

ARMED AGGRESSION AND SANCTIONS POLICY IN THE GLOBAL SECURITY SYSTEM: LEGAL FRAMEWORKS, ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS, AND DETERRENCE MECHANISMS

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Abstract. The article examines the key dimensions of contemporary global security in the context of armed aggression, focusing on the economic, legal, informational, and cyber components of hybrid influence. The study's pertinence is rooted in the escalating prevalence of novel conflicts and their progressively intricate and multifaceted ramifications on the international system, encompassing disruptions to global trade, financial stability, and governance structures. The objective of the research is to ascertain the structural patterns that underpin deterrence mechanisms based on economic sanctions, international legal instruments, and crisis management strategies, thereby providing a comprehensive framework for understanding how states and international organisations can respond effectively to modern security challenges. The methodological framework utilised encompasses the structural-functional approach, comparative legal analysis, systematisation of economic effects, and modelling of potential implications for the victim state and the global market. The study demonstrates that sanctions reshape financial stability and market access for aggressor states, alter technological dynamics and investment behaviour, and can generate long-term systemic pressure. Concurrently, the research identifies concomitant side effects such as supply chain disruptions, price volatility, and heightened global economic uncertainty. The practical value of the study lies in its ability to provide comprehensive recommendations that are designed to enhance the effectiveness of sanction regimes, strengthen international coordination, mitigate risks for the victim state's economy, and integrate crisis management components into response mechanisms. In conclusion, the development of a multi-level, adaptive, and legally balanced deterrence system contributes to maintaining international security and protecting state sovereignty in the modern security environment.

Keywords: sanctions, hybrid aggression, global security, international law, war economy, crisis management, cybersecurity, international institutions, aggression deterrence, risks for the victim state.

JEL Classification: F51, F52, K33, H56, F50

1. Introduction

In the contemporary world, armed aggression remains one of the most severe challenges to global security, retaining its relevance even after the establishment of the *status quo* following the Second World War. Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations upholds the principle of the prohibition of aggressive war. Nevertheless, an examination of historical and current events reveals that violations of this principle are systemic and manifest in various forms, including classical armed conflicts and hybrid aggression.

In light of contemporary realities and in consideration of recent armed conflicts, particularly the armed conflict in Ukraine, scientific research in this domain assumes particular significance. The ramifications of such actions extend far beyond the immediate military confrontation; they impact the economic sphere, social stability, the legal system, and the international relations of states. The scale of infrastructure destruction, the annihilation of manufacturing capabilities, and the devaluation of the national economy during war are extraordinarily severe.

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The issue of the economic component of war is a particularly salient one: contemporary conflicts cannot be considered separately from their impact on the financial and economic systems of both the aggressor state and the state under attack. From an economic perspective, the consequences of war are manifold and include defence expenditures, the depreciation of the national currency, the obstruction of trade flows, the disruption of logistics, and a decline in the country's investment attractiveness.

In response, the international community employs sanctions mechanisms as a tool for deterring the aggressor, which also entails economic implications for the state perpetrating the aggression itself. Moreover, the advancement of science and technology, in conjunction with the emergence of hybrid warfare, comprising economic, informational, and cyber dimensions, has led to the escalation in the complexity and unpredictability of contemporary conflicts. This underscores the necessity for an integrated analysis of the interaction between armed actions, sanctions pressure, and economic consequences within the framework of global security.

Research that combines the legal, economic, and security aspects of armed aggression is of particular pertinence for the development of effective mechanisms for the prevention and response to modern challenges faced by the international community.

2. Review of Foreign Literature

The phenomenon of armed conflicts and wars in the contemporary world is the focus of a wide range of academic research, notably in economics, international law, political science, sociology, psychology, and statistics. The multidimensionality of war is determined by its complex nature as a socio-political phenomenon, which has the capacity to impact state functioning, international security, economic systems, and the rule of law. Within the complex approach, the economic and legal dimensions play a primary role as they form the basis for assessing inflicted damage, developing deterrence mechanisms and implementing sanctions policies (Bluszcz & Valente, 2022; Liadze et al., 2023; OECD, 2023).

