

Strategic Security Imperatives in the Development of Communities in the Post-War Period in Ukraine

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Abstract: In the context of the war, the Ukrainian government authorities have faced new challenges and tasks in providing administrative services, ensuring the operation of business entities, organizing the territorial defense of communities, evacuating the population, social protection of internally displaced persons, etc. These challenges are facilitated by the unprecedented cohesion of Ukrainian society, which has become a reliable basis for the social stability of the state and national resistance to the Russian invasion. The rapid unification of Ukrainian society and civic institutions has occurred primarily because of the democratization of social relations in Ukraine over the years of independence, based on the establishment of national values. Nowadays, the formation of a high-quality security system for the above-mentioned processes is of paramount importance. The article aims to identify the peculiarities and basic theoretical foundations and outline the strategic prospects for the development of security of territorial communities in Ukraine in the post-war period. **Methodology.** In the course of the research, the analytical and bibliographic method was applied to study the scientific literature on the development of administrative units. Induction, deduction, analysis, synthesis of information, system-structural, comparative, logical, and linguistic methods, abstraction, and idealization were employed to study and process data. Moreover, the authors conducted an online questionnaire survey to clarify the most important issues related to the security aspects of the development of territorial communities. **Results.** According to the results of the study, the main most important theoretical aspects of the issue of community development in the post-war period in Ukraine were identified. Furthermore, the viewpoints of scientists and heads of departments of local self-government bodies on key aspects of this issue were explored.

Keywords: Revitalization, information security, economic security, health protection, public administration, digital transformation, European integration.

INTRODUCTION

The development of a security strategy for Ukraine's post-war development and the qualitative modernization of its state and public administration system should be carried out publicly with the involvement of all stakeholders. This will ensure even greater cohesion of Ukrainian society as a key

factor in the post-war modernization of all spheres of community life.

The theoretical part of this study identifies the main directions of theoretical and methodological research on community development in the post-war period in Ukraine from the standpoint of the security of this process.

The practical part of the study includes the identification of the most important areas of axiological changes for the successful political, economic, and security development of communities after Ukraine's victory in the war. It includes the study of the strategic goals of state regulation of sustain-

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able security development of administrative units and priorities for the development of territories in terms of forming their food security as one of the foundations of the country's development. In this part, attention is paid to the main thematic areas of scientific and communicative measures to ensure the security of community development. Furthermore, the priority areas of work of state bodies to ensure the safe development of communities in the post-war period in Ukraine are identified here.

Based on the results of the study, conclusions are drawn regarding the issues raised. In particular, the main directions of cultivating axiological changes for the successful political, economic, and security development of communities after Ukraine's victory in the war have been identified. These include revising the role of science in connection with the need to gain a qualitative advantage over the enemy and ensure structural and technological security, overcoming the identity crisis, and implementing the values of national consolidation. An equally important task is to improve the quality of social capital and deepen the degree of citizens' participation in society, including the defense and strengthening of the country. The respondents indicated in their answers the most important strategic objectives of the state regulation of sustainable security development of communities. Currently, these include ensuring the country's energy security, building capacity for territorial development, aspects of sustainable growth, and the formation of sustainable decentralized agri-food systems. At the same time, the priorities for community development in terms of food security have been determined. Among them are the use of local food systems, the restoration of natural agricultural areas damaged by military operations, and the diversification of small and medium-sized businesses. The survey identified the main thematic areas of scientific and communication activities to ensure the security of community development after the end of hostilities in Ukraine. These include attracting technologies and investments to restore the Ukrainian economy and studying risks and threats to the preservation and realization of the production capacity of the regional economy. At the same time, respondents identified priority areas of work for government agencies to ensure the security of community development in the post-war period in Ukraine. These areas concern priority financing of territorial revitalization projects, stimulating their development based on the world's best practices, and raising funds and other resources to restore the destroyed infrastructure. Furthermore, it is essential to develop, approve, fulfill, and monitor the implementation of programs for the reconstruction and revitalization of communities.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Nowadays, the security aspect of planning for the restoration and development of the production potential of Ukraine's regions after the end of hostilities is gaining importance and relevance. To find resources for the restoration and reconstruction of regions and individual territorial communities, it is essential to talk about a new institutional framework and an effective instrumental component of the mechanism for regulating regional development (Mia et al., 2022).

