



National risk and threat assessment systems: best world practices, new opportunities for Ukraine

Analytical report



The risk and threat assessment system is an important element of strategic planning, national security and resilience providing

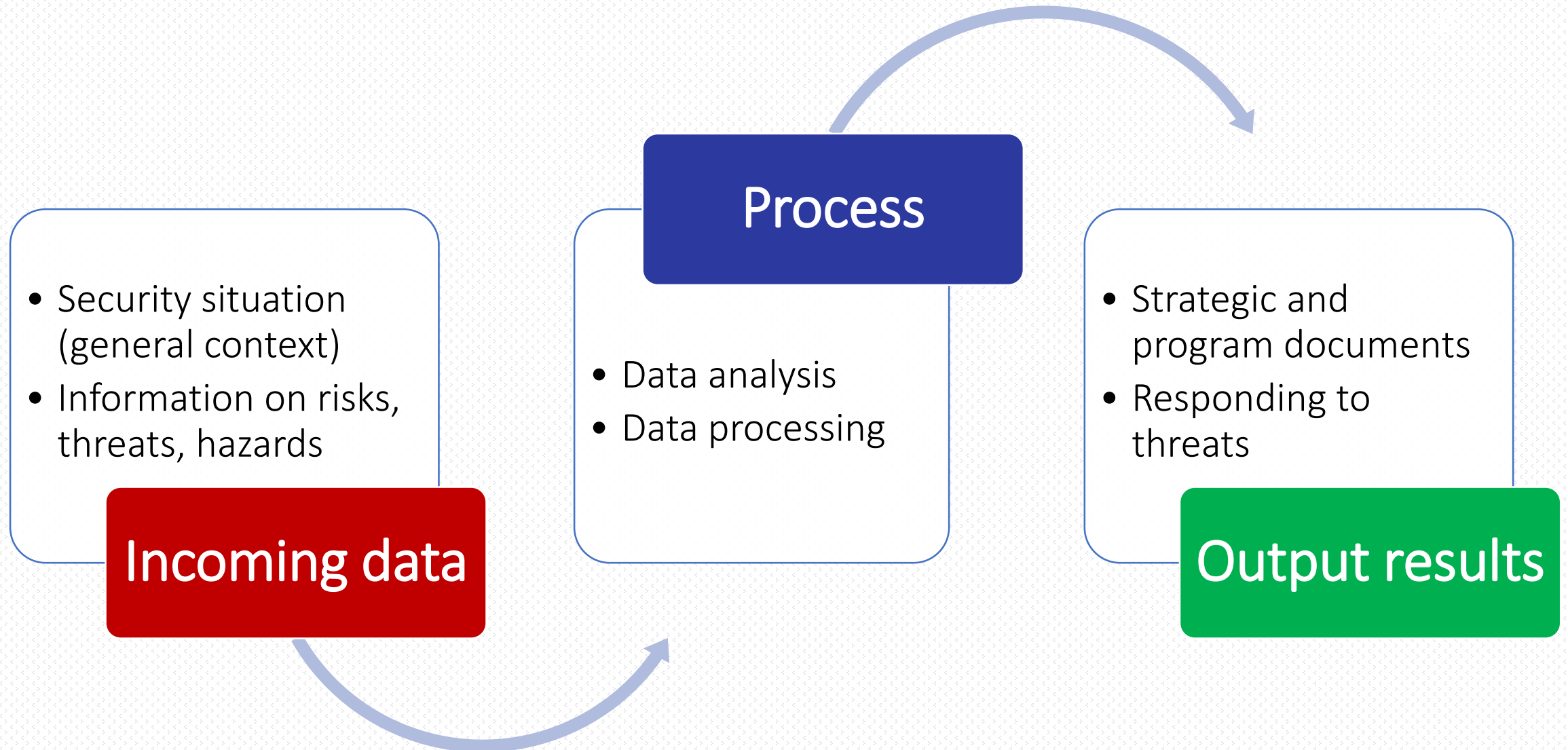
Purpose

- Identification of dangerous trends and threats to national security
- Identification of vulnerabilities of the state and society
- Formation of data catalogues
- Dissemination of necessary information for further analysis, actions and decision making

