National Security of Ukraine and Civil Society: 
Combating International Terrorism

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Abstract

The article deals with the problem regarding the prevention of international terrorism, also the participation of government, and civil society in creation of security system, at the local and global levels, which corresponds to the challenges and threats of up-to-dateness, and also identifies the main aspects of our state in anti-terrorism activities field.

Keywords: anti-terrorism legislation, civil society, international security, international co-operation, national security, terrorism

The extension of asymmetric effects in social inequality development during globalization process is accompanied by the international terrorism escalation. It transforms in matter of its internal content and nature under both direct and indirect influence of different challenges and conflicts. The modern international terrorism evolution is characterized by formation of negative developments such as diversity of the destructive influence on different social spheres of life – political, economic, social, mental and the national security – social, state, military etc. The problem is actual, because today terrorism with its politically motivated ideology is a serious danger both for the civil society of separate countries in particular, the Ukraine and in global sense.

Active participation of the modern Ukrainian state in international affairs arena, its consistent position on international terrorism and participation in anti-terrorist structures of integration in the global, European and regional levels makes the issue of formation of counter-terrorism policies one of the priorities of the government.

It is also associated with the peculiarities of the political situation in the country, the crisis in the Ukrainian politicum, prolonged economic difficulties caused by the transformation processes in the background of the collapse of the Soviet Union, a transitive location of the Ukraine that pose a potential threat of terrorist attacks on its territory. In this context, understanding the nature and factors of terrorism, the development of tools and methods to prevent this threat at the state level – is one of the important tasks of state and local government.

A necessary condition for combating terrorist threats on grounds of nationality is the development of effective counter-terrorism policy, which requires the production of clear concepts and strategies, basic principles, conceptual principles and constitutional standards and identifying ways of their implementation. The object of the research is the phenomenon of modern terrorism. And the subject of the research is anti-terrorism co-operation of civil society and the state of the Ukraine.

The main aim of the research is to determine the characteristics of co-operation between civil society and the state of Ukraine in preventing terrorism, also to develop recommendations for further improvement. To achieve the main goal, the following tasks are defined:

- to analyze the features of interaction between civil society and the state in the field of counter-terrorism;
- to identify the main problematic aspects in the plane of this question;
- to provide recommendations for further improvement of co-operation in combating terrorism.

It is important to note that studying of the problem of response to the international terrorism as social element of the national security system is carried out at the level of governmental and non-governmental organizations, scientific institutes, special services and Law and Order Department. It is also actively highlighted by mass media. The political scientists’ works, reflect preconditions of extremism and terrorism rise and extension (I. Korzh), social aspects of modern terrorist activity (B. Churkov), its financing (J. Daguzan, P. Williams), and also take note of civil society important role in local and global security system creation for prevention of this phenomenon (V. Guravel, V. Krutov, F. Esposito). This works also describe counter-terrorism national policy as well as basic priorities and implementation (M. Verbenskii, L. Chumak).

National security protection plays a critical part in every country, it is also a scope of government activity. In its turn the government aimed on the realization of vital national interests of an individual, society and state, protection of them from internal and external negative influence, is urged to ensure appropriate living and developing conditions for citizens, hereupon the national security is a basic governmental characteristic as well as indispensable condition of any economic, socio-political and humanitarian activity.

However globalization processes and different world region integration into the one world community lead to fundamental changes in the national security sphere, and supranational and regional political structures establishing and development result in essential modifications in operational task as well as in government capacities particularly in sphere of Ukrainian national security protection.

Upon the statement of Security Service of the Ukraine the former Head I. Kalinin principal threats to the national security
phenomenon should serve as a guideline for determining the objective, legal, organizational and resource aspects of counter-terrorism effort. Undoubtedly, the study of terrorism as socially dangerous phenomenon should proceed from the thorough understanding of the nature of the act, first of all in the meaning of the fact that terrorism is aimed at anti-democratic and inhumane purposes achieving (Churkov, 1993, p. 12).

It is crucially important that prevention of terrorist activity by means of its multidimensionality provides different levels and methods of comprehensive counteraction and will be prospective only if it meets the real status of this phenomenon as system-social.

