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EASTERN EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE ON SECURITY STUDIES. LESSONS FROM POLAND

ABSTRACT

The article presents the author's results of analysis of security researchers' citations carried out on the basis of popular bibliometric databases. The aim of the article is to determine the directions of research conducted in the field of security, and realized by the most frequently cited (according to popular bibliometric databases) scholars. On this basis, the frequency of selection of research areas of Polish scientists dealing with issues in the field of security was determined. The research problem is the answer to the question: what is the contribution of Polish science to the global security research and to what extent Polish security research coincides with the most popular directions of global research and to what extent they differ from each other.

The case of Poland is interesting in that, as a current member of the North Atlantic security system, it still has to cope with the threats arising from the direct neighbourhood of the Russian Federation. Thus it constitutes a kind of representative example of the influence of geopolitics on the areas of scientific research in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. The threats to Poland's security from Russia are not only a regional issue. Due to the superpower aspirations of the Russian Federation the problem is becoming global.

Analysing Polish research we gain a different point of view due to the geographical location and geopolitical situation that determines Central European thinking on security. This gives a new perspective on often old problems. This is due to the fact that in Central and Eastern Europe we implement security and foreign policy solutions that have been proven primarily in the Euro-Atlantic security system countries, modifying them at the same time due to local specificity. Thus, new solutions emerge that can inspire world research.

The article is the author's analysis of research problems raised by the scientists connected with the security sciences (this part of the article has a review character), as well as the results of content analysis of their publications divided into international and internal security by Polish and selected foreign authors.

KEYWORDS: *security science, security studies, international relations, internal security*

INTRODUCTION

Dynamic changes in global geopolitics in recent decades, the development of modern technologies and the associated increase in pressure to acquire resources have caused a reconfiguration in looking at global and regional security systems (Siemiątkowski and Tomaszewski, 2019). There has undoubtedly been a shift in the balance of power, a new strong player has emerged (the People's Republic of China), which is slowly beginning to dictate terms, no longer only in the market, but also in global politics (Amarasinghe and Rajhans, 2020). Moreover, from the perspective of Central and Eastern Europe, the increased activity of the Russian Federation can be seen, for example, in matters related to Ukrainian sovereignty (Galeotti, 2016; Karpchuk, 2021).

The above trends have resulted in the emergence of new types of threats to the security of states, organizations and individuals. A huge role is played here by modern technologies, which allow the construction of new types of weapons and provide mechanisms for the exchange of information. At the same time, they cause the multiplication of cyber threats. The second group of threats concerns the power of economies. The increase in free capital on the global market necessitates the search for appropriate deposits. Thus, the investment pressure and taking control over various, often strategic areas of economies is growing (Siemiątkowski, 2017). Besides, international conflicts (some of them taking the shape of hybrid warfare) or threats from terrorism and cyberterrorism continue to be dangerous (Lewis, 2014; Tyushka, 2019).

Among other things, the above facts have led to an increase in interest in security observed in recent decades on the part of science. Scientists, recognizing the importance of the problems, have shown and continue to show willingness to include them in a scientific framework. Formalized research, supported by a solid theoretical background, helps to discover relationships and dependencies between variables, provides scientists with valuable materials for analysis, and helps decision makers to make often strategic decisions.

In some countries we can observe even a striving for a full autonomy of security research as a field of science. Systems of science and higher education, preferring a rigid division of scientific disciplines, exclude securitology as a separate area of knowledge and science. This is also the case in Poland

(Gierszewski, 2018). The separation of security sciences, as an independent scientific discipline, requires its self-definition not only in terms of identity, but also in the context of world science.

The analysis conducted indicates that:

- The case of Poland is interesting in that, as a current member of the North Atlantic security system, it still has to contend with threats arising from the direct neighbourhood of the Russian Federation. Thus, it constitutes a kind of representative example of the influence of geopolitics on the areas of scientific research in the region of Central and Eastern Europe;
- Foreign policy lacks understanding of the specifics of the security environment in Central and Eastern Europe, and Poland is often treated instrumentally by many states. The geographical location and geopolitical situation determines Central European thinking on security. It also gives a new perspective on often old problems. This is due to the fact that in Central and Eastern Europe proven security systems are being implemented, primarily in the Euro-Atlantic states, which are being modified due to local specifics. New solutions are therefore being developed, which may serve as inspiration for global research;
- In Poland, but also in the whole of Central and Eastern Europe, there is a lack of analyses of the situation on a broad international scale, which assess the effects of global threats. Analyses of security threats usually refer to regional issues. Polish researchers' perception of the security system is influenced primarily by historical experience (regaining independence only in 1918 after 123 years of non-existence on the world maps, World War II, and then Poland's dependence on the influence of the Soviet Union). From the Polish perspective, the location of the country, which is the eastern flank of NATO, is also significant;
- there is a lack of communication between Polish research and issues raised abroad. Due to the relatively small international influence and economic potential, Polish scientists have weak tools for analysing security policy and this is where mistakes in foreign policy can result from. Thus, it is a good field of analysis for researchers from the Euro-Atlantic area of security, who by implementing the results of their

research can successfully formulate normative judgments on the directions of analysis, or even create joint research teams. The knowledge of international scientific discourse on security can be a good source for practical solutions in this area;

- Security threats are less and less described in the Polish literature as military threats, and more as social or natural hazards. The analyses emphasize the importance of internal security, which is treated as an inseparable component of national security;
- and finally, what seems most important in the area of international security, threats to Poland's security from Russia are not only a regional issue. In view of the superpower aspirations of the Russian Federation the problem is becoming global. Hence the need to co-create a supra-regional discourse in order to practically solve security problems, which should be approached systemically.

