

# THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND IN ENSURING NATIONAL SECURITY

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## ABSTRACT

Ensuring internal as well as external security is a fundamental responsibility of every country which through creating proper institutions ought to protect its citizens against various dangers. In Poland, this very duty is shared by many entities. The armed forces are one of the basic “tools” of national security without which a country would not be able to fulfil its primary mission, particularly ensuring physical security, property safety and the protection of a country’s development.

There is no doubt that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland, taking into consideration personnel and equipment potential, will be used as a support so as to ensure internal order and to strengthen institutions and the services performing tasks for citizen’s security.

## KEY WORDS

The armed forces, internal security, the state, citizen, the system of security, dangers.

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## 1. Introduction. Outline

Security has been the most precious and protected value for a long time – to individuals and nations. Hence, ensuring security constitutes one of the fundamental needs and values of every country. The contemporary concept of security has a wider meaning than in the past. It involves military and political aspects, as well as the following factors: technological, economic, ecological, social and humanitarian. Furthermore, its scope includes the maintenance of a national identity and respecting the fundamental freedoms and rights of citizens. Security

is defined commonly as a state free from any unrest, creating a feeling of certainty. Security is an important existential need, resulting from the objective living conditions of various social groups and people, and their inter-relations, which must be satisfied (Babiński i in., 2015: 31). The development of security-related sciences leads inevitably to the concept detailing and the emergence of its numerous variations. The most common division – subject-related, divides security into national and international. The other criterion, often applied for security typology,

is the object-related criterion. It is auxiliary in relation to the subject-related division. However, it allows to separate and even sometimes create the types of security, which enrich the description of this concept analysed in the subject-related perspective. Therefore, journalism and scientific literature includes the following types of security with the object-related nature: ecological, maritime, religious, ideological, cultural, social, economic, military, political, internal and external. It may be stated with high conviction that this list is not exhaustive.

The use of the armed forces for supporting civil authorities in ensuring security to citizens has constituted one of the essential elements of the national security organisation. It happens particularly in situations when constitutional institutions and services are not capable of fulfilling their tasks on their own, especially, when given threats occur abruptly and unexpectedly. Sometimes, in the situation when other forces are not able to cope with the forthcoming tasks, and even when they are not able to fulfil them, the army is used. The armed forces are one of the key and basic "tools" of national security without which a country would not be able to fulfil its primary mission, particularly ensuring physical security, property safety and the protection of a country's development. Both nowadays and in the past, the use of the armed forces in actions within the country arouse doubts related to the possibility of their use in the maintenance of the non-democratic nature of power or in forcing solutions in the internal policy which are not popular in the society. The Polish experience within this scope has raised many concerns at the time of passing new legal regulations empowering the army to represent, supplement or even replace state institutions

and services protecting constitutionally the internal security.

The above condensed specification generates the main objective of this article which is the analysis of the participation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland in ensuring the state internal security. While considering the assumptions of scientific recognition, the following research problem must be formulated: What does the participation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland in ensuring state internal security consist in?

The above mentioned description implies the main objective of the study, which is as follows: The identification of the participation and significance of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland (RP) in ensuring security and the effective functioning of the state internal system.

The state (internal) security is affected by various factors with the majority of them connected with the economic condition of a given country, the functioning of public institutions and services, including mainly those responsible for counteracting terrorism, law-breaking, the effects of natural disasters, technical failures, etc. The level of the state internal security is assessed based on the emergency state of a security category whose measure is the feeling of safety expressed by citizens.

Emergencies include physical or social phenomena causing the state of uncertainty and concerns, that is violating the feeling of safety. The feeling of safety applies to all the fields of human life and activity, forming a multi-dimensional vector of the psychic comfort of people feeling safe; hence, this safety threats comprise the entire range of phenomena, including factors which violate the constitutional order and the peace and certainty of living

among people, in purely physical terms, that is they may result in the loss of life, health or property - being a foundation of such living and enabling the individual's further development, as well as the development of a community in which such an individual functions and which it is dependent on (Prońko, 2001: 50).

Social sciences define threats, *inter alia*, as dangerous and adverse for the basic values of a given subject (collective or individual) and the vital activity interests of other social life participants (Cieknowski, 2012: 11). With reference to the nation and the state, a hazard is defined as a risk of a situation in which a respective society has no conditions for its development and living or in which they are limited significantly. Whereas, the state security threat is a combination of internal events or in internal relations, in which there is a high likelihood of the loss or the limitation of conditions for the undisturbed development of the internal being or the loss or violation of the state sovereignty and its partner-like treatment in internal relations as a result of the use of military, economic, psychological, political, etc. violence (Dworecki, 2002: 65).

Such an approach, in terms of understanding the content and the essence of threats, is becoming more common. The following definition may be provided as a representative one for determining state security threats through values: a hazard for state security constitutes a sequence of events or actions, which:

- form a hazard in a considerably short period of time and drastically to the quality of life among the citizens of a given country;
- are connected with the significant limitation of the possibility of making political choices by private non-governmental institutions or the state gov-

ernment within a respective country (Stańczyk, 2006: 24). The state internal security threats must be regarded as sudden or unexpected events endangering population's life, property, environment or constitutional order. The classification of the state internal security threats may be taken as a reference point for the localisation of these threats sources. Hence, they may be divided into: external and internal. The threats to the state internal security with dominating internal factors are as follows:

- terrorism, organised crime, etc.;
- nationwide or regional riots or strikes;
- economic crises;
- technical catastrophes;
- vast natural disasters;
- armed political revolts or uprisings not transformed into a civil war;
- political crises forming a threat to the democratic state order, events infringing the constitutional order (Pawłowski, 2002: 163).

