

HEALTH SECURITY IMPACT ON THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COVID19 UNIVERSAL SPREAD

mohamed tebib*

Centre universitaire Aflou
mohamedtebibsp@gmail.com

oussama selikhenssp, Algeria
mohamedtebibsp@gmail.com

Send Article Date 2022-08-10

Date of acceptance of the article 2022-10-14

Abstract:

This study aims to address the issue of the impact of health security on the future of international relations, starting with the increasing coherence of the hypothesis that the concept of health security will have dimensions of a global nature, especially with the increasing spread of the virus : covid 19, which appears to have no impact on the global health sector only, but it has implications for the structuring of the global system, given the damage it has caused in various global economic and security sectors, so that it can be emphasized that there was no security threat across borders – from the end of World War II until our days – that has an impact on the global system like the threat of corona virus , but this does not necessarily prove the credibility of the hypothesis that the world order will change upside down, the European union will disintegrate and the global American hegemony will decrease against the rise of China , if the latter is not able to withstand the consequences of the global economic recession . this epidemic, as well as the ability to possess elements of power in its various political, economic, military and cultural dimensions.

*mohamed tebib

However, the spread of covid 19 demonstrated great importance at many levels by drawing attention to the profound impact of health and biosecurity on international relations.

key words: health, security, covid 19, international relations, futur

Introduction:

Health security is an urgent necessity for mankind to continue. This concept has been evaluated throughout time to be one of the most controversial concepts between researchers in this cognitive field.

Although security is an objective for every international organization, every country and communities in order to maintain their national, regional and international security, the major events in the international relations such as World Wars, terrorism, race to arms, proxy wars are all actual threats for global security. Thus, health security has to play a key role in the next era of the international relations politically, economically and strategically. This, has been touched through the worldwide spread of Covid 19.

Therefore, dealing with the future impacts of health security concept after the global spread of covid 19 would be of great importance on the international relations since the constituent structure of the international format changes in a reversal way of the major events. The world system before World War II is not the same, the features of the world have changed especially after the Cold War and the fall of the Berlin wall. There a lot of signs nowadays that increase the chnaces of a world system change after the spread of Covid 19, so, this study aims to reveal the spots and substances of the impact of this pandemic on the international system features via the following question:

How far can health security affect the future of the international economic and political relations after the spread of Covid 19? how can this undermine the conventional concept of security with the possibility of biological threats spread?

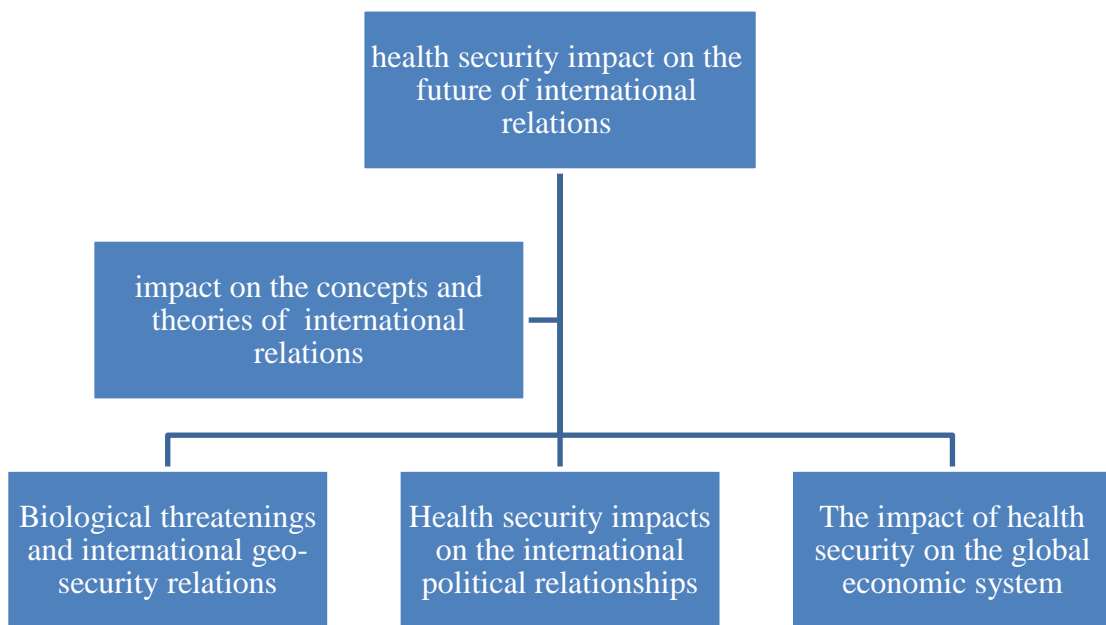
In the shade of this problem, we ask the following secondary questions:

What are the intellectual and theoretical transformations of the concept of security going from the conventional definition to the necessity to build a health security concept?

