

Секция «Россия в условиях хаотизации международных отношений»

The Economic Terrorism in Light of Sanctions

Научный руководитель – Mukan Saken

Ranjbar Daniyal

PhD

Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Факультет гуманитарных и социальных наук,
Москва, Россия

E-mail: daniealranjbar@gmail.com

The use of economic, financial, and technological tools is one of the effective methods in implementing foreign policy and achieving goals, and securing benefits. Usually, economic tactics come in various forms, such as granting or not granting loans, issuing technology or refusing it, and so on. It happens that this action causes insecurity in the economy.

Economic terrorism or "Financial Terrorism" is a precise definition to indicate that this type of terrorism creates economic instability for a group. The definition of economic terrorism states: Unlike "Economic War" waged by governments against other countries, "Economic Terrorism" is waged by transnational or non-governmental actors. [1] This can lead to diverse, coordinated, complex, or extensive destabilization measures to undermine a government's economic and financial stability. These actions, if they occur, maybe violent or otherwise, and can have immediate or psychological effects, which in turn can have economic consequences.

Emerging economies are often affected because declining exports and imports affect a country's ability to fight poverty. Rising poverty can lead to popular unrest and possibly political instability. Given that the United States uses this tool against all countries in the world. It can be said that the story of US sanctions no longer goes back only to Iran or Russia, but covers the whole world and is a kind of international economic terrorism. It has become what the United States uses for its interests. [2]

However, in the case of sanctions and especially economic terrorism, we will need to mention some specific facts and points that can help the understanding of the topic. First of all, according to international law and different schools of international relations, the sanction is an important and sometimes necessary tool. Yet, some specific spheres never should be involved in embargo lists such as the sphere of medicine, sport, and other areas that directly connect to citizens and their needs. As soon as, sanctions go further and cover all these banned spheres, it is like a type of "Terrorism."

For instance, in the case of Iran, we can see the obvious impacts of comprehensive economic sanctions on pharmaceuticals and supplies, which are essential elements of all functioning health systems. Especially lately, because of the pandemic of Covid-19, Iran got into a problem having access to medicines and vaccines in the beginning. This means, according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 (UDHR), the International Covenant on Political and Civil Rights of 1966 (ICPCR), and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of 1966 (ICESCR), sanctions are not legal in this case and citizens can lose their life because of that. As it is clear, the sanction policy can become a terroristic tool in the case of health, economy, and society. [3]

Another main point in this regard is the effect of such embargos on both sides. It is important to know, the country which imposes sanctions against another faces negative effects in different spheres too. It depends on how much the sanctioned country is linked and active in the global economy. Shortly to say, if we compare sanctions on Iran and Russia, we can clearly say that the West can face a huge negative effect on its economy and society by making embargos on

Russia. Iran, opposite to the Russian case, was not linked to the global economy. So deleting Iran from the international community was easy. Yet, Russia is not Iran, Russia is not North Korea.

According to the findings of this study - by use of the descriptive-analytical method - economic sanctions that are widely or organized, endanger the lives and health of civilians, and even cause a kind of panic, can be considered economic terrorism. [4] Additionally, it is necessary to define the crime of economic terrorism as an international crime that carries both criminal responsibilities for the responsible persons and the international responsibility of the governments.

References

- 1) 1) Todd Sandler, Introduction: Advances in the Study of the Economics of Terrorism, Southern Economic Journal, 2013, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/23809491>
- 2) 2) SEUNG-WHAN CHOI and SHALI LUO, Economic Sanctions, Poverty, and International Terrorism: An Empirical Analysis, Taylor & Francis Group, 2013.
- 3) 3) Abbas Karimi, U.S.-Imposed Economic Sanctions on Iran in the COVID-19 Crisis From the Human Rights Perspective, Sage International Journal of Health Services, 2021, <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/00207314211024912>
- 4) 4) Hibatullah Nejandi Manesh, Illegal Economic Sanctions as Economic Terrorism, International Conference on World Economy and Sanctions, 2020, <https://civilica.com/doc/988807/>