair of houses and cars, household services, and so on — in itself is not particularly dangerous, but provides the basis for uncontrolled financial flows, racketeering, trafficking in weapons, drug trafficking and terrorism.

International control over financial flows is the most effective method of combating terrorism. In the Russian laws on countering the legalization (laundering) of proceeds from crime, the internal offshore centers are removed. However, the implementation of the provisions of model laws of the Commonwealth in this area in the national legislation of all member states is needed to resolve this problem within the framework of the CIS.

4. Changing the nature and methods of warfare. In the war against terrorism there is no specific space or otherwise identifiable enemy against which it is possible to apply military power or weapon. The conventional military power is ineffective in this case. The enemy is invisible and is not controlled, it is difficult to plan and implement countermeasures, here the element of surprise is always involved, which allows achieving the goal by small-scale means, there is no front line, and in the rear of the enemy at any time the chaos can be started. Speaking about the essence of a new conflict, a tool which supports terrorism, at least, it is safe to point out the five “no”.

This is not a clash of civilizations, but the differences between them should be taken into account. Today, Western civilization is in decline and the evidence of it — the recession of the economy of European countries. At the same time, a number of Asian civilizations are re-born: China and India have become the world’s great powers.

This is not a conflict of religions, although the mosque in some countries is used primarily as the centers of power and political decision-making, rather than as a place for obedience, thoughts and prayers.

This is not a conflict of ideologies. German and Japanese “Red Army” did not know of Marxism, and the terrorists that had sent planes into the World Trade Center, had spent the previous evening at a nightclub, without giving up the use of alcoholic beverages, what does not correspond to the precepts of Islam.

This is not a conflict of the hungry and well-fed, while poverty in more than half of humanity is a breeding ground for terrorism. As follows from the analysis of data from 14 countries with a population of one billion people, GDP, level of education, health care, foreign debt, and so on in Muslim countries, even excluding oil exporters is better than in non-Muslim countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Saudi Arabia,

which was the breeding ground for terrorists (11 September 2001) cannot be considered to poor countries, and the terrorist leader bin Laden was a multimillionaire. Some governments are calling for a redistribution of the world's wealth in order to divert the attention of their people from their own inefficiency, waste and corruption.

This is not a national cultures conflict, although the global grassroots pop culture comes into sharp conflict with national traditions. European, especially German philosophy primarily linked the concept of "nation" with the language, norms of behavior and mentality, "blood and soil", while Americans only obliged to accept the U.S. Constitution.

The main thing in the war on terrorism is not the number of divisions. It is ideological propaganda and educational work that form the population of the universal condemnation and contempt for terrorists. A great role here is played by media, in which, unfortunately, such terms as suicide bombers used, and sometimes glorification of criminals takes place. It is also very important preliminary collection and analysis of information about the mood of the population, as well as different countries joint efforts. Our allies in the fight against terrorism could praise highly the experience of cooperation with Russian intelligence. Cooperating international anti-terrorist centers are the future in this fight.

5. Liquidation of the bipolar world has led to the emergence of "zones of chaos". Terrorism — a tool of control in these areas. Primarily, because of trying to save a unipolar world, the interference in the internal affairs of the unwanted countries, the imposition of Western democracy standards, vast areas of North and Central Africa and the Middle East have become "zones of chaos", the rule of drug cartels, pirates, ethnic wars. From these zones there are the streams of refugees. War is a way of life here and the only youth employment. External financial aid is stolen; UN and attempts to restore order are restrained by local

fanatics as it took place in Lebanon and Somalia. In this regard, contrary to the well-known American political scientist, economist, philosopher and author Francis Fukuyama, the world history of conflicts has not finished with the confrontation between the two world systems [3]. Later the author himself significantly adjusted his position [2, p. 27–28].

Combating international terrorism involves the rejection of the radical "pink" liberalism, intellectual paradigm shift, changing ideas about data protection and banking secrecy. This does not mean abandoning the idea of an open society and human rights priority. Illegal electronic eavesdropping of citizens' private lives by the U.S. National Security Agency, disclosed by E. Snowden, is totally unacceptable in our view. It is just about the optimum balance between freedom and security to be found. Personal liberty of one person does not have to threaten to the safety of others. The role of the state social responsibility, society and the individual has to be increased.

The humanities are still suffering from Euro centrism. The history from some textbooks, originates from the Greeks and Romans, and is associated with the spread of Christianity, the Reformation and the Enlightenment, the wars that raged in Europe. Most of the peoples of the world does not accept this and study the history using fundamentalists and other extremists' books. Few graduates of European schools don't know that before the first third of the XIX century the bulk of the world's GDP was produced in China, India, Japan and Islamic countries, many discoveries and inventions happened in the East. They find it difficult to understand why the centers of the world economy shifted to the East once again in the XXI century.

Authentic history educational books should be written. The research of their prospects is forthcoming. This is also necessary because the ideology of international terrorism basis is the open society civilization hatred, the dissolution of the ego in the mass movement, the concentration of personal aspirations in the leader

of the nation, clan, sect, and a willingness to sacrifice for the sake of an idea. The protagonists of this idea do not recognize the law for themselves, but require its observation from those who do not belong to the “superior” race or community and don’t know the real truth. They hate society where the mind will prevail over instincts and will, and where people are not willing to sacrifice their lives for the sake of super ideas. Western society is described in the same words in Islamic literature, left communist, anarchist and other radical works as greedy, selfish, arrogant, decaying, weak, morally corrupted, disable to heroic deeds, normal fertility.