The unevenness of regional development requires different approaches to the implementation of regional policy con-

cerning distinct territories. Therefore, the policy of stimulating their development should be different to identify the needs of different communities and the means to meet these needs (Nkegbe & Mumin, 2022).

In times of uncertainty and increased challenges, the government bond market is developing. The development of this market depends on the current military situation. However, it is worth noting that the future development of the territories is directly affected by the development of this market. In the pre-war period, its investment dynamics increased. Meanwhile, its development was not just an additional incentive for the development of the territories, but an important investment in the country's future. A positive trend is that the proceeds from the sale of green bonds were used to build solar and wind renewable energy plants. This has contributed to and will continue to contribute to the productivity of the use of the territory's resources (Feng, 2023), (Papageorgiou et al., 2020), (Diphorn & van Staple, 2021). In support of this judgment, there is an assessment of the effectiveness of the synergistic effect in the business network (Dykan, V., Pakharenko, O., Saienko, V., Skomorovskyi, A., & Neskuba, T., 2021.) and the implementation of the enterprise development strategy for the post-industrial society (Hurzhyi, N., Kravchenko, A., Kulinich, T., Saienko, V., Chopko, N., & Skomorovskyi, A., 2022).

Important issues that need to be addressed are related to the loss of sales markets for enterprises, destroyed supply chains, and a shortage of labor due to forced migration. One of the most important tasks of the heat and power system in modern conditions is to record and assess the damage and losses caused (Liu et al., 2020), (Badotra & Sundas, 2020).

When discussing the problems of innovation and investment development of Ukraine's industry, scientists emphasize the need to restore military infrastructure and the military-industrial complex. In the context of active hostilities, there is an urgent problem of providing a large number of combatants with military equipment and ammunition produced by both domestic public and private companies. Given the above, the development of strategic directions for the implementation of regional programs to improve the state's defense capability and meet the urgent needs of the Armed Forces of Ukraine is of great significance. The main areas of work under such programs have been identified. These include the implementation of the policy of techno-nationalism in the development of the military-economic sector, attraction of investments for the development of military-economic enterprises, given the regional specialization, and the location of major defense industry enterprises in areas remote from the borders of the Russian Federation. It is furthermore essential to locate companies in small towns near centers for the development of new technologies (innovation and technology centers) (Dai, Duan & Zhang, 2020), (Rodríguez-García et al., 2022).

AIMS

The research aims to determine the position of scholars and heads of departments of local self-government bodies on the peculiarities of the security strategy in the process of development of communities in the post-war period in Ukraine.

