

Key problems of ensuring food security in the context of globalization

I Markina*, M Somych, D Diachkov

*Poltava State Agrarian Academy, Poltava region, Ukraine, *Corresponding author's e-mail: iriska7@ukr.net*

Abstract

The paper considers the essence and the role of food security. The main aspects of food security (i.e. socio-economic and political-economic one), are defined by author. The following components of food security are identified: food independence, the economic accessibility of food for the population, the share of total household expenditure on food, physical accessibility of food, quality and safety of food, and the level of stocks of basic food resources. The principles of the food security policy formation are characterized: availability, stability, efficiency of use, accessibility.

Keywords: agricultural enterprise, agro-food industry, food security, globalization, international economics, national security, socio-economic relations

When operating in the conditions of uncertainty and destabilization of the national economy, domestic enterprises are faced with various threats and risks that lead to an increase in the danger of the activities of the business entities of the agro-industrial complex. The stability of functioning and the rate of development of enterprises in a market economy are determined not only by the state of financial, economic and personnel security, but precisely by the level of protection of the food-security situation of the enterprise.

Since food resources are formed in the sphere of agro-industrial production, the economic entities that function in this sphere not only provide the population with food, but also guarantee the socio-economic stability of the society, as well as the external economic security and political independence of the country as a whole.

In the existing economic literature, food security is a relatively new economic category, which has been studied and analyzed multilaterally. The definition of the term "food security" can be translated as being about three As: accessibility, affordability and availability of food [4].

Ensuring food security is the most relevant area of interstate interaction, as it covers a wide range of national, economic, social, demographic and environmental factors.

Therefore, food security is considered to be a powerful geopolitical factor and a main tool for ensuring the sustainability of socio-economic processes in any country.

In general, the concept of "food security" has two aspects: the socio-economic (ability to provide the population needs in food produce) and the political-economic one (the ability to mobilize the country's domestic resources and agro-industrial potential to meet these needs).

In the modern economic literature, there are only three main approaches to the definition of the essence of food security. Thus, for example, representatives of the first approach traditionally use the level of food consumption as a criterion of food security without taking into account what sources it is generated from (these can be own or external sources).

On the contrary, the second approach is based on eliminating the country's dependence on uncontrolled food imports.

And finally, the third approach is based on the country's self-sufficiency in food and protection of the domestic producer by creating the necessary conditions for the production of a wide range of competitive food products [2, p. 49].

In the world economic theory, the following components

of food security can be distinguished: food independence, the economic accessibility of food for the population, the share of total household expenditure on food, physical accessibility of food, quality and safety of food, and the level of stocks of basic food resources.

In the present-day context, the term "food security" should be considered as a set of socio-economic relations that arise with regard to providing the population with food and the relevant standards for quality and quantity, which are based on the innovative development of reproductive processes in agriculture and ensuring the economic security of the agro-food sector of the economy [5, p. 30].

So, in the framework of the given research it is expedient to define the term "food security" as a set of economic relations in the society, arising from the provision of all its members with food of the relevant quality and quantity standards. With this approach, it becomes possible to solve the contemporary food security problem at the level of each country, whose goal may be to provide all the citizens with constant access to the food products. This policy should be based mainly on the following principles:

1. availability;
2. stability;
3. efficiency of use;
4. accessibility, which can be understood through the following dimensions of food security:
 - the availability of sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or imports;
 - a population, household and individual must have access to adequate food at all times;
 - food products should be properly processed, stored and preserved, and consumers must be sure that they consume products of acceptable quality, which are safe for their health;
 - food products should be available both in terms of their physical availability, and in relation to the purchasing power of consumers [1].

The feedback of food security and competitiveness should be emphasized in particular, because the main condition for achieving food independence is related to the effective activity of commodity producers and the improvement of the general state of the economy. In this regard, the competitiveness of business activities

significantly influences the food policy of the country.

At the same time, the effective activity of agriculture and processing industries contributes to the development of markets for raw materials and food products, as well as the creation of new jobs. It also supports the employment of the population and creates conditions for maintaining their incomes, and increases budget replenishment by increasing tax deductions [3].

The globalization of the economy inevitably brought the problem of food security to the category of the most urgent and unimaginable problems of all people in the world. The reduction of food safety risks requires recognition of the concept of multifunctionality in the agrarian sphere, fulfills not only the function of food provision for the country's

population, but also the complex function of the social way of life of the rural population. To this is added the vital ecological function of preserving and growing the fertility of agricultural lands, agrolandscapes, reclamation, supporting the diversity of flora and fauna etc.

Thus, the problem of ensuring the national economic security on the basis of achieving its food security, not only has a certain agrarian specificity, but also is a complex problem directly related to the competitiveness of the national economy, the development of the world food market and foreign economic relations. Consequently, the world community needs to seriously interfere and influence the production, consumption and distribution of food products.

References

- [1] Belousov A S 2016 *Food security – as a component of economic security*
- [2] Kazembaev M E 1997 *How to ensure food security?*
- [3] Klimova N V 2011 *Food security in ensuring the country's competitiveness*
- [4] Lupenko Yu O 2012 *Strategic directions of the development of agriculture of Ukraine for the period till 2020 year*
- [5] Safin U Z 2008 *Issues of ensuring food security in Russia*