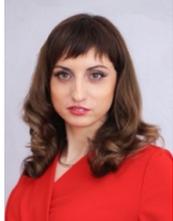




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ECONOMIC SECURITY OF DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TERRITORIES IN UKRAINE

BEZPIECZEŃSTWO GOSPODARCZE ROZWOJU OBSZARÓW WIEJSKICH NA UKRAINIE

ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ БЕЗОПАСНОСТЬ РАЗВИТИЯ СЕЛЬСКИХ ТЕРРИТОРИЙ В УКРАИНЕ

Abstract

The article illustrates various approaches to the essence of such categories as “economic security”, “economic security of the state” and “development of rural territories”. The views of scientists on the definition of economic security levels are systematized. The interaction of the “economic security” and “development of rural territories” concepts is substantiated. The modern tendencies of development of rural territories in Ukraine are researched. The Concept of the Development of Rural Territories in Ukraine is considered. It was found that ensuring the economic security of rural development should be based on the principles of unity and integrity, taking into account the process of decentralization, which is carried out through the formation of communities taking into account the geographic, economic, ecological, ethnic and demographic characteristics of each rural area entity.

Key words: economic security, economic security of the state, rural territories, development of rural territories, decentralization, territorial communities

Streszczenie

W artykule wyjaśniono różne podejścia do istnienia definicji takich jak bezpieczeństwo gospodarcze, bezpieczeństwo gospodarcze państwa i rozwój obszarów wiejskich. Podaje się usystematyzowane poglądy naukowców co do określenia poziomów bezpieczeństwa

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gospodarczego. Uzasadniono interakcję pojęć bezpieczeństwo gospodarcze i rozwój obszarów wiejskich. Zbadano współczesne tendencje rozwoju obszarów wiejskich na Ukrainie. Poddano rozważeniom Koncepcję rozwoju obszarów wiejskich na Ukrainie. Ustalono, że zapewnienie gospodarczego bezpieczeństwa rozwoju terenów wiejskich winno realizować się na zasadach jedności a integralności, z uwzględnieniem procesu decentralizacyjnego który realizuje się w sposób kształtowania się społeczności wiejskich, szczególnie biorąc pod uwagę geograficzną, gospodarczą, ekologiczną, etniczną oraz demograficzną charakterystykę każdej jednostki społeczności wiejskich.

Słowa kluczowe: bezpieczeństwo gospodarcze, bezpieczeństwo gospodarcze państwa, rozwój obszarów wiejskich, społeczność wiejska, jednostka społeczności wiejskich, rozwój obszarów wiejskich, decentralizacja, proces decentralizacyjny, społeczność terytorialna

Аннотация

В статье освещены различные подходы к сущности категорий “экономическая безопасность”, “экономическая безопасность государства” и “развитие сельских территорий”. Систематизированы взгляды ученых по определению уровней экономической безопасности. Обоснованно взаимодействие понятий “экономическая безопасность” и “развитие сельских территорий”. Исследованы современные тенденции развития сельских территорий в Украине. Рассмотрена Концепция развития сельских территорий в Украине. Определено, что обеспечение экономической безопасности развития сельских территорий должно основываться на принципах единства и целостности, учете процесса децентрализации, который осуществляется путем формирования общин, с обязательным учетом географических, экономических, экологических, этнических и демографических особенностей каждого сельского территориального образования.

Ключевые слова: экономическая безопасность, экономическая безопасность государства, сельские территории, развитие сельских территорий, децентрализация, территориальные общины

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Statement of the problem in general outlook and its connection with important scientific and practical tasks.

Problems of the development of rural territories in Ukraine were always relevant, because about a third of the country population lives there. The current situation of the development of rural territories is deteriorating, despite the measures implemented in the framework of state

policy in this field. Rural territories are given one of the leading roles in shaping the country's economy as a whole, which necessitates the study of the economic security of rural development. Most often the definition of rural territories is associated with the agricultural activity of

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their population. This view is justified, but at the present time it cannot be assumed that most of rural areas' population is engaged in agriculture. Rural territories – is not only a place of human activity and spatial production base, but also natural environment. After all, the development of rural territories is influenced by natural conditions and natural resources, geographical location, population's ethnic composition, state of the economy, etc.

