

# THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

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## ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

### **THE PROBLEM OF SOCIAL SECURITY IN MODERN AZERBAIJANI SOCIETY (SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS)**

Specialty: 6310.01 – Social Problems

Field of science: Sociology

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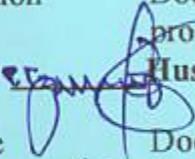
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## INTRODUCTION

### **Relevance and degree of scientific elaboration of the problem.**

Under modern conditions, the world development dynamism, as well as tensions and uncertainties are growing, and major changes are occurring in the realities of definite societies. This raises the security issue both on a global scale and in individual societies, including social security, since security is one of the most essential needs in human life.

When interpreting security as protecting the most important values against the threat, national security is primarily defined as the protection of an individual (citizen), the state, and society, as well as national values and lifestyle from political, military, economic, and other threats. The main principles of its provision are the rule of law, ensuring vital interests, the reciprocal responsibility of citizens, society, and the state, and integration into the international security system. In any case, when talking about national security, the essence of national interests should be clarified. From this standpoint, President Ilham Aliyev's statement "*Our foreign policy is very active and flexible. It is based on national interests, which form our top priority,*"<sup>1</sup> expressed in his speech at a meeting on the results of socio-economic development in the first quarter of 2015 and the forthcoming tasks, proves once again the urgency of our research.

A threat to national security is a potential threat and may classify people by spheres of their activity (political, economic, social, legal, environmental, demographic, etc.), origin (foreign or domestic), participation level (objective or subjective, purposeful or compulsory), and, ultimately, the realization probability (potential and actual).<sup>2</sup>

Some general security-associated issues are reflected in the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, appropriate laws, and speeches of the heads of state.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Republic of Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev's speech on the results of the first quarter of 2015 // Azerbaijan newspaper. - April 11, 2015. - № 75 (6929). - p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Hasanov, A.M. National Development and Security Policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Baku, Letterpress Publishing House, 2011, 440 p, 74 p

<sup>3</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Official publication. In Azerbaijani. Baku: Law, 2009, 67 p.; Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on National Security.

Theoretical and methodological social security issues have been studied by M.Dzliyev, A.A.Ursul, V.Zhmerenetsky, V.Letinovsky, K.Polilyakh, V.Kovalyov, S. Kravchenko, Y.Kuznetsov, S.Petrov, D.Proyector, R.Yapovsky et al.<sup>4</sup>

Among local researchers, whose works are devoted to the political analysis of national development and security issues at the international, regional, and local levels, A.Hasanov, G.Pashayeva, E.Hajaliyev, R. Mehdiyev, A. Hasanov, Sh. Ibadov, M. Ibrahimov, et al. can be indicated.<sup>5</sup>

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August 3, 2004; Aliyev, H.A. Independence of Azerbaijan is Eternal: [in 46 volumes] / H. Aliyev. - Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 2. - 1997. - 601 p.; Aliyev, H.A. Independence of Azerbaijan is Eternal: [in 46 volumes] / H. Aliyev. - Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 1. - 1997. - 606 p.; Aliyev, H.A. Independence of Azerbaijan is Eternal: [in 46 volumes] / H. Aliyev. - Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 3. - 1997. - 488 p.; Aliyev, I. H. Speech at the Munich International Security Conference on Security of Natural Resources and Changing Global Power // Azerbaijan newspaper. - February 7, 2010, № 28. p. 2; Aliyev, I. H. Development is Our Goal. [in 105 volumes] / I. H. Aliyev Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 72. - 2018. 399 [1]; Aliyev, I. H. Development is Our Goal. [in 105 volumes] / I. H. Aliyev Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 73. - 2018. 399 [1] p.; Aliyev, I. H. Development is Our Goal. [in 105 volumes]. / I. H. Aliyev Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 70. - 2018. - 390 [2] p.; Aliyev, I. H. Development is Our Goal. [in 105 volumes] / I. H. Aliyev Baku: Azerneshr, - V. 71. - 2018. 407 p.

<sup>4</sup> Dzliyev, M.I. Security Issues: Theoretical and Methodological Aspects. / M.I. Dzliyev, A.L. Romanovich, A.D. Ursul. Moscow: Drug, - 2001. - 191 p.; Zhmerenetsky, V.F. The Theory of Social System Security. Textbook. / V.F. Zhmerenetsky, V.V. Letunovsky, K.D. Polulyakh. Moscow: NOU VPO, - 2012. - 184 p.; Kovalev, V.N. Social Sphere Management Sociology: textbook for universities. / Moscow: Academic Project, - 2013. - 240 p.; Kravchenko, S.A. Sociology of Risk and Security. Textbook and Practicum for Academic Bachelor's Degree students. / Moscow: Yurayt, - 2017. - 302 p.; Kuznetsov, V.N. The Russia Development Ideology. / Moscow: Book and Business, - 2010. - 500 p.; National Interests and Security Issues in a Changing World // Seminar Materials. Ed.-in-Ch. K.S. Gadzhiev, G.V. Kamenskaya, E.G. Solovyov. M: IMMORAN, 2003, 128 p.; Fundamentals of the Social State: textbook for Academic Bachelor's Degree students. M.: Yurayt, 2016, 138 p.; Petrov, S. V. Social Threats and Protection Against Them. Textbook / Moscow: KnaRus, - 2017. - 272 p.; Proyector, D.M. Politics and Security. / Moscow: Science, -1988. -190 p.; Prokhozheva, A.A. General Theory of National Security: Textbook. / Moscow: RAGS, - 2002. - 320 p.; Yapovsky, R. Global Changes and Social Security. / Moscow: Bibliopolical Publishing, - 1999. - 358 p.

