Civil-Military Relations: Between National Development Priority and the Imperative of Army Modernization

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Abstract:

This article explores the delicate balance between the necessity of military modernization and national development priorities. The central hypothesis underscores the crucial role of maintaining healthy civil-military relations and strategically aligning military modernization with economic growth to achieve prosperity and well-being.

To test this hypothesis, the article delves into the concept of civil-military relations, national development concepts and priorities, army modernization goals, and strategies for achieving a balance between national development and military modernization. The findings emphasize the need for a comprehensive approach and effective resource allocation to address the intricate relationship between these elements, ensuring the nation's prosperity and resilience.

Keywords: Civil-military relations; National Development; Army modernization; Balanced approach; Interplay.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Civil-military relations are a constantly evolving and complex concept, at the heart of which lies the delicate balance between civilian authority and military power within society. These relations encompass the interactions and dynamics between the civilian government and the armed forces, shaping the governance, security, and overall stability of the nation. This intricate relationship is not only pivotal for upholding the principles of democracy and ensuring civilian control over the military but also essential for addressing multifaceted challenges and threats that any country may face. The nature of civil-military relations varies significantly among different countries and is influenced by historical, cultural, political, social, and economic factors.In addition to its impact on governance and security, civil-military relations significantly influence a state's developmental trajectory. How a country manages this relationship can either promote economic growth, social progress, and the protection of human rights or hinder these vital matters.

Development, in all its countless forms, is the dynamic process through which societies seek to improve the quality of life for their citizens and enhance sustainable progress. This encompasses economic growth, social advancement, and technological innovation, all aimed at creating a more prosperous and equitable future. At the core of national development, pursued according to the available resources, lies the concept of national development priorities, which serve as guiding principles for a nation's transformative journey. These priorities represent the collective vision and aspirations of any country, reflecting its unique challenges, opportunities, and values. They also articulate the strategic objectives set by governments and communities to address pressing issues, enhance the well-being of their citizens, and position themselves competitively in an ever-evolving global landscape. Whether national development priorities focus on economic expansion, social justice, environmental sustainability, or technological innovation, they shape policies, investments, and actions, ultimately defining the path of development in any country. This path flourishes and grows within a secure and stable environment, a responsibility primarily entrusted to the military as one of its core missions. Ensuring prosperity and progress can only be guaranteed when a state possesses a modern military capable of deterring external threats and effectively responding to emerging challenges. Modernizing the armed forces is a central element in ensuring comprehensive security and resilience .The intertwined nature of national development and military modernization underscores the symbiotic relationship between a nation's prosperity and its strength, as well as its ability to effectively defend

its interests. A well-modernized military not only safeguards the achievements made through developmental efforts but also acts as a catalyst for further growth, innovation, and technological advancement. "As we delve into this complex interplay between military modernization, national development, it becomes essential to pose the fundamental question that will guide our research:

- How can a nation effectively balance the imperatives of modernizing its military for comprehensive security with the priorities of national development, and what role does this balance play in ensuring both prosperity and resilience?

To answer this pivotal question, we propose the following hypothesis:

- Healthy civil-military relations and effectively harmonizing military modernization with national development, through strategic resource allocation and ensuring that military modernization aligns with economic growth, is pivotal for achieving both prosperity and resilience in a nation.

In order to test this hypothesis and shed light on the Research topic, our research will be structured into Four sections:

Section 1: Civil-Military Relations (concept, Problematique, Theories)
Section 2: National Development (concept, Dimensions, priorities)
Section 3: Army modernization (concept, goals)
Section 4: Balancing National Development with Military Modernization

Previous studies:

Study (Ghurab Ahmed Rafik, 2018) Civil-Military Relations: A Study in Theoretical Frameworks (Egypt as a Case Study): This study concluded the civil-military relations in Egypt highlights that the army's interventions are driven by a combination of power dynamics, foreign relations, professionalism, civilian weaknesses, and personal interests of senior officers. The erosion of the Mubarak regime's legitimacy led to the army's intervention and eventual takeover. During the transition, the army retained power, secured privileges, and maintained budget independence. The military's coup against legitimate authority signaled a desire for prolonged power, revealing shortcomings in its professionalism and a belief in its monopoly on coercive power within society.