A significant proportion of contemporary research focuses on analysing the economic consequences of war at national and global levels. Interdisciplinary approaches are instrumental in identifying the impact of armed conflicts on macroeconomic indicators, the investment climate, financial market performance, and global supply chains. For example, Bluszcz and Valente (2022) found that the economic costs of the hybrid war in Ukraine included a substantial decline in gross domestic product, a reduction in foreign direct investment and increased economic instability. Meanwhile, Liadze, Macchiarelli, Mortimer-Lee

and Sánchez Juanino (2023) evaluate the global ramifications of the Russian-Ukrainian war, revealing that the global economy suffered losses amounting to around 1% of global GDP in 2022.

Taking a deeper look at the economic side of things, separate studies focus on the microeconomic effects of war, particularly the way it affects entrepreneurial activity. Specifically, in their working paper, Audretsch, Momtaz, Motuzenko and Vismara (2023) demonstrate a significant reduction in entrepreneurial initiative in both Ukraine and Russia under conditions of armed conflict. This indicates the long-term negative consequences of war for the economic development and innovative potential of states.

In addition to economic research, the analysis of armed aggression from a legal perspective, and the policy of sanctions, are of crucial importance in academic literature. The legitimacy of the application of sanctions and mechanisms for deterring the aggressor is determined by the norms of international law. The provisions of the UN Charter, the principles of sovereign equality of states, non-interference in internal affairs, and responsibility for internationally wrongful acts are of particular relevance in this regard. In this context, the integration of economic and legal approaches facilitates the evaluation of not only the efficacy of sanctions as a tool of influence but also their compliance with international legal standards.

The intricate nature of the war's repercussions is corroborated by analytical reports from international organisations. For instance, research by the OECD (2023) demonstrates that Russia's war against Ukraine had significant negative consequences for the economies of the Eastern Partnership countries, causing increased inflation, disruption of trade flows, and deterioration of the investment climate. The conclusions drawn underscore the imperative for a synthesis of economic analysis and legal evaluation of international response measures.

Accordingly, an analysis of extant academic literature suggests that there has been a considerable degree of research conducted into specific economic and legal aspects of armed conflicts. Concomitantly, there persists a pressing need for a systemic economic and legal analysis of armed aggression and sanctions policy within the context of the global security system, which justifies the feasibility and scientific significance of this study.

3. Research Methodology

The methodology is based on an interdisciplinary approach that combines economic, legal and security analyses of modern forms of armed aggression and their consequences. This comprehensive framework enables the evaluation of the direct and indirect economic consequences of conflicts, and the effectiveness of

international legal response mechanisms and sanctions strategies.

The following classical and contemporary scientific methods are employed:

- Analysis and synthesis (for the systematisation of knowledge regarding war and its economic consequences).
- Comparative legal analysis (for identifying the specific features of applying international law in cases of aggression and hybrid conflicts).
- Economic-statistical and economic-modeling analysis (for assessing the impact of military actions and sanctions on macroeconomic indicators, financial markets, and global supply chains).
- Scenario and predictive analysis (for modeling the potential consequences of various types of aggression and sanctions strategies, and evaluating their effectiveness within the context of preserving economic stability and international security).

4. Aim and Objectives of the Research

The objective of this research is twofold: firstly, to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the interrelationship between armed aggression, sanctions mechanisms, and economic implications for states and the global security system; and secondly, to outline effective mechanisms for prevention and response.

Objectives:

1. To conduct a conceptual analysis of the contemporary interpretation of war and hybrid forms of aggression, considering the economic, legal, and informational dimensions.
2. To assess the economic consequences of armed aggression for the target state, the aggressor state, and the global economic system.
3. To investigate the integrated economic and legal implications of hybrid aggression and its impact on international security.
4. To analyse international legal mechanisms and the practice of applying economic sanctions, comparing the effectiveness of various models.
5. To develop recommendations for optimising the economic and legal instruments for deterring and responding to contemporary armed conflicts.

