Sport as a Determinant of National Security

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A R T I C L E   I N F O

A B S T R A C T

The political challenges invite sport to play a peaceful role in international relations. Among all these challenges, national security is a critical part of different states. This study tried to investigate the conceptual framework of sport and national security. The present study was qualitative based on descriptive and applied methods. At first, the literature reviews were studied, and then the semi-open interviews were done with 12 experts in sport sciences and policymakers. After 3 rounds of the Delphi technique, 15 concepts were extracted in 5 main dimensions: economic, military, political, social, and health. Finally, the sport seems to play a vital role in supporting various aspects of security. Iran, as a country under the most severe sanctions on its political economy, can use the phenomenon of sport as a lever to mitigate the effects of international sanctions on its economy, politics, and security in general.

Introduction

Security can be considered the most important factor in the formation of human societies. Since humans have come together to support their natural needs, materials, food and in whole civil life, the security called the most important part of life style (Seidi, 2021). It is one of the basic categories that is needed in all aspects of human life effectively. It's the source of many changes and transformations. From the beginning of human existence, security was a mystery for human beings because environmental factors were the most important hazard (Khajvandahmadi, Navabakhsh, & Fathi, 2017).

There are two different paradigms to the concept of security: 1) the realism paradigm that presents a traditionalist view and indicates state-centered and militaristic strategic studies.

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According to this view, despite the occurrence of religious and ethnic revolutions, terrorism and organized crime, and global warming, there is no need to expand the scope of the concept of security. 2) The liberal paradigm that is the opposite. This paradigm emphasizes the multiplicity of international actors, and importance of internal political factors in determining the international behavior of states (Palizban, 2015). From the perspective of this paradigm, the word "security" in general usage means getting rid of various hazards. In this manner security is equal to a situation that a person is not at risk or protected from danger. Security, relief from grief and anxiety, lack of danger or feeling safe all are the meaning of security. In this context, security includes a sense of relief in two dimensions: intellectual (freedom from fear, freedom of expression, job security, life expectancy, etc.) and objective (food, health, environment, reducing corruption, combating trafficking human, commodity, etc) secure (Seidi, 2021).

Although the concept of security has long been severely limited by the military, new theories and doctrine, most notably the *Copenhagen doctrine* as a soft approach to the concept of security, and in particular "existential threats"- have sought to revise and explain it. The concept of security as a phenomenon influenced by the five parts: 1) economic, 2) political, 3) military, 4) environmental and 5) socio-cultural to emphasize the role of social identity in strengthening security. Barry Buzan, the theorist of this doctrine, defines social security and the ability of society to take care of its fundamental characteristics in the face of change, objective and possible threats. This emphasizes the close relationship between community identity and security.
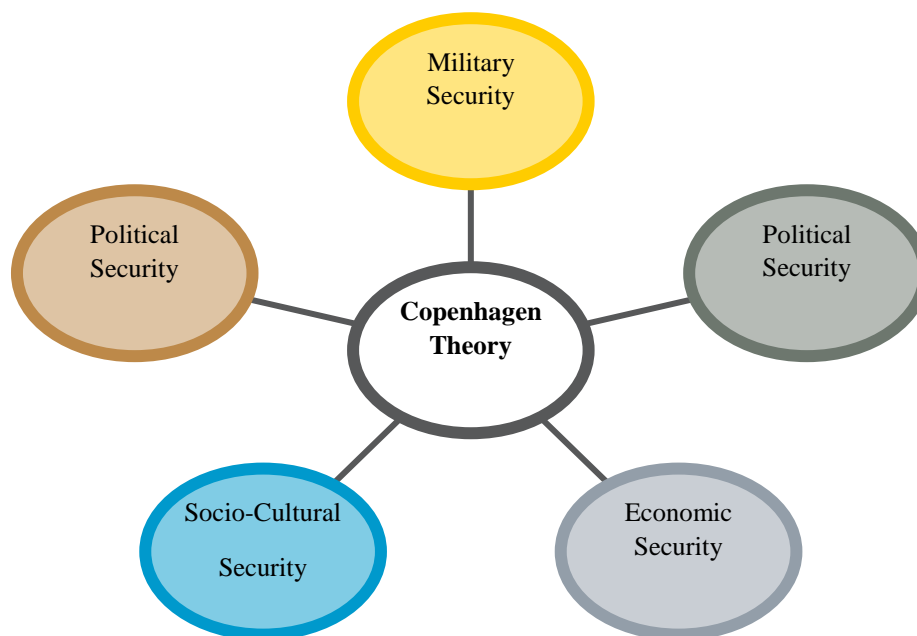
Figure. 1. Copenhagen theory of security

After World War II, especially during the Cold War, the priority of national security was more important than military threats. Due to the prevailing economic security conditions, countries were not given much attention to this part. With the end of political and military disputes and the beginning of a new chapter in international interactions, this priority has undergone many changes and developments. Countries tried to achieve economic progress and development. They have paid more attention to economic security because they realized the support of internal investment simultaneously paving the way for foreign investments can accelerate economic development (Sadeghi Soghdel, Gallavani, & khoshkhoo, 2015).

