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PRINCIPLES OF FUNCTIONING OF THE SYSTEM OF ENSURING MILITARY SECURITY OF THE STATE

The article substantiates the principles of the military security assurance process. The set of principles derived in accordance with the foundations of complex systems theory enables the effective functioning of Ukraine's military security system under conditions of escalating military-political tensions.

Based on the assessment of the current level of national military security in both peacetime and wartime, it is proposed to introduce an additional principle into the functioning process of the military security system – the principle of mandatory feedback. This principle ensures continuous monitoring of the system's operational status. Control, as a property of the system, makes it possible to coordinate a set of measures aimed at neutralizing threats, avoid redundant reimplementation of pre-planned measures that demonstrate unacceptable effectiveness indicators (e.g., due to changes in the operational environment). This system property allows for a significant reduction in resource expenditures required for the implementation of threat neutralization measures.

Keywords: *national military security, principles of functioning, security environment, national security, national values, national interests, military security assurance system, level of national military security.*

Statement of the problem. The military security assurance system represents a complex of organizational structures and forces that develop targeted decisions and conduct coordinated actions and measures aimed at protecting and realizing the vital interests of individuals, society, the security and defense sector, and the state under the influence of internal and external threats in the military sphere.

Like any system, it possesses specific properties – characteristic features that determine whether a certain structure or a set of elements qualifies as a military security assurance system. These properties reflect its essence, organization, and principles of functioning. The main properties include integrity, complexity, hierarchy, systemic interrelation of elements, dynamism, goal orientation, legislative regulation, and continuity of operation.

Therefore, the military security assurance system is a complex organizational structure. According to M. Zhurovskiy and N. Pankratova, complexity is a shared property of a unified set of diverse objects that are structurally interconnected, functionally interdependent, and interact with one another [1]. In this case, complexity is equated with the concept of systemic integrity.

The author considers it appropriate to expand this concept in the context of the military security assurance system as a system that should generate an emergent effect from the functioning of all its components.

Analysis of recent research and publications. In general, Ukrainian scholars have devoted considerable attention to issues of ensuring Ukraine's national security. For instance, study [2] examined the problems of ensuring national security, defense, and intelligence, considering both foreign and domestic experience up to 2022. The results of research on the state's national security issues are presented in monograph [3], but also with reference to the situation as of 2022. Work [4] substantiates the methodology for the integrated use of military and non-military forces and assets of the security and defense sector to counter threats to Ukraine's military security, as considered in 2020. The author of study [5] explored military security in the context of global governance. Therefore, it can be concluded that there are currently no published works outlining

established principles for the functioning of the state's military security system that correspond to modern conditions and the medium-term horizon for forecasting Ukraine's security environment.

The purpose of the article is to substantiate the fundamental principles of the functioning of the national military security system.

Summary of the main material. Like any complex organizational system [6], the national military security assurance system must be governed by its own principles of functioning – that is, fundamental rules, provisions, or ideas that determine how something operates, acts, or functions.

The substantiation of the principles guiding the functioning of the military security assurance system (MSAS) is an extremely challenging scientific task. Unlike the laws of nature, societal laws manifest through human activity, which is inherently subjective [7, 8]. The justification of principles for the complex process of ensuring military security must be grounded in a combination of general principles of complex systems operation – principles that the system will implement in accordance with complex systems theory, the laws of nature, and the inherently subjective nature of social systems [9].

One of the most important principles on which the functioning of the military security assurance system must be based is the principle of *system integrity*. The essence of this principle lies in the interconnectedness of the system's elements. Its mathematical formulation [8] is as follows:

$$S_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^m S_i, \quad (1)$$

where S_{total} – interconnectedness of the military security assurance system (total number of links within the system);

m – the number of substantive characteristics by which the connection between elements is determined;

$$S_i = D_i n(n-1)/2, \quad (2)$$

where S_i – the number of connections based on a specific substantive characteristic i ;

D_i – the system-forming parameter of interconnectedness, $0 \leq D_i \leq 1$;

n – the number of elements in the system.