<sup>5</sup> Hasanov, A.M. Modern International Relations and Foreign Policy of Azerbaijan. Baku, East-West, 2007, 704 p.; Pashayeva, G.A. Regional Conflicts in Europe and

Foreign researchers V. Bykov, A. Logunov, A. Makeev, Kan Sam Gu, Oymen Onur, et al. have studied national development and security issues at the international, local, and global levels.<sup>6</sup>

Social security and its various areas have been studied by local researchers. Of them, S.Mehbaliyev and R.Isgandarov studied employment issues, and A.Naghiyev, R.Murshudov, H.Rajabli, S.Mammadova, and R.Mammadova – the issues of improving social protection.<sup>7</sup>

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the South Caucasus in the Modern Period and Diplomatic-Political Struggle Around Their Settlement: monograph / G.A. Pashayeva. - Baku: Science and Education, - 2013. - 392 p.; Hajaliyev, E.B. Political Democracy and Political Modernization of Society: monograph / E.B. Hajaliyev. - Baku: Translator, - 2015. - 356 p.; Mehdiyev, R.A. Following the Way of National Ideology, Statehood, and Independence (June 1971-June 2001): [in 2 volumes] / R.A. Mehdiyev. Baku: East-West, - V. 1.- 2008. - 582 p; Hasanov, A.M National Development and Security Policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan / A. Hasanov. - Baku: Letterpress, - 2011. – 440 p.; Hasanov, A.M. Geopolitics: Theories, Methods, Actors, History, Characteristics, Concepts: textbook / A.M. Hasanov. - Baku: Aypara-3, - 2010.- 604 p; Hasanov, A. M. Modern International Relations and Foreign Policy of Azerbaijan. Textbook / Ali Hasanov. - Baku: Azerbaijan Publishing House, - 2005. - 752 p.; Hasanov, H. The Role of National Leader Heydar Aliyev in Exposing the Policy of Armenian Aggression and Genocide Against Azerbaijanis // Khalg newspaper. - December 13, 2013. - № 348. - p. 2; Ibrahimov, M. The Factor of National Interest in Foreign Policy // Baku: - Revival – 21st Century journal, - 2010. July, August, 147-148 / pp. 202-208; Ibadov, Sh. Globalization, Modern State, and New Requirements // Baku: - History and Its Issues, Theory, Science, Methodology journal, -2014. № 4, - pp. 197-203;

<sup>6</sup> Bykov, V.N. International Security: Past, Present, Future. / Moscow: IMEMO RAS, - 2006. – 219 p.; Logunov, A.B. Regional National Security. / Moscow: Textbook for universities, - 2009. – 432 p.; Kan Sam Gu. Ethno-National Conflicts in the Caucasus and Central Asia in the Context of Geopolitical Position. / Moscow: IMEMO RAS, - 2005. – 198 p.; Makeev, A.B. Politics and Security. Monograph. / Moscow: Schit-M, - 1998. - 270 p.; Oymen, Onur. National Benefits: National and State Security in the Age of Globalization. / Istanbul: Remzi Kitapevi, - 2005. – 484 p.

<sup>7</sup> Mehbaliyev, S.S. Employment. / S.S. Mehbaliyev, R.K. Isgandarov. - Baku: Chashioghlu, - 2001. – 80 p.; Naghiyev, A.T. The Main Areas of Improving Social Protection. / A.T. Naghiyev, R.I. Murshudov - Baku: Sada, - 2002 - 134 p.; Nagiyev, N.T. Constitutional and Legal Bases of Social Security in the Republic of Azerbaijan: monograph / N.T. Naghiyev. - Baku: Law, - 2010. - 180 p.; Rajabli, H.M. Social Protection System of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Textbook for universities. / H.M. Rajabli. - Baku: MBM, - 2012. – 408 p.; Mammadova, S.D. Social State Models (on the Example of Developed Countries / Baku: EUROPE Publishing House, - 2019. - 208 p.; Mammadova, R.O. Introduction to Social Work. Textbook for universities./

I.Rzayev and T.Sardarov studied social security in the context of socio-economic development, M.M. Guluzada and R. Majidbeyli – on the background of human resource management, and T.Allahyarova A.N. Abbasbayli, Sh. Ibadov, and I.R.Mammadzad – in the plane of globalization.<sup>8</sup>

Among foreign scientists, D. Akimov, T.Alekseeva, I.Bogdanova, N.Gafiatullina, V.Gafner, L.Zabara, S.Petrov, F.Vereschagina, S.Samygin, A.Sushko, V. Sushko, L.Yakushev, and many others have studied some social security areas.<sup>9</sup>

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R.O. Mammadova. Baku, Ecoprint, - 2019. - 208 p.

