THE ROLE OF THE SUBJECTS OF THE PRIVATE SECURITY SUBSYSTEM IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA IN PROVIDING SECURITY IN URBAN AREAS

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Apstrakt

Transformacija društveno-političkog i ekonomskog sistema u zemljama u tranziciji, uključujući i Makedoniju, dovela je do velikih promena, čime je privatna svojina stekla dominantni oblik, nastala je uzastupna decentralizacija određenih ovlašćenja od javnog ka privatnom obezbeđenju.

Segmenti podsistema privatne bezbednosti, tj. agencije za obezbeđenje ljudi i imovine i detektivi, sa svog položaja u bezbednosnom ambijentu, dobijaju značajnije mesto i ulogu u održavanju opšte bezbednosti, čime imaju važan udeo u uspešnom obezbeđivanju i sigurnosti urbanih sredina u jednoj modernoj državi, a posebno u preventivnoj funkciji.

Podaci da je dosad Ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova Republike Makedonije izdalo 333 dozvola za rad agencijama za obezbeđenje ljudi i imovine (od kojih na tržištu aktivno rade oko 114), Komora Republike Makedonije za privatno obezbeđenje izdala je oko 19.000 licenci i oko 5.300 službenih legitimacije, kao i to da su registровани i rade osam privatnih detektiva, ukazuje da postoji napredak u razvoju ovog bezbednosnog podsistema u RMakedonije, uprkos određenim nedostacima, počeo značajno da se razvija u poslednjih deset godina.

Generalno, aktivnosti subjekata podsistema privatnog obezbeđenja u R.Makedoniji, imaju pozitivan doprinos bezbednosti naše zemlje i pružanje veće sigurnosti u urbanim sredinama, dopunjujući policiju u nekim njenim aktivnostima, tako da danas, pored fizičkog i tehničkog obezbeđenja ljudi i imovina, aktivnosti agencija za obezbeđenja i detektiva su također usmerene ka sprečavanju i borbi protiv određenih oblika organizovanog kriminala, uključujući osiguravajuće prevare, povrede prava intelektualne svojine, rješavanju određenih predmeta koji uključuju krađe vozila itd.

Trenutni globalni trend povećanja i razvoja privatnog bezbednosnog podsistema, naspram potrebe za veću sigurnost u urbanim sredinama, zahtevaju uklanjanje i sprečavanje negativnih efekata izazvanih novim i sofisticiranim tehnikama, kao i stalnog prilagođavanja i doizgradnju savremenog sistema bezbednosti (u ovom pravcu i privatne bezbednosti), preko iznalaženja mogućnosti unapređenja njegovog koncepta i proaktivnog doprinos uspešnom sprečavanju i suzbijanju kriminala, uopšte.

Keywords: sistem bezbednosti, privatna bezbednost, agencije za obezbeđenje ljudi i imovine, detektivi, sigurnost u urbanim sredinama

Abstract

The transformation of the society – the political and economic system in the countries of the transition, among which was the Republic of Macedonia (RM), has brought about enormous changes which with the private property has gained dominant form and gradual decentralization of certain departments in the public and private security came into being.

The segments of the private security subsystem (PSS), respectively the security agencies of persons and property and the detectives with their position in the security ambient,
are gaining significant place and role in the maintaining of the overall security, with which they have important contribution in the successful security and the security of urban areas in one modern country, especially in its preventive function.

The data that the Ministry of Interior Affairs (MOI) in the Republic of Macedonia has issued 333 working permissions to the security agencies of persons and property (114 of which are active on the market), the Chamber of RM for private security has issued around 19.000 licenses and around 5.300 official identity documents, also that 8 private detectives are registered and working shows that there is a progress in the development of this security subsystem in RM which, despite certain flaws, started to develop significantly in the past ten years.

In general, the activities of the private security subsystem subjects in RM have positive influence on the security in our country and on the ensuring of higher security in urban areas, complementing the police in some of their activities, so that at this point, apart from the physical and technical security of persons and property, the activities of the security agencies of persons and property, and of the detectives are also oriented towards inhibition and fighting against certain forms of organized crime, including the security dishonesties, violations of the intellectual ownership right, solving specific cases regarding vehicles theft etc.

**Keywords:** security system, private security, security agencies of persons and property, detectives, security in urban areas.

