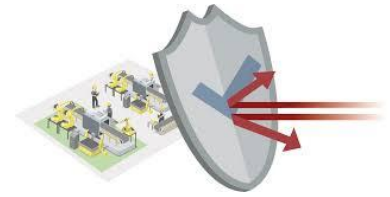


**Session 1:**

**DEFINING SECURITY CONCEPT**

**A- Etymology :**

Security practices are as old as civilization, and the term ‘security’ goes back in history to Ancient Greek and Latin. These languages recorded the first expressions which are considered the roots of the term security and its related terms.



**1- Ancient Greek :**

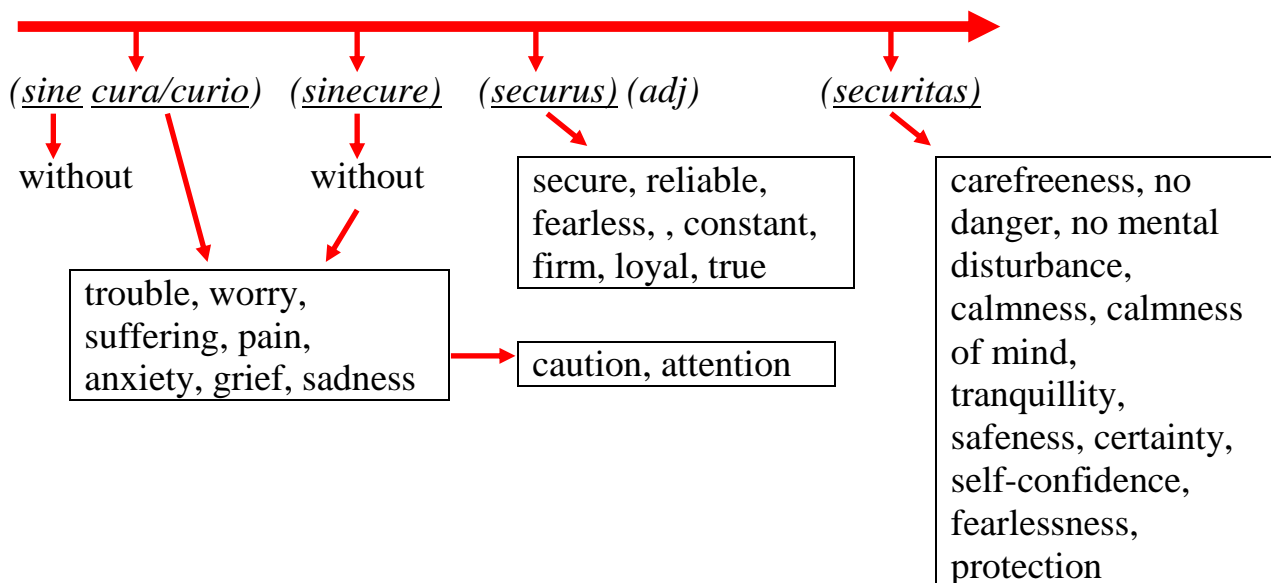
▶ *asphaleia* (ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ) ≠ *sphallo*

<b>asphaleia</b>		<b>sphallo</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● avoiding a mistake, (a cause of) failure, defeat, disappointment, etc.</li> <li>● being in charge of the situation, preventing failure, certainty of victory, victory, prosperity, etc.</li> </ul>	≠	a mistake, cause of failure, devastation, defeat, confusion, disappointment

▶ The word **asphaleia** primarily signifies the behaviour, activity, function of humans which create the desired state in their environment. This word is in the basis of the term “**asphaliology**” that is used to label the security sciences.

▶ *asphaleia* ▶ asphaliology (=security sciences) *asphalia* = security / *logia* = science

**2- Latin :**



## **B- Definitions :**

*Owing to its different perceptions and various theories and approaches, the concept of security is so complex, polysemous and elastic that it remains merely impossible to find a general and most acceptable definition that fully satisfies all the aspects of the term.*



The following are some of numerous definitions of security concept(s):

### **Definition 1:**

Security is the protection against something bad that might happen in the future as well as a state of feeling happy, secure, and free from worry.

### **Definition 2:**

Security is the absence of threats and the capacity to deter a threat.



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### **Definition 3:**

Security is a general state where individual citizens live in freedom, peace, and safety; completely participate in the governing process; enjoy the protection of fundamental rights; have access to resources and basic life necessities, and inhabit the environment that is not harmful to their health and well-being.

