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## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPTS OF ECONOMIC SECURITY AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

### КОМПАРАТИВНИЙ АНАЛІЗ ПОНЯТЬ ЕКОНОМІЧНОЇ БЕЗПЕКИ ТА ЕКОНОМІЧНОЇ СТІЙКОСТІ

*In the context of global challenges and multidimensional threats facing modern economic systems, it is extremely important to develop a unified scientifically sound framework to ensure the sustainable functioning of economies at various levels. The purpose of this study is to conduct a theoretical and methodological analysis of the concepts of economic security and economic sustainability. The study conducted a categorical analysis based on definitions, which made it possible to identify the specifics of each category. The practical significance of the study lies in the fact that the proposed theoretical provisions can be integrated into the system of strategic planning and public administration, in particular in the formation of economic recovery policies, strengthening institutional capacity, ensuring financial stability, developing human potential, and building flexible economic models.*

**Keywords:** economic security, economic sustainability, economic system, strategic management, development.

В умовах глобальних викликів та багатовекторних загроз, що постають перед сучасними економічними системами, надзвичайно актуальним є формування єдиної науково-обґрунтованої термінології для забезпечення сталого функціонування економік різного рівня. У цьому контексті дослідження співвідношення понять економічної безпеки та економічної стійкості дозволяє окреслити чіткі методологічні орієнтири для розробки стратегій реагування на виклики та загрози різного рівня. Метою даного дослідження є здійснення теоретико-методологічного аналізу вказаних категорій, виявлення ключових відмінностей та точок перетину між ними, а також обґрунтування доцільності їх поєднаного використання в межах інтегративного підходу до забезпечення стійкості й безпеки економічних систем. У дослідженні застосовано системний, інституціональний, функціональний, ризик-орієнтований, сценарний та інтегративний підходи до аналізу понять економічної безпеки та економічної стійкості. Проведено категоріальний аналіз на основі авторських та інституційних визначень, що дозволило виділити специфіку кожної з категорій, їх онтологічну природу, функціональні характеристики та методологічні засади. Практична значущість проведеного дослідження полягає в тому, що запропоновані теоретичні положення можуть бути інтегровані в систему стратегічного планування та державного управління, зокрема при формуванні політики економічного відновлення, зміцнення інституційної спроможності, забезпечення фінансової стабільності, розвитку людського потенціалу та побудови гнучких економічних моделей, здатних до функціонування в умовах постійних зовнішніх і внутрішніх збурень. Результати можуть бути корисними для органів державної влади, місцевого самоврядування, аналітичних центрів, освітніх і наукових установ під час підготовки антикризових програм, а також для формування сучасних освітніх курсів у сфері економічної безпеки, публічного управління та стійкого розвитку. Запропоноване дослідження сприяє формуванню інтегративного підходу, що дозволяє забезпечити як превентивний захист економіки від деструктивних впливів, так і підвищити її адаптивність та життєздатність у довгостроковій перспективі, що є критично важливим у період воєнних конфліктів, глобальних криз і трансформацій світового економічного порядку.

**Ключові слова:** економічна безпека, економічна стійкість, економічна система, стратегічне управління, розвиток.

**Problem statement.** In the context of growing global turbulence, uncertainty in the external environment, and escalating economic, environmental, and political challenges, there is a pressing need to rethink the conceptual framework for the stable functioning of national economies, regional economic systems, and economic entities. The terms “economic secu-

urity” and “economic sustainability” are increasingly used in scientific discourse, but the lack of a unified approach to their interpretation complicates the development of effective economic development strategies. This necessitates a comparative analysis of these categories in order to identify similarities and differences in their content, objectives, and tools.

**Analysis of recent research and publications.** In modern scientific literature, the categories of “economic security” and “economic sustainability” are widely used, but there is significant heterogeneity in their interpretation. Often, the meanings of these concepts are equated or overlap [1], which complicates their analytical use in applied models of strategic management. Some authors emphasize their functional autonomy, while others emphasize their methodological complementarity [2]. Despite existing developments, the lack of a unified approach necessitates a comparative analysis.

