

REVISTA CIDOB D'AFERS
INTERNACIONALS 76.
**Human Security: Concepts,
Experiences and Proposals.**

Abstracts

ABSTRACTS

The Links between Security, Peace and Development: The Evolution of Human Security from Theory to Political Programme and Practical Operationalisation

Rafael Grasa Hernández

*Permanent Lecturer in International Relations and Secretary General of the UAB .
Lecturer in the IBEI and in the CIDOB Foundation*

The present document pursues two complementary objectives. In the first place, it aims to situate the current debate on the expression “human security” and demonstrate the genesis of the different uses based not only on that of the well-known 1994 UNDP Report in which the term was coined but also on a combination of events, ideas and regulatory proposals which have emerged since 1990 in the sphere of security, peace and development. The second objective is to advocate for a limited use, not an excessively broad one, of the notion of human security, considering it to be, at the same time, a product of a syndrome and of a politico-regulatory programme.

Key words: Security, human security, international relations, development

Genesis and Evolution of the Expression 'Human Security'. A Historical Review

Pol Morillas Bassedas

Analyst in the CIDOB Foundation

This article chronicles the principal changes which have occurred in the area of international security and which have contributed to the apparition of the expression ‘human security’. From a historical point of view, the principal documents and reports that have consolidated

the use of this expression are described, and, at the same time, the two main schools of application and promotion of human security are studied: the Canadian and Japanese schools. Likewise, two more reports that have contributed to the expansion and use of the expression are analysed: “The Responsibility to Protect” and “A Human Security Doctrine for Europe”. Finally, the article indicates what the principal challenge is for the application of human security to be consolidated in current debates on international security.

Key words: Security, human security, theory, history, development

The Concept and Use of Human Security: A Critical Analysis of its Potentialities and Risks

Karlos Pérez de Armiño

Permanent Lecturer in International Relations. University of the Basque Country-Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea.

Bearing in mind the existence of different approaches to human security (the broad one and the restricted one), this article analyses the scope of this new paradigm based on a study of its contributions and potentialities, as well as the risks entailed in applying it. Among the positive contributions, it must be highlighted that: it focuses on the person as the subject of security, and not on the State; it is linked to human development and human rights; and it underscores the need for public policies and so-called ‘humanitarian interventions’. On the other hand, the risks have grown following 9/11, with the paradigm being used more in its security dimension and less in its development-related aspect.

Key words: Human security, theory, development, international relations

Human Security and Japanese Foreign Policy: Context, Concept and Application

Caterina García

Permanent Lecturer in International Relations, Pompeu Fabra University

Japan has assumed the concept of human security as a key aspect in its foreign policy, and this country has become one of its great promoters at an international level. This

acceptance has been accompanied by an option: while Japan admits the dual aspect of the concept (freedom from fear and freedom from want), it has been leaning toward the aspects that link human security and freedom from situations of extreme deprivation and which make reference to the structural causes that link security and development. This article analyses the evolution of the Japanese conception of human security and its practical application, bearing in mind the context in which it is shaped and developed. It defends the thesis that it is an instrument that responds to the Japanese government's need to provide a response to internal and external pressures for renovation of a reactive, low-profile foreign policy, without altering those elements whose reform could cause negative reactions in the countries of East Asia and a good part of its public opinion.

Key words: Japan, human security, foreign policy, United States

The Contribution of the Concept of Human Security to the Western Balkans

Gemma Collantes Celador

Postdoctoral Researcher, Barcelona Institute of International Studies (IBEI)

This article evaluates the usefulness that stems from adopting the concept of human security for analysing the situation of the Western Balkan societies affected by the dismemberment of the former Yugoslavia. While accepting that the argument of the lack of consensus on the definition of human security hampers its study, this work sustains that incorporating a perspective influenced by this concept aids in understanding two specific aspects. On the one hand, the form that the international response adopted during the 1990s and early 21st century, and, on the other hand, the complexity of the problems and challenges that continue to hinder progress toward the political and socio-economic stability of this region. At the same time, this work illustrates with examples from police reform in Bosnia that beyond the identifying of problems, it is still difficult to take the concept of human security to the formulation of policies that could resolve the complex situation existing in this region.