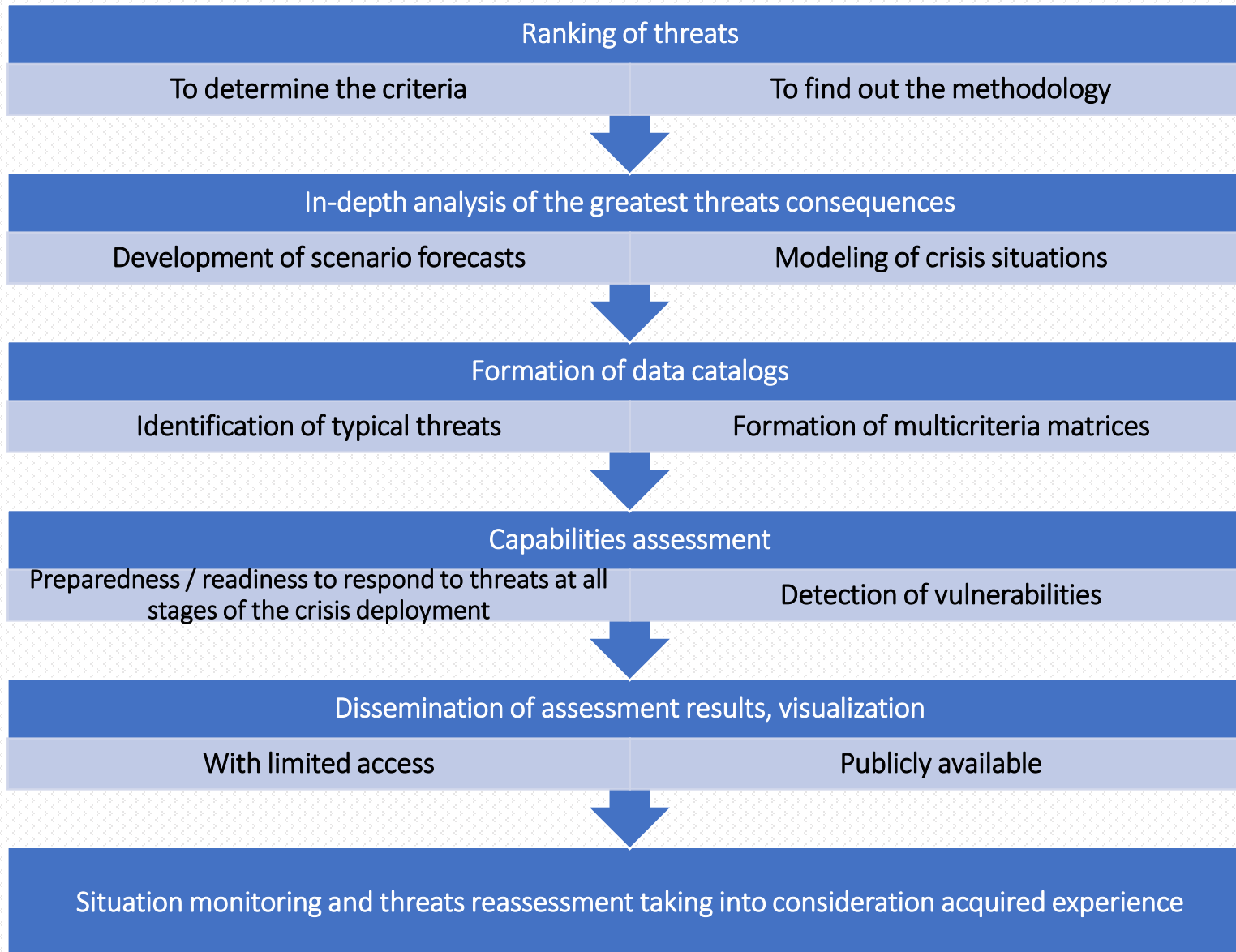
Exploitation of assessment results

- To develop state policy measures in the field of national security and resilience
- To develop draft strategic and program documents
- To identify concerted action plans and protocols in case of response to threats, emergencies or crises of any origin at their different stages