On the other hand, threats determined by external factors are as follows:

- the state military intervention as part of an alliance arising from international obligations, performed as part of reinstating or enforcing peace;
- the state - power armed intervention,
- an armed conflict between countries from further surroundings, forming a direct or indirect threat to the nation's interests;
- a civil war or a war between neighbouring countries;
- armed provocations, struggles or borderline incidents;
- mass migrations (Pawłowski, 2002: 163).

Some of the above mentioned threats are not typical threats to the state internal security. Nevertheless, they may transform into a crisis or by means of their consequences they may evoke a threat to the citizens' safety or life, health or property and undoubtedly also to the constitutional order. Moreover, the threats to the state internal security may be divided in terms of their formation causes. While accepting this assumption, all the threats may be classified as those formed as a result of the power of nature or human activities. As to the object of considerations, it seems that the following division of threats is essential:

- on a nationwide scale, that is threats, which right from their occurrence, cover a considerable part of the country or a larger part of its functioning areas;
- spreading, that is gradually transforming from crises on a limited scale to nationwide situations;
- those on a limited scale, that is occurring on a specific limited area or referring to the separated area of the state functioning and not resulting in crises beyond this area or fields (Kowalewski, 2015: 35).

Summing up, the state security threats may be considered according to the following criteria: development dynamics (creeping, dynamic), threats scale (administrative, state, international, world units), threats locations (external, internal), threats range (local, sub-regional, regional, continental, global), environments (scientific-technical, economic, political, social, natural), the nature of social relations (non-conflicting, conflicting), threats effects (psychic, physical), threats sources (cultural, psychological, educational, economic, ideological, demographical, political system, technical, natural, etc.) and object-related

(ecological, social, economic, military, political)(Merczyńska, 2011: 62).

The text content exposes relations between phenomena occurring in situations other than normal, demonstrating the methods of actions and counteractions. These are the obvious elements of the observational method but also of documents review. While analysing the phenomena at the borderline of ensuring security, this also provides the elements of a diagnostic survey.

## 2. The role and tasks of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland (SZ RP) in the process of ensuring the state security

Ensuring independence, the territorial inviolability of borders and the Polish citizen's safety is the absolute imperative of the defence of the national interests with an existential meaning, justifying the use of the entire potential of forces and measures which the country has. In order to ensure their implementation, the Republic of Poland organises and develops the integrated national security system with its key component – the state defence system which is appointed for obtaining and maintaining the capability of conducting effective defensive activities for the purpose of counteracting all the threats to essential national interests, including military aggression.

The nature of the threats in the contemporary world indicates that security organisation is more and more important in eliminating threats on an international scale, and this is not the priority of individual countries counteracting military threats. In the threats assessments, war conflicts between two countries are more and more regarded as highly un-

likely. Nonetheless, this does not mean that a war understood as a country state which involves a violent external or internal conflict and that is solved by force with the participation of the country's gross involvement (Zdrodowski, 2012: 78) may be eliminated completely from the prospective threats to the world. The analysis of the source literature clearly indicates that the prospective threats in the contemporary world include:

- international terrorism;
- organised crime increase;
- natural disasters, energy crises resulting from the lack of energy raw materials;
- or the lack of their supplies;
- the proliferation of the weapon of mass destruction;
- large differences in the economic development between the poorest and the most developed countries;
- a significant demographic increase in some countries (especially those with a low economic development level);
- the uncontrolled large migrations of population and the violent concentration of population in some regions;
- internal crises in countries and the lack of state bodies stability in some countries (Gierszewski, 2013: 25).

The end of the 20<sup>th</sup> c., in particular the 21<sup>st</sup>c., brought about changes in the perception of threats concerning armed conflicts. The specific analyses and forecasts referring to Europe indicate that they are of low likelihood. The membership of most countries, with a high military potential, in the same military alliance of the joint political and economic system minimises, or even excludes for a longer period of time, any armed conflict in Europe. Nevertheless, this does not mean the complete exclusion of the possibilities of using a military potential as an essential policy instrument in the further

future. Not all the European countries are the members of the European Union and NATO. Some of them have a large military potential and do not hide the possibility of using it in emergency.

All the European countries have their own armies whose first task is to ensure the inviolability of their territory and the sovereignty of the country, participation in the implementation of the state's international policy and assisting international bodies in eliminating and neutralising natural disasters and catastrophes. The armed forces in the state's legal system fulfil two functions: external and internal. An external function is connected with ensuring sovereignty and borderlines inviolability. Whereas, the internal function applies to aid and violence and an institution aimed at society integration (Balcerowicz, 2010: 31).