It should therefore be assumed that the research conducted in Poland significantly enriches the world literature. It joins the global current of research on security, providing a regional and systemic perspective on global threats. It is an element of thinking about security in the constructivist paradigm, in which the Polish perspective complements the analyses dominated by paradigms based on realism and idealism.

METHODOLOGY

This article is the author's analysis of research problems raised by the most cited mainstream scientists in the world science in the field of security. Against this background, an in-depth review of the achievements of Polish scholars related to the sciences of security, as well as the results of analysis of the content of their publications in the division of international security and internal security was made. Assignment of some researchers to the interests of international security, or internal security is conventional. This is due to the fact that often researchers go beyond this antinomic division.

The text presents the author's conclusions from a cross-sectional analysis of Scopus and Google Scholar databases of the most frequently cited authors. The selection of sources was based on several citation indices. Foreign publications were selected in the field of *social science* on the basis of citations from the internationally recognized and prestigious Scopus database^[1]. The analysis refers to the years 2015-2020, as this is the period in which the scientific discipline took shape. The citations of authors in the Google Scholar database were also taken into account. It was decided to include the second database in the selection process, as Scopus is only gaining popularity in Poland. The presence of Polish studies and their citations in this database are marginal. The first problem lies in the fact that there are relatively few studies in English. The second issue concerns the number of citations. Authors who are popular in Poland are practically invisible in the world. The number of citations of their texts is small, e.g. Czaputowicz 12, Nowacki 6, Piwowarski 10, Raczkowski 49, Wiśniewski 83 (as of June 30, 2020).

The selection of Polish publications and authors was made on the basis of the citation rate in the Google Scholar database in 2015-2020. Although Google Scholar is an imperfect mechanism for various reasons, it gives a certain picture of the popularity of the studies of individual researchers. In the case of authors just joining the world scientific circulation, the use of this type of tool is fully justified. In the selection process, we checked, in our opinion, most of the names of scholars conducting research on security. In doing so, we primarily used the database of the National Meeting of Departments of Security (Siemiątkowski et al., 2018) and the state research institution, which is the Information Processing Centre, where the information contained allowed us to search for 221 security scholars. From these, 14 researchers with the highest citation rate in Google Scholar were selected. The citation rate indicates the strength of the impact of the publication and the prestige of the scientist.

The paper is a review. Analysing the Polish security literature, it was noticed that it is searching for its identity in the field of research subject and methodology. The conclusions in many publications are very similar, and Polish researchers have made a significant effort to search for paradigms, as well as to determine the problems to be analysed (Wróblewski, 2017, Stańczyk,

2017, Sulowski, 2015, Ścibiorek, 2016). This constitution led to asking specific research questions:

Q. 1. What are the leading (most cited) scholars of international as well as internal security?

Q. 2. Can the Polish perspective on security studies make a significant contribution to the understanding of security processes presented in world science?

In the course of searching for an answer (based mainly on a critical analysis of the literature on the subject selected from the most frequently cited Polish researchers in Google Scholar) to the above research questions, the following assumptions were made

A.1. We assume that the problems of security, which are dealt with by Polish researchers of the subject, result from the specificity of this administratively separated scientific discipline in Poland, which has various sources. The first are military studies and research on defence. This area should also include research on national security systems. The second is police science and research on protection of people and property. This area includes the study of internal security (public and common). The third is based on the achievements of international relations, which have shaped most of the theoretical approaches used in security sciences. The fourth is institutional issues, which refers to the analysis of security institutions. It includes structures as well as competences and tasks of public authorities, which are related to the three above-mentioned areas of security problems.

A.2. We suppose that the further development of security sciences in Poland, currently conducted mainly on the study of security problems from a regional perspective, will cause Polish researchers to significantly complement the achievements of world science.

LITERATURE REVIEW: GLOBAL DIRECTIONS OF RESEARCH IN SECURITY STUDIES

The most popular global research on security problems comes from the broadly understood political sciences, in particular from international relations. The founder of the Copenhagen School Barry Buzan is considered one of the precursors of modern security theory. Thanks to his works (among others Buzan, 1984, 1997) the world science has gained theoretical foundations for the development of security theory. This theory is, moreover, developed and modified by the author himself, collaborating with other authorities (Acharya & Buzan, 2007; Buzan, 2010; Buzan & Hansen, 2009; Buzan & WÆver, 2009). As shown in Table 1, Buzan is by no means the most cited author publishing in the area of security in the Scopus database. Instead, it is another of the authorities with a background in international relations, Robert Keohane. His works mainly concern international security issues (Grant and Keohane, 2005; Keohane, 2005; Keohane and Nye Jr., 1998) problems of globalisation (R. O. Keohane (Keohane and Nye Jr., 2000), legalisation (Abbott et al., 2000) or more recently climate change ((Keohane and Victor, 2011). Robert Keohane in the list also has the most citations in the Google Scholar database.

Table 1. *Safety studies of the most cited authors in the Scopus database**.