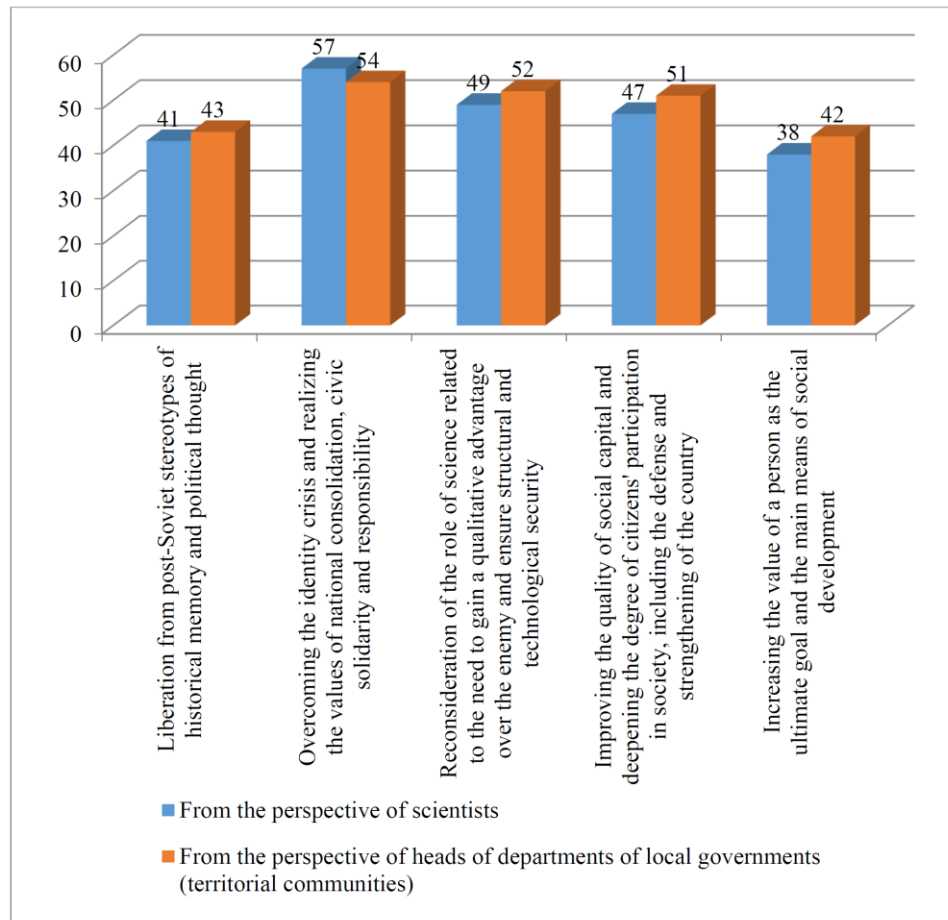


Fig. (1). Directions of cultivating axiological changes for successful political, economic, and security development of communities after Ukraine's victory in the war, %
Source: built by the authors.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A practical study of current trends in strategic security imperatives in the development of communities in Ukraine was conducted by interviewing 257 scholars who study the economic and political development of territorial units. Moreover, 204 heads of local government departments who teach and work in educational institutions and local government bodies in Sumy, Chernihiv, and Kyiv oblasts of Ukraine were surveyed. The study was conducted using the Survio service.

In addition to the surveys, the research team also conducted focus group discussions with community members and stakeholders to gather their perspectives on the strategic security imperatives in the development of communities. The focus group discussions included participants from different age groups, genders, and socio-economic backgrounds to ensure a diverse range of perspectives. The research also analyzed relevant policy documents, including national and regional development plans, as well as legal and regulatory frameworks related to the development of communities in Ukraine. This analysis helped to identify the key strategic security imperatives that need to be considered in the development of communities. To ensure the quality of the research, the team employed a rigorous data analysis process,

which involved coding and categorizing the data, identifying themes and patterns, and drawing conclusions based on the findings. The research team also used peer review and expert validation to ensure the accuracy and validity of the research findings.

Finally, the research team developed recommendations for policymakers and practitioners based on the research findings. These recommendations focused on enhancing strategic security imperatives in the development of communities in Ukraine, including improving governance structures, strengthening community engagement, promoting economic development, and ensuring environmental sustainability.

RESULTS

The survey participants' opinions on the formation of the physical and ideological strength of the state after Ukraine's victory in the war for its independence have been identified. Such actions will serve the successful post-war revival of the economy and socio-humanitarian space, as well as the successful political and economic development of communities. Therefore, civil society should cultivate axiological changes in the following directions: (Fig. 1).

As can be seen from Fig. (1), these directions include reconsidering the role of science in connection with the need to

