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**CRIMINAL-LEGAL AND ECONOMIC-INSTITUTIONAL  
MECHANISMS OF ENSURING ECONOMIC SECURITY  
IN THE CONDITIONS OF GLOBAL INSTABILITY**

***Summary***

*The article analyzes Ukraine's economic security challenges regarding martial law, global instability, and increased hybrid threats. Structural, regulatory, and institutional factors that affect the effectiveness of sustainable development of the national economy have been considered. Considering the challenges of the time, the need to transform approaches to the formation and implementation of state policy in economic security has been emphasized. The key internal and external determinants of economic instability have been noted, particularly the risks associated with latent economic crime. The instruments of criminal law response to threats to financial stability are analyzed. The need to improve criminal law and economic and institutional mechanisms for protecting economic security as a key component of the national security architecture is substantiated. Foreign experience in economic security is studied, and a mechanism for its adaptation in Ukraine has been proposed. The directions of optimization of economic security mechanisms are outlined, in particular: institutional integration, digital transformation of risk*

*management, harmonization of legislation with EU law, development of human resources, and improvement of analytical infrastructure. Special attention is paid to the modernization and harmonization of the norms of current legislation by European standards. The article contains the author's vision of the strategic priorities of protecting the state's economic security and, therefore, the need for a systemic approach to countering modern challenges.*

### **Introduction**

Economic security is a complex economic and legal category that reflects the protection of economic relations at all levels of government. As a component of the national security ecosystem, economic security is a key element of the national security architecture, acting as the basis of economic sovereignty, a catalyst for development, and a mechanism for implementing effective socio-economic policy. The essence of economic security is represented through the mechanism for its provision, which requires constant improvement by the challenges of the time and the imperatives of innovative development.

The actualization of this issue is due to the growth of hybrid threats, the aggravation of the military situation, digital transformation, and the need for integration into the European security space. There is an urgent need to unify approaches to understanding economic security and develop a coordinated infrastructure for its provision.

The complex interdisciplinary nature of the problem reflected in the works of scholars in the field of law: O. Bandurka, A. Boyka, I. Golikova, D. Kamensky, S. Lekar, S. Mozoly, V. Ortynsky, V. Sazonov, O. Chuvakov, and economics: O. Vlasyuk, S. Korablin, O. Kozyuk, B. Danylyshyn, who studied the structural factors of economic security, threats to macro-financial stability and indicators of economic self-sufficiency. A comprehensive understanding of the problems of economic security is reflected not only in domestic but also in foreign scientific discourse. A significant contribution to the development of conceptual foundations of security policies, threat determination, and institutional support made by such researchers as B. Buzan, J. Stiglitz, A. Sen, D. North, U. Beck, M. Castells, what allows integrating international experience into national approaches to ensuring economic security. At the same time, threats in the security sphere remain latent, which necessitates the need for constant updating of economic and legal protection tools.

The study aims to substantiate the principles of the formation and optimization of criminal-legal and economic-institutional mechanisms for ensuring the economic security of Ukraine in the context of global instability. To achieve the goal set within the framework of the analyzed topic, we perform the following tasks expected to be: analysis of the content of the category

"economic security" in modern scientific doctrine, identification of threats to economic security in the context of global transformations, assessment of the effectiveness of mechanisms for economic and legal ensuring economic security; formulation of recommendations for optimizing mechanisms for protecting economic security, taking into account European experience, standards of good governance and indicators of a risk-oriented approach.

Given the above, the study of economic security requires the identification of a theoretical and methodological basis that will allow us to outline the essence, structure, and inherent characteristics of the object of research. That is why the first step in realizing the goal of scientific research is to analyze the content of the category "economic security" and substantiate the determinants of influence.

### **Chapter 1. The essence of economic security and its conceptual foundations in the context of transformational risks**

Economic security is a key element of national security and a systemic indicator of the state's ability to ensure the economy's stability, competitiveness, and resilience to threats. In most modern studies, the concept of "economic security" is interpreted as the ability of the national economy to ensure independent development, social stability, and protection of the strategic interests of citizens, society, and the state in the context of transformational changes.