Therefore, for the development of theoretical and practical principles of economic security of the development of rural territories, it is necessary to have a clear definition of the conceptual-categorical apparatus. Although the concept of “economic security” and “development of rural territories” in the scientific literature is used long ago, but there is still no common approach to defining these categories.

Analysis of latest research where the solution of the problem was initiated.

Theoretical and applied aspects of economic security are considered in the works of such scientists as S. Lekar (Lekar S., 2012), O. Vlasiuk (Vlasiuk O., 2008, p. 45), L. Shevchenko, O. Hrytsenko, S. Makukha (Shevchenko L., Hrytsenko O., Makukha S. et al., 2009, p. 11), I. Mishyna (Mishyna I., 2007, p. 5), V. V. Kuzmenko (Kuzmenko V., 2007, p. 5), T. Sak (Sak T., 2013), V. Predborskyi (Predborskyi V., 2005, p. 16), Kh. Mandzinovska (Mandzinovska Kh., 2016), O. Konarivska, T. Paniuk (Konarivska O., Paniuk T., 2017), V. Heiets (Heiets V., 1999, p. 5), H. Pasternak-Taranushenko

(Pasternak-Taranushenko H., 2003, p. 29) and others.

Important contributions to the research on the rural areas development were made by national specialists such as M. Malik, V. Pulim (Malik M., Pulim V., 2007), S. Korobka, T. Pentsak (Korobka S., Pentsak T., 2017). O. Hutorova O. (Hutorova O., 2016), V. Onehina, L. Batiuk (Onehina V., Batiuk L., 2016) and others.

Despite the numerous scientific and practical developments on the subject, the issues of determining the essence of economic security of the development of rural territories in Ukraine are still underdeveloped.

Aims of paper. Methods.

The study used conventional methods of economical science: monographic, systemic and structural (in determining the theoretical and methodological aspects of economic security of development of rural territories); economic and statistical methods (in the study of modern trends in the development of rural areas in Ukraine); methods of scientific generalization and synthesis (to substantiate the essence of the concept

of “economic security of development of rural territories”).

The information base of the study was legislative and regulatory acts of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, official materials of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine; scientific works of national and foreign authors and the results of own research.

Exposition of main material of research with complete substantiation of obtained scientific results. Discussion.

Taking into account the global experience, one of the preconditions for the harmonious economic development of any state including its rural territories and society is a high level of economic security of the regions and the country as a whole.

Due to the introduction of decentralization process in Ukraine in 2014, which stipulates the transfer of powers to the local authorities, essential significance is acquired by regions, regional development, including that of rural territories, and ensuring regional economic security.

Although the concept of “economic security” has been used in scientific literature for a long time, there is still no

single approach to the definition of this category.

ICRC defines economic security as the ability of individuals as well as households and communities to satisfy their basic needs in a stable and dignified manner (International committee of the Red Cross, 2015). Another definition can also be found in scientific literature: economic security means access to resources, finances and markets necessary for maintaining the acceptable level of well-being and state power (Buzan B., 1991).

Table 1 shows systematized approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “economic security”.

Table 1. Approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “economic security”

