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## **NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND AGRARIAN TRANSFORMATIONS OF TRANSITIONAL PERIOD**

The agrarian strategy of the state is analyzed in the context of national security, as well as the existing and future threats to the national interests of the Russian Federation. The reasons that impede the successful solution of problems of the agrarian transformations in Russia are covered.

The National Security Strategy of Russia for the period up to 2020 indicates that in the context of globalization and the emergence of new threats and risks, Russia is moving to a new state policy in the field of national security. Attention is drawn to the fact that on the issue of food security there is no solid and certain position among the experts.

The authors offer a variety of options to resolve food policy problems.

**Key words:** national security, food policy and security, the agrarian sector of economy.

Specificity of the modern political process in the space of state-management relations largely determines the nature and the methods for ensuring of national security, that is certainly connected with a transitional condition of the society, the breaking of the whole system of existing relations, the unstable character of political phenomena, the contradictions of political modernization, as well as with unpredictable consequences of globalized world.

In recent years, Russia has met the problems which solution is very difficult or even impossible under existing economic, technological and management models in the agricultural sector. The main problems may be summarized as follows:

- the obvious necessity for a significant increase in the productivity of the key resources in the agricultural sector through the use of biological factors;
- the need of transition to ecologically safe and sustainable agrarian production maintaining high levels of productivity and strong inhibition of the degradation of soils as the main resource of agriculture;
- the gradual development of promising high-tech areas related with bioenergy and biosynthetic chemistry;
- the overcoming of the alienated nature of labor in the rural areas, most notably seen in the hierarchic production structures, such as: agrarian corporation, large agrarian firms, etc.;
- the improving of the technical and intellectual saturation of labor in the agrarian economy, the transition from the "economy of tools and machines" to the "economy of knowledge»;
- the increase of prestige of working and living in the rural areas, removing of infrastructural and cultural gaps with the city;
- the prevention of outflow of rural population and rural depopulation;
- the formation of new living environment at the rural areas with high indicators of capitalization and human attractiveness.

The systematic basis, which prevents the successful solution of the abovementioned problems, is the dominant preservation of technical and landscape organization in the agricultural sector, established in the time of approval of large-scale industrial model in the agrarian economy. Effective for that time, this model now comes into a conflict with the biological nature of agriculture, hindering the development of flexible, mobile businesses in the sphere of bioeconomics, not providing, respectively, an appropriate level of social development and achievement of modern standards of life in the rural areas<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Шушкевич, Ю.А. Стратегия становления и развития новой аграрной экономики в Российской Федерации до 2050 года. *Футурология. Прогностика Моделирование будущего*.  
<http://futurologija.ru/>.

In a number of serious threats to Russia's national interests its internal threats are putting forward. In particular, the decline of confidence to authorities, the declining prestige of the state in the international community, the growing risk for collapse of the emerging Russian democracy. We should admit that the current stage of state building in Russia is complicated by the high degree of uncertainty of ways for a political and economic development, mainly due a deficiency of scientifically based and consistently implemented effective policy in the field of internal security of society<sup>1</sup>.

In addition, the National Security Strategy of Russia adopted in 2009 for the period up to 2020, specifically pointed on such threats to the security of the state as the defense, the internal affairs, the foreign affairs, the economy, as well as an effective means of its reflection.

The National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation includes the following major sections as: I. General Provisions. II. The modern world and Russia: condition and development trends. III. National interests of the Russian Federation and strategic national priorities. IV. Ensuring of the national security. V. Organizational, normative, legal and informational fundamentals for implementation of the Strategy. VI. The main characteristics of the condition of national security (112 separate items).

The Strategy states that in the context of globalization and the emergence of new threats and risks, Russia is moving to a new state policy in the field of national security: "the main direction of the state policy in the sphere of national and public security in the long term should be the strengthening of the state's role as a guarantor of personal security, especially of children and adolescents, improving of the legal regulation for preventing and combating crime, corruption, terrorism and extremism, improving the protection of rights and legal interests of Russian citizens abroad, the expansion of international cooperation in law enforcement sphere" (par. 38).

The resolution of the food problem suggests several stages of its implementation. The first stage is connected with the implementation of emergency measures to overcome the decline in production, debt repayment for village, providing rural producers with machinery, fertilizers and crop protection agents, fuels, lubricants and other materials. This period is accompanied with the development of the strategic positions of agrarian policy, the creation of the legal base regulating the activity of all forms of ownership.

The stage, indicated above was launched in Russia in the middle of 2000s. In 2006, the State Duma adopted the Law "On the development of agriculture", in 2007 the Government of the Russian Federation accepted the corresponding programs of agricultural development and regulation of markets of agricultural products, raw materials and food. In subsequent years, departmental strategies for separate branches have been worked out.

At the second stage the task was to ensure the stabilization of the situation in agriculture, that required: to create a market infrastructure, to replace the administration of economic sector, by this improving the relations of the agricultural sector with other sectors of the economy and creating economic conditions for the social development of the village. Programs in this area started to be implemented in practice in 2010-2011, but the small time interval for realization of the modernization transformations did not allow to abandon the administration completely and move to the market mechanisms.

The third stage suggests the growth of agricultural production through the application of new efficient technologies, the resolution of food problem and the achievement of optimal level of external economic activity<sup>2</sup>.

The researchers note that the severity of food issue security in today's Russia is determined by such factors as: the economic situation of the agricultural sector; economic situation of the population; Russian mentality<sup>3</sup>. In the conditions of existence of external threats to food security serious anxiety is the increase of internal threats, which presence is largely stipulated by contradictions inherited from the administrative-command system and by the factors of the transformational period. Preservation of the current situation without conducting of effective economic policy makes the country more vulnerable to internal threats, which are: the growth of Russia's dependence on imports of food, non-optimal structure of the export, oriented for export of raw materials, but not the finished products.