For many years, the tasks of the armed forces were associated only with the state defence system, that is the set of organisational, material and personal elements, interrelated and correlated, which fulfilled tasks to the benefit of the state defence. Nowadays, it is a common knowledge that the functions of the armed forces are considerably wider. They occur as one of the security, not only defence, subjects.

Security is a concept which is much wider than defence. It consists in not only guaranteeing the sovereignty and the inviolability of the state's territory but also survival, becoming independent on the entire range of threats, which may cause the gross infringement of the development of the most important security subject which is a human (Balcerowicz, 2010: 33).

The security system of Poland includes all the institutions and bodies, responsible for security in the light of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland (RP) and

proper acts, belonging to executive, legislative and judicial authorities, including the parliament, the president, the central bodies of government administration and the Council of Ministers (Strategia Bezpieczeństwa Narodowego RP, 2007: 21). In order to indicate the position of the armed forces in the state's security system, it is necessary to define their mission first, the purpose for which they are maintained. Furthermore, this position in the system results from the correlation with other subjects constituting the system. Therefore, the issue of the state's relations with other countries and international organisations is also important for the position of the armed forces in the security system.

National security arises considerably from the potential and the possibilities of the national economy but also from geopolitics and the significance of the state on the international arena (Ficoń, 2007: 289). This is the reason why the state pays attention to the participation of the armed forces in peace-keeping and stabilisation operations. The participation of the army of the Republic of Poland in foreign missions is an important element not only of the safety policy but also the foreign policy (Drzewicki, 2010/2011: 180). The armed forces of the RP, when participating in international operations, fulfil alliance obligations but they also act to the benefit of Poland by eliminating threats sources, neutralising conflicts at their source and in their surroundings. They prevent humanitarian catastrophes, stop infringing human rights, build a stable security environment (Ficoń, 2010/2011: 3). Everything what concerns security at an international level and which may become the actual danger for Poland is a new type of threats known as asymmetrical.

The most important features of an asymmetrical war include:

- Targets – the targets of asymmetrical attacks are entire territories, resources and the population of countries, the wider the destruction range is and the bigger the psychological effect is, the more complete fulfilment of such war's target is;
- Organisation – asymmetrical attacks are performed by various groups; well hidden, able to operate even in the territory of the country being attacked, they may be conducted by military representatives;
- Technical combat methods – weapon in asymmetrical attacks may take any form; starting from traditional measures, through nuclear, chemical and biological weapon, finishing with non-traditional measures, which are difficult to predict (traps, a computer attack);
- Range – asymmetrical attacks have a varied range scale, they have no geographical limits; an adversary may be attacked both in its own country and in any place worldwide, where its citizens or resources are located, attacks may be extremely intense;
- Attack methods – absolutely different from traditional military operations, similar to guerrilla actions, often with the use of criminal methods (Piątkowski, 2002: 12).

The rank of asymmetrical threats results, inter alia, from its more and more common occurrence in various regions worldwide and the increasing unpredictability of their outcomes. These are asymmetrical threats which have become the reason of difficulties in classifying threats into military and non-military, and they led to this division covering-up and blending. Each of these threats requires the pos-

session and the co-operation of various instruments both on a national and international scale (Kaczmarek, 2008: 20). The presence of the armed forces in the state security system entails their participation in the prevention, neutralisation and elimination of threats which evoke crises inside the state.

This is one of three tasks of the Armed Forces of the RP in the time of peace. The army is obliged statutorily to support other resorts at the time of disasters and catastrophes. The Act on the general defence obligation of the Republic of Poland of 21 November 1967 stipulates in Article 3.2 that the Armed Forces of the RP, apart from their obligation of defending independence and sovereignty, may participate in counteracting natural disasters and eliminating their effects, searching actions and rescuing people, cleaning terrains from explosives and military origin hazardous materials and their neutralisation, as well as anti-terrorism actions (Ustawa z dnia 21 listopada 1967r. o Powszechnym Obowiązku Obrony Polskiej Rzeczypospolitej Ludowej (Dz.U. 1967 nr 44, poz. 220).

The detailed methods of using the Armed Forces of the RP in the situations outlined in Article 3.2 of the aforementioned Act are stipulated by a series of acts and implementing acts. The armed forces' tasks, arising from the statutory regulations, detailed implementing acts and subsequent security strategies are determined in the national and alliance plans of emergency response and state defence. All the national security strategies (the document is subject to ongoing evaluation resulting from the changing political situation, in the dynamic world) outline generally the tasks of the Armed Forces of the RP, at the same time underlining the key role of the army in the

integrated security system of Poland and the fundamental role in national defence (Drzewiecki, 2010/2011: 21-23).

Pursuant to the indicated provisions, the Armed Forces of RP are the main element of the state's military subsystem, ready for the effective counteracting of external and internal threats violating the national interest of the state security and participation in the emergency response operations (Wojnarowski, 2005: 22). One of the vital tasks of the armed forces is the operational preparation of the state's territory for counteracting a military threat. This is a task, which may determine the state's defence ability and its defensive potential. The state's territory is one of the fundamental subjects of the defence system. Specific building structures, roads, devices, resources, relief have a significant impact on the course of each armed struggle (Wojnarowski, 2005: 23).