Study (Peter D. Feaver & RichardH. Kohn,2021) <u>Civil-Military Relations in the United States: What Senior Leaders Need to Know (And Usually Don't)</u>: This article discusses the dynamics of civil-military relations in the United States, highlighting the paradox of high public trust in the military alongside a significant gap between the civilian and military communities characterized by a decline in voluntary military service. It also

addresses the increasing politicization of the military aligned with one political party, budgetary challenges, and the distinctive features of the Trump era. The article further discusses Trump's use of the military for political purposes, the events of January 6th involving some former military veterans, and concludes by emphasizing the importance of trust and proactive efforts by civilian and military leaders to maintain a healthy and non-political civil-military relationship in the future.

Study (Michael Beckley,2010) <u>Economic Development and Military Effectiveness:</u> This study highlights the importance of military effectiveness in determining military power, concluding that economic development is the primary driver of effectiveness. The researcher emphasized that economically advanced states can create skilled military units and advanced equipment, while political and social factors have minimal impact. It also noted a shift in the balance between quantity and quality in military power in favor of smaller, technologically advanced armies. The study called for an understanding of the relationship between economic development and military capability, especially in a rapidly changing global landscape, and ultimately recommended conducting a rigorous study of the determinants of military power to inform political decisions and international relations.

2. Civil-Military Relations :
2.1 civil-military relations concept :
Civil-military relations is:
- The interactions between military personnel and civilian actors regarding the authority to make political decisions. (Abd Rabah, 2013, p. 02)
- The system of interactions between military leaders and political leaders in government involves a clear separation of roles, areas of operation, authorities, and responsibilities for both parties based on constitutional rules rooted in popular will. (Mahmoud, 2023, p. 160)
- The relationship between the military and national civilian organizations within the same state. It involves how these two sectors interact, cooperate, and collaborate in various aspects, including governance, security, and decision-making.

2.2 Similar Concepts :
- **Civil-Military Coordination :**
The concept defined by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs emphasizes the fundamental dialogue and interaction between civil and military actors in humanitarian emergencies. The primary goal of this coordination is to protect and promote humanitarian

principles, avoid competition between military and civilian actors, reduce inconsistency in their actions, and strive to achieve common humanitarian objectives when appropriate. It primarily focuses on the humanitarian perspective and ensuring the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance in crisis situations. (van der West, 2016, p. 17)

- **Civil-Military Interaction :**

Is a more neutral and encompassing concept that covers a broad range of interactions and relationships between national and international civilian and military actors in crisis situations. It includes everything from co-existing in the same environment to coordination and cooperation in achieving various objectives. (tan Berge, 2014, p. 04)

- **Civil-Military Cooperation:**

Is a concept primarily framed by NATO, and it focuses on the engagement and interaction between military forces and civilian entities in the context of military operations. specifically oriented toward military purposes and objectives. It involves military forces working together with civilian organizations, often in conflict or post-conflict zones, to achieve shared goals, such as providing humanitarian aid or rebuilding infrastructure. (Kasselmann, 2012, p. 17)

2.3 Civil-Military Problematique:

Civil-military relations have evolved significantly, with a notable shift occurring in the 20th century when scholars began applying social science methods. Early recognition of the societal impact of the military came from figures like Max Weber and Gaetano Mosca. From the 1950s to the 1980s, political scientists such as Samuel Huntington and Morris Janovitz explored civil-military interactions in Western democracies, highlighting the role of military leaders in influencing foreign and defense policies. This development has provided a more precise understanding of civil-military dynamics (RUKAVISHNIKOV & PUGH, 2007, p. 132). To understand the civil-military issue and the complex relationship between civilian authorities and the military, we must highlight the underlying tensions in this relationship through the following principles: (FEAVER, 1996, pp. 150-154)

- **Principle 1: Military Force for Protection**

This principle emphasizes the need for a strong military to protect society from external threats and risks. It recognizes that the primary reason for establishing a military institution is to ensure the safety and security of the community. It acknowledges that military force may be required to defend against aggressors, deter potential adversaries, or respond to emergencies. Therefore, it is necessary for the military to possess the resources, capabilities,

and readiness required to effectively fulfill its protective role. Accordingly, this principle underscores that:

a) The primary purpose of the military should be to provide protection and security.
b) Military strength should be proportionate to the threats facing society.
c) The military should be prepared for extreme emergencies and security tasks as needed.