**Formulating the purposes of the article.** The purpose of this article is to conduct a theoretical and methodological analysis of the concepts of economic security and economic sustainability, identify key differences and points of intersection between them, and formulate approaches to their coordinated application in the system of strategic economic management.

**Presentation of the main research material.** In the current environment of transformational challenges and destabilizing influences from external and internal factors, the conceptualization of categories reflecting the ability of the economic system to ensure stable development is becoming increasingly relevant in economic science.

In this context, the categories of “economic security” and “economic sustainability” attract particular attention. In scientific discourse, there is a tendency to partially or completely equate these concepts. This is due to both the evolution of economic thought and attempts to integrate different approaches to understanding the sustainability of socio-economic systems in conditions of multifactorial uncertainty. A comparative analysis of these categories is useful and necessary for forming a comprehensive understanding of the mechanisms for maintaining the functioning of the economic system in conditions of instability.

In order to reveal the essence of these categories in greater depth, let us consider the key approaches to their definition presented in the works of contemporary researchers.

The concept of economic security began to actively take shape and acquire theoretical and practical significance in the context of globalization. It became widely used in scientific literature in the 1970s as part of strategic and economic research related to ensuring the stability and sustainable development of the state. Economic security is interpreted primarily as a state in which the economic system is protected from threats and risks that could disrupt its functioning, stability, and development. The goal of ensuring economic security is to prevent or minimize the negative consequences of external and internal threats.

However, other approaches to the interpretation of the concept are also used. In particular, Samofalova M. [1] emphasizes the multifaceted nature of this category, considering it as a combination of economic independence, stability of the system's functioning, and the ability for self-development and progress. Pravdyvets O. [2] defines economic security as the ability of an economic system to function effectively in the face of threats, maintaining the stability and manageability of economic processes. Rykov V. [3] focuses on the dynamic nature of economic security, emphasizing its adaptability to changes in the external environment and its role in maintaining the balance of the economic system.

In turn, economic sustainability reflects the ability of an economic system to maintain stable and effective development even in the presence of negative factors or crisis situations. Economic sustainability is interpreted primarily as a characteristic or structural property of a system that allows it to adapt to changes and quickly recover from destructive

influences. At the same time, other approaches to defining the concept of economic sustainability are also being developed. Thus, Savchenko O. [4] considers “economic sustainability” as a dynamic, holistic, and systemic characteristic of a socio-economic system that ensures the maintenance of its balanced state and optimal functioning parameters. According to Gapeva O. and Vityutin A. [5], “economic sustainability” is a key factor in ensuring a country's ability to function in the face of external threats and maintain its focus on sustainable development. Levitsky S. [6] interprets “economic sustainability” as a set of strategic approaches and principles that create conditions for the sustainable functioning of enterprises.

Economic security focuses on prevention, control, and neutralization of threats, while economic sustainability is related to the adaptive and restorative capacity of the system. Both categories reflect the economy's response to destructive influences, but through different mechanisms: the first through protection, regulation, and institutionalization of safeguards, the second through flexibility, innovation, and systemic learning.

Thus, it can be concluded that the sustainability of economic systems is a prerequisite for ensuring the economic security of their functioning. That is, economic sustainability is a property of an economic system that ensures its secure state.

In our opinion, the concept of sustainable development logically combines and reconciles the concepts of economic security and economic sustainability. As noted by Zgurovsky M. [7], it consists in the mandatory coordination of economic, environmental, and social development in such a way that the quality and safety of people's lives do not decrease from generation to generation, the state of the environment does not deteriorate, and social progress that recognizes human needs takes place. The concept is macroeconomic, but its methodology is appropriately translated to lower levels of systems.

The concept of economic sustainability within the concept of sustainable development is interpreted more broadly and comprehensively – it is believed that a purely economic system cannot be sustainable. A meta-economic system that encompasses three proportional components – economic, environmental, and social – is recognized as sustainable.

In order to systematize the main differences between the concepts of “economic security” and “economic sustainability,” it is advisable to present them in a comparative form (Table 1).