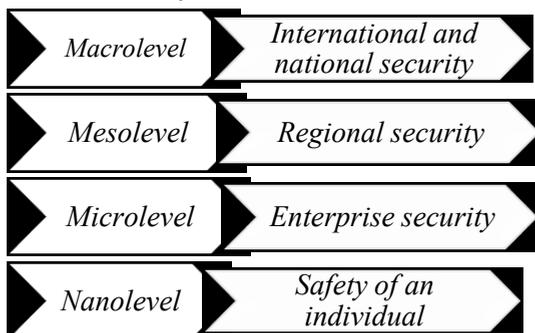
Author(s)	Definition of the concept
S. I. Lekar	a complex socio-economic concept which includes a wide range of constantly changing conditions of material production, external and internal threats to the economy (Lekar S., 2012).
O. S. Vlasiuk	a complex polystructural science which, by analogy with the security of ecological, biological, technical systems etc., is the science that studies security of socio-economic systems of different levels of hierarchy (an individual, a household, a branch of industry, a region, economy sector, national economy, the world economy) (Vlasiuk O., 2008, p. 45).
L. S. Shevchenko and others	the most important qualitative characteristic of the economic system that determines its ability of maintaining consistent implementation of national state interests, sustainable capacity of economic entities, normal living conditions of the population (Shevchenko L., Hrytsenko O., Makukha S. et al., 2009, p. 11).
I. H. Mishyna	economic relations aimed at achieving such a level of economic development which provides effective satisfaction of needs and guaranteed protection of the interests of all economic entities even under the unfavorable internal and external conditions (Mishyna I., 2007, p. 5).

Source: generalized by the authors.

Therefore, economic security is a complex socio-economic concept which determines the ability of an economic system to maintain effective satisfaction of the needs of all economic entities, even under unfavorable conditions of the internal and external environment.

V. V. Kuzmenko systematized the views of scholars on the definition of economic security at different levels and identified macrolevel, mesolevel, microlevel and nanolevel (Fig. 1) (Kuzmenko V., 2007, p. 5).

Fig. 1 Levels of economic security



Source: compiled by the authors.

Table 2 shows systematized approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “economic security of a state”.

Table 2. Approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “economic security of a state”

T. V. Sak	the state of being protected against possible threats that forms economic independence, stability and long-term development (Sak T., 2013).
L. S. Shevchenko and others	protection of all levels of a country’s economy against dangerous actions caused either by the deliberate influence of any factor, or by the spontaneous impact of market forces (Shevchenko L., Hrytsenko., Makukha S. et al., 2009, p. 11).
V. A. Predborskyi	it is not only the protection of national interests, but also the readiness and capacity of the institutions of power to create the mechanisms of implementation and protection of national interests in the domestic economy development, maintenance of the society’s socio-political stability (Predborskyi V., 2005, p. 16).
Kh. O. Mandzinovska	the basis of ensuring its sovereignty, competitiveness, defense capacity, maintaining social harmony in society, the country’s organic entry into the world economy (Mandzinovska Kh., 2016).
O. B. Konarivska, T. P. Paniuk	the state of protection of the vital interests of a state as a whole, from the risk of the effects of internal and external factors to ensure the stability of the national economy, which will lead to the effective functioning of enterprises (Konarivska O., Paniuk T., 2017).
V. M. Heiets	capacity of the national economy to ensure its free independent development and to maintain the stability of civil society and its institutions, as well as the sufficient defence potential of the country under all kinds of adverse conditions and scenarios, and the ability of a state to protect national economic interests from internal and external threats (Heiets V., 1999, p. 5).
H. A. Pasternak-Taranushenko	the condition of a state that ensures the possibility of creating and developing conditions for productive life of its population, prosperous development of its economy in the future and the growth of its residents’ welfare (Pasternak-Taranushenko H., 2003, p. 29).

Source: generalized by the authors.

Consequently, economic security of a country is the state of security at all levels of the country’s economy against unfavorable conditions of internal or external environment.

The legal basis for the definition of “security” in Ukraine is the Constitution, the Law of Ukraine “On the Fundamentals of National Security of Ukraine” and other Ukrainian laws, international treaties, the consent of which is binding on the

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as well as other normative legal acts issued in compliance with the laws (Verkhovna Rada Ukrainy, 2003).

In accordance with “Methods of Calculation of the Economic Security Level of Ukraine” approved by the Ukrainian Ministry of Economic Development and Trade the components of economic security are as follows: industrial, demographic, power engineering, foreign economic, investment

and innovation, macroeconomic, food, social, financial (banking; that of non-bank financial market; debt; budgetary; currency; monetary) security (Ministerstvo ekonomichnoho rozvytku i torhivli Ukrainy, 2013).

