



Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu
- Faculty of Social Sciences
and Humanities
- Department of International
Relations, Political Science and
Security Studies

STUDIA SECURITATIS

Security Studies Magazine

Two Issues / Year

Volume XII
No. 1 / 2018
ISSN: 1843-1925

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION:

CEEOL:

<http://www.ceeol.com/>

EBSCO:

<http://www.ebscohost.com/>

ERIHPLUS:

<https://dbh.nsd.uib.no/publiseringskanaler/erihplus/>

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Web: <http://reviste.ulbsibiu.ro/studiasecuritatis/>

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**CONSIDERATIONS OF THEORETICAL-CONCEPTUAL
 APPROACHES OF THE "POLITICAL-MILITARY CRISIS"
 PHENOMENON**

Abstract:	<p><i>The events at the end of 1989, with their numerous mutations in the political and strategic in central and eastern Europe, have generated a vast process of redefining international relations with profound implications for the state's situation. The political processes at the beginning of the century have their origins in the effect of the cold war and in the state of torment that was created after its conclusion. The enlargement of NATO and that of the EU, although it created prerequisites for better crisis management and conflict specific to these stages, failed to ensure the proper management of the politico-military crisis but, on the contrary, these crises influenced and continue to influence the relations on the international arena.</i></p> <p><i>This article is focused on the critical political-military analysis, as well as, some attempts to present an opinion on the discussed phenomenon.</i></p>
Keywords:	Political-military crisis; strategy; peace; armed conflict
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**ANTINOMIES OF NATIONAL (IN)CAPABILITIES:
GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT OF NATIONAL SECURITIES OF
BALKAN STATES – THE EXAMPLE OF SERBIA¹**

Abstract: *In this paper we will try to analyze factors of (in)capabilities of national states in the context of their national security policies. The main focus in our observation will be pointed at two key elements of national power. The first one is the influence of national elites that should define, organize and be responsible for the control and the implementation of measures and activities aimed at the protection of the vital interest of nation and state. The second one is the geopolitical context that largely defines estimations, decisions and activities of national security policies of Balkan states.*

Keywords: **State, national power, national security, political elite, geopolitics, globalization, Balkan**

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¹ This paper was created within the projects, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Serbia, number 179014

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**INFLUENCING AND USING THE RELIGIOUSITY OF THE
PERSONS WITH PROPENSITY TO EXACERBATION OF THE
RELIGIOUS ZEAL OF RUSSIA FOR POLITICAL-STRATEGIC
AND SECURITY PURPOSES**

Abstract:	<p><i>People's religiosity is an extremely important element for determining affinities and shaping people's behavior, meaning fanaticism, which then coalesces into masses of people with the same visions of society in which they live, relating to certain forces from outside. The Russian Federation has made and is making strong efforts to develop the idea of panslavism with Russian Orthodoxy as a main component, the exacerbation of religious zeal doubled by the rejection of everything that contradicts its own beliefs by acquiring passionate feelings. These steps have been and are being done precisely to support both the internal policy interests, but especially those of foreign security and -military strategy. The link between the Russian establishment, especially between President Vladimir Putin and the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) represented by Patriarch Kirill, is visible and even promoted. In fact, this connection has had real success, as is the case with Ukraine, where an important segment of the population, like Crimea, has destabilized the entire nation, joining fanatically to the Russian religious and cultural community. In this article, we intend to highlight the strong link between the ROC and the Russian establishment and, on a timely basis, the results of this collaboration to promote the security interests of the Russian Federation on an international level.</i></p>
Keywords:	Religiosity; fanaticism; religious zeal; Orthodoxy; Russia; The church; security interests; values.
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ANALYSIS OF THE HYBRID WAR EFFECTS ON THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA IN THE PRESENT SECURITY CONTEXT

Abstract: *In this work there were described some facts of hybrid war effects on the security of the Republic of Moldova in the present security context. The subject of the work was unveiled by describing the main parts judging from the results of the analysis, elucidate and outline the effects of the multidimensional wars and why not, the hybrid warfare. An important role in this report is the focus on the hybrid war and its parts in a geopolitical context. The work carries also aspects of the levels based on new security threats from the perspective of hybrid war or new hide conflicts. Currently, in the context of the conflict in the eastern Ukraine, taking into account the complex situations arising out of hybrid military actions, guarding objectives of strategic importance require a more practical approach in planning and carrying out the mentioned actions.*

Keywords: **Conflict; hybrid war; security; Republic of Moldova; Ukraine; geopolitical context**

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**A QUALITATIVE RESEARCH REGARDING THE PERCEPTION
OF THE USE OF SMUGGLED CIGARETTES UPON THE
POPULATION’S HEALTH, AS COMPONENT ELEMENT OF
NATIONAL SECURITY**

Abstract:	<i>The existence of the smuggling with tobacco products – phenomenon affects the national budgets, population’s health, so implicitly the national security. As the law enforcement institutions know what is to be done in counter fighting the smuggling phenomenon, we do not know which is the perception on the population’s level. In this regard, a qualitative research was realized and this explores the perception of the law defying phenomenon upon the national security.</i> <i>The research was done based on developing four focus groups. The results will be presented in this article.</i>
Keywords:	Smuggling; health; national security; qualitative research
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**FEATURES OF MODERN ISLAM
AND ISLAMIC EXTREMISM**

Abstract: *At present religious Islamic extremism is one of the main threats to the world civilization. In the past 30 years the*

activities of religious extremists from the local threat to particular countries and regions have transformed into a global threat. Nowadays neither any country no continent can be guaranteed against terrorist attacks. Europe - the cradle of the world civilization has found herself in the crosshairs of terrorists.

