

FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS OF SECURITY RESEARCH IN THE CONTEXT OF FORECASTS AND FORESIGHT. PART I: SCOPE OF SAFETY FORECASTING

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ABSTRACT

To understand security, one must learn its determinants. Due to the above, the article assumes that the civilisational development of societies requires a vision for the future in many domains of human life. One of them is security, which guarantees this progress. This prediction serves to prepare for the elimination of unfavourable phenomena in the future and to create a basis for seizing opportunities conducive to development. It requires reliable and credible scientific research with its ontological, epistemological, axiological and methodological context.

Taking into account the above mentioned factors, the terms “forecast” and “forecasting” were identified in this work, which served to present the problems of general and detailed forecasts. In the further part of the article, the issues of safety prognostic functions and its organization are outlined, with regard to the identified trends, interpreted as existing in a strictly defined time direction or paths of development in the field of security.

The considerations presented in this article have made it possible to determine the importance of forecasting modern security conditions. In conclusion, the above mentioned deliberations were summed up by emphasizing the fact that prognosis is an activity which follows a certain general pattern. Awareness of the future formation of particular phenomena allows us to react to the situation in a timely manner, taking advantage of opportunities or eliminating threats. Therefore, all scientific activities of an organised nature that provide knowledge and information on the future, play an integral role in security research.

KEY WORDS

Security, man, research, research process, forecasting, future, time.

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Introduction

Safety has been, is and will be the subject of extensive scientific research. It is an area of activity of many scholars who use scientific approaches to describe and to explain it by means of appropriate research techniques and instruments¹.

The circumstances of the modern world 'make security the most significant human value in the 21st century. The holistic nature of security determines that its permanent existence requires numerous specific measures to be taken. First of all, preventive measures aimed at countering the emergence of threats, secondly, preparatory measures in the event of their occurrence, further reaction after their emergence, and finally, reconstruction efforts. In the case of specified types of projects, it is necessary to decide on the scope and manner of the realisation of such projects'². Moreover, "the security environment is characterized by a large association between different spheres of human existence. At first glance, often the same course of action finds a common point – security"³.

Safety contains a variety of topics from many scientific disciplines. Analysing its essence only in some aspects not only narrows the problem, but often distorts what is most relevant in it, by implying the priority of the issues that are hereby presented⁴.

Security is a multidimensional concept⁵, of extremely wide extent and significance⁶. The essence of modern security has its origin in the human hierarchy of values, which ought to be based on its provision – regardless of the spectrum of domains and areas of operation. Due to the above, it is obvious that many definitions of the indicated concept have arisen – depending on the plane on which it is being considered⁷.

Security is more and more often 'seen not only in terms of stability, but above all in terms of the free development of societies. This trend can easily be observed by an analysis of the evolution of the definition of security, indicating that there is a gradual shift away from the definition of security via the prism of the state to a perception of security in terms of society and the individual'⁸.

In the same context, it needs to be acknowledged that there is currently a concept of 'extensive security', extended to include such elements as the welfare of the state, the civilisational development of society, and many more⁹.

The new aspect of security is the fact that most of the dangers are common to many social strata. It is the result of the development of globalisation processes, which are even more relevant than in the 20th century. Changes in the social structure have led to the observation that

¹ Por. S. Kamiński, *Nauka i metoda. Pojęcie nauki i klasyfikacja nauk*, TN KUL, Lublin 1992, pp. 13-18.

² M. Gikiewicz, *Badania operacyjne bezpieczeństwa* [in:] *Nauki o bezpieczeństwie. Wybrane problemy badań*, red. nauk. A. Czupryński, B. Wiśniewski, J. Zboina, CN-BOP, Józefów 2017, p. 101.

³ M. Gikiewicz, *Zakończenie* [w:] *Interdyscyplinarność bezpieczeństwa. Teoria, praktyka, edukacja*, red. nauk. M. Gikiewicz, M. Tryboń, A. Prędecka, A. Bralewski, SGSP, Warszawa 2017, p. 171.

⁴ J. Prońko, *Metafizyczne podstawy teorii bezpieczeństwa* [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo państwa (Dylematy i konsekwencje)*, red. nauk. B. Kaczmarczyk, B. Kogut, SA PSP, Kraków 2011, p. 22.

