

## Problems of European Integration in the Construction of EU Security Policy in the Context of Counter-Terrorism



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### ABSTRACT

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The main purpose of the article is to identify the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism. The research methodology includes the methodology of graph and connection theory. Taking into account the opinion of experts, the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism for the countries of Eastern Europe were identified. After the start of a full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation into the territory of Ukraine, a large number of countries that are not yet members of the European Union have stepped up and are striving to start integration processes to form a common European security system. In this regard, the purpose and content of this study are to more thoroughly define these processes and identify the main problems and issues. As a result of the study, the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism were identified. The main model of the negative impact of the key problems of European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism was formed. The study has limitations and deals with taking into account the specifics of security policy exclusively in the countries of Eastern Europe. Further research is needed to determine the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism for the countries of the world.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The powerful wave of European integration, which began in the mid-1980s with the adoption of the Single European Act and was stimulated by a combined combination of rapidly progressing processes of globalization and geopolitical changes associated with the collapse of communist ideology and practice in Eastern Europe, reached its highest level in 2007 when an unprecedented enlargement of the EU from 15 to 27 members took place. The most striking paradox in relation to the European Union was that serious problems arose in it precisely at the peak of the European integration process.

The European choice is closer economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation between the countries of Eastern Europe and the countries of Central and Western Europe; it is an opportunity for the free exchange of people and information; this is the participation of the countries of Eastern Europe (its citizens) in joint social development programs with the countries of Europe; it is a cultural dialogue between peoples and enrichment with the heritage of the cultures of the countries of the Western world. The European choice is the path to the conflict-free coexistence of peoples.

This, of course, is the strengthening of positions in the joint further overcoming of such negative phenomena of modern social development as terrorism, epidemics, and environmental disasters.

Despite the presence in our time of a large number of conventions, treaties, and organizations designed to ensure world peace, the issue of security is still very acute for the world community. There are many reasons for this: the presence of nuclear weapons, the existence of numerous conflicts and wars of a global and local nature, terrorism, etc. These and other factors are pushing governments around the world to allocate funds from budgets to ensure an effective security policy.

For the proper organization and implementation of security policy within the EU, appropriate conditions must be created, the creation of which is the responsibility of the relevant state and international bodies specializing in ensuring security, including anti-terrorism. For example, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is a key player in this process.

In the face of common challenges and threats and based on common interests, EU member states will gradually seek consensus in assessing security threats and how to respond to

them, which in turn will contribute to the convergence of their positions within the framework of the Common Security and Defense Policy. Today the EU is at the stage of transition to a collective defense organization. How this process we hope to learn from further scientific studies of the Common Security and Defense Policy of the European Union.

The European Union is going through a difficult period of its development: perhaps the most difficult in the history of the European integration process since the 1950s. The variety of challenges facing the EU, their extreme scale and versatility give grounds to speak of a systemic crisis in the European integration process. Like any other crisis of a systemic nature, it is not an accident but is the result of a long accumulation of prerequisites since the period of triumphant European integration. This is especially acute against the backdrop of hostilities on the territory of Ukraine, that is, practically in the center of Europe. In this context, the question of determining the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism is not so relevant.

Considering today's hostilities that are taking place within the European continent, the problems of ensuring anti-terrorist security have intensified for the entire European Union, which prompts the search for new ways to solve these problems, both at a theoretical and practical level.

The main purpose of the study is to determine the main ways to counter environmental threats, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 in the practice of a modern lawyer.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to scientists [1-3], today in the European Union there are significant contradictions in the process of ensuring the optimal functioning of integration processes. It is safe to add a third component, namely the periphery of the EU, which the union is trying to bring up to its standards without giving the prospect of membership. The EU is interested in creating a belt of stable states around its borders, which will automatically reduce the threats and problems of the union itself. Therefore, we can say that a feature of the emergence and expansion of integration processes in Europe in the 21st century is the conditionality of constituting the coordinated behavior of states not by political, but by economic factors, the main among which were the promotion of development, employment growth, and an increase in the standard of living of the population. Nevertheless, although political integration in the EU is progressing much more slowly than economic integration, and integration processes are taking place in different regions of the world, they have been most fully and intensively launched and are continuing in Europe.

