

## POLITICAL EXTREMISM AND TERRORISM AS DESTABILIZING ELEMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE STATE



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**Abstract.** This contribution deals with political extremism and terrorism as a possible destabilizing element of the internal security. The paper discusses the possible reasons and causes of manifestations of extremism and it is pointed out that the manifestations of extremism penetrating through the concrete structures, people in the armed forces and state administration. In conclusion, there are proposed general principles and approaches to solving this current phenomenon of our time.

**Keywords:** *External security, internal security, fascism, left-wing extremism, nazism, neofascism, neo-nazism, political extremism, right-wing extremism, racism, terrorism, vigilantism, xenophobia.*

### Introduction

Manifestations of political extremism are the current phenomenon of contemporary global world, with the rising trend of political (or other) up to extremism, takes on locally such proportions that cause very strained relations between states or nations, creating a tense international political and social situation in general. The reasons for political extremism and political tensions between countries are different, but it can be said to outweigh the reasons for ethnic, geopolitical, racial, and religious. Is the specific manifestation of fascism, neo-fascism, nazism and neo-Nazism. But this leads to mistrust and hostility between the EU and the manifestations of intolerance between specific persons or groups of individuals regardless of nationality, and is even capable to induce destabilization of internal security in the state. Recently, a particularly striking increase in political extremism and its manifestations, particularly in Central Europe, the Czech Republic, The Slovakia or The Ukraine is no exception. These expressions are characters from the extreme vigilantism to opened racism and xenophobia in contemporary concepts mainly domestic extremism among EU countries, after minor provocation and distortion of traditional good neighborly relations with neighboring countries. All these and other activities of political extremists are a possible source of destabilization in particular internal security.

Very often one may find public journalists or policy statement, that any action, any symbol or a position is extreme or extremist. What this does is extremism, as it manifests itself, where his roots are and who is extremist, and from what perspective? This phenomenon now is worthy of scientific investigation and evaluation. At the same time is also essential to this phenomenon clearly and distinctly named, respectivel identify its causes and have a solution, or at least try it. Extremism can be viewed from different perspectives, exploring, in terms of extremism, in terms of potential distribution

of extremism, whether in terms of addressing extremism and the response of society. Partial view of the phenomenon is much more possible, and fully in keeping with the multidisciplinary phenomenon. Extremism can be seen as a sociological, psychological or political science, but especially as a legal phenomenon. However, it is urge the phenomenon of extremism seen in a multidisciplinary, respectively. comprehensive interdisciplinary evaluation and possible solutions.

Extremism is often divided on political extremism, religious, ethnic (racial), ecological,

and sometimes we meet with another division, respectively identification. These divisions are not only trying to detailed specification of a particular expression, but extremism, respectively extreme position has only one definition, respectively one common denominator. You can rely on the definition, which, although it may seem to appear somewhat earlier, but it is still valid and used definition. This definition was first used in its form (already) in "Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002", but is used in scientific circles to this day.

**The term "extremism" are referred to the strong ideological positions that contradict the constitutional, statutory, standards, characterized by elements of intolerance and attacks against the basic democratic constitutional principles, as defined in the Czech constitutional order (or, more generally, the principles as contained in the Declaration of the Rights and Freedoms).**[1] These principles include respect for the rights and freedoms of man and citizen (Article 1 of the Constitution of the Republic), sovereign, unified and democratic rule of law (Article 1 of the Constitution), the immutability of the elements of the democratic rule of law (Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Constitution CZ), popular sovereignty (Article 2 of the Constitution), competition between political parties respecting fundamental democratic principles and rejecting violence as a means of promoting their interests (Article 5 of the Constitution), protection of minorities in the majority decision (Article 6 of the Constitution); free and equal in dignity and human rights, inalienability, and irreversibility of fundamental rights and freedoms without distinction of sex, race, color, language, faith and religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, membership of a nationality or ethnic minority, property, birth or other status (Article 1, Article 3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms). Given the similar principle, the basics of constitutional law, incl. inclusion of the Declaration of Rights and Freedoms (the Charter of Rights and Freedoms) to the constitutional system in the vast majority of European countries, the above can be generalized to all countries in central and western continental Europe. This is an interest protected by the State, in the form of a particular criminal law,

respectively. specific facts of the case. Violation of these rights of citizens (in the form of a criminal offense) are also sometimes referred to as a **"hate crime"**.