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**Introduction**

As one of the countries of the transition, during the past few years in the RM a transformation of the socio-political and socio-economic system took place, and as a result to the changes of the proprietorial relations, the private property became dominant form of ownership. The dynamic social life, as well as the challenges and needs of the modern times have determined a “privatization process” of the security functions in the countries’ systems around the world, which contributed to the improvement of the overall national security. That meant gradual transference of certain regulatory authorities (transfer of particular services) from the public to the private security which influenced the transformation of the country’s security system, as well as establishing a new, private security subsystem, with prevention as its primary function, and directed, above all, towards personal protection and citizens’ property protection.

The security agencies of persons and property and the detectives, as special segments of the private security subsystem of RM, due to their position in the security environment are gaining a very significant place and role in the maintenance of the entire security, thereby they play a important role in the successful restriction and repression of certain forms of organized crime in one modern country, especially in its preventive function, therewith we can talk about better security of the citizens, which is actually one of the basic thorough values set by the constitution as the highest legal act in the country.

Undoubtedly, all subjects that constitute the safety system have their own place and role, however, only entirely adjusted in one modern security concept can respond to today’s security challenges, threats and dangers. From here arises the importance of integrating the private security subsystem as a structural segment of the overall security system.
Private Security in the Republic of Macedonia

The private security means systematic, organized and imposed by law, independent or common activity and function of individuals, corporations, private and/or professional agencies, oriented towards self-protection or protection of others, as well as protection of respective people, areas, objects, work or activity, but which are not covered with exclusive protection of the state organs (Stajić, 2008) its main goal is eliminating possible endangering of individuals, damaging, destroying or unqualified usurpation of assets, through proactive work – with analytic methods and on – time stopping, as well as reactive work – through inhibition and sanction of the consequences, creating secure conditions for more stable and more efficient work of the companies with increase of their profit as a goal. Unlike the state security system, whose role is repressive and preventive, the private security subsystem is preventively oriented, and with its utilization we can talk about higher security of all citizens in urban areas. Having in mind the fact that until now in RM the Ministry of Interior Affairs has issued 333 work permissions to the security agencies of persons and property (114 of which are active on the market) and the association for private security of RM has issued around 19.000 permissions and around 5.300 official identity documents, also that eight private detectives are registered and working, signifies that there is a progress in the development of this security subsystem in RM, which despite certain flaws started to develop significantly for the past ten years.

The legal rules that cover this matter are located in the Constitution of RM, the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure, Law on Internal Affairs, Police Law, Law on Private Security, the Law on detective work, the Law on weapons, Law on protection and rescue, Law of Conflagration, the Statute of the Court of RM of private security as well as other bylaws in security and detective work.

Subjects, on the other hand, of the private security subsystem in RM are: security agencies of persons and property (as legal entities registered for the provision of services or for personal needs), Chamber of RM for securing people and property, detectives and the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

1. The security agency of persons and property/private security agencies (PSA) registered for regular operations through registration in the Central register for business 80.10. and despite general, it is necessary to meet the specific conditions: at least 10 people, full time employees, who have a license to perform work on securing people and property1 and have ID for security2 (issued by the Court), as well as a work permit for the legal person (issued by the Ministry of Interior Affairs in RM). The founder of PSA can be host (legal or natural) person.

With the changes in the Law of private security3, that was enforced on 01.01.2013, the Law of securing people and property stops being valid from the year 1999. With the changes in the Law of private security the members of the private security gain bigger authorization and responsibilities.

2. The Chamber of RM for securing people and property was established in June 2000, whose activity is directed towards the successful organization of the security of persons and property, promoting qualifications, professionalism, and business in activity, as well

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1 The necessary conditions for getting the license are: the person to be a citizen of the RM, to have a residence in the RM, with a verdict should not be pronounced with a security measure - ban on performing profession, activity or duty, to have completed at least secondary school, two years before a license not to carry out works in the field of security and defense tasks by authorized officials and have passed the exam (consisting of theoretical and practical part), taken before a commission established by the Minister of Interior, composed of persons employees hired by the Interior Ministry and the Chamber

2 To obtain the card, despite the absence of confirmation ban for the activity, you need a medical certificate of general health.

as protection of the profession with the condition for the formation of the association for at least 10 legal entities.\textsuperscript{4}

In the period 2006-2010 year the Chamber worked to ensure people and property and detective services “Detective Skopje” and issued licenses for the provision without prior approval from the Ministry of Interior Affairs.

3. \textit{Detective Work} though, in RM can be performed only with a detective with obtained license to perform detective work, issued by the Ministry of Interior Affairs. According to the available data for this kind of activity in our country are issued eight licenses for private detective.

