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**The Arctic and Nordic
Countries in the World of Economy and Politics**

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**NORDIC TRADITION OF PEACE RESEARCH
- AN ALTERNATIVE TO RESEARCH INTO SECURITY?**

Introduction

Ways of acquiring knowledge of international political and economic relations are a very interesting perspective of research within the scope of the development of Polish international studies. Pluralism of a theory and research practice, which has been of interest to the international scientific discourse, can also contribute to the improvement of its own research tools. The analysis of the Scandinavian tradition of international research seems a particularly interesting field of studies, since it has been most widely known in the world. Moreover, even in the early 1990s the study of international relations did not attract considerable interest of Scandinavian researchers in political science. The development of globalization, European integration and weighty questions about the international role of small, developed European countries - such as the countries of Northern Europe – have encouraged debates on international matters.

The purpose of this article is to carry out an introductory analysis of the development of the program of Scandinavian research into international security, falling within the scope of peace studies or peace and conflict studies. The knowledge built in this specific field has become - starting from the late 1950s – a unique Nordic approach to the problems of international relations, today also applied by the United Nations to conduct studies on development and international security.

The unique nature of research into peace, the development of an academic discipline of peace studies, and at the same time Scandinavian studies on international relations have been the subject of research carried out for the purpose of this paper. The paper has been concluded with a summary devoted to the

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prospects of further development of peace studies, especially in the context of international security. Therefore, the issues of the development of an academic discipline and its theory will be explored, which requires the use of several theoretical tools - content analysis, discourse analysis, analytical reconstruction of theoretical processes. The study covers the material on the institutional and theoretical development of the field of knowledge, which is the peace studies in the context of international relations theory, developed in the Nordic countries (especially Denmark, Norway and Sweden). This should be regarded as a contribution to further research on this subject.

Development of research into international relations in the Nordic countries

For at least several years, Scandinavian international relations studies have been considered as leading in Europe². It has not been always the same. In the 1960s the attempts to establish an institute of international relations both in Sweden and Norway were unsuccessful. During the Cold War studies of international political relations fell within the scope of political science. Christer Jonsson believed, that the failure of the process of institutionalization of international relations as a distinct academic discipline resulted from the fact, that model of education in the social sciences in the Nordic countries took rather general and cross-cutting approach³. This does not mean, that international studies were not undertaken. Neutrality policy of countries such as Sweden or Norway has found its expression in supporting a specific branch of knowledge of international relations, which is peace research. Today, both studies of international relations, as well as peace research, in a sense, are considered as two separate currents of research. Both of them will be discussed below.

The development of research into international relations in the Nordic countries, in spite of its initial remoteness, resulting from geographical and political circumstances (the so-called Cold War, lasting especially in Europe until the late 80s), relatively quickly led to the formation of its own research school, which is distinct from other schools due to the capability of academic community to create original research approaches on an international scale⁴. Scandinavian researchers have been gradually achieving high ranks thanks to sharing knowledge and highly dense networks of regional and international relations (the so-called idea of Nordic Network). Currently, the Nordic countries have their own scientific community specialized in many areas of international relations, associated with the research world. What is more, Nordic solutions are considered as a model for the creation of scientific community and research.

² See: K.E. Jorgensen, T.B. Knudsen (ed.) *International Relations in Europe: traditions, perspectives, destinations*, London & New York 2008.

³ Ch. Jonsson, *International Politics: Scandinavian Identity Amidst American Hegemony?*, „Scandinavian Political Studies”, 2/1993, pp. 149-163.

⁴ J. Friedrichs, *European Approaches to International Relations Theory. A House with Many Mansions*, London & New York 2004, pp. 65-66.