Economic security involves protecting from threats and ensuring economic self-sufficiency, preserving critical resources, and innovating in the long term [1].

According to the National Security Strategy, "Human Security – Country Security", the national security of Ukraine is defined as protecting state sovereignty, territorial integrity, democratic constitutional order, and other national interests of Ukraine from real and potential threats [2]. In this context, economic security is not analyzed separately but acts as the basis of national security, its fundamental component determining its resistance to destructive influences.

However, despite the stability of definitions, there is debate in academic circles regarding the unification of the conceptual apparatus, the functional role of economic security in the system of state policy priorities in the field of security and defense, as well as the institutional effectiveness of the mechanisms for their implementation. That confirms the need for further analysis of the essential characteristics of economic security, considering modern risks.

The definition of economic security is a multidimensional and complex category that encompasses both the state and mechanisms for ensuring the stability of the national economy in conditions of change.

S. Piletska interprets economic security as:

- the state of protection of the object from internal and external threats;
- the ability of an economic agent to effectively manage resources to minimize risks and prevent crisis phenomena;
- the presence of competitive advantages that will ensure the implementation of the strategic goal;
- the property of reproduction, adaptation, and ensuring the viability of the enterprise in conditions of instability;
- creating conditions for stable functioning, scientific and technological progress and social development;
- - ensuring financial stability and achieving commercial success in the long term [3, p. 57]. The definition outlines economic security as a multifactorial category combining stability, adaptability, effective risk management, and strategic development.

Bandurka O. M. emphasizes the need for institutional coherence of economic security mechanisms, pointing to the critical role of interaction between state authorities, control, and financial monitoring [4].

In international scientific discourse, economic security is interpreted as a multifaceted phenomenon that involves ensuring economic stability and protecting the development of the national economy. Thus, British researcher Barry Buzan defines economic security as access to resources, finances, and markets necessary to maintain an acceptable level of population well-being and state power [5]. According to American economist Joseph Stiglitz, economic security is not only the income level but also its predictability, stability, access to labor, and the absence of extreme vulnerability to external shocks [6]. Another leading scholar, Nobel Prize laureate Amartya Sen, considers economic security a necessary condition for development, including freedom from poverty and hunger, access to productive resources, and opportunities to realize labor potential [7, p. 36]. Therefore, the modern interpretation of economic security is large-scale and is presented not only from an economic perspective. The scientific transcription of economic security covers political, social, legal, and institutional dimensions, considering transformational risks.

The problem of protecting economic security in the conditions of globalization acquires the status of a priority of state policy, the importance of which manifests in its ability to influence the justification of the expediency of political, legal, and economic decisions. The conceptual principles of the essence of economic security serve as the basis for forming effective state policy. The system of ensuring economic security provides for permanent monitoring of socio-economic processes, assessment of their impact on the security environment, analysis of strategic programs and regulatory legal acts, and monitoring of the effectiveness of current decisions in the field of economic policy [8]. Forming an economic security system increases the state's ability to

promptly identify threats to national interests and implement preventive measures to minimize potential losses.

Economic security in this context is considered the ability of the state, society, and individual subjects to ensure the stable implementation of their own economic, social, political, legal, and environmental interests. In the process of functioning of the economic security system, the main tasks should include:

- improvement of the norms of current legislation in the field of economic security;
- creation of an informative data bank for monitoring, analysis, and forecasting potential threats;
- development and timely implementation of measures to prevent risks;
- modernization of security strategies and tactics of preventive response;
- formation of algorithms for assessing possible losses and losses;
- improvement of methods for assessing the level of economic security at all levels of management;
- implementation of international standards in the field of security policy.