4. The control and supervision over PSS is performed by the Ministry of Interior Affairs. In addition the administrative – legitimate supervision has the responsibility of the Department for weapons, explosives and dangerous substances\textsuperscript{5} as an integral unit of the Department of administrative work at the Ministry of Interior Affairs – Skopje, while the cases of excess of powers are within the competence of local police stations.\textsuperscript{6}

Security in urban areas and the subsystem of private security in the Republic of Macedonia

In the Republic of Macedonia, activities of the agencies for securing people and property in urban areas are aimed at physical and technical security of large industrial buildings, apartment complexes, shopping and sports facilities, warehouses and other storage spaces, residential and other buildings, and installing control alarm systems, monitoring sensors, access control facilities, interventions fire alarm system in case of failures and more.

On the other hand, private detectives are focused on collecting information on stolen and lost items, missing and concealed persons, insurance fraud (mostly in cases of vehicles), solving cases of theft of luxury vehicles, harming rights associated with intellectual property, the creditworthiness private companies etc.

In this way, the subjects of private security subsystem positively contribute and provide greater security in urban areas, helping and complementing the activities of the police services in our country. All this, in terms of increased security threats, strengthens the feeling of greater security perception.

The state of the private security subsystem in other states

Conditions of development of the private security subsystem in Serbia and Kosovo do not deviate significantly, which is not the case with Croatia, Slovenia, Germany and especially Canada in which under the PSS there are private and criminal investigations and activities of corporate security.

\textsuperscript{4} Responsibilities of the Chamber are: organizing taking the exam, issuing licenses and ID cards; PSA keeping records, keeping records of employees with licenses and ID cards, paying a special attention to providing proper conditions for successfully and independently perform the duties of security, protecting the scope of work, public and official authorities, organizing international conferences and workshops, publication of professional literature and newspapers, holding annual meetings and so on.

\textsuperscript{5} Regular responsibilities of this Department include: going out on the spot during the fire control facilities and warehouses that possess firearms and explosive materials, issuing approval for petrol pumps, tanks, gas appliances and more, and control over the operation of the PSA.

\textsuperscript{6} Who decide of each case on its own assessment, based on previously submitted report PSA for the application of enforcement means. Provided by senior officials in the PA estimate is inexcusable that the application is filed appropriate criminal or misdemeanour charges. Simultaneously, the application and results of treatment of the competent police station shall be notified in writing to the Commissioner’s Public Order and Peace, the SVR - Skopje, which continues to inform the Police Department in the Bureau of Public Security.
In the highly developed countries the private security has its own authorities and warrants in the investigation of criminal deeds, so their activities overlap with the police activities. Actually, a large number of detective agencies offer services of operational working and solving crimes which are prosecutes through official duty, and the private investigators often confirm the credibility of the evidence of the police, help finding witnesses, gathering evidence in favor of the defense, etc. In this regard, some authors consider that the activities of the private investigators represent direct competition to the crime police and the private detectives, but at the same time show that if these subjects who can lead parallel investigations stick to the law do not present a threat but serve as help to find the truth (Gill & Hart, 1997).

Models of cooperation and relations. In the era of modern living and the new security challenges it has been noted a bigger and growing cooperation between the subjects of the state security system and the private subsystem, in relation to restricting new forms of crime and terrorist threats. The private security often appears as “prolonged activity” of the police and other state organs, especially because of the fact that the employees in the security agencies of persons and property are present in fields which can be of interest to the criminal and terrorist activities.

In context of the cooperation between the two subjects, there are understandings that it is most effective in the area of controlling the crime of the “white collars” area and the corporative crime. In due course, the director of the FBI, William Webster directed the powers of the FBI towards the private security, explaining that the “private security industry serves the business” and that “it is among the front rows” where the corporate crime takes place sending his appeal to help (with his participation) in the realization of the private security function (Bailey, 1989).

Therefore, the most optimal way of responding the security challenges is the coordinated, in time and open cooperation in conditions of globalization when the interdependence of the global and local security issues is in its highest, and the link between the one and the other aspect is almost inextricable (Gerasimoski, 2008, s. 395).

Results of the conducted research

In the context of the role of the subjects of the private security subsystem in the Republic of Macedonia in the security and safety of citizens and their property, the article below contains results from the empirical survey7 realized in 2010 in 9 towns of the Republic of Macedonia.