At the same time, the fewer restrictions exist on connections between elements and subsystems, the higher the system's level of interconnectedness. The primary function of any complex subsystem within the military security assurance structure is determined by its role within the hierarchically superior national security assurance system, where the military security subsystem is one of its components. Therefore, the main task of the military security assurance system within the national security assurance system of Ukraine is to implement national interests in the field of military security, thereby ensuring the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state under the adverse influence of external and internal threats [10–16].

According to the theory of military security, the process of implementing national interests in the field of military security unfolds in the following stages: monitoring of dangers and threats to national interests in the military security domain; identification of dangers and threats; development of response options (a set of coordinated actions to neutralize threats); decision-making on threat neutralization; ensuring the execution of the decision; practical implementation of the decision; and control of execution. This completes the cycle, which then begins anew in the same sequence. Thus, the process of ensuring military security is cyclical in nature, making the second fundamental principle the principle of *cyclical functioning* (Figure 1).

It should be emphasized that the process of ensuring military security must occur continuously – 24/7, around the clock, and throughout the entire year – without interruptions or pauses, regardless of circumstances. Therefore, the next fundamental principle is the *principle of continuity*. Threats and dangers evolve independently of the functioning of Ukraine's military security assurance system, which necessitates uninterrupted monitoring. Continuity also implies the sustained capacity of public administration bodies to continuously influence the subjects responsible for military security during monitoring, preparation, and implementation of coordinated measures to neutralize identified dangers and threats, as well as to receive information from them (reports, communications, summaries of the operational situation) [16]. Continuity means that in the event of a threat or crisis, the system continues to function without significant loss of capability, and all entities involved in ensuring national resilience remain capable of performing their core functions [17].

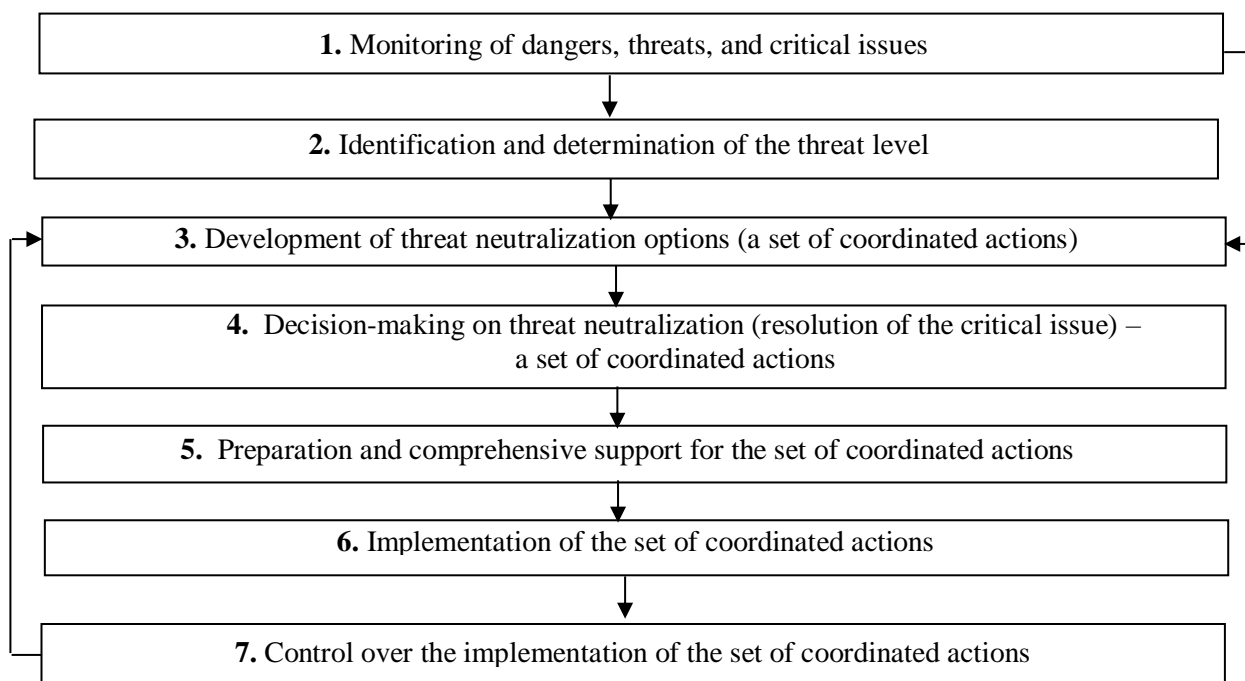


Figure 1 – Stages (phases) of the functioning of the military security assurance system [10–17]

