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ВПЛИВ ПАНДЕМІЇ COVID-19 НА СОЦІАЛЬНО-ЕКОНОМІЧНУ БЕЗПЕКУ УКРАЇНИ

Анотація: у статті обґрунтовано, що пандемія COVID-19 стала найбільшою реальною загрозою соціально-економічній безпеці не тільки України, а й світової спільноти за останні десятиліття. Розкрито поняття «загроза соціально-економічній безпеці». Проведено динамічний аналіз ряду показників соціально-економічного розвитку країни в контексті визначення негативного впливу пандемії на національну економіку. Систематизовано внутрішні та зовнішні ризики соціально-економічній безпеці України. Обґрунтовано необхідність впровадження ряду регуляторних заходів з метою попередження загроз соціально-економічній безпеці України та зменшення їх негативного впливу.

Ключові слова: пандемія, соціально-економічна безпека, виклики та загрози, національна економіка, державна регуляторна політика.

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THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SECURITY OF UKRAINE

Abstract: the article substantiates that the COVID-19 pandemic has become the biggest real threat to the socio-economic security not only of Ukraine but also of the world community in recent decades. The concept of "threat to socio-economic security" is revealed. A dynamic analysis of a number of indicators of socio-economic development of the country in the context of determining the negative impact of the pandemic on the national economy. The internal and external risks to the social and economic security of Ukraine are systematized. The necessity of introduction of a number of regulatory measures for the purpose of prevention of threats to social and economic safety of Ukraine and reduction of their negative influence is substantiated.

Key words: pandemic, socio-economic security, challenges and threats, national economy, state regulatory policy.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the imperfection of national crisis management systems, the unpreparedness of countries to effectively combat the large-scale epidemic, and created a number of diverse threats to the socio-economic security of states. Timely assessment of threats posed by a pandemic is aimed at changing the model of responding to challenges to the socio-economic security of the state. At the same time, ensuring the timely detection of potential and real threats to the socio-economic security of the country is necessary in order to minimize and prevent the causes of their manifestation, to develop a set of preventive measures.

Ensuring the socio-economic security of the state can be rightly defined as the organization of the socio-economic system of the country, in which it is able to identify potential and real threats, take measures to counteract the transformation of potential threats into real ones, hinder the implementation of real threats, slow down and implement threats, that is to eliminate or mitigate the negative changes that have already occurred in the system.

The category "threat" is one of the key in the conceptual and categorical apparatus of socio-economic security. The threat to the socio-economic security of the country should be considered as processes and phenomena occurring in the external and internal environment of its operation, which in the presence of a certain combination of conditions and circumstances in the country can cause destructive changes in the socio-economic system adverse effects [1]. At the same time, socio-economic security can be rightly defined as a state of protection of the country and national interests from external and internal, real and potential threats, which achieves economic independence, stability and stability of the socio-economic system.

During 2016–2019, the level of social and economic security of Ukraine, even in the face of new challenges facing the country, was characterized by restrained dynamics. This is confirmed, first of all, by the insignificant growth of key macroeconomic indicators. According to the results of 2016, real GDP increased by 2.4%, in 2017 - 2.5%, in 2018 - 3.4%. In 2019, real GDP decreased by 0.2 percentage points compared to the previous year and amounted to 3.2% [2]. The growth of the level of economic independence and stability of the socio-economic system of the country is also confirmed by the improvement of Ukraine's position in international rankings. In particular, in the ranking of Doing Business-2020 Ukraine took 64th place among 190 countries (in the previous ranking - 71st place) [3]. This was the best result in recent years (Fig. 1).

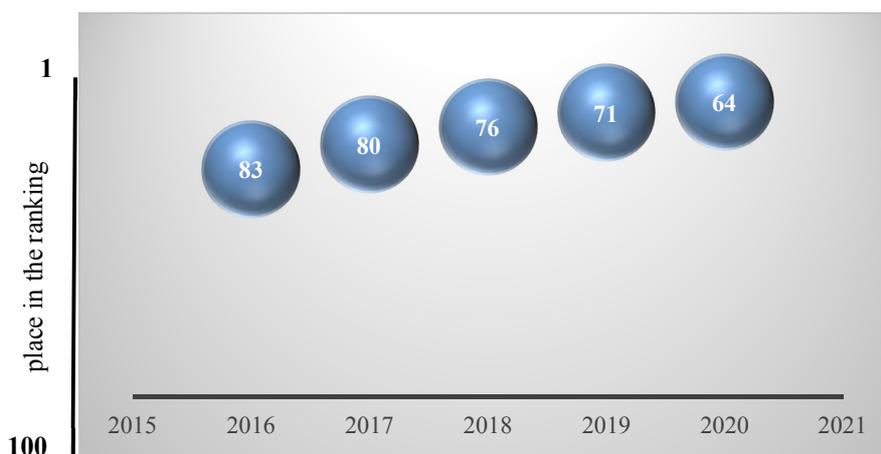


Fig. 1. Dynamics of Ukraine's position in the international ranking of Doing Business
 Source: compiled by the authors according to [3]

The COVID-19 pandemic has become the biggest real threat to the socio-economic security not only of Ukraine but also of the world community in recent decades. The sharp decline in economic activity as a result of quarantine measures has led to a slowdown in economic development with a projected decline in GDP, a reduction in consumer activity and production in general.

According to statistics, the fall in real GDP, taking into account the seasonal factor in the second quarter of 2020 compared to the first quarter was 9.9%, which negatively affected the level of socio-economic security of Ukraine [2].

The main threats to the socio-economic security of Ukraine in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic can be rightly identified: long-term continuation and strengthening of internal quarantine measures; lack of a clear anti-crisis action plan to support the economy and protect the country's population during the pandemic; a deep decline in economic activity in the main trading partners of Ukraine, respectively, a significant deterioration in world commodity markets [4].

In the absence of effective measures to overcome these threats, the socio-economic system of Ukraine will face complex internal and external risks. The most significant internal risks to social and economic security can be identified: the growth of the state budget deficit, cash gaps in the Pension Fund of Ukraine and other state social insurance funds; further decline in effective demand of the population; rising unemployment due to the return of workers and the dismissal of workers; acceleration of inflation; increasing bankruptcy of small and medium-sized businesses due to a critical decline in demand, loss of markets, the rupture of traditional supply chains, etc [5]. The main external risks include: lack of external financing and reduced access to international capital markets; narrowing of foreign markets due to high competition.

In order to reduce the destabilizing impact of the pandemic on the socio-economic sphere and increase the level of socio-economic security of Ukraine in the implementation of state regulatory policy it is necessary: develop packages of anti-crisis measures aimed at social support of the population, in particular the most vulnerable; support for small and medium business; develop measures to improve the efficiency of public administration; provide state support for research focused on innovation; to promote the use of digital technologies in order to ensure the performance of work and distance learning [6].

The COVID-19 pandemic is rightly identified as a real threat to Ukraine's socio-economic security. Its destructive effects are extremely critical and cause a chain reaction of imbalance of all macroeconomic indicators of socio-economic development. The dual impact of the epidemic requires finding a balance between protecting the population and developing the economy. In this context, the implementation of the outlined regulatory measures aimed at preventing threats to the socio-economic security of Ukraine and reducing their negative impact is of paramount importance.

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