Political extremism is then in accordance with the official documents, in this article is understood as a term that refers to "the strong ideological positions that contradict the constitutional, statutory, standards, characterized by elements of intolerance and attacks against the basic democratic constitutional principles, as defined in Czech constitutional order ". The basic structure is a right-wing extremism (neo-Nazism, Czech nationalism) and left-wing (dogmatic communism, anarchism), and variants of right-wing extremism will be discussed further.

Political extremism is often defined as an abstract space of the political spectrum and should be seen that the actual policy, it brings up more players. They are mainly political parties, interest groups (active registered and unregistered, or openly and secretly, while scope is hidden characteristic for various extremist plot center), media, subcultures (especially youth subcultures, respectively their internal currents). Overall, the extremists could form a movement, respectively. social movements, such as in the twenties and thirties of the twentieth century fascism. In the event that the extremists come to power, can the player to designate the extremist political regime. The extremists are taking action in their various methods of gaining influence. The legal framework is a common political propaganda, public legal demonstrations, education and awareness against supporters of extremism and so is characterized by democratic mechanisms misused to gain political power to remove or restrict democracy. These goals are often its also openly declared with various excuses and reasons.

Besides the legal methods extremism in democratic methods also often resorted to the edge of legality and completely illegal. These are mostly various forms of violence, from the impromptu nature of the attacks against political opponents to the sophisticated terrorism. Violence can also serve as a tool to spread propaganda and to other tools, along

with a suitable situation for the political regime change by coup or revolution[2].

In the general picture is extremism rather political concept, but its multi-disciplinary internal content is certainly a concept of socio - educational and legal. Extremism is becoming a security risk at a time when the engine sharply antagonistic attitude toward the existing social order and intransigence resulting in specific projects and activities designed to destabilize and remove the political and social system. In a free society would be extremely fiercely contested victory, democracy hostile attitudes, beliefs and ideologies mean a retreat from human rights and establishment of authoritarianism, totalitarianism or anarchy [3]. In identifying what is and is not extreme manifestation must first identify what is a legitimate expression of the meaning of the right to freedom of speech and when it is an illegal speech restrictions constitutional principles or constitutional rights of others.

With terrorism, as a frequent manifestation of extremist manifestations are encountered frequently by news media. Thanks to them nearly every citizen has an idea of what it means and what are the means to fight extremists. The vast majority of major terrorist attacks carried out by Islamic fundamentalists, and is directed against Israel. In Europe we meet with attacks by groups like the IRA or ETA. Ideologies of terrorist groups is largely an attempt to acquire a certain territory (Hezbollah, the PKK, the IRA or ETA ...), bring another order (fundamentalist groups - holy war). Groups arise where there has not achieved any result of political means. Opinions on the actions of these groups vary and are largely frowned upon, but on the other hand, it is necessary to take into account their goal, such as restoration of the original inhabitants of Palestine, who were expelled during Israel's creation. In this context, it certainly offers the question whether terrorism would be much enhanced if Israel arose, and who is the villain [4].

Currently, the most dangerous form of political extremism in our country is neo-Nazism and nationalism. Neo-Nazism is a movement that conceptually at least partly linked to the original Nazism. Nazism was originally a movement arising in the twenties of the twentieth century, especially in

Germany (or in other countries with the German population), which after seizing power in 1933 in Germany and created an aggressive totalitarian regime, which suppressed massive human rights (and intended to wipe out entire nations especially Jews and Roma) and in 1939 led an aggressive war. The occupied territories (often with the help of local collaborators) realized the terror of occupation. After the defeat of Nazi Germany (surrendered in May 1945), at least for some of his ideas, trying to establish neo-Nazism, which currently mostly left the sole link to Germany and the Germans and try to use a Nazi racist, antisemitic and power goals, ideas and strategies across "white race". Neo-Nazism are generally not reported in the global concept of struggle and racial superiority of white Aryan Nations, based on the traditions of the original Nazi [5].

Currently, there are also several smaller streams inspired working-class ethos of Nazism from the late twenties and thirties. There are different national variations due to historical traditions, whether it be related to the disposition to the pagan traditions of different peoples, taking into account the traditional national enemies, or traditions of collaboration during the Second World War. The Czech republic can be traced to neo-more connected with the original concept of German Nazism, whose expression is specific link to the Sudeten German Nazi tradition, and equal respect for neo-identity within the Czech neo-Nazi Pan-Aryan movement (partial continuity to flag's concept of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia) [5]. The basic forms of neo-Nazi activities are:

- party-political agitation (in CZ to date have not made a strong neo-Nazi party in recent years, some neo-Nazis cooperate with the Workers' Party, or Right Sector)
- gaining public sympathy and strengthening the identity of the movement spread propaganda (demonstrations, internet, stationery, clothes, music, the so-called White Power music, and trading of those artifacts serve as a funding source movement,
- violence (use of expressions of aggression) to influence adversaries and allies.

