PROBLEMS OF MANAGEMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY IN UKRAINE

Abstract. The economy of Ukraine is constantly in conditions of instability and uncertainty of further development, therefore, the problem of restoring an acceptable level of economic security of the state seems to be urgent.

The essential aspects of theoretical and methodological approaches to a comprehensive assessment of the level of economic security are the subject of numerous scientific studies, but they do not focus on the mechanism of practical management, which should provide acceptable values of the estimated indicators.

The special role of individual indicators, their interrelation, interdependence and the priority of observing their level for the stabilization and development of the economy is substantiated. The analysis of industrial and investment and innovation security made it possible to determine their state as unsatisfactory (at the same time, according to some indicators, the situation is characterized as dangerous, approaching to critical level); the problem of unsatisfactory management of economic security in Ukraine is identified.

To create an effective management system for the country’s economic security is proposed: to improve the methodology for calculating its level (differentiation of weight coefficients, application the criteria for destimulating assessments for indicators of investment and innovation security); to change its status to compulsory, not recommendatory; to provide reporting of the necessary statistical data and include it in the list (register) of open data sets that are subject to publication; to conduct continuous monitoring of indicators status of economic security; to identify trends in changes and identify problem segments; to develop socio-economic plans (programs) taking into account the criteria of economic security; to formulate tasks, authorities, responsibility and organize interaction of executive authorities in order to achieve the target level of state economic security.

Further research is advisable to conduct not only in the direction of improving the methodology for assessing economic security, but also creating an organizational mechanism for managing the state economic security, which should ensure an acceptable level of all indicators of its assessment. Building a balanced system of economic security management in Ukraine and its practical implementation is a guarantee and at the same time a necessity for the successful economic development of Ukraine.

Keywords: national security, economic security, industrial safety, investment and innovation security, depreciation of fixed assets, capital investments.

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ПРОБЛЕМИ УПРАВЛІННЯ ЕКОНОМІЧНОЮ БЕЗПЕКОЮ В УКРАЇНІ

Анотація. Економіка України постійно перебуває в умовах нестабільності й невизначеності подальшого розвитку, тому актуальною вбачається проблема відновлення прийнятного рівня економічної безпеки держави.

Сутнісні аспекти теоретичних і методичних підходів до комплексної оцінки рівня економічної безпеки є об’єктом численних наукових досліджень, але в них не акцентується увага на механізмі практичного управлення, який має забезпечити допустимі значення оціночних індикаторів.

Обґрунтовано особливу роль окремих індикаторів, їхній взаємозв’язок, взаємозалежність та першочерговість дотримання їхнього рівня для стабілізації та розвитку економіки в цілому. Проведений аналіз виробничої та інвестиційно-інноваційної безпеки дозволив визначити їхній стан як незадовільний (при цьому за окремими індикаторами ситуація характеризується як небезпечна, що наближається до критичної); ідентифіковано проблему незадовільного управління економічною безпекою в Україні та необхідність удосконалення методики розрахунку її стану.

Для створення ефективної системи управління економічною безпекою країни запропоновано: удосконалити методику розрахунку її рівня (диференціація вагових коефіцієнтів, введення критеріїв дестимулювальних оцінок для індикаторів інвестиційно-інноваційної безпеки); змінити її статус (тобто затвердити її як обов’язкову, а не рекомендаційну); забезпечити облік потрібних статистичних даних і включення їх до переліку (рекстру) наборів відкритих даних, які піддаються оприлюдненню; проводити постійний моніторинг стану індикаторів економічної безпеки, виявляти тенденції змін та ідентифікувати проблемні сегменти; розробляти соціально-економічні плани (програми) з урахуванням критеріїв економічної безпеки; сформулювати завдання, повноваження, відповідальність та організувати взаємодію органів виконавчої влади з метою досягнення цільового рівня економічної безпеки держави та її складників.

Подальші дослідження доцільно проводити не тільки в напрямі вдосконалення методики оцінки економічної безпеки, а й створення організаційного механізму управління економічною безпекою, яка має забезпечити прийнятий рівень усіх індикаторів її оцінки. Побудова виваженої системи управління економічною безпекою в Україні та практичне її впровадження є запорукою та одночасно необхідністю для успішного економічного розвитку України в майбутньому.