Synthesis of the concepts of “development” and “economic security” requires the substantiation of their interaction. Y. S. Pogorelov notes that development as a general scientific category is considered in the three inseparably connected aspects – as a law, as a principle and as a phenomenon, through the prism of quantitative and qualitative changes, the accumulation of which causes the transition of the system from a certain state to a qualitatively different one (Pohorielov Iu., 2012).

V. A. Predborskyi regards development as one of the components of economic security. If the economy does not develop, its possibilities of survival, resistance power, and the ability to adapt to internal and external threats sharply decrease. The violation of proportions and links among various components of the system leads to its destabilization, and is a signal of the transition of the economy from the state of

safety to that of unsafety (Predborskyi V., 2005, p. 16).

At present, most of rural territories are characterized by a low socio-economic development as the main sphere of the rural population employment is agriculture, whose specific feature is seasonal nature of production. Therefore, rural territories feature high unemployment rate, unfavorable demographic situation, high rate of rural population migration, low access to medical care and educational facilities. Unlike other countries, where the policy of development of rural territories is being actively improved, in Ukraine it is still at the stage of formation (Khomiuk N., 2018).

The issue of rural areas development is not sufficiently investigated not only in Ukraine but also in the world. Very often the development of rural territories is identified with rural or agrarian development, and, as a result, the accent in the socio-economic development of rural territories is made on agriculture. The developed countries of the world direct their resources and efforts to the integrated development of rural territories.

Table 3 shows systematized approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “development of rural territories”.

Table 3. Approaches to defining the essence of the concept of “development of rural territories”

M. Y. Malik, V. A. Pulim	it is not only the development of material base, housing, social infrastructure in the countryside, but also the improvement of the quality of life in villages which is connected with the spiritual and social needs of a person (Malik M., Pulim V., 2007).
S. V. Korobka, T. H.Pentsak	set of actions (socio-economic, political and legal) aimed at ensuring stable irreversible changes in the industrial, social and environmental spheres (Korobka S., Pentsak T., 2017).
O.O.Hutorova	stable development of a rural community that ensures: the increase in rural economy efficiency; stable reproduction of rural population; regulation of engineering and technical, sanitary and hygienic norms of the territory; providing the rural population employment and average income rate; raising the living standards of rural population; preserving culture and traditions; development of social infrastructure; rational and ecologically safe use of resources (Hutorova O., 2016).
V. M. Onehina, L. A. Batiuk	it is such an increase in agrarian production, in which its benefits are more or less evenly distributed among all participants in the process, and the reduction of employment in agriculture is accompanied by the creation of new jobs outside the agrarian sector in the countryside (Onehina V., Batiuk L., 2016).

Source: generalized by the authors.

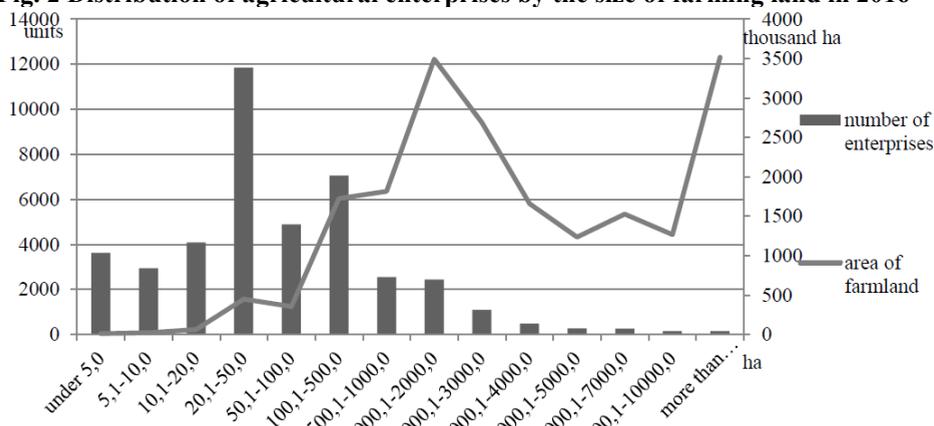
Consequently, the development of rural process of expanded reproduction of rural territories should be considered as the areas, which ensures the harmonious

growth of the economic, social, demographic, ethnic and environmental spheres (Khomiuk N., 2017).