In the last century, with the end of the Cold War, economic security has become one of the most important indicators in world discourses, so as provide a suitable platform for supporting capital. Local investors besides attracting foreign investment in countries are not possible without economic

security. Economic security as the most important indicator of development has two dimensions: 1) security of investment and 2) security of employment and income(Atoofi & Javidan, 2016):

A) Investment security: It is an institutional framework of socio-political and legal conditions that attracts the trust of foreign investors and ensure them the security of individuals and the legal transactions. If the indicators of investment security in the society show a favorable situation, this framework can lead to economic growth. Investment is one of the most important requirements for sustainable economic growth and achieving economic development goals. Many economists believe that one of the critical duty of governments is to create economically, politically and socially safe conditions for productive investment (sadeghi amroabadi & shahbazi, 2021). These general indicators are (Atoofi & Javidan, 2016):

a. Establishing political stability via government attention to economic performance
b. Public participation in civil, legal and political freedoms
c. Healthy legal system via the rule of law and reducing the risk of contract termination
d. Healthy administrative system to reduce corruption
e. Reducing the level of political violence by decreasing ethnic tensions, the risk of civil war, and political terrorism.

B) Security of employment and income: it means to put any pressure out of the control of the people of a society on the path of employment and income to achieve the average level of economic well-being of that society. It is natural that the security of employment and income will be possible initially with the security of investment (Atoofi & Javidan, 2016). In researches about economic security, Liu (2019) examined the relationship between China and the United States in East Asia with a view to economic security, and by integrating security and economics, tried to present society's view of Asia's "hot economy"(Liu & Liu, 2019). Drobiazko (2020) in an article assessing the economic security of businesses at the micro and macro levels and using a balanced scorecard to design an acceptable approach for economic security of businesses(Drobyazko, Bondiuk, Ovcharenko, Lebid, & Mikish, 2020).

The development and promotion of sports among the public brings social security for them. In addition to sport activities, team building and sports have many positive points that pave the way for the establishment of friendly social relations among team members. This will be led to understanding and recognition of the values that support society, participation and partnership. Efforts to achieve victory and deal with failure are the achievements of participating in sports activities, social mutual respect, division of labor, common social goals and etc. Experts in the fields of sociology, psychology, sports science, and management of various social functions have reported for sport, which can be summarized as follows (Jalali Farahani, Mahmoodi, Alidoost Ghahfarokhi, & Moradi, 2013):

a) Provide appropriate opportunities to participate in healthy social activities in leisure
b) Increasing the power of correct and fair decision-making in dealing with various social issues
c) Strengthen the sense of altruism and humanity
d) Develop a spirit of chivalry and leadership
e) Prevention of social harms
f) Strengthen accountability and legalism
g) Having a unique goal and trying to achieve it as a group
h) Understanding the transfer and internalization of collective norms and social values

On the other hand, cultural security as a category tied to society, since the ability and power of a political system to provide appropriate responses to the cultural needs of the people in accordance with the time and place that promotes the correct promotion of national and religious cultural principles. Providing in society and prevent the penetration of foreign culture and contrary to the value system that will jeopardize the political stability and survival of the political system. Cultural security is a fundamental component of national security. A vibrant and dynamic society, by providing its own security, is a good source for guaranteeing cultural norms and values.

Although environmental issues were first discussed at the 1932 Lake Placid Olympics (Van Hilvoorde, Elling, & Stokvis, 2010), the issue of sport and the environment dates back to the early 1990s and was followed by the Olympic century celebration of the United Nations Congress in

1994. The International Olympic Committee, the world's largest sports organization, joined the United Nations environment program in 1992 to strengthen its goals. In addition, in 1992, the committee asked candidates to host the 1994 Olympic Games to address environmental issues in their proposals. The International Olympic Committee with the international federations and the National Olympic Committees read the "Earth Oath" at the 1994 Winter Olympics. The following year, in 1995, the committee convened a congress for its members to discuss the relationship between sport and the environment. It was during this congress that the International Olympic Committee felt the emptiness of the environment. In addition to sports and culture as two pillars of the Olympic Charter, it also added the environment to this statute in the form of a paragraph. In 1999, the International Olympic Committee declared the need to improve and develop the environment as one of the cornerstones of granting hosting to bidding process. Thus, the Olympic family (National Olympic Committees, Host Cities Committees, and World Federations) was supported to maintain environmental policies and guidelines (Millington, Giles, van Luijk, & Hayhurst, 2021).