Until now, the leading nations hoped that the “invisible hand of the market” would solve these problems. So, H.Paulson, the head of “The Goldman Sachs Group Inc.” believed that the response to the attacks should be a further deregulation, the development of domestic and international competition, the global free market [4]. H.Paulson criticized the governments of France, Germany and the UK for measures to regulate labor markets, financial services, water and electricity for the limitations of firms’ mergers and acquisitions. In his opinion, competition is the key to globalization that would not make our world more democratic and peaceful throughout the lifetime of one generation. It is the matter of the future.

The global crisis has once again confirmed that such a view is dangerous. The hope of a happy life in the bright future of mankind has brought a lot of sufferings. Economic paradise on a very competitive basis, as history has shown, is not sufficient to overcome poverty and injustice of billion people. The world movement of the anti-globalists driven by fanatics and having got access to the mass destruction weapon is capable of inflicting much more damage than a totalitarian state. We need a new architecture of global security, with many centers of its security, responsibilities division between its regional members in the frame of the UN, the rebirth and the international law raising, a new framework of transnational economic structures, in-

cluding the world — accessible information network.

Globalization intensifies the contradictions of social and economic development brings them from the local and national to the global level that represents the greatest challenge to the very existence of mankind. At the same time, technological and information revolution related to the formation of post-industrial society, creates the means for resolving these contradictions.

At the same time, technological and information revolution is related to the formation of post-industrial society, creates a means of resolving these contradictions. This requires the rejection of class industrial society, imperial politics, and the rule of the strong over the weak states, the Cold War stereotypes.

In our view, it is possible to propose the following principles for resolving the globalization contradictions in the context of the fight against international terrorism and its attendant threats.

1. The elimination of international terrorism cannot be achieved by one or several successful military or police operations, despite their importance, it requires long-term and internationally coordinated elimination of the socio-economic roots of this phenomenon, the destruction of confrontation between developed, developing and being in the doldrums states and regions, as well as the associated with them religious and political groups.
2. Providing non-charity international assistance to its poorest members. First, because it is necessary for the preservation of our civilization and in the future this will bring economic benefits not only to the poor, but rich countries, creating for them a real, not virtual market for many decades. Second, because this aid does not involve large sums of money allocation (in the form of grants or loans) to incompetent and corrupt governments or capable of working people who do not want or cannot work.
3. The main condition of the socio-economic roots of international terrorism undermining is the creation and devel-

- opment of developing and depressive countries and regions competitive advantages by forming a modern system of health care, education, transport, energy, information and social infrastructure, water supply systems, the revival of the desert, development of mountain slopes, implementation of research and development, etc. in them. According to UN, the elimination of illiteracy and halving the proportion of people living in poverty by 2015 would have required U. S. \$ 50 billion annually. However, the losses caused by international terrorism are much more serious. For example, the anti-terrorist operation in Afghanistan, which is still ongoing, has cost the Western countries not less than \$ 1 trillion. U. S.
4. To overcome the globalization contradictions it is necessary to abandon double standards regarding to the liberalization of the economy, when developed countries require from other countries to open their markets fully to deregulate the economy and support the national manufacturing industry and agriculture, but at the same time they are pursuing the policy of hidden protectionism, technological monopoly and do not allow poorer countries to exploit their competitive advantages by introducing import quotas, keeping the tariff and technical barriers, strengthening the anti-dumping investigations.
 5. Resolution of conflicts of globalization is based on the individual rights protection, the full development of all members of society promoting, providing equal opportunities regardless of gender, religion, and ethnicity. At the same time, the modern protection of human rights requires safety, which is impossible without a global control over financial flows, as well as the suspect activities, links with terrorism, human beings trafficking, drugs and weapons, individuals' control. Ultra-liberal dogma of complete secrecy of personal information and banking secrecy, the same approach to terrorists and their victims, justify the actions of terrorists who hide behind the separatist, religious or any other slogans, objectively oppose to successful war against international terrorism.
 6. The globalization contradictions overcoming is associated with different branches of the Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Shinto, Hindu and other civilizations recognition of mutual influence and mutual enrichment of. The globalization of culture is designed to ensure the access of all inhabitants to the spiritual treasures of the world. It doesn't exist for the unification and standardization of culture samples on the basis of the ruling in a particular country, or national or racial superiority ideas.
 7. The contradictions of globalization cannot be solved using only the market mechanism. It requires creative control of social and economic processes in a global scale, based on the optimal combination of economic efficiency and social justice, especially in the public goods distribution.
 8. Managing globalization requires the development of the international legal system, intergovernmental and international agencies to create a global financial, scientific, educational, informational, health, energy, transportation, environmental infrastructure, emergency prevention system, and the implementation of global investments. Accordingly, the work of existing international organizations (UN, WTO, IMF, World Bank, G20, G8, Interpol, etc.) should be reformed with the leading role of the UN.
 9. The first and very important step towards building a global system of legal regulation of social and economic development is regional political and economic integration. The cooperation between the EU and forthcoming Eurasian Union in the establishment of a common Eurasian economic and legal space has to become its basis in Europe. This would help NATO and the Collective Security Treaty Organization in cooperation; form a regional system of international security from Vancouver to Vladivostok on the base of principles of equal and identical security.

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