Defining the essence of economic security and the dominant tasks of its provision creates a basis for a detailed analysis of factors that are likely to threaten the economic stability of the economy. Among them, a special place is occupied by determinants of economic danger – systemic, structural, and latent factors that disrupt the balance of the national economy, cause social deformations, and reduce the authority of state institutions.

The challenges facing society indirectly determine the transformation of the security paradigm and, therefore, the formation of a modern ecosystem of economic security, orienting it not only to ensuring sustainable development but also to sustainable recovery, innovative development, and increasing the state's competitiveness in the global space. For implementing the outlined tasks, it is important to ensure the monitoring of risks and threats, adaptation of national legislation to international legislative practices, increase institutional efficiency at different levels of management, and cross-cultural integration of security policy.

The study of domestic and foreign scientific achievements shows that economic security is not a stable or universal phenomenon – it is dynamic, adaptive to change, and closely related to the level of institutional capacity and effectiveness of the risk management system. In this context, further research should aim to identify key determinants of economic danger, analyze institutional effectiveness, and form effective mechanisms for regulatory and criminological protection of the state's economic interests and the business environment.

Therefore, economic security is an object of theoretical analysis and a practical platform for implementing state policy in a dynamic and crisis

environment. A systematic understanding of its essence and functions forms the basis for effective counteraction to modern challenges and lays the foundation for national stability.

## **Chapter 2. Identification of threats in the context of economic security management**

Economic security is formed under the influence of a set of factors that can both strengthen and destroy its foundations. Determinants of economic danger are causal phenomena, processes, or conditions that lead to a violation of economic stability, a decrease in investment attractiveness, the destruction of the institutional environment, the shadow economy, and the growth of criminal activity.

In the scientific literature, determinants of economic risk are divided into:

- internal (endogenous) – structural imbalances in the economy, budget deficit, high level of corruption, institutional inefficiency, political instability;
- external (exogenous) – global crises, sanctions pressure, geopolitical conflicts, dependence on imports of critical resources.

As O. Vlasuk rightly notes, determinants of economic security have a system-forming significance since they determine the vector of economic development, its institutional capacity, and its adaptability to internal and external risks [9, p. 42]. However, in modern conditions of economic turbulence, the structure of determinants requires dynamic revision and clarification. To the traditional factors influencing economic security, such as institutional efficiency, financial stability, and resource self-sufficiency – today, new ones are added:

- cybersecurity of financial systems;
- resistance to external debt burden;
- adaptability to disruption of global supply chains;
- protection of critical infrastructure from hybrid threats.

Thus, the concept proposed by the scientist remains relevant but needs to be expanded by integrating criminological, institutional, and informational aspects that determine the modern architecture of Ukraine's economic security in the face of multi- Latent criminogenic factors, such as shadow economy, money laundering, tax evasion, illegal circulation of excisable goods, corporate fraud, etc, pose a particular threat to the state's economic security. The scientific literature rightly emphasizes that the criminogenic nature of several economic processes in modern conditions increasingly acts as a determinant of the destabilization of the economic environment.

As V. Sazonov rightly notes: "The greatest threats to economic security are corruption, the shadow economy, tax evasion, capital outflow and criminalization of financial and economic relations", which makes it impossible to ensure the proper level of stability of the economic system and a

fair, competitive environment [10, p. 87]. This approach is consistent with an expanded interpretation of economic security as a complex phenomenon that includes financial, economic, legal, anti-corruption, and institutional security.

Scientific research has repeatedly emphasized the need to implement a comprehensive system of criminal law protection of the economy as a response to new challenges such as corruption, legalization of income obtained illegally, tax evasion, economic espionage, etc. [11, p. 189]. A similar position was expressed by O. Chuvakov, who draws attention to the latency of economic crime and its ability to undermine the foundations of the legal market [12].

Therefore, understanding the nature of modern economic threats, particularly their latent, criminogenic, or hybrid nature, requires theoretical understanding and effective management response. Effective economic security management is impossible without high-quality identification of determinants of economic danger because it is the completeness and accuracy of threat identification that serves as the basis for strategic planning, forming a policy of preventive influence, and ensuring the stability of the national economy.

