

Conceptual and Legal Foundations of Economic Security of the Modern Belarusian State

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The conceptual and legal foundations of the economic security of the modern Belarusian state are the doctrinal, legislative, and law-enforcement implementation of its economic and national interests.

The aim of the work is to analyze the main regulatory documents governing the economic security of Belarus, theoretical approaches, and to outline ways for the practical improvement of the legal mechanism.

Material and methods. *The research material consists of conceptual and programmatic provisions, scientific and educational literature on the economic security of the Republic of Belarus. The methodology is the unity of philosophical, general scientific, and specific legal methods: dialectical-materialistic, analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, legal interpretation, specification of legal norms, and legal modeling for constructing a mechanism for the legal support of economic security.*

Results and discussion. *The article attempts to comprehend the reality of threats to Belarus's economic security and to outline specific ways to optimize the mechanism for the legal support of the economic and national interests of the modern Belarusian state and its entities.*

Conclusion. *Economic security is the protection, stability, self-sufficiency, and competitiveness of the Republic of Belarus, contributing to the strengthening of its sovereignty and the growth of the material and spiritual well-being of every citizen.*

Key words: *economic interests, national interests, economic security, national security, economic threats, economic sanctions, concept, strategy, legal support mechanism, human capital.*

Концептуально-правовые основы экономической безопасности современного белорусского государства

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Концептуально-правовые основы экономической безопасности современного белорусского государства — это доктринальная, законодательная, правоприменительная реализация его экономических, национальных интересов.

Цель работы — проанализировать основные нормативные документы, регулирующие экономическую безопасность Беларуси, теоретические подходы и наметить пути практического совершенствования правового механизма.

Материал и методы. *Материалом исследования послужили концептуальные, программные положения, научная и учебная литература по экономической безопасности Республики Беларусь. Методология — единство философских, общенаучных, частно-юридических методов: диалектико-материалистического, анализа и синтеза, индукции и дедукции, юридического толкования, конкретизации норм права, правового моделирования для конструирования механизма правового обеспечения экономической безопасности.*

Результаты и их обсуждение. *В статье предпринята попытка осознать реальность угроз экономической безопасности Беларуси и наметить конкретные пути оптимизации механизма правового обеспечения экономических и национальных интересов современного белорусского государства и его субъектов.*

Заключение. *Экономическая безопасность — это защищенность, стабильность, самодостаточность, конкурентоспособность Республики Беларусь, способствующие укреплению ее суверенитета, росту материального и духовного благосостояния каждого гражданина.*

Ключевые слова: *экономические интересы, национальные интересы, экономическая безопасность, национальная безопасность, экономические угрозы, экономические санкции, концепция, стратегия, механизм правового обеспечения, человеческий капитал.*

The main goal of national economic development is a new, improved quality of life for Belarusian citizens

A.G. Lukashenko

An integral part of effective economic development is its economic security. Economic security is the state

of protection of economic sectors and spheres from the impact of threats that impede the sustainable

socio-economic development of the Republic of Belarus [1]. This refers to the security of the state, region, enterprise, organization, household, where effective protection of economic interests from internal and external threats, risks, and adverse impacts is carried out. It is ensured economic security that forms the basis for strengthening national, political, social, demographic, military, food, biological, scientific-technical, informational, and environmental security. The advantage of the Belarusian model is the presence of a unified national security system, where economic security is the foundation, the key element of the nation's vital activities and the material-spiritual well-being of society.

The aim of the work is to analyze the main regulatory documents governing the economic security of Belarus, theoretical approaches, and to outline ways for the practical improvement of the legal mechanism.

Material and methods. The research material consists of the strategic, conceptual, programmatic, and regulatory framework governing the economic security of the modern Belarusian state; scientific publications and theoretical approaches aimed at understanding and solving problematic issues. A holistic, comprehensive approach to the concept of economic security and its support mechanism requires a synthetic methodology combining philosophical, general scientific, and specific scientific research methods related to the dialectical-materialistic approach, analysis, synthesis, interpretation, legal specification, comparative law, and legal modeling.

Results and discussion. Threats are a necessary companion to the existence of any state, a means of mobilizing potential, forces, activity, re-evaluating values, and development. However, every threat is different. There are objective threats — costs of growth, ambitions — which are predictable, surmountable, and ordinary; and there are subjective threats caused by voluntarist-fatalistic mistakes, miscalculations in policy and economy, posing a threat to life, existence, and independence. It is the latter that are the most dangerous and undesirable.