The research was conducted with the aim of understanding the role of the subjects of the subsystem of private security in the Republic of Macedonia in providing greater security for citizens and their property, views expressed by the different categories of respondents, the level of customer satisfaction with the services of security agencies and the need of transferring some of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Interior Affairs to agencies.

The sample consisted of 253 citizens, 123 service users, 20 managers of security agencies to persons and property, 2 Presidents of Chambers for private security and 2 representatives from the Ministry of Interior Affairs, engaged for control of the activities of the security agencies.

Table 1. What do you think about the role of the private security subsystem in regards with the security and safety of citizens and their property?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Managements of PSA</th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher security</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It doesn’t have an influence</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7 The results are the part of master thesis „The authorities of subjects of private security in the Republic of Macedonia – factor for the safety of citizens and their property“ (Petrevski, 2010).
For the positive influence of the private security, after the overall security spoke out, even the managers, with 85%, one president of the Chamber, as well as two members of the Ministry of Interior Affairs. A high percentage of the three groups conclude that the private security of today’s level of development still influences the improvement of the citizens’ security and the security of their property.

Table 2. How the private security influences the security of the citizens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizens</th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, it has a positive influence</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>47.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has a partial influence</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>36.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has a negative influence</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am not sure</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In total number of citizens included in this survey, 84.19% think that the activity of the subjects of private security subsystem has fully or partially positive impact on the safety of citizens, and their negative attitude is in regards with: disorder, insufficient level of development and quality of the services, non – loyal competition, inappropriate managing, insufficient staff training, giving service only pro – form, however, all of that, especially is in regards with the low prices and standard in the country.

Table 3. Do you feel safe and secure since you started cooperating with the security agency?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Users of Services</th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I feel completely secure</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>73.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel partially secure</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t feel secure</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel even more insecure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not responded</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Highest percent of the citizens (74%) have declared that cooperating with the security agencies, i.e. using their services makes them feel more secure. The mere fact that certain person or object is under protection of a specialized security agency works preventively against the potential violators of the security of persons or objects and draws them away from their intentions. If we gather the answers to the two questions: 1. I feel completely secure with 74% and 2. I feel partially secure with 21% and that means that 95% of the citizens using the services of the security agencies are satisfied and feel completely or partially secure. The citizens who answered that they don’t feel safe take only 2.44%. According to the citizens’ opinion, the legal entities who give security services justify their existence by making the citizens feel more secure and with their engagement the Police work is made easier and they can focus on solving sophisticated crimes. According to the citizens’ opinion, they are satisfied with the services of the agencies, above all because of their professionalism, the expertness in acting, keeping trade secret, as well as the substantial material – technical competence which are vital terms for providing quality services in the private security segment.
Table 4. To what degree are you satisfied with the quality of the service you get from the security agency of persons and property, regarding the security, your own and of your property?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspects of the service</th>
<th>Users of services</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very satisfied</td>
<td>Satisfied</td>
<td>Partially satisfied</td>
<td>Little satisfied</td>
<td>Not satisfied</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
<td>f %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>64 52,03</td>
<td>49 39,84</td>
<td>7 5,69</td>
<td>1 0,81</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>123 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of the service</td>
<td>45 36,59</td>
<td>60 48,78</td>
<td>17 13,82</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1 0,81</td>
<td>123 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping trade secrets</td>
<td>75 60,98</td>
<td>42 34,15</td>
<td>3 2,44</td>
<td>1 0,81</td>
<td>2 1,63</td>
<td>123 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expertness in acting</td>
<td>67 54,47</td>
<td>50 40,65</td>
<td>4 3,25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 1,63</td>
<td>123 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material – technical competence</td>
<td>56 45,53</td>
<td>52 42,28</td>
<td>8 6,50</td>
<td>2 1,63</td>
<td>5 4,07</td>
<td>123 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The status towards the client</td>
<td>68 55,28</td>
<td>40 32,52</td>
<td>4 3,25</td>
<td>1 0,81</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>123 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The overall work</td>
<td>62 50,41</td>
<td>55 44,72</td>
<td>5 4,07</td>
<td>1 0,81</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>123 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5. Do you want a part of the jurisdiction of the MOI to be transferred in the security agencies of persons and property?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Managers of PSA</th>
<th>f</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regarding the idea for contemporary concept of security, part of the jurisdiction of MOI to be transferred in the security agencies of persons and property, there is a divided opinion among the managers. The representatives of and Presidents of Chambers fully agree with this idea.

