

CZEŚĆ IV. OBRONA TERYTORIALNA – GŁOSY W DYSKUSJI

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THE NECESSITY OF THE TERRITORIAL DEFENCE FORCES IMPLEMENTATION

Almost three decades after the Cold War ended, the world today is facing new confrontations, new types of risks and threats, so there is no wonder that more and more analysts and experts in geopolitics argue that, in fact, regardless of the adjective that precedes it – new, irregular, asymmetric hybrid, informational, multidimensional and so on, we are in the midst of war. Eastern and Central European States feel like even more stringent these threats, because to global threats such as terrorism, cybercrime or uncontrolled migration, they face an increasingly aggressive Russian attitude that is trying to recover its former spheres of influence and, why not, due a precarious security situation in Turkey, a country until recently pillar of stability between Europe and the Near and Middle East.

In these circumstances, it is understandable interest that these states grant to strengthen their capacities of national security, one of the solutions envisaged being to improve territorial defense by extending existing capabilities, or either through their establishment where they do not exist yet. The Conference held in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski had the great merit to bring together experts from different regions to discuss a common subject, from different perspectives, of course, determined by the concrete situation of each country, its traditions and the resources at their disposal. And therefore, the implemented or only proposed solutions are just different from state to state.

Even if the solutions presented were different, there are enough points of convergence. First mention the validity of the concept of territorial defense and considering it as the best way to strengthen the capacity of national defense. The territorial defense is less expensive than an increasing of the number of regular armed forces as well as most popular than conscription, the other two variant of strengthening the national defense capacity. Secondly it highlights the need to build territorial forces as one service in the Armed Forces, made up

of military active personnel, professionals and volunteers, organized into units and large units on the territorial principle. Third were identified as essential tasks: defending important objectives into the area of responsibility; conduct counterterrorist actions; reinforce the regular armed forces when needed; response to natural disasters. Not least because the territorial forces to be effective it needs to be led, equipped and trained according to the principles applied in the armed forces which also requires major material efforts and financial resources of each state.

In conclusion, it is expected that in the near future to assist in many Central and Eastern European states to a revival of the territorial defense and territorial forces and for that, a speed and pace will be dictated by the will and national resources, and influenced by future actions of NATO, EU and Russia