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MODERN NUCLEAR SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE RUSSIAN - UKRAINIAN CONFLICT

Abstract: The special military intervention of the Russian Federation on the territory of Ukraine began in February 2022. Since then, until the present day, war operations of a very destructive character have been carried out on the territory of the greater part of Ukraine, and at the moment there is no peace solution in sight. On the contrary, war-inciting statements can be heard from both sides. Also, this conflict led to world polarization, which has never been at a higher level, and which meant the division of the world into those countries that support Ukraine, which includes the countries of the West, and the countries that support the Russian Federation, which includes the countries of the East.

The current world geopolitical picture looks like new conflicts and further escalation are extremely certain. There is a particular fear of the potential use of nuclear weapons, as a final option if no side can come out of this conflict as a winner, because it is not an acceptable solution for any side to come out of the conflict as a loser.

Keywords: world war, nuclear weapons, world order, security.

Introduction

The conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine is a long-standing conflict that lasted even before the start of the Special Military Intervention in February 2022. February 2014, immediately after the color revolution in Kyiv, is taken as the moment of the start of the conflict. The conflicts took place on a national basis because the residents of Crimea, Donetsk and Lugansk, mostly Russians, suffered the worst

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form of national discrimination. Persecution of the Russian population in Donbas was carried out by the official Ukrainian army, as well as paramilitary units, nationalist and neo-fascist ideologies. Russians were forbidden to use their native language, alphabet, preach religion, culture and preserve their national identity.

The military operations of the Ukrainian army took place from 2014 to 2021 in the cities of Donetsk, Lugansk, Mariupol, Avdiyivka and others, and over 150 Russian children were killed in the attacks. The targets of the attack were strictly civilian objects, which according to any international convention cannot be legitimate targets in any war or conflict. In particular, the case known as the “Madonna of Gorlov”, which describes the terrible death of a twenty-three-year-old mother, Kristina Žuk, who was killed while holding her ten-month-old daughter in her arms, is particularly well-known. This woman and her baby have become a symbol of the suffering of innocent people in the Donetsk region. The tragedy happened on July 27, 2014, when the Ukrainian army shelled the town of Gorlovka².

The confrontation by the Ukrainian army and radical right-wing organizations, among which the organization “Right Sector” was at the forefront, was cruel, and anyone who spoke the Russian language would be targeted. Members of an orchestra who sang Russian songs in Russian were beaten in Lviv, and a taxi driver in Cayman was beaten and wounded in the leg because he also spoke Russian. In May 2014, over 10 Russians were killed by the “Right Sector” in the House of Culture in Odessa, by imprisoning them and burning them alive. Members of the Russian people were exposed to other forms of abuse, as well as economic discrimination, because they were left without jobs and social privileges just because they were of Russian origin.

Crimes against the Russian population in Ukraine were committed by various neo-fascist organizations under the auspices of the Ukrainian leadership, President Volodymyr Zelenskyi and members of the Ukrainian government, who publicly promoted the confrontation with the Russians on a national basis. In addition to the already mentioned “Right Sector”, crimes were also committed by other neo-fascist organizations such as “Trident Ih - Stepan Bandera”, “Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists”, “Ukrainian Insurgent Army”, “UNA - UNSO”, “Korchinsky Brotherhood” and “Misanthropic Division”³.

Precisely due to the fact that the Russian people living on the territory of Ukraine suffered the worst forms of discrimination on national and religious grounds, that members of the Russian people are killed, abused and put in the position of second-class citizens on various grounds, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, made a decision to start a Special Military Operation in Ukraine on February 24, 2022 at five o'clock in the morning Kyiv time. The argument for entering into this kind of special military intervention was that the Russian people were committed genocide by official Ukraine, but also by neo-fascist Ukrainian organizations under the auspices of the state government. However, the West rejects the claim that the Russians were victims of the Ukrainian neo-fascist genocide, openly siding with Ukraine. Among other things, the West condemned the Russian special military operation, calling it Russian aggression. The West imposed numerous economic sanctions on the Russian Federation and banned any trade and business cooperation with this country.