How did health security impact the international political and economic relations?

What is the future of biological security and how far can it affect the international geo-security relations?

Illustration of study structure:



First section:

health security impact on the concepts and theories of international relations:

The events in the international relationships are generally measured by their ability to transform into referential concepts and historical landmarks and the amount of disconnection that could make in the prevailing paradigm as well as the ability to impose an alternative perspective with its own logic and explanatory predictable dimensions of the universal events.

After the Cold War and the fall of Berlin wall, the international relations have seen structural transformations which accompanied a transformation from the prevailing concepts to some others more able to interpret interlaced incidents that followed that era.

Security concept is one of these concepts that has known a wide conceptual transition from a plain definition that is centered on the military and borderline security of the state into a large one that contains other fields of security such as economic, political, environmental and health security.

This, has been confirmed in 1994 by the United Nations throughout a human development report in which seven dimensions raised according to the philosophy of human needs mentioned by the same report. So, the new definition of security in addition to its conventional role related to protect the borderline of the state, its dirt sovereignty and its vital national interests will have other functions related to the nature of the new security threats.

The previous report summarized the seven dimensions of security according to Amartiya Sen as follows: economic security, nutritional security, health security, environmental security, personal security, social security and political security.

There were also conflicts between the explanatory theories and the meditative theories about the essence of security where a question raised: to whom security is destined for? to face which threat?

To respond these questions so many writers, researchers and thinkers like Barry Bozan and Wall Weaver wrote on the subject. This enabled to create the recent security studies like Copenhagen school and Chicago school but the conflicts about the concept of security and its subject and the nature of its contents stressed out especially after the attacks of 9, 11th ,2001 where the concept of terrorism has been arised for the first time to lead the path to military interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as to security crises in the Arab world, Arab spring in 2011 and its severe consequences.

Everything previously said confirmed the importance of security in the novel issues and the subjects related to it such as immigration, social and identity security in addition to environmental and economic security.

Among all this, the concept of health security stays subject to internal policies of the nations and international organizations specialized in this field.

It's highly important to notify that health security did not have that importance in the beginnings of the 21st century but it seems that corona virus crisis will give it the top importance in the list of threats and security challenges for the severe damage that it will cost the international relations and their theoretical contents as a reflection of those political, economic strategy and security interactions.

Second section:

The impact of health security on the global economic system

There is no exact way to recognize the economic damage that corona virus could provoke since the phenomena is quite changeable and novel on the global economic system. yet, there is a quite unanimity between economists that there will be huge negative impacts of this pandemic on the global economy since the first estimations showed that the virus has become a global pandemic that will cost the major economies 2,4 percent of their 2020 gross domestic product (GDP).

Thus, corona virus will mix a lot of global economic cards especially with the damage that touched different fields such as tourism, transportation and industry.

This fact predicts a severe universal economic crisis because corona virus spread made so many financial markets collapse despite of the emergency stimulus measures since the global financial crisis of 2008 that dozens of central banks had announced in Europe, the two Americas, Asia and Australia. Nevertheless, the collapse was severe in the stocks and the bonds, gold, goods prices which confirms the critical economic damage of corona virus spread.

Bruce Kasman, chief of global economic researches department in JP Morgan has shown that « Covid 19 pandemic will provoke a global recession through the downturn that the global contracts will know during the following three month between February and April... »

Covid 19 is likely to provoke a similar recession to those of 1982 and 2009. All these damages had touched nations' economies and global corporations in different degrees which (these degrees) can be measured by the economic property of these countries and corporations and how vulnerable they are.

The future bet will be, how these countries and global corporations will deal with this crisis, how can they do the restructuring and the adaptation with the current conditions or other new ones.