Preparing the state's territory may determine largely the national security. Therefore, it is crucial to assign an essential rank to such preparation at the stage of planning, organising and fulfilling specified defensive actions. Every NATO member, including Poland, is obliged to prepare an infrastructure indispensable for commanding and the operational use in the event of the armed conflict of alliance forces. The development of such an infrastructure, also for alliance purposes, is the task assigned to the host country (HNS) and it constitutes the element of a contribution to the collective defensive preparations of the Alliance. A crucial element of works performed in the country are investments as part of the civil-military (CIMIC) collaboration, aimed at increasing the possibility of the transfer and maintenance of the alliance army actions (Stachowiak, Płaczek, 2002: 341-356).

The key tasks within the operational preparation of the country's territory include:

- The distribution of the army in the territory of the country adequate for the anticipated tasks;
- The maintenance and modernisation of the indispensable military infrastructure;
- The creation of a modern computerised network;
- The adaptation of the military infrastructure and the civil infrastructure to the defensive needs;
- The modernisation of airports and seaports for the acceptance of the alliance strengthening forces;
- The modernisation of the road infrastructure, ensuring the mobility of the response of own and alliance army;
- Enabling the integration of the following functions: logistic, mobilising, training, rescuing and the transformation of the stationary logistics base (Stachowiak, Płaczek, 2002: 355).

The turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. and 21<sup>st</sup>c. brought about a change in perceiving the role of the armed forces in the functioning of democratic countries. The leaders of countries started to see the army not only as a defensive tool for an armed conflict or conquering other territories, energy sources or expanding markets. It was a more frequent situation that armies were assigned tasks connected with their participation in ensuring peace, in its creation, in stabilising a political situation. While responding to conflicts in different parts of the world, the leaders of countries and international organisations assigned a new objective to the armed forces – enforcement, with as minimum losses as possible, of peaceful behaviours in the international environment.

Unlike the typical peaceful actions conducted by the United Nations Organisation, a new method of peaceful responding and using the army was devised. It comprises military actions but in its minimum scope typical for the armed struggle. The applied struggle forms and methods must correspond to the occurring threats. The objective of the army is not to overcome an adversary and overtake its territory, but after a specified action during the armed conflict, to enforce a specific behaviour and action and stabilise the situation. This is about creating such a situation in which the army intervening is not seen as a threat but as the forces aiming at enabling the democratic and peaceful functioning of the country in accordance with the international legal regulations.

Pursuing the objectives, with as little people and equipment loss as possible, resulted in significant changes in the war art itself, which now had to be focused more on the neutralisation rather than the destruction of the adversary's forces and resources. The complete resignation from the mass and total destruction of people, devices and buildings was replaced with precise actions, deterrence and neutralisation.

A new approach to the use of the armed forces in the 21<sup>st</sup>c. resulted in their limited meaning in solving crisis situations worldwide. A priority meaning has been awarded to political, diplomatic and economic-financial actions. Each contemporary conflict reveals the considerable involvement of numerous civil, governmental and non-governmental institutions. The role of the army is to support such actions, participate, as one of many and not the only impact element, in the hot spot region of the world. Simultaneously conducted political, hu-

manitarian and military actions are the standard of the contemporary response. A new challenge for the armed forces of various countries is the ability to act in multi-national and multi-dimensional projects, in which soldiers from a few or several countries create generalship, combat elements and assistance elements.

Another way in which the army is used is merging the actions at the operational level and very often also at the tactical level. This is enforced by the operation effectiveness rule – achieving an objective with own and adversary's losses as low as possible.

The use of the Armed Forces of the RP to ensure the national security of Poland conforms to the afore presented adherence to the role and tasks of the army in other countries. The Armed Forces of the RP fulfil tasks which are determined primarily in the RP Constitution but also in a series of other normative documents (strategies, directives, plans, etc.).

As far as a minor armed conflict is concerned, the Armed Forces of the RP are obliged to ensure the defence of Poland by means of a defensive potential which is maintained in the time of peace. Whereas, in the event of an armed conflict on a larger scale, the Armed Forces of the RP are obliged to expand all the forces strategically (including launching the system of personnel and material reserves), to maintain more important building structures and areas of Poland and to accept the Strengthening Forces of the North Atlantic Treaty to the territory of the country. During such a conflict, the Armed Forces of the RP participate in the alliance defensive operation.

Both, the fundamental mission of the Armed Forces of the RP, as well as their tasks pertaining to the security of Poland,

must be reflected directly in the personnel, structure, armament, equipment and distribution of the respective military units. The mission and tasks of the army determine the implemented professionalization, modernisation and transformation of the Armed Forces of the RP.

An absolute imperative of the national interests defence is ensuring the safety of the Polish citizens, independence and the borderlines inviolability. The military core of the defence system is constituted by the Armed Forces of the RP which maintain their readiness for performing three types of tasks. These include: participation in the emergency response operations or humanitarian operations as part of the international situation stabilisation, counteracting aggression and guaranteeing the defence of the country as part of alliance obligations, as well as supporting the internal security and aiding the society.