Interestingly, academic faculties and university research teams in Scandinavia were established not only relatively late, but mainly as a result of top-down political decisions. Studies on Scandinavian higher education indicate, that the development of social studies was primarily due to the close coordination between the needs of the state, market and society⁵. Making the model of welfare society stable required a solid foundation for the formulation of social and economic policy⁶. Since the 1990s, globalization processes have also resulted in the growth of the amount of educational pathways, which contributed to the supply of grants and the demand for research into international relations. In addition, the Nordic countries have gained a strong international identity as international promoters of peace and disarmament, as well as negotiators, arbitrators or donors⁷. There has been increased institutional cooperation both in the Nordic region, as well as through the institutions of European Union⁸. These factors seem to explain the development of scientific and educational base. In Sweden studies on security, disarmament and foreign policy have been promoted; whereas in Norway and Denmark on the history of diplomacy, international organizations, regional development and integration. It is also noteworthy, that in Denmark courses in international relations have been even adapted to secondary school curricula⁹.

Each newly established research centre has developed a profile, which allowed to focus on selected areas of study to achieve high quality results. Another specific feature of this model has been intense scientific work on several levels at the same time - at the national, regional and international levels. Jorg Friedrichs, who has been working on the profile of Scandinavian research into international relations points out certain stages in the development of these disciplines, which is presented in the table below.

Tabela 1. Scandinavian model of research into international relations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English-language publications • Publishing English-language periodical publications (e.g. <i>Journal of Peace Research, Cooperation and Conflict, Scandinavian Political Studies</i>) • Young researchers build-up networks of cooperation with other European researchers. • Researchers create a broad market of international conferences in Scandinavia

Source: J. Friedrichs, *European Approaches to International Relations Theory. A House with Many Mansions*, London & New York 2004, p. 67.

⁵ See: K. Musiał, *Uniwersytet na miarę swojego czasu*, Gdańsk 2013; M. Castells, P. Himanen, *Spoleczeństwo informacyjne i państwo dobrobytu*, Warsaw 2009.

⁶ See more: A. Lundqvist, K. Petersen, "Experts, knowledge and the Nordic welfare states. An introduction". [in:] *In Experts We Trust. Knowledge, Politics and Bureaucracy in Nordic Welfare States*, A. Lundqvist, K. Petersen (ed.) Odense 2010, pp. 9-13.

⁷ G. Lily Magnúsdóttir, *Small States' Power Resources in EU Negotiations. Nordic Eco-entrepreneurship within the Environmental Policy of the EU*, Saarbrücken 2010, pp. 70-79.

⁸ Broad study in the Polish literature, B. Piotrowski, *Integracja Skandynawii: od Rady Nordyckiej do Wspólnoty Europejskiej*, Poznań 2006.

⁹ J. Friedrichs, *European Approaches...*, *op.cit.* p.68.

Efficient process of setting up research projects in Scandinavia has allowed the local community of scholars to gain its own methodological identity and large independence within the framework of international discourse, carried out primarily in English. Researchers from Sweden, Norway and Denmark not only relatively quickly began to publish in English, but they started to create their own prestigious English-language periodicals (e.g. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, and other) and organize conferences and scholarships to attract researchers from around the world¹⁰. Already at the end of the Cold War, many Scandinavians were members of international research organizations and scientific societies, which allowed to build up academic contacts.

The already mentioned independence, arising from establishing individual research tradition, has allowed to identify several attractive niches in the global market. While the so-called main current of research into diplomacy and international relations during the Cold War focused on the issues of the foreign policy of superpowers, Scandinavian researchers turned their attention to issues relevant to the institutionalism, such as integration processes, problems of nationalism, internationalization or globalization. After the Cold War the Copenhagen school developed one of the most important constructivist theory of international relations - the theory of securitization¹¹. In addition to research into security and theories within the scope of the main current, critical and interdisciplinary research have been developed. Thus, currently, Scandinavian school of international relations studies does not constitute a homogeneous group, and is composed of a number of well-known people - such as Walter Carlsnaes, Johan Galtung, Ole Waever, Erik Ringmar, Georg Sorensen, Knud Erik Jorgensen, Tonny Brems Knudsen, Heikki Patomaki, Peter Wallensteen and many others. Research and lectures in Scandinavian research centers have been conducted by such famous scholars of international relations as Barry Buzan, and nowadays Stefano Guzzini¹².

