

UNDERSTANDING OF THE GLOBALIZATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY IN TERMS OF SECURITY INTEGRATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS COUNTRIES

Ass. Prof. Katerina Veljanovska

veljanovska_katerina@yahoo.com

MIT University – Skopje, Faculty of Security, Criminology and Financial Control

Abstract

The concept of security has changed in the past century; it has reinvented itself from the state centric concept to the modern multidimensional and multi-level approach. In this article we will take a look how the security concept has evolved from the 17th century to today, and how globalisation has played a role in redefining the concept of security in the world. The more the world is getting connected the greater the treats become. In this article we will also explain global treats and take a look how the process of globalization in the 21st century has influenced the security integration of the Western Balkans Countries. This paper aims to examine security and defense environment within the context of the Western Balkans. For this purpose, it firstly analyzes the theoretical approach of the established security and defense policies and global threats, and then, independently from the influence of the key external security and defense actor – North Atlantic Alliance and European Union.

When it comes to addressing the international security integration aspirations of the Western Balkans, it is important to emphasize regional security framework. Namely, maintaining regional security cooperation is one of the most important interests of the Western Balkan countries. It is an important factor for creating political stability, security and economic prosperity. Therefore, the regional cooperation is instrumental in addressing key security challenges, such as organized crime, corruption, border management and illegal migration.

Key words: Security, globalisation, global treats, Western Balkans, integration.