THE ADAPTATION OF THE REGIONAL SECURITY COMPLEX IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE: THE EXAMPLE OF THE ARCTIC

The reason for undertaking this research topic was the awareness that the Arctic is an area where for many years we can observe progressive climate changes resulting, among other things, in the melting of ice cover of the Arctic Ocean. In connection with this, the countries which have their territories there will gain access to the energy resources located there: crude oil, natural gas or metal ores used for the production of modern machinery and equipment. Moreover, the lack of ice will allow the development of Arctic shipping, which will reduce the transport of goods from Asia to Europe by up to 6 400 km. This situation means that there may be a confrontation between the countries that have interests there. Since some of them are world powers, so a possible conflict would pose a global threat. On the other hand, the Arctic states are working together to increase their sense of security in order to counter the threats and challenges posed by climate change. Through these relations, the Arctic states has led to the emergence of an international security system in a region called the regional security system (RSC). This topic is not well examined and there is a little knowledge on this subject in Poland. Moreover, nobody has ever scrutinised the evolution of RSC in the face of global challenges like climate change, so these project will be groundbreaking.

The aim of the project is to determine how the transformation of the regional security complex in the Arctic is taking place in the face of the challenge of climate change at the beginning of the 21st century.

Climate change is forcing us to adapt to new realities. This is a prerequisite for survival and security. **The most important expected results of the research include** information on how RSC adapts to new situations created by climate change, how it manifests itself - whether relations in the Arctic between states are mostly based on competition or cooperation, which contacts are developing more strongly: economic, military, political, environmental or social. Moreover, it is expected that the composition of sectors forming a regional security complex will be extended to include a multidomain sector, i.e. a sector combining relations that can be simultaneously assigned to at least two "specialist" sectors, e.g. political and economic. Examples of such relations will be studies. An additional effect will be the possibility of creating a universal scheme allowing to predict how regional security complexes in other parts of the world will adapt under the influence of climate change and counteract emerging dangers.

The research description includes the creation of a theoretical model of adaptation of a regional security complex to global challenges such as climate change on the basis of available Polish and foreign literature and a combination of theories of a regional security complex, systems theory and the theory of political adaptation of the state. It will then identify the specialist and multidomain sectors that make up the RSC and establish examples of relations between Arctic states that serve as a model for individual sectors. Next, the impact of climate change on the adaptation of these sectoral relations to new environmental conditions will be identified, as well as an analysis of the directions and forms of this adaptation. The next item of research will be to examine how individual RSC sectors adapt to climate change on the basis of international developments. The results of the research on the adaptation of the whole regional security complex to emerging opportunities, challenges and threats caused by the impact of climate change will be presented later on. The final step of the research will be to provide a forecast of how the RSC will evolve in the future in the light of the further impact of climate change.