Analyzing the literature, we can see that there are a number of problems and features of European integration. For example, integration is a complex, multifaceted, and often contradictory phenomenon. Despite the fact that integration is a consequence of the awareness of the need to jointly solve the problems of our time, on the one hand, it creates conditions for the formation of international (interstate or superstate) political institutions, and on the other hand, it can lead to confrontation between different socio-political forces, parties, states, civilizations. Since each of the theoretical approaches focuses on a certain aspect of integration, in practice, supranational organizations do not apply in their pure form the ideas of any one theoretical approach. However, the theoretical

foundations of integration had a significant impact on the formation of the programs of various international unions. Currently, European integration is characterized by complicated and multi-level interactions between EU institutions and national governments, and that is why the theoretical definition of the future of the EU has again become one of the most important research tasks [4-6].

Currently, there are not enough works in the scientific community that would properly describe the functioning of the EU common security policy. When studying European security integration, it is important to effectively combine the provisions of the theories of international relations and theories of European integration. There are very few attempts to place European and defense integration within a broader historical context and identify factors that help to understand the emergence of a common security policy [7-10].

In general, most scientists [11-13] argue that European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism is nothing more than the union of states due to the limited natural, labor, and financial resources in this or that country to create goods that are competitive in these markets, and overcoming the crisis in countries, namely the impoverishment of peoples, unemployment, depreciation of national currencies, which leads to social problems in these countries. It is worth emphasizing that, speaking of force as a decisive factor in integration, we mean not the army, police, or weapons, but economic and technical factors and administrative capabilities, as well as the values, symbols, and rituals inherent in each of the countries to counter the main threats.

The study by Bergmann [14] also clearly identified the main factors that in one way or another negatively affect the security system, and an important role in this was given to integration processes. But over time, the world was struck by a significant number of new negative factors and phenomena, the most recent of which was the deployment of a real war on the territory of Ukraine. Given this, these factors need to be reviewed and new countermeasures developed.

Also, scientists note the importance of improving the effectiveness of the EU security policy. It is noted that integration involves the unification of states in order to achieve higher economic results, establish relations with neighbors or their own, and world security [15, 16].

We partially agree with this opinion, however, we believe that European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism should, first of all, take into account the specifics of the negative impact of a number of factors and threats. That is why, knowing the proper scientific achievement of leading scientists and practitioners, we believe that it is still relevant to form a methodical approach to assessing the negative impact of key problems on the European integration process in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism.

Responsibility in the field of ecology is a special state of public environmental legal relations, in which legal means ensure that responsible persons comply with special mandatory requirements of legislation in the field of the use of natural resources, environmental protection, and environmental safety.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

The methodology includes three main methods that form the

research methodology. First of all, it is a theoretical method of analysis, synthesis, and systematization of available scientific and practical information. It will contribute to highlighting the key problems of European integration of the countries of Eastern Europe in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism. These methods made it possible to deepen the knowledge of the authors in order to understand the theoretical component of the chosen problem.

Secondly, we have involved experts, so here we should talk about the application of the method of expert analysis. The experts include specialists from Ukraine (the main object of research in the context of European integration in building EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism). This is especially true today, in the context of a full-scale military invasion by the Russian Federation. Experts include specialists in security policy and counter-terrorism. The group consists of experienced professionals in the amount of 30 people. Thanks to their experience and the analysis of scientific and practical literature, we were able to identify the main problems of European integration in building an EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism in Ukraine. This method allowed us to most clearly understand and highlight the main problems of the European integration of Ukraine in the construction of the EU security policy in the context of counter-terrorism.