The main problem of rural residents is that their financial situation is more complicated than that of the urban population. The low standard of life of the rural residents of Ukraine is evidenced by such index-number as the share of the population with per capita monthly equivalent cash income lower than statutory minimum subsistence level: in 2016 it was 10.2 % in total in Ukraine, and in rural areas – 13.8 %. In 2016, the total share of the Ukrainian population with per capita monthly equivalent cash income lower than the actual minimum subsistence

level was 65,0 % nationwide, and in rural areas it was 73,6 % (Verner I., 2017, p. 83). Significant aggravation of the economic crisis can be seen in the field of agriculture which is the main production sphere in rural areas. Large agricultural holdings are mainly engaged in growing cereals and industrial crops using advanced technologies, so arable farming has been practically monopolized. The largest area of farmland (3515.1 thousand hectares) is concentrated in enterprises that owned and used more than 10,000 hectares. The distribution of agricultural enterprises in terms of the size of their farming land in 2016 is shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 2 Distribution of agricultural enterprises by the size of farming land in 2016



Source: composed by the author on the basis of Statistical Yearbook of Ukraine in 2016 (Verner I., 2017, p. 295).

As a result, processing of agricultural raw materials and the sale of commodity products have been actually monopolized by the enterprises. Monopolization of commercial lands leads to the decline of farming, small and medium-sized businesses in the rural areas (Pavlikha N., Khomiuk N., 2016).

According to statistics agricultural products which were grown in Ukraine in 2016 are estimated at 254640.5 million UAH.

Agricultural enterprises produced 57 % (crop products – 44.5 % and livestock products – 12.5 %) of the total volume. In the households, the volume of production is 43 % of the total: plant products – 28.1 % (mainly potatoes, vegetable and fruit crops) and livestock products (wool, milk) – 14.9 % (Verner I., 2017, p. 290).

Taking into account the EU experience, a positive fact for Ukraine is the adoption in 2015 the Concept of Rural Development

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(Kabinet Ministriv Ukrainy, 2015), which is aimed at creating necessary organizational, legal and financial prerequisites for rural development through: diversification of economic activity; increasing the level of real incomes from agricultural and non-agricultural activities in the rural areas; achievement of guaranteed social standards and improvement of living conditions of rural population; environmental protection, conservation and restoration of natural resources in rural areas; preserving rural population as the bearer of Ukrainian identity, culture and spiritual values; creating conditions for the expansion of the opportunities of territorial communities of villages and settlements to help them solve the existing problems; bringing the legislation regulating rural development in conformity with the EU standards. The implementation of this Concept will make it possible to shift the focus of the state's agrarian policy from the support of the agrarian sector of economy to the support of rural territories –improvement of the quality of life and economic welfare of the rural population (Pavlikha N., Khomiuk N., 2018).

As scientists admit, the development of rural areas is important for Ukraine not only in view of the need to solve their socio-economic problems, but also for the sake of preserving the customs of the Ukrainian people, their historical and ethnic peculiarities. After all, it is a village community that is the key bearer and the center of the development of cultural traditions (Vasylytsiv T., Boiko V., 2016, p.10-11.). Therefore, the united territorial communities (UTCs) play a significant role in the system of economic security of a region and the country as a whole, being its most important elements.

According to Article 1 of the Law of Ukraine “On the Local Government in

Ukraine” a territorial community is defined as residents, united by permanent residence within the limits of a village, a town or a city, which are independent administrative-territorial units, or a voluntary association of inhabitants of several villages having a single administrative center (Verkhovna Rada Ukrainy, 1997).