According to expert in the field of national security, V. Krutov, «the public control implementation over the national security system would promote the creation and coordinated functioning of its governmental and non-governmental components as a sole system. Real preconditions of unclaimed intellectual resource profitable use in interests of security ideology improvement and antiterrorist empowerment of the society would appear» (Krutov, 2003).

Note also that representatives of international organizations related to terrorist activity reside in the Ukraine (on permanent basis or by way of transit passage).

Countering terrorism requires solely system approach, where along with legal and administrative measures the most important component should be an active position of our social institutions. The priority in counter-terrorism effort is prevention activities. Bodies of legislative and executive power, supreme Heads of Churches, leaders of political parties, media and general public should find their place in its implementation. In order to eliminate terrorism from our life it is necessary to disclose and destroy the roots of this phenomenon, not only to combat terrorism (Esposito, 2007, p. 83).

A necessary condition for countering terrorist threats on a national basis is the formation of an effective counter-terrorism policy. This calls for development of a clear concept and strategy, basic principles, conceptual and regulatory framework, implementation methods specification. In general this topic requires scientists’ special attention to address issues of coordination among all authorities the jurisdiction of which include combating terrorist threats at the national level, creating conditions for community consolidation in solving the modern Ukrainian society problems, whose presence may lead to manifestations of terrorism.

Recent years many things have been done to prevent terrorism in the Ukraine: a special coordinating body – the Anti-Terrorist Centre at Security Service of Ukraine was established, in 2003 the Anti-Terrorism Act of Ukraine was enacted, several international anti-terrorism conventions were ratified, art. 258 Terrorist Act (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2006) was introduced to the Criminal Code of Ukraine, according to the Act of Ukraine on Amendments to the Criminal and Criminal Procedure (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2006) Codes of Ukraine concerning Prevention of Terrorism as of 21.09.2006 the Code art. 258–2 Public Calls to commit a Terrorist Act (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2006), art. 258–3 Terrorist Group or Terrorist Organization Establishing (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2010), 258–4 Facilitating the Commission of Terrorist Act (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2010), 285–5 Terrorist Financing (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2010) were supplemented. According to statistics terrorism fortunately is not spread in our country. During 2002 – 2010 6 cases of committing or arranging acts of terrorism which didn’t pose a serious threat were registered in the
However the last terrorist act on April 27, 2012 determined this way by an authority according to the art. 258 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine in series of explosions in Dnipropetrovs’k, during which 29 people were injured, encouraged structured mechanisms of Ukraine’s national security work better and make efforts to prevent such cases (Ukrainska Pravda, 2012).

Currently ongoing the court is over four organizers of explosions in Dnipropetrovs.

This assured the Assistant Head of Security Service of Ukraine A. Khristenko broadcast «Shuster LIVE». He said the reason for the indictment of four individuals well-founded, but finally determine guilt defendants can only the court.

Thus A. Khristenko said that the search and arrest suspect-ed intelligence and police worked quickly and professionally. However, the reason why they were able to capture the sus-pects only a month, while the U.S. terrorist Boston found the next day, in his opinion, were technical difficulties and lack of experience in conducting anti-terrorist operations.

In particular, the representative of SBU said that the security services had to establish identity criminals imaging analog video cameras, which greatly complicated this case (HolosUA, 2013).

The modern world experience of public life evolution prove the fact that the indispensable attribute of a strong state is an effective national security system, which includes governmental and non-governmental components. According to experts it’s needless to say about balanced national security system of Ukraine neither in theoretical nor in practical aspects. Although generally the components of national security are conceptually designed for specified areas of life and functionally involved, but the role and place of non-governmental security system in the national legislation is not defined. This is despite the introduced concept of «social organization», «civil society», etc.

According to analysts, the urgency of improving the man-agement of security is determined by complex social and economic processes of modernity, the emergence of new threats, the objective necessity in democratic process development. In this regard the goal is to focus public attention on the fact that the effective functioning of non-governmental security sector is only matter of time and depends on the awareness, accumu-lation and implementation of constructive public potential (Report, 2007).