<sup>8</sup> Rzayev, I. M. Sustainable Socio-Economic Development of Regions in the Republic of Azerbaijan: Current Situation and Prospectives: monograph / I.M. Rzayev. - Baku: Elm, - 2010. - 468 p.; Sardarov, T.A. Issues of Regulating Social Infrastructure of Regions in the Republic of Azerbaijan: monograph / T.A. Sardarov. - Baku: Elm, - 2010. - 270 p.; Guluzada, M.M. The Human Factor and the Acceleration of Socio-Economic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan: monograph / M.M. Guluzade; - Baku: Nurlar NPM, - 2015. - 304 p.; Majidbayli, R.Kh. Human Resource Management: the Emergence, Concept, and Historical Development of Human Resource Management / R.X. Majidbayli.- Baku: Bilik, - 2013.- 112 p.; Allahyarova, T.B. Globalization, Integration, and Opportunities for New Solutions to Environmental Problems // Republican Scientific-Practical Conference Environmental Problems of Azerbaijan, - Baku: - ABU, - 2005, pp.36-40.; Abbasbayli, A.N. National State in a Globalizing World: textbook / A.N. Abbasbayli. - Baku: - Science and Education, - 2015. - 228 p.; Ibadov, Sh. Globalization, Modern State, and New Requirements // Baku: - History and Its Issues, Theory, Science, Methodology journal, -2014. № 4, - pp. 197-203. Mammadzada, I.R. On the Relevance of Philosophy in the Context of Globalization and Modernization [Text] / I.R. Mammadzada.- Baku: Taknur, - 2009. - 220 p.;

<sup>9</sup> Akimov, D.I. Social Security and the Role of Social Marketing in Its Support // Methodology, Theory, and Practice of Sociological Analysis of Modern Society: Coll. Of Sc. Practices. - Issue 16. - Kh.: V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University. - 2010, pp. 290-292.; Alekseeva, T.A. Social Security of an Individual in the Period of Unstable Development of the Social System of Russia // Social Policy and Sociology. 2011. No. 10 (76), pp. 154-161.; Bagdanov, I.Ya. Security of an Individuum and Socium as the Basis for Joint Social Policy of the State and Society. M.: Norma, 2015, 160 p. ; Gafner, V.V., Petrov, S.V., Zabara, L.I., Social Dangers and Protection from Them M: Flinta, Nauka, 2012, 320 p.; Vereschagina, F.V. Samygin, S.I., Gafiatullina, N.Kh. Rudenko, A.M., Volkov, Yu.G. Sociology of Security. Textbook. M.: RIOR, Infra-M, 2017, 264 p.; Samygin, S.I., Vereschagina, A.V., Kolesnikova, G.I. Social Security. M: Science-Spectrum, Dashkov and Co. 2012, 360 p.; Sushko, V, Sushko, A. Social Security and Well-Being in Russia. M.: Lap Lambert Academic

Issues of information, environmental, and women's social security have been studied by S. Barmen, V. Burkov, A. Schepkin, A. Kukushkina, G. Sillaste, F. Fyodorov, and other researchers.<sup>10</sup>

I.Lavrenko, O.Novikov, A.Rahimov, R.Hasanov (from the sociological standpoint) et al. have studied social security issues by countries.<sup>11</sup>

An analysis of the existing literature sources shows that the authors have studied various aspects of the issue, but from the sociological standpoint, it requires studying at the thesis research level.

**The object and subject of the research.** The research object is the social processes determining the security of the Republic of Azerbaijan under modern conditions, and the subject is a sociological analysis of the social security issue occupying an important place in the security of our society.

**The goals and objectives of the study.** The key research goal is to study the theoretical and methodological aspects of ensuring social security in various spheres of Azerbaijani society in the modern period, evaluate them from the standpoint of empirical sociological research, and give recommendations to solve existing problems. To achieve this goal, the following tasks should be solved during the research:

- determine the content and essence of the social security concept, analyze its interaction with and impact on other national

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Publishing. 2012, 144 p.; Yakushev, L.P. Social Protection: Textbook. M: Editorial Board of the Pension journal, 1998, 159 p.

<sup>10</sup> Barmen, S. Developing Information Security Rules. / Moscow: Williams, - 2002. - 208 p.; Burkov, V.N. Environmental Safety. / V.N. Burkov, A.V. Schepkin. Moscow: IPU RAS, - 2003. - 92 p.; Kukushkina, A.V. Environmental Safety, Disarmament, and Military Activity of States: International Legal Aspects. / Moscow: LKI, - 2008. - 176 p.; Sillaste, G.G., Woman as an Object and Subject of Social Security // Moscow: Sociological Research, - 1998, - No. 12. Pp. 62-72; Fedorov, F.V. Information Security in the Global Political Process. / Moscow: MGIMO, - 2006. - 220 p.

<sup>11</sup> Logunov, A.B. Regional National Security. / Moscow: University textbook, - 2009. - 432 p.; Lavrenenko, I.M. State Social Policy of the Russian Federation: Transformation Experience and Issues (80s - first half of 90s of the 20th century): Author's Abstract. Thes. Ph. D. in History. M: 2000, 392 p.; Novikova, O. Social Security in Ukraine: Opportunities for Human Development. Monograph / Kiev: Lap Lambert Academic Publishing, - 2012. - 172 p.; Rahimov, A.A. Transformation Processes and the Issue of National Security in Azerbaijan. / A.A. Rahimov, R.M. Hasanov. Baku: INFO, - 2003. - 150 p.