In March 2023, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin. He is accused of having committed war crimes, of carrying out forced deportations of children from Ukraine, or rather of not

2 Perišić, V. (2014) Ukrajinski poučak, Peščanik, Beograd, dostupno na: <https://pescanik.net/ukrajinski-poucak/> (posećeno dana 01.01.2025).

3 Kuljanin, B. (2014) “Raspeće Ukrajine”, Argumenti, Banja Luka, str. 157.

using his personal authority to stop others from deporting children from Ukraine. Since the Russian Federation is not a member of the International Criminal Court, it is clear that this indictment is not binding for it, but it is binding for the 123 countries that are members of this court.

Consequences for international security

The special military operation in Ukraine and its effects on international security are not negligible. The European Union is rightly afraid of Russian retaliation because the entire European administration is unreservedly helping Kiev. According to some rough estimates, about 125 billion euros of aid went to Kyiv from the European Union. These funds were given both for military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

On the other hand, the European Union has imposed significant sanctions on the Russian Federation since the beginning of the military intervention. We are talking about sanctions and measures that have not been imposed on any country in the world until now. They represent targeted measures aimed at the Russian economy and economy, but also concern Russian diplomacy and foreign policy relations. Sanctions in the economic sector are aimed at the economic weakening of the Russian Federation, in order to reduce its combat capability and readiness. Sanctions are not only aimed at the Russian Federation as a legal entity, but also at wealthy individuals from the Russian diaspora, who can use their personal capital to support the war in Ukraine. Russia's main allies Belarus, Iran and North Korea are also targeted by sanctions.

The rationale for imposing sanctions on the Russian Federation is that this country, with its actions in Ukraine, violates basic human rights. The sanctions introduced by the European Union are against a regime that threatens human rights and against individuals. First of all, they include the persons who are directly responsible for the suffering of people and the inhumane treatment towards them, against those who destroy the basic democratic assets, freedom of speech, thought and democratic association. The persons covered by the sanctions cannot move freely in European countries, and the property they own in the European Union is frozen. About 2,400 individuals and state institutions are covered by these sanctions⁴.

The sanctions include all persons who directly or indirectly participated in the organization of the referendum on the territory of Ukraine in 2022 and the elections in 2023, persons responsible for alleged war crimes in Bucha and Mariupol, persons who attacked the civilian population and critical infrastructure, persons responsible for the purposes of deportation and adoption, responsible for re-educating Ukrainian children and directing them to be loyal to Russia, responsible for hiring Syrian military mercenaries, responsible for the production of drones aircraft and all those working to circumvent the effects of these sanctions. This includes members of the intelligence services, who operate and work for the needs of the Russian Federation all over the world and are infiltrated in almost all European countries⁵.

Also, the targets of sanctions are political parties, military and paramilitary organizations, banks and financial organizations, media organizations that spread propaganda, the energy sector of the Russian Federation, companies from the aviation industry, shipbuilding and mechanical industry, the information technology sector and telecommunications companies, trading companies, the mining sector, the organization

4 Čehulić, Vukadinović, L. (2024) "Evropska unija na razmeđu politike daljeg širenja ili odnosa partnerstva", *Kultura komuniciranja*, br. 9, Mostar, str. 90.

5 Životić, I; Antonović, R. (2023) *Menadžment bezbednosno – obaveštajne zajednice i pravne institucije nadzora*, Fakultet za inženjerski menadžment, Beograd, str. 165.

“All People’s Front”, as well as the organization that deals with the deportation of Ukrainian children.

In air traffic, all flights from all European airports to the Russian Federation have been suspended. The reason is the aforementioned sanctions, which aim to completely isolate Russia from the rest of the world. You can go to Russian cities only from airports in the Republic of Serbia and Turkey. It was this fact that opened numerous security challenges, because those flights from the Belgrade airport proved to be highly risky. At the beginning of this special military intervention, there were very frequent reports of explosive devices allegedly planted in airplanes flying to Russia. In just seven days, six such false reports were sent. Most of the reports came before the plane took off, while in two cases the plane was forced to land due to the reports. Precisely because of this practice, extraordinary security measures were introduced at the Belgrade airport, which only points to the fact that the events in Ukraine significantly undermined security at this airport.