Ключові слова: національна безпека, економічна безпека, виробнича безпека, інвестиційно-інноваційна безпека, знос основних засобів, капітальні інвестиції.

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Introduction. In the long-term perspective, any system makes efforts for stability, in a certain way reacting to temporary environmental influences in order to minimize their consequences. In turn, the economic system is influenced not only by the external, but also by the internal environment, acting as an object of state regulation within the framework of certain national interests and at the same time expressing the subjective interests of large capital owners, which often do not correspond to the national interests of Ukraine. Despite this, the economic system of Ukraine is often found in conditions of instability and uncertainty of further development.

The current stage of instability is associated with the features of Ukraine’s chosen European integration policy, the introduction of which has both positive and negative consequences for the economic security of the state and its residents. Unfortunately, the negative consequences, so far known, put the Ukrainian government in an extremely difficult position about the possibility of economic maneuver to restore and further support the state’s economic security at the required level.
National security is a prerequisite for the existence and development of the state, the realization of its national interests. In general, agreeing with the opinion of the American researcher D. Kaufman and other co-authors of the publication «US National Security: A Framework for Analysis» that «security in an objective sense reflects the absence of threats to the basic values of society, but subjectively it is determined by the absence of fear that these values may be destroyed» [1, p. 12], we add that security in objective terms can be considered as the absence of threats to the national interests of the state. Interpreting the concept of «national interest», which was identified in the middle of the twentieth century, the scientific works of G. Morgenthau [2] and J. Rosenau [3], in which national interest is considered in the dynamics of the development of understanding approaches its essence, can be interesting here.

Economic security, on the one hand, is an important component, and on the other hand, a prerequisite for the existence and integrity of the entire national security system of the state. Thus, the Law of Ukraine «On the Fundamentals of National Security of Ukraine» [4], which was in force until 2018, defined national security as «protection of the vital interests of a person and citizen, society and the state, which ensure sustainable development of the society, timely identification, prevention and neutralization of real and potential threats to national interests» in various fields, including economic and public administration. It was noted that ensuring national security is possible with provided an effective state policy is implemented in the foreign, military, domestic, economic, scientific, technological, environmental, information, social and humanitarian spheres, as well as in the field of civil protection.

The definition of national security was acquired in a certain transformation in the Law of Ukraine «On the National Security of Ukraine», which was adopted in 2018 to replace the previous law «On the Fundamentals of National Security of Ukraine». So, in the new law, national security is already defined as «the protection of state sovereignty, territorial integrity, democratic constitutional order and other national interests of Ukraine from real and potential threats» [5].

At the same time, the «National Security Strategy of Ukraine» [6] notes that the achievement of its goals requires a qualitatively new state policy aimed at effectively protecting national interests in the economic, social, humanitarian and other fields. In this case, one of the main directions of the state policy of national security of Ukraine is determined to ensure the economic security.

This approach is consistent to international experience in formation a national security system. So, in the national security strategies of most of the leading countries of the world, including the USA [7], not only military, foreign policy, domestic political security, but also economic, energy and other components of national security are reflected.

Given the above, the relevant problem of restoring an acceptable level of economic security of the state on the basis of the developed criteria and constant monitoring of their achievement by public authorities.

Analysis of research and problem statement. A significant number of scientific works by both foreign and domestic scientists and researchers are devoted to the problems of economic security and its components. Much attention is paid to the definition of the essence of the concept of «economic security», theoretical and methodological approaches to the integral (comprehensive) assessment of the level of economic security of the state and its individual components, identification of threats and risks and their impact on the state of economic security. Scientific interest is caused by publications of such scientists and researchers as I. A. Blank, V. D. Bazilevich [8], A. N. Bandurka, A. I. Baranovsky [9], A. N. Bilomistny, A. S. Vlasyuk, K. S. Goryacheva, I. A. Gubareva, M. M. Ermoshenko, Z. S. Varnaliy, T. Vasiltsov, A. E. Glinskaya, L. Guryanova, A. B. Kaczynski [10], K. M. Kramarenko, V. V. Kuzmenko, V. I. Muntiyan, A. V. Orlik, E. M. Rudnichenko, T. V. Sak, V. M. Sobolev [11], A. I. Sukhorukov, A. Yu. Tarasenko, L. Shevchenko, V. T. Shlemko and others. These publications are devoted to the definition of the essence and components of economic security, as well as factors affecting its condition. At the same time, the publications of A. S. Bogma, V. M. Varenik, V. M. Geyets, V. V. Martynenko, T. M. Zavor, N. V. Zachosovoi, A. B. Kaczynski, A. V. Mazhul, A. V. Timoshenko, A. V. Khavanova, Yu. M. Kharazishvili [12; 13] and others are devoted to theoretical, methodological and methodological approaches to assessing the level of economic security.
Given the scientific value of the published results of studies to determine the essence and assess the state of economic security of the government, we would like to note that they are somewhat incomplete in nature, since they do not focus on the mechanism for translating their results into a practical plan with the specification of the subject-object composition of the real system of managing the national Ukrainian economy, which should ensure an acceptable state of economic security and be responsible for this.