5. War in the 21st Century: Military-Economic and Informational Dimensions

War remains one of the key constants of international politics and civilizational development. Since time immemorial, the aggressive nature of human beings has been evident in the use of aggression as a means of survival and the struggle for resources. With the advent of states, aggression has also emerged as a systemic instrument of policy. The classical understanding of war is defined as an armed confrontation between

states with the objective of violating territorial integrity or sovereignty. This interpretation is enshrined in international legal documents, particularly UN General Assembly Resolution No. 3374 (1974), which specifies the characteristics of an armed attack.

Nevertheless, contemporary conflicts have long transcended traditional notions. The concept of hybrid warfare, which combines military actions with economic, informational, and cyber tools, is increasingly becoming a subject of research. In his seminal work, Frank G. Hoffman (2007) emphasised that contemporary warfare is characterised by the integration of conventional military forces with unconventional tactics, encompassing physical aggression, economic coercion, and the dissemination of disinformation. Mary Kaldor (2012) has proposed the concept of "new wars" to emphasise that the consequences of modern conflicts extend far beyond combat operations, altering the social structure of society and affecting the civilian population.

5.1. Contemporary Interpretation of War and its Impact on Global Security

The economic dimension of modern conflicts is of particular significance, given that the state of the economy directly reflects the level of resilience of the state to external and internal threats. It is for this reason that, within the scientific doctrine, economic security is regarded as a pivotal indicator of the overall state of national security. In this context, Baldwin and Freeman (2022) demonstrate that wars can cause significant disruption to global production and trade chains, affecting even states that are not directly involved in hostilities. Within the framework of hybrid aggression, economic instruments such as sanctions, embargoes and restrictions on market access can be employed to exert pressure without resorting to direct military action (Nozharov, 2019).

The cybernetic component of modern warfare is no less significant, and has become particularly crucial from a strategic standpoint. Cyberattacks allow the infliction of damage upon the target state without physical intervention by targeting digital infrastructure, management systems and communication networks. This creates a new level of threat that is difficult to define within the scope of current international law.

Information warfare occupies a pivotal position in the contemporary landscape of influence. Disinformation campaigns, manipulative media narratives and psychological operations enable aggressors to undermine political stability, discredit state institutions and create internal tensions without resorting to large-scale combat operations. As Michael J. Mazarr, Adam Casey, Alexander Demus, Samantha Harold, Matthew Matthews and Natalie Beauchamp-Mustafaga (2019) noted in their RAND Corporation

report, modern forms of influence include: "Targeted, systemic creation and dissemination of information with the aim of inflicting social, political, and economic damage by influencing the beliefs, attitudes, and behavior of the population."

It is particularly perilous that the battlefield of information warfare has been transferred to the individual's mental environment – their inner world and subconscious. The consequences of such intervention can undoubtedly be extremely serious.

Thus, the contemporary interpretation of war requires more than an update to the classical model; it necessitates a transformation of its very essence. Today, war is a multidimensional system combining military, economic, informational and cybernetic tools of influence. The consequences for global security are complex: economic systems are destroyed, international markets are disrupted, trust between states diminishes and it becomes more difficult to apply international legal mechanisms of responsibility. An integrative approach that considers the legal, economic, technological and political aspects of modern conflicts is required to effectively respond to such threats.

5.2. War and its Economic Consequences for National Economies and the Global Economic System

One of the most pressing contemporary issues is the fact that wars have a multi-level economic impact, affecting the target state, the aggressor state and the global economy simultaneously. Economic shocks are no longer a secondary consequence of conflict; rather, they have become a structural element that defines strategy, development pace, institutional resilience and the state's capacity for resistance. Therefore, analysing the economic effects of war requires a multidimensional approach that covers micro-, macro- and global levels (Collier, 2007).

The "economy of war" is a concept that facilitates comprehension of the mechanisms underpinning the functioning of an economic system in the context of armed conflict. In the context of a war economy, a mobilisation of resources for defence purposes takes place, accompanied by a restructuring of industry to accommodate military production. The budget structure undergoes modifications, with the introduction of special tax and credit mechanisms. Supply and logistics management are centralised, and economic agents adapt their practices to the challenges posed by resource scarcity and uncertainty (Baldwin & Freeman, 2022; Hufbauer, Schott, & Elliott, 2008). At the macroeconomic level, this is manifested in GDP fluctuations, changes in employment, inflationary processes, and government expenditures; at the microeconomic level, it involves the transformation of enterprise and household behaviour, the restructuring

of logistics, and changes in consumer demand. In a globalised world, war in one state almost always causes an effect beyond its borders. These effects include disruption of international supply chains, energy crises, speculative price jumps for raw materials, migration flows, and investment risks (IEA, 2023; World Bank et al., 2024).

