

HUMAN SECURITY CONCEPTS, APPROACHES AND DEBATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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10 September 2004

IR Conference

Outline

- ? Introduction
 - ? SE Asian Concept of Comprehensive Security
 - ? SE Asian Concept of Human Security
 - ? Evolution of the Concept in the Region
 - ? Human Security Issues
 - ? Human Security Policy
 - ? Conclusion
-

Introduction



- ? Cold War
 - ? Security: state, military defense (survival of state)
 - ? National security
 - ? Peace=absence of war
 - ? End of the Cold War
 - ? New thinking of the concept
 - ? Shift to human
 - ? Nonmilitary threats
 - ? Nonmilitary actors
 - ? Security beyond borders protection
- 

Cont'

- ? 1994 UNDP *Human Development Report*
 - ? Turning point of focusing to human
 - ? “freedom from fear & freedom from wants”
 - ? Cut across national borders
 - ? Developed countries: adopt the concept
 - ? East Asia (Japan), SE Asia (Thailand)
 - ? SE Asia human security: critiques to its comprehensive security
-

SE Asian Comprehensive Security

- ? Introduced by Japan (1970s)

“Japan’s confidence in the efficacy of its omnidirectional foreign policy had been severely shaken by the US defeat in Vietnam, and the oil shock of 1973. Painfully aware of its dependence on overseas materials and energy resources, the Japanese developed a new concept of “comprehensive security” designed to preempt economic as well as strategic threats to national security.”

Cont'

Expanded version of security

- ? External and internal
 - ? Security object: state
 - ? Military and nonmilitary issues
 - ? Security, relational matters (to regional concerns)
-

Con't

- ? SE Asian concept (mid-1980s)
 - ? High and low politics
 - ? Military and nonmilitary threats
 - ? Drug trafficking, maritime piracy, famine, illegal immigration, environmental pollution etc. (and military threats such as overlapping claims of the South China Seas archipelagoes)
 - ? External and internal
 - ? Security object: state (and the ruling regime)
 - ? Focus: “security begins at home,” but no common perceptions of external threats
 - ? Political stability, economic development and social harmony
-

Cont'

- ? Security for society
 - ? Threats to individual , is a threat to comprehensive security of the sates
 - ? Interdependence among society and states
 - ? Cooperation
 - ? Major critiques: sovereignty and non-interference policy
-

SE Asian Human Security

- ? Def.
 - ? Acknowledge and protect human rights
 - ? participation in legal aspects of community life
 - ? Meeting basic needs
 - ? Adequate food, clean water and sanitation, safe shelter, basic education and health care
 - ? The concept is underdeveloped, except for Thailand
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Cont'

- ? Discussions and debates embarked from
 - ? Asian Financial Crisis, 1997-1998
 - ? Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines
 - ? Impact was on people
 - ? Increase poverty, inflation, jobless, gap between rich and poor, increase domestic violence, street demonstration for political change
 - ? Other nonmilitary issues helped to exacerbate the debates
 - ? Forest fires, SARS outbreaks, birds flu, human trafficking, cross borders issues (smuggling etc).

Cont'

- ? Critiques of comprehensive security
 - ? Focus on states (and therefore the ruling regimes)

Cont'

? Thailand

- ? Common approach to address common problem (eg.: HIV/AIDS) in Mekong sub-region (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia as well as Myanmar)
- ? Def.: “freedom from want, freedom from fears.”
- ? Eradicate poverty, Improve quality of life
- ? Poverty, lead to instability and impact the whole region
- ? Proposed to ASEAN in 1998
 - ? Established ASEAN-Post-Ministerial Conference Caucus on Social Safety Nets

Con't

- ? No single regional approach of human security
 - ? Based on ASEAN Vision 2020
 - ? "... security for all the fundamental needs and vital interests of man, society and state, political, social, economic, cultural, environmental, personal or physical in nature (national resilience and national security); mutuality and interdependence of all dimensions of security; and threats from domestic and external environment."
 - ? Understood as "freedom from wants, freedom from fears and freedom for future generations."
-

Cont'

- ? Why human security?(Acharya, 2001)
 - ? Human rights is missing in comprehensive security
 - ? Need protection for war crimes
 - ? Increase human violent
 - ? Human sufferings due to landmines
 - ? Proliferation of small arms and child soldiers

Con't

- ? Why human security? (Chalk, 2000)
 - ? Nonmilitary threats:beyond states control
 - ? Undermine stability and overall society
 - ? Impact felt by people more than by states
 - ? Carried out by nonstate actors
 - ? Suggest: participation from NGOS
- ? Sung Han Kim (1999)
 - ? Def.: lack of quality of life and fundamental human rights
 - ? Suggest: regional cooperation among “like minded countries”

Cont'

- ? Woosang Kim and Taek Hyun (2000)
 - ? Def.: environmental, economic, societal and economic security
 - ? Degrading quality of life
- ? Issues: human rights, democracy and market economy (impact human in a bad ways)
- ? Suggest:
 - ? Look at individual as unit of analysis
 - ? Improve quality of life Through economic growth, access to resources, social and political empowerment)

Cont'

- ? Dewi Fortuna Anwar (2003)
 - ? Threats
 - ? Underdevelopment, communal strife, environmental degradation and human rights are less important
 - ? Yet: states are weak, lack of resources, weak civil society is weak
 - ? Suggest: Role of NGOS

Human Security Issues

- ? The concept is ambiguous, "... human security could be a term that runs the risk of including nothing or everything" (Ogata, 2000).
- ? Several but one of the major issues: Human trafficking
 - ? Yet: confusion between sending, transit and receiving country, between smuggling and trafficking
 - ? No agreed age on women and children (above 18 or 16 etc), culture, poverty, illiteracy, minorities-victims
 - ? Sovereignty issue

Project and Empirical Researchs

- ? Limited
 - ? Research on the impact of small weapons on civilians (2003)
 - ? How people are affected by small weapons
 - ? Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand
 - ? Causes of Illicit Drug in Myanmar (2002)
 - ? How human insecurity lead to increasing drug production (producers: minorities and insurgents)

Government Policies

- ? To help the poor, the unemployed, the minority groups, the elderly, for students, etc.
 - ? For freedom from wants: create social safety nets
 - ? Freedom from fear: Human Rights Commission
-

Conclusion

- ? Absence of war does not means peace prevail
 - ? Absence of peace, increase threats to human
 - ? Human security lead to state survival
 - ? ASEAN must look nonmilitary threats as common to all human race
 - ? Rethink: noninterference principle for a common good
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