

TERRITORIAL DEFENCE - ANACHRONISM OR NECESSITY IN THE CONTEMPORARY CONDITIONS

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Abstract: *The article examines the conceptual formulation related to the essence and tasks of territorial defence. Based on the experience of a number of NATO members and countries that are not part of the Alliance, the advantages, disadvantages and the need to maintain such forces have been assessed. The questions of which structures or organizations currently perform or could perform the defined tasks in the Republic of Bulgaria have been also researched. A conceptual version of the place of such a future structure in the National Security protection system is outlined.*

Key words: *territorial defence, forces, main tasks, advantages, disadvantages, responsibilities.*