5.2.1. Theoretical and Methodological Approaches

The study of the impact of military conflicts on the economy is conducted through various approaches:

1. *Keynesian paradigm* considers military expenditures as a possible stimulus for economic activity. Increased government spending on defence can stimulate growth in production, employment and domestic demand. For example, the United States emerged from the Great Depression thanks to massive military orders during the Second World War (Cerra & Saxena, 2008).

2. *Neoclassical approach* emphasises the destructive nature of war for the economy in the medium and long term. War leads to the inefficient reallocation of resources, a fall in productivity, a reduction in private investment and a loss of investor confidence. Any GDP growth resulting from war is short-lived and is accompanied by long-term losses (Collier, 2007).

3. *Institutional approach* views war as a factor transforming economic and political institutions. Conflict can lead to changes in property rights, resource distribution mechanisms, the role of the state in the economy and the relationship between civil society and the government. War often involves the nationalisation of strategic sectors and the reinforcement of centralised control (Ostrom, 2010).

4. *Political-economic approach* interprets war as a tool for achieving strategic economic and geopolitical objectives. According to Hufbauer, Schott and Elliott (2008), war can serve as a means of redistributing natural resources, markets or control over logistical routes.

5. *Conflict economics model*, notably the Grossman-Hirshleifer model, applies mathematical methods to analyse the choice between productive activity and participation in conflict. In a resource-constrained environment, actors may opt for armed confrontation if they believe the potential rewards outweigh the potential costs (Neuenkirch & Neumeier, 2015).

These approaches make it possible to identify the consequences of war for the economic system, such as a decline in GDP and productivity, shortages of resources, reduced investment, destruction of infrastructure, changes in state economic management and restrictions on access to international markets and financial flows (Elliott, 2007; Rogoff, 2022; SIPRI, 2025).

5.2.2. Direct Economic Impact of War on the Target State

For a country experiencing armed aggression, economic losses arise immediately and have long-term consequences. Critical infrastructure, such as transport corridors, energy facilities, logistical hubs and industrial enterprises, is destroyed. In the initial 12 months of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine alone, direct damages were estimated to be in excess of 411 billion (World Bank et al., 2024), and by 2024, this figure had escalated to over 486 billion (World Bank et al., 2024). The destruction of bridges, thermal power plants (TPPs), hydroelectric power plants (HPPs), and railway infrastructure has the potential to undermine the country's production potential and its ability to sustain domestic markets and exports.

A decline in GDP is a typical economic response to conflict. According to IMF estimates, Ukraine's GDP shrank by 29.1% in 2022, marking the most significant contraction in Europe since World War II (IMF, 2023). Cerra and Saxena (2008) demonstrated that wars create a long-lasting "potential gap": actual GDP remains below what would have been possible for many years afterwards, with average permanent losses of 6–10%.

A resource deficit is a critical problem. It encompasses both material resources, such as fuel, metal and food, and intangible resources, such as the labour force and human capital. According to the UNHCR (2024), there are now 123.2 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, which has led to a significant exodus of the working-age population and hindered economic recovery (Collier, 2007).

5.2.3. Economic Consequences for the Aggressor State

Despite attempts to gain geopolitical or resource advantages, the contemporary international system makes aggression economically costly. During periods of active conflict, the military expenditure of aggressor states amounts to 5–12% of GDP (SIPRI, 2025). For instance, Russia's military spending reached 7.1% of GDP in 2024, marking the highest level in two decades (SIPRI, 2025).

International sanctions are one of the most powerful instruments of economic pressure. They restrict access to investment, financial markets and imports of high technology (Hufbauer, Schott & Elliott, 2008). According to Neuenkirch and Neumeier (2015), sanctions reduce the aggressor state's real GDP growth by an average of 2.3–3.5 percentage points per year.