- security aspects, justify widening opportunities for affecting these manifestations as an essential need of the time,
- characterize social security as an important socio-historical phenomenon, consider the factors affecting its formation and improvement as a system and the possibility of changing them,
  - comprehensively study the measures taken to ensure national security in Azerbaijan after gaining independence, including social security, identify the challenges, achievements, and problems in this field,
  - track the dynamics of ensuring social security in the modern Azerbaijani society, appropriately summarize the results of the work done to solve the related problems, determine the issues to be solved, study the ways of their solution,
  - show the role of scientifically developed social policy in ensuring and improving social security and study the opportunities and mechanisms to affect the economic and cultural development of the country for their solution,
  - consider the steps to ensure the security of our country, including social security, with the end of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which has been a threat to the national security of Azerbaijan for almost 30 years, as a result of the 44-day war, which have been taken fort his period and to be taken in the future.

**Research methods.** A structural-functional method forms the main theoretical and methodological basis of the thesis, which is among the key methodological approaches in modern social sciences. The study systematicity, interconnection of events, search for contradictions and sequences in development, and generalization methods have also been used in the research. The theoretical framework of the thesis also comprises the official regulations on the national security of the Republic of Azerbaijan and other sources forming the basis of the policy of our state. Speeches, statements, and interviews of national leader Heydar Aliyev and President Ilham Aliyev occupy an important place in the research database forming its theoretical and methodological framework.

**The main provisions to defend.** The main provisions defended in the thesis are:

1. The process of ensuring security is closely linked to the national development strategy, security system, and the concept of national interests.
2. The Azerbaijani society security problem existed before the establishment of independence, and the measures were taken in this regard according to that period.
3. The establishment of the independent Azerbaijani state on October 8, 1991, and the governance of the principle of ensuring national security served to the development of Azerbaijani society. Thereat, the complicated social atmosphere, created by the First Nagorno-Karabakh War, has led to a severe social situation.
4. One of the key objectives of Azerbaijan's national development and security policy is the state's territorial integrity. The analysis of historical sources shows that the essence of Armenia's aggression and territorial claims against the Azerbaijani state is to create its own state at the expense of other lands and then expand the territory of this state in various ways, realize the dream of a 'Great Armenia'.
5. Currently, ensuring the social security of the population remains among the important issues of social policy in our country. The adopted state programs and various projects, aimed at arranging the social protection system according to the requirements of the day, further improving the pension system, and addressing other similar issues, are implemented to raise the social security level.
6. Employment, which is an important social security factor, depends on the economic situation of the state, the peaceful environment in the country, population density, diversity of relief, climatic conditions of the territory, cooperation with international organizations, and other issues.
7. If successfully implementing social, economic, and cultural reforms ensures the dynamic development of society, these reforms can be considered as an important factor in both the strengthening of statehood and the progress of society.

**The scientific novelty of the research.** The novelty of the thesis study is as follows:

- Ensuring social security in Azerbaijan is assessed as a key indicator of national security; the use of successful domestic and foreign policy opportunities to ensure more optimal social security in Azerbaijan under the conditions of globalization is justified,
- The social protection system, which is an important field of social security, is studied, its legal framework is analyzed, and certain recommendations and suggestions are made in this direction,
- The issue of social security in modern Azerbaijani society is analyzed through public opinion polls.

**The theoretical and practical significance of the research.** The thesis provisions may be useful for the scientific theoretical study of various aspects of the modern Azerbaijani society security problem, as well as implementing practical solutions to this problem, more optimally improving it. The study findings, suggestions, and recommendations can be used in various security aspects, including social security training. The work is also important in terms of measures taken by the state to strengthen the social security of the country's different populations and projects developed and implemented by various organizations.

**Scientific-theoretical and practical significance of the study.** The research content and key provisions are reflected in below-specified papers published in local and foreign journals, as well as materials of national and international scientific conferences according to the norms and requirements of the Supreme Attestation Commission (SAC) under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**The thesis work performance institution.** The research was performed at the Sociology Department of Baku State University.

**The thesis total characters and the volumes of individual sections:** 351 700 characters. The thesis consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, references, and an annex. The thesis introduction consists of 11 pages, the first, second, and third chapters contain 42, 49, and 41 pages, respectively, the conclusion consists of 6 pages, references – 16 pages, and the annex – 7 pages. In total, the thesis comprises 182 pages, 24 tables, 7 figures, 1 diagram, and 307 845 characters.

## MAIN CONTENT OF THE THESIS

The '**Introduction**' part of the thesis reflects the relevance and extent of previous research of the topic, objectives and tasks, object and subject, scientific novelty, theoretical, methodological, and empirical bases, and the scientific, theoretical, and practical significance of the research.

The first chapter, entitled '**The Key Stages and the Scientific and Theoretical Framework of Forming Social Security in Azerbaijan,**' consists of three paragraphs and is of theoretical nature. It studies the theoretical and methodological aspects of the sociological study of the issue, explains the essence, content, and specifics of the socio-historical stages of forming Azerbaijani society and the national security concept, considers in detail the key approaches to national security in the scientific literature, and specifies the place of these issues in the general structure of identification processes.