The main problems are the following:

1. The formation of a food crisis due to hostilities in the center of Europe (P<sub>1</sub>).
2. Lack of old sources of oil and gas supply (P<sub>2</sub>).
3. Rising prices for all types of goods and services (P<sub>3</sub>).
4. Threats of shelling from the Russian Federation (P<sub>4</sub>).
5. A large flow of emigrants as a result of hostilities (P<sub>5</sub>).
6. Controversy about simplifying the EU accession procedure (P<sub>6</sub>).
7. Strengthening terrorist provocations (P<sub>7</sub>).

Each of the problems was assigned a mathematical designation in order to better reflect these problems in further research results. The method that will streamline the impact of each of the problems of European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism for Ukraine will be the methodology of the theory of graphs and connections.

Graph theory is widely used in solving economic and managerial problems, in programming, designing and studying electrical circuits, communication, psychology, sociology, linguistics, and other areas.

In scientific circles, graph theory is used to represent relationships on sets. In essence, graphs help to visualize all sorts of complex interactions when there are a number of factors, and which there is a need to study the influence of each of them.

In the context of our study, the role of graph theory is to perform basic calculations to determine the main problems on the European integration of Ukraine in the construction of the EU security policy in the context of counter-terrorism.

Thanks to it, we can form the desired geometric configurations and connect them with the appropriate lines.

In our opinion, the presented methods form the methodology desired for study, which will allow us to fully reveal the issue raised and achieve the goal.

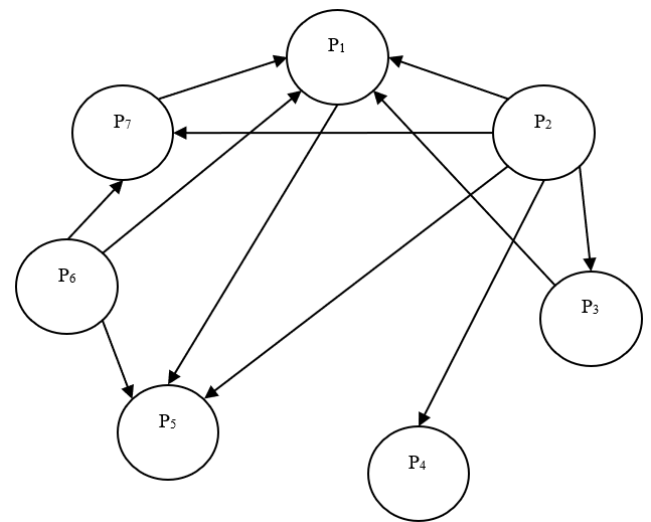
#### 4. RESEARCH RESULTS

Today, all the countries of Eastern Europe are focused on

Ukraine, its military conflict with the Russian Federation and the desire for European integration. Such events have caused several problems for EU security policy and only increase the terrorist threat. The problems we have identified are not an exhaustive list, but some of the most significant. To form a model of their impact, a number of steps should be performed.

Let the problems of European integration that we have developed in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism form a certain set  $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$ . Thus, we select a subset of the most significant problems for European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism  $P_1 \in P_2$ . So, we build the corresponding connection graph for P<sub>1</sub> (Figure 1).

This list of the most important problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism was determined using the method of expert evaluation. The next main methodology to be used: is graph theory and connections.



**Figure 1.** Model of connection between the main problems of European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of counter-terrorism

The next step involves the formation of a dependency matrix for a subset of European integration issues in building an EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism. Let's denote it mathematically as the matrix M. Its filling will occur according to the presented equality (1):

$$M_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if criterion } i \text{ depends on the criterion } j; \\ 0, & \text{if criterion } i \text{ does not depend on criterion } j. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

**Table 1.** Dependence matrix

	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	P <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	P <sub>6</sub>	P <sub>7</sub>
P <sub>1</sub>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
P <sub>2</sub>	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
P <sub>3</sub>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
P <sub>4</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
P <sub>5</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
P <sub>6</sub>	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
P <sub>7</sub>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

So, matrix M will be 7 by 7 in size (how many were the main problems for European integration in building the EU

security policy in the context of countering terrorism). The dependency matrix is shown in Table 1.