Religious extremist organizations use Islam actively, they interpret the texts of the Qur'an and Sunnah at will for their purposes in order to justify their activities. The official Muslim clergy has not yet been able to oppose these interpretations with effective countermeasures. The world community instead of uniting efforts to counter the threats of Islamists demonstrates disunity. Some states are trying to use terrorists for their geopolitical purposes.

As a result, the threat of terrorist attacks persists and becomes even more unpredictable, taking into account the uncontrolled migration from North Africa and the Middle East to Europe.

Keywords: **Islamic extremism; Islamism; anti-modernization (reactionary) clergy; terrorism; international terrorist organizations; disunity of the world community; threat of civilization**

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ELEMENTS OF RUSSIAN HYBRID WAR IN THE EST-EUROPEAN SPACE AND CAUCASUS

Abstract: *As a result of the geopolitical metamorphoses of the 1990s, the Russian Federation is trying to regain its lost positions.*

One of the most debated topics was undoubtedly the issue of Russia's new role on the international arena.

Within a decade since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the former USSR, the Russian Federation is trying to restore its status as a great power, re-launching a policy of restoring the zone of influence in the post-Soviet space.

This paper analyzes the strategies of the Russian Federation to maintain in its sphere of influence the East-European and South-Caucasian space.

Keywords: **Russian Federation; geopolitical interest; strategy; power; influence zone; space**

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REFLECTIONS ON THE LEGALITY OF CRIMINALIZATION OF SEPARATIST ACTIONS WITHIN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Abstract: *Separatism is not a new phenomenon, but the many types and severities of challenges that it presents in modern nations is unprecedented in its history. Many of its modern manifestations hide themselves under the guise of the right to self-determination, or attempt to deflect legal action by being "technically non-violent". Combating these elements has presented a significant, but not insurmountable challenge for many modern nations.*

The Republic of Moldova is currently engaged in a struggle to maintain its sovereignty and integrity in the face of the de facto separation of the Transnistrian region, as well as other separatist movements in the East and South. The potentially devastating consequences of such movements

cannot be ignored, as the effects can create international conflicts, exemplified by the dramatic consequences of separatism in Ukraine.

An analysis of the Moldovan Criminal Code highlights several gaps within the framework of safeguarding the nation from the destructive effects of separatism. The current law is only effective in prosecuting separatist actions that are achieved through, or directly call for violent actions. These "loopholes" can easily be closed within the existing foundation of Moldovan Constitutional law, while maintaining adherence to international law in regard to individual freedom. Such legal safeguards have already been achieved in several states across Europe and the world.

Keywords: **Separatism; criminal law; territorial integrity; violence; self-determination**

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**THE IMPACT OF THE UNION BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION
TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE (EUBAM)
ON TRANSNISTRIAN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Abstract: *The purpose of the research is to show the positive impact that the Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) has in the peaceful settlement of the Transnistrian conflict. Through its mechanisms of monitoring, consultation and assistance and its initiatives, EUBAM contributes to the improvement of cooperation between the two banks of Dniester. Lately, the Mission puts*

more emphasis on the conflict and frames its annual activities around measures of conflict resolution and confidence building between Moldova and Transnistria. Although EUBAM's efforts lead to limited results, the Mission has a positive impact on the resolution of the conflict. As it works closely with the parties involved on technical problems, EUBAM is involved in solving the practical problems between the parties of the conflict. This aspect is very important as, once social and economic issues are resolved, the political settlement will come organically.

Keywords: EUBAM; monitoring mechanism; consultative capacities; mechanism of international negotiations; 5+2 format; border control; EU; Transnistria; Moldova; Ukraine,

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BOOK REVIEW: THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE TRANSNISTRAN CONFLICT, BY MIHAI MELINTEI

Abstract:

The volume "THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE TRANSNISTRAN CONFLICT" by Mihai Melintei, edited and printed by the ARMANIS Publishing House in Sibiu in 2018, represents the research product within the Laboratory for the Transnistrian Conflict Analysis (research structure of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu), with the goal of offering analyzing and working instruments useful for both public interested in the Transnistrian problem and for those who has concerns in

the area of the management of conflicts

Keywords: **Transnistrian Conflict; Chronology; working instruments**

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