

# Floods and national security of Romania

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*Abstract:* In the last decades, the number of meteorological and hydrological disasters has increased gradually planetary being affected hundreds of millions of people every year. Therefore, it is imperative that people, groups and human communities, state institutions with relevant expertise to understand the vulnerability and sensitivity to these phenomena, both in the short and medium. On the other hand, stakeholders, formal and informal in society should recognize the need for interdisciplinary studies, development models and prediction of the emergence and evolution of risks and threats hydro meteorological event.

*Key-Words:* - hydrological disasters, floods, national security, emergence

## 1 Introduction

Among the risks hydro-meteorological, flooding is the disaster most frequently which can be produced at different scales - from large rivers to small ones - with effects on the environment, including not only the economic damage and ecological imbalances, but also many casualties human.

Are broadly speaking the flood is covering a portion of land with a large amount of water from river floods, heavy rainfall or sudden snowmelt [1]

On the other hand, floods are volumes of water passing over the beds of rivers, lakes or oceans coasts, sinking regions of land, usually not covered by the water. They are natural events in the life of every lake, river or ocean. At the same time, floods are volumes of water passing over the beds of rivers, lakes or oceans coast, sinking the entire regions of the earth. Usually floods occur when a river cannot take all the water fallen from the clouds. Large rivers rise and fall slower than small rivers. Thus, in a small catchment of the river water is likely to increase or decrease within a few minutes or a few hours. If major rivers, increasing and decreasing water may take longer.

Accordingly, in this case, flooding may take longer because it takes time for all the water that falls upstream to drain. Also, the floods are a natural phenomenon and are a natural component of the hydrological cycle of the earth. In fact, all the floods, especially the big floods, are natural phenomena which marked the deeply marks human society, being the geographically most widespread disasters around the world and also the largest producer of casualties and Material damage. Basically, the flood means land cover with a layer of stagnant or moving water which, by size or duration causes damage and disrupts the smooth conduct of socio-economic activities in the affected area.

## 2 Concept of the national security

Definition of "national security" activity appears to be quite difficult. Supporting such statements are based on a number of arguments. First, there is the complexity that must reflect this term. This attribute resides in:

-the current structure of multidimensional security.  
If national security was originally a single component, namely the military today, this concept

acquiring a number of dimensions. Among these, the most frequently mentioned by different authors, is the following dimensions: economic, political, social, energy, human, military, diplomatic, cultural, environmental ;

-today, the citizen is the center of the national security state, which through competent institutions must assure and guarantee safety to life and activity, including against undesirable effects of floods;

-the multitude of national security challenges that must respond appropriately. Here, it is mainly the external challenges of security (globalization, international trade, international migration, transnational crime, international terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction) and the challenges of internal security (economic, demographic, climatic, political, energy, culture);

-involvement in the achievement of national security, in addition to state institutions, the private sector and civil society. The private sector is actively involved in labor issues, social and economic ensuring citizens' jobs such escapes, largely, to care for tomorrow. Civil society, through its organizations vocation rather secure and standard attract citizens to "build" national security, involving them actively and responsibly.

Then, there is the dynamic evolution of the content and nature of national security. Today, national security has a multidimensional content and diverse in nature (social, economic, political, military, cultural, diplomatic, energy). Finally, there is the interaction and interdependence between national security and regional / international. Now, in the context of globalization and regional integration, national security cannot be independent and to assert what happens outside the borders of each state. Therefore, national security, in good measure, can be represented as a component of regional security, and through it as an element of international security.

Traditionally, international relations, the concept of security means the protection of a state, and so its population against threats, normally military. Speaking of security means to answer at least 6 questions, namely: 1) Who or what must be secured? ; 2) What is the nature the threat ?; 3) Who should ensure security ?; 4) How to ensure their safety ?; 5) If there is a positive or negative fundamental outlook on security ?; 6) The extent to distinguish between internal security and international security ?.