Furthermore, the loss of access to international financial infrastructure also leads to currency depreciation; during 2023–2024, the Russian ruble lost more than 30% of its value due to sanctions and capital outflows (SIPRI, 2025; IEA, 2023). Consequently, warfare evolves into a strategic and economic predicament for

the aggressor: costs escalate, markets contract, and the economy's innovative capacity diminishes.

5.2.4. The Impact of War on the Global Economic System

Even localised conflicts can rapidly escalate into international economic shocks. Globalisation has made the world economy highly interconnected, meaning economic disturbances in one country can immediately affect other regions through trade and financial channels. This was emphasised by Kenneth Rogoff (2004) in his study of globalisation and global disinflation.

Volatility in Energy Prices

Energy markets are the most sensitive to armed conflicts. Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, gas supplies from Russia to the EU fell from 155 billion cubic metres to less than 45 billion cubic metres within one year, according to the IEA (2023). This led to European gas prices surging to a historic peak of over 300 EUR/MWh in 2022, triggering inflationary waves worldwide.

Disruption of Global Supply Chains

Conflicts have the potential to impede the flow of goods and services, disrupting logistics networks and hindering the progression of production cycles. As Baldwin and Freeman (2022) have observed, the majority of contemporary production chains are characterised by a high degree of concentration: Furthermore, it is estimated that 20–40% of critical components are manufactured in a mere three to five countries. Consequently, any conflict generates supply shortages, shifts in production flows, and the reconfiguration of trade networks.

Financial Shocks

Financial markets respond to conflicts by becoming more volatile. According to World Bank data, global economic growth slowed from 6.0% in 2021 to 2.1% in 2023. Around 80% of emerging market economies experienced a decline in investment between 2022 and 2023 due to geopolitical instability.

A systemic analysis of the economic effects of war at different levels enables an assessment of the integrated consequences of conflict for global economic stability.

A distinguishing characteristic of contemporary conflicts is the duality of economic effects, whereby instruments of economic pressure aimed at weakening the aggressor simultaneously generate risks for global markets. Elliott (2022) characterises this phenomenon as "dual economic interaction", whereby the weakening of the aggressor occurs in parallel with rising global turbulence.

For instance, sanctions imposed on the Russian Federation resulted in a reduction of export revenues by more than 28% in 2023 (IEA, 2023; SIPRI, 2025), whilst concurrently reshaping oil supply routes,

increasing global price volatility, and accelerating inflation in energy-importing countries.

Therefore, it can be argued that modern warfare is not merely an armed confrontation but a form of comprehensive economic destruction. The consequences of this phenomenon are far-reaching, encompassing the undermining of national economies, the disruption of global production chains, the alteration of financial flows, and the transformation of the international economic order. In order to comprehend these processes, a multidimensional analysis is required, alongside integrated response mechanisms, ranging from economic policy instruments to tools of global risk governance.

5.4. Legal Mechanisms and the Use of Economic Sanctions as a Means of Prevention and Cessation of Aggression

In the context of international law, economic sanctions represent a pivotal instrument for deterring aggressive behaviour by states and ensuring accountability for violations of the international order. The legal legitimacy of the aforementioned parties is rooted in the provisions outlined in the UN Charter, the established norms of international humanitarian law, and the resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council. In accordance with Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the Security Council is authorised to impose coercive measures, including economic ones, for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security (Levandovskiy & Levandovska, 2018; Olshak, 2025). This renders sanctions a legally substantiated mechanism for international response to aggression.

Nevertheless, the legitimacy of sanctions does not guarantee the resolution of all issues. The Security Council's capacity to impose sanctions is frequently constrained by political accords, legal inconsistencies, and humanitarian risks that may emerge during their implementation (Karliuga, 2024). The practice of sanctions demonstrates a wide spectrum of approaches. For instance, the European Union employs asymmetric sanctions regimes, encompassing embargoes, financial restrictions, asset freezes, and investment bans, with the objective of exerting maximum economic pressure without resorting to direct armed intervention. The United States of America frequently implements extraterritorial sanctions, which have ramifications for not only the aggressor state but also third countries and international corporations (Smityukh, 2025).