Here, it is necessary to note the strong economic, political, and diplomatic pressure from the West on Belarus, practically since its independence. This is related not only to the natural competition of states but also to the honest, balanced position of the Republic of Belarus, guided by the principles and norms of international law, consistently defending its national interests on the foreign policy

scene. Belarus is strengthening mutually beneficial partnerships with the Russian Federation, China, India, Vietnam, and other friendly states in the conditions of the geopolitical re-division of the world, the Special Military Operation (SVO), NATO challenges, “double standards” policies, and the intensifying global struggle for resources and raw materials. Despite global instability, Belarus has maintained economic stability under harsh economic sanctions (since 2022 alone, 6 sanction packages have been imposed against Belarus), preserved production, agriculture, and food independence, and created a strong democratic, social, and legal basis for further building up its strength.

The basic documents regulating the provision of economic security are: the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus of 2022 (Articles 10, 13, 25, 41, 44), the National Security Concept of the Republic of Belarus (April 25, 2024), the Socio-Economic Development Program of the Republic of Belarus for 2026–2030 (December 19, 2025), Laws, Presidential Decrees, Government Resolutions, and other regulatory and law-enforcement acts. A clear legislative system has been established in the country, creating a balanced legal framework regulating the economic security of the state and its entities. An adequate interpretation of terms is provided: “national security”, “national interests”, “source, threat, risk, challenge to national security”, “entities for provision”, etc. All this constitutes the methodological-legal basis for ensuring the economic security of Belarus [2, pp. 19–24].

According to the National Security Concept of the Republic of Belarus, the main national interests in the economic sphere are: economic growth and increasing competitiveness based on structural restructuring of production; improving the management system for sustainable innovative development, which requires active investment in human capital; reducing costs and developing high-tech, export-oriented, and import-substituting industries; ensuring price and financial stability; non-discriminatory access to world markets for goods, raw materials, and energy resources; achieving energy and food security; introducing advanced technologies into the country's economy; diversification of goods and services, foreign economic security, economic cooperation; balanced development of the state and private sectors, regions; the use of digital technologies and digital transformation of the economy [1].

Economic development and economic security presuppose each other and are in dialectical interaction. They are carried out within the framework of the unity and balance of interests of society,

the individual, and the state, people's power and the rule of law, a socially oriented market economy, and improving the quality of life of the people.

The structure of legal relations ensuring the economic security of the Republic of Belarus consists of subjects, content, objects. For their implementation, within the framework of national security, a special mechanism of legal regulation operates, including mechanisms of law-making and law enforcement. The problem of the regulation mechanism (dispositive-imperative, lawful, counter-sanction), self-regulation, action, implementation, reproduction, digital, electronic, automated embodiment is debatable, not fully developed, and not fully realized in the conditions of the digital transformation of society.

The mechanism of legal regulation of Belarus's economic security is a purposeful, complex, effective, normatively-organized system of interaction among legal entities using legal instruments to protect and develop economic relations. Objectively established volitional, objectified economic social relations need state-legal protection, stability, and development. Their nature requires legal mediation and the influence of a complex system of components, embodied in legal principles, norms, prescriptions, and practically implemented by the legal mechanism [3, p. 194]. The term "mechanism" is understood as a structure of mono-functional elements and a programmed process. One should agree with V.P. Malakhov that "each of the active elements has its own mechanism" [4, p. 117].

It is the holistic legal mechanism that organizes and reproduces economic security. It operates at the republican, regional, local, and personal levels. Its regulatory and protective impact depends on the development, authority, and unity of the conceptual, legislative, and law-enforcement components. It is a set of socially interacting entities ensuring the economic security of the individual, society, and the state. The system of state-legal bodies includes: the President of the Republic of Belarus, the Security Council, the Council of Ministers, the All-Belarusian People's Assembly (ABPA), the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the State Security Committee (KGB), the Border Service, the Armed Forces, Courts (general and economic), the State Control Committee, the Prosecutor's Office, local government and self-government bodies, civil society entities, and citizens. Objects are items of material and digital form, having material-digital, monetary value, protected from internal and external threats, possessing the property of further development, and falling within the sphere

of balanced interests of the individual, society, and the state. The general object is the economic wealth of the country in all its forms: the national economy, economic system and institutions (property rights, financial, tax systems, gold and foreign exchange reserves, GDP, etc.), natural, water, forest, energy resources of the country, scientific-technical and personnel potential, economic entities, the population (households), digital assets, virtual property, etc. The content of economic security legal relations is a set of measures, methods, and means of activity aimed at protecting the interests of the national economy, preserving property, and increasing its resilience to external and internal threats, challenges, and risks to ensure economic sovereignty, creating favorable conditions for sustainable, profitable development, countering economic crime, corruption, bureaucracy, sanction pressure, and unfair competition. The mechanism's procedures include monitoring, threat identification, forecast and assessment of the developed plan, implementation of measures, coordination, interaction of regulatory entities, control, and evaluation of effectiveness.