- **Principle 2: Civilian Control and Accountability**

This principle emphasizes the importance of civilian control over the military. It recognizes that while a strong military is necessary for protection, it can also become a threat to the very society it is supposed to safeguard. Therefore, it is of utmost importance for civilian authorities, such as elected governments or appointed leaders, to maintain control over the actions and decisions of the military and the use of coercive force. Accordingly, this principle underscores that:

a) Civilian authorities should have absolute authority over the military.
b) The military should operate within the boundaries set by civilian leaders.
c) Avoid the militarization of political power and ensure that the military remains subordinate to civilian authority to prevent military coups.
d) Avoid using the military's coercive force against the society it serves.

These principles often exist in a state of tension, where society must strike a balance between having a strong military for protection and preventing the military institution from becoming independent or uncontrollable. Achieving this balance lies at the heart of the civil-military issue and is particularly crucial in democratic societies, where civilian control is a fundamental principle.

2.4 Civil-Military Relations Theories :

Most discussions in civil-military relations have considered the separation between the civilian and military worlds to be inevitable and perhaps necessary. The debate revolved around whether to narrow the gap between the two, or to control the gap between them, The following are the most important theories that have addressed civil-military relations:

- **Military Professionalism Theory:**

Samuel P. Huntington introduced two fundamental concepts in his book "The Soldier and the State" in 1957 regarding civil-military relations: "Professionalism" and "Civilian Control." He viewed the military institution, based on the theory of functional specialization, as distinct from civilian entities, responsible for armed combat. Its primary tasks include organizing,

equipping, and training the armed forces, planning military activities, and directing its operations domestically and internationally. Civilian control is achieved by maintaining a clear separation between the civilian and military spheres. This does not necessarily mean that the military should be entirely apolitical; it can provide advice, especially on security matters, but only when requested by civilians. (Onen, 2016, p. 52)

According to Huntington, four main reasons contributed to the growth of the concept of professionalism in the context of military services: (Faycal Alam, 2013, p. 23)

- The evolution of military institutions and their need for different types of expertise.
- The rise of nation-states, inter-state competition, and the need for each state to have a specialized institution for defense. Additionally, the ascendance of democratic ideas as the foundation for organizing political institutions.
- The existence of a single source of legitimate authority over the armed forces.
- The shift towards a more professional and specialized military force.

Huntington also presented two different models for the application of civilian control over the military: (Onen, 2016, p. 59)

➢ **The Model of Civilian Self-Restraint**:

This model relies on strengthening civilian power by reducing military power. However, it faces several challenges, as conflicting interests among civilian groups (government institutions, social organizations, etc.) create a point of contention that prevents them from consolidating their authority against the military. According to Huntington, the best way to implement self-restraint is by enhancing the power of one civilian group at the expense of others.

➢ **The Model of Objective Civilian Control**:

This model relies on maximizing military professionalism, where the military adopts a professional approach to its role, considering military service as a vocation. Officers are expected to dedicate themselves to military affairs without taking politics into account. Huntington acknowledges that this model is the opposite of the model of self-restraint because it achieves civilian control over the military by making the military more civilian-like and making it a "mirror of the state." In contrast, the objective model achieves this by militarizing the military and making it a "tool of the state."

• **The Agency Theory:**

According to Peter Douglas Feaver, the main weakness in Huntington's

argument is his neglect of the principle of civilian supremacy, which Feaver sees as a separate concept from professionalism and essential for maintaining military subordination. Feaver argues that professionalism alone is not strong enough to keep the military politically passive. The principle of civilian authority must be absorbed and internalized by the military officers. Feaver posits that civil-military relations are based on two main principles: (Onen, 2016, p. 60)

- The military must be strong enough to win the wars fought by the state.
- The military must protect the state from external enemies while also being mindful of its affairs so as not to undermine the society it aims to protect. Therefore, the military must be strong enough to deter external enemies and yet weak enough to be subject to civilian control.

According to Feaver's perspective, there should be a "contract" between civilian authorities and military agents to use military force in defense of civilian interests. After entering into this contract, civilian authorities regularly monitor the military agent to ensure that they adhere to civilian guidance. This way, civilians can prevent any potential abuse of power by the military agent.