The emergence of modern academic system of education and academic disciplines in the field of international affairs has created a tool for cross-sectional studies and also contributed to the development of expert institutions called *think tanks*. These are the centers specialized in the analysis of public policy and international affairs. Both the number and the significance of these institutions have increased considerably over the last 20-30 years. They provide a good example of how professionals in selected fields of knowledge actively engage in

¹⁰ *Ibidem*, pp. 66-67.

¹¹ B. Buzan, O. Waever, J. de Wilde, *Security: a New Framework for Analysis*, London 1998.

¹² Walter Carlsnaes was a co-author of a number of books on the theory of international relations; Johan Galtung is the father of the entire discipline of peace studies, Ole Waever is a sociologist and the member of the so-called Copenhagen school, Erik Ringmar has conducted research on international regimes in Asia, Georg Sorensen is the co-author of the Oxford Handbook for the study of international relations theory, Knud Erik Jorgensen and Tonny Brems Knudsen edited the study on European research schools, Heikki Patomaki has been known for his monographs on scientific realism and critical realism, Peter Wallensteen co-founded the school of peace studies at the University of Uppsala.

issues important to the state and society¹³. A large part of these institutions carry out research into international relations, taking advantage of modern information technology. It should be noted, that in each of the Nordic countries there are think tanks of supra-regional reputation, and some - like the Swedish SIPRI, Norwegian PRIO, the Danish DIIS have even gained a global reputation, attracting recognized experts from around the world. In 2011 they were included in the thirty most prominent institutions of this kind in the world (out of nearly 6,500 think tanks) by prestigious ranking of the *Global Go To Think Tanks*¹⁴. They will be dealt with further when discussing peace research.

In the context of the aforementioned involvement of the state in developing a research market for political science and international relations in the Nordic region, it should be mentioned, that a similar situation has occurred in the sector of *think tanks*. The prestigious Nordic research institutes, mentioned above, have also been established in response to the demand of countries, and they are an example of relatively successful synergy of scientific, expert and government environments.

The development of peace research

The tradition of research on international relations places has made the issue of war and peace the centre of its interests. In the twentieth century, a period marked by the stigma of the two world wars and the Cold War, caused the issue of conflicts to attract definitely more attention. The first major study documenting the attempts to identify the causes of modern wars is a work edited by Quincy Wright, published in 1942¹⁵. The authors have collected data on hundreds of armed conflicts, but unfortunately have failed to determine the reasons for wars. The advent of nuclear weapons, decolonization, terrorism, technological and communication revolution in the second half of the twentieth century have expanded the issues of international and internal conflicts.

Research into peace and conflict resolution may provide an alternative to the studies of war. The first study of international relations, carried out from the perspective of political liberalism, however, came to a standstill with the outbreak of the First World War. The work of Norman Angell, indicating that the development of trade makes war unprofitable, illustrates how much pre-war idealists were mistaken. The subsequent development of this school today is largely forgotten¹⁶. Those researchers believed that the policy - like the trade - is a rational game of interest. As noted by Roman Kuźniar - they did not pay attention to the fact - that European countries were involved in war just for profit, forming alliances in order to expand empires. The outbreak of the world war

¹³ Comp.: T. Medvetz, *Think tanks in America*, Chicago & London 2012.

¹⁴ J. McGann, *The Global "Go To Think Tanks"*. *The Leading Public Policy Research Organizations in the World*, Final UN University Edition, Philadelphia 2011.

¹⁵ P. Wallensteen, *The Origins of Contemporary Peace Research*, [in] *Understanding peace research. Methods and Challenges*, eds. K. Hoglund, M. Oberg, London & New York 2011, p. 18.