The first paragraph of this chapter, entitled '**Conceptual and Practical Framework of Social Security,**' shows that the national development strategy addresses the military-geostrategic, geopolitical, and geoeconomic situation of the country, as well as specifics of domestic economic, political, social, and spiritual development, and other similar issues.<sup>12</sup>

In the broadest sense, the national security of the state encompasses its sovereignty, ensuring the freedom, security, and integrity of all its citizens, regardless of their ethnic origin or religion. In this sense, the main targets of national security are the state – its constitutional structure, independence, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders, etc., the citizen – his/her rights and freedoms, and society – its material and spiritual wealth.<sup>13</sup>

Based on this paragraph, the following conclusions have been drawn:

1. The national development strategy reflects the key aspects and

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<sup>12</sup> Dzliev, M.I. Security Issues: Theoretical and Methodological Aspects. / M.I. Dzliev, A.L. Romanovich, A.D. Ursul. Moscow: Drug, - 2001. – 191 p., p. 161

<sup>13</sup> Prokhozheva, A.A. General Theory of National Security: Textbook / Moscow: RAGS, - 2002. – 320 p., p. 32

requirements of national development and security (internal and external), which have equal status and value, and sets as a task to create and implement separate concepts in both areas.

2. Under the conditions when national interests are formed based on the imperative of protecting the state territory, population, and natural resources, military forces act as an important attribute of the government and state power.

3. Political, economic, social, and legal measures taken by the state to protect national security from internal and external threats are related to the system and a flexible domestic and foreign policy.<sup>14</sup>

The second paragraph of the thesis' first chapter is entitled '**Ways and Specifics of Ensuring Social Security in Azerbaijan Before Independence.**' This paragraph refers to the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic and the USSR periods and shows that during the Popular Front rule, social security measures have started to be applied to various population categories within the existing opportunities of the time.

During the period of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, important work had been done in the field of social protection to improve people's housing conditions. On January 5, 1920, at the initiative of representatives of various trade-industrial, oil industry, and banking enterprises, and separate entrepreneurs, by the decision of the meeting convened under the Mayor of the city, the Committee for Reduction of Prices of the Basic-Need Food Products was established under the Mayor of Baku. The main task of the Committee was to support the low-income population of Baku. The charter prepared by the Committee was approved by the Minister of Trade, Industry, and Food on February 7, 1920. The Committee was registered on March 4.<sup>15</sup>

A new historical stage of ensuring the social security of Azerbaijani society has started after the collapse of the PFA. The formation of the USSR transformed Azerbaijani society into common Soviet society.

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<sup>14</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. National Security of the Independent Azerbaijani State: Essence and Provision. // Kazan: Knowledge Exchange in Education. Coll. Sc. Papers for March 2021. – pp. 93-97

<sup>15</sup> Azerbaijan National Encyclopedia: [in 25 volumes] / Editor-in-Chief M.K. Karimov. - Baku: Azerbaijan National Encyclopedia Scientific Center, 2007. – Special volume. 884 p., p. 239

The Azerbaijan SSR was established on April 28, 1920. Large-scale cultural construction in Azerbaijan was accompanied by a lot of mistakes and shortcomings. In his speech at the II Congress of the ACP (b) in October 1920, B. Lominadze said that "a Muslim cannot be trusted, he may be a good communist, but he is a Muslim with the spirit of Musavat in his heart."<sup>16</sup>

In general, more than 40,000 Azerbaijanis have been repressed in Azerbaijan during these years. Victims of repression were called 'enemies of the people', 'persons who may pose a threat to the national interests of the state', etc., and such cases were kept under special control. In fact, the plane of national interest is a set of completely different elements.<sup>17</sup>

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact at the end of the 20th century, the end of the political, ideological, and military confrontation between the West and the East caused a serious change in the geopolitical situation on a global scale.

Thus, we consider it expedient to summarize the issues related to the ways and specifics of ensuring social security in Azerbaijan in the period before independence as the author's approach:

1. In our opinion, during the twenty-three months of the Popular Front rule, its leaders have done a great job in the field of social security, laid the foundation of social security in Azerbaijan, and tried to improve the living standards of the people as a whole.<sup>18</sup>

2. In the 20s and 90s of the 20th century, a perfect Soviet education system was created in Azerbaijan. Along with the development of science, literature, and art, ensuring social and political security served not only the national interest but also their suppression under the general name of 'serving Soviet society.'

The third paragraph of the first chapter is entitled '**The Concept**

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<sup>16</sup> Azerbaijan Under the Soviet Regime Conditions [Electronic resource] URL: <http://kayzen.Azərbaycan tarixi/13138/>

<sup>17</sup> Azerbaijan Under the Soviet Regime Conditions [Electronic resource] URL: <http://kayzen.Azərbaycan tarixi/13138/>

<sup>18</sup> Eyvazova, T. R. The Evolution of Azerbaijani Society in the Early 20th Century in the Context of Security. // Baku: Baku University News, Socio-Political Sciences Series, - 2015. - № 3. pp.115-124.