Olaniyi Evans has prepared a study entitled « socio-economic impacts of novel corona virus: the policy solutions » in which it was dealt with the social and economic impacts of corona virus spread, the solutions of this crisis that will never be in isolation of the political sector that governs every country, because without adequate political solutions and suggestions there will be no possibility to talk about solutions of economic crises due to the spread of diseases and viruses.

Through the historical measurement of the severe global economic crises since 1929 (the global recession) it has been shown that the economic capitalism system has always had the ability to adapt with those recurrent crises and to survive them in innovative skills. This does not necessarily mean that one particular country or group of countries will have the extreme power because throughout times we have seen so many countries invested in those crises and survive them. i.e: the global geo-economic map is changeable in favor of the element that grows most in times of crises and those that seize opportunities.

This is a crucial period of time that predicts the coming of a new economic era and the collapse of another one and USA is a living example for this, since they took advantage of the economic

exhaustion of Europe after WWII and imposed a new economic system that so many institutions and international organizations embodied after the Britten-Woods agreements and which eventually made USA dominate the global economy.

From this point we can say that every country or group of countries that can take advantage of the economic conditions due to corona virus will have a future huge strength in the after-corona virus economic system. This will be a very sustainable hypothesis especially if China continues its progress along with Asia's south eastern countries in addition to the projects of investment during this time and the persuasion of some European countries, the support of belt project and the Chinese road which has historical dimensions and future horizons. All of this does not necessarily mean a complete fall of western economies but it means likely to have a mutlipolar global economy after this pandemic.

Third section: Biological threatening and international geo-security relations

This section starts with the hypothesis that says that health security subject and its consequences (biological threatening) will absolutely have a main position in the future of the international geo-security relations. The apparition of covid 19 will make a new revolution in the military affairs not as a result of some period of time but it expresses a continuous revolutionary historical itinerary. If technology has enabled men to get rid of the dust of wars through communications and the possession of information as the latest revolutions in military affairs, the biological threats may not at all need a battle ground. The historical experiences have shown that the military strategies change according to the nature of threats for instance, the events that accompanied the beginnings of the 21st century held so many restructure transformations in the nature of security threats which causes the change of military confrontation as well. The 9, 11th 2001 attacks on the trade towers in USA confirmed the fears that the analyzers signaled before about the weakness points in the conventional military strategies

based on the direct confrontation between regular armies destined for decades to face symmetric threats.

Christian Enemark had prepared a study entitled Bio security and the Risk to Global Health, it deals with the bio security and highlights the necessity to promote the defenses against biological weapons and the management of security risks due to laboratory researches about microorganisms , the necessity to protect citizens health against the threats of contagious diseases throughout a classification of the risks of these diseases and the ways to respond to them according to a schedule of international health especially with the spread of Covid 19.

From this point, it becomes so clear that the transformation and the conceptual reparation in the military sector will be a result of what the civil pattern imposes as confirms Barry Bazen which harmonizes in an impact and impact relationship with the military sector.

According to the same study, there will be more interaction between civil and military organizations in terms of organization and evaluation and this has been touched in so many countries dealing with the confrontation of epidemic threats throughout the exploitation of civil and military capabilities to face Corona virus crisis.

Elinor Sloan speaks in his book entitled « modern warfare and military transformation about the transformations that the military field knows. According to him, the approach of the military transformation is one of the most important approaches in the defense community members. Here is the starting main idea that deals with the restricted point of view about how technology can affect wars going to a more open point of view that talks about the necessity to combine the technological, biological, organizational and doctrinal change (progress).

There are still more open predictions on how this military transformation will happen, the same thing that helps armies to adapt with the security challenges especially in the after covid 19

world where the technological and organizational dimensions will take the lead.

The scientific articles and government documents and the policies maker's speeches are the elements that usually discuss the military transformation with respect to the exposition of how to make current and future wars.

Fourth section: Health security impacts on the international political relationships

After dealing with a group of changeable and indications, the researcher tries in this section to prove or to deny the hypothesis supporting that health security issue will severely affect the global politics and the international political relationships.

Politically speaking, it seems that this pandemic will cause very deep reflections on the future of the international political relationships. According to so many indicators the logic of the nation state will return after this pandemic and the realistic thought will dominate among the idea of trustless and the priority of national interests.