Since the early 2000s, the performance of sport managers and manufacturers were evaluated on the environment from various dimensions such as air pollution, noise pollution, light pollution, traffic, greenhouse gas emissions and electrical appliances. Perforation of the ozone layer due to the use of cooling equipment, the use of chemicals and pesticides on lawns, pools and excessive water consumption have been studied (Salehnia & Bakhtyari, 2018).

Soderman (2016) considers the 2006 FIFA World Cup to be the first competition in Germany to design a green target in four areas: water, waste, energy and transportation, in order to minimize environmental damage during the tournament(Söderman, Kornakov, & Liu). Mullin (2012) consider structural, organized, and cultural barriers to be one of the most important barriers to launching a green movement in sporting events(Mullin, KOTVAL-K, & Cooper, 2012). Li (2013) in his research indicated participation in sport events to be the most important factor in creating a green heritage for the host city/country(Li, Sia, & Zhu, 2013). In his assessment, he investigated the content of green and environmental programs covers a wide range, ranging from reducing carbon emissions to using solar energy for public transportation. He suggested that the first step to holding an environmental event for sport events should be taken when environmentalists set out a strategy in their agenda. In his view, the second step in holding green sport events is for the candidates to adhere to their commitments in this field.

According to Ekhtiari et al. (2015), people's social participation in the field of environment becomes objective when people know what environmental hazards threaten them. What causes it and how can it be helped by improving performance or changing behavior? Car-free Tuesdays, launching new disciplines such as cleaning, media advertising for "active Iran", especially in sport programs and other educational activities are the most important factors in motivating people to make connections between sport and the environment. Ekhtyari (2018) in a study to determine the model of factors impressing the development of environmental culture in sports and reported six factors of education, research, management, structure, culture and national strategy as effective factors (Ekhtyari, eydi, & shabanimoghadam, 2018). Boozhmehrani & Razavi, (2015) in a study have presented strategies for the development of environmental culture in sports and believe that an athlete has a deeper relationship with nature. Because he breathes at least 4 times more and consumes the same amount of water and other natural resources. These researchers report the world's environmental pollution today in greenhouse gases, acid rain, deforestation, marine pollution, pool pollution, ozone depletion, declining species, desertification, and harmful transportation (Boozhmehrani & Razavi, 2015). Kellison (2017) cited the outbreak of Zika virus and the acute condition of the Covid 19 pandemic as the most important factors influencing the 2016 Rio and 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics(Kellison, 2017). According to Ranjbar Heidari (2017), issues related to the crisis of water scarcity and air pollution are of urgent and vital importance in terms of critical conditions and its security dimensions. Therefore, what necessitates the present article is to prioritize and position environmental security and identify some of the most fundamental environmental challenges facing the Islamic Republic of Iran at present(Ranjbar Heidari Vahid & Ebrahim, 2017) . AliZade (2011) in an article with content analysis method, while

examining the concept of national security and environmental security, examines the differences between views on environmental security in the current era and the era of bipolar system in the world(Alizade & Pishgahifar, 2011). The results of this study show that the destruction of environmental factors is the result of impersonal economic and social forces and the resulting threats are not related to an enemy government or an independent political entity and require participatory solutions. Akhvankazemi *et al.* (2019) believe that future climate change will have undeniable effects on the national convergence of societies and peace and lasting security of the international system and will be the source of new types of conflicts (Akhvankazemi, Hoseini, & Bahramipoor, 2019). Mashadi, Salem and Niaghi (2019) by examining environmental terrorism, consider it as the use of environmental factors in terrorist attacks (Mashadi, salem, & Niaghi, 2019). Ghavam (2015) while examining the principle of the concept of environment as a category of security, answered the question that "what were the most important axes and issues raised in theories of international relations to the paradigm shift of environmental security and what issues in them is it planned?" In this regard, they believe that in the years after 1991, i.e., after the Cold War, issues such as global warming, the destruction of green spaces and the destructive impact of modernity were first criticized by social theorists and then theories of international relations such as realism and liberalism(Ghavam, Barzegar, & Ravanbod, 2015). Realists view the issue of environmental security primarily in terms of global security, and liberals, on the other hand, view environmental security as a collective issue rather than a security issue. Farahani (2017) believed that lack of planning and readiness of the government and society against a bioterrorist act affects all political, social and economic aspects of the country and causes a huge catastrophe, awareness and education of the people, as well as planning (Farahani & Mirzaei, 2017). The government plays a key role in reducing and controlling the effects of crises caused by unexpected and unnatural threats and events, including bioterrorism.