For the second basic current of the Czech right-wing extremism can designate Czech

nationalism. Right-wing extremist nationalism is different from the democratic nationalism high nationalist intolerance of other nations and ethnic groups (or at least some of them) and focus anti-democratic impulses. Czech extremist nationalism can be further broken down into:

- Czech Hussite nationalism based on the tradition of Czech history, chauvinistic forwardthinking-based "national-liberation ethos" and Czechoslovakism Czech and expansionism,
- Czech nationalism, which follows the tradition of Czech history deprived "forwardthinking myth" (conservative integral Nationalists) [6], in which some groups are more strongly inclined to the traditions of Czech fascism (neo-fascists) and may appear differently there is a strong link to Christianity, authoritarian Christian conservatism, where links with fascism klerofašismus (recently merging with the stream of neo-Nazism).

As the future work of political extremism are particularly known dogmatic communism, left-wing extremist autonomous and anarchism, but they can be counted as specific forms of fascism, neo-fascism, nationalism, neonacionalismu, pan-Slavism, etc. Due to the particular legal, political and sociological discourse of groups activities of political extremism, when they try to gain visibility and civil support (be passive), you must use the tools of legal science, political science, philosophy, psychology and social work, respectively social work education to the public with the aim of eliminating the growing influence of aggression and intolerance in society. In terms of strategy in the fight against political extremism law is, in any case necessary to focus attention on the core objectives of the fight against extremism, which are:

- a) preventing the influence of extremist propaganda, especially against members of the armed forces, which is now particularly timely,
- b) preventing the adoption of extremist forces and government in general,
- c) generally to act so that the extremists was no credible cause for propaganda diatribes, which would assist them in reaching impact on the public and meeting their

antidemocratic goals, as perceived by the current legislation.

It should be noted that political extremism can manifest in different ways, from verbal assaults, despite sympathy for the organizations pushing human rights and fundamental freedoms to the office, and deliberate obstruction of government administration, respectively its activities. The most serious manifestation of political extremism, however, the individual physical aggression against exclusive groups of people, or against all races and nationalities in the form of terror, and whether individual and group (mass). And expression of extremism of terrorist attack (or its threat) is the most serious threat and a destabilizing element in the internal and external security.

However, there isn't a universally accepted definition of terrorism as an expression of extremism. Various organizations are working with different definitions. Even the U.S. government can not agree on a definition. There are many reasons why that is. The question of defining terrorism has a place in discussions among states for decades. The first attempt to reach an internationally accepted definition was made under the League of Nations, but the convention proposed in 1937 never entered into force. The lack of unity on the definition of terrorism is a major obstacle to meaningful international means of defense. To solve these problems in 1992 contributed terrorism expert A. Schmid, whereby when the kernel is a war crime - the deliberate attacks on civilians, hostage taking and killing of prisoners - extended for a period of peace, we can simply define terrorist acts as war crimes peace counterparts.

Other experts on terrorism characterize it as "use of force or threatened use of force designed to achieve political change" (Brian Jenkins), the "unlawful use of force aimed at innocent people to achieve political goals" (Walter Laqueur), "thoughtful deliberate systematic murder, injury health threat and the innocent in order to create fear and intimidation to achieve political or tactical advantage" (James M. Poland).

Most definitions, however, has certain common elements, stresses the systematic use of physical violence directed against

civilians, which is to cause a general climate of fear in the target population for political and social change. Define terrorism so that affected all aspects of its manifestations and impacts, it is not easy. Content definition would certainly differ according to whether terrorism is viewed in terms of legal, security, or even sociology. For any such definition would be common, it is a systematic perpetration of illegal acts of violence against the population, assassins and state authorities in order to induce fear, panic and destabilization of the current political situation.

Also interesting is the origin of the word terror. It comes from the Latin "terrere" - scare. In modern Western dictionaries came through the French language until the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The first use is recorded in English in 1528. The basic mechanism of terror is contained in an old Chinese proverb: "Kill one and scare ten thousand." Over the decades have changed the methods of terrorists, the consequences of contemporary terrorism are the same.