General scheme of the national threat assessment system functioning



Cycle of comprehensive risks and threats assessment in accordance with the best world practices



Fundamentally important aspects

Development and implementation of a unified methodology for threat assessment

Possibility to compare and prioritize threats and their consequences in different areas

Identification of typical groups of threats and their consequences

Development of universal protocols for concerted action to respond to threats

Lack or insufficiency of capabilities

A threat to national security

The need to assess the status of capabilities

Fundamentally important aspects

Comparison of
capabilities status with
threat assessments

Identification of the national security system
vulnerabilities and development of measures to
address them

Dissemination of
evaluation results

Exchange of
information
between authorized
state bodies

Dissemination of
necessary
knowledge and skills
in society

Adequate legal and
organizational support

Wide inter-agency
collaboration

Effective functioning
of the national
threat assessment
system

Organization of risk and threat assessment system



Levels

- National (state)
- Regional
- Local



Coordination at the state level

- Authorized state body, institution or organization
- Network of participants
- Permanent formats of interaction at different levels



Participants

- Clear powers
- Responsibility
- Accountability





Issues of concern

- **Methodological shortcomings:**
 - Threat assessment based on past experience
 - Subjectivity of assessment
 - Risk of data manipulation
 - High level of uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity of risks and threats
 - Lack of risk interdependency analysis
- Insufficient level of professionalism, lack and turnover of staff
- Incomplete threat assessment cycle
- Difficulties in integrating different databases and information systems, cyber- and information security, data management and storage
- Resource constraints
- Lack of political will to implement the system



The situation in Ukraine

- Ministries and agencies carry out threat assessments in their areas of responsibility, using their own methods, criteria and approaches
- The assessment results obtained in this way are difficult, and sometimes impossible, to compare. The interplay of threats and possible cascading effects are not taken into account. It is difficult to form a balanced state policy based on such results
- Comprehensive capability assessment is not conducted
- Interagency cooperation in this area and taking into account the results of scientific research are insufficient
- Available technical capabilities in the form of the Main Situation Center of Ukraine and the network of situation centers are not provided with adequate analytical content in terms of threat assessment and vulnerability detection



Problems to be solved

- Lack of unified methodology and techniques for national security threats assessment, evaluation of the relevant capabilities and identification of vulnerabilities necessary for the making strategic decisions
- Incomplete development of the national integrated strategic planning system
- Lack of a state body responsible for organization and coordination of the national security threats assessment and related capabilities
- Lack of universal protocols for concerted action in response to emergencies, threats and crises at different stages of their development
- Imperfect legal regulation of strategic planning and analysis, including national security threats assessment and evaluation of relevant capabilities

An organizational chart of a perspective Ukrainian threat assessment system (national level)





"National systems of risk and threat assessment: world best practices, new opportunities for Ukraine"

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Authors:

- **Reznikova Olga Oleksandrivna** - PhD, Senior Research Fellow, Honored Economist of Ukraine, Head of the Strategic Planning Research Department of the Security Research Center, NISS
- **Lepikhov Andriy Valeriyovych** - Chief Consultant of the Strategic Planning Research Department of the Security Research Center, NISS
- **Voitovskyi Kostyantyn Yevhenovych** - Chief Consultant of the Strategic Planning Research Department of the Security Research Center, NISS

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Contacts:

Ukraine, 01030, Kyiv, Pyrogova street, 7A

www.niss.gov.ua, [facebook](#)



The image features three wooden hourglasses on a polished wooden table. The hourglass on the left is small with orange sand in the bottom bulb. The middle hourglass is medium-sized with a brass bell on top and is mostly empty. The hourglass on the right is large with orange sand in the top bulb. A semi-transparent dark blue rectangle with a white border is centered over the middle hourglass, containing the text "Thank you for your attention!". The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting. White L-shaped corner marks are in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

**Thank you
for your
attention!**