Political security and military security as two prominent dimensions of Copenhagen theory play an important role in ensuring the mental and objective security of the people of a state. The security of the political system is always one of the most important prerequisites for other dimensions of security (individual, public, economic, military, social, etc.). Therefore, it is one of the most detailed and oldest security research topics (Khajvandahmadi et al., 2017). Whereas civil societies are inevitably of the "government" and "political system" for their survival. Therefore, the continuity of human social life and of course his natural and physiological life is affected and, in a way, depends on the existence and stability of the political system governing that society, and based on this, many studies in the field of security have focused on political security (Seidi, 2021). In the field of political security, perhaps the most prominent dimension of political Security is the issue of governance and its institutions (Nasri, 2012). The political threat is always to the organizational stability of the government. The purpose of the threat may range from pressure on the government on a particular policy to overthrowing the government, separatism, and disrupting the political fabric of the government to weaken it before a military invasion. Regardless of the health, economic, social, entertainment and recreational dimensions, sport and its competitions have political consequences that overshadow the relations between governments and socio-political groups and with concepts such as national power, competition, convergence, divergence, conflict, nationalism, national unity linked and affect the attitude and behavior of states and nations towards each other (Osko & Shojaei, 2015). Jackson et al. (1998) oscillates governments' attitudes toward sport from active support to disregard (Jackson, Andrews, & Cole, 1998). According to Jalali Farahani *et al.* (2013) governments generally interrupted to sports for the following six reasons (Jalali Farahani et al., 2013):

a) Encourage young people to participate in valuable social activities
b) Promoting community health
c) Improving the state of education, personal growth and expanding public participation
d) Development and generalization of social and cultural customs in the public arena
e) Improve national and international prestige
f) Creating interaction between the people and the government

Today, sport has become a global phenomenon and athletes do not just belong to one team or country. Issues related to sports and global processes are related to politics. Sometimes the acceptance of a country's sport by other states or some organizations is considered a clear message of the political independence of that country / political regime. Like what happened in 1971 in the form of ping pong diplomacy, which led to the beginning of diplomatic relations between China and the United States. In another example, at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, due to pressure from the People's Republic of China, Canada announced to a delegation from the People's Republic of China that the team could not compete in the Montreal Summer Olympics under the name "Republic of China." However, it was agreed that Taiwan would use the flag of the Republic of China and the national anthem of the Republic of China. Taiwan objected and did not participate in the Games until 1984, when it returned under the name "Chinese Taipei" with its own flag. As another example, the formation of the Algerian football team in the midst of the country's war of independence with France and the recall of professional Algerian football players who played in the French national team by the Algerian National Liberation Front itself is a prelude to the country's independence in 1962 (Dousti, Goodarzi, Asadi, & Khabiri, 2013). Many countries express their protest against the political situation with the simple message "We do not play". Like what happened to Iran before the Islamic revolution at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, which boycotted the Games. After the revolution, Iran boycotted the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics in order to achieve its goal of a "neither East nor West" doctrine, making it the only country in history to boycott both the 1980 and 1984 Olympics (Feizabadi, Delgado, Khabiri, Sajjadi, & Alidoust, 2015).

Furukawa (2022) indicated the status of sport events and their effects on the social capital of the crisis-stricken country of South Sudan and considers that most of the crises in this country are due to ethnic conflicts (Furukawa, 2022). He studied the runners present at the "National Solidarity Day" sport event and concluded that these athletes have more capital and solidarity than others. Efebeh (2020) reports that sport is a tool for repairing the differences created in political activities and believes that sport is a factor in combating racist barriers such as color, language, gender, country of birth, religion and various social strata (Efebeh, 2020). Dart (2019) examines the role of sport in peace between the Palestinians and Israel, and the United Nations Development Program and the Peace Program as a tool for reconciliation between Palestinians living in Gaza, West Bank and other refugee camps in the region. It is a factor in reducing stress and psychological damage (Dart, 2019). Van Hilvoorde *et al.* (2010) assessed the performance of Dutch athletes at the 2008 Beijing Games and reported that the country's six-step rise from the 2004 Athens Olympics was the most important factor in maintaining national pride in the eyes of the Dutch people (Van Hilvoorde et al., 2010). Yu (2008) examines the issue of sport as a political category in the development of Sino-Chinese Taipei interactions (Yu, 2008). This article examines two doctrines towards Chinese Taipei, on the one hand, the attitude of the International Olympic Committee towards this government as an independent convoy in the Olympic Games, and on the other hand, the independent attitude of the Chinese towards Taipei as one of their provinces. The "Olympic formula" is one of the divergent factors between the two countries. King (2016) indicated the role of sport in strengthening national security in the wake of the 9/11 attacks in the United States and the July 7, 2005 bombings in London(King, 2016). Dimeo (2012) in an article examining sports and the Cold War and believes that sporting events have caused the image of the United States as a satanic empire and the Soviet Union as a communist government to fade in the minds of the world (Dimeo, 2012). Dart (2016) analyzed the status of sports in Israel under the UEFA Under-21 Championship and believes that sports in this country have a military aspect due to the occupier nature of this regime and less attention has been paid to the dimension of cultural diplomacy in Israel. The hosting of this competition in 2013 has made sport a brand to introduce this regime (Dart, 2016). Hassan (2016) in an article examining the sporting events under attack from the 1972 Olympics to the bombing of the 2013 marathon, and believes that sport plays an important role in the three areas of security, counter-terrorism and social freedoms (Hassan, 2016). Schimmel (2012) in a chapter of his book examines the relationship between the National Football League and the department of territorial security of the United States since 9/11 and believes that this sport event has played an anti-terrorist role (Schimmel, 2012).