- **Shared Responsibility The Theory:**

The Theory of Shared Responsibility posits that national systems of civil-military relations determine how civilians control the military, thereby liberating civil-military relations from the grip of an indefinable "professionalism" and placing them under a testable model. Like most other theories, it expands civil-military relations by describing the relationship between "civilians" and the "military" (BLAND, 1999, p. 21). Civilian control over the military is managed and maintained through the shared responsibility for control between civilian leaders and military officers. Specifically, civilian authorities are responsible for some aspects of control, while military leaders are responsible and accountable for other aspects.

The Theory of Shared Responsibility is based on two assumptions:

- The term "civilian control" implies that the sole legitimate source of directives and actions for the military is derived from civilians outside the military institution. This implies that the military does not have a legitimate right to act independently.
- Civilian control is a dynamic process that can change based on ideas, values, circumstances, personalities, crises, and the pressures of wars. Participation can vary in degree depending on the issue and the customs of the country. Political and military leaders typically share responsibility and are accountable for decisions and outcomes in all of these areas.

- **Compatibility/Convergence Theory:**

Janowitz agreed with Huntington that due to the fundamental difference between the civilian and military worlds, conflicts that undermine the military's purpose may arise. Therefore, the theory of compatibility, proposed by researcher Rebecca Schiff, in civil-military relations is based on the idea that separating civilians from the military is theoretically and empirically flawed. Her theory relies on differentiation and treats the military as distinct from political leadership. In theory, the separation between the civilian and military spheres does not preclude greater or lesser convergence in practical implementation.

The theory of compatibility emphasizes institutional and cultural partnership and is based on an agreement between the military, political elites, and citizens. Its foundation is on dialogue and a cooperative system, defining the role and function of the armed forces in society through four key indicators: (Allam, 2018, p. 27)

- The social composition of officers.
- The process of political decision-making (the political decision-making process).
- The method of recruitment (how military personnel are recruited).
- The military style.

3. National Development:
3.1 National development concept:

The term national development is very comprehensive. It includes all aspects of the life of an individual and the nation. It is a process of reconstruction and development in various dimensions of a nation and development of individuals. And here are some definitions :

- national development is the ability of the nation to provide a conducive atmosphere for the realisation of individual potentials, the existence of buoyant economy and availability of social Infrastructural facilities for the populace. (Okojie, 2010, p. 01)
- National development as the overall development or a collective socio-economic, political as well as religious advancement of a country or nation. National development is the change in growth and development, which includes social, cultural and economic change. It is the ability of a country to improve the social welfare of the people. (Georgewill, 2020, p. 04)
- national development as A gradual manifestation of positive changes in the economic,industrial, political, social, cultural and administrative life of acountry. development is realistically seen as a multi-dimensional process involving the totality of man in his political, economic,

psychological and social realties among others. (Ebeh, 2015, p. 04)

3.2 Dimensions of national development:

The dimensions of development vary depending on the perspective, interests, and challenges faced by each society and country. Among the important dimensions of development are:

a) **Economic Development**: It is a process consisting of a long series of interconnected changes in the fundamental supply factors and demand structure, leading to an increase in the net national income of a country over the long term. Economic development occurs when poverty, unemployment, and inequality are reduced while individual income increases. (Malizia, 1990) In other words, it encompasses all aspects related to improving the economic status of both individuals and society, increasing productivity, enhancing economic performance, and reducing poverty.

b) **Social Development**: It involves improving the social well-being of individuals and society by providing basic services such as healthcare, education, housing, social care, and improving social, cultural, and environmental conditions. (Nieman, 2006, p. 166)

c) **Environmental Development**: This means preserving the environment and enhancing the quality of life through nature conservation, improved environmental management, and the preservation of natural resources.

d) **Political Development**: It refers to improving the political system and institutions, promoting democracy, basic freedoms, and human rights. (KUMAR, 1978, p. 425)

e) **Technological Development**: This is related to the improvement, development, and effective use of technology to enhance productivity and improve quality of life.

f) **Cultural Development**: It involves improving culture, identity, cultural heritage, and promoting cultural communication and exchange between different cultures. (Pascallon & Ferrand, 1986, p. 41)

3.3 National development priorities:

National development priorities vary from one country to another, and they can change over time based on the specific needs and goals of each nation. Based on the aforementioned dimensions, priorities can be categorized as follows:

a) **For Economic Development:**

- <u>Economic growth and stability</u>: Prioritize policies and strategies that promote sustained economic growth, reduce income inequality, and ensure economic stability.