⁵ Por. P. Lubiewski, *Bezpieczeństwo państwa – reminiscencje*, Zeszyty Naukowe Państwowej Wyższej Szkoły Zawodowej im. Witelona i Legnicy, Legnica 2020, nr 34(1)/2020, p. 52-54.

⁶ More, M. Gikiewicz, R. Wróbel, P. Gromek, *Przegląd form edukacji społeczeństwa, prowadzonych kampanii informacyjnych (w kontekście edukacji na rzecz bezpieczeństwa)*, Zeszyty Naukowe SGSP, Nr 48/2013, Warszawa 2013, p. 102.

⁷ B. Wiśniewski, R. Kowalski, J. Kozioł, M. Szyłkowska, *Bezpieczeństwo procesów decyzyjnych*, TUM, Wrocław 2018, p. 9.

⁸ Ibidem.

⁹ B. Wiśniewski, *System bezpieczeństwa państwa. Konteksty teoretyczne i praktyczne*, WSPoL, Szczytno 2013, p. 43.

both an individual and a community are increasingly vulnerable to threats, and at the same time can be understood as a source (carrier) of new hazards. As a consequence, it is to be expected that discussion and security research will explain the changes taking place and anticipate future risks, with reference to the ongoing cultural and demographic transformations and growing social inequalities¹⁰.

The aforementioned circumstances indicate that security concerns are strictly linked to human activities, and that they themselves are the result of deeply thought-out, multi-faceted collective actions¹¹.

In the course of his rational activity, man has always formulated – in a more or less thoughtful way – guidelines and objectives¹² which are the product of his experiences and expectations. Nevertheless, he was only able to implement them if he possessed the ability to anticipate development processes. Therefore, it can be assumed that elements of forecasting have been present in human activity for a long time¹³.

In the context of what has been contemplated so far, it is important to remark that 'we can divide the objectives between: strategic, tactical, operational. Strategic goals are set at the highest lev-

el and focus on broad and general problems. The tactical objectives focus on how to rationalise the actions necessary to achieve the strategic objectives. Operational aims, on the other hand, are set at the lowest level and relate to the short term associated with tactical goals"¹⁴.

Setting out the direction of the security environment is becoming increasingly complex. "It transpires that even a cursory analysis of development processes discloses their intricate nature. Thus, it is not possible to examine individual phenomena without relating to the overall changes taking place and the development processes of specific areas of social life. It is essential to identify the relationships between individual factors and the paths of their progress and to strive to discover the laws and regularities that shape them. Starting from the assumption that security is a social phenomenon, it can be concluded that the above statements also apply to its entirety"¹⁵. Processes the implementation of which is connected with the right to be safe. That right also being one of the most fundamental for man and society¹⁶. The highest ranked legal acts in the state provide for the above. This law is surely one of the most important values for entities, i.e. individuals, social groups, nations, states, as well as the international system¹⁷.

It is noteworthy that education for security has a special place in the discourse on defining directions for the development of the security environment. It is one of the basic ways of shaping safety

¹⁰ A. Peczywok, *Działania społeczne w sferze bezpieczeństwa wewnętrznego*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Ekonomii i Innowacji w Lublinie, Lublin 2018, p. 6.

¹¹ R. Gwardyński, *Safety in Praxeological Approach*, [in:] *Security – Threats, Law and Organization. Schriften zu Mittel- Und Osteuropa in der Europäischen Integration. Band 24*, ed. B. Wiśniewski, G.G. Sander, P. Kobes, Verlag Dr. Kovač, Hamburg 2019, p. 11.

¹² More, M. Gikiewicz, *Analiza porównawcza planów zarządzania kryzysowego na szczeblu wojewódzkim*, Zeszyty Naukowe SGSP, Nr 44/2012, Warszawa 2012, pp. 27-28.

¹³ Por. A. Zeliaś, *Teoria prognozy*, PWE, Warszawa 1984, s. 10 cit. in: W Kaczmarek, B. Wiśniewski, *Prognozowanie bezpieczeństwa*, [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo w teorii i badaniach naukowych. Wydanie drugie uzupełnione*, red. nauk. B. Wiśniewski, WSPol, Szcztyno 2018, p. 57.

¹⁴ More, M. Gikiewicz, *Analiza porównawcza*, wyd. cyt., p. 27.

¹⁵ Por. A. Zeliaś, *Teoria prognozy*, PWE, Warszawa 1984, p. 10; W Kaczmarek, B. Wiśniewski, *Prognozowanie bezpieczeństwa ...*, op. cit. p. 57.