Within the meaning of the provisions of the RP Constitution, the Armed Forces of the RP serve the protection of the independence and integrity of its territory and ensuring the safety and inviolability of its borderlines (Konstytucja Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej z 6 kwietnia 1997 r. (Dz.U. z 1997 r. nr 78 poz. 216), art. 26). Therefore, the Armed Forces of the RP fulfil tasks arising from the emergency response plans and the state defence. Obviously, the role of the Armed Forces of the RP in the NATO defence system and the alliance system must be also mentioned here. Furthermore, the Armed Forces of the RP participate in stabilisation and prevention tasks. In the time of peace, these are the main tasks within the emergency response package.

The Armed Forces of the RP may participate in counteracting natural disasters, extraordinary environmental threats

and eliminating their effects, as well as in the searching actions and life rescue actions (Ustawa o Powszechnym Obowiązku Obrony Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, art. 3 ust. 1a.). It should be added that the use of the Armed Forces of the RP is anticipated to the benefit of the non-military arrangement in order to prevent crisis situations in the conditions of announcing emergency states. During the emergency state, the President of the Republic of Poland, at the request of the Prime Minister, may decide on the use of the divisions and sub-divisions of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland for reinstating the normal functioning of the state, if the hitherto applied forces and measures have been exhausted (Ustawa o Stanie Wyjątkowym, art. 11 p. 1.). In the event of the natural disaster state in a given voivodship, the Minister of National Defence may submit the divisions and sub-divisions of the Armed Forces of the RP for the disposal of the voivode in order to prevent the effects of a natural disaster or to eliminate its damage and losses. As part of responding to crisis situations, the Armed Forces of the RP may participate in the following actions within the country:

- Antiterrorism actions;
- Flood and icing phenomena control,
- Snow removal actions;
- Rescue-fire extinguishing actions and spatial fire effects removal,;
- Recognition and elimination of contamination caused by a chemical failure (radiation accident) or the act of terrorism;
- Cleaning the terrain from explosives and hazardous objects;
- Searching-rescuing actions,;
- Anti-epidemics actions.

During the natural disaster state, if the application of other forces and measures is impossible or insufficient, the Minister of National Defence may submit the division or sub-division of the Armed Forces of the RP for the disposal of the voivode, whose area is covered by the natural disaster, directing them for the performance of tasks connected with preventing the effects of a natural disaster or eliminating its damage and losses (Ustawa o Stanie Klęski Żywiotowej, art. 18 ust. 1.).

Rescuing or prevention actions, participated by the Armed Forces of the RP include, among other things:

- Threats monitoring and assessment;
- Searching-rescuing tasks;
- Evacuation and the temporary ensuring of the living for the evacuated people;
- Isolating hazardous locations and the co-participation in the protection of the property left;
- Works requiring the use of specialised technical equipment and explosives from the resources of the Armed Forces of the RP;
- Removal of hazardous materials and their neutralisation;
- Special treatments;
- Reconstruction of the technical infrastructure;
- Co-participation in ensuring the access to traffic routes;
- Medical assistance and sanitary-hygiene and anti-epidemics tasks (Rozporządzenie Rady Ministrów z dnia 20 lutego 2003 r. w sprawie zasad udziału pododdziałów i oddziałów Sił Zbrojnych RP w zapobieganiu skutkom klęski żywiołowej lub ich usuwania (Dz.U. z 2003 r. nr 41 poz. 347).

The respective divisions and sub-divisions of the Armed Forces of the RP may be submitted for the disposal of a voivode for the purpose of fulfilling the

tasks pertaining to the prevention and removal of natural disaster effects in the complete personnel or as temporarily established task groups. Commanding such divisions is subject to the rules stipulated in the military regulations and as per the procedures valid in the Armed Forces of the RP.

The legal acts binding in the territory of the RP, such as the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, and the cited Act on the emergency management, ensure safety to the citizens. In the territory of the Republic of Poland, the tasks included in the scope of emergency management, are performed by the Council of Ministers.

A body issuing opinions and advice regarding the initiation and coordination of projects undertaken within emergency management is the Government's Panel for Emergency Management, consisting of: The Prime Minister, who is at the same time the chairperson of the panel, the Minister of National Defence and the minister competent for internal affairs, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister-Coordinator of Special Services, if it has been appointed.

The afore-enumerated statutory tasks indicate an important role fulfilled by the sub-divisions and the divisions of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland (SZ RP) in all the phases of emergency management. Nonetheless, the main part of tasks consists in the wide and key problems connected with the monitoring and neutralisation of threats, rescuing the life and health of people, protection, supplies and providing help, evacuation, elimination of effects, repair and reconstruction. The nature of these tasks indicate that in the first run, the professionally prepared sub-divisions and divisions of engineering army should be used. These

troops have proper engineering equipment which may be used for rescuing the injured, animals and property. The rescue actions also involve helicopters (transport, sanitary, reconnaissance) which constitute the equipment of all the types of armed forces. The use of the army in crisis situations takes place following three procedures:

- Basic – actions in such situations consist in notifying respective superior links by the representatives of a given administration level managing a region where a threat occurred, and such links, by agency of the Voivodeship Military Staff, notify a proper district generalship, which in turn orders commencing the action by specific military units.
- Alarm – a commander of a military unit, in extraordinary cases or at the request from the terrain, takes an independent decision on commencing the action and then it reports on the above fact to the commander of the military district.
- Order – the inclusion of the specified military units to the action takes place at the order of the commander of a military district, the commander of all the types of the armed forces, the chief of the General Staff of the Polish Army (WP) or the Minister of National Defence (Szymonik, 2011: 242).