Based on the calculations of the dependence matrix, we are able, according to methodology, to construct a Reachability matrix N. It is reduced to the following Eq. (2):

$$N_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if from } i \text{ can go to } j \\ 0, & \text{if not} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

So, let's fill in Reachability matrix, the results of which are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Reachability matrix

	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	P <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>5</sub>	P <sub>6</sub>	P <sub>7</sub>
P <sub>1</sub>	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
P <sub>2</sub>	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
P <sub>3</sub>	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
P <sub>4</sub>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
P <sub>5</sub>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
P <sub>6</sub>	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
P <sub>7</sub>	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Thus, the vertex P<sub>j</sub> is reached from P<sub>i</sub>, if there is a path in the constructed graph that leads to the given vertex. Then we can say that such a vertex is attainable. In this case, we will denote such a type of vertices as B(P<sub>i</sub>), if P<sub>i</sub> will be the predecessor of the vertices P<sub>j</sub>, such a collection of vertices will form P<sub>j</sub> such a collection of vertices will form T(P<sub>i</sub>). To carry out the necessary calculations, it is necessary that a number of requirements are met. That is, the section of subsets of reachable and predecessor nodes forms (3):

$$C(P_i) = B(P_i) \cap T(P_i) \quad (3)$$

And here we come to the stage of determining a certain level of influence of the problems of European integration we have identified in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism. Those vertices of the graph that are not able to reach any of the vertices of the set P<sub>i</sub> and form the same level of influence (4):

$$T(P_i) = C(P_i) \quad (4)$$

The calculation results for building a model of the negative impact of the main problems on the European integration of Ukraine in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism are presented in Table 3.

Thus, the equality presented above (4) is fulfilled for the identified problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism: P<sub>2</sub> - Lack of old sources of oil and gas supply. P<sub>6</sub> - Controversy about simplifying the EU accession procedure. So, in the list, these problems form the lowest level of influence on the European integration of Ukraine in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism. They need to be responded to as a last resort. Continuing the calculation without the above problems, we will get the following calculation results for building a model of the negative impact of the main problems on the European integration of Ukraine in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism, which is presented in Table 4.

According to the results of the second calculation, we found that equality (4) holds for three problems of European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the

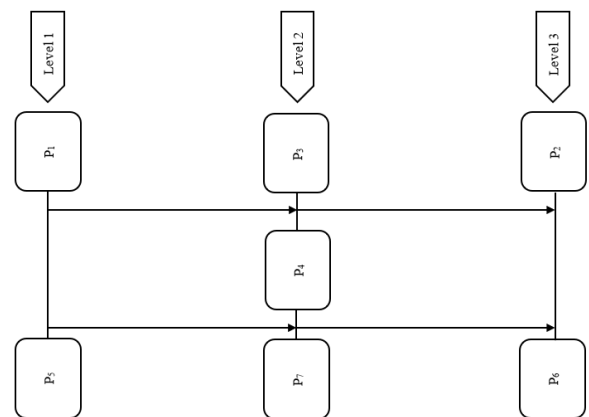
context of counter-terrorism: P<sub>3</sub> - Rising prices for all types of goods and services. P<sub>4</sub> - Threats of shelling from the Russian Federation. P<sub>7</sub> - Strengthening terrorist provocations.

**Table 3.** The calculation results for building a first level

	B(P <sub>i</sub> )	T(P <sub>i</sub> )	B(P <sub>i</sub> ) ∩ T(P <sub>i</sub> )
P <sub>1</sub>	1, 5	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	1
P <sub>2</sub>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	2	2
P <sub>3</sub>	1, 3	2, 3	3
P <sub>4</sub>	4	2, 4	4
P <sub>5</sub>	5	1, 2, 5, 6	5
P <sub>6</sub>	1, 5, 6, 7	6	6
P <sub>7</sub>	1, 7	2, 6, 7	7