¹⁶ The problem is further discussed in: T. Pawłuszko, *Anglosaskie źródła nauki o stosunkach międzynarodowych*, „Stosunki Międzynarodowe”, no. 3-4 (44) 2011, pp. 91-114.

destroyed the basis for an international order based on the principle of balance of the European powers, formally established 200 years earlier by the Treaty of Utrecht (i.e. since 1712)¹⁷. The disaster of the First World War, the failure of the League of Nations project, then hecatombs of dead from the Second World War combined with the collapse of the European economy, the beginning of a turbulent decolonization and the dynamic development of international institutions (UN system) showed a different perspective of the issues of international peace and security.

The basic idea behind the peace studies has been making peace a subject of credible scientific research¹⁸. The aim of this type of research would be not only the pursuit of peace and avoiding war, but also developing an effective policy of peace. In the initial stage of setting up the projects for this type of research the major problem was the misinterpretation of the concept of peace, which in times of conflict tends to be defined negatively as the “absence of war”. However, the notion of peace and order is associated with a different meaning, that is health, economic growth, democracy, and other objectives, important for the society. This could create a risk of normativism and politicization. Indeed, “peace” means not only the need for security, defense, but also health care, and industry.

The ambiguous concept of peace research has not generated widespread interest in Anglo-Saxon countries. In the United States and the United Kingdom, engaged in Cold War rivalry and decolonization, peace studies did not gain popularity, although the perspective of a potential world war with the Soviet Union led to the multilateral development of strategic studies devoted to the doctrines of nuclear deterrence¹⁹. An exception was the University of Michigan, which launched the research program “Correlates of War” (COW) managed by Joel David Singer and Melvin Small²⁰. However, the issue of peace management and international order was of interest only to individual researchers in social sciences, psychology and history, so they neither had influence on the reality, nor called for action. The advent of new research procedures emerging from the modernist philosophy of science have been a positive impulse. The development of methodology and systematization of knowledge have made many of the concepts and analysis possible, which has resulted in the growth of the peace research agenda. Scandinavian school has been of major significance for its development.

In 1959, a young Norwegian researcher Johan Galtung received a grant of the Institute for Social Research in Oslo for research into peace. Five researchers to

¹⁷ R. Kuźniar, *Ewolucja problem bezpieczeństwa – rys historyczny*, in: Idem., B. Balcerowicz (et al.), *Bezpieczeństwo międzynarodowe*, Warsaw 2012, pp. 20-23.

¹⁸ J. Galtung, *Violence, Peace, and Peace Research*, „Journal of Peace Research”, vol. 6, no. 3 (1969), pp.167-191.

¹⁹ M. Trachtenberg, *Strategic Thought in America 1952–1966*, „Political Science Quarterly”, 1989, no. 2, pp. 301–334.

²⁰ Data on wars and conflicts covering the period after 1816 have been collected within the framework of the program UCDP – the data have been regularly published by the periodical *Journal of Peace Research* since 1933, see: <http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/>, (April 2014).

implement five research projects were initially involved in his controversial program. The notion of peace was at that time associated with communism, the ideological expansion of the Soviet Union and the “struggle for peace” in the war in Vietnam. A few years later Galtung reminisced about the registration of the project and the skeptical attitude of the authorities of the Norwegian Ministry of Science, who indicated, that the study of peace was “a terrible name” and suggested that “research on war” (“war studies”) would be better. According to Galtung conflicts had often been studied without taking into account the processes to resolve them through peaceful means²¹. The collective name: *peace and conflict studies* came as a solution. It is interesting, that at that time Norway and Sweden failed to establish an institution of research on international relations, although this discipline was being developed - as it was already mentioned – within the framework of the existing political science departments.

Peace studies were initiated in Scandinavia in the late 1950s. In 1959 the Peace Research Institute in Oslo (PRIO) was established by the initiative of the already mentioned J. Galtung. In Sweden, a similar institute was established by the initiative of the government in the mid 1960s. In 1966 the Stockholm Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) was founded. In the same year, the prestigious Uppsala University organized the first academic research seminar on peace studies. The seminar involved both undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as academic staff. The key issue addressed at the seminar were the sanctions and the ability of a small country to interact on a global scale. Similar seminars were soon organized at the universities of Lund and Gothenburg. Johan Galtung, promoting the issues relating to the new discipline, for years had been organizing in Sweden January “theory weeks”, attracting researchers and students, later journalists and influential commentators on current affairs²². In 1964, under the PRIO the first issue of the prestigious today Journal of Peace Research was published. In the same year, in London, International Peace Research Association, IPRA was established. Galtung had been the head of PRIO until 1969, when he became the head of the world’s first peace research chair at the University of Oslo.