In modern challenges, it is advisable to focus on identifying threats to economic security as an initial but extremely important stage of the security management cycle – both at the state, industry, and corporate levels.

In conditions of multi-vector turbulence – geopolitical, financial, energy, and criminogenic – timely identification of risks is a prerequisite for effective state security policy. The effectiveness of strategic planning, preventive response, and minimizing losses depend on the completeness, reliability, and systematic identification of threats.

As O. Vlasjuk rightly notes, “It is important not only to understand the nature of threats but also to identify them in time, assess their impact, and predict the dynamics of risk development” [9, p. 135]. That requires a comprehensive approach that combines analytical, regulatory, informational, and managerial components.

Considering international experience and national needs, the mechanism for identifying threats to economic security could be presented as a sequential model:

- 1) Monitoring socio-economic processes;
- 2) Identifying abnormal deviations in security indicators;
- 3) Identifying sources of threats;
- 4) Classification of threats;
- 5) Forming a risk profile;
- 6) Determining the priority of response and impact measures.

In foreign practice, identifying and assessing threats to economic security is an institutionally established component of the national risk management system. In the “EU Economic Security Strategy” (2023), the European Commission defines as a priority task “the creation of a risk assessment

framework based on the identification of strategic dependencies, vulnerabilities and threats in the field of critical infrastructure and technologies” [13]. B. Buzan also takes a similar position, emphasizing that “economic security requires a constant reassessment of threats given the changing global balance of power, trading blocs, and financial dependencies” [5, p. 26].

From the above, it follows that identifying threats is a continuous adaptive process involving interagency coordination, a single risk platform, and an operational, analytical platform integrated into the system of strategic management of the state’s economic security.

Within this paradigm, identifying threats to economic security aims to identify them and determine the optimal mechanisms for countering them. That is especially relevant when a significant part of the risks is latent, systemic, and criminogenic.

Tax or administrative levers of influence are not enough when threats indicate criminal activity, as domestic and foreign practice shows traditional economics; in such situations, it is necessary to apply criminal law measures aimed at punishment, prevention, deterrence, and demonstrative effect.

In this context, criminal law protection of economic security should be considered as an integral component of national security policy, which functions at the intersection of law, economics, and security. In the context of an increasing number of criminal offenses in the economic sphere, criminal law tools allow for effective counteraction to systemic threats.

The essence of criminal law protection of economic security lies in the following:

- legislative consolidation of the illegality of acts that determine the security paradigm;
- improvement of forms of criminal liability for the commission of such socially dangerous acts;
- ensuring the implementation of punishment for a committed criminal offense as a tool for prevention, deterrence, and restoration of social justice.

The scientific doctrine confirms the need for criminal law protection of economic security. Thus, O. Tulyakov emphasizes that “in the context of globalization, criminal law should perform the function of a balance between national sovereignty and the imperatives of transnational economic integration” [14]. In turn, L. Rusnak justifies that the financial security system (a component of economic security) should include mechanisms for displacing organized forms of economic crime, corruption manifestations, and schemes for transnational laundering of proceeds obtained by criminal means [15, p. 715-717].

Thus, criminal law protection is viewed not only as a reaction to violations but as a systemic safeguard that ensures the strategic stability of the economic environment, builds trust in the state as a guarantor of the protection of



economic interests, and is integrated into the overall architecture of national security.

In the countries of the European Union, criminal-legal protection of economic security has been implemented within the framework of a holistic concept of economic criminal justice, which combines preventive, punitive, and restorative instruments. Its features are supranational coordination, institutional specialization, and active use of financial analytics in the investigation process.