**Research results.** For implementation the final standings of the «National Security Strategy of Ukraine» in 2013, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine developed guidelines for calculating the level of economic security of Ukraine [14], which provides the possibility of a comprehensive analysis of certain indicators and identifying threats to the economic security of the state. Herewith, economic security is understood as «the state of the national economy, which allows to keep stability to internal and external threats, ensuring high competitiveness in the global economic environment and characterizes the ability of the national economy to sustainable and balanced growth» [14, p. 2]. Despite this definition, the current state of the national economy cannot be characterized as corresponding safety criteria.

Despite the fact that there are various theoretical and methodological approaches to determining the level of economic security of the state, we consider it appropriate to apply the methodology proposed by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine [14]. It provides for the calculation of the integral index, based on the definition of nine sub-index, which, in turn, are defined as the weighted average of a certain number of primary statistical indicators.

In accordance to these guidelines in the context of economic security, industrial safety takes first place. Production is the basis of the economy, the source of GDP, taxes, government revenues, wages and so on. Therefore, among the indicators of industrial safety, special attention should be paid to the state of depreciation of fixed assets (the mentioned methodology consists of four indicators for this index in industry, construction, transport and agriculture). The technological lag, the low level of competitiveness of the national economy is characterized by the state of fixed assets, their level of depreciation. Obviously, age-worn (obsolete) fixed assets slow down economic development. Under such conditions, it is impossible to achieve high levels of GDP, added value, labor productivity, energy efficiency, and the production of competitive products that are in demand at the foreign markets. All this, in turn, affects budget, monetary and other macroeconomic indicators. Accordingly, an innovative type of development becomes impossible, which is a guarantee and at the same time a necessity for the existence of the state and achievement of an economic situation corresponding to the level of developed countries.

An assessment of the degree of depreciation of fixed assets by the characteristic values that determine the level of economic security shows that in industry the situation is characterized as dangerous, which is approaching to critical. So, for the period 2009—2018, that is, over the past 10 years, the indicator has not approached to satisfactory value (50% depreciation). At the beginning of the period, the best indicators were observed in 2011—2013 and amounted to 56.8—57.3%, which corresponds to a level that is approaching unsatisfactory. The worst state was in 2015 — 76.9% and characterized the situation as close to a critical level. In 2016, the situation improved compared to the previous year, but the value of 69.4% of fixed assets depreciation in industry is a dangerous level. It should be noted that for the period 2015—2016 the level of depreciation in industry was worse than in the economy as a whole by 11.3—16.8%.

Depreciation of fixed assets in transport sphere in 2009—2014 was even beyond the critical level and amounted to 83.9—97.9%, but in 2015 the situation improved and in 2016 reached to 50.6%, which almost corresponds to a satisfactory level. However, these positive changes require a separate analysis and evaluation, because they are associated only with the revaluation of fixed assets in the formation of the public joint-stock company «Ukrainian Railways».

Significantly better indicators has construction as depreciation of fixed assets in 2009—2015 almost corresponded to a satisfactory level of 46—53%, and in 2016 were between the optimal level for the destimulator and stimulator.

