



Session 1: Conceptual Evolution of Security and Strategy

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SECURITY AND STRATEGY: CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT

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Outline

- Introduction
- Evolution of the Concept of Security
- Characteristics of the Concept of Security
- The Connection between Security and Development
- Evolution of the Concept of Strategy
- Conclusion

Introduction

- Various issues regarding the concept of security
- Lack of academic consensus on the definition
- Methodology
 - Who or what is the object of security (whose security?): the state, the regime, society, or the individual/citizen?
- On the wholistic nature of the concept
 - Is it possible to obtain “security” without identifying and addressing all of the important issues?
- On the transparency and honesty of the process
 - Is it possible to solve such a significant problem without a broad-based and healthy exchange between leaders and citizens?

Evolution of the Concept of Security

- The term “security” comes from the Latin *securitas*, which comes from *securus*, literally “carefree”
- To be free from fear, violence, and have fundamental needs met
- Security is a corollary of the concept of sovereignty
- Stems from the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia that put an end to the Thirty Years’ War
- State security led to the security of the regime
- Human security, a new concept in 1994
- The citizen as the focal point of security
- Association between state sovereignty and the DUTY to protect citizens
- Focus on connections between violence, development and governance

Characteristics of the Concept of Security

- Security is a collective good:
 - Local, national, subregional, regional, and worldwide dimensions
 - “Localizing” the consequences of a security failure is no longer an alternative
- External and internal domains are inseparable: internal security and external security are interconnected
- Nation-states are no longer the only, or even the primary, stakeholders
- Human security and good governance are relevant
- Security is not a zero-sum game:
 - Cooperation versus competition
 - Everyone benefits from global security.

The Connection between Security and Development

- RSS is part of a sound public affairs management approach
- Measures to improve security and those to promote development are mutually reinforcing.
- What poor people desire above all is to know they are protected from violence and their property is protected; these two issues are essential for the creation of all productive economic or social activity.
- Ensuring the protection of the state and the communities that comprise it contributes to the establishment of a safe and favorable environment, reduces poverty, and enhances social cohesion.

Evolution of the Concept of Strategy

- Strategy = a calculated relationship between the end, the ways, and the means
- A rational means used by society to mobilize all its goods and resources to protect its interests
- A planning tool that provides societies with the ability to shape their future rather than to react to it, and provides a solid framework for allocating scarce resources
- Without a strategic framework that defines priorities, it is difficult to ensure a nation's security
- Two fundamental strategies for increasing human security: strengthen legal standards and create the capacity to enforce those standards
- A strategic decision must overcome four obstacles: volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity.

Conclusion

- The notions of security and strategy have evolved, as has the notion of war
- An effective security sector helps establish the legitimacy of state institutions
- It must reinforce the state's image as protector and service provider, rather than predator
- Security is an essential component of sound public affairs management
- Having a large number of stakeholders involved requires frank and transparent cooperation
- The development of effective national security strategies is more indispensable than ever in helping African countries overcome their recurring challenges.

Thank you for your attention

Questions?



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