The economic consequences of sanctions imposed on the state responsible for the aggression can be substantial and multifaceted. Restrictions on access to international financial systems, asset freezing, and the reduction of exports of strategic goods and technologies

can result in devaluation crises, complications in external borrowing, and the undermining of investment attractiveness. It is evident that, in the long term, such measures engender a decline in productivity, resulting in a lag in innovative development and the formation of deep structural imbalances in the economy (Pilat, Sharenko & Sumtsova, 2024). Concurrently, the practical consequences of sanctions are not homogenous and depend on the structure of the national economy, the duration of the sanctions pressure, and the state's capacity for adaptation.

The heterogeneity of economic effects necessitates the use of empirical examples, which allow for the tracking of how sanctions regimes influence macroeconomic indicators, financial stability, and structural transformations in specific states. The utilisation of generalised macroeconomic indicators in conjunction with the analysis of institutional conditions facilitates the evaluation of both the immediate and delayed consequences of sanctions pressure.

In this context, it is appropriate to refer to case studies that reflect various models of state economic adaptation to external restrictions, thus allowing for the comparison of the stated goals of the sanctions policy with real economic results.

Case Studies on the Efficacy and Limitations of Sanctions

1. Iran

The imposition of international sanctions on Iran in the context of its nuclear programme resulted in a substantial decline in oil exports, a depreciation of the national currency, and a decrease in GDP by 6-7% per annum (International Monetary Fund [IMF], 2014). Concurrently, Iran adapted its economy through domestic import substitution, which partially offset the economic losses.

2. North Korea

Although sanctions against North Korea restricted trade in key commodities and financial flows, the state maintained partial economic self-sufficiency and received support from certain allies, which reduced the effectiveness of the measures (Haggard & Noland, 2017).

3. Russia

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the country was hit with international sanctions that restricted access to financial markets and high-tech imports, and froze the assets of oligarchs. According to assessments by the World Bank and SIPRI, these restrictions caused a 2-3% decline in Russian GDP in 2022-2023, with the ruble losing up to 30% of its value (World Bank, 2023; SIPRI, 2025). At the same time, the sanctions also impacted global markets, causing a sharp increase in energy prices, the restructuring of supply chains and rising financial flow volatility (International Energy Agency [IEA], 2022).

Humanitarian and Global Context

Even when sanctions effectively impact the aggressor state, they often have side effects for the civilian population and the global economy. Deficits in essential goods increase, products become more expensive and access to medical supplies may be restricted (Karliuga, 2024). While the concept of "smart sanctions" (targeted sanctions) allows for the mitigation of the negative humanitarian effects, completely avoiding them remains challenging (Drezner, 2011).

Therefore, legal instruments such as the UN Charter, international humanitarian law and Security Council resolutions provide the basic legitimacy for sanctions as a means of counteracting aggression. The efficacy of sanctions hinges on their design, the coordination of international action, and striking the right balance between political, economic, and humanitarian risks. Ideally, sanctions should not only have a punitive function, but also a preventive one, capable of halting conflict escalation in its early stages.

6. Recommendations for Optimising Legal and Economic Response Mechanisms

In the context of escalating global security tensions, the proliferation of hybrid, asymmetric, and multidimensional formats of aggression, and the growing state economic resilience which is dependent on the effectiveness of international legal response mechanisms, the modernisation of tools for countering aggressor states requires a comprehensive and methodologically integrated approach. Such an approach must integrate legal regimes of accountability, economic restrictive instruments, humanitarian protection standards, and elements of strategic crisis management capable of ensuring a balanced reaction to crisis phenomena of various natures.

The establishment of enhanced international legal frameworks oriented towards the clear regulation of sanctions introduction procedures, the definition of transparent criteria for their application, the unification of mechanisms for monitoring their execution, and the establishment of effective forms of accountability for violations is becoming particularly relevant.

In the contemporary context, the design of sanctions policy must anticipate the incorporation of innovative economic instruments that impede the aggressor state's access to financial flows, critical technologies, strategic raw materials, and infrastructural networks. The efficacy of such a policy is significantly increased under conditions of synchronisation of actions by leading international organisations and supranational economic blocs, primarily the UN, the EU, the USA, and international financial institutions. This creates a predictable and structurally stable regime for global financial communications, reduces the risks of market

fragmentation, and minimises unforeseen side effects for third states.