<sup>1</sup> Гыскэ, А.В. (2001). Внутренняя безопасность российского общества: проблемы обеспечения (социально-философский анализ): автореф. дисс. ... докт. филос. наук. Москва.

<sup>2</sup> Лушик, А.А. (2011). К вопросу формирования стратегии обеспечения населения доступным продовольствием. *Национальная безопасность*, б.

<sup>3</sup> Никольский, С.А. (2003). *Аграрный курс России: мировоззрение реформаторов и практика аграрных реформ в социально-историческом, экономическом и философском контекстах*. Москва: КОЛОСС.

Bringing reforms in the countryside to the liberalization of prices and production, restructuring and privatization of agricultural enterprises, the general farmerization and removal of agricultural producers from the function of economic regulation, the state practically stopped investing and financial support for agriculture, its material and technical support. The result was a destroy of underdeveloped industrial base, the degradation of lands, the cessation of activity of the most livestock farms, poultry farms, sharp reduce in a product yield of breeding plants, selective centers, etc.

For the first time issue of food security in Russia was publicly discussed and acquired a political character in 1993. At this time, the decline in the production of major products in agriculture and processing industries became visible with a naked eye. A volume of food imported into the country began to grow very rapidly.

Attention should be drawn to the fact that there is no solid and certain position on the issue of food security among the experts. Some researchers believe that the decrease in production volumes of domestic production is a sign of threat or even the loss of food security and demand to strengthen measures to support Russian farmers. Others believe that food security is the maintenance of the food supply at a level sufficient to ensure a healthy nutrition and it does not matter in what proportion will correlate the domestic and imported food products.

Among the supporters of the first view most are radicals considering that the good is a full satisfaction of needs of domestic producers, despite the exorbitant costs of their activities with a complete isolation from the competitive impact of foreign manufacturers. It is the opinion, for example, of the conservative wing of the Communist party or the ideologists of agrarian party. Other representatives of these forces believe that all Russian domestic protectionist measures should be removed in favor of competition with unfettered freedom for importers of food<sup>1</sup>.

In this case, the fact that the agricultural sector is not an isolated phenomenon, but an organic element of the economy as a whole, which is connected directly or indirectly with all sectors of the economy, is not very taken into account. This is the production of agricultural instruments and machinery, production of mineral fertilizers, soil fertility and location of product markets. It depends on the condition of the transport system, the presence of grain storage and processing enterprises, vegetable stores and refrigerators. We'll add here also liaise with branches of life support for farmers, which are: house-building, electricity and gas supply, health care. With the development of society such connections become more diverse and complex.

The exit out of the situation will be very difficult as far as too many unsolved problems have been accumulated. But the first steps should be made. For the beginning, the basic fundamentals of Agrarian Policy should be immediately and constructively reconsidered, for example: to implement a price parity, to provide state support for the village, as it is common for all developed countries. It will take several years in case of a clear political will both in the center and the regions, with the coordinated work of all structures of power and the support of the media.

In recent years, there were positive changes in the agriculture in some areas. Federal Law "On the development of agriculture" was adopted, the priority national project "Development of agro-industrial complex" and the State program for the development of agriculture and regulation of markets for agricultural products, raw materials and food for 2008-2012 were realizing. The availability of credit resources, leasing of machinery and equipment, breeding animals was higher for agricultural producers.

All this taken together, contributed the recovery of production: since the middle of 2000s positive dynamics of gross agricultural product has been observed. The most significant results have been achieved in the poultry farming and pig-breeding, which development involved significant financial resources. The profitability of agricultural organizations also slightly increased.

But in later years there has been a reduction of investment opportunities in the agrarian branch, gross agricultural production reduced, and growth rates of livestock products have been falling. Crisis processes have a negative impact on the market of agricultural products and food market, in particular, on the retail trade turnover, producer prices for agricultural products.

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<sup>1</sup> Никольский, С.А. (2003). *Аграрный курс России: мировоззрение реформаторов и практика аграрных реформ в социально-историческом, экономическом и философском контекстах*. Москва: КОЛОСС.

character of political phenomena, the contradictions of political modernization, as well as with unpredictable consequences of globalized world.

In the general strategy of national security the agricultural course is oriented at the fact that in conditions of the internal socio-political and economic crisis in Russia and its unstable position the major threats to national interests are internal threats. In political aspect that leads to the diminution of confidence to the government, the prestige of the state falls in the international community, the risk of collapse of the emerging Russian democracy increases. The current stage of state building in Russia is complicated with the high degree of uncertainty of ways for further political and socio-economic development.

Therefore, the socio-economic policy should be directed at the creation of conditions for the welfare of population through the development and effective use of social and economic potential of the state. Agrarian economics and rural development sphere form solid and the largest enclave of domestic demand, which is able to form the basis for development of many other sectors of national economy.

While maintaining of the external threats to food security a special tension is created by the increase of internal threats, which presence is largely stipulated by contradictions inherited from the administrative-command system and by the factors of the transformational period. Long-term preservation of internal threats without an effective economic policy makes the country vulnerable for external threats also.

Meanwhile, the main program documents of Russian economic policy until recent time did not reflect the problems of agro-industrial complex as a basic life-supporting sector of the economy. Also, there is no a political concept for the development of the agricultural sector. Under these conditions, the critical importance acquires the earliest consideration of agriculture sector as a permanent priority, as well as the establishment of a political mechanism for the development and correction of the agrarian policy course in relation to national security strategy.

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