In general, this is not the only security risk for the Republic of Serbia. It is common knowledge that Serbia and Russia have traditionally had good relations, and that many, especially Western leaders, justified or not, put a sign of equality between these two nations. This is also supported by the fact that the Republic of Serbia is one of the few European countries that has not imposed sanctions on Russia, but it is at risk of sanctions being imposed on it as well, more specifically on the Serbian oil industry, in whose ownership structure Russian capital also participates.

In the Republic of Serbia, the status of Serbs in Kosovo and Metohija also drastically deteriorated at the very moment when the special military intervention in Ukraine began. Relations between the majority Albanian population and the so-called of Kosovo institutions towards the Serbs living in Kosovo and Metohija. It is easy to draw a parallel between the persistent insistence that Serbia join the sanctions imposed by the West on the Russian Federation and this escalation of the conflict in Kosovo and Metohija. A series of very negative processes towards the Serbian people began to take place, starting with the incident in the Banjska monastery, and ending with the abolition of the Serbian dinar as the currency of payment and the forced closure of almost all Serbian institutions that worked in Kosovo and Metohija⁶.

As a very big security problem, created as a consequence of this special military intervention, the strengthening of extremism in Europe is stated, which potentially leads to the escalation of the problem and the undermining of world peace. Politically right-oriented extremism is especially emerging, which leads to the radicalization of relations and the dominance of national-patriotic and exclusive political options. Right-wing extremism tends to glorify one nation or group in relation to other nations or national and ethnic groups, which leads to religious, national and ethnic discrimination and xenophobia. The most extreme forms of the far right are fascism, Nazism and fundamentalism.

Right-wing extremism has greatly affected the European Union with the tendency of growth and development. In France, as early as 2012, an attack on a Jewish school was recorded for the pure reason of hatred towards the Jewish people. The attack was carried out from a motorcycle, which stopped in front of the school, and the motorcycle driver killed the rabbi and his three children with a burst of fire. Immediately before this attack, there was an attack in France on soldiers of North African and Cypriot origin, which undoubtedly indicates the action of extreme right-wing organizations.

In this connection, we should touch on the problem of the migrant crisis, which is

⁶ Antonović, R. (2023) “Ljudska prava i njihova zaštita na prostoru Kosova i Metohije”, Kosovo i Metohija kroz činjenice, tumačenja i simbole, Institut za srpsku kulturu Priština – Leposavić, str. 169.

partly caused by war participation in Ukraine. According to UNHCR data, several tens of thousands of Ukrainian migrants immigrated from Ukraine to the European Union. This has only increased the number of migrants who have settled on the soil of the European Union in the last few decades, which has also been a high security risk for the Union for a long time. Terrorist acts are connected with migrant processes, which are mainly behind Islamic terrorist organizations, and the perpetrators of these acts include, among other things, migrants who came to Europe from those Islamic countries. It often happens that, among war and economic migrants, there are also terrorists, who masquerade as migrants in order to cross borders more easily and settle their status in European cities. After some time, they are activated and start carrying out various terrorist acts⁷.

In the last few decades, many European metropolises have been affected by acts of terrorism. In direct connection with the special intervention in Ukraine, although this has not been proven to this day, a terrorist act is taken in Moscow, from March 22, 2024, when 144 people, mostly young people, were killed in a shopping center who came to a concert. popular groups. A total of 360 people were injured, including eleven children. Although the terrorist organization Islamic Republic took responsibility for this terrorist act, the Russian leadership did not for a moment reject the possibility that Ukraine was behind the attack, that is, that it was the initiator of this terrorist act. In support of the fact that the Ukrainian side has nothing to do with this terrorist act, the fact that four attackers, originally from Tajikistan, were deprived of their freedom⁸.