**Table 4.** The calculation results for building a second level

	B(P <sub>i</sub> )	T(P <sub>i</sub> )	B(P <sub>i</sub> ) ∩ T(P <sub>i</sub> )
P <sub>1</sub>	1, 5	1, 3, 7	1
P <sub>3</sub>	1, 3	3	3
P <sub>4</sub>	4	4	4
P <sub>5</sub>	5	1, 5	5
P <sub>7</sub>	1, 7	7	7



**Figure 2.** Model of the level of influence of the main problems on the European integration of Ukraine

Thus, without further calculation, it can already be argued that the following problems for European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of counter-terrorism will have the most negative impact: P<sub>1</sub> - The formation of a food crisis due to hostilities in the center of Europe. P<sub>5</sub> - A large flow of emigrants as a result of hostilities.

The final model of the negative impact of the main problems on Ukraine's European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of counter-terrorism is presented in Figure 2.

Summing up, we note that in general it can be said that the activities of the EU in the field of security policy are aimed at ensuring peace and are carried out through in-depth cooperation in the areas of human rights protection, terrorism, civil security, and defense. Currently, efforts in each of these areas result in joint actions aimed at implementing the security policy of Ukraine. The measures taken by the EU, both within the Union and outside it, are considered quite successful, given the results that have already been achieved.

## 5. DISCUSSIONS

Discussing the results of the study, it should be noted that

there is no single, holistic and comprehensive theory that explains all aspects of European integration, general security phenomena, and the processes caused and caused by it. Any general or meta-theory of European integration tends to either over-generalize or universalize, over-determine, differentiate or reject alternatives. There is also the problem of the lack of a sufficient number of self-reflective, critical, and theoretically oriented works. And without a proper understanding of the reasons for the emergence of security and defense cooperation in the EU, it is impossible to predict its further development. However, in our opinion, it is already possible today to assess which problems have a significant impact on the European integration of the countries of Eastern Europe in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism.

As for the differences of our study compared to others, for example, Zhou [17] considered the main problems of security policy in the context of the post-financial crisis. Sylkin et al. [18] carried out the process of modeling anti-crisis policy in the face of the negative impact of problems and threats on security policy, however, despite such thinking, they had more of a micro level of exploration at the enterprise level of Eastern Europe.

It is very popular to form an anti-crisis management model for the policy of Eastern Europe to counter negative factors [19-22], but in practice, the problems of European integration are not taken into account.

Our study is different and it assumed the formation of a model of the negative impact of the key problems of European integration in the construction of EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

Summing up, it should be noted that in Europe - taking into account different views and political positions - the transformation of institutions takes place through an open dialogue with society. Even taking into account the obvious problems of democratic legitimacy (democratic deficit) in the activities of EU institutions mentioned in the previous sections of this Report, it cannot be denied that the scale of these problems is much lower than in many countries of Eastern Europe. For example, the Ukrainian reforms are extremely ambiguous in terms of their actually achieved results. On the one hand, one can hardly deny the fact that the institutional changes that have taken place in Ukraine over the past almost five years are the most extensive in terms of their scope and impact on society. But on the other hand, it should be understood that the reforms are not carried out for the sake of institutional changes and adjustment to a certain template, even if it is set by the “center”, which is at a higher level of institutional maturity. The main criterion for any reforms is to unlock the development potential of society, create new resources for it and, finally, achieve tangible positive results.

Today, due to hostilities in Ukraine, there is a serious problem with European integration in building EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism for many countries.

So, returning to our research results, I would like to note that the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism were identified. The main model of the negative impact of the key problems of European integration in the construction of EU

security policy in the context of countering terrorism was formed.

Of course, like any other such study, there are certain limitations here as well. Yes, the study has limitations and they concern the consideration of the specifics of the security policy of the countries of Eastern Europe only. Further research is needed to determine the main problems of European integration in building the EU security policy in the context of countering terrorism for the countries of the world.

The study has limitations and they relate to the fact that not all threats were taken into account, and the specifics of all countries were not taken into account. In the future, we should focus on the most problematic countries in the field of environmental protection and pay attention to identifying the main ways to improve the activities of lawyers in these regions.

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