¹⁶ More, P. Lubiewski, *Bezpieczeństwo państwa – reminiscencje...*, op. cit. pp. 51-52.

¹⁷ J. Zajac, *Bezpieczeństwo państwa*, [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo państwa. Wybrane problemy*, K.A. Wojtaszczyk, A. Materska-Sosnowska (red.), Warszawa 2009, p. 17.

and dealing with complex and conflicting events. Training for safety is an important part of the didactic and educational process and preventive measures, aimed mainly at civic education, communication and health and environmental awareness. It is also regarded as an essential element of education and preparation for work and life in modern conditions. The origins of emergency education appear in the family, and then undergo constant modification under the influence of the mass media, school, peer group, work and self-education. Many changes in people's defence awareness are caused by specific security conditions – both internal and external. General living standards, the level of political, military and public security threats, etc. are not without significance¹⁸.

Foresight needs

In linguistic terms, forecasting is a noun derived from the word forecast, which is defined as “anticipation, development of scientific prognoses regarding the course of predicted processes and phenomena”¹⁹.

Bearing in mind the essence of security measures, it can be concluded that “forecasting stands for predicting future events, and its purpose is to reduce risk in the decision-making process”²⁰.

Since we know what more or less forecasting is, it is time to raise the question: is the future really so vital in security research? The answer appears to be quite simple. After all, it would be possible to

cite human needs hierarchies classifying security at a very high grade. Let us try, nonetheless, to provide an answer to this problem via a micro-scale view. With the help of Walter Nieves, rushing to our aid, who believes that ‘current events are recorded subjectively in the memory after they have been processed by the perception of the present and the future. So, going back to the question of whether we are the result of our objective past, the answer must be: no. We are constantly transforming and correcting our memories of past events, and by doing so, we are reshaping our relationship with the present and our expectations of the future. We can say with full justification that we are determined as much by what we expect from the future as by a subjective sense of our own future’²¹. Our future is in close connection with choices, preferably the right ones. At this point, we ought to invoke the words of Tadeusz Kotarbiński, who took the position stating that only the correct assumption of the future allows for well planned future actions and, consequently, the adoption of the right decision-making²².

It seems legitimate to say that ‘the result of prognostic studies shall be not only a vision of the future arrangement in each area of human endeavour, but also specific processes of development and structural change. The resulting picture should provide a holistic view of the projected future. This image consists of a set of detailed visualizations, referring to specific domains or specific categories of phenomena’²³.

Concluding this part of the deliberations, it would seem pertinent to state that

¹⁸ A. Pieczywok, *Edukacja dla bezpieczeństwa wobec teorii i praktyki kształcenia*, [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo w teorii i badaniach naukowych*, wyd. II uzupełnione i uaktualnione, red. nauk. B. Wiśniewski, Wyd. WSPol, Szczytno 2018, pp. 209-210.

¹⁹ *Słownik języka polskiego*, Vol. 2, red. M. Szymczak, PWN, Warszawa 1979, p. 931.

²⁰ M. Sukiennik, *Prognozowanie i planowanie jako istotny czynnik rozwoju przedsiębiorstw przemysłu wydobywczego*, *Górnictwo i Geoinżynieria*, Nr 1/31, Akademia Górniczo-Hutnicza, Kraków 2007, p. 73.

²¹ <https://journals.viamedica.pl/psychiatria> (access: 20.03.2020).

²² More, T. Kotarbiński, *Walory dobrego planu*, PWN, Warszawa 1961.

²³ K. Secomski, *Prognozyka*, Wiedza Powszechna, Warszawa 1971, p. 14.

'the past, present and future form a logically connected set of phenomena, allowing for precise directions and dynamics of change. The point is, therefore, that the basis for work on complex security problems should be, first and foremost, predictions concerning the evolution of hazards, i.e. studies on the future'²⁴.

The scientific exploration of the area of security is linked to a mission, namely the specific pursuit of particular longings²⁵. This quest in the context of security research takes on a strategic significance when it sets the direction and applies to the future, expresses the needs and challenges which become a part of the organisation's components, and the process of its accomplishment is attainable (credible)²⁶.