Although it is not directly related to security risks, it is necessary to mention the Europeans' fear of a gas crisis, which potentially threatens to hit Europe from January 1, 2025, because the main gas pipeline, which goes through Ukraine, is closed. Alternatives are sought, which as a rule are always expensive and ineffective, while on the other hand the door is opened to energy smuggling and illegal procurement, which can result in an increase in the rate of organized crime in the European Union and the development of illegal energy markets.

Nuclear security challenges

Since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, the whole world has been afraid of the escalation of the conflict, which would lead to the use of nuclear weapons. The fact is that the Russian Federation is one of the world's largest nuclear powers, and that there is a potential risk of using nuclear weapons in order for the Russian side to win.

At the very beginning of the conflict, there was a fear of shelling some of the nuclear power plants, most of which are in Ukraine. The most common target was the nuclear power plant in Zaporizhia, over which fierce battles were fought, and there were interventions that directly threatened the safety of the power plant itself. The power plant in Zaporozhye is the largest and one of the oldest power plants in Ukraine, which supplies the entire country with energy. She took over the entire operation of the power plant in Chernobyl, after the big accident that happened in 1986.

After the most severe attacks, when an important high-voltage line was damaged, the Ukrainian "Energoatom" turned off one of the six reactors in the power plant. Although it has not been officially confirmed, there was a high risk of fire and increased radiation in the power plant as a result. Also, there was damage to the nitrogen system and auxiliary body of the power plant. This enables a faster release of hydrogen and the

⁷ Antonović, R. (2017) "Bezbednosni aspekti migrantske krize", *Pravni i bezbednosni aspekti migracija i posledice migrantske krize*, Fakultet za pravo, bezbednost i menadžment "Konstantin Veliki", Niš, str. 420.

⁸ The following were deprived of their freedom: Dalerjon Mirzoyev, Saidakrami Murodali, Shamsudin Fariduni and Muhamedsobir Fajzov.

spread of radioactive particles, as well as the risk of a fire in the plant⁹.

Problems also arose in Zaporozhye when this power plant was occupied by the Russian army, and the power plant itself was still managed by the Ukrainian management of the company “Energoatom” based in Kiev. Therefore, dualism in the management of the power plant could also cause serious difficulties in its operation, and lead to some intentional or unintentional accident. Russian forces used the power plant to serve as a shield from Ukrainian attacks, as they located their weapons next to the power plant, which was met with serious condemnation from the European Union. Such behavior on the part of the Russians is characterized as provoking much bigger problems, the consequences of which would not be local, but global in nature.

However, the fear of a nuclear attack has raised the significant question of how the world should act in the event that it does occur. In the first half of the 20th century, a large number of nuclear shelters were built and equipped throughout the world. In Las Vegas, the most luxurious nuclear shelter was built in 1978. At first glance, the two-story house, which did not stand out from its surroundings in any way, had eight meters in the depth of the chamber, in which there were luxurious rooms for living, and in addition to this standard equipment, the underground floors had swimming pools, saunas, gymnasiums, fountains, waterfalls and even a fake courtyard with fake flowers, trees and other ornamental plants. The designer of this luxury nuclear shelter was Brown Henderson, who predicted that the Russian-American Cold War would end with the use of nuclear weapons, which would end particularly badly for the US. That's exactly why he made such a luxurious shelter, to protect himself and his loved ones from the consequences of a nuclear explosion¹⁰.

At the beginning of the last century, during the housing construction process itself, a technology was used that was a kind of resistance in case of nuclear attacks. A new standard concerning the radioactive protection factor was included in the construction, so there were buildings with a protection factor of ten and they were considered the safest in case of nuclear explosions. The protective factor guaranteed the possibility of survival of people in the facility after a nuclear explosion. Therefore, the higher the protection factor, the greater the chances of safely surviving an explosion.