In this approach International public organization Interna-tional Antiterrorism Unity whose aim is to counter the global threat number one – terrorist acts, stands for the integrating pub-lic efforts to maximize and promote the development of non-governmental national security system, subjects of which could solve such basic tasks as monitoring and analysis of threats to national security, identification of sources of tension and conflict, elaboration of threats and dangers control, participation in security ideology creation and promoting of social peace on its basis, increase of civic responsibility, development of legal and patriotic consciousness, organization and implementation of public control over the activities of both governmental and non-governmental security systems as well as promoting their concerted functioning as a single organism, development and implementation of projects aimed on ensuring national secu-rity (information and analytical, organizational and applicative, propaganda, etc.), attracting the general public in the process of state activity, training for non-governmental security sector, etc (Chumak, 2010, p. 80).

In recent times strategies and tactics of anti-terrorism ef-fort make an emphasis on civil society emerging role. It is im-portant to build on these efforts, to make full use of its real and potential capabilities. But it must be borne in mind that it is also the source of terrorism, the object and the main force com-bating terrorism. In these circumstances the spiritual, ideologi-cal basis of civil society is growing. And counterterrorism effec-tiveness, a neutral attitude towards it or direct support, will largely depend on its reference direction. It is civil society and its institutions that play a leading role in the consolidation of actions to create a united front of antiterrorist forces.

Civil society may offer new conceptual approaches, mod-els and elements of national and international strategies for counterterrorism. At the present time as experience shows, it is ready to initiate the heads of states, intelligence and law enforcement agencies to develop an adequate and universal response measures to terrorism. By organizing and holding international congresses, symposia, conferences, seminars, round tables social institutions are able to produce and offer to governments of different countries practical recommendations aimed at forming and strengthening the international commu-nity in combating international terrorism.

Note some areas of civil society activities in ideological and information counter-terrorism efforts: 1) It is required an effective educational system in the area of security, terrorism extent and its ideology; 2) It is required to develop an integrat-ed process of terrorist threats counteraction treatment in media, careful procedures for media coverage to situations involving acts of terrorism. It is necessary to ban the propaganda of extremist and terrorist ideology in the media at the legislative lev-el. 3) The development of legal consciousness is one of the key areas in the counter-terrorism system. 4) Effective ideological, information counter-terrorism at the state and interstate levels will be possible only if it is joined by public organizations and antiterrorist movements in addition to general population. 5) Combating terrorism requires a massive attack of its ideology, causes and conditions that generate it. It is important not to stop and to be consistent, as well as take concrete and practical measures against terrorists and their accomplices immediately. Thus it is necessary to rely on civil society, its unity, to find a balance between ensuring the safety of people with respect to their constitutional rights (Guravel, 2004, p. 18).

Conclusion

Therefore summing up the study of legal and organization-al aspects of anti-terrorist activities, it should be emphasized that:

– in the first place, one of the main factors contributing to the national system formation of terrorism prevention is an extraordinary complication of terrorism as a socio-political and criminal event. This diversity of circumstances and factors can be adequately countered only by creating a system of measures, which causes the need for cooperation of all state agen-cies and the public;

– in the second place, during the genesis of terrorist acts at different stages, criminogenic process can move from one sphere of social relations to another, i.e. terrorist activity can pursue both political and other purposes, such as economic ones. This causes the need for a comprehensive review of the circumstances of specific terrorist threats involving the cooperation of relevant executive authorities and research of the
mutual influence of terrorism generating processes of different types for developing and implementing a multifaceted system of measures, which is possible due to combination of information, research and resource potential of the various departments within a centralized national program;

– in the third place, in response to transformation and destabilization of social and political processes of recent decades was the revitalization of various social movements and organizations that require the authorities to improve protection of citizens from psychological and physical terror. Therefore the establishment of an adequate counter-terrorism system at the national level requires cooperation between national authorities and the public that involves both approval and consideration of the interests of citizens in self-defense organization, and implementation of appropriate advocacy with respect to antiterrorist decisions and measures of public authorities.

The interaction between national institutions and public organizations is one of the most effective ways to counter terrorism. This applies to the prevention of this phenomenon at both local (internal) and global (international) levels. Creation of effective system in Ukraine to counter terrorism and extremism would be a significant contribution to building a global security mechanism.

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