**of Social Security in the Independent Azerbaijani State.** The paragraph states that forming Azerbaijan's national development and security policy, its theoretical and practical framework, defining and ensuring the frames of the vital interests of an independent state, creating national security mechanisms and resources, forming socio-economic, political, and spiritual foundations of a society based on new values and principles, and other tasks became a special direction of state policy and an urgent and important issue of the general state-building. The national security of the Republic of Azerbaijan means the protection of its independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, constitutional order, national interests of the people and the country, the rights and interests of the people, society, and the state from internal and external threats.<sup>19</sup>

The main point in ensuring national security is the protection of state territories. Unfortunately, in early 1992, the Armenian armed forces occupied most of the Azerbaijani settlements in the mountainous part of Karabakh. About 20,000 Azerbaijani citizens were killed, 100,000 were wounded, and 50,000 our compatriots were disabled in the First Karabakh War. More than 1 million Azerbaijanis have been expelled from their native lands and are currently refugees and internally displaced persons.<sup>20</sup>

On September 27, 2020, Azerbaijani statehood has decided to launch a counterattack to ensure compliance with international law and liberate the occupied territories. The righteous war of the Republic of Azerbaijan, known as the 44-day war, ended with the bloodshed of our martyrs and the liberation of the vast majority of our occupied lands as a result of the sound policy of the head of the country.

Thus, all the ideas in this paragraph can be summarized as follows:

**1. National development and security policy can be stable or changeable depending on the general situation in the state and society**

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<sup>19</sup> Azerbaijan National Encyclopedia: [in 25 volumes] / Editor-in-Chief M.K. KariMOV. - Baku: Azerbaijan National Encyclopedia Scientific Center, 2007. – Special volume. 884 p., p. 306

<sup>20</sup> The Role of National Leader Heydar Aliyev in Exposing the Policy of Armenian Aggression and Genocide Against Azerbaijanis // Khalg newspaper. - December 13, 2013. - № 348. - p. 2

and the level of development; it is updated and improved according to national needs and linked to the solution of key state tasks.

2. Ensuring security requires functioning a hierarchical security system, unified on a global scale. The operation of the unified hierarchical security system is directly related to the society's activity under the conditions of peace and friendship. A stable society pursues a stable policy. Regional communications, socio-economic relations, avoidance of strategies leading to conflicts of political interests, the neighborhood policy of states may contribute to the global hierarchical security system.

The main features of the national security of the Republic of Azerbaijan are protecting national interests in domestic and foreign policy, increasing the number of friendly states according to national interests, pursuing the policy of peace, restoring territorial integrity, preventing economic diversions, ensuring the healthy development of the nation, and protecting material and spiritual wealth. Social security is an integral part of national security, one of its important areas.<sup>21</sup>

The second chapter is entitled '**Legal Framework of Social Security in Azerbaijan and Specifics of Implementing It in Economy.**' This chapter discusses the social, economic, and political foundations, as well as the important components of social security. The second chapter is divided into three paragraphs, performing separate analyses.

The first paragraph of this chapter is entitled '**Forming and Developing the Legal Framework of Social Security in the Republic of Azerbaijan.**' This paragraph notes that along with the principle of the importance of the transition to a new economic system for economic development, put forward by Heydar Aliyev back after the restoration of state independence, he identified ensuring social interests of the population, especially the social protection of low-income people, and the focus of economic potential primarily on the people's welfare as one of the strategic tasks facing the state in the period of transition.

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<sup>21</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. National Security of the Independent Azerbaijani State: Essence and Provision. // Kazan: Knowledge Exchange in Education. Coll. Sc. Papers for March 2021. – pp. 93-97

In most cases, depending on the situation, the available financial resources, and goals and priorities, the issue of properly weighing social protection elements is the main problem of the state governments. The most optimal solution to this problem is a direct indicator of the government's effective social policy towards its citizens.

Thus, we summarize the conclusions of this paragraph as follows:

1. Social protection may be provided in the form of cash benefits and pensions, in natural form, as well as through various services provided to persons who are the social protection objects. Another form of social protection is social insurance. In less developed countries, where social security contributions are low, such payments are mostly made by employers. It is concluded that when any social insurance case occurs, the coverage is not enough to pay the damage caused to the insured in full.

2. Conditions have been created to implement H. Aliyev's ideas in the social sphere, as in all spheres of our statehood, further expand measures of social protection of the population, and perform important reforms in this field. As a result of the socio-economic policy pursued under the leadership of President Ilham Aliyev, the social protection system is being improved according to rapidly changing paradigms and in response to the processes occurring in the modern world.

3. As in other economically and socially developing countries, economic aspects of arranging social services in the Republic of Azerbaijan are financed from the state budget, funds obtained from paid social services, donations from legal entities and individuals, grants, as well as other sources prescribed by law.<sup>22</sup>

The second paragraph of the second chapter is entitled '**Employment Factor in Ensuring Social Security.**' This paragraph shows that effective and proper employment is one of the main priority areas of the social policy pursued by a state governed by the rule of law. The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Employment states: Employ-

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<sup>22</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. Dynamic Reformation of the Social Sphere in the Republic of Azerbaijan, Aimed at Solving Social Problems. // Materials of the Republican Scientific-Practical Conference Actual Issue of the Time and Social Sciences dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology, the Baku State University, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, - Baku: - 2016, - pp. 441-443

ment is any activity of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan, foreigners, and stateless persons, which does not contradict the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan and generates income (profit).<sup>23</sup>

There are three key principles in solving the problem of employment. The first principle is the right granted to citizens by the country's legislation or the constitution.