National security can be defined both in a broader sense and in the narrow sense.

In a broad sense, national security consistent format describes all of conception, organization and

carrying out actions and activities to ensure and guarantee the safety of the citizens, the entire society through appropriate responses to internal and external security challenges. The state is also a complex organizational structure, corporate and political tool. In this respect, the state is primarily a tool to promote safety before topic. He is the organ that provides mediation between national interests, defined in a consistent and community interests therein. Therefore, the national interest can strike - and often found - in competition with the needs of members of a state entity.

In the narrow sense, national security constitutes normality in which citizens live their lives and pursue their activities without fear of tomorrow and secure. Here, it is not so without risks, dangers and / or security threats, how to prevent them, and where their active manifestation of limiting as far as possible, their negative effects. In fact, the term the national security, send an overarching objective defined by its general character and malleable.

Also, the national security concept defines an object (which must be secured), a subject (who secures: main actors and institutions), goals (against whom is addressed the security threat) and modalities of intervention (safety devices).

At the same time, the concept of "national security" can be defined as the condition in which must be a national state to be able to develop freely and to act unrestrained to promote its fundamental interests. Typically, national security is founded on respect: the Constitution and laws of the country; General rules permitted by international law; the international treaties to which the State is party. On the other hand, national security, the environmental status of national security is achieved through measures and actions in the economic, political, social, diplomatic, cultural, environmental, humanitarian and military authorities authorized public both at peace as and wartime.

The study of evolution is the subject of national security, both theoretical and practical. At the same time, the concept evolves from the perspective of society and the individual. In the center of the debate lies a fundamental issue: security for whom and how. And after 11 September 2001, most national security concepts and strategies relate to human rights in any country.

Basically, national security is on the issue of sovereignty and responsibility of the state towards its citizens. Therefore, this essential aspect of national security raises the next question: who owns the sovereignty and upon whom it is exercised. Legitimacy, rights and duties are inseparable security nor for states or individuals.

In this context, national security is significantly influenced by natural disasters, including an essential place for Romania, occupies floods. These negative effects by affecting the security of human communities and their members flooded. In fact, floods endanger lives of people in the affected areas, their property and their habitat. In addition, reducing the negative consequences of floods requires significant costs that were not planned, which means depriving other sectors of investments and due dates by planning perspective. Also, mitigation of floods and save the lives of people threatened by floodwaters involves the intervention of forces and means of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense. In itself, this involvement and human resources of the two ministries not only time consuming means, means and efforts that otherwise heading for scheduled tasks to be fulfilled in matters of national security.

### **3 Forms of government intervention in case of emergency situations caused by floods**

In Romania, most of localities and rivers can flood the land which is their bed. The phenomenon is usually due to snow melting in spring when the rivers rise in the mountains in a relatively short time and exceed the flood. Also fall after a period of time that for several days large amounts of water fell per square meter riverbed may be outdated water and producing these flood flows. Lately, in our country, summer, there were storms, cyclones and even tornadoes that have flooded the area where these phenomena occurred. Therefore, weather conditions in Romania can have a direct effect on the water level of rivers causing flooding their growth over the threshold.

Prevent undesirable effects of floods is the responsibility of central and local public authorities and every citizen. Starting from this statement that government intervention for the prevention of floods and limit their negative consequences should include the following types of intervention:

At the level of each citizen, pursuing its accountability for the prevention and mitigation of floods. Basically, for every citizen who is resident in the vicinity of areas at risk of flooding, the first act of prevention is to inform about water levels and flow rates in the industry. In this sense, every citizen in the situation described above should do the following: 1) establishing a family security plan; 2) preparing emergency kit;

Forms of intervention at the central level. These concern every ministry, according to the National Strategy for Flood Risk Management has set concrete tasks.[2]