Since the process of ensuring military security in Ukraine is based on three core concepts – prevention, deterrence, and repulsion of armed aggression – it is entirely logical to formalize this as a principle of the functioning of the military security assurance system [18]. This is reflected in the *principle of triple response*. The triad includes the following: active cooperation with all states of the world to ensure strategic stability and prevent military conflicts through political, diplomatic, and economic means only; the development (and demonstration) of Ukraine's military potential capable of minimizing the likelihood of military conflict by creating the potential to inflict damage on an aggressor, thereby depriving them of the motivation to attack; and repulsion of any possible armed aggression, should it occur, ensuring the defeat of the aggressor and compelling them to cease hostilities and abandon their objectives.

The principle of responsiveness refers to the ability of public administration bodies and entities responsible for military security to carry out management tasks within a short timeframe. This enables the prevention of danger escalation, a timely response to identified threats, and swift influence on military security actors to ensure successful task execution and achievement of the objectives of the MSAS. This principle reflects the law of time adequacy – the correlation between the required and available time in the process of solving management tasks. Responsiveness in the MSAS includes the relative average response time of the system to an identified threat; the average response time of system elements to management commands (information transmission time); the average time required for system control and coordination during various phases of functioning (i.e., the minimum time needed to perform control functions within each subsystem). Solving the issue of improving management responsiveness is a complex task. It involves enhancing the collection and processing of military-political and military-strategic data, improving the structure and operational methods of public administration bodies, streamlining information flows, and broadly integrating automation tools and automated control systems (ACS) into management processes.

The principle of controllability of the military security assurance system implies the system's ability to make high-quality decisions regarding: the prevention of the emergence and development of threats to national interests in the field of military security; the implementation of a coordinated set of actions to neutralize identified threats, deter and repel armed aggression; the development and adoption of decisions on the evolution of the system, coordination and control of the implementation of adopted decisions, and control over the current and projected level of military security as well as the effectiveness of the military security assurance system after the implementation of the decision; and the degree of implementation of democratic civilian control within the management subsystem.

The principle of adaptability of the military security assurance system to changes in the external environment must be achieved primarily through timely modifications in the structure of the military security assurance system, which enable the identification of new types and forms of military-related dangers and threats. These new types of threats should primarily include those associated with the advancement of scientific and technological progress, various innovations in the IT sphere, and related developments.

The principle of adequacy in responding to external stimuli lies in the ability of public administration bodies to ensure the effective use of the resources of the military security assurance system in order to successfully accomplish its assigned tasks and achieve the required level of military security with minimal losses and within the defined time frame. Therefore, adequacy in responding to external stimuli should be considered in close connection with the principle of responsiveness.

The principle of interoperability is achieved primarily through the compatibility of procedures and relationships among various elements of the security and defense sector, as well as the compatibility between Ukraine's security and defense sector and international security systems that may be engaged in providing assistance to our state in responding to identified threats.

The principle of alignment with the state's resource capabilities must primarily take into account the economic capacity of the state to maintain and develop the entities responsible for military security, ensuring the system does not become overburdened or cause an economic "overheating".

The principle of structural correspondence of the military security assurance system to its assigned functions and tasks is achieved by establishing a system structure that fully matches the assigned responsibilities and objectives, eliminating any duplication of functions and tasks among the system's elements.