- Infrastructure development: Invest in infrastructure such as transportation, energy, and communication systems to facilitate economic activities and trade.
- Industrialization and diversification: Promote the growth of diverse industries to reduce dependence on a single sector and create more job opportunities.
- Investment in human capital: Develop a skilled and educated workforce through investments in education, healthcare, and vocational training.

b) For Social Development:

- Poverty reduction: Implement programs and policies to reduce poverty and improve the living standards of the population.
- Healthcare and education: Ensure access to quality healthcare and education services for all citizens, with a focus on improving healthcare outcomes and increasing literacy rates.
- Social safety nets: Establish social safety nets to protect vulnerable populations, including the elderly, children, and the disabled.
- Gender equality and social inclusion: Promote gender equality and inclusion of marginalized groups to reduce social disparities.

c) For Environmental Development:

- Sustainable resource management: Develop and implement sustainable practices for natural resource management, including water, forests, and fisheries.
- Renewable energy: Invest in renewable energy sources to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change.
- Conservation and biodiversity: Protect and conserve ecosystems and biodiversity to ensure long-term environmental sustainability.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation: Develop strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.

d) For Political Development:

- Good governance: Promote transparency, accountability, and the rule of law to ensure effective governance.
- Democracy and civic participation: Strengthen democratic institutions and encourage citizen participation in decision-making processes.
- Conflict resolution and peace-building: Work towards peaceful resolution of conflicts and stability within the nation.
- Human rights and justice: Protect and promote human rights and access to justice for all citizens.

e) For Technological Development:

- Innovation and research: Invest in research and development to foster

technological advancements and innovation.

- Digital infrastructure: Develop a robust digital infrastructure, including high-speed internet access, to support the digital economy.
- Skills development: Enhance digital literacy and technical skills among the population.
- Technology transfer and collaboration: Promote collaboration with other countries and organizations for technology transfer and knowledge sharing.

f) For Cultural Development:

- Cultural preservation: Preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the nation through initiatives such as museums, cultural festivals, and heritage conservation.
- Cultural exchange: Encourage cultural exchange programs to promote understanding and appreciation of different cultures.
- Arts and creativity: Support the arts and creative industries as a means of cultural expression and economic development.
- Cultural diversity: Embrace and celebrate the diversity of cultures within the nation to foster social cohesion.

4. Army modernization:

4.1 Army modernization concept:

The concept of Army modernization refers to the process of transforming a military force, specifically an army, to ensure that it remains effective, efficient, and capable of addressing contemporary and future threats. Modernization is a continuous and evolving process, driven by changes in technology, tactics, and strategic challenges. It encompasses a wide range of areas, including equipment, doctrine, training, organization, and logistics.

- Army modernization It is the progressive transformation of the critical elements by which the Army defines, constructs and operates itself— Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel, Facilities and Policy from the present or traditional context to the future . (Kamara, 2023)
- Army modernization is the process of enhancing the capabilities and readiness of a military force to effectively conduct operations in a rapidly evolving and complex security environment. It involves updating equipment, doctrine, personnel, and strategies to ensure the force remains effective and adaptable to various challenges and scenarios. (Grinston & McConveille, 2020, p. 01)

4.2 The goals of Army modernization:

- Security and Stability: Stabilization involves activities undertaken to manage underlying tensions, to prevent or halt the deterioration of security, economic, and/or political systems, to create stability in the state. (Department of Defense, 2006, p. 2)The modern army plays a pivotal role in preserving the state's territorial integrity, ensuring stability, and protecting its citizens from internal and external threats. This creates a conducive environment for economic growth and development.

- Deterrence and Defense: The deterrence is the making of military threats in order to prevent another actor from taking aggressive actions. (Buzan, 1987, p. 135)A technologically advanced and well-trained military serves as a deterrent against potential aggressors. This discourages conflicts and reduces the likelihood of devastating events that could hinder economic progress.

- Resource Allocation: is the process of assigning scarce resources to investments , or anything else that an organization requires for its assets. The investments can be capital projects, maintenance efforts, or other projects and activities that require the use of an organization's resources. (AASHTO, 2020, p. 05) Updating the military requires investments in research, technology, and infrastructure. This spending can have an indirect positive impact on the broader economy, as it fosters innovation and creates high-tech industries that contribute to national development.