The 1970s saw a rapid development of the Swedish SIPRI and the Finnish Peace Research Institute (TAPRI) established in Tampere. A niche approach as well as the fact, that institutions such as SIPRI and PRIO actually were think tanks, imposed certain limitations of the development of the discipline of peace studies as a new school of research. Those institutions did not provide academic classes, whereas universities also offered very few courses in the field. Academics feared the changing political priorities of the governments of the Nordic countries, given that, education in the Nordic countries has been and still is heavily dependent on government policy. The beginning of the process of disarmament and the Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe turned out conducive

²¹ J. Galtung, *Twenty Five Years of Peace Research. Ten challenges, and some responses*, „Journal of Peace Research”, June 1985, vol. 22 no. 2 pp. 141-158.

²² Peter Wallensteen, *Peace research. Theory and practice*, London & New York 2011, p. 5.

to the development of the studies²³. In 1971, the Swedish government announced the competition for three professorship positions in the field of peace research - at the universities of Uppsala, Lund and Gothenburg. This stabilized the situation. The universities began to offer undergraduate courses while academic discourse fostered research into disarmament and socio-economic development. The breakthrough was the adoption by the Parliament an Act in memory of Dag Hammarskjöld (Swedish diplomat and the second Secretary-General of the United Nations, holding the post from 1953 till 1961). The Minister of Education proposed development plan for peace research at Swedish universities. This enabled universities to engage academic staff and to organize postgraduate studies. As Peter Wallensteen reminisced a few years later, there were organizational problems, resulting from the reluctance and the poor communication between the researchers across the new and existing disciplines. The future of the peace research depended on how well it was tackled both in terms of teaching and studying. The priority of the development of the discipline of peace research was therefore to provide the highest quality of teaching. P. Wallensteen, pointed to the four objectives that guided the research environment²⁴:

- **Protect the basic idea - the peace research, especially since the small number of research can easily communicate**
- **Achieve the highest standards of competence** - essential for teaching and research, attracting the best students, cooperation instead of competition
- **Realize the potential of research centres** – cost reduction
- **Gain international recognition** – organizing international student, staff exchange, approving scholarship schemes etc.

The above policy was pursued using the model applied by the researcher community in the field of international relations. The Uppsala university gained an excellent reputation among university institutions. In 1992 first doctoral degrees in the field of *peace and conflict research* were awarded at that university. The development of teaching programme resulted in adding to the curriculum practically one new subject every year. The organization of events on a national scale has considerably contributed to achieving international recognition. Internationally renowned experts have been invited to doctoral ceremonies, honorary degrees of doctor honoris causa were conferred, visiting professors were awarded scholarships. Prestigious conferences were attended by well-known scholars and personalities. In 1988, the Uppsala university launched an international program dedicated to different approaches to conflict resolution, and in 1993, thanks to the famous Uppsala Conflict Data Program, which is a comprehensive database and a framework for the study of conflict in the world, the gathered data began to be published²⁵. A little earlier, in 1983 in Copenhagen,

²³ *Ibidem*, pp. 6-7.

²⁴ *Ibidem*, pp. 8-10.

²⁵ A valuable elaboration in Polish literature, see: J. Regina-Zacharski, *Definicje wojny – wielość ujęć*, [in:] R. Łoś, *ibidem*, *Współczesne konflikty zbrojne*, Warsaw 2011, see: chapter 3.

the famous Copenhagen Peace Research Institute (COPRI, now DIIS²⁶), which has been carried out research into international security (it was here, that a theory of securitization was formulated), was established. SIPRI and the peace research institutes in Heidelberg, Geneva and Frankfurt am Main, which follow the model of their Scandinavian counterparts, have been also carrying out research into armed conflicts. Similar research centers have been also established in the United States and Japan²⁷. The end of the Cold War created new research opportunities.