In light of the above can be said that the international legal framework for combating terrorism is not unique. Following the attacks in the USA from 11 September 2001 is mainly the Resolution and Action Plan of the Extraordinary European Council meeting, published on 21 September 2001 in Brussels (Government Resolution of 19 December 2001 No. 1364), Council Common Position on Combating Terrorism (2001/930/CFSP of 27 December 2001) and the EU Council Common Position on the use of special measures combating terrorism (2001/931/CFSP of 27 December 2001), including all the updates concerning the lists of people and groups sanctioned from the European Union. EU Council in its document entitled "EU Council Common Position on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP) gives the definition of a terrorist act. A terrorist act is understood as a set of enumerated offenses, which may, by its nature or context, seriously hamper the functioning of a particular country or international organization. [7]

In the context of national laws with the offenses that were committed with the intent to seriously intimidate a population, causing undue government or international organi-

zation to act or not doing specific actions; seriously destabilizing or destroying the fundamental political, constitutional, economic or social structures of a country or an international organization and [7]

- assault on human lives, which can cause death;
- attacks on the mental integrity of persons;
- kidnapping or the taking of hostages;
- causing extensive destruction of public or government facilities, transportation systems, infrastructure, fixed platforms on the continental shelf, a public place or private property or threatening human lives, resulting in major economic loss;
- cast aircraft, ships or other means of public transport or goods transport;
- manufacture, possession, procurement, transportation, delivery or use of weapons or explosives, nuclear, chemical or biological nature, as well as work on research or development of such weapons;
- letting these dangerous substances into free circulation, setting up fires, explosions or floods *zaprůčiňování* whose conduct endangers human lives;
- interruptions or disruptions of water, electricity or other basic resources, which may also endanger human lives;
- threatening to commit such acts, mentioned above;
- leadership of terrorist groups;
- participation in a terrorist group, also function as an informant, a provider of financial and material support, knowing that this assistance will help the commission of criminal activities of the group.

For the purpose of the document is a terrorist group is defined as a structured group composed of more than two persons established for a longer period of time and acting within the scope of division of labor necessary steps to commit terrorist acts. It is not accidental or a single organization. Following the Madrid attacks of 11 September 2003 also is notably the Declaration on combating terrorism adopted by the European Council on 26 September 2004 update of an annexed Plan of Action of the European Council. By joining the EU in the CR binding and directly applicable to all EU Council Regulation implementing common positions, of which terrorism concerns, particularly the EU Council Regulation

2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in the fight against terrorism.

In light of the above it is possible to observe that both the Czech Republic and Slovakia are parties to these international legal instruments binding on the issue of terrorism. These include: the Convention on Offenses and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (Tokyo, Decree No. 102/1984 Coll.) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (The Hague, Decree No. 96/1974 Coll.) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal, Decree No. 16/1974 Coll.) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons including Diplomatic Agents (New York, Decree No. 131/1978 Coll.) International

Convention against the Taking of Hostages (New York, Decree No. 36/1988 Coll.) Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (Communication Ministry of Foreign Affairs No. 114/1996 Coll.) UN Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (published as No. 80 / 2001 Coll. Ms), the European Convention for the Suppression of Terrorism (Strasbourg, Communication No. 552/1992 Coll FMZV.), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons (Decree No. 96/1975 Coll.). CR also signed recently ratified as the UN Convention on the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism (New York, Communication Ministry č.18/2006 Coll. Ms). [7]

## Conclusion

This article describes the issue of political extremism and its penetration of specific people into the army and state administration is an up-to-date subject that requires special attention, especially in connection with the rise of extremism in the current economic crisis and dissatisfaction with this condition in the population. Extremely dangerous and destabilizing the internal development of the manifestations of terrorism, in connection with political extremism (or religious, ethnic or otherwise). It is also appropriate to emphasize the need for good neighborly relations among EU, which are devoid of mutual animosity, deliberate and wicked manifestations neighborhood. It should however be taken into account that these symptoms often arise from mutual experiences and historical facts. It is clear that further qualitative and quantitative increase in manifestations of political extremism and its manifestations in the form of terrorism is capable of destabilizing or even threaten the internal security of States, it would certainly point to this phenomenon more attention than ever before, both in the form of adequate and appropriate legislation and formation and in the form of monitoring that situation, and through expert design centers and teams receive organizational and legislative measures.

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