Authors	Object of research interest	Subject of research interest	Number of citations in Scopus from 2015 to 2020	Number citations in Google Scholar from 2015 to 2020
Keohane, Robert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> world politics hegemony in world politics climate change legalisation international relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Governance Institutions governments humanitarian organisations 	5199	39530
Pointcheval, David	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> information security cryptographic encryption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> business participants parties to the exchange of data and information 	3312	7307

Leveson, Nancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accident modelling for safety of engineering systems • software security • security management • automation processes • risk management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organisations • thinking systems • businesses 	3301	10946
Rasmussen, Jens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • risk management • ecology • road safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • society • company • patient • road users 	2368	10712
Nye, Joseph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soft power • power in international politics • globalisation • world politics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA • public diplomacy • international organisations 	2150	41917
Bigo, Didier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • migrations • international relations • securitization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU • states 	1851	9498
Buzan, Barry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evolution of international security studies • international security • security theory • international relations theory • global war on terrorism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China • East Asia security 	1742	28871
Huysmans, Jef	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • migrations • security theory • EU security • security studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU • migrants 	1696	5926
Hansen, Lene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security studies • cyber security • international relations theory • securitization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • states • institutions • internet users 	1001	5843
Wæver, Ole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • international relations • security in Europe • security theory • political theory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • states • EU 	823	18278

* as of June 30, 2020. The list includes authors who have been cited 1000 times or more according to Scopus. The exception is Ole Wæver, whose works have not reached this value, but according to Google Scholar their citation count is extremely high.

Source: own elaboration.

Another author more frequently cited than Buzan is Joseph Nye Jr. (over 2150 citations according to the Scopus database between 2015 and 2020). This author alone, or in collaboration with others (previously mentioned), has published frequently cited works on *soft power* (Nye Jr., 2004, 2008) and world politics in general (Nye Jr., 2003)(Nye Jr., 2004, 2008)(Nye Jr., 2003). The last, and at the same time the least cited in the Scopus database (from among those listed in Table 1) precursor of security theory is Ole Wæver. In addition to the previously mentioned works published in cooperation, it is worth mentioning others on European security (Laustsen & Wæver, 2000; Wæver, 1996), or security theory in general in connection with politics (Wæver, 2011). Ole Wæver, on the other hand, has a high citation rate in Google Scholar.

Nowadays, security is a highly interdisciplinary, broad area of research that can generally be described as *security studies*. Among the most cited authors who refer to security issues in their publications there are specialists in security theory (Aradau et al., 2006; Dunne et al., 2013; Hansen, 2011a, 2011b; Huysmans, 1998) security in the European Union (Bigo, 2006b), terrorism (Bigo, 2006a, 2008) security of data and information exchange (Abdalla et al., 2005; Bellare et al., 2003; Pointcheval and Stern, 2000) risk management (Leveson, 2011, 2015; Rasmussen, 1997), security governance (Hale et al., 2010; Hollnagel et al., 2012; Leveson et al., 2009) as well as migration (Bigo, 2002; Huysmans, 2000, 2006), cyber security (Hansen and Nissenbaum, 2009), safety culture (Guldenmund, 2000, 2007, 2010) and accidents (Svedung and Rasmussen, 2002). Thus, there are highly diverse issues. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that Table 1 does not include the very highly cited authors of purely technical or medical sciences, which are also to some extent related to security issues.

It should also be emphasized that a significant part of the studies by the authors listed in Table 1 are co-authored publications. In many cases there are more than 2 – 3 authors. Therefore, it is often difficult to clearly identify the research area of a particular author. He or she may have made only a small contribution to a publication of considerable interest, although his or her citation index has increased significantly.

ANALYSIS: POLISH SECURITY STUDIES RESEARCH

A. FORMAL LEGITIMIZATION OF THE SECURITY SCIENCES IN POLAND

In this section we will describe the formal establishment of security sciences in Poland, which were separated from the military sciences in 2011. As a result, two independent scientific disciplines, i.e. security sciences and defence sciences, were distinguished.

On 1 October 2018, a law reforming the system of higher education in Poland came into force. The reform singled out disciplines, and within them disciplines of science. Security sciences were formally merged with defence sciences and found themselves in the field of social sciences next to such disciplines as: socio-economic geography and spatial management, social communication and media sciences, economics and finance, political and administrative sciences, management and quality sciences, legal sciences, sociological sciences, pedagogy, canon law, psychology.

Thus, there was a departure from the classification adopted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, in which the security sciences are included in the scope of political science, while the sciences in the military area are the domain of military universities only. Before the separation of the security sciences in Poland the very concept of security (category) was the subject of analysis and research in the political sciences, especially in international relations. Leaving the security sciences as a separate discipline was motivated by the legislator's key role in terms of national security.

The newly adopted classification has changed the professional situation of many researchers (Siemiątkowski and Tomaszewski, 2019). It has placed in one discipline both researchers of so-called military security (largely derived from technical sciences) and military schools, and so-called non-military security (coming from social sciences) (Koziej, 2011: 18). Among them there are specialists in security strategy, security of local communities, economic security, psychology of security, law (international, criminal, administrative), international relations, as well as scientists dealing with, for example, the ballistics of air combat assets, operational level command, or space in urban areas. Apart from that, security also falls within the scope

of interest of the humanities and especially the existing disciplines: history and philosophy, and even cultural and religious sciences.