The second principle is to create the necessary conditions for the citizen to exercise this constitutional right of the state. This is enshrined in another legislative act of the state. Thus, conditions are created for all citizens to freely choose labor activity and the area of employment.<sup>24</sup>

The third principle is a comprehensive approach to solving the employment problem. Thus, in the current situation, the state does not apply a method of centralized employment. The employment system is being implemented gradually.

Thus, we can summarize the provisions of this paragraph as the author's approach:

1. Social policy also promotes the development of cultural relations between people and the realization of these relations at the local level. This, in turn, creates the basis for the optimal development of a human and his/her creativity. Thus, along with the changes in the area adopted as an important one, social policy provides for taking advantage of existing new opportunities.<sup>25</sup>

2. The reason for the current imbalance is not low living standards but high consumer prices. Today's high prices are set by the monopolistic wholesalers sponsored by some officials. We consider that the state should maintain a balance between the minimum subsistence level consumer loans and improve control over monopolistic wholesalers.

3. We consider the low unemployment allowances as a positive

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<sup>23</sup> The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Employment, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 170 of July 2, 2001

<sup>24</sup> Employment Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2006-2015) approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 1068 of October 26, 2005.

<sup>25</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. Employment as an Important Factor of Social Security // Baku-Geostrategy international socio-political, scientific-theoretical journal, 2021. № 01 (61). pp.128-132

aspect since, when they are high, able-bodied persons of working age will be lazy to work and will have a chance to live at the expense of the state's 'charity'.

The last paragraph of the second chapter, entitled '**Social Protection of the Population as a Key Element of Social Security**', showed that the social protection system, which is an important component of social security, began to take shape as a publicly significant and legalized phenomenon in Western European countries (Germany, Austria, Hungary, Finland, and Russia) in the second half of the 19th and early 20th centuries. The first social law on the establishment of such system was adopted in Germany by Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, and soon some other European countries began to benefit from this experience. The Social Protection and Social Security terms in broad interpretation were first used in the early 20th century in the United States, and then in other developed countries.<sup>26</sup>

The literal translation of the "*Social Security*" term from English is social security, social guarantee, social protection.

At this point, the provisions of Article 38 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the right of citizens to social security attract attention: "Everyone has the right for social protection. The minimum sum of pensions and social allowances is specified by law. The state creates opportunities for development of charitable activity, voluntary social insurance, and other forms of social protection."<sup>27</sup>

We can say that the modern social protection system of each state consists of three elements: social assistance, social insurance, and social allowances.

This paragraph allows us to conclude that

1. The social insurance practice has created the optimal form of such relations: a specialized entity (insurer) creates an insurance fund from the premiums paid by the insured persons and provides them with insurance coverage for losses.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Rajabli, H.M. Social Protection System of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Textbook for universities. / H.M. Rajabli. - Baku: MBM, - 2012. – 408 p., p. 11

<sup>27</sup> Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan // adopted on November 12, 1995 (as amended on August 24, 2002). - Baku: Law, - 2002, - 48 p, p. 15

<sup>28</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. Food Safety as an Important Social Aspect. // BSU Faculty of

2. Problems remain in the pension sector. Thus, there is a mismatch between the amount of the pension and the social insurance premiums paid.

3. Medical insurance, which is one of the forms of social protection of the population in the Republic of Azerbaijan, guarantees the provision of the population of the Republic of Azerbaijan with medical services and medications to protect their health when an insured event occurs.<sup>29</sup>

The third chapter of the research, entitled '**New Prospects in Ensuring Social Security in Azerbaijan,**' analyzes the main indicators of applying social security under modern conditions. Prospects for ensuring social security are specified. Shortcomings in this area are analyzed.

The first paragraph of the third chapter is entitled '**Sociol-Economic and Cultural Projects as a Key Factor in Implementing Social Security.**' This paragraph covers areas, significant for the development and implementation of social and economic projects. The place and role of these projects in ensuring social security are determined.

The formation of human capital in education is considered an important point on the strategic roadmap for the development of the national economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan.<sup>30</sup>

From this point of view, President Ilham Aliyev's speech at the solemn ceremony dedicated to the 90th anniversary of the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy (ASOA) is noteworthy: "*We strive to pay constant attention to this field in Azerbaijan and undertake practical measures, foster logistical support of educational system and most importantly, increase the educational quality as well. This process should be and is conducted in consistent, harmonized, and systematic ways both at*

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Social Sciences and Psychology, Education and Society. Materials of the International Scientific-Practical Conference of Young Researchers, - Baku: - April 20, - 2018. - pp. 290-292

<sup>29</sup> Eyvazova, T.R. Specifics of Compulsory Health Insurance in the Republic of Azerbaijan. // Odessa: Actual Issues of Philosophy and Sociology. Scientific and practical journal, - 2018, - Issue 22. - pp. 183-185

<sup>30</sup> The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan On Education, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan No. 833 of June 19, 2009.