The National Security Concept of the Republic of Belarus clearly identifies internal and external sources of economic threats that need to be understood and overcome by the whole society. Eliminating internal threats is associated with increasing economic development, overcoming technological backwardness, removing administrative barriers to business development, creating favorable conditions for attracting investments and loans, expanding the diversification of exported and imported goods and services, and guaranteed provision of raw materials and energy resources.

Tasks are set to reduce unprofitable economic entities, overcome the shortage of qualified specialists, and increase the innovative activity of the real sector of the economy. It seems that the greatest danger is posed by external sources of economic threats due to their enormous potential and limited ability to influence them. These include deterioration of conditions for foreign trade, attraction of loans and investments, protectionism by a number of foreign states, financial imbalance, restriction of Belarus's access to world-class innovative developments, the exclusion of Belarusian entities from joint creation of knowledge-intensive and high-tech products, etc.

To overcome economic threats, the mechanism must adhere to the following principles of operation: unity of political, economic, and social interests; a comprehensive approach in the activities of entities, selection of instruments, types, and directions

of security; delineation of powers and spheres of responsibility of state bodies, economic entities, and business; stimulation and active involvement of civil society structures; determination of political, economic, legal, and informational priorities and specific measures; promptness, timeliness, preventiveness, and proportionality of actions to neutralize and protect against external and internal risks, challenges, and dangers.

The main directions for neutralizing threats primarily include structural restructuring of the economy to increase competitiveness, improve the quality of manufactured products, support macroeconomic and financial stability, ensure a deficit-free balance of foreign trade, payment discipline, increase labor productivity, and redistribute priorities to prospective, key sectors of the economy with high returns. An important role is played by increasing the efficiency of education, science, culture, and healthcare, ensuring the qualitative reproduction of human capital.

To intensify the state's special efforts, crisis legislation and legal regimes are introduced. A legal regime is "a special order of legal regulation, expressed in a certain combination of legal means, creating the required social state and a specific degree of favorability or unfavorability for satisfying the interests of legal entities" [5, p. 520]. It represents a specific mechanism of influence of subjects on objects of economic security, including the legal statuses of subjects, methods of influencing objects, the interrelationship of subjects and objects, a system of guarantees, legal liability for violating the regime, and legal means creating it. "For a legal regime, such conditions as time, place (space), and the circle of persons to whom it applies are of primary importance" [Ibid, pp. 523–524]. The following types of legal regimes are distinguished: depending on the subject of legal regulation — constitutional, administrative, land; on legal nature — material and procedural; on content — currency, customs, digital, virtual; on the functions of law — special regulation and special protection; on the form of expression — statutory and contractual [Ibid, pp. 524–525].

The legal algorithm of actions is created by legislation regulating and protecting economic security. Lawyers discuss the issue of the advantage of applying for the effective operation of the mechanism, either a special act (law, code), a cross-sectoral legal array, regulation by branches, or a comprehensive legal institution. Each approach has its pros and cons. Taking into account the complexity and importance of the growing tasks

of economic security, the volume of normative and law-enforcement material, and considering rationality and convenience in application, it is advisable to form an electronic comprehensive legal institution based on AI technologies, offering norms, legal instruments, methods, and solutions based on the analysis of Big Data, national, and foreign experience.

The problem of a comprehensive legal institution as a "borderline" normative array is debatable and understudied. Special systemic means of organization are needed for their formation [6, p. 11]. There are various interpretations of this institution: legal norms related by a subject-functional feature and regulating specific types of social relations (V.K. Babaev); an association of legal norms regulating a certain group of social relations (O.P. Masyukevich); a group of norms united by a specific way of applying a sectoral method to the regulated type of social relations (O.S. Ioffe). We agree with O.A. Kozhevnikov that "the concept of a legal institution should reflect the most general aspects of both sectoral (unitary) and intersectoral institutions" [Ibid, p. 10]. A complex institution operates in the sphere of related, homogeneous branches when the subject of one branch is influenced by the methods of different branches of legal regulation. The complex institution of economic security is ensured by the legal regulation of many branches of public-private law. The institution of economic security is most optimally implemented through a comprehensive normative legal act belonging to a comprehensive branch of legislation.