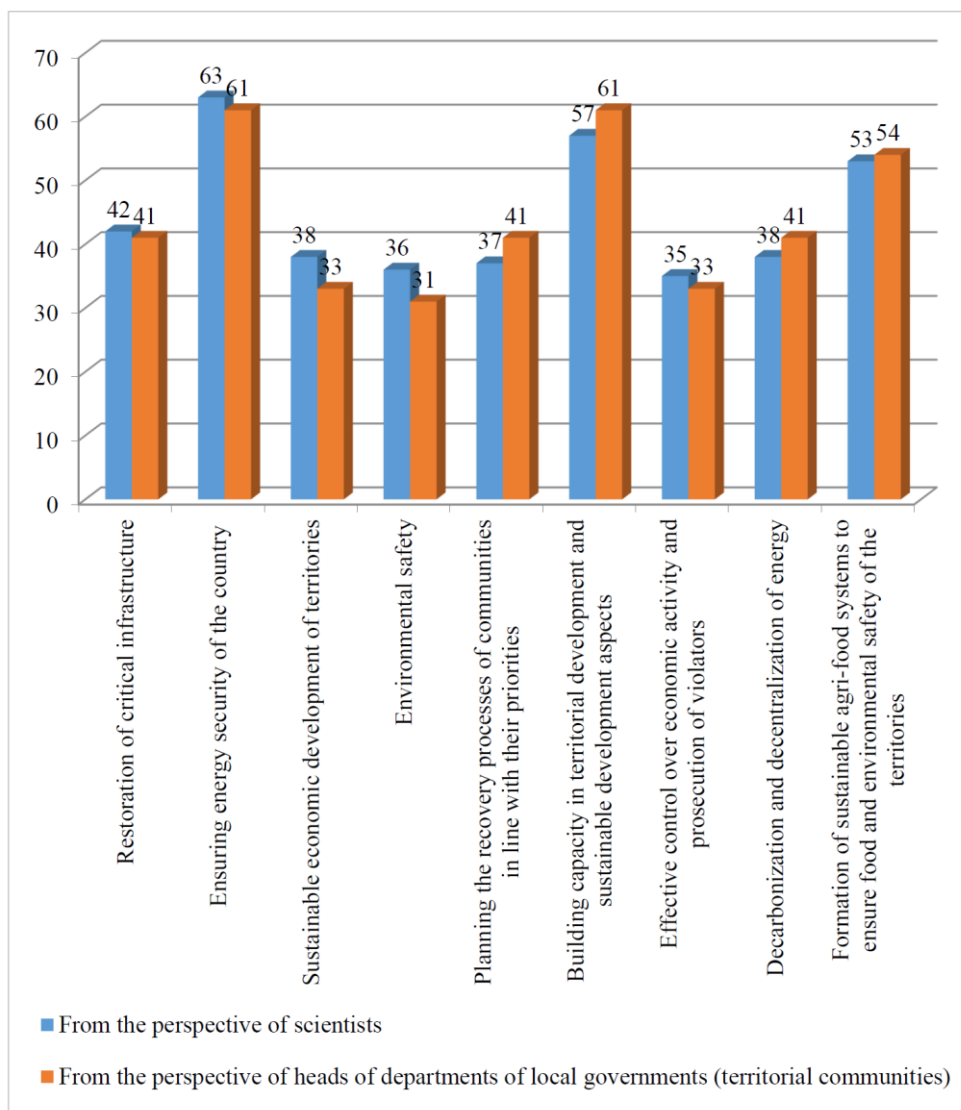


Fig. (2). Strategic targets of the state regulation of sustainable security development of communities, %.

Source: built by the authors.

gain a qualitative advantage over the enemy and to ensure structural and technological security. Overcoming the identity crisis and implementing the values of national consolidation, civic solidarity, and responsibility is a very significant task. It will also be necessary to pay attention to increasing social capital and deepening the degree of citizens' participation in society, including the defense and strengthening of the country.

Ensuring Ukraine's sustainable future is possible through the development and implementation at the national level of strategic and targeted principles of state regulation of sustainable security development of individual territorial communities of the country. According to the survey participants, such principles are primarily (Fig. 2):

According to the survey, the most important strategic principles for regulating the country's sustainable security development are to ensure the country's energy security, build

territorial development capacity, stimulate sustainable development, and create sustainable and decentralized agri-food systems.

One of the foundations of the security of the country's development in general and individual communities, in particular, is the construction of a reliable system of food security for the territories. The following priorities should be followed to form food systems (Fig. 3).

As can be seen from Fig. (3), these priorities include the use of local food systems, the restoration of natural agricultural areas damaged by hostilities, and the diversification of small and medium-sized businesses.

An outstanding result of this survey is the identification of the main thematic directions of scientific and communication activities to ensure the security of community development after the end of hostilities in our country. These areas are as follows:

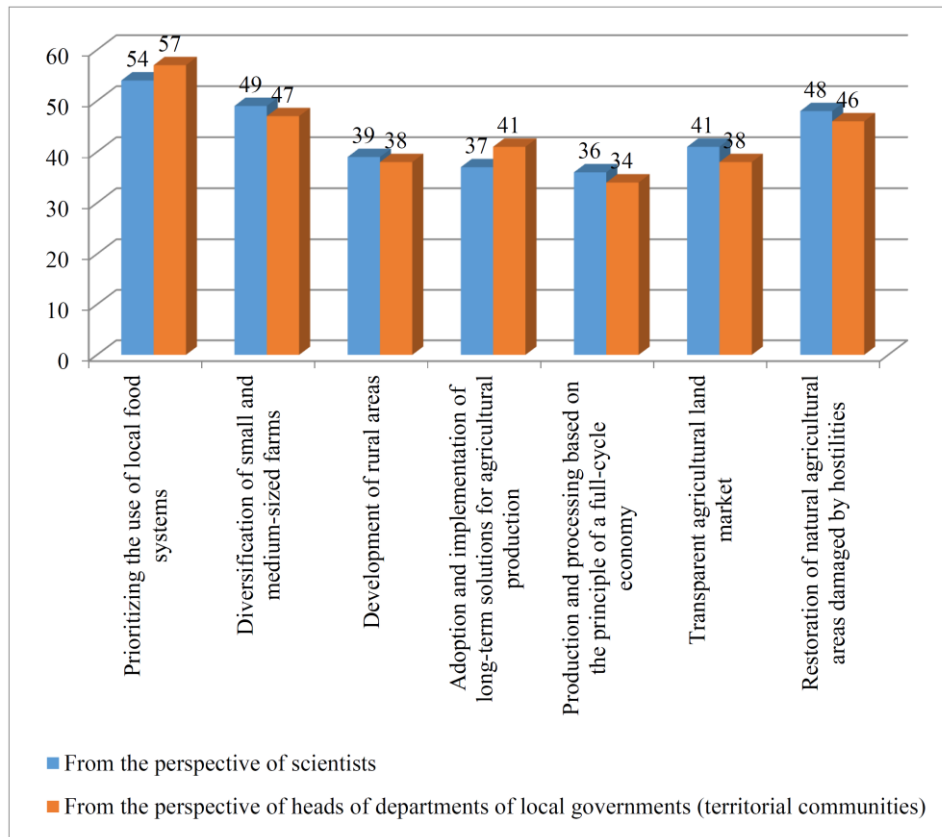


Fig. (3). Priorities of development of communities concerning the formation of food security of territories as one of the security foundations in the country's development, %
 Source: built by the authors.

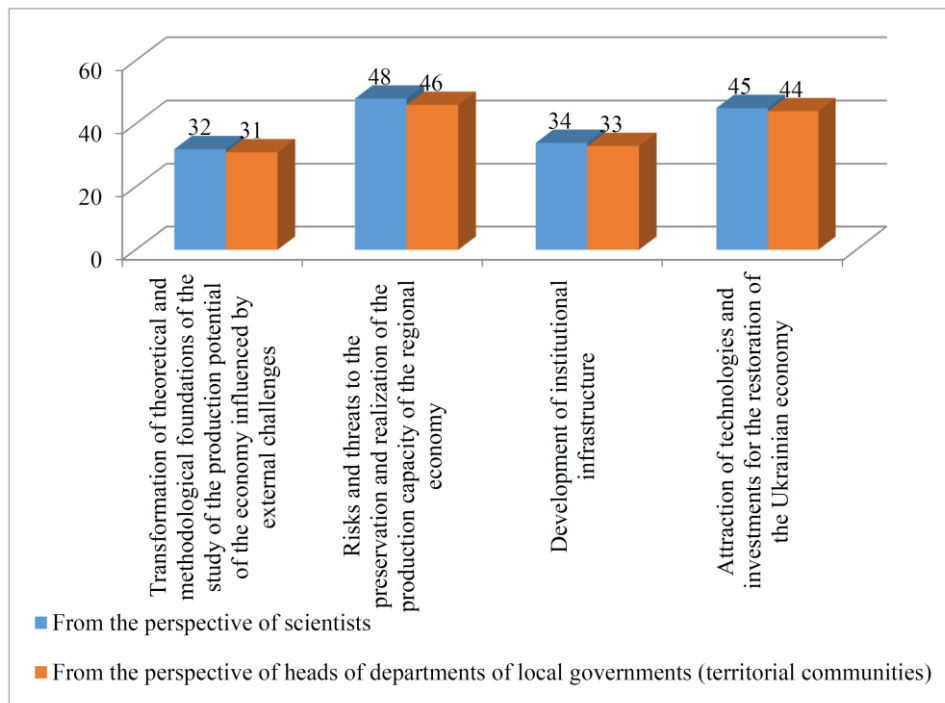


Fig. (4). The main thematic focus areas of scientific and communication activities to ensure the security of community development after the end of hostilities in Ukraine, %.
 Source: built by the authors.