The presence of specialized bodies characterizes the Ukrainian model of criminal-legal protection of economic security (the Bureau of Economic Security of Ukraine, the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine). Still, it remains fragmented, with a predominance of a reactive approach and limited use of financial-analytical tools. In contrast, the European model is integrated, preventive, and technologically oriented and operates based on the principles of specialization (OLAF, EPPO), intergovernmental cooperation, and the Follow the Money strategy.

The European model is more effective since it is characterized by systematicity, innovation, analyticalness, and international coordination. To increase the effectiveness of criminal law protection of economic security, it seems appropriate to focus on the possibilities of implementing a set of consistent algorithmic measures, in particular:

- implementation of European security standards;
- development of analytical financial infrastructure;
- expansion of mechanisms for combating transnational economic crime.

At the same time, the system of criminal law protection of economic security must adapt to the realities of martial law. The latest challenges caused by full-scale aggression against Ukraine transform the structure of determinants of economic security and necessitate their updating.

The conditions of the declared martial law significantly affect the mechanism of security determination in the economic sphere. The above is due to the emergence of security threats that require an immediate anti-crisis response, coordination of efforts of various institutions, and international support. In such conditions, the critically important determinants of economic security are infrastructure security, financial stability, food and energy security, crisis management, international cooperation, and international trade.

These determinants are interdependent and systemically significant. Their effective functioning is the key to the country's economic stability in martial law. Therefore, mechanisms for ensuring economic security, including criminal law protection, must consider the specifics of military risks and the need for an adaptive response.

Modern risks are radically transforming the economic security system and the priority of its components. At the same time, military risks have put

infrastructure, financial, energy, and global security at the forefront. Current threats require an operational response and a deep rethinking of the principles of the functioning of the institutional and legal architecture of economic security.

In this context, there is an objective need to optimize the national economic security system by strengthening inter-institutional coordination, reforming legal approaches, adapting response strategies to wartime conditions, and harmonizing with the requirements of European integration.

### **Chapter 3. Optimization of institutional, economic, and legal mechanisms for ensuring economic security**

In the context of the transformation of the global security ecosystem, military challenges, hybrid threats, and internal economic instability, the issue of the effective functioning of the institutional system and legal mechanisms for protecting economic security is becoming particularly relevant. Modern security threats and the limited effectiveness of mechanisms for countering risks require updating and tools for protecting economic security and changing its ecosystem.

Despite some positive developments, the national security management system, in particular the creation of the Bureau of Economic Security, implementation of anti-corruption legislation, and development of financial monitoring institutions, remains fragmented, regulatory overloaded, and insufficiently integrated into the global security space. That necessitates systematically optimizing institutional, legal, and management mechanisms, considering modern realities.

Ukraine's economic security management system is a multi-level structure with interconnected subsystems: goals, functions, principles, methods, management entities, regulatory and legal support, information and analytical tools, and institutional infrastructure. Its main purpose is to ensure a controlled impact on economic processes to achieve stability, predictability, and protection of national interests in the face of risks, challenges, and transformations.

As the scientific literature notes, the management system influences an object for its targeted transformation, which is assessed by quantitative and qualitative security parameters [16, p. 50]. In the context of economic security, such an object is the national economy and its sectors that require legal and state influence.

In the context of modern challenges – armed aggression, global instability, digital transformation, and strategic European integration – the system for ensuring Ukraine's economic security requires stabilization measures and deep institutional and legal optimization. Current scientific approaches allow us to identify five key areas of improvement.

First, institutional consolidation is important. As E. Karpenko notes, ensuring economic security should occur through a single coordination platform, which will avoid duplication of powers of state authorities and increase the effectiveness of responding to threats [17, p. 22].

Secondly, the regulatory framework needs to be updated. The National Security Strategy and scientific sources rightly indicate that current legislative acts do not consider new challenges associated with martial law and the European integration course [18]. Harmonization of legislation with EU law and adaptation to the realities of wartime should become a priority.

Thirdly, optimization should consider the incorporation of international experience. According to V. Levkivska, institutional and legal solutions in economic security should be based on EU practices, particularly in compliance, control of public finances, and confiscation of assets [19].