### **Definition 4:**

Security is the freedom from threats. In the international system, security is the capacity of states and societies to preserve independent self-relevance and functional integrity.

### **Definition 5:**

Security is the removal of all the activities and omissions that threaten people, public order, objects, or the given space. Considering the protected goods and values, we differentiate: personal security (realized through personal freedoms and rights and economic security), state security (values of a state and public order), traffic security (on roads, in the air, on rivers and seas), security of objects (the objects significant for state and citizens are defined by law), space security (legal protection of parts of the territory of special importance – forbidden zones), and data security (the type of protected data, as well as the manner and degree of their protection is defined by law).

### **Definition 6:**

Security in the widest political and legal sense involves the measures and activities of preserving and protecting from threats towards the independence and integrity of a country (state, nation) and its internal constitutional and legal order. In the first case, it is external, and in the second case, it is the internal security. According to the object of protection, the difference can be made among: the state security; general (public), collective, personal security; security of property. Sometimes the term “security” is identified with the term “safety”, but they are not the same, and in some languages there are no two terms, but only one (security, sécurité,(TN:signost)).

### Definition 7:

Security or safety is a state of the one that is ensured and secured from danger. That can refer to a person or any social unit, including natural environment and instruments people are daily in touch with in the process of living and working. Security is also the desired state of the system that is achieved by eliminating threats and risks that come from within the system and outside it. In the most general sense, it signifies the freedom from fear, threats, and physical violence.

#### Source:

Adapted from : Saša Mijalković and Marija Popović Mančević, *Contemporary Security Studies: An Introduction to methodological, research and theoretical foundations of security*, Contemporary Security Studies, ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ Ed, Volume X, Službeni glasnik, Belgrade, 2018, PP. 123-126.

### C- Expression :

Which definition is the most appealing to you ? Why ? Discuss in terms of the following items : more general – more specific – clear – using easy language – gathering all the different aspects of security ...

**Example** : In my opinion, *definition 5* is the best because it gathers and differentiates all the different aspects of security : personal security, state security, traffic security ...

### D- Lexis Expansion :

**Task 1** : Associated terms

- 1- What are, in your opinion, the other associated terms that can be connected to security and security science ?
- 2- Discuss: defence / peace / freedom / stability



**Task 2** : Security and other related disciplines

- 1- What are, in your opinion, the other fields of science that can be connected to security and security science ?
- 2- Read the following and discuss the relationship of each science with security practices.

The number of disciplines that can contribute to generate new knowledge about security is not small, starting from: politology, criminology, criminalistics, psychopathology, ecology, biochemistry, genetics, geography, history, economics, linguistics, mathematics, physics, chemistry, statistics, neurology, pharmacology, psychiatry, physiology, sociology, penology, law, medicine as well as agricultural, military, technical and informaton sciences. The list of scientific areas that could be deployed in transdisciplinary researches is not definite.

Cane Mojanoski, *Scope of Research in Asphaliology*. Downloadable from :

<http://zbornici.fkn.unsa.ba/index.php/zbornik/article/view/31> or: <http://eprints.uklo.edu.mk/885/>

**Task 3 :** Classify the following words according to their positive or negative meanings :

prosperity / mistake / failure / victory / defeat / confusion / disappointment / security / secure / reliable / fearless / constant / firm / loyal / true / trouble / suffering / pain / anxiety / grief / sadness / caution / attention / carefreeness / danger / disturbance / calmness / tranquillity / instability / safeness / certainty / self-confidence / fearlessness / protection / bad / happy / peril / worry / secure / threats / freedom / peace / safety / rights / harmful / well-being / independence / law / order / ensured / secured / chaos / risk / fear / violence / jeopardy / defence / peace / freedom / stability / war / pandemic / hospital / crime / sovereignty / arms / conflicts / prevention / attacks / development / hazard / catastrophe

Example ►

	<b>Positive meaning</b>	<b>Negative meaning</b>
	peace	war

**E- OPEN DISCUSSION**

According to the traditional view, *Adrian Hyde-Price* states that "security has two dimensions: avoiding war (its negative dimension) and building peace (its positive dimension)". Thus, defence and peace are unequivocally connected to security.

**Adrian Hyde-Price, "Beware the Jabberwock! " : Security Studies in the Twenty-First Century, Europe's New Security Challenges, Lynne Reinner Publishers, London, 2001. P 28.**