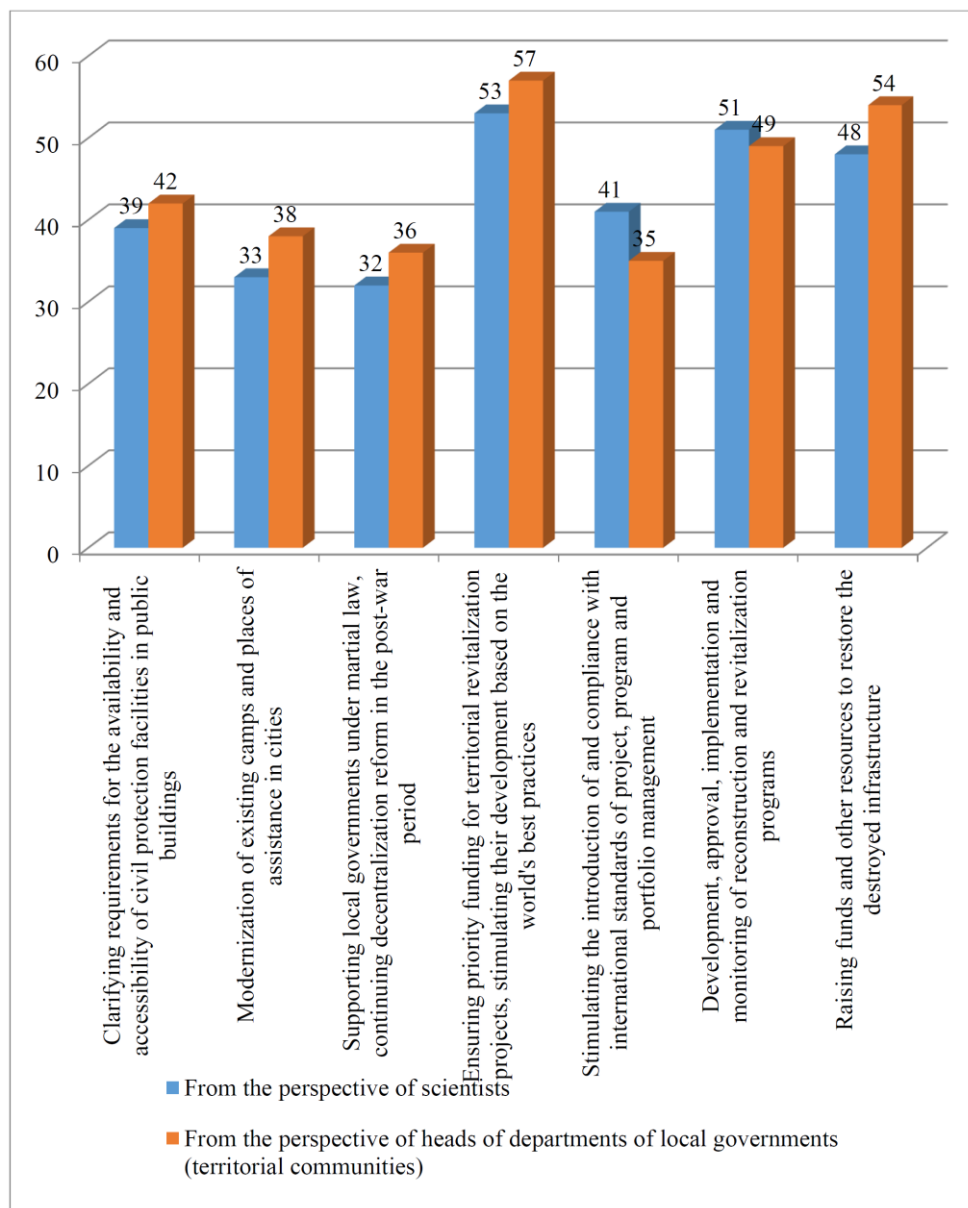


Fig. (5). Priority directions of work of state bodies to ensure the security of community development in the post-war period in Ukraine, %
Source: built by the authors.

- attracting technologies and investments to restore the Ukrainian economy;
- risks and threats to the preservation and realization of the production capacity of the regional economy.

The participants of the survey also voiced their opinion on the priority directions of work of state bodies to ensure the security of community development in the post-war period in Ukraine (Fig. 5).

According to the respondents, these areas of work include ensuring priority funding for revitalization projects and stimulating their development based on the world's best practices. It is equally important to raise funds and other resources to restore the destroyed infrastructure and to develop, approve, implement, and monitor the implementation of programs for the reconstruction and revitalization of communities.

DISCUSSION

The study of the problem of low productivity in the Ukrainian economy proves the need to pay due attention to the experience of the world scientific community in determining the factors of the production potential of the economy (Cheng et al., 2022), (Mishra et al., 2022).