If the use of the armed divisions and the sub-divisions of the Police Forces turned out to be insufficient, the divisions and the sub-divisions of SZ RP may help them. This happens pursuant to the decision of the President of the Republic of Poland issued at the request of the Prime Minister. Both the use of the Police and SZ applies mainly to the disorderly conduct.

The soldiers of the divisions and the sub-divisions of the armed forces submitted for helping the armed divisions and the sub-divisions of the Police are vested the police officer's rights, outlined in the Police Act, to the extent indispensable for fulfilling their tasks.

Furthermore, the Armed Forces of the RP may support the Border Guard in anti-terrorism actions. This may take place when on the Polish sea areas there is a threat resulting from the use of a ship or a floating object as a terrorism measure. The Minister of National Defence may issue a decision on the application of indispensable measures on the Polish sea areas to submerge such a ship or a floating object (Ustawa o Ochronie Żeglugi i Portów Morskich z 4 sierpnia 2008 r.).

The key fields of the possible collaboration of the National Fire Brigade (PSP) with the Armed Forces of the RP include: the functioning of the subsystem of the national security management, preventing and eliminating the natural disaster effects, conducting rescue actions, supervising the adherence to the fire protection regulations, education, science, etc. The essential collaboration area of PSP and SZ RP is the cooperation as part of the subsystem of the national security management, whose functioning may be divided into four task fields:

1. Threat monitoring, considering their type, scale and occurrence location.
2. Preventing the occurrence of threats.
3. Responding pertaining to the occurrence of a specific threat and eliminating its effects.
4. Managing the state defence in the event of a military aggression (Ziobro, 2015: 83).

When analysing the functioning of the security management system in the aspect of non-military threats, it may be no-

ticed that its key task is to ensure, at all the state organisation levels, a well-functioning, efficient, ordered system, based on the cooperation and collaboration of the authority bodies and security subjects participating in the system.

### **The Armed Forces of the RP in preventing the military and non-military threats. A security climate in terms of science and practice**

An extremely significant category determining the perception of (the quality of) the Armed Forces of the RP are the anticipated directions of changes in their development. The modernisation of the Armed Forces of the RP is to increase their ability to ensure the state security and defence, as well as the ability to fulfil alliance obligations and possible aid provided to the state bodies in the event of an internal threat, such as natural disasters.

While attempting to present scientifically the possibilities of the Armed Forces of the RP in the process of preventing non-military threats which constitute an essential factor for ensuring the internal security of Poland, firstly, one ought to refer to the problem of developing the national security system of Poland. In line with the basic recommendations contained in documents (enumerated earlier) normalising the security state of Poland, the said process should take place in conformity with the idea of the integrated approach, including the aspects of an operational strategy and a preparedness strategy<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The preparedness strategy – a concept describing planned changes in the scope of the respective subsystems of national security.

When considering the feasible development scenarios of the situation affecting the security conditions in the Republic of Poland, three main options of an operational strategy may be formulated, namely (Koziej, 2012: 28):

1. The option of the maximal internationalisation of actions to the benefit of the security of Poland is at the same time connected with shifting priorities to non-military actions<sup>2</sup>;
2. The option of the strategical independence and self-reliance, assuming a determined strengthening of the state's action independence in terms of security in the context of the collective security policy crisis in the Transatlantic community and in Europe<sup>3</sup>;
3. The option of the sustainable internationalisation and emancipation of the security of Poland, assuming strengthening the alliance bonds and bilateral relations with the key partners and the authentication of the external security pillars, with the simultaneous readiness for independent actions in situations when the full alliance authenticity cannot be guaranteed<sup>4</sup>.

It must be noted that by means of the decisive emphasising of the connection of national efforts with the international mechanisms of collective security, a basis for creating the basic development directions of the RP national security system, it is necessary to accept an option of the sustainable internationalisation and emancipation of the security of Poland. While considering the conditions of

the aforementioned options, the achievement of strategical objectives within the security should include:

- The maintenance of one's own determination and readiness for action in the complete scope of fields, sectors and areas of national security with priority given to those in which action scenarios (joint) may be hindered;
- Strengthening the international security community through deepening the integration processes in Europe based on the community interests, including in particular as part of the system of the collective defence of the NATO Common Foreign Policy and the Security Policy of the European Union, and strategical relations with the United States and its partners;
- Supporting and selective involvement in the preventive action consisting in preventing the occurrence of new threat sources or spreading of the already existing crises in the beyond-regional dimension and based on the legible international mandate (Koziej, 2012: 29).

The basic priorities of the operational strategy recommended in the perspective of the forthcoming decades are as follows:

- The maintenance and use of the ability, readiness and determination in the need of responding to any threats to the security of RP, in particular those in relation to which the authenticity of the alliance response cannot be guaranteed fully, in politically unclear situations and thus difficult to reach a consensus;
- The actions to the benefit of the Alliance consolidation around its basic function consisting in selective defence;

<sup>2</sup> A suggested option corresponds to the optimal (hypothetical) development scenario of the RP security situation in the forthcoming period.