In terms of political power, in the authoritarian and colonial environment of the Middle East, the geopolitical position of Iran is very important due to the existence of an established and independent government. The increase in foreign officials' visits to Tehran indicates a change in the attitude of these countries towards Iran. A change that in turn stems from a change in our country's foreign policy and diplomacy. With the inauguration of the President Rohani, a significant movement began in the field of foreign policy and interaction with the countries of the world, a movement that can be considered a turning point in the Vienna Nuclear Agreement. The willingness of the countries of the world to interact with Iran also shows their understanding of the change that has taken place in Iran. A change in which constructive interaction and communication with the world is one of the foundations of a country's authority.

On the one hand, due to Iran's current position in the world arena and pressure from certain countries, and on the other hand, the brilliant results of Iranian national teams in popular international events such as the Olympics, World Cup and World Volleyball League, there are many opportunities to reduce the pressure of the international community. The sport of the Islamic Republic of Iran has faced various political security challenges in recent years, including confrontation or non-confrontation with representatives of the Zionist regime, immigration or asylum of the country's sports elite, US economic and political sanctions, and more recently tensions in sports relations, especially football in the Middle East, women entrance into soccer stadiums and Israel challenges. Therefore, the present study tried to investigate the tole of sports to empowering the national security of Iran.

Methodology

The present study was kind of qualitative studies that were done by descriptive method in paradigm method. In interpretivism, popular knowledge is not dismissed as unscientific, but as a useful tool for explaining the events of everyday life and understanding the rich meanings that people give to their daily lives. In other words, the meanings that people use in their daily interactions lie in their popular knowledge, and it is not possible to understand their world except through the understanding of popular knowledge. The study sample of the present study was purposefully selected (snowball). In this sampling strategy, the goal is to extract the central themes and categories that include the ideal set of diversity. To estimate the sample size, the sampling process continues to the point where theoretical saturation is achieved. This means that by selecting the zigzags of the interviewees and then implementing and analyzing them immediately, this process is repeated so that no new findings are added to the previous ones. Therefore, the present study reached theoretical saturation after 13 interviews, the same number of which was used as a study sample.
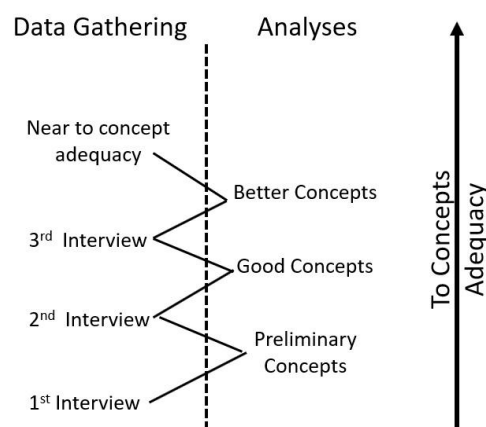
Figure 2. The process of zigzag movement to reach adequacy in qualitative sampling

In the analysis of texts, the method of thematic analysis has been used. Thematic analysis (TA) is a method for analyzing qualitative data and one of the clusters of methods that focuses on

identifying the pattern of meaning in a data set. This analysis is the process of identifying patterns or themes within qualitative data. In particular, the Sterberg strategy has been used. The five-step process includes. 1) Data management: Organizing the selected article and preparing them to start the analysis. 2) Data conflict: In this stage, the basics of data analysis are provided by performing a series of coding, requires attention to several issues, including open coding, theme development, centralized coding. 3) Data mapping: In this step, the categories, themes and patterns found are depicted in the form of data maps and concept diagrams. 4) Development of analysis: Initiation and development of analyzes based on categories and themes and 5) Typology: In the last step of analysis, the researcher categorizes the patterns and classifies them according to differences and similarities. The method of data analysis in this study was such that after preparing and reading the text of selected articles, the key concepts were counted separately for each article. The key concepts were then categorized into secondary subcategories in terms of commonalities and differences to a higher level. In the next step, the secondary subcategories were included in the primary sub-component set based on the similarities and differences. Then a conceptual diagram of the findings was drawn.