The lowest level of depreciation of fixed assets is characterized by agriculture, the characteristic values of the indicator for the period 2009—2016 always were between the optimal
level for the destimulator and stimulator. In addition, some negative trends in the period 2012—2015 with annual indicator degradation from 32.6% in 2011 up to 38.9% in 2015 stopped, and in 2016 the situation even improved slightly (37.3% of depreciation). This situation of fixed assets in agriculture sphere provides an optimal level of food security and its positive dynamics [15].

In the economy as a whole, the degree of depreciation of fixed assets over the past 19 years has never had an optimal value and was marked by negative dynamics, at which a satisfactory level was crossed in 2006 and unsatisfactory in 2008; in 2010 — a dangerous level and in 2014 — a critical level (Fig.). In 2015, the situation changed rapidly, the indicator crossed a critical and dangerous level and reached an unsatisfactory level; in 2016, the positive dynamics continued, the indicator at the level of 58.1% depreciation characterizes the condition better than unsatisfactory, but still far from satisfactory; in 2017, there was again an improvement up to 55.1% of depreciation, but in 2018 again, deterioration up to 60.6%, that is, worse than an unsatisfactory level.

A linear trend calculation proves that even improvement in some periods did not affect the overall negative trend; the angle of the straight line indicates a high probability of a return to a dangerous and even critical level in the coming years, while saving all the influence factors unchanged.

It should be noted that the indicator of depreciation of fixed assets in the whole economy is not provided by the reviewed methodology, which, in our opinion, is its drawback and needs to be adjusted. Assessment of the general level of depreciation proves that a satisfactory and optimal condition of fixed assets in some sectors cannot compensate for the critical level in others spheres, therefore such assessment must be necessarily carried out.

Obviously, improving the state of fixed assets is possible only by investing in fixed assets. Therefore, consideration of the state of indicators of investment and innovation security will determine and evaluate the trends of the coming years. Among the fourteen indicators, the most indicative in this regard is the assessment of the ratio of gross fixed capital formation to GDP and the share of the cost of innovations in the volume of capital investments.

Over the past ten years, only in 2007—2008 the state of gross fixed capital formation (% of GDP) in Ukraine was characterized as a stimulant at a satisfactory level (27.5 and 26.4%,
respectively), but with negative dynamics. In 2009, the situation deteriorated sharply and the indicator reached a critical value (18.4%). Since 2010, the state of this indicator has been at a level that does not correspond to the characteristics of the stimulator with an annual drop up to 13.5%, only in 2016 there was a slight improvement (15.1%).

It should be noted that indicators of investment and innovation security according to this methodology have characteristic only for their assessment as a stimulator, but in Ukraine we consider it necessary to input criteria for destimulating assessments. For example, the input of such estimates for the state of gross fixed capital formation with an interval of 2% will characterize the state of the destimulator as optimal in 16%, satisfactory in 14%, and unsatisfactory in 12%. Such characteristics will give a more pessimistic assessment.

The situation is aggravated by the size of the share of innovations in the volume of capital investments, which for the period 2010—2018 is between a dangerous and unsatisfactory level. That is, too high part of financial resources is allocated for overhaul or acquisition of used (non-new) equipment (machines). Under such conditions, fixed assets cannot be updated either physically, or even less morally. Limited financial resources are used inefficiently and, accordingly, the economy does not have powerful sources for intensifying development and innovation.

In recent years, a number of different reform and development strategies have been adopted, namely: «Public Financial Management System Reform Strategy for 2017—2020», approved by the CMU in 2017 (the previous «Public Financial Management System Development Strategy» was approved by the CMU in 2013), and was implemented during 2013—2016); «Strategy for Sustainable Development Ukraine 2020» (approved by Presidential Decree in 2015); «Strategy for Public Administration Reform of Ukraine for 2016—2020» (adopted by the order of the Cabinet of Ministers in 2016); «Energy strategy of Ukraine for the period up to 2035 «Security, energy efficiency, competitiveness» (approved by the order of the Cabinet of Ministers in 2017); «Strategy of innovative development of Ukraine for 2010—2020 in the context of globalization challenges (approved by the Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine dated 21.10.2010 № 2632-VI)» and other state programs and reforms. But they have mostly declarative character. At assessing the state of the economy, individual data are given without taking into account the level of economic security, the proposed measures are well-known slogans about incentives, development, efficiency and so on. Planned (forecast) indicators for different scenarios are not sufficiently substantiated, as evidenced by their further non-fulfillment. In addition, they do not assess measures to comply with acceptable indicators of economic security in general and in terms of its components. Existing plans (budgets) do not take into account and do not focus on achieving at least a satisfactory state of indicators. For example, the forecast of economic and social development of Ukraine for 2018—2020 (approved by the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of 31.05.2017 № 411) notes that during this period «the gradual transition from consumer to innovation-investment model of economic development, on which economic growth will be based», but in this document there are no estimates of forecast indicators for all scenarios regarding economic security criteria.