Security surveys make it feasible to formulate general and specific forecasts on a daily basis for practical applications. "This involves the prognosis of numerous tasks. It shows the future forms of developing phenomena and processes also enables the selection of optimal methods and modes of conduct"²⁷. Foresight empirical research is most frequently useful in programming and planning the evolution of diverse areas of social life. In addition – and this is worth emphasising – such a specific field of cognition as security²⁸. Continuing and generally speaking, it seems justified to state that "the examination of the correctness of developments, their principles and transfor-

mations in previous periods is the starting point for prognosis. In this perspective, there is initially a convergence of interest and nature of studies in the first research stages. The point is to thoroughly investigate the sources and causes of specific past and present phenomena. This is because, as has already been pointed out, the first step is to seek an initial reply to questions about the structure and image of a changing reality and the paths and orientations of the future²⁹.

In summary, an essential point to emphasise is that 'the phenomenon of correlation of variables (...) lies at the heart of forward-looking. The only reason we expect the future to be similar to the past is because the future was comparable to the past. In another words, the fact that in the past we have observed certain correlations of variables causes us – in the hope that these correlations will also persist in the future – to try to formulate judgments, or forecasts, about such a future'³⁰.

I would like to conclude with a final point. Security forecasting is an indispensable research procedure, which proves the liability of security administrators and all those who strive for it in the executive domain.

Identification of key concepts

The description of safety forecasting should be preceded by an explanation of the term 'forecasting', which is closely related to the term 'forecast', which means as much as it is:

– "prediction of future facts, events, phenomena, etc. based on justified, usually scientific, premises, data, calcula-

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ J.B. Gajda, *Prognozowanie i symulacje w ekonomii i zarządzaniu*, Wydawnictwo C.H. Beck, Warszawa 2017, p. 101.

²⁴ W. Kaczmarek, B. Wiśniewski, *Prognozowanie bezpieczeństwa ...*, op. cit., p. 58.

²⁵ More, *Bezpieczeństwo w teorii i badaniach naukowych. Wydanie drugie uzupełnione*, red. nauk. B. Wiśniewski, WSPol, Szczytno 2018, p. 304.

²⁶ Por. K. Oblój, *Strategia organizacji*, PWN, Warszawa 1998, p. 235.

²⁷ More, M. Gikiewicz, *Metody programowania sieciowego w zarządzaniu bezpieczeństwem*, [w:] Pomorskie Forum Bezpieczeństwa, Wydział Dowodzenia i Operacji Morskich Akademii Marynarki Wojennej, wydanie 1, Zeszyt nr 1/2016, Gdynia 2016, s. 91-92.

²⁸ Ibid.

- tions, research, most often formulated by specialists in a given field"³¹;
- "prediction (of social processes, future facts, phenomena; announcing the course of events (...) based on rational premises and formulated by specialists"³²;
 - "anticipation of something: next events, possible course of something, future"³³.

Generalising the above-mentioned terms, it can be assumed that the forecast amounts to a statement of facts, events and phenomena to occur in the future, established on the basis of the knowledge that uses the identifiable premises extracted from the course of the current tendencies. In the context of the aforementioned, it is vital to stress that the prognosis is based on research and expertise in a given field³⁴.

Hence, dictionary definitions link the concept of 'prediction' to the future of a given phenomenon, object or theory.

Explanation of the term prognosis should be accompanied by the term prediction, which has been used relatively often up to this point. Generally speaking, prediction is nothing more than to deduce the unknown from familiar facts. Unknown events may be those that occur later than the time at which the forecast takes place or happened prior to the act of forecasting and are still ongoing in time, or occurred earlier than the time at which the prognosis is made and no longer exist at the time the forecast is made³⁵. This classification allows for the

recognition that unknown events belong either to the past or to the future. On the contrary, known events are only those which have already passed and therefore belong to the past³⁶.

It is therefore time to make an extended reference to prediction, which can generally be divided into rational and irrational. „Rational predictions are said to be made when inference is a logical process that proceeds from the preconditions, i.e. from the set of facts belonging to the past and their interpretation, to the conclusions. If the rationale and course of reasoning is based on experience, but without the application of the principles of science, then we are discussing common-sense predictions. In turn, we talk about scientific foresight when the rules of science are used in the process of inference. This kind of prediction of the future makes it possible to separate this class, which is called forecasting"³⁷. The second type of anticipation of the future is irrational prediction. "We deal with them when the rationale is not given and (or) the relationship between rationale and conclusion is not maintained. This group includes all fortune-telling, prophecies and forecasts which, it is well worth highlighting, do not necessarily need to be false"³⁸.