The positive attitude is explained with the need of the MOI to be oriented towards discovering and solving serious crimes, while the security agencies of persons and property will be more efficient in: money transport, patrol work, constant supervision of the objects through monitoring center, securing public manifestations and some public institutions and objects.

The negative attitude goes with the explanation that the security agencies of persons and property still haven’t reached the necessary level for quality performing of these activities by reason of lack of order, discipline, hierarchy, competences, higher criteria, law regulation, efficient control and opportunity for maltreatment during reciprocal calculation.

Discussion

The bigger part of the respondents consider that the security agencies of persons and property primarily perform their preventive role in the public security successfully, so that they take minimum responsibilities of patrol activity, which was performed by local police stations, which lowers the state costs. The security agencies of persons and property enable higher level of protection, especially of the property, which the police is not able to cover. Hereupon, a special role has the patrol security which regularly goes round the objects, and that objectively lowers the crime and draws higher response and trust among the citizens. Certain Security agencies of persons and property have reached high level of development and quality of the services, but the non – existence of standards lowers the price, the salaries and possibilities for training the employees.

However, PSS to the level to which is developed until now, it can be concluded that it has a positive impact of increased security of citizens and their property (85% of managers and representatives
of the MOI) and of a sense of security of citizens (84.19%) and recipients (95.12%). However, there is insufficient clear in the majority of citizens and the MOI about the role of PSA in total safety, so many of them are seen as uneducated, “hair-cut” guys who carry weapons and “pose a threat to security” and 53.76% of citizens believe that workers in providing PSA choose their profession because they have no other choice. This is an indication of lack of promotion of this activity in front of the public in RM or insufficient development of PSS, according to market needs, on which have to work.

**Perspectives of subsystem of private security in the Republic of Macedonia**

According presented results, in the future is expected PSA to be engaged in providing security in governmental institutions, National bank of RM, embassies, etc., diplomatic – consular representative firms, juveniles, children’s residential homes, depots, airports, railway stations, forests, national parks etc. as well as conducting minor investigations because they have more frequent contacts with the citizens. In addition MOI will only control and give suggestions, and will be released from certain, to them, "inessential activities, due to which the competitive attitude will stop and the efficiency of the two segments will increase. With the utilization of that model we can talk about the private security system as integral subsystem of the whole security system of one democratic society. Some of the respondents with positive attitude consider that, after all, certain vital objects should remain under jurisdiction of MOI, due to higher state interest.

In this sense, also we can expected to: consolidation of this subsystem (65% of managers and representatives of MOI), privatization of certain aspects of security (50% of managers, president of Chambers and representatives of MOI), and in addition to opening this market to foreign capital there is a dual attitude (except the representatives of MOI, which is entirely negative). There is also lack of awareness about the need of cooperation between PSA and insurance companies, primarily among managers of insurance agencies, as well as the representatives of MOI, so between the two segments at this point there is a competitive relationship.

The assessment is that in general, the activities of the subjects of the private security subsystem in RM in the future also will have positive contribution to the security in our country, complementing the police in certain activities, so that at this point, apart from the activities of the security agencies of persons and property related to the physical and technical security of persons and property will be directed towards successful security of urban areas in one modern country, especially in its preventive function. The activities of private detectives will grow, especially in the field of fighting against certain forms of organized crime, including the security frauds, violation of the laws of intellectual property, solving certain cases connected with vehicles theft, etc.

**Conclusions**

The constant global trend of higher and higher development of the private security subsystem, against the need for prevention and removal of harmful consequences caused by the newer and more sophisticated techniques, require permanent adjustment and building of a modern security system (in this direction a private security subsystem as well), through creating a possibility for promotion of its concept in the successful security and of the security in urban areas and more active contribution in direction of successful restraining and repressing the crime.

The cooperation between the private security and the state safety sector as an integral security system, in function of the modern security concept, requires permanent, sincere, and partner relationship for successful performance of the security function, whereupon mutual promotions are needed in the raising of the conscience of the members of the two segments and the population in general. In that contexts, there is a need for precise definition of the forms and methods of cooperation between the subjects of the private security subsystem and the police, and especially the way of communication and fast exchange of information, are important
conditions in the direction of more adequate preventive – repressive position and functioning of this security segment.

So, the organization and functioning of the modern security system implies its permanent adjustment and rebuilding as a response to the new security challenges, threats, risks, and endangering, for their prevention and removal of the harmful consequences.

References