Key words: Security, human security, Balkans, security forces

Resizing the Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue in the Area of Security: The Challenge of Human Security

Eduard Soler i Lecha

Co-ordinator of the CIDOB Foundation Mediterranean Programme

Although in the countries of the south the concept of human security is not very well-rooted and the security of states or regimes continues to take precedence, this article analyses the extent to which regional co-operation strategies, especially the Barcelona Process, have directly or indirectly promoted a new conception of security based on the protection of the citizen. For this, it analyses what had been done in the framework of the political and security basket of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership up until the Euro-Mediterranean Summit in Barcelona, but it also emphasises some of the important deficiencies, such as inaction in the field of reformation of the security sector. This analysis is framed within a broader discussion about whether or not the Mediterranean is a security complex and whether or not it can become a security community that would make human security one of the foundations of a culture of shared security.

Key words: Mediterranean Partnership, Mediterranean, Security, human security

(Human) Security in Central America: A Return to the Past?

Jordi Urgell

Researcher in the UAB Peace Culture School

After having become one of the principal scenarios of the Cold War, the pacification and democratisation of Central America in the 1990s were forged under the protection of the Esquipulas Process and the birth of the concept of human security. The resulting model of security was founded on the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security, which incorporated some of the basic postulates of human security and became one of its first institutional implementations. Nevertheless, the performance of this model has been eclipsed and questioned by the evolution of events in Central America (such as the impact of 9-11 on security agendas or the emergence of new forms of violence in the region), which open the door to a new security instrument (the Rapid Reaction Force), generate fears about an eventual regression of Central America in the area of security and raise doubts about the habitual assumptions of human security.

Key words: Central America, security, human security, development

The European Union and ‘Cultural Exception’: An Analysis of Audio-visual Policy Seen from the Advocacy Coalition Framework

Facundo Solanas

*B. A. in Political Science, instructor and doctoral student at the University of Buenos Aires
and the University of Paris 3 - Sorbonne Nouvelle*

Taking the theoretical framework provided by some approaches situated within the cognitive analysis of public policies, such as the Advocacy Coalition Framework, as its point of departure, this article deals with audio-visual policy as a case study of the construction of a European public policy that has successfully managed to face up to globalising tendencies. Circumscribing the same thing in the case of France, it starts from the premise that European audio-visual policy has been a national policy that has managed to Europeanise itself through the resources mobilised by a “coalition of cause” favourable to that policy.

Key words: EU, cultural policy, audio-visuals, France, globalisation

The Division of the Palestinians: Secular Nationalism versus Islamist Nationalism. From Islamism to Islam-Nationalism: The Case of Palestinian Hamas

Javier Travin

*B. A. in Political Science (University of Buenos Aires). DEA in International Public Law
and International Relations (UAB)*

When we refer to the Palestinians, generally we do so in relation to the conflict they have with Israel. However, within Palestinian society, another dispute, of a politico-ideological nature, maintains the duel between the Islamist movement of Hamas and the once all-powerful and hegemonic Fatah. This intra-Palestinian conflict, less virulent and less prominent in the media than the inter-Palestinian one, but of extreme violence from one minute to the next, is what is analysed in this article. The insertion of the Islamist movement into the Palestinian political picture, above all since its victory in the first national election it presented itself in, completely changed the political scene, dominated

up until then by the secular nationalists of Fatah. It also changed the tactics of Hamas, in resorting to the ballot box to win an election and govern an institution created by the Oslo Accords, which the group opposed when they were drawn up. This change in tactics demonstrates the evolution of Hamas, from a missionary islamism to a political one. The political action of Hamas, restricted to the land of Palestine and without disallowing its social and religious labour and its armed struggle converts the Islamism it represents into a Palestinian nationalist Islamism.

Key words: Palestine, Palestinians, Islam, Islamism, Hamas