Atomic shelters were a special type of shelters that began to be built in the first half of the 20th century, when the “Cold War” and potential nuclear war between the two largest world powers - the Soviet Union and the USA - were also a current topic. During the construction of atomic shelters, certain standards also had to be respected, such as the provision of food and water supplies, sanitary equipment and they must have their own and autonomous source of electricity.¹¹

Special attention must be paid to the air quality in the atomic shelter. The air must be clean, warm and adequately humid to be usable. Also, there must be adequate protection against air pollution with carbon monoxide, as well as to prevent the danger of oxygen depletion. These criteria are very difficult to achieve, and there are very few shelters that meet all these criteria. Such shelters are very expensive to build and equip, and one of the most equipped and modern “Andreson” shelters in Great Britain cost about 80 billion pounds. In addition to modern nuclear shelters, there must be an effective warning system for the threat of a nuclear attack, which would inform citizens in time and leave them enough time to evacuate.

The harmfulness and danger of radiation, which occurs after nuclear explosions,

9 Solovian, V. (2023) “Ukraine’s Front Line Nuclear Plant: What are the Risks of Russia’s Occupation of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant?” Društveni odgovor, Beograd, str. 7.

10 Stojanović, S; Antonović, R. (2024) “Nuclear Security Risks and Civil Defense”, International journal economics and law, Vol. 14, No. 40, p. 101.

11 Vejl, L. Dž. (1991) Civilna odbrana, Vojnoizdavački i novinski centar, Beograd, str. 44.

is best evidenced even today by the visible consequences of the explosion of two nuclear bombs in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Radioactive radiation is long-lasting and has a very strong impact on people and the environment. The consequences for people are very serious. Serious diseases such as leukemia, cataracts, mental problems and degenerative changes in newborns occur. As an example of harmful effects, the observed changes and problems arising in Japan among the population are mentioned. A neutral American-Japanese commission studied all the changes that occurred in the local population in the period between 1951 and 1952. The diseases that dominated were leukemia, for which expansion and cataracts were declared. The most susceptible to diseases were the residents of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, who were permanently exposed to radiation.

Later, only a decade after the nuclear explosion in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, there was an expansion of lung, breast and gastro-digestive tract cancer, which was explained by the fact that it takes a ten-year period for these particles to dissolve in nature, when they can be introduced into the body and cause cellular changes that lead to this type of disease. Also, high infant mortality was recorded, and children were born with evident mental disabilities, which indicated genetic mutations and genetic recessions. Over time, these consequences were found to be a negative result of radiation to the gonads in humans.

Peace initiatives

Since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, there have not been many peace initiatives. One got the impression that no world power wants to take the role of a peacemaker, but war-inciting statements could be heard more often and louder, which can be treated as “adding fuel to the fire”, rather than calming the situation and leading to a truce. Western support for Ukraine was mainly aimed at additional armaments and providing opportunities for better resistance to Russia.

So far, certain peace plans and initiatives have appeared, which were mostly not acceptable to the Ukrainian president, who since the beginning of the conflict denied that he would ever sit down at the same table with the Russian president, which doomed any attempt at reconciliation to absolute failure. Among the first peace plans, the Chinese-Brazilian one was born, which was unacceptable to the Ukrainian side from the very beginning. He advocated the cessation of hostilities along the current front line. This was a stumbling block for the Ukrainian side, because it did not want to accept the reality, that the Russian army had penetrated deep into the interior of Ukraine, and that it had to recognize what it had conquered in some way. However, this Chinese-Brazilian peace agreement was acceptable to as many as 26 countries, while 46 of them evaluated it in a positive way.

Another peace initiative came from the Hungarian Prime Minister, Viktor Orbán, who used Hungary's six-month presidency of the European Union to position himself as a factor of peace and stability in Europe. The role of the country presiding over the European Union is to ensure good and quality cooperation of all countries, as well as the institutions of the European Union. Also, it should encourage the development of European legislation and define the priorities of the European Union. Hungary is criticized for having tried more to protect its interests and priorities during its presidency, while Orbán's peace mission was more characterized as his self-promotion.

Indeed, Hungary's priorities were preserving continuity in the work of the European Union, improving the European Union's enlargement policy, with particular

reference to the countries of the Western Balkans, as well as the fight against illegal migration, which today represents one of Europe's leading security problems.