The employment of predictive and scenario modelling has emerged as a pivotal instrument in contemporary response, facilitating the flexible and scientifically robust adjustment of sanctions regimes in alignment with the evolving dynamics of hybrid conflicts. Such an approach optimises the structure of economic pressure whilst also allowing for the assessment of short- and long-term macroeconomic consequences, the behavior of market indicators, the impact on international supply chains, and the level of financial resilience of partner states. It is imperative that sanctions measures be complemented by diplomatic, informational, and cyber deterrence tools, whilst also giving due consideration to the humanitarian component, the purpose of which is to minimise the negative impact on the civilian population. In this context, the establishment of mechanisms for international compensation for states that have been subjected to aggression holds considerable promise. Such mechanisms would not only facilitate the legal documentation of violations but also ensure the economic compensation of damages, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the deterrence system.

For states that are subjected to direct aggression, it is crucial to establish an effective strategic crisis management system that stabilises the national economy, maintains critical infrastructure, ensures vital supply continuity and minimises the destabilising consequences of external shocks. This systemic approach neutralises the consequences of aggressive actions and forms the basis for long-term resilience, strengthening the state's capacity to withstand future threats.

In summary, an effective system for deterring aggression must be multi-level, integrated and adaptive. It should combine international legal mechanisms, economic policy, cyber security instruments and support mechanisms for states that are victims of aggression. This architecture strengthens the international security system, ensuring the supremacy of international law and protecting state sovereignty while minimising the economic and humanitarian consequences of modern conflicts.

Key Practical Vectors for Optimising Response Mechanisms

1. Reinforce the international legal regulation of sanctions by providing a clear definition of the procedures for introducing, monitoring and holding accountable those who do not comply with them.

2. Enhance coordination between international organisations and economic blocs to ensure the sanctions regimes are aligned and to minimise their negative impact on global markets.

3. Expand and diversify economic deterrence instruments by restricting access to financial, technological and infrastructural resources of strategic importance.

4. Minimising harm to the civilian population by integrating humanitarian standards into sanctions policy.

5. Predictive-analytical approaches and scenario modelling are being implemented to enable the adaptive adjustment of response policy.

6. Comprehensive support for countries that have been subjected to aggression, through the provision of financial assistance, loan guarantees, technical assistance and the protection of critical infrastructure.

7. The development and implementation of strategic crisis management strategies aimed at stabilising the economy, ensuring the functioning of vital logistics chains, and enhancing the state's structural resilience to external shocks.

7. Conclusions

Contemporary aggression is a multifaceted phenomenon that extends well beyond the scope of classical military confrontations. The contemporary concept of war is a multifaceted system that incorporates armed conflict, economic pressure, informational warfare, and cybernetic operations. The ramifications of these operations have a profound impact not only on the states directly targeted but also on the global economic system. The aforementioned factors, including direct destruction of infrastructure, a decline in GDP, and deficits in resources and labour, represent merely one

level of economic losses. In addition, the aggressor state is likely to face significant financial costs and sanctions risks, while global markets experience shock price fluctuations, supply chain disruptions, and financial flow instability.

The concept of hybrid aggression, which employs economic instruments as a means of destabilisation, is a novel phenomenon that is shaping the business-military landscape. This is an "economic war without guns", in which sanctions and legal mechanisms serve not only a punitive function, but also a preventive one, deterring the aggressor and compelling a modification of behaviour without the application of direct force. In order to achieve maximum efficacy of sanctions and legal instruments, a comprehensive approach is required, combining international law, economic policy, cybersecurity, and informational resilience. The implementation of such measures has been demonstrated to facilitate the protection of state sovereignty, the minimisation of negative effects on global markets, and the enhancement of the stability of the international security system.

The systemic implementation of these recommendations has the potential to synchronise legal and economic response mechanisms, enhance the effectiveness of aggression deterrence, and establish the foundations for long-term stability within the international security and economic system.

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