The future of peace research

Knowledge gathered thanks to peace research is nowadays one of the most practical branch of social science. It refers to political practices and social cohesion management, economic transformation, providing security in the post-conflict areas, producing international solutions. In the foreword to a new collective work, published in Lund, dedicated to solving international conflicts, Henrik Landerholm indicates that a fundamental change, which has occurred after the Cold War, is the fact that since 1995 the study of peace in Scandinavia has shifted from research into international conflicts towards research into internal and ethnic conflicts. The change has been the result of increasing number of armed conflicts after the Cold War and their diversity. Moreover, the availability of data and the power of media have also grown. According to Landerholm, apart from more complex international problems, in the future there will be more extensive qualitative research studies devoted to the behavior of individuals²⁸. Contemporary theories of civil wars and post-conflict peace are still based on the theories resulting from the approach of individual researchers (level of analysis and data collection). There is a need for studies dedicated to creating systemic solutions: processes of conducting preventive diplomacy and peace-making, practice of peace-building, institutionalization of the process of disarmament, reintegration, reform of security sector and others. The search for systemic solutions to the above mentioned processes - relatively new on the agenda of the United Nations – has been noticeable in contemporary publications in the field of peace research methodology²⁹.

Landerholm's view resembles the report of the Secretary General of the UN – “Agenda for Peace”, issued in 1992, which makes the phenomenon of peace major issue of contemporary international relations and one of the conditions for the

²⁶ The website of the Danish Peace Research Institute <http://www.diis.dk/>, (April 2014).

²⁷ Comp. Peace Research Institute in Frankfurt <http://www.hsfk.de/index.php?L=1> in Geneva <http://www.gipri.ch/> and in Heidelberg <http://www.hiik.de/en/> In the USA it is mainly Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame <http://kroc.nd.edu/>, (April 2014).

²⁸ H. Landerholm, *Foreword*, [in:] *Building Peace, Creating Conflict? Conflictual Dimensions of Local and International Peacebuilding*, eds. H. Fjelde, K. Hoglund, Lund 2011, pp. 7-8.

²⁹ *Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to the statement adopted by the Summit Meeting of the Security Council on 31 January 1992 - An Agenda for Peace. Preventive Diplomacy, peace-making and peace-keeping*, 17 June 1992.

existence of the contemporary international order³⁰. Actions and analyses carried out by the UN undoubtedly fall within the scope of peace studies. UN experts have benefited from the work of Johan Galtung³¹.

Table 2. Terminology included in Boutros Ghale's report of 1992 „Agenda for Peace”.

Terminology	Issues
Preventive diplomacy	Creating an early warning system
Peace-making	Organizing peacekeeping missions, mediation
Peace-enforcement	Measures aimed at ending the conflict
Peace-keeping	Organizing stabilization missions and observations
Peace-building	Establishing institutions for managing post-conflict areas

Source: author's own elaboration based on : P. Grzebyk, *Ramy prawne użycia siły*, [in:] *Bezpieczeństwo międzynarodowe*, eds. R. Kuźniar, B. Balcerowicz [et al.], Warsaw 2012, pp. 121-133.

The United Nations have been following the above mentioned agenda, substantially inspired by research into peace. In the 1980s Johan Galtung claimed, that different and even “ambiguous” perception of the concept of “peace” is beneficial to the researcher, because the phenomenon of “peace” is a process, that in many situations leads to the existence of a variety of social values. When making reference to anthropological research Galtung focused on the origins of different concepts of peace in different civilizations (*eirene* in ancient Greece, peace in Christianity, *sala'am* in Islamic, shalom in Hebrew, or other - Buddhist and Hindu understanding of peace). Galtung himself is the author of bilateral definition of peace – of which one focuses on its *negative* aspects (no conflict) and the other on *positive* aspects (integration, harmony, development)³². This approach enabled the careful study of international issues and encouraged producing optimal practical solutions to these problems.