Hungarian Prime Minister Orbán called the Russian-Ukrainian conflict a "fraternal-Slavic war", which best describes the reality of this conflict. It is about the conflict between two Slavic brotherly nations, which, according to all historical and cultural preconditions, should have good and high-quality cooperation. Orbán's peace mission begins with his visit to Moscow and the Russian president, which caused an unpleasant surprise in European and NATO circles. Also, Orbán visited Kiev, where he was not exactly welcomed as a messenger of peace, because the West knew nothing about his peace mission.

The objections to the Hungarian peacekeeping mission were extremely large, and the main objection related to the fact that Hungary as a country does not have any diplomatic strength to be able to bear the burden of a peace initiator on behalf of Europe. Also, Hungary was criticized for not being neutral from the beginning of this conflict, but for more often siding with the Russian Federation and expressing anti-Ukrainian views. Therefore, Hungary could not be a legitimate mediator because it lost its neutrality and it was believed that it would tend more towards Russian and less Ukrainian interests. Due to such pro-Russian aspirations, Hungary no longer enjoys the same reputation as before in European and NATO circles.

Despite numerous criticisms, Orbán continued with his peace mission, proposing a Christmas truce in a telephone conversation with the Russian president. However, due to frequent criticism from the West, Orbán began to accuse the same West of the poor state of peace in the world, with special reference to Ukraine. By the way, Orbán's peace project is grandiosely called "Make Europe Great Again", with which he establishes himself as a European leader and politician who takes on a great task. Orbán's strength lies in the support of the right-wing ultra-nationalist parliamentary group "Patriots for Europe", which consists of Orbán's Fidesz party, the French National Assembly party, the Freedom Party from the Netherlands and the Austrian FPÖ.

The newly elected President of the USA, Donald Trump, announced during the election campaign that he could resolve the Russian-Ukrainian conflict within two days. However, all the negotiations that are being conducted, both formally and informally, are leading to the almost certain loss of the Ukrainian territory that Russia won in this conflict. This new demarcation line is disputed, because it will, by all accounts, represent the future border between Ukraine and the Russian Federation. The loss of Donbass would be difficult for Ukraine, both because of the feeling of defeat and because of the big blow to the mining industry, because most of the Ukrainian mines are located in that area. Also, Ukrainian agriculture would feel the loss, because Ukraine would be left without almost eight million hectares of arable land in that scenario.

Since the beginning of the conflict, the Ukrainian president has been appealing to the US and hopes that this country will continue to support his country until the very end, which is not yet in sight. What is certain for now is that both the new and old American administrations are not giving up, at least in public, their support for Ukraine and its president. Ukraine conditions its peace negotiations on membership in the European Union and some kind of privileged membership in the NATO pact. However, if we are to judge by the statements of people close to Trump's future administration, the possibility of freezing the existing front lines and making the area currently affected by the war, the subject of future peace agreements, will not be ruled out for America. America, as before, will act from the position of power, which blackmails and conditions. Thus, it is planned to blackmail Moscow by lifting rigorous sanctions, while Kiev would be conditioned by military, political and economic assistance, without which this country

will not be able to enter into the revitalization of its economy and economy.

Conclusion

On the geopolitics plane of the world, essential tectonic changes are taking place. The balance of power of the world's most powerful and influential countries is changing drastically. The Russian special military intervention opened a new page in geopolitical relations, because the Russian Federation established itself as a rival to the centralized and unified system of unipolar power of the USA in this way. The Russian president has declared war on neo-fascism and radicalism, which has engulfed a good part of Europe, and which has its stronghold in the center of the Western power, the USA.

For the western part of the world, Russian President Vladimir Putin is an aggressor because he attacked the sovereign state of Ukraine. From the perspective of international law, Russian intervention is aggression because it represents an attack on a sovereign state and its territorial integrity. However, the selective and tendentious interpretation of that same international law, as well as the international community, which silently bet on NATO's aggression towards the FRY in 1999, as well as the dismemberment of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia through the aggressive secession of the southern Serbian province, Kosovo and Metohija, is widely known. Therefore, the double standards of international justice are clearly manifested here, and the protective attitude towards Ukraine is obvious, which was absent when the Republic of Serbia was in the role of the victim.

