

# *Joint Security Area: Pathways to sustainable development and well-being of society through overcoming crisis situations*

by *Viacheslav Kerner\**

Humanity has repeatedly faced with global economic, socio-political, and humanitarian crises, not to mention crises at local levels, often accompanied by armed conflicts. The year 2020 was no exception and brought its unique and indelible imprint on the seemingly measured rhythm of established processes in the areas of healthcare, business and foreign economic relations, law-making, and law enforcement. COVID-19 has confidently and swiftly swept the planet, revealing all the fragility and vulnerability of the modern social “world order”, declaring war on everything that seemed familiar and stable in the daily life of every single citizen, communities, countries, and their governments. Frozen and permanently erupting military conflicts in different parts of the globe, violation of international legal and political agreements and obligations, confrontation over the possession of territories, and the ideological loyalty of their population did not stop with the end of World War II, but continue to this day and, apparently, will continue in the future, albeit acquiring new forms. Time and again, the governments of different countries are forced to settle issues related to social tensions, at times turning into a boiling point, which causes riots, and sometimes revolutionary social transformations, accompanied not only by economic losses, but also by human casualties.

Nevertheless, both biological life amazingly finds a way to revive itself, and societies adapt to new conditions, break old stereotypes and patterns of behaviour, and discover new paths to development. The most successful of them are those who are capable of taking on new challenges and transform crisis phenomena into opportunities for further development and prosperity.

This collection of articles is designed to address the multifaceted and diverse category of security, which constitutes one of the pillars of not only development and well-being, but also the existence of an individual, subjects of economic, political, and social activity, communities, countries and their

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unions. Security is considered from different standpoints and covers almost all areas of life of modern society: economy and entrepreneurship, legal and legislative processes, healthcare, social protection, adoption of the concept and development of the armed forces, protection against information threats, settlement of armed and political conflicts. The authors propose their approaches and methods for evaluating damage and minimising risks from factors of negative impact in conditions of instability, make forecasts, and also propose conceptual strategies for ensuring security, based on an analysis of the experience of various countries or business entities.

Admittedly, the subject of security as a comprehensive category is too broad and cannot be fully covered within a single issue. The reader is not promised ready-made recipes for solving all possible problems. On the contrary, we sincerely hope for further discussion and new research in this subject area, since there is no single correct way to solve the tasks at hand.