<sup>3</sup> The option of strategical independence and self-reliance corresponds to the pessimistic development scenario of the RP security situation in the forthcoming time frame.

<sup>4</sup> The option of the sustainable internationalisation and emancipation of the security of Poland corresponds to the realistic development scenario of the RP security situation.

- Leading to the reinforcement of the Joint Foreign Policy and the Security Policy of the European Union, mainly the European Union accepting the new EU's security strategy, based conceptually on the commonality of security interests of member states and assuming the strict collaboration of the EU with NATO;
- The maintenance of a strategical partnership, based on the commonality of values and interests, with the USA and other countries important in terms of the security of RP;
- Conducting an active policy of taking opportunities and reducing risks, including participation in the international preventive operations of reducing threat sources and stabilising crisis situations;
- Ensuring the effective protection of subjects, economic and social potential against the destructive influence of internal and external threats during war, crisis and peace;
- Shaping the social, national and citizenship awareness referring to the meaning of human rights and freedom and the rules of their proper use without any detriment to the safety of other people, communities and the entire country;
- The maintenance of a high level of readiness to rapid responding to crisis threats, individual – to the citizens and collective – to the population;
- The organisation and ongoing implementation of the various forms of a social and economic support of actions to the benefit of the national security;
- Emphasising a new strategy, directive and development plans and operational plans on the most perspective dimension of national security, which becomes a widely understood cybersecurity (Gryz, 2013: 77).

The other key aspect is the concept of preparing the national security system referred to as a perception strategy. The basic strategical preparedness tasks include:

- Ensuring the uniform organisation of the management apparatus concerning all the states and circumstances of the state functioning at the organisational level;
- Ordering the legal system in order to ensure strategical control and efficient management of the national security system of the RP at the political-strategical level;
- Establishing a governmental coordinating entity;
- Ordering the competence division within emergency management;
- Preparing bodies and offices handling such bodies for functioning in the integrated management system;
- Preparing an infrastructure enabling the functioning of organisational and planning entities;
- Creating integrated telecommunication systems and information technology support of a decisive process (Koziej, 2012: 32-33).

What is particularly important here is the process of improving operational subsystems whose transformation should concern two basic subsystems: defensive and protective.

Yet another crucial area within improvement should be preparations covering the social and economic links of security support. The preparedness actions concerning the social links of security support should include:

- The acceptance of system solutions increasing the role of social organisations, organisations issuing opinions, analytical centres, etc. in state security issues;

- The reinforcement of the role of the non-governmental sector in security matters;
- The reinforcement of the role of local bodies and citizen's bodies in security matters;
- The improvement of the co-ordination and financing of actions in the sphere of human freedom and rights protection and research and education;
- The subject of national security in the mission of public media and journalists education.

The preparedness actions concerning the economic links of security support should include, among others:

- The determination of the economic security structure through delegating responsibilities and tasks to specific bodies, entities or persons, together with tools enabling their fulfilment;
- The diversification of the structure of electricity generation, i.a. through the construction of a nuclear power plant and the development of renewable energy sources;
- Conducting the reform of public finances, considering the limitation of excessive budget deficit, as well as changing the organisation and management of public finances;
- Maintaining the control over the strategic elements of the power infrastructure by the State Treasury;
- The elaboration of a long-term strategy concerning the geological resources of Poland and the extension of the storage capacities for liquid fuel;
- The acceptance of the government's programme of strategical reserves and ensuring financing at the level enabling the fulfilment of tasks planned in the long-term strategical perspective (Koziej, 2012: 34).

The implementation of the above mentioned major directions and assumptions of the development of the RP national security system should primarily consider the preparedness of proper legislative initiatives and draft decisions concerning national security by the President of the RP, Government, Parliament and other state bodies.

The development of the armed forces and accompanying changes mostly arise from the anticipated threats and economic possibilities. Three most probable scenarios determining the future of the security of Poland are defined in the following dimensions: positive, negative and feasible. A positive variant assumes the complete lack of military threats, negative – the inevitability of the future armed conflict with participation of Poland. The third, feasible scenario, does not anticipate any conflict in the near future; yet, it does not exclude it completely in the long run. Furthermore, this variant assumes the deterrence of prospective adversaries through the essential defensive abilities of Poland and the participation in the joint actions with NATO and EU allies.

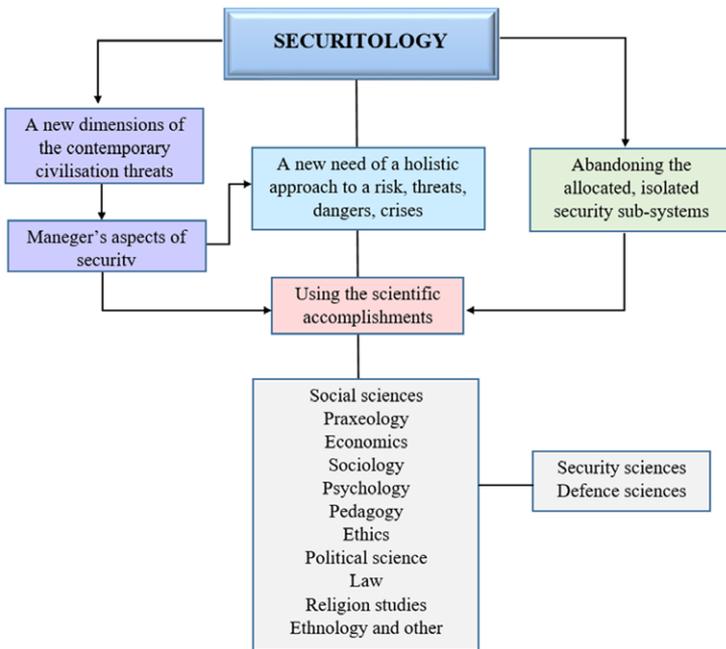
The involvement of the RP in the structures of the Alliance and the Union increases our safety, and the army of allies constitute a part of the defence system of our country. Nevertheless, membership in NATO and EU obliges Poland to ensure participation in the security and defence system of our allies. The held military potential corresponds to the basic defence needs of Poland; however, it needs to be expanded on a continuous basis.