In the context of prognosis, there are many definitions of forecasting. In the 1970s, Kazimierz Secomski saw forecasting as "a scientifically based and generally comprehensive forecast of the most probable course or image of development phenomena and processes"³⁹. According to other authors, "forecasting is a scientifically justified idea of the

³¹ *Wielki słownik języka polskiego (o-q)*, red. nauk. S. Dubisz, PWN, Warszawa 2018, p. 937.

³² W. Kopaliński, *Słownik wyrazów obcych i zwrotów obcojęzycznych z almanachem*, Wiedza Powszechna, Warszawa 1994, p. 413.

³³ M. Tytuła, J. Okaramus, *Słownik wyrazów obcych*, PWN, Warszawa – Bielsko-Biała 2011, p. 191.

³⁴ B. Wiśniewski, *Praktyczne aspekty badań bezpieczeństwa*, Difin, Warszawa 2020, p. 176.

³⁵ *Ibidem*, p. 176.

³⁶ *Prognozowanie gospodarcze. Metody i zastosowania*, red. nauk. M. Cieślak, SGGW, Warszawa 1999, p. 15.

³⁷ W. Kaczmarek, B. Wiśniewski, *Prognozowanie bezpieczeństwa ...*, wyd. cyt., Szczytno, p. 59.

³⁸ *Ibidem*.

³⁹ Por. K. Secomski, *Prognozyka*, op. cit., p. 22.

future, defining in a given field of expertise an event not subject to observation. Prognosis is also information about the period of time (or space) within which the forecasted event is to take place⁴⁰, and sometimes "prediction based on rational foundations, on knowledge; also the result of such a foresight"⁴¹.

The term 'forecast' has many synonyms. The words that are associated with it are: prediction, conjecture, counting, prognosis⁴². The prognosis is mainly about: announcing something and predicting things.

For the sake of transparency, it should be assumed that the forecast will mean a judgment with the following characteristics:⁴³

- formulated using scientific achievements;
- referencing to a specific future;
- verifiable empirically;
- uncertain, but accepted.

Literature has many viewpoints that regard the concepts of forecasting and prognosis as unambiguous. This is evidenced by the definition taken from the "Encyclopedia of organisation and management", which states that forecasting is "the scientific prediction of the presumed or most probable behaviour and state of an object in the future"⁴⁴, whereby an object may be "any item, system, event, phenomenon or process". Perception of forecasting and prognosis in terms of synonyms is a fallacy, since the result of forecasting "presented in a prognostic

form is called a prognosis", whose inherent feature is its non-deterministic essence⁴⁵.

Forecasting is the conclusion from the known about the unknown. "With a given state of knowledge, it is intended to provide the best possible idea of the future. It is, however, usually a very faint idea, typically much less accurate than we would wish. The name forecasting includes time-based inference, i.e. predicting the future course of events, as well as cross-sectional inference"⁴⁶.

It can therefore be said that forecasting is rational foreseeing the future in a way that entails using scientific methods. It ought to be observed, however, that the use of these methodologies does not guarantee certainty as to the results of forecasting, but allows to secure a high level of its quality⁴⁷. Anticipation of the future, and thus of something that may occur in the coming time⁴⁸.

A man dealing with security at every phase of his operation "takes into account the circumstances that will accompany the transformation of this decision into reality; whether he is conscious of it or not, he anticipates the future"⁴⁹.

Forecasting is particularly important because poor foresight may lead to a deterioration of the situation⁵⁰ as a consequence of lowering the level of security to below the acceptable threshold.

The big question here is: what is forecasting, then? In the context of what

⁴⁰ T. Grabiński, S. Wydymus, A. Zeliaś, *Metody prognozowania rozwoju społeczno-gospodarczego*, Akademia Ekonomiczna, Kraków 1982, p. 14.

⁴¹ T. Pszczołowski, *Mala encyklopedia prakseologii i teorii organizacji*, Ossolineum, Wrocław 1978, p. 188.

⁴² W. Broniarek, *Gdy Ci słowa zabraknie. Słownik synonimów. Wydanie II rozszerzone*, Akces, Brwinów 2010, p. 162.

⁴³ *Prognozowanie gospodarcze ...*, op. cit., p. 17.

