Summary

"The effectiveness of economic instruments in the fight against the roots of international terrorism"

The PhD dissertation raises the issue of the use and effectiveness of economic instruments against the phenomenon of international terrorism. The main thesis of the paper states that the properly chosen and applied economic tools can significantly help to reduce this problem. This thesis is based on the concept that directing socioeconomic instruments against the sources responsible for the formation and escalation of terrorist activities, can help to minimize this phenomenon. Due to different role in the process, the economic measures are divided into two categories: repressive and preventive economic instruments. The thesis states that repressive economic instruments applied to entities that support terrorist activities (ie. state sponsored terrorism) can effectively contribute to the reduction of this practice, and that preventive economic instruments, addressed to countries struggling with terrorism at its territory (ie. home - grown terrorism) can stop the development of this phenomenon. The main aim of the study is to assess the effectiveness of the above mentioned instruments, as well as the conclusions and recommendations on their use. The PhD dissertation is also intended to fill the gap in the literature by providing non-military methods of combating terrorism.

Chapter I discusses the problem of international terrorism from the definitional aspects, the history and stages of its development, the classification of terrorist movements, to the roots of modern terrorism. Understanding these sources is in fact one of the most important tasks for justifying the essence of the use of economic instruments in the fight against this phenomenon. Particular attention is also paid to the economic aspects of terrorism and its impact on the world economy.

Chapter II presents premises for the application of economic instruments in the fight against terrorism, such as: combating the state-supported terrorism, limiting the financing of terrorist activities, and reducing public and social support for armed groups. In the discussed chapter the economic instruments are divided into two categories, allowing for their role in the process of fighting the roots of terrorism: repressive and preventive measures. Both instruments are widely described and characterized, and marked with their importance.

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Chapter III and IV present case studies. Chapter III examines the use of repressive economic instruments used against the phenomenon of state – supported terrorism (the case of Libya and Cuba) and against countries responsible for endangering the development of nuclear terrorism (the case of India and Pakistan case). Chapter IV focuses and on the analysis of the application of preventive economic instruments applied to countries struggling with the problem of home - grown terrorism (the case of Somalia and Pakistan), including religious terrorism (the case of Afghanistan), leftist (Colombia), ethnic (Kashmir), nationalist (Kosovo) or separatist (Basque country). The selection of cases for Chapter III and Chapter IV was based on the classification of terrorist movements, outlined in Chapter I.

Chapter V presents the summary and the attempt to assess the effectiveness of the use of economic instruments in the fight against international terrorism. Referring to the results of the research carried out in Chapters III and IV, firstly it points the determinants of the effectiveness of repressive and preventive economic solutions, indicating factors and conditions, under which the use of these instruments can result in success. At the end Chapter V puts forward conclusions and recommendations for the use of socio - economic solutions in future practice for counter fighting international terrorism.

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