Results

The following table indicates the demographic characteristics of the study sample. According to this table, the members of the Delphi group of experts included three groups that has an essay in books, articles, notes, interviews in the field of sports and security:

Table. 1. Demographic features of study sample

Index	Position	No.	Per.	Age	No.	Per.
Job	Supreme Managers of Sports	4	30.7	<30	1	7.6
	Foreign Minister Managers	2	15.3	30-40	2	15.3
	Faculty Members	7	53.8	40-50	2	15.3
Curriculum	PhD	11	84.6	50-60	5	38.4
	Master	2	15.3	>60	3	23
	Bachelor	-	-	Total	13	100

After extracting the basic concepts from the interviews and the studied texts, these concepts have been categorized into categories that ultimately form the main theme which is national security:

Table. 2. Coding the concepts of sport and security

Theme	Category	Concept
Economic Development	Quantitative Development	Indicates the economic development of society (Code 1). Promoting the growth of production and service activities (Code 2). Accelerate economic growth (Code 2). Employment for the community (Code 5)
	Qualitative Development	Agricultural Development (Code 2). Industrial sector development (code 2). Scientific growth and development (Code 2). Increase efficiency and effectiveness in all sectors (Code 2). Increase economic efficiency (Code 7). Increase economic interactions (code 8). Improving the economic situation of all members of society (Code 10). Sustainable income generation (code 11). Economic and sports tourism (Code 11)
Devel	Social	Strengthening social values (Code 2). Promoting the spirit of

	Satisfaction	chivalry (Code 2). Reduce crime rates (Code 2). Decrease in population size in prisons and rehabilitation centers (Code 2). Fostering community talent (Code 2). Increase community energy Reduce community vulnerability to cultural threats (Code 2). Easier overcoming of community issues (code 2). Immunizing more people in the community (Code 2). Increase social vitality (code 3). Promoting a culture of social value for sport (Code 4). Elimination of social harms (code 5). Increase social Security (code 5). Reducing Social Injuries (Code 10(
	Social Capital	Popular mobilization (code 3). Ethnic cohesion (Code 3). Strengthen national unity (Code 3). Creating a sense of social cohesion (Code 6). Strengthening empathy among people (Code 6). Strengthen the spirit of struggle and bravery (Code 6)
Political Development	Governance	Strengthening national political values (Code 2). Provide peace of mind (Code 2). Dynamiting the country's development process (Code 2). Increase political Security (Code 2). Increase national power (Code 3). Strengthening national interests (Code 3). Strengthen public Security (Code 3)
	Management	Save on management costs (Code 2). Reduce treatment and health costs (Code 2). Reducing the cost of caring for the elderly (Code 2). Appropriate policy in the field of development of sports facilities (Code 4). Carrying out detailed activities and plans for planning in this area (Code 9). Modeling of successful countries (Code 9). Proper management (code 9). Planned thinking in sports decision making (Code 9). Continuation of programs (Code 9)
Military Development	Domestic Security	Indicating the level of public satisfaction (Code 1). Providing peace to the people of the country (Code 2). Strengthening territorial values (Code 2). Reducing the vulnerability of society to cultural threats (Code 2). Reduce community vulnerability to physical threats (Code 2). Increase national participation (Code 3). Strengthening National Unity (Code 3). Increase national pride (code 3). Increased participation of the country's young population in national and international decisions (Code 3). Creating economic Security (Code 11)
	Foreign Security	Spreading peace and friendship with other countries (Code 1). Strengthening defense values (Code 2). Increasing International Relations (Code 3). International Dispute Resolution (Code 3). International Peace and Reconciliation (Code 3). Increase political exchanges (Code 8). Social Visa Development (Code 8). Promotion of public diplomacy (Code 8). Promotion of military diplomacy (Code 8). Promotion of sports diplomacy (Code 8). Development of policy interactions (Code 8). Better illustration of the country in the world arena (Code 9).
Healthiness Development	Physical Healthiness	Indicators indicating the physical health of the community (Code 1). Indicates the level of community happiness (Code 1). Strengthen the health of future generations (Code 2). Creating a healthier environment (Code 2). Growing the quality of life of people in the community (Code 2). Modifying the consumption pattern of people in the community (Code 2). Refreshing all

