



Ismailova S.R.*

DOI: 10.25108/2304-1730-1749.iolr.2019.58.163-175

National interests like a basis of the national security of Azerbaijan Republic

Abstract: National interests of Azerbaijan Republic is a set of political, economic, social and other needs, ensuring the fundamental values and goals of the Azerbaijani people, as well as the prosperity of an individual, society and state.

One of the main objectives and directions of the national security policy of Azerbaijan Republic is to protect the population and territory of the country from external military intervention or threats, to ensure military security and to prevent external pressure on the sovereign rights of state authority. In order to ensure the national interests of the country in military field, the state forms its own policy of military security.

Keywords: national interests; national security concept; civil society; rights and fundamental freedoms of man; Azerbaijani people; supremacy of law and order.

As we noted earlier, there is no united opinion among scientists or practitioners concerning the notion ‘national interest’ and its content, as well as it is impossible to separate its scientific and practical aspects [3, p. 112-118; 4, p. 69-73].

Nevertheless, the Concept of National Security of Azerbaijan Republic, which approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan no. 2198 of May 23, 2007, contains the notion of the national interests of Azerbaijan Republic,

***Ismailova Sevinj Rauf qizi** – Doctoral Candidate of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, PhD in Law (Azerbaijan). E-mail: sevism@rambler.ru



ensuring of which provides for a set of goals, principles, approaches of policy and measures that aimed at protection of individuals, society and the state from internal and external threats based on independence of the state, its territorial integrity and democratic path of development [1, p. 561].

It should be noted that the Concept was preceded by the Law of Azerbaijan Republic “On National Security” dated June 29, 2004, in Article 6 of which is stated that national interests of Azerbaijan Republic are a set of fundamental values and goals, as well as political, economic, social and other needs of the Azerbaijani people that ensures the development and progress of an individual, society and state [2].

A.M. Hasanov justly notes that implementation of national development and security on the public level that is based on completely new principles has been begun since 1993. Theoretical and practical issues of the national development and security were brought up to a broad socio-political and scientific discussion and determined their conceptual frameworks. Since then, this policy covering all aspects of independent state-building processes has become one of the main instruments of national development and public administration [1, p. 83-84].

According to the Chapter 2 of the Concept of National Security, the national interests of the Republic of Azerbaijan consist of a set of fundamental values and goals of the people of Azerbaijan, as well as the political, economic, social and other needs necessary for the prosperity of the individuals, society and State. They are identified as follows:

- Protection of the State’s independence and territorial integrity, ensuring inviolability of its internationally recognized borders;
- Preservation of the unity of the people of Azerbaijan, and promotion of the national consciousness;
- Establishment of the civil society, ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;



- Strengthening the performance of State institutions and ensuring security of the people through developing democratic and civil society institutions, and by maintaining the rule of law and public order;

- Fulfilling international obligations and contributing to global and regional security and stability through development of cooperation aimed at integration into the value-shared international organizations;

- Creating favourable conditions for attracting foreign and domestic investment to develop a market economy, improve its legal basis and ensure economic stability;

- Ensuring the future development of the people of Azerbaijan, providing decent living standards and well-being for the population through efficient use of natural resources, sustainable economic development, environmental protection, and increasing educational, scientific and technological potential;

- Consolidating solidarity and national identity based upon the values shared by the Azerbaijanis around the world;

- Preservation of the cultural-historical heritage and spiritual values of the people of Azerbaijan and their enrichment through universal values, development of the language, national consciousness, patriotism, national dignity and the intellectual potential.

The Concept sees the ensuring of national interests in eliminating the threats its national security or keeping them under control [5].

According to the Chapter 4 of the Concept, the National Security Policy takes into account the multidimensional character of threats, which tend to blur the dividing line between external and internal security and require adequate multifunctional measures, including:

- a) promotion of security by foreign policy means (restoration of territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan; integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures; contribution to international security; cooperation with



international organizations; regional cooperation and bilateral relations, including cooperation with regional countries and cooperation with non-regional countries);

b) strengthening of defense capability;

c) promotion of security by domestic policy means, including strengthening of democracy, preservation of the environment of ethnic and religious tolerance, scientific, educational and cultural policy and preservation of moral foundations, economic and social development, enhancing internal security, reinforcing border security, migration policy, energy security policy, transportation security policy, emergency management and protection of environment and public safety and policy of information security [5].

Thus, it seen from stated that one of the main objectives and directions of national security policy of Azerbaijan Republic is protection of population and territory of the country from external military interference and threats, ensuring military security and preventing external pressure on the sovereign rights of state power. In order to ensure the national interests of the country in the military field the state forms own policy of military security.

Military policy of Azerbaijan is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence with all countries, respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of other states, non-interference in their internal affairs, inviolability and immutability of existing state borders.

The main principles, essence, goals and objectives of sociopolitical and socio-ethnic security in the country's national security system are reflected in the general areas of the National Security Concept of Azerbaijan Republic. Ensuring of supremacy of law, protection of public order, protection the rights and freedoms of man are presented in the document as main public functions of administration, and any attempts to destroy these functions, cases of separatism, ethnic, political, and religious extremism are considered the possible threats of national security and its content are regarded as a threat to the socio-political security of the country.



Under socio-political security is understood the political system ensuring the interests of an individual, society and the state, situation of security of political relations and institutions from external and internal threats [5].

The Concept of national security of Azerbaijan Republic among the threats to social and political security points out the attempts to undermine the constitutional order, violation of socio-political stability, inciting social and political confrontation, creating an atmosphere of chaos and conflicts in society, depriving citizens of their political rights and freedoms, the discrepancy between the requirements of the Constitution and real politics, the collision of various political forces, violation of the rule of law, weak civil society control over government institutions, ethnic separatism and nationalism, exacerbation of interethnic relations and other issues [5].

The objects of political security of Azerbaijan are: the territory of country, the state and socio-political institutions, structures of power, rights and freedoms of citizens and social groups, and the subjects are public bodies, society and citizens performing political security.

The system of ensuring social and political security integrates in itself all the means, methods and methods used to ensure it, and also the policy of socio-political security. The policy of ensuring the socio-political, socio-ethnic security and administration with national human resources are carried out, mainly, through domestic social institutions, political instruments, political instruments, national resources etc. Formation and national policy implementation in this direction is also accompanied with considering of current state and dynamics of development of political system of the country, degree of conjugation with external world (external actors) of geopolitical territory, where the state is located, ethno-social situation and other factors.



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