Every country in the world, regardless of its significance in the international aspect or its size, deems the widely understood security issues as the priority of the implemented policy. One of the basic functions of the state is striving for

ensuring its subjects, operating on its territory, as well as citizens with security understood as widely as possible. The contemporary concept of security may be interpreted differently and may take various research approaches. The issues of referring to security constitute the inevitable recognition element. The aim of the indicated thought is the presentation of a theoretical concept of the state internal security. It is needed to discuss the concept of security, specify the science and practice of security – securitology, as well as the presentation of information on internal security and threats to this security.

A term being implemented nowadays, comprising a range of sciences related to security is securitology, that is a science of the effective and safe protection of each human, of a preventive nature, preceding risks, threats and hazards, contributing to crisis prevention, looking for the universal solutions of a practical action for security in each dimension of human existence (Korzeniowski, 2009: 7).

The research area of securitology comprises threats and a state regarded as safe. Hence, securitology is a science combining theory with practice. The dependences are presented in the figure below.



Source: author's study based on, L. F. Korzeniowski *Securitology. Human and social organisation security science*, Warszawa 2009, Krajowe Stowarzyszenie Ochrony Informacji Niejawnych, p. 44.

The securitology theory (identification of threats) enables hazards forecasts. Whereas, practice depends on influencing the existing security level and assigning required features to it (Korzeniowski, 2009: 9).

Securitology comprises projects aimed at protection against the adverse effects of the contemporary civilisation development and force majeure. It takes from the accomplishments of praxeology, sociology, political science, ethics, religion stud-

ies, pedagogy, economics, and natural, technical, legal and medical sciences.

The subjects of securitology include:

- Concept definition,
- Topic outline,
- The essence of theory, the essence of practice,
- Securitology praxeology,
- Humanitarian, universal aspect (Korzeniowski, 2009: 20).

The integration of security sciences requires a system approach since a single threat may generate problems with many areas of human activity and it will also require a comprehensive approach towards solving such problems. This challenge must be faced by securitology which is the system of projects blending to the benefit of security in various separated human subsystems. This is the philosophy of integrating all the known security aspects (Korzeniowski, 2009: 44).

The presented specifications depict – make us aware – that a single super component (service) responsible for the anticipation, neutralisation, etc. of threats does not exist.

This is a complex area where lots of entities and institutions are active, which must treat improvement in the discussed matter as a continuous process, and hold the awareness of cooperation and experience exchange in building the security situation, including the state internal security.

One of such initiatives or solutions is the appointment of the Territorial Defence Forces as an integral part of operational troops (the Minister of National Defence on 25 April 2016 executed the concept of territorial defence). Currently, many European countries search for a method of increasing the potential of armed forces with the use of moderate outlays and the idea of territorial defence (OT) is the ex-

act example of such a trend, it is a system solution functioning in many countries.

## Summary

The use of the armed forces in order to support civil authorities in ensuring security to citizens has constituted one of the essential elements of the national security organisation. It takes place particularly in situations when constitutional institutions and services are not capable of fulfilling their tasks on their own, especially, when given threats occur abruptly and unexpectedly. Sometimes, in the situation when other forces are not able to cope with the forthcoming tasks, and even when they are not able to fulfil them, the army is used.

The armed forces are one of the key and basic tools of national security without which a country would not be able to fulfil its primary mission, particularly ensuring the safety of its citizens and the protection of a country's development possibility.

As a result of the research process, the participation and significance of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland (RP) in ensuring security and the effective functioning of the state internal system was identified. Although the international situation has been and will be changed drastically, it is not possible to claim that in the time of peace, troops are not needed by countries. The current use of the army as a force aiding the order and rescue services is a very good solution, which in fact is a standard, especially in the situation when the armed forces are the institution which is most trusted and respected by the society.

Concluding the above divagations, the following observations may be made:

- The Armed Forces are a very important element of the country not only in

a crisis situation or war but also in other situations different than the accepted standards in the time of peace;

- The more numerous army is and the better trained it is, a given country is deemed more as a significant and meaningful in terms of the army, thus the international environment respects such a country more;
- But for the army, the effects of many natural disasters and other emergencies would be more tragic in effects and scale, and introducing a public order (recovery of internal security) in the country would also pose problems without the support and use of the potential of the Armed Forces.

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