	generations of society (Code 2). Development of sensory and motor skills of community members (Code 2). Increase the talents of the community and promote physical strength (Code 9). Improving the training and training capacity of community members (Code 9)
Psychological Healthiness	Strengthening the spirituality of the community (Code 2). Strengthening the mental and spiritual abilities of members of society (Code 2). Increase mental strength (confidence) in the individual and group (Code 7)
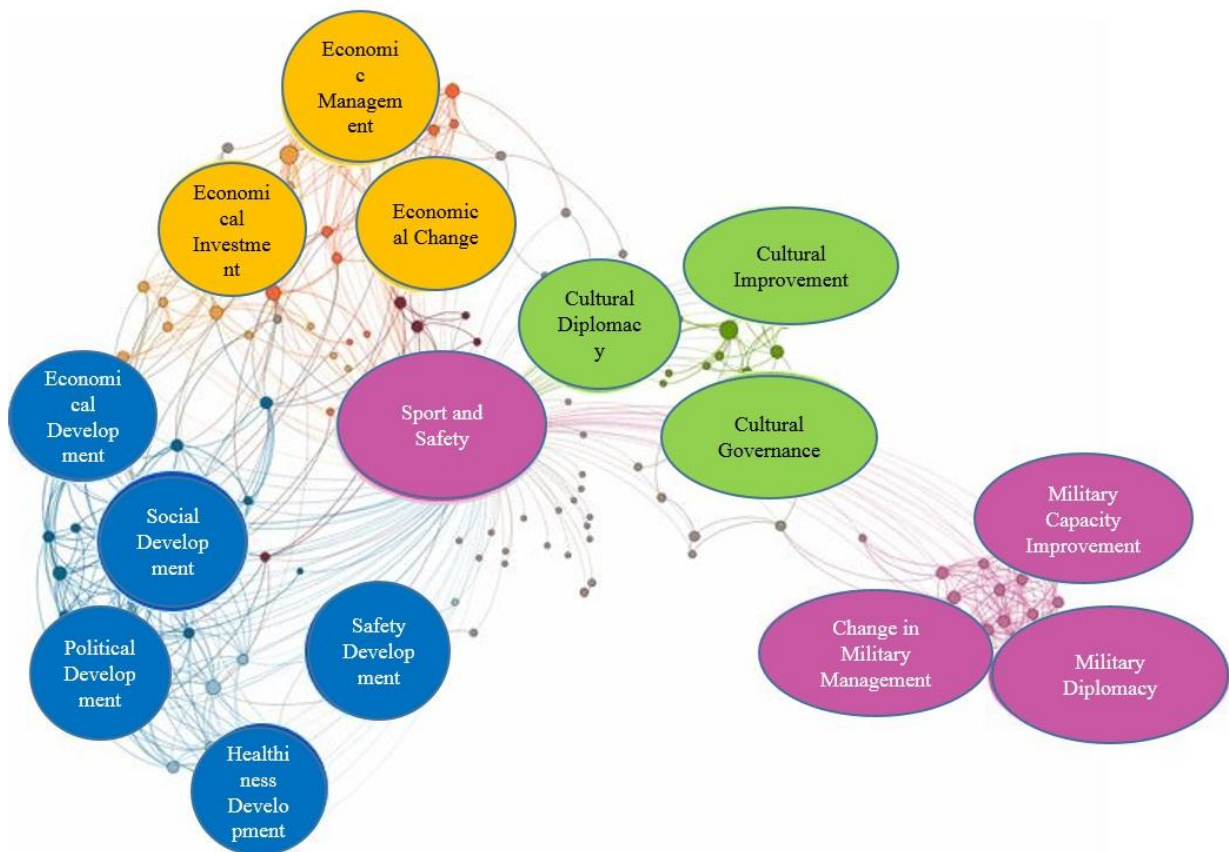
Figure 2. Conceptual framework of research

Discussion and Conclusion

The present study tried to explain security as a new concept in the literature of sports science, the role of sports in its realization and strengthening to familiarize decision makers with this concept, a new window into security management. By studying the study literature, it is easy to understand that fear and in security over time, have destructive and negative effects on quality of life and lead to unnecessary care and protection of people. It prevents them from social activities and increases the level of distrust in society. Security has two dimensions: mental (feeling of security) and objective. One of the preconditions for a sense of security in society is the existence of objective security in society. These levels are interrelated and it is from the interaction of these two objective and mental levels that security is achieved in society. The feeling of security arises from the direct and indirect experiences of individuals from the conditions of their surroundings and the facilities