- Infrastructure and Logistics Services: a logistics infrastructure consistedof a set of equipment and facilities used to move and store materials. (Vilko & Karandassov, 2011) Military modernization often involves the development of advanced logistical systems and transportation. These can be repurposed for civilian use, leading to overall infrastructure improvement and better internal communication.

- Skill Development: There is increasing recognition of the key role that apprenticeships young people to acquire the relevant to facilitate their transition from the world of education to the world of work , can benefit of retraining or upskilling. (ILO, 2020, p. 04) Training and education programs for military personnel, especially in advanced technology fields, can result in a skilled workforce valuable in other sectors of the economy. These trained individuals significantly contribute to national development efforts.

- Technology Transfer: The development of advanced military technology often leads to innovations with applications in civilian industries, ranging from healthcare to communications. This can stimulate economic growth

and innovation.

- <u>Crisis Response and Disaster Management</u>: A well-organized and well-equipped military plays a crucial role in responding to natural disasters and other emergencies. Their capabilities in disaster relief efforts help communities recover more quickly, supporting overall stability and development.

5. Balancing National Development with Military Modernization:
5.1 Strategy for achieving balance:

Balancing national development and military modernization is a complex and sensitive task. It requires a careful examination of a country's developmental priorities and security needs. This process should be ongoing, involving periodic assessments and adjustments when necessary, to achieve both prosperity and security for the nation. Here are some strategies to achieve this balance between national development and military modernization:

- Develop a clear national security strategy that outlines the country's defense priorities and the threats it faces. This strategy should align with broader national development goals and strategies. (Bernard F, 2020, p. 149)
- Prioritize development projects and military modernization efforts based on their strategic importance and the state's capacity to fund and implement them.
- Allocate resources between modernization projects and military development in a way that ensures adequate funding for both.
- Conduct cost-benefit analyses of military modernization projects to ensure they provide a substantial return on investment in terms of national security.
- Promote the development of the domestic defense industry to support military modernization, create job opportunities, stimulate economic growth, and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers.
- Ensure transparency and accountability in defense spending and procurement to prevent corruption and mismanagement of resources.
- Engage all stakeholders and civil society in discussions on military modernization and development priorities to build consensus and ensure that decisions reflect broader national interests.

- Establish strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of both modernization and military development projects and make adjustments as needed.

5.2 The Interplay of Development and Military Modernization:

The complex interaction between national development and military modernization poses a multifaceted challenge, requiring wise resource allocation. National development inherently encompasses a wide range of social and economic aspects, such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, and economic growth, all aimed at improving citizens' quality of life, reducing disparities, and fostering a strong and prosperous society. On the other hand, military modernization necessitates enhancing the state's military capabilities through the integration of advanced technologies and strategic training, serving as a cornerstone of national security, deterring threats, and preparing to respond to crises. Achieving a delicate balance between these priorities is of utmost importance because an excessive focus on either can lead to negative consequences. Neglecting military modernization may expose the nation to external threats, while excessive focus may divert resources away from vital areas of national development, hindering social and economic progress. This can be avoided through strategic planning that creates a synergy between them. A secure environment supported by a capable military can serve as an incentive for sustainable economic growth. Maintaining a balanced approach between national development and military modernization closely intertwines with positive civil-military relations. This balance helps ensure that the military institution remains accountable and aligned with the broader goals and values of the democratic society. This relationship can be summarized as follows:

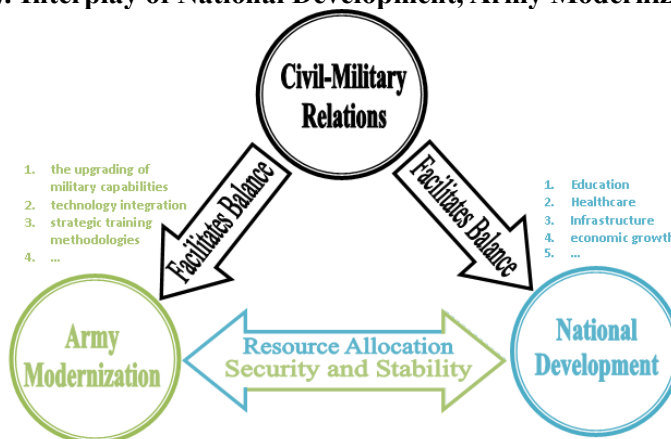**Figure (1): Interplay of National Development, Army Modernization**