The expected advantages of this proposal.

1. Unifies and systematizes legal norms "scattered" across constitutional law, administrative law, criminal law, economic law, financial law, tax law, customs law, civil law, international law, etc., into a comprehensive legal institution of economic security, which is an important strategic task for improving the state legal policy of the Republic of Belarus.

2. Contributes to the formation of a unified legal sphere of homogeneous social relations, creating a gapless (for a certain time) system of legal principles, norms, means, and procedures.

3. Increases the efficiency of state economic management, improves its protection and development, and distributes the powers of state bodies responsible for economic security.

4. Includes a unified system of risk monitoring and assessing within the framework of legal qualimetry.

5. Helps form a balanced legal mechanism that promptly responds to challenges and threats.

6. Strengthens the protective function of the state, unifies the composition of economic offenses, creates a unified hierarchy of legal liability, and specifies conditions for introducing legal regimes.

7. Creates clear “rules of the game”, increases predictability and stability for production, business, the country’s long-term development, and the satisfaction of economic and national interests.

Economic security is recorded in a system of national and international indicators and assessments. They may coincide or differ depending on the coordinate system and political-ideological preferences of countries. The assessment of the level of legal support for Belarus’s economic security is carried out by legal qualimetry, which records the parameters of threat danger, the effectiveness of legal instruments, and security threshold values. The National Security Concept of the Republic of Belarus identifies 19 national security indicators (largely directly or indirectly coinciding with economic security): share of gross fixed capital formation; ratio of short-term payments for repayment and servicing of public debt to gold and foreign exchange reserves; gross external debt; availability and effectiveness of international legal and political-legal guarantees of the security and sovereignty of the Republic of Belarus; level of trust in state power institutions; ratio of GDP per capita in the Republic of Belarus to the average in neighboring countries; share of innovation-active organizations; domestic spending on scientific research; Human Development Index, etc. [1].

The President of the Republic of Belarus, in his Address to the Belarusian People and the National Assembly at the second session of the VII All-Belarusian People’s Assembly, emphasized the leading role of the economy in ensuring the country’s national interests during the political and economic re-division of the world. He noted that despite unprecedented Western sanctions, the Republic of Belarus has fulfilled all socio-economic plans. No fewer than 25 major investment projects in industry have been implemented, and a strong economic sector has been created. In the global competitiveness ranking, Belarus ranks 56th among 150 countries. About 1,000 production projects have been implemented, the introduction of promising developments into the economy has accelerated, technical development and modernization are underway, and gold and foreign exchange reserves are growing. According to President A.G. Lukashenko, the economy is the main weapon in the modern world. Stable employment of the population, a decent level

of income, and most importantly — security — have been ensured. The country has achieved technological sovereignty and has its own developments in critically important sectors of the economy. It is necessary to increase the speed of introducing promising developments, open domestic scientific-production schools, and release new models of CNC machines. The task is set to increase the density of robotization to 100 units per 10,000 industrial workers by 2030. Breakthrough projects are needed that ensure critical sectors are at least 90% import-independent. For this, favorable conditions have been created: a legal “field”, infrastructure, schools for training IT specialists, the High-Tech Park, e-government, digital platforms and services, and a Unified Portal of Electronic Services. It is necessary to achieve energy independence, profitable food production, implement lean management, and conduct a continuous review of legislation with the active involvement of the population. “National unity, peace, security — these are basic values”, emphasized President of Belarus A.G. Lukashenko [7].

Conclusion. In the Socio-Economic Development Program of the Republic of Belarus for 2026–2030, according to the Decision of the All-Belarusian People’s Assembly dated December 19, 2025, № 1, a transition to a new quality of life for every Belarusian is planned: “Belarus should become a country with a developed digital industry and technological structure, its own breakthrough technologies”. This requires close constructive interaction between the state, business, and all strata of society. Among the Program’s priority directions are: national demographic security; developed human potential (quality education, upbringing of a harmonious, patriotically oriented personality); creation of a comfortable living environment; growth of competitiveness; acceleration of technological development and digital transformation; strong regions; strengthening of defense capability and the defense sector of the economy; realization of tourism potential. The key concept of the new five-year period is a self-sufficient, competitive state, with the human being at the center of attention [8].

Thus, economic security is the core and basis of national security. Economic and military security determine the strength and power of the state, the material and spiritual well-being of the country. The most favorable conditions for strengthening and developing the economy are created by a legal democratic social state, relying on the unity of the authorities and the people, using innovative and digital technologies, and a developed legal mechanism.

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Поступила в редакцию 06.01.2026