Fourthly, digital risk management tools need to be developed. Using integrated analytical platforms allows for monitoring economic threats, analyzing dynamics, forecasting scenarios, and identifying anomalies at the stage of risk formation.

Fifthly, the development of human capital is gaining strategic importance. The economic security system requires specialists with interdisciplinary competencies (economics, law, analytics, cybersecurity). Therefore, developing professional education and personnel reserve should become a separate security policy direction.

Thus, in today's conditions, strengthening the protection of economic security is becoming a strategic priority for many states. The experience of developed countries – particularly the EU countries, the USA, and Japan – demonstrates the presence of common patterns, including a comprehensive approach to security (institutions + analytics + law), digitalization of risk management systems, interdepartmental integration, an emphasis on prevention, not just response. The generalization of these approaches creates the basis for a national model for optimizing Ukraine's economic security in times of war and strategic recovery.

In particular, the European Union adopted the European Economic Security Strategy in 2023, which "creates a framework for assessing risks, reducing critical dependencies, and strengthening internal resilience in key sectors such as energy, digital technologies, and raw materials" [13]. That is accompanied by the intensification of the activities of specialized bodies, in particular EUROPOL, EPPO, and OLAF, which coordinate law enforcement in economic offenses.

In the US, the "get economic security right" approach emphasizes "institutional integration, assessing the risks of foreign influence, and protecting strategic sectors through legislation focused on national interests" [21]. Examples include the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United

States (CFIUS) and the CHIPS and Science Act, which serve as an instrument of industrial policy in the face of foreign competition.

Japan integrated economic security into its National Security Strategy in 2022, recognizing the need to "protect critical technologies, security of supply, and controlled access to strategic resources" [22].

Australia has also introduced legal instruments to combat foreign interference in the economy, including legislation on investment transparency, transaction screening, and protection of strategic enterprises [23].

All these models share several common elements:

- the creation of specialized national or supranational bodies with coordination functions;
- strategic planning considering risks;
- the application of the “follow the money” principle in law enforcement and analytical practice;
- the integration of digital monitoring and early warning systems;
- civil asset confiscation as a form of preventive protection;
- as rightly noted in the European Parliament study: “Increasing strategic autonomy requires political will and flexible, multi-level risk management in economic security” [13].

Thus, an analysis of foreign experience shows that effective economic security requires systematically integrating institutional, legal, and technological approaches. The models of the USA, the EU, Japan, and Australia demonstrate that the effectiveness of security policy increases under these conditions:

- the presence of specialized coordination bodies;
- orientation towards strategic sectors of the national economy and the protection of national interests;
- implementation of innovative products, analytical platforms, and modern digital tools into the mechanism of criminal law protection of economic security;
- effective interaction between state institutions, law enforcement agencies, and international institutions.

These approaches are extremely important for modernizing Ukraine’s national security ecosystem. Their adaptation should be carried out considering national characteristics, martial law, and integration into the European legal space.

Further steps in reforming Ukraine’s economic security protection system should be aimed at increasing the analytical component, harmonization, and unification of national legislation to international legislative initiatives, formation of intellectual human resources potential, and permanent inter-institutional interaction. These initiatives will contribute to the formation of a

holistic, effective, and modern architecture that protects the state's economic security.

In the context of transformational challenges caused by full-scale aggression, general instability of the economic environment, digitalization of the economy, and Ukraine's European integration course, the system for ensuring economic security requires a deep rethinking and institutional renewal. Based on the analysis of national experience, European models, and international recommendations, it is advisable to form a modern mechanism for protecting economic security focused on adaptability, interdepartmental coordination, and digital efficiency.

First, institutional integration needs to be implemented. It is advisable to create a single coordination center for economic security issues (for example, the National Center for Economic Security), ensuring synergy of actions between executive authorities, law enforcement agencies, financial institutions, and analytical services. Such a structure should be authorized to coordinate strategies, coordinate operational response, and form a nationwide risk profile.