Multilateral approach to the concept of peace and conflict has been present in the practice of management and conflict resolution in the activities of international organizations, which formulate a code of conduct for states and other actors in international relations. An example here is not only the above-mentioned report “Agenda for Peace”, but the creation of the entire international legal system for carrying out a new type of peacekeeping operations (the so-called Capstone doctrine³³) and formalizing the process of organization of confidence-building measures between states and societies. The United Nations has also appointed

³⁰ *Ibidem*.

³¹ See document: *United Nations Peacebuilding: an Orientation*, Peacebuilding Support Office 2010, p. 5.

³² J. Galtung, *Twenty Five Years... op.cit.*, pp. 141-158.

³³ See more at: *United Nations Peacekeeping* <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/> (05.05-12.05.2014).

a Peace Building Commission, whose task is giving advice, providing international assistance and promoting best practices of conflict resolution³⁴. Knowledge of peace has become not only an interdisciplinary intellectual base, but also a very practical tool to create political and economic solutions.

Today, one of the main challenges to the international community in ensuring security and reconstruction of societies after internal conflicts / civil wars. Organizations such as the UN, the OSCE, the African Union and the EU have taken responsibility for creating the conditions for peace in the troubled areas of the globe. As a result of changes in the international law, missions with appropriate mandate not only can manage the conflict, but also have the right to intervene in internal affairs³⁵. Today, the issue of management of peace covers much broader area than military-political issues, overrated by many researchers. It comprises transformation of political institutions, reconstruction of the economy, creation of conditions for development, building trust and social openness and reconciliation.

Contemporary studies in the field of peace research therefore focus on and encourage any efforts to support political, institutional, social and economic transformation processes necessary to reduce the risk of conflict, laying the foundations for sustainable peace and development. There is also the issue of building capacity to manage and resolve conflicts, which in practice is usually not limited only to having a mandate. One example is the issue of security transition - the first step of this process concerns the transition from conflict to peace state, the second stage - post-conflict peace-building involves democratic transition (democracy as a standard of good governance, promotes economic development - to combat poverty and crime), the third stage is improving socio-economic relationships, handling of the economy in the conditions of peace³⁶.

Johan Galtung has stated a number of times, that in addition to knowledge and support for practice, peace research should serve educational purpose³⁷. Educational dimension of peace research is especially important, as many social conflicts result from the ignorance and lack of social trust and feature asymmetry and uncertainty. There is also the problem of the competence of political leaders, and their response to emergency conditions, as well as the pressing need to handle social emotions - such as insecurity, or lack of satisfaction. These issues are of fundamental importance in the case of the so-called frozen conflicts, and thus a situation, in which the process of peacemaking has failed to define the real origins of the conflict or to safeguard the interests of the parties³⁸. Thus, „peace

³⁴ P. Grzebyk, *Ramy prawne... op.cit.*, pp. 136-141.

³⁵ H. Fjelde, K. Høglund, *Building Peace, Creating Conflict?*, [in:] *Building Peace, Creating Conflict? Conflictual Dimensions of Local and International Peacebuilding*, eds. H. Fjelde, K. Høglund, Lund 2011, p. 11.

³⁶ *Ibidem*, pp. 13-14.

³⁷ *Handbook of Peace and Conflict Studies*, eds. Ch. Webel, J. Galtung, London & New York 2007.

³⁸ K. Aggestam, A. Bjørkdahl, *Just peace postponed. Unending peace processes and frozen conflicts*, [in:] *Building Peace, Creating Conflict? Conflictual Dimensions of Local and International Peacebuilding, op.cit.*, pp. 25-26.

building” not only ensures the absence of aggression, but it helps to define and address unresolved social and economic problems (*peace gaps*) or processes, which result in undermining peace (*peace spoiling*).