*secondary and higher education schools.”*<sup>31</sup>

Thus, we can summarize the issues related to socio-economic and cultural projects, which are a key factor in implementing social security:

1. The State Program for Socio-Economic Development of the Regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2004-2008, 2009-2013, and 2014-2018 has been developed and implemented to ensure socio-economic development. As a result, further success in improving the living standards of the population has been achieved.

2. The victory we gained in the 44-day war started a new construction and restoration policy in Azerbaijan. Large-scale socio-economic projects are being implemented as part of the Great Return to Karabakh program. Implementing these projects will necessitate developing the social sphere in the field of social security.

3. We suppose that maintaining the allowances provided by the state to refugees and IDPs will not only stimulate their return to Karabakh but also create conditions for non-Karabakh residents to settle there.

The final, second paragraph of the third chapter is entitled ‘**The Issue of Social Security of Modern Azerbaijani Society in the National Consciousness.**’ This paragraph provides detailed information on the methodological and methodical framework and procedures of empirical research, the survey questions are analyzed in detail, and their interpretation is given. It is noted that the survey is based on the principle of zoning, and the respondents cover residents of Baku (Sabail and Yasamal districts) and surrounding settlements (Keshla, Sahil, Alat, Gizildash, Sangachal), as well as Aghstafa, Gazakh, Shamkir, Lankaran, and Ganja regions. The survey used random, unique, multi-level, and regionalized sampling and covered 397 respondents.

According to the survey results, we would like to make some suggestions, important in terms of studying the theoretical and practical aspects of the social security issue.

First, the social security issue should be reflected in the political approach. This approach should be shaped by the challenges of the modern

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<sup>31</sup> Official website of the President of Azerbaijan, official page Ilham Aliyev Attended a Ceremony Dedicated to the 90th Anniversary of the Azerbaijan State Oil Academy. November 23, 2010 URL: <https://president.az/articles/1141/print>

world, the country's development strategy, and social security.

Second, optimal social security is both a spiritual-psychological and moral issue. Thus, managing social security issues becomes more meaningful when serious attention is paid to the new aspects of governance.

Third, social security is an issue requiring a regular analysis. Attentively providing and summarizing this information, in our opinion, can help solve the social security problem.

At the end of the thesis entitled "The Issue of Social Security in Modern Azerbaijani Society (Sociological Survey)," the author put forward the following proposals as a conclusion and practical innovation:

First, we propose to reduce in visual form the working days for the working population to 4 days a week. We can spend the remaining one or two 5th and 6th days of the business week, working at home. We think it is time to move to a more optimal system to avoid a decline in labor productivity.

Second, we propose to reduce the retirement age, given the average life expectancy of 75 years in our country. Since the retirement age is set at 65 for men, at this age a person becomes tired both physically and mentally.

In the 'Conclusion' part of the thesis, the research is summed up, its provisions are generalized, and the points of scientific innovation and a number of suggestions and recommendations are given.

In the 'Annex' part of the thesis, the survey questionnaire (research tool) is provided.

**The main content of the thesis is reflected in the below author's published scientific papers:**

1. Eyvazova, T.R. Social Security Measures in the Early 20th Century. // - Baku: Civilization scientific-theoretical journal, - 2015. № 2, - pp. 183-188
2. Eyvazova, T.R. The Evolution of Azerbaijani Society in the Early 20th Century in the Context of Security. // - Baku: The Baku University News. Socio-Political Sciences Series, - 2015. - № 3. pp. 115-124
3. The Social Service Development Dynamics in the Context of Social Security of the Population. // - Samara: The Azimuth of

- Scientific Research: Pedagogy and Psychology quarterly scientific journal, - 2016, - Volume 5, № 3 (16). - pp. 362-364
4. Dynamic Reformation of Social Sphere in the Republic of Azerbaijan, Aimed at Solving Social Problems. // - Materials of the Republican Scientific-Practical Conference Actual Issue of the Time and Social Sciences dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology, the Baku State University, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan, - Baku: - 2016, - pp. 441-443
  5. Eyvazova, T.R. Ensuring Social Security is Implemented for the Benefit of Society // - BSU Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology: 25 Years (Achievements, Problems, Prospects) Materials of the Republican Scientific-Practical Conference of Young Researchers, - Baku: - April 17, 2017. - pp. 165-168
  6. Eyvazova, T.R. Food Safety as an Important Social Aspect. // - BSU Faculty of Social Sciences and Psychology, Education and Society. Materials of the International Scientific-Practical Conference of Young Researchers, - Baku: - April 20, 2018. - pp. 290-292
  7. Specifics of Compulsory Health Insurance in the Republic of Azerbaijan. // - Odessa: Actual Issues of Philosophy and Sociology. Scientific and practical journal, - 2018, - Issue 22. - pp. 183-185
  8. Arranging the Social Insurance System in the Republic of Azerbaijan. // - Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference National and Moral Values: Tradition and Modernity, dedicated to the 95th anniversary of national leader Heydar Aliyev, - Baku: - 01-02 May, - 2018. - pp. 174-177
  9. Employment as an Important Factor of Social Security // - Baku-Geostrategy, International socio-political, scientific-theoretical journal, 2021. № 1 (61). pp. 128-132
  10. National Security of the Independent Azerbaijani State: Essence and Provision. // - Kazan: Knowledge Exchange in Education. Collection of scientific papers, - for March 2021. - pp. 93-97

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