Secondly, a digital transformation of the risk management system is necessary, particularly by creating a single integrated information and analytical platform. This tool should carry out automated monitoring of key indicators, identify anomalies, and analyze suspicious transactions with connection to tax, customs, banking, and judicial authorities' databases.

The third direction is the modernization of the regulatory and legal field, particularly updating the Economic Security Strategy, considering martial law conditions, and integrating with European Union legislation. Particular attention should be paid to harmonizing criminal, tax, and financial legislation in combating tax evasion, money laundering, embezzlement of state resources, and illegal capital outflow abroad.

The fourth block of proposals concerns the improvement of law enforcement practice. That concerns the need to unify the methods of pre-trial investigation of economic offenses, expand the possibilities for applying mechanisms for civil confiscation of assets, and increase the efficiency of financial control and independent audit.

The fifth important aspect is the development of human capital in economic security. It is necessary to develop specialized training programs for civil servants, investigators, judges, and expert analysts that will allow them to form competencies at the intersection of economics, law, information security, and anti-corruption management.

The sixth direction is the integration of Ukraine into the international architecture of economic security. That involves intensifying cooperation with EU institutions (EUROPOL, EPPO, OLAF), implementing FATF, GAFI, and OECD standards, and developing a system of international exchange of information on economic crimes, risks, and sanction restrictions.

## Conclusions

In the context of increasing external challenges and internal instability, Ukraine's economic security has come to the forefront among state policy priorities. The study showed that risks to the national economy become systemic without an appropriate institutional and legal response. The model of economic security that operated previously turned out to be insufficiently flexible and does not fully meet modern conditions, given the state of war and the dynamics of external economic threats.

The study noted that the modern system of ensuring the economic security of Ukraine requires deep institutional, legal, and managerial modernization. The challenges caused by armed aggression, economic turbulence, digitalization, and the European integration course have exacerbated the structural problems of the functioning of the security architecture. It was established that the main determinants of economic security in Ukraine are corruption, shadow economy, instability of the regulatory environment, and external shocks associated with geopolitical pressure, energy challenges, and inflationary risks. The analysis showed that the current model of economic security remains fragmented, regulatory overloaded, and insufficiently integrated into the international legal system.

In this context, the need to update the mechanisms for ensuring economic security becomes obvious, including improving legislation, reviewing approaches to law enforcement activities in the economic sphere, developing specialized institutions, and deepening the analytical base of risk management.

Special attention should be paid to harmonizing national legislation with European law in economic crime, control of financial flows, and transparency of public finances. The positive experience of the EU, USA, and Japan demonstrates the effectiveness of combining institutional coordination, digital monitoring tools, and interdepartmental interaction. Ukraine has real opportunities to adopt such models, considering its characteristics.

In addition to legal and organizational changes, human capital development is important. Ensuring economic security is impossible without qualified personnel who can effectively respond to new challenges, analyze risks, and implement modern solutions to protect national interests. In this regard, the state should promote the training of specialists in economics, law, cybersecurity, and anti-crisis management.

At the same time, the issue of digital transformation remains relevant. Creating a single platform for collecting, processing, and analyzing information on economic threats will allow for more effective coordination of the efforts of state bodies and prompt response to destructive influences. Such a platform should be implemented by developing a regulatory framework and a clear division of powers between security policy actors.

Based on this position, the application of optimization mechanisms in the context of institutional integration, digital transformation, updating legislation, improving law enforcement practices, human capital development, and international cooperation has been emphasized, which should form a modern, adaptive, technologically oriented system of economic security, capable not only of responding to current threats but also of predicting risks, preventing their escalation and contributing to the strategic development of the national economy.

Optimization of economic, legal, and institutional mechanisms is not only a challenge of the time but also a strategic requirement for strengthening the economic sovereignty of Ukraine in the conditions of hybrid war and the transformation of the world order.

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