Summarizing the comparative analysis, it can be argued that the concepts of economic security and economic sustainability have both common features related to responding to destructive influences and significant differences that manifest themselves in goals, mechanisms, and time horizons. Economic security is focused on preventing and neutralizing threats, while economic sustainability is focused on adaptation, flexibility, and resilience.

In modern economic science, various methodological approaches are used to study these categories, each of which allows focusing on certain aspects of the functioning of economic systems in conditions of threats, shocks, or structural transformations. The differences between the approaches are due to both the evolution of scientific thought and the specifics of the objects under study – from macroeconomic structures to local economies and institutions.

In order to systematize scientific approaches and deepen understanding of the essential content of the categories of economic security and economic sustainability, it is advisable to summarize the key methodological guidelines used in relevant studies (Table 2).

Table 1

**Categorical differences between the concepts of “economic security” and “economic sustainability”**

Comparison criterion	Economic security	Economic sustainability
Essential characteristics	State of protection against internal and external threats	The ability of the system to adapt to changes and restore functionality
Target orientation	Avoiding/neutralizing threats	Maintenance/restoration of viability
Implementation mechanisms	Regulation, prevention, control	Adaptation, flexibility, transformation
Type of reaction	Resistance, opposition	Acceptance, adaptation, evolution
Methodological basis	Security-based approach	Resilience-based approach

Source: compiled by the authors based on [1–7]

Table 2

**Methodological approaches to analyzing economic security and economic sustainability**

Methodological approach	Economic security	Economic sustainability
System	Considers security as an integral property of the economic system, ensuring its functioning under threatening conditions [8]	Focuses on the system's ability to self-organize, maintain structural integrity, and function under conditions of disturbance [14]
Institutional	Analyzes formal and informal institutions that shape the economy's ability to withstand threats [9]	Institutions are seen as factors contributing to adaptability, social cohesion, and long-term development [15].
Functional	Focuses on preserving the basic functions of the economy (production, distribution, reproduction) under the influence of threats [10]	Emphasizes the ability to maintain or restore system functionality [16]
Risk-oriented	The assessment of vulnerabilities, identification of risks, and development of prevention systems prevail [11]	The decisive factors are the system's ability to accept risk, amortize it, or transform it [17]
Scenario / model	It involves forecasting threats and assessing threat development scenarios [12]	Aimed at modeling the system's response to external shocks for the purpose of adaptation [18]
Integral / comprehensive	Combines quantitative and qualitative indicators (indices, indicators, benchmarks) to assess the level of security [12]	Covers a wide range of factors (economic, environmental, social) for predicting the long-term viability of the system [19]

Source: compiled by the authors based on [8–19]

As shown in Table 2, methodological approaches to analyzing economic security and economic sustainability differ in terms of the object of analysis, research logic, and emphasis in the content of categories. This, in turn, leads to a certain variability in scientific interpretations of these concepts.

Therefore, the distinction between these categories has not only theoretical but also practical significance, as it allows for more precise formulation of public policy objectives, approaches to strategic planning, and mechanisms for supporting economic systems in crisis conditions. It is the synthesis of the elements of security and stability that forms the basis for building an effective model for responding to the multidimensional challenges of modern development.

**Conclusions.** As a result of the theoretical and methodological analysis, it was established that the concepts of economic security and economic sustainability, despite their frequent identification in scientific and applied discourse, have significant differences in their ontological nature, functional content, and implementation mechanisms. While economic security is primarily aimed at protecting the economic system

from potential and real threats through institutional, regulatory, and managerial instruments, economic sustainability focuses on the system's ability to adapt, recover, and transform in response to external shocks and destructive influences.

A generalization of methodological approaches shows that in order to form an effective economic management system in conditions of uncertainty, it is advisable to apply an integrative paradigm that combines the tools of both categories. This approach makes it possible not only to prevent the emergence of crisis phenomena, but also to increase the economy's ability to respond effectively to challenges and recover from them. This is particularly relevant for public policy in conditions of martial law, post-crisis recovery, strengthening institutional capacity, and ensuring resilience to future threats.

Thus, the prospects for further research are linked to the formation of a coordinated methodological framework that will harmonize approaches to measuring, assessing, and ensuring economic security and economic sustainability at various levels, from national to local.

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