⁴⁴ *Encyklopedia organizacji i zarządzania*, PWE, Warszawa 1981, p. 392.

⁴⁵ B. Wiśniewski, *Praktyczne aspekty badań ...*, op. cit., p. 179.

⁴⁶ J.B. Gajda, *Prognozowanie i symulacje ...*, op. cit., pp. 99-100.

⁴⁷ More, N. Iwaszczuk, P. Drygaś, P. Pusz, R. Pusz, *Prognozowanie gospodarcze*, Uniwersytet Rzeszowski, Rzeszów 2013, p. 82.

⁴⁸ B. Wiśniewski, *Praktyczne aspekty badań ...*, op. cit., p. 179.

⁴⁹ J.B. Gajda, *Prognozowanie i symulacje ...*, op. cit., p. 11.

⁵⁰ M. Sukiennik, *Prognozowanie i planowanie ...*, op. cit., p. 74.

has been contemplated so far, it can be presumed that forecasting of security is prediction based on the rules of scientific inference of the appearance of facts, events, safety-related phenomena and their course in order to provide the most probable outlook on the anticipated future.

Safety assessment is primarily about pinpointing:

- the level of security in the future;
- the identification of risk factors;
- determination of sources of threats threatening security⁵¹;
- tendencies and dynamics of security changes in the future;
- safety reserve with an indication of the possibility of their optimal use in the future;
- conclusions on the prevention of undesirable changes and, as a consequence, on possible modifications of safety measures or on the identification of measures that guaranteed an acceptable level of safety in the future.

Forecasting allows for answers to questions:⁵²

- how can it be?
- why can it be like that?

The aim of forecasting security is also to create the conditions for achieving an acceptable level of safety in the future by preventing or minimising the effects of the harm expected.

In the predictive safety forecast, it is also worth to mention security styling. The concept of styling in the safety sciences has not yet been used. The term is quite common and gives meaning to certain activities in other scientific disci-

plines and areas of human functioning, such as history, philology, poetry, fashion and so forth. When talking about styling, personal safety has to be considered first and foremost. Most commonly, in lexical and dictionary terms, styling means consciously giving a statement, using appropriately selected linguistic means, the characteristics of a style different from that of the text. The styling therefore involves imitating certain patterns, which may be the language of the relevant historical period, a specific social environment, a chosen writer or a particular work. A stylization may involve the whole process of creation of a work or only certain parts of it, e.g. dialogues. Considering the meaningful context of a styling, one can notice its numerous ties with forecasting human safety. This is particularly evident in such areas of perceiving safety as: security culture, its axiology, psychology of hazards, sociology of safety or education for security. The styling of human security is mainly linked to such processes as: upbringing, socialisation⁵³.

Summary

The researchers dealing with the issue of security commonly point out that its essence rests in such forms of existence which ensure permanence, survival and development plus improvement⁵⁴.

Today's rapidly evolving security landscape makes "future-oriented information crucial to successful management. As leaders have argued (...), one of the most important capacities of a modern manager should be the ability to employ the data available to him/her to make

⁵¹ More, P. Lubiewski, *Zagrożenie – rozważania na gruncie teorii*, Zeszyty Naukowe Państwowej Wyższej Szkoły Zawodowej im. Witelona w Legnicy, Legnica 2020, nr 34(1)/2020, pp. 79-83.

⁵² B. Wiśniewski, *Praktyczne aspekty badań ...*, op. cit., p. 179.

⁵³ A. Pieczywok, *Stylizacja bezpieczeństwa człowieka w środowisku społecznym*, Studia nad Bezpieczeństwem 2018, nr 3, p. 8.

⁵⁴ Szerzej, J. Świniarski, *O naturze bezpieczeństwa. Prolegomena do zagadnień ogólnych*, Agencja Wydawnicza ULMAK, Warszawa – Pruszków 1997, s. 170-184.

forecasts and predict the future direction of phenomena (...). The more precisely professionals understand what to expect in the future, the more they will take up opportunities and avoid risks better (...). Forecasting is a skill the importance of which is constantly rising. Prognostic knowledge is becoming more and more valuable⁵⁵.

Safety forecasting is a complex process. Its slightest part is a simple act triggered by the perpetrator of the event with one arbitrary impulse (conscious or unconscious), i.e. the basic element of behaviour that is the root cause of the event⁵⁶. Given the above, it needs to be concluded that only man can be the acting entity.

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