

FRI-2G.510-1-ESIS1-04

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF ADMISSION OF AFRICAN STATES TO PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC)

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Abstract: *The only United Nations body responsible for maintaining global peace and security – the Security Council, has remained unreformed almost since the day of its founding in 1945. The most debatable issue concerns the permanent members – the victors from the Second World War who also have the privileged of the right to unilaterally veto all decisions. Thus Russia, USA, United Kingdom, France and China have stronger voice in the UNSC. Since the start of the military conflicts in Ukraine and the Gaza strip, the issue of UNSC reform has become even more topical and many state coalitions and individual states started claiming their right for permanent voice. African states have long claimed their right to at least one, even two, seats as permanent members – moreover that most peacekeeping missions take place on their continent. Although there are no unified criteria for admission, most authors stress the importance of economic factors such as the contribution to the United Nations budget and/or to peacekeeping operations, gross domestic product, military contribution (or percentage of GDP which the country is placing for its national military expenditure). The paper gives an assessment of the economic factors for eligibility of five most favored African states: Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa.*

Keywords: International security, United Nations Security Council, Veto right, African Union,

JEL Codes: F52, F53

The paper is awarded with "Best Paper" Crystal Prize - 63 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE of University of Ruse „Angel Kanchev“ and Union of Scientists – Ruse.

The paper will be published in “Reports Awarded with BEST PAPER Crystal Prize` 24”.

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