



Abstract



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Security of economy – asymmetric war A new era in security policy

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For forty years on end the Soviet Union's military strength provided a kind of cohesion for the West. Ever since the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, especially after the period between September 11th 2001 and the war against Iraq in 2003, fundamental changes have marked the world order.

The fierce confrontations looming over mankind are, presumably, going to be different from any such events of the past. They will have to be dealt with differently, which – in other words – means a new era in security policy. Especially in terms of profit-redistribution and impact on the value judgement of non-western peoples, the global system of economy is often considered unjust, thus fuels terrorism. Through their consecutive actions, terrorists wage an asymmetric war, which could possibly cripple even the economically more developed and militarily well advanced countries.

New measures must be applied to fend it off, as the asymmetric war is uniquely unpredictable. For example:

- unconfined – it knows no frontiers, cannot be confined to definite areas;
- invisible – unlike those of the conventional combats, its warriors are practically invisible;
- unpacified – mop up operations can pacify no areas for long, for the decentralised terrorist groups are likely to extend their activity to any district;
- universal – even as peaceful devices as the INTERNET can be used by them for instruments of war;
- edge in – to stop terrorists filtering in could only be comparatively simple if the open society's basic characteristics were altered;

International terrorism has several motives many of which can be traced back to the global system of economy. The most acute problems are perhaps the following two:

- in terms of volume and impact, capital movements – among continents, regions, countries and / or even within the states – represent a lot greater force than that the nation-state budgets can compare, oppose or balance. That fuels the feeling of every national economy being exposed to the will of

the multinational companies; they are also held responsible for plastic ideas destroying the values of non-western peoples;

- the amount of capital invested in speculative purchases has risen dramatically, thus given way to uncertainty, instability and growing poverty.

Should terrorism not be stopped or – at least – confined, America's might would be downgraded and the present structure of world-order restructured. That would also imply a substantial change in the strategy of the large capital investors of neo-liberals. However, America's keeping its sole superpower status also has some grim aspects. Terrorism has no known face, no frontiers, consequently no terrorist attack – not even a nuclear one – might be dealt with a nuclear strike back. To fight terrorism, anti-terrorists are left but intelligence. Alas, that is likely to involve means and methods most characteristic of the Orwellian world.