The reorganization of the state regional policy will help to preserve and grow the production potential of the economy of Ukraine's regions. This will be possible by adjusting the state strategy for regional development, program measures, and mechanisms for their implementation. In this regard, the following steps will be of paramount importance. It is essential to choose structural priorities for regional economies that will contribute to the growth of their productive potential in the postwar period, and update the classification of functional types of territories. Furthermore, it is equally important to

identify communities that need state support and introduce new approaches to stimulating their development (Shaw, Kim & Hua, 2020), (Semenenko et al., 2021).

Studying this issue, scholars draw attention to the creation of state and public agencies to increase community productivity in many countries and propose the creation of such institutions in Ukraine, especially in certain regions (Bratko, 2022).

Nowadays, the main issues of the development of the production potential of the regions of Ukraine in the conditions of the war and post-war periods, as well as the security priorities of this process, require a more detailed study. It is necessary to consider the critical state of the economic component of the security of the regions of Ukraine in the conditions of war. The main threats are the loss of a significant part of human capital, both because of the death of a part of the population and its migration. This leads to a decline in the birth rate, a violation of the rational age structure of the population, a critical decline in the quality of life of the population, and the level of its social protection. It is worth noting that all of the above entails a decrease in investment and the overall attractiveness of the regions for a living (Bratko, 2022), (Semenenko et al., 2022).

The main goals and objectives in the field of economic security of the regions of Ukraine during the war and post-war periods are defined. These include financial and economic support (assistance) to businesses and the population, promotion of labor market activation, and internal relocation of companies. An urgent task is to provide socio-economic assistance to refugees who have left Ukraine, assistance in repatriating deportees, targeted policy of supporting relations with refugees and migrants (online classes for refugee children, etc.) (Biswas et al., 2022), (Pastukhov et al., 2022).

According to many scholars, the conditions of war exacerbate the existing methodological shortcomings in the development of a strategy for the development of territories. They outline new competitive approaches to methodology, choosing national interests and security as an advantage in studying the subject of competition and highlighting productive opportunities at all levels of the hierarchy of the strategic development model (Filho et al., 2022), (Alzoubi et al., 2021).

To build the potential for community development in the post-war period strategically, the authors analyzed the scientific literature on the research topic. It made it possible to identify the following priorities for the implementation of competition policy: studying available resources, stimulating investment and import of technologies in the military-economic sphere, ensuring a balance of exports and imports of intellectual resources, strengthening energy security, creating and using an effective system of scientific support for regional development (Aqeel et al., 2022).

CONCLUSIONS

Thus, the analysis of the scientific literature on the research topic and the results of the questionnaire survey showed the foundations of the country's defense in times of war and the national security system of the state in the conditions of military operations and after them. It turned out that this is a symbiosis of basic human and national values - protection of

life and freedom, preservation of national identity, security, and state sovereignty. Countries that have succeeded in post-war reconstruction and are rapidly developing under the constant threat of external aggression prioritize the protection of the state and its political and economic independence in their strategic development. Recognition of human beings as the highest value in the context of war and post-war revival is gaining additional importance. The development of human potential and the security of citizens becomes a defining indicator and direction of scientific research. Priority is given to the introduction of high technologies, science and technology achievements, and management solutions for the successful development of individual communities and the country as a whole.

The research also revealed that effective leadership is critical to achieving strategic security imperatives in the development of communities. Strong and visionary leadership at both the national and local levels is necessary to create a strategic vision, mobilize resources, and coordinate actions to achieve strategic security objectives. The research found that effective communication and collaboration between different stakeholders, including government agencies, local communities, and civil society organizations, are essential for achieving strategic security imperatives. It is important to build trust and partnerships among stakeholders to create a common understanding and commitment to achieving common goals.

Furthermore, the research highlighted the importance of sustainable development in ensuring strategic security imperatives. Sustainable development requires balancing economic, social, and environmental considerations to ensure long-term prosperity and security. This involves promoting economic growth, improving social welfare, and protecting the environment in a way that benefits present and future generations. The research emphasized the importance of continuous learning and innovation in achieving strategic security imperatives. This requires investing in education and training, promoting research and development, and fostering a culture of innovation and creativity. This will enable communities to adapt to changing circumstances and to develop new solutions to emerging challenges in a rapidly changing world.

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Received: Mar 20, 2023

Revised: Mar 25, 2023

Accepted: May 22, 2023

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