This is what stressed on Stephen M Walt, theorist of the new realism saying that the world will become less free and less open after the pandemic

(Study prepared by Rush and Kurt Campbell Doshi entitled: the corona virus could reshape global order; China is maneuvering for international leaderships the United States falters)

The earlier study stressed on the structuring transformations that will touch the international system after the spread of corona virus. The researchers predicted that the accompanying events of the virus spread can make USA lose their leadership of the world for China in the shade of the endless competitions and the chaotic nature of the international politics and the disappearance of deep concepts like globalization, governance and union.

The spread of covid 19 leads to a lockdown of the European nations borderlines (one of the most powerful unions) , the isolation of every country to secure its own interests against this threat shows an absence of trust and union to eradicate it as one

mass ; this leads to a wide discussion about the deep problems that this pandemic caused and their future impacts on the European union especially with the cracks and the political crises, the pending issues that most of this union's countries suffer from.

Thorsten Behrendt and Ilona Kickbusch have highlighted via their study entitled « global health diplomacy » the most important angle about global health as one of the exterior politics issues and the urgent necessity to facilitate the international cooperation in health fields. This discussion leads necessarily to talk about environment and what do the countries afford to face environmental degradation and global warming and their effect on the human health security because it is directly bounded to health security which is concepts that have a tight relationship with the international policy outputs.

Moral values become absent during this crisis especially during the piracy of surgical masks that some countries committed and the accusation exchanges between China and USA on whom created this virus crisis and so on.

These incidents predict a global political crisis due to doubt and trustless and goes far away from the moral idealism that so many countries cried out the roofs especially those that relate to the spread of democracy and human rights protection.

Conclusion:

The explanatory and critical theories have been helpless to accomplish their predictable role of this universal incident and thus, a scientific ground should be set for a theory more able to analyze the reality and the future of the international relationships about the concept of health security and its relation to the international political and economic future.

The capitalism economic system is able to adapt with economic crisis due to the spread of corona virus with a possibility to see new economic powers.

Rise of a new revolution in military affairs on the international geo-security relationship scale after confirming the damage that the biological threats can make.

The nation state concept can be among the national borderlines and the cooperation and exchanged trust between the international political relationships after Covid 19 crisis.

Bibliography List setting:

- REPORT: HUMMEN DEVELOPMENT 1994, Published for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New York, Oxford University Press 1994, P24.
- Reuters, Global Economy Already in Recession on Corona virus Devastation: Reuters Poll, The New York Times, March 19, 2020, accessed March 26, 2020.
<https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2020/03/19/world/asia/19reuters-health-coronavirus-global-economy.html?searchResultPosition=7>
- Olaniyi Evans: "Socio-economic impacts of novel corona virus: The policy solutions", BizEcons Quarterly, Strides Educational Foundation, vol. 7, look at the site in (12/05/2020; 12:52)
<https://ideas.repec.org/a/ris/buecqu/0013.html>
- Christian Enemark and others: "Bio security and the Risk to Global Health», The Oxford Handbook of Global Health Politics, look at the site in (10/05/2020; 14:54)
<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190456818.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780190456818-e-12>
- Mark D Mandeles: Military Transformation Past and Present Historical Lessons for the 21st Century, British Library Cataloguing, London, 2008, p100.
- Elinor Sloan: Military Transformation and Modern Warfare, Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data, London, 2008, P1.
- Stephen M. Walt: A World Less Open, Prosperous, and Free; lok at the site; <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/20/world-order-after-coronavirus-pandemic/?fbclid=IwAR1sErhni3NIUMFAk9weq9I1jvwloeP9SuqaJydoXDOiwtAAe6ArHe8MEo8>
- Kurt M. Campbell and Rush Doshi: "The Corona virus Could Reshape Global Order; China Is Maneuvering for International Leadership as the United States Falts ", look at the site in (04/05/2020; 13:52)
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2020-03-18/coronavirus-could-reshape-global-order>
- https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/A6B176CCB7E6FC744533822211ECAF18/S1935789320000701a.pdf/global_health_security_alliance_glohsa.pdf
- Ilona Kickbusch and Thorsten Behrendt: "Global Health Diplomacy", Oxford Bibliography; public health, look at the site in (02/05/2020; 10:12)

https://franklin.library.upenn.edu/catalog/FRANKLIN_99773383433036
81