provided by the structure of the social system (objective and macro level of security). The feeling of security is a kind of social production and all social, political, economic and cultural institutions at the macro level of society contribute to its formation and security at the micro level has reflections for security at the macro level. A brief look at the environmental situation in recent decades shows well that not only the destructive effects of human activities on the environment have not diminished, but also the development of increasing urban technology and the transformation of rural agricultural areas into industrial and urban areas have caused increasing pollution and environmental degradation. The findings of the present study indicate the intensification of the trend of unkindness to the environment, the loss of biodiversity and the destruction and erosion in different parts of the country, the continuation of which in the next few years will face Iran with costly security, political, economic and social challenges. Given the growing environmental challenges of Iran, in the first stage, reviewing the definition of sustainability and security using leverage to strengthen it in the eyes of policymakers and decision makers in various areas of this concept, will delay the process of critical environmental issues. This issue doubles the need to pay attention to sustainability strategies and the use of various capacities, including sports as an inclusive phenomenon in strengthening this issue.

Proper recycling systems play the most important role in sustainable environmental security in sports. For example, the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, as the "greenest Olympics ever", in addition to using electronic materials to make sports medals for Olympic champions, designed 18,000 recyclable cardboard beds with a weight of 200 kg for the 2020 Olympics. To. The organizing committee tried to draw on the experiences of other host cities (especially London 2012 and Rio 2016). It is clear that sporting events, especially the Olympic Games, are the best platform to showcase new achievements in the development of the waste recycling system, another example of which can be found in LOCOG (London 2012 Olympic Games Organizing Committee). Using the Big Bell trash can, he saw that the volume of waste was reduced to 1.20 by using the solar cell in the bin. As another example, the torch of the 2020 Olympic Games is made from the legacy of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in 2011 or the clothes of the volunteers of this competition are made of polyester and recycled from trash bottles. In the discussion of environmental protection technology, sport events can be considered as a showcase of the latest technological achievements in reducing the harmful effects of the environment. During the last Olympic Games, a fully hydrogen-powered bus was responsible for relocating and emitting zero emissions in Tokyo Village. During the same period and for the first time, the country reduced the amount of carbon dioxide produced from 4.5 million tons at the Rio Olympics to 2.93 million tons, which was unprecedented in the history of the New Century Olympics. The Paris Olympic Committee has also tried to sign a memorandum of understanding with 40 mayors in the Paris Climate Agreement in a program called "Together for Climate" to accelerate the implementation of Hafez's decisions in addition to using the Olympic space. The environment will convince the countries present in this super event to preserve the environment and avoid green washing slogans.

The nature of sport as a peace-making concept has led to the use of this phenomenon as a lever to address or mitigate many of the governance issues and challenges ahead. In the world of political turmoil, security is the most important issue in strengthening the levers of stability of a country, in which sport due to its attractive nature and low cost has been able to provide many political and security goals of countries. Economy and politics, as a two-way street, play an important role in the development and progress of each. On the one hand, the existence of political stability is a necessary prerequisite for achieving economic security, and on the other hand, economic security is one of the influential components of power and politics that has been highly considered by the countries of the world today. Every investment and economic enterprise, whether domestic or foreign, from the beginning of investment and economic activity to the stage of return seeks security with which it can think of making a profit in the long run. Among the indicators that shape the world economy today, although concepts such as energy economics (fossil fuels) and

automobiles have long played a significant role, but emerging phenomena such as tourism and sports have been able to play a significant role in providing economic security as infinite economic resources. Existence of multinational companies like Nike, their growing share of development in countries like the United States is proof of this. Among the concepts and categories presented in the findings of the present study, health can be called the most important category and function of sport in strengthening economic security. Reducing health costs, changing people's lifestyles, strengthening the mental and physical strength of employees and finally reforming the consumption pattern are among the concepts and functions of sports in ensuring the health of people in the community. In the last two years, especially with the outbreak of the corona pandemic, this issue has made the health security index of the society more and more important, and many political decision-makers of the country tried to restore public calm in various ways in inflaming the corona outbreak. Meanwhile, exercise as one of the major components of the household budget can play an important role in providing mental and physical health, thereby reducing the costs associated with the treatment of various diseases and in addition to its preventive role in the occurrence of diseases, causes strengthen a healthy and vibrant lifestyle. Kashef (2016) in a study on households in Urmia concluded that there is a positive and significant relationship between the amount of physical activity and household expenditure basket and on the other hand there was a significant inverse relationship between physical activity and medical expenses. Are consistent with this part of the present study(Kashef, 2015). Sharifi and Rahimi (2022) also consider the prevalence of sports and healthy recreation as effective factors and sustainable development of the economy and especially the sports industry(Sharifi & Rahimi, 2022). All in all, sport seems to play a vital role in supporting various aspects of security; Iran, as a country under the most severe sanctions of political economy, can use the phenomenon of sport as a lever to mitigate the effects of international sanctions on its economy, politics and security in general.

Acknowledgments

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