Structural correspondence of the system to its assigned functions and tasks reveals the following properties: the ability to detect external and internal types of threats and dangers to national interests across all domains of military security; the capacity to develop and adopt decisions for their neutralization; the ability to neutralize identified threats; and, in the event of a military conflict, the ability to repel armed aggression at the scale defined in the military security strategy. In case of the emergence of new types of dangers and threats, the system must be capable of adjusting (supplementing or expanding) its structure as needed, adapting to external conditions, foreign policy orientation, and other influencing factors, while maintaining its ability to fulfill the priority tasks assigned to the military security assurance system. Given the essence of structural correspondence, the MSAS represents a ratio of the existing structural-logical chains in accordance with the tasks assigned to the system. This principle is closely correlated with the principle of adaptability.

The principle of openness lies in the democratic civilian control over the security and defense sector and other structures within the national security system.

The principle of feedback ensures control over the functioning of the military security assurance system, coordination of the main structural elements, monitoring of the phases within the system's operational cycle, as well as oversight of the overall effectiveness of the system's functioning and the level of military security of the state as a whole.

Conclusions

1. If implemented, the proposed set of principles for the functioning of the military security assurance system will enable the effective operation of this system.

2. Based on the assessment of the current level of the state's military security in both peacetime and wartime, the integration of the principle of mandatory feedback into the functioning process of the military security assurance system will ensure continuous monitoring of the system's condition. System control will make it possible, first, to coordinate a set of measures aimed at threat neutralization and, second, to avoid repeating pre-planned measures that have unacceptable effectiveness indicators in neutralizing threats (e.g., due to changes in the operational environment). This property of the system will significantly reduce resource expenditures required for the implementation of threat neutralization measures.

3. The set of principles governing the functioning of the national military security assurance system should be incorporated into the Act of Ukraine "The National Security of Ukraine Act". The proposed improvement of this law would significantly enhance the effectiveness of the military security assurance system and the overall level of the country's military security.

The direction of further scientific research should focus on improving the mechanisms of functioning and development of the state's military security support system.

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ПРИНЦИПИ ФУНКЦІОНУВАННЯ СИСТЕМИ ЗАБЕЗПЕЧЕННЯ ВОЄННОЇ БЕЗПЕКИ ДЕРЖАВИ

Одним із ключових результатів саміту НАТО, який відбувся 24–25 травня 2025 р. у Гаазі (Нідерланди), є погодження нового довгострокового оборонного плану. Лідери 32 країн-членів Альянсу домовилися до 2035 р. збільшити оборонні витрати до 5 % ВВП з одночасним підтриманням України у боротьбі проти РФ для досягнення тривалого миру у майбутньому.

Зазначене підтверджує той факт, що більшість лідерів країн-членів Альянсу чітко розуміють: стабільність і безпека в усьому європейському регіоні пов'язана зі станом воєнної безпеки в Україні.

Навіть короткий ретроспективний аналіз подій із лютого 2022 р. до сьогодні показує, що Україна стала бар'єром між європейською спільнотою і російською експансією на захід. Чим вищі стан воєнної безпеки України та здатність оборонятися проти східного агресора, тим нижче ризик військових дій проти, як мінімум, найближчих країн ЄС (Латвії, Литви, Естонії, Польщі та Молдови). Саме героїчний український супротив виснажує ресурси агресора, зменшуючи його наступальний потенціал.

Зазначена особливість геополітичних умов в європейському регіоні, отриманий досвід сил безпеки й оборони держави в організації та реалізації протистояння збройній агресії зумовлюють потребу у перегляді принципів функціонування системи забезпечення воєнної безпеки держави, яка охоплює всі напрями (політичний, військовий, економічний, інформаційний, дипломатичний) і координує їх взаємодію задля досягнення головної мети – захисту суверенітету держави та її територіальної цілісності й недоторканності.

Обґрунтоване розкриття зазначених принципів надасть можливість у подальшому доповнити Закон України «Про національну безпеку України», який на сьогоднішній день їх не містить. Запропоноване вдосконалення цього Закону суттєво вплине на ефективність функціонування системи забезпечення воєнної безпеки і рівень воєнної безпеки держави.

Ключові слова: *воєнна безпека держави, принципи функціонування, безпекове середовище, національна безпека, національні цінності, національні інтереси, система забезпечення воєнної безпеки, рівень воєнної безпеки держави.*

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