Fig 1. Prepared by researchers based on what was previously discussed

The diagram presents a comprehensive illustration of the intricate interplay between national development and army modernization. The right circle represents national development, encapsulating critical socio-economic aspects such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, and economic growth. These components form the bedrock of a prosperous and stable society. For instance, countries like Finland, known for their strong education systems, have witnessed a direct correlation between education quality and economic prosperity. Finland allocates approximately 5.7% (2022) of its GDP towards education, resulting in a literacy rate surpassing 99% (statista, 2022). Simultaneously, the left circle illustrates the importance of army modernization, encompassing the upgrading of military capabilities, technology integration, and strategic training methodologies, An example of this can be seen in the United States, which maintains formidable military capabilities, projecting power globally, For 2023, United States is ranked 1 of 145 out of the countries considered for the annual Global Firepower Countries Index . (GFP, 2023). The United States has the largest military budget, spending $876.9 billion. The next largest military spender is China, which spends $292 billion. Russia follows China with a military budget of $86.4 billion. (wisevoter, 2023) The third circle, representing civil-military relations, denotes the vital interactions between the civilian government, society, and the military within a nation. Healthy civil-military relations are paramount for democratic governance. South Africa is an example of a country that transitioned from a deeply troubled civil-military relationship during apartheid to a more healthy and democratic one post-apartheid. The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) underwent significant reforms, emphasizing civilian control and respect for human rights. These changes have contributed to the country's democratic stability (PMG, 2019). Healthy civil-military relations are considered vital to facilitate the balance between national development priorities and military modernization, playing a crucial role in ensuring the military aligns with the broader goals and values of a democratic society. The synergistic integration of national development and military modernization, within the context of sound civil-military relations, leads to the creation of a balanced approach, where progress in one area stimulates progress in others. This balance ensures optimal resource allocation, stability, prosperity, and the protection of national security and citizens' well-being.

5.3 pros and cons Prioritizing:

Prioritizing national development offers numerous advantages, including socioeconomic growth improved stability through education and

healthcare investments and innovation. Conversely, prioritizing army modernization bolsters national security and technological innovation but may divert resources from critical sectors. Potential drawbacks of national development include security risks and impacts on regional geopolitics, while modernizing the army may strain civil-military relations, have environmental consequences, and escalate regional tensions. the pros and cons of Prioritizing national development and military modernization can be summarized in the following table:

	Prioritizing National Development	Prioritizing Army Modernization
Pros	- Socio-economic growth benefits the entire population. - Inclusive progress reduces income inequality and improves societal well-being. - Long-term stability is achieved through solid foundations in education and healthcare. - Builds a positive global reputation, fostering trade partnerships. - Encourages innovation and entrepreneurship, leading to the creation of new industries and jobs.	- Enhances national security and defense capabilities. - Drives technological innovation with potential civilian applications. - Increases global influence and standing.
Cons	- Possible security risks due to underinvestment in defense. - May hinder immediate crisis response in the event of conflicts or emergencies. - Regional dynamics in geopolitically tense areas may be affected.	- Resource allocation away from critical areas. - Potential concerns about civil-military relations and its impact on democratic governance. - Possible negative environmental impact from military activities. - Risk of regional arms races and heightened tensions with neighboring countries.

4. CONCLUSION

Our research has led us to confirm that civil-military, health, and strategic resource allocation relationships are essential to achieving a balance between national development and military modernization. The primary role of these harmonious relationships is vital, and theories regarding them have

elucidated the dynamic nature of these interactions. National development, with its multifaceted aspects and priorities, being the cornerstone of progress for any country, is indispensable, as it is the driving force for prosperity and resilience. On the other hand, while military modernization is necessary for the security of any nation, it must align with economic growth and national development priorities. Modernization should be carried out within the broader context of the state's development goals, contributing to the general well-being of the nation.

Achieving a balance between national development priorities and military modernization depends on a cooperative approach between civil and military authorities and the armed forces to establish common goals and resource allocation plans that align them. Our study results emphasize that the relationship between national development and military modernization is not just a theoretical construct but a practical necessity. Nations must navigate these complex dynamics wisely for a brighter and more secure future and ensure strong and resilient civil-military relationships.

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