In the framework of this study, attention should be paid specifically to village and township territorial communities.

One of the results of reforming local self-government and the territorial organization of power is the establishment of united territorial communities, the number of which as of May,10 2018 totaled to 731 (Decentralization, 2018). Zhytomyr, Khmelnytsky, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhya and Volyn oblasts showed the best results in the overall rating of regions concerning the formation of UTCs, while the lowest ones were shown by Luhansk, Cherkasy, Kyiv, Vinnytsya and Zakarpattia oblasts.

As A. Tkachuk notes, the reform has reached the point of irreversibility, but this does not mean that there are no risks for its further course, the main of which are as follows (Tkachuk A., 2017):

1. The formation of UTCs in the regions leads to the weakening of the economic and managerial capacity of the district (rayon), and therefore to conflicts between the district-level management and the heads of UTCs.
2. The lack of jurisdiction of local self-government bodies on the territories outside settlements, particularly in such spheres as planning and improving the area, preserving the environment, leads to squandering and pollution of these territories.
3. The local bodies of self-government have sufficient powers and necessary resources, but the supervision over the decisions of lo-

cal self-government bodies as to their compliance with the Constitution and laws has not yet been imposed.

4. Budgetary income alignment can lead to faster growth of the asymmetry of development among different communities, which is unacceptable for the unity of the state.

Association of communities allowed to increase the general fund revenues of local budgets per 1 resident for January-March 2016 – 2018 from 783.5 UAH to 1330.9 UAH (+547.4 UAH) (Decentralization, 2018).

Due to the increased level of UTC financial autonomy the bodies of regional and local self-government have the possibility to develop and implement the territories development programs, which will bring real economic results in the future. In addition, at the national level decentralization creates conditions for the competition among territorial communities for resources (Onyshchenko V., Bondarevska O., 2018). In 2018 the state support for regional and local development increased by a factor of 39, as compared to 2014.

According to V. D. Zalizko, due to the fact that economic security of rural areas depends on the availability of a qualitative set of conditions and factors, both material and intangible, in which a sustainable socio-economic development of these territories is possible, while the economic system will be able either to effectively avoid conflicts or to settle them, as well as to withstand in-

ternal and external threats, it can be structured by subtypes. Thus, in the structure of economic security of rural territories, the scientist identified the following components: food; financial; ethno-cultural; informational; scientific-intellectual; transport; ecological; social; administrative; business, etc. (Zalizko V., (2013).

However, the definition of the concept of “economic security of rural territories”, according to V. V. Boiko, is a little debatable. Therefore, it is more expedient in the process of the development of methodological apparatus for the research to use the notion “economic security of development of rural territories”, whose priority is to assess the level of safety of conditions and the inter-determination between the development of rural areas and the level of economic security of the state. The peculiarity of the economic security of the rural territories development is its two-dimensional interdependence (regional and sectoral) with the economic security of the state through the intermediate hierarchical levels of its provision system (Boiko V., 2016).

Ensuring economic security of the development of rural territories should be based on the principles of unity and integrity, taking into account the process of decentralization, which is carried out through the formation of communities, with due consideration of geographical, economic, ecological, ethnic and demographic characteristics of each rural area entity.

Conclusions.

Therefore, ensuring economic security at the level of rural and settlement territorial communities as a key element of regional economic security will allow not only to improve the system of regional development management, but also to increase the level of protection of economic

interests of rural residents and the state as a whole.

In our opinion, the economic security of development of rural territories is a state of protection of all economy levels of rural areas from unfavorable conditions of the internal or external environment, in which

the process of expanded reproduction of rural areas is being developed, which ensures the harmonious growth of the economic, social, demographic, ethnic and environmental spheres.

It should be noted that the lack of a unified understanding of the essence of the

economic security of development of rural territories in the scientific literature and in the legal and regulatory framework determines the relevance of further scientific developments in this field.

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