While creating an outline of contemporary peace studies Galtung, in his later works, has presented a vision of a cross-sectional study in the field of knowledge linking research into interpersonal, social, interstate / international, regional and civilization conflicts³⁹. The distinctive feature of his approach, when compared to research undertaken in political science, lies in the secondary role of the state. Galtung believes, that peacekeeping depends on social behavior on many different levels - the state is only one of the levels of analysis, however, still not the most important. This approach is closer to the modern security studies, which although are considered a discipline derived from the study of international relations, paradoxically, are inspired by the model peace studies created by Barry Buzan, thus a co-creator of Copenhagen school, within the Copenhagen Peace Research Institute.⁴⁰ Paul Williams even suggests, that Buzan’s studies have formed the basis for making security studies a separate field of research.⁴¹ This has broad methodological implications, however the comparison of contemporary research studies into security and peace studies goes beyond this modest piece of writing.

Conclusions

Scandinavian tradition of peace research has evolved from a modest idea of Johan Galtung through the foundation of the first research centers in Sweden and Norway towards creating a branch of knowledge “applied” and promoted by the United Nations. It is surprising, that so far, except for a few references, this subject of research has not aroused particular interest of Polish researchers. It has not been monographed either. Research into peace is not dealt with in the handbooks on the theory of political science, international relations or sociology of these disciplines. However, it seems that this topic will be gaining in popularity, especially in the situation of the growing internationalization of Polish science and interest in issues of national and international security, as well as the practice of activities of international organizations.

Continuous controversy, which has been only mentioned in this paper, between the theoretical research into peace and the practice is the incommensurability of scientific concepts and theories as compared to the practice of conflict resolution and peace processes. However, research into peace is highly applicable, both in terms of quantitative research (providing “hard” data on the behavior of people and countries) and qualitative (study on purposes, significance, reasoning of humans). The peace research institutes, discussed in the previous section, provide researchers with the basic data for establishing a research agenda for international relations and security, as well as provide the materials to acquire knowledge necessary to make

³⁹ J. Galtung, *Transcend and transform. An introduction to conflict work*, London 2004.

⁴⁰ This is a reference to a work by B. Buzan, *People, states and fear*, published in 1983.

⁴¹ Comp. *Studia bezpieczeństwa*, ed. P. Williams, Kraków 2012, see: esp. Chapter 1.

political and economic decisions in many regions of the world. Therefore, it would not be risky to claim, that if it was not for Scandinavian research tradition and the achievements made by the Scandinavian peace research centers, the modern world would probably have much fewer tools for analyzing and measures to prevent international crises. Obviously proving this statement requires further research.

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Abstract

The purpose of this article is to carry out an introductory analysis of the development of the program of Scandinavian research into international security, falling within the scope of peace studies or peace and conflict studies. The knowledge built in this specific field has become - starting from the late 1950s – a unique Nordic way of recognizing the problems of international relations. The unique nature of research into peace, the development of an academic discipline of peace studies, and at the same time Scandinavian studies on international relations have been the subject of research carried out for the purpose of this paper. The paper has been concluded with a summary devoted to the prospects of further development of peace studies, especially in the context of international security.

Nordycka tradycja badań nad pokojem – alternatywa w studiach nad bezpieczeństwem?

Celem niniejszego artykułu jest analiza wstępna rozwoju programu skandynawskich badań nad bezpieczeństwem międzynarodowym, prowadzonych w ramach dyscypliny studiów nad pokojem (*peace studies* lub *peace and conflict studies*). Wiedza wytwarzana w ramach tej specyficznej dziedziny stała się – począwszy od końca lat 50. XX wieku - typowo nordyckim sposobem ujmowania problematyki stosunków międzynarodowych. Przedmiotem badań na potrzeby tego tekstu uczyniono kolejno: specyfikę badań nad pokojem, rozwój dyscypliny studiów nad pokojem oraz równoległe – skandynawskich badań nad stosunkami międzynarodowymi. Artykuł wieńczy podsumowanie poświęcone perspektywom dalszego rozwoju badań nad pokojem w optyce szczególnie bezpieczeństwa międzynarodowego.

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