In addition to the substantive dilemmas, it should be emphasized that in Poland the choice of formal assignment of a researcher to a particular scientific discipline carries serious consequences. It is closely related to the possibility, or lack thereof, of obtaining a scientific degree and the need to gain acceptance of the new scientific community. This causes a lot of frustration and cases of rejecting a researcher despite the high scientific level of his achievements.

It is also worth mentioning that for several years the security research community has been facing several methodological dilemmas whose unequivocal solution seems to be still far away. One of them is the very definition of the concept of security. Only a coherent definition, widely recognized in the community, gives the basis for the proper conduct of the next stages of research in the field of security sciences. It also gives the possibility to determine the object and subject of research, their scope or to distinguish research problems. It also allows to develop and improve research methods, appropriate for a given discipline.

The above-characterized formal situation of the discipline of security sciences in Poland and the consequences of changes in legal regulations introduced in recent years, translate into the directions of research efforts undertaken by scientists. However, it may constitute a certain barrier to undertaking interdisciplinary research, which in principle does not exist in the research of world renowned scientists.

B. UNDERSTANDING SECURITY IN THE POLISH LITERATURE

In this section, we will describe the main dilemmas of security sciences that define the issues undertaken by researchers. It turns out that we will find here references to various theoretical concepts. However, the main theoretical achievements and research approaches to security problems are based on political science provenance, specifically international relations.

The practical need to distinguish scientific identity even more clearly shifts the research focus to issues that Western scientists, in well-established legal situation, have behind them for many years.

The analysis of the literature on the subject leads to the conclusion that there is an excess of definitions, and sometimes pseudo-definitions of security. This is related, among others, to the aforementioned problem of assigning (often administrative) scholars coming from various disciplines to the security sciences. Diversified scientific roots cause that everyone may understand security differently. This creates a kind of chaos that requires ordering. Ryszard Wróblewski wrote on security science: “based on the literature on the subject, what is currently classified as security science can be defined as:

- Varied understanding of concepts – lack of a coherent conceptual grid,
- indefinite (indeed, arbitrary) scope of study,
- attempt to de-militarize security vs. militarization,
- multiplicity of theoretical and methodological research perspectives – inconsistency,
- shallowness of considerations: domination of description of the object of research at the expense of explanation and recognition, theories – exclusively borrowed from other sciences (especially from international relations sciences – a sub-discipline of political science” (Wróblewski, 2015: 25).

An attempt to organize the category of security was made relatively recently by Jerzy Stańczyk (2017). He points to some inherent features of the conceptual category of security, which are ambiguity and polysemantic character. The author assumes that the concept of security has an ambiguous character, dependent on various conditions, including historical, cultural and political. It appears in various forms from everyday life to the activities of states and international organizations. Moreover, the concept of security is evolving. Many disciplines deal with it in science and it has many theoretical currents (Stańczyk, 2017: 86).

The above-mentioned author argues that the natural multiplicity of definitions of security, determines the impossibility of adopting one that would be most representative of the nature of the concept described. As a research challenge, it sets itself the constant elements that appear in various definitions of security (Stańczyk, 2017). He comes to the conclusion that security requires subject and object clarification.

Taking the above into account and considering the most frequently occurring elements (property/certainty, significance, survival, preservation, stability, identity or ability to develop), it can be assumed that security will most often be defined in the field of security sciences as the *certainty of continuance and development*.

Based on the assumption that the primary goal of any entity is survival and development, [...] *it should be pointed out that there is a slow blurring of the boundary between the domain of security and the domain of development. This is influenced, inter alia, by progressing globalization and multidimensional threats, whose center of gravity is clearly shifting towards social, economic and trans-sectoral aspects (terrorism, cyberspace)* (Koziej and Brzozowski, 2015: 12). Przemysław Mikiewicz expressed a different, perhaps controversial but interesting opinion that *the very process of expanding the conceptual scope of security to include non-military threats makes defining the category much more difficult* (Mikiewicz, 2005: 31). Problems concerning discrepancies, as to the very definition of security (Kuc and Ścibiorek, 2018: 20), also cause ambiguities in distinguishing its different types: national, internal or international. As Jerzy Stańczyk noted, *it should be pointed out in this context that there is an extremely strong interpenetration of national security with international security and a kind of internationalisation of both national security and the internal security of the state, which is separated from it* (Stańczyk, 2010: 16).

In our opinion the delimitation line between national security and international security is not clear. It is most often assumed that the term national security is used interchangeably with state security (especially in Anglo-Saxon countries *national security* is used^[11]) and that national security interests include issues related to both international and internal security. Thus it is simply complementary. However, it is enough to look at the definitions to see that the boundary between the areas of interest is very thin.

Eugeniusz and Robert Nowak adopted a typology in the object dimension distinguishing national and international security, including global and regional security, which are closely related (Nowak and Nowak, 2015: 20). Andrew Glen, on the other hand, assumed that *in the attributive sense, national (state) security is the certainty of its existence, permanence, preservation of identity, sovereignty, as well as the quality of existence and development of the state and nation in an environment of challenges and threats* (Glen, 2014: 149). We are confronted

with the problem of perceiving security in terms of protection from threats, the challenges faced by the entity, as well as its proper development. Thus, it is a very broad approach, we can say that national security consists of all elements of state activity within the above systems and subsystems.