### **4 The impact of floods on the national security of Romania**

Floods are a natural phenomenon and are a natural component of the hydrological cycle of the earth. Particularly large floods and floods are some of the natural phenomena that have marked deeply marks human society, being the geographically most widespread disasters around the world and also the largest producer of damage and casualties. Meanwhile, major floods were the triggering factor and catalyst for big changes in the approach to this phenomenon from accepting floods as a quirk of nature, man's attempt to oppose nature through approaches such as the fight against floods to the flood defense until not long ago to prevent flooding. Floods produced in many countries over the past 5-10 years and the consequences that have followed have led to increasing its social responsibility to a new approach of flood risk management awareness and involvement approach in which human communities have a key role in avoiding loss of life and damage reduction. This approach is general and is today quasi which opened the way to meet future challenges by introducing new concepts such as more space for rivers or living with floods and especially by assimilating the concept of sustainable development in flood risk management.

World practice has demonstrated that the occurrence of floods cannot be avoided, but they can be managed and their effects can be reduced through a systematic process that leads to a series of measures and actions to help mitigate the risks associated with these phenomena. Administration (flexible, effective and creative) flooding is relieved by the fact that their event is predictable, it is often possible warning, and usually it is possible to specify and who and what will be affected by flooding.[3]

Flood risk is characterized by the nature and probability of production, receptor exposure (number of population and goods) susceptibility to flood receptors and their value, thus resulting in reducing the risk must be acted on these characteristics his own.

The essential problem in properly managing the risk of flood risk is accepted by the population and decision makers, given that there is complete protection against flooding (zero risk) as there is no consensus on acceptable risk. Therefore acceptable

risk must be the result of a balance between risk and benefits attributed to an activity due to reduced flood risk or government regulations.

Diminish the damage and casualties as a consequence of flooding not only depend on the response actions taken during floods, actions addressed sometimes separately and undertaken by state institutions competent in the field local authorities and by every citizen. Mitigate the consequences of floods is a combination of extensive measures and actions preceding the occurrence of the incident the management of floods and those taken during the post flood (reconstruction and lessons learned as a result of the occurrence of the phenomenon). [4]

This approach to flood risk is significantly important in terms of national security. Basically, national security supports a strong impact due to the consequences of floods on people's life and work. We affirm this given that national security involves guaranteeing and ensuring the right of all citizens to the country's favorable conditions of life and their activities, reduce material damage by destroying property or part of the population. This does not mean absence of risks hazards or security threats, but limiting their action and keeping them under control. [5]

Floods are a risk, danger or a threat to the safety of people in areas affected by such phenomena. In fact the security of people is a component and objective of national security. In other words, the concrete form of highlighting the existence of national security, and security is to guarantee its citizens against natural phenomena or social facts and that in any way affect the human being, its assets and favorable conditions of life and normal activities. [6]

Of course flood prevention and mitigation involves material costs and financial efforts from both the state institutions with responsibilities in national security and local communities. These costs and efforts are distributed appropriately and fulfilled each of the national security dimensions represented as a multidimensional reality.

## 5 Conclusion

Floods are phenomenon with powerful impact on national security. They cannot be avoided in all

cases but their effects can be mitigated significantly by surveillance measures water flows preventing the population and local authorities about the flood risk and management of the situation flood every area touched by such a natural phenomenon unwanted.

In essence government measures aimed at flooding concerns: the establishment of formal structures with expertise in flood protection; material and financial resource allocation at local and central level; distribution of financial and material resources from the central level, the territory; timely and prompt information to those targeted; implementation of control measures; implementation of action plans; concrete actions to support people and communities affected by floods; measures to regulate water flows.

The members of locations that may be flooded or are flooded frequently have to take some preventive measures. In this sense, every family must take the following main steps: establishing a family security plan; emergency preparedness kit; timely information on: levels and water flows producing potential flood of information and consultation of the media may or affected by flooding.

Consultation of these measures will lead to strengthening national security and hence the security of its citizens, reduce the unintended consequences of the floods.

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