Even at the stage of monitoring the state of economic security, the appropriate state institutions fail to fulfill their functions. So, on the official website of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade in the section «Economic Situation and Macroeconomic Forecasting» there is a subdivision «State of Economic Security», but it contains only «Report on the State of Food Security in 2013», which was posted on 19.08.2014. The indicators presented in this report do not correspond to those which approved in the methodology; in addition, their assessment by characteristic values is absent. That is, the ministry does not fulfill the order, which established that the calculations should be carried out twice a year (paragraph 4 of the general order [14]). So, unfortunately, we can confirm that in Ukraine there is actually no management system (including regulation) of the country’s economic security.

To create an effective economic security management system in Ukraine, we consider it expedient: to improve the methodology for calculating (determining) economic security in general and its separate components; approve it at the legislative level with the status of mandatory rather than recommendatory; ensure the accounting of the necessary statistical data and their inclusion in
the list (register) of open data sets, which are subject to publication; conducts continuous monitoring of the state of indicators of economic security; to develop socio-economic plans (programs) taking into account the criteria of economic security.

**Conclusions.** The study showed that the state of economic security of the government is determined by the state of its components and can be characterized by many indicators integrated into a comprehensive (generalizing) indicator (index). An important component of economic security, determining the possibility of ensuring it by creating the resource potential of economic development, is industrial and investment-innovative security.

As a part of industrial safety, special attention is paid to such an indicator as the degree of depreciation of fixed assets, as its value makes it possible to assess the physical worn down of the equipment used to create added value. Analysis of dynamics of this indicator in 2000—2018 allowed to assert that the degree of depreciation of fixed assets tends to increase, and in 2014 even reached a critical level. This indicates the presence of an identified problem, which has been leveled for a long time and now poses a significant threat to industrial safety. A number of objective and subjective factors are prerequisites for its appearance. The objective ones include: insufficient funds for the purchase of technologically new and productive equipment, which is not produced in Ukraine and for the purchase of which currency resources are needed; the exchange rate is not profitable for importers; problems with the expansion of markets for even high-quality products that can be produced using new technologies and new equipment; the need to staff training which could work on such equipment and so on. Subjective factors include the reluctance of capital owners to invest in the renewal of fixed assets due to reduced profitability of the business, the presence of problems with the protection of property rights, the unpredictability of the macroeconomic situation, monetary policy and so on. Therefore, the solution of the problem of a high level of depreciation of fixed assets and, accordingly, the unsatisfactory state of production safety is possible only if the funds are invested in fixed assets for the purpose of its expanded reproduction and renewal.

In this regard, we suppose that in determining the integrated index of economic security in the first place and with a high weighting factor should be investment and innovation security, which is a prerequisite for ensuring production and other components of economic security. Methodological recommendations for calculating the economic security of Ukraine, approved by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, should be finalized in the context of focusing on investment and innovation security by changing its weighting factor and adding characteristic values to assess indicators as destimulators.

So, to create an effective economic security management system in Ukraine, it is advisable to: review and refine the method of calculating the level of economic security in terms of greater differentiation of weights ratios for its constituent elements and the definition of priorities; regularly (twice a year, as indicated in the methodology) to perform calculations on the updated methodology in order to identify trends in indicators and identify problem segments; to formulate tasks, powers, responsibilities and to organize interaction of executive authorities for the purpose of achievement of the target level of economic safety of the government and its components.

Further research in this area is needed to create a conceptual framework for forming a balanced system of economic security management in Ukraine, substantiate the interaction of individual components of economic security and differentiation of their weights ratios in calculating the integrated indicator of economic security.

**Література**


Reference


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