Of course, the above-mentioned fact does not justify any type of aggression and one cannot speak of one aggression being justified by another, but one can speak of the fact that the international community or, rather, the USA justifies its aggression, and has a critical attitude towards Russian aggression.

From a security perspective, the world is facing ever greater security risks. The Russian-Ukrainian conflict, as well as the conflict in the Middle East, the Gaza Strip and other nearby territories, contributed to the expansion of security risks. In the paper itself, the risks arising from permanent and uncontrolled migration, the increased crime rate in the European Union, as well as the risk of terrorism are presented. Crime is further motivated by sanctions imposed on the Russian Federation, which have opened the door to illegal markets and trade that is below the official radar. Experiences from these areas can testify to how much sanctions act as an incentive for crime, especially economic crime and illegal trade, because the Republic of Serbia was under sanctions for many years, and the state economy and economy were practically redirected towards illegal flows.

This heated atmosphere favors the development of right-wing extremism, and in a large number of European countries, right-wing political parties are winning and taking over the European political scene. Right-wing extremism is always dangerous, because it represents a latent and slow-growing danger to the security and peace of the entire world. This constellation of political relations existed even before the outbreak of the Second World War, and it is clear why the escalation of right-wing extremism is defined as a high-risk security problem.

Given that the Russian Federation is a serious nuclear power, the fear of a nuclear war is not unjustified. All the more so, as dangerous, incendiary and warmongering statements can be heard from both sides, which lead to an additional escalation of the problem on a global level. Military interventions in the vicinity of nuclear power plants have already set off an alarm, because any damage to these power plants and their

facilities, which happened in Zaporozhye, could cause serious problems for people and the environment, not only in Ukraine, but in the wider climate. Europeans are already counting the available nuclear capacities and euphoria is being created again, as in the period of the “Cold War” from a possible nuclear strike. We are once again going to the extreme of making luxury shelters and escaping to the “center of the earth”. However, the reality is that most of Europe’s population, in the event of an actual nuclear strike, would have nowhere to hide, because, as it were, no shelter meets the necessary criteria to safely hide people.

The question of peace is an essential issue today. It is clear that the side that contributes to peace between the Russian and Ukrainian sides will bear great merit, but it is also a fact that there is little or no talk of peace between these two sides. Attempts at reconciliation, which came from China and Brazil, as well as Hungarian Prime Minister Orbán, were met with indignation in the West, and these peace initiatives were condemned to failure from the very beginning. Today, some peace ideas can be timidly heard, but they have not yet received the status of a proposal.

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SAVREMENI NUKLEARNI BEZBEDNOSNI IZAZOVI U KONTEKSTU RUSKO – UKRAJINSKOG SUKOB

Apstrakt: Specijalna vojna intervencija Ruske Federacije na prostoru Ukrajine je započela februara 2022. godine. Od tada, pa sve do današnjeg dana, na prostoru većeg dela Ukrajine se vode ratna dejstva vrlo razornog karaktera, a u ovom trenutku se ne nazire neko mirovno rešenje. Naprotiv, mogu se čuti ratno – huškačke izjave sa obe strane. Takođe, ovaj sukob je doveo do svetske polarizacije, koja nije nikad bila na višem nivou, a koja je značila podelu sveta na one države koje podržavaju Ukrajinu, a gde se ubrajaju zemlje Zapada i države koje podržavaju Rusku Federaciju, a koje ubrajaju

zemlje Istoka.

Trenutna svetska geopolitička slika izgleda tako da su novi sukobi i dodatna eskalacija krajnje izvesni. Poseban strah se javlja od potencijalne upotrebe nuklearnog naoružanja, kao krajnje opcije ukoliko nijedna strana ne bude iz ovog sukoba mogla da izađe kao pobednik, jer ni za jednu stranu nije prihvatljivo rešenje da iz sukoba izađe kao gubitnik.

Ključne reči: svetski rat, nuklearno naoružanje, svetski poredak, bezbednost.