Controversy is also aroused by the multitude of subject areas of security, as well as their scope. Orthodox representatives of the security sciences in Poland even assume (not without justification) that not everything that concerns security falls within the discipline of security sciences.

The development of theoretical knowledge, especially in the social sciences, proceeds along with the development of the surrounding reality. It often happens that certain cognitive areas evolve to such an extent that it is necessary to make changes in the formal systematics of scientific disciplines reflecting the state of research. Such was the case with the area of security studies. Never before has the reality around us changed so dynamically. According to Czaputowicz, *The directions of development of security sciences are influenced both by events in the world of international politics and by conditions related to the organization of science itself* (Czaputowicz, 2015: 122–123).

In 2013 Bogdan M. Szulc wrote about security science that it encompasses the totality of security issues in national and international dimensions. The object of research in such an approach are contemporary security systems in the military and non-military system and their levels of functioning at different organizational levels. In turn, these systems include the activities of institutions of state character, local government, entrepreneurs and social organizations. (Szulc, 2013: 21–22). On the methodology of research on security, Szulc wrote that issues related to security, defence and war understood as armed struggle require research of an interdisciplinary nature. Stanisław Sulowski came to similar conclusions. Due to the specificity of the subject of security research, as well as the need to use different research methods, we can speak of the interdisciplinary nature of this research. At the same time, this researcher noted that interdisciplinarity is a certain shortcoming, because *it does not quickly lead to theoretical generalizations and standardization in the field of methodology* (Sulowski, 2015: 36–37). A similar conclusion was reached by Tomasz Aleksandrowicz, who wrote that the interdisciplinary nature of security sciences, in a way, imposes the necessity of applying a methodology

that draws from various approaches (Aleksandrowicz, 2015b: 52). Looking for an answer to the question about paradigms of security sciences – he stated that their basic element is their interdisciplinarity beyond the area of knowledge of social sciences. (Aleksandrowicz, 2015b: 64).

Zbigniew Ścibiorek, observing the development of security sciences, wrote that they is an independent (separate, self-contained) and original research discipline striving to obtain a comprehensive (multi-aspect) and at the same time coherent picture of reality from the point of view of satisfying security needs. At the same time, however, he noted that due to the object and methods of research, research considerations, types of formulating claims and practical directives, it is a multidimensional and heterogeneous science, but at the same time it is an empirical science, using the methodology of observational research. He believed that the condition for practicing such research is to isolate the subject and to determine the methods and techniques of research ((Ścibiorek, 2016: 212). Another researcher, describing the research methodology used in security sciences, noted that it is characterized by broadly understood interdisciplinarity, which arises directly from multidisciplinary, viewing the phenomenon from different research perspectives, but without cooperation and creation of common research instruments and approaches. (Balcerowicz, 2015: 41).

The dilemmas of Polish researchers in various areas of security described in this section show that the *childish age* of the newly separated discipline pushes scientists away from the really important issues. In a way, they are forced to focus on elementary areas related, among others, to the scientific identity of the discipline. And in many of the cited attempts to delimit the concept there is a tendency to try to limit the scope of research – which undoubtedly does not contribute to the interdisciplinary research.

RESULTS

C. POLISH RESEARCH ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

In this section we will describe the areas of scientific research undertaken by Polish researchers in the field of international security. This will allow comparing the researched issues with the previously described areas of interest of renowned researchers in the world.

The study of international relations was already developing in Poland in the interwar period. The Polish school of sovietology, which had as many as two centres, was particularly strong: The School of East Studies in Warsaw and the Research Institute of Eastern Europe in Vilnius. In 1947 the Polish Institute of International Affairs was founded and since 1976 the Institute of International Relations of Warsaw University has been operating as an independent unit. Over time, new Institutes, Chairs and Departments for the study of international relations were established at various universities, where the topics of international security studies were also undertaken (Haliżak and Kuźniar, 2006; Zięba, 1989: 60, 2006, 2012). International relations units were usually established with academic staff drawn from diplomatic historians, international relations political scientists and international law specialists. Polish research on international relations, including international security in the period 1945-1989, did not have an independent character due to the dependence of Polish foreign policy on guidelines coming from Soviet Russia.

Looking at security studies in international terms, sometimes referred to as external state security, Edward Haliżak noted that these studies are characterized by a certain paucity of theoretical reflections on such theoretical concepts as security dilemmas, securitization, ontological security, or humanitarian security (Haliżak, 2017: 11). Haliżak, postulated the separation of security as a sub-discipline of international relations, which would indicate that security studies should go mainly in the international direction.

The area of external security studies^[111] in terms of subject matter includes such areas as:

- the military security of the state,
- national security strategy,
- economic security,

- geopolitical conditions and security,
- information security,
- human rights.

Among Polish scientists with the highest citation rate from Google Scholar, the research problems presented in Table 2 predominate.

Table 2. Subject and subject of interest of Polish scientists in the field of external security and the number of citations according to the Google Scholar database (over 300 citations).

Authors	Object of research interest	Subject of research interest	Number citations in Google Scholar from 2015 to 2020
Czaputowicz, Jacek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of international relations • Security models • foreign policy – security context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poland. • European Union. 	618
Zięba, Ryszard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of international relations • the European Union's security and defence policy • directions of polish foreign policy – security context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poland. • European Union. • NATO. • European Union. 	908
Koziej, Stanisław	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poland's international security strategy • Evolution of the European Union Security Strategy • polish defence strategies • national defence • Poland in NATO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Polish State. • NATO. • European Union. • Government Administration. • Polish Army. 	460
Aleksandrowicz, Tomasz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International terrorism • Information Security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poland. • European Union. • United Nations • OSCE. 	320
Nowacki, Gabriel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety in transport • aviation security • organization and forms of psychological activities in selected countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security institutions and services. 	330

Source: own elaboration.

Analysing the output in the area of international security in Polish science, first of all, issues are raised concerning: the theory of international relations, which is also referred to security matters, as well as security strategies of both Poland and the European Union (Aleksandrowicz, 2011; Czaputowicz, 2012; Haliżak, 2017; Haliżak and Kuźniar, 2006; Kitler, 2018; Koziej, 2016; Moldovan, 2018; Zięba, 2014), international security with a Euro-Atlantic area (Czaputowicz, 2012; Sułek, 2010; Zięba, 2014), military security and defence cooperation policies of NATO member states (Jakubczak, 2020; Koziej, 1996, 2008; *Obronność Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej po trzech dekadach suwerenności*, 2019; Pacek and Truszczynski, 2020; Żurawski vel Gajewski, 2012). In the context of international security, it is important to note the geopolitical school gaining renewed recognition in Poland (the authors, however, do not have a large number of citations), whose research interests may take on a different character, but generally focus on issues related to: *the field of knowledge that studies the influence of geographical factors on the conduct of foreign policy of states and their groupings (international organizations, political-military blocs) and on the formation of international order and security* (Sykulski, 2014: 16–17). Authors referring to geopolitical thought in the consideration of Polish security include Leszek Sykulski and Jacek Bartosiak, and in the older generation of researchers Mirosław Sułek (Bartosik, 2018; Sykulski, 2011, 2013, 2018, Sułek 2001). Research on international economic security is widely developed (Redo and Siemiątkowski, 2017; Siemiątkowski, 2014, 2015). Research on terrorism, also in the context of legal conditions, and information security has also been emerging for some time (Aleksandrowicz, 2015a, 2016). Relatively little space in the context of individual security as well as international relations is devoted to human rights research in Poland (Kuźniar, 2008; Szpak, 2015, 2018).

Especially in geopolitical terms, Polish scholars are concerned with regional security (Baltic Sea area, Black Sea, Smolensk Gate). Their research is at a high level and has the potential to complement the consideration of security in Europe of scientists of NATO countries (Bartosik, 2018; Sykulski, 2011, 2013, 2018).

D. OBJECT OF INTERNAL SECURITY RESEARCH IN POLAND

In this section we will describe the main areas of scientific research undertaken by Polish researchers in the field of internal security. It turns out that we will find here references to the aforementioned issues related to the identity of the newly distinguished discipline, as well as to the problem of precise separation of its research fields.

The tradition of internal security research is primarily associated with legal sciences. With time specialized schools were established to study security, but first of all to teach. In 1971 the Main School of Fire Service was established, and in 1990 the Higher Police School in Szczytno (earlier it operated as the Officer School of the Citizen's Militia – and it had an outstanding training character). The contemporary scope of research on internal security was specified by Prof. Majer, who noted that *internal security, which is not controversial, is a component of a broader concept, which is national security. However, the material scope of the goods constituting internal security and the degree of formalization of this state on the grounds of legal doctrine are definitely more complex* (Majer, 2012: 11). It should be noted that in relation to internal security we encounter two approaches. One primarily reducing its scope to public order and security, starting from *hard* assumptions related to the protection of health, life and property of citizens. The second approach, broadly developed in terms of subject matter, which extends the scope of interest in security, up to issues in the area of protection of cultural assets, building a civil society, or issues related to, for example, the re-socialization of youth. Waldemar Kitler said that there are various positions in security theory. The first – narrow – treats internal security as a category including issues of systemic security (protection of the state and its constitutional order), public security and general security. The second – broad – associates internal security with matters taking place on the territory of the state, i.e. with everything that happens in the state (Kitler, 2013: 231). Janusz Gierszewski considered that the interest of internal security includes threats and counteracting them inside the state, and the analysis of the definition shows that it refers to the state of stability and internal balance, the functioning of internal structures of the state, decision-making processes and threats (Gierszewski, 2013: 16).

The subject matter of security makes the research strongly interdisciplinary, and constitutes the domain of interest of lawyers, political scientists, sociologists, economists, historians, and even cultural studies and, of course, specialists in security and defence. As Andrzej Misiuk wrote: [...] *the correlations of individual scientific disciplines with security issues relate primarily to the area of internal security, the subject matter of which varies from country to country* (Misiuk, 2018: 13).

Particularly in terms of the subject matter we currently have a very wide field of interest among scientists in Poland. We should mention, for example:

- security and public order,
- local security,
- cultural security,
- crisis management,
- The military in the internal security system,
- political and systemic security,
- economic security – especially energy security,
- social security,
- information security.

Among Polish scientists with the highest citation rate from Google Scholar, the research problems concerning internal security presented in Table 3 are predominant.

Table 3. Subject and subject of interest of Polish researchers in the field of internal security and the number of citations according to the Google Scholar database (over 300 citations).

Authors	Object of research interest	Subject of research interest	Number of citations in goggle scholar from 2015 to 2020
Kitler, Waldemar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National security theory National security strategy Crisis management Defence tasks of governmental and self-governmental authorities Security research methodology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Security Office. Polish Army. State and local government administration. 	657
Rackowski, Konrad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of the economic system security of business transactions security management The methodology of economic security research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial institutions. Government Administration Tax Services 	586
Karpiuk, Mirosław	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public order Legal aspects of the functioning of special services local government and its role in internal security information security law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitutional organs of the state 	482
Wiśniewski, Bernard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public and private institutions in the crisis management system military management Methodology of security research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State and local government administration Fire Department and Police Department Polish Army 	447

Ogrodnik, Paweł	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General security • civil protection, – • rescue services • safety education • media in security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services (fire department) • Schools • Media 	376
Piwowarski, Juliusz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil protection, crisis management • the role of the police in the internal security system • cultural security • protection of classified information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniformed services: (police and fire departments) • Government Administration 	364
Jakubczak, Ryszard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial defence troops • the impact of globalization on state internal security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polish Army 	334
Misiuk, Andrzej	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public security institutions • uniformed services • Methodology and theory of security studies • Public order • police history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Administration. • Services (primarily the police) 	357
Gierszewski, Janusz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges and threats in the area of cultural security • the social dimension of human security • organization of social security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social welfare institutions • Internal security • Police 	312

Source: own elaboration.

Among the most frequently cited authors in Poland publishing works on internal security, the following areas should be distinguished: public security and order, studied both by lawyers (Pieprzny, 2007; Wojtyczek, 1999) and security specialists (Karpiuk, 2014; Misiuk, 2011, 2013; Piwowarski, 2018; Sprengel, 2004). Community security as seen not only in terms of public order and the

role of local government (Gierszewski et al., 2020; Siemiątkowski et al., 2019, 2020; Siemiątkowski and Marszałek-Kawa, 2020; Wawrzusiszyn, 2017). There is much interest in crisis management related to natural as well as man-made disasters, as well as management during crisis operations and cooperation between services (Jakubczak, 2020; Kitler, 2011; Wiśniewski, 2008; Wiśniewski et al., 2017) as well as security culture issues (Piwowski, 2019, 2020a, 2020b). Narrower topics of economic security are also touched upon; among researchers, Konrad Raczkowski, who deals with, among others, the security of business transactions, stands out by the number of citations (Raczkowski, 2014).

DISCUSSION

Security sciences in Poland, as a relatively young discipline are subject to intense processes of change. There is still ongoing discussion both about the area of research, the interdisciplinary nature of science, as well as the methodology of research. Month by month, the state of knowledge in the above-mentioned field is significantly increasing (at least in the quantitative sense). The approach to the problem of security research is also evolving.

In global studies, among the group of scholars we selected, we note that some of them have established already internationally recognized schools of thought on international relations and security (e.g., the Copenhagen School with the research of Barry Buzan and Ole Wæver and Jaap de Wilde). They have published popular, often-cited research findings (e.g. Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye).

In contemporary Poland, however, there has not been a similar conceptual centre, influencing the world's security science (in the years 1930-1939 in Poland existed an independent and influential research centre – called the Polish school of Sovietology). World science also takes up problems which, due to Poland's economic potential and its importance in the international arena, are not addressed, or rather described as important in global studies, such as the issue of the security of the Arctic, or the cyber activities of the People's Republic of China. Polish researchers often develop and adapt to local conditions theories already known around the world, such as the broken glass

theory, which was developed by George Kelling and Catherine Coles, or studies on the influence of urban planning on security (Blakely & Snyder, 1997).

Applying the basic delimitation: into international and internal security, we see that international relations scholars have the highest number of citations in Google Scholar. This is also due to their firmly established academic positions in Poland (especially: Czaputowicz, Zięba and Koziej). Moreover, Czaputowicz was until recently the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Stanisław Koziej headed the analytical bureau acting as an advisory institution to the President of Poland, i.e. the Office of National Security, which significantly increased their recognition in the world of science, and probably also the quotability of their works. There are also such scientists as Edward Halizak, who does not have an active Google Scholar account, but is a well-known and cited researcher. It is quite common for international relations scholars dealing with international security to refer to previously developed theories or schools (such as the Copenhagen School) when writing about international relations theory.

As can be seen, authors, especially in the field of internal security, often undertake very broad research, e.g. Janusz Gierszewski, Waldemar Kilter – publishing also in the field of social security or the national security system. However, there are also those who specialize rather narrowly, and it is very likely that thanks to this they have a relatively high citation rate, e.g. Konrad Raczkowski, Ryszard Jakubczyk or Mirosław Karpiuk. The interdisciplinarity of research, unlike in world research, is often illusory, because researchers, especially those just beginning their scientific careers, deal with research in areas where the methodology has already been developed (e.g. urban sociology, criminology), and use rather descriptive methods. Much is written and discussed about the interdisciplinarity of science and the necessity of undertaking this type of research. However, after a more thorough examination of this issue, encapsulation and lack of cooperation between researchers from outside one discipline is clearly visible in particular disciplines. In order to catch up with the quality of world science, this certainly needs to change.

Research on security in the twentieth century in Poland (in addition to researchers derived from the military) also conducted by representatives of the legal sciences. These studies referred rather to the description of the legal

state, and were not of a legal-empirical nature. It is also noticeable that in Poland much more strongly than in Anglo-Saxon countries criminology is treated as part of legal sciences, reducing its interdisciplinary character.

Unfortunately, it should also be mentioned that there are often actions that can be described as pathological. Authors usually publishing in related disciplines adjust towards security sciences only the titles of their publications. Without the knowledge of methodology, theory of security, realization of directional research, they only pretend to belong to the discipline. Fortunately, such attitudes are marginal and are quickly verified.

Table 4. *List of research topics most frequently undertaken by both international and Polish teams and more frequently by Polish.*

Themes explored in the research:	
both in Polish and international	more often in polish
Theory of international relations	International security (especially former USSR)
Security theory	Poland's security system
International security	Crisis management
Fight against terrorism	Defence tasks of governmental and self-governmental authorities
International competition	Public order
Cyber Security	Security research methodology

Source: own elaboration.

In spite of the above mentioned problems of Polish scientists we are convinced that they make a significant contribution to world science. In particular, the research undertaken in the context of the security of non-Anglo-Saxon states, mainly concerning Central and Eastern Europe, certainly has a high substantive value. They constitute an important complement to the mainstream of international security studies. In the context of the unpredictability of the Russian Federation's actions in the global arena, confirmed for example by its annexation of Crimea, this seems extremely valuable. Similarly, the relations between the states of the former USSR are studied in great depth by Polish teams. The understanding of mentality in post-Soviet international relations, resulting on the one hand from

geographical proximity and on the other from the baggage of a similar regime, certainly allows for more accurate research hypotheses.

Polish research, despite raising often important from the point of view of world security problems, is not very noticed in the world. There are several reasons for this. First of all, until recently, it was published mainly in Polish. Secondly, local scientific periodicals or multi-author monographs were usually chosen as the place of publication. Thirdly, most publications refer to national security, which often has a local dimension. Fourth, security sciences are in search of their identity. This need gives rise to works that aim to organize the structural cognitive foundations of the discipline. It is mainly about the object of cognition and research methodology. The dominant conviction is that the object of research in the security sciences are contemporary security systems in the military and non-military dimensions and their functioning at different organizational levels.

CONCLUSIONS

The conducted analysis showed that Polish security research complements the global scientific achievements in this field.

The query of the discussed problems indicated the presence of leading themes in the Polish and international scientific discourse. The vast majority of texts initially referred to the traditional approach to national security. With time, social, economic or cultural problems were included in the analysis.

The Polish literature is dominated by topics related to internal security, such as: public and general security (crisis management), social security, cultural security, etc. Another theme is terrorism (along with its varieties), which is replaced by other problems, such as: the aging of society, the relationship between security and development, or the problems of migration. They mostly refer to regional or even local problems. They often present the subjective perspective of Polish scholars, which may lead to interest in texts on the subjective view of state security policies. The number of theoretical works on security theory is relatively small. Systemic and constructivist thinking

dominates. Important topics remain those concerning security institutions in terms of their role and effectiveness.

Currently Poland, being a member of the North Atlantic security system, still has to cope with threats resulting from the direct neighbourhood of the Russian Federation, which is a kind of representative example of the influence of geopolitics on scientific research in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. In Poland, this research is undertaken by specialists in Eastern politics and geopolitics. It perfectly fits into the global discussion on security by adding a new point of view (of Russia's immediate neighbourhood) to the global discussion on security. This gives a different point of view due to the geographical location and geopolitical situation, which determines Central European thinking on security. It gives a new perspective on often old problems.

Some of the areas of research of Polish scientists overlap with global trends, but in Poland the theoretical achievements of Anglo-Saxon researchers are rather described. Research on climate, ecology or globalization is treated marginally. Researchers dealing with foreign policy are quoted more often than those dealing with internal affairs. A very broad approach to research is noticeable in internal security, which is expressed in the diversity of problems undertaken.

There are researchers in Poland who undertake similar analyses to those conducted in the world, however, this group is relatively small and often based on the findings of researchers from foreign scientific centres.

In Poland, research on internal security, which is the area of interest of many researchers, is widely developing. This research, due to the subject matter, has a relatively small potential to be more widely noticed. Polish researchers use already developed theories due to the developmental lag of Poland in relation to, for example, the most developed EU countries, adjusting them to local conditions. Undoubtedly, in a few years this research, and especially the proposed and implemented solutions in the field of internal security, may become excellent empirical material for countries entering a stage of development similar to Poland: such as Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia.

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ENDNOTES

- ^[1] The Scopus database is considered one of the most prestigious (although we realize that there are also voices criticizing it), Scopus indexes content from 24,600 active titles from 5,000 publishers, which are screened and selected by an independent board of experts.
- ^[11] As Mariusz Ciszek pointed out, there are researchers who separate national security and state security. However, he, like the majority of scientists in Poland, recognized: *national security as well as state security can be treated as equivalent terms, although there are also authors who distinguish the meaning of these categories* (Ciszek, 2012: 43).
- ^[111] It should be emphasized that some of the researchers go beyond the research areas outlined in the table – sometimes they also have publications on internal security, but for the most part they deal with the indicated issues.