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GLOBAL SECURITY THREATS FOR THE PLANET

Introduction. A continuing geopolitical rivalry between great powers such as the USA, China and other states as well as a complex international security environment perfectly heat up the global threats to the security on the planet [3]. On top of that, these threats were fueled by the Crimea annexation and an armed conflict in eastern Ukraine that was launched by Russian Federation in March 2014 [1].

Review of recent publications. The issue under consideration has been intensively studied by L.I. Shelley, A. Bellal, M. Calhoun, W.R. Mead and others.

Results of the research. In my opinion, here are some of the most topical global threats to the security on our planet in 2019.

1. Armed conflicts. Unfortunately, today many states have ongoing and violent armed conflicts that cause the civilian death toll around the planet. The present-day conflicts are ongoing in Syria, Ukraine, Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Kashmir and so on. The Syrian conflict was the bloodiest according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Moreover, I think that the Ukrainian crisis was also the deadliest one, as it has taken so many lives so far, and no one knows how many it will take in the future.

2. Uncontrolled migration. There are lots of different reasons that can cause the uncontrolled migration globally. Namely, among those factors could be a search for a better quality of life or work, freedom from oppression, escape from armed conflicts

and violence, climate change, etc. No matter what the reason would be, the scale of uncontrolled mass movements of people is increasing greatly [5]. Therefore, when people migrate, they carry with them various health, ethnic, religious and other problems.

3. *Terrorism.* Terrorism is another major global threat to the security on the planet. Even more, it could get worse over the years in the future. The number of all kinds of extremists has been growing in the world more than ever before. Different terrorist groups use failed states and African countries as shelters to master their skills. Ultimately, the terrorism threat on the planet could be increasing as there is link between local extremists and terrorist organizations such as ISIS, Taliban, Al-Qaida, and so on [6].

4. *Transnational organized crime and cybercrime.* This kind of threat is also dangerous to the security, as it is not limited to the certain states or even regions, but it has been spread all over the world. In other words, it is a global phenomenon [4]. Today it affects almost every country forcing governments to take serious steps to battle that. The organized crime networks spread real violence and chaos worldwide.

Therefore, international law enforcement agencies must understand deeply that global phenomenon to develop a comprehensive response.

5. *Environmental threats.* Frankly speaking, diseases, environmental pollution, climate change, water crisis, etc., could be extremely dangerous and devastating for the humanity and our planet as well. These threats can wipe out millions of people and even destroy the entire planet. In addition, they are not limited to some states and don't have any borders. There are so many factors that can cause to degrade our ecosystem, and sometimes it is not our fault. However, we still need to recognize our environmental responsibility in order to survive on our planet.

6. *Weapons of mass destruction threats.* Today the whole world faces the ongoing threats that are emerging from the global proliferation of nuclear and biological weapons. These threats could lead to countless casualties and may even destroy the entire planet. Despite those dangerous global threats, the world community should collaborate with other nations and must give the goal of nonproliferation a higher priority rather than they did before. The best chance for nonproliferation in the long term lies in building a consensus among potential proliferants that it is in their interests to refrain jointly from acquiring the weapons [2]. Perhaps, this would be the most effective way to improve the security around the world.

Conclusion. In conclusion, I believe that much would depend on the great powers, especially the United States, as they can adopt the new international measures to fight global security threats. Eventually, they would be able to reduce significantly the level of potential threats for the entire international community and our planet by using effectively the development policy instruments.

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UKRAINIAN THINK TANKS IN WORLD RANKINGS

Introduction. “Think Tanks” (TT) are non-governmental research organizations, which are the main subjects of modern independent analytics, with significant influence on politicians and the political system. Ukraine has a wide range of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Among them are “think tanks”. Of course, our analytical institutions are not as advanced as American, British and other leading organizations in the world. Ukrainian “think tanks” are not the main and influential actors in the international arena and are far from playing the leading role in the world. Despite that the presence of Ukrainian “think tanks” in world rankings shows that our “think tanks” are developing and can become one of the world’s best research organizations.

Review of the recent publications. A lot of prominent Ukrainian researches-analysts and scientists like Shershnova N. [4], Luchyk A. [2], Fedorchuk O. [3] and others paid great attention to this issue. We analyzed and made some conclusions with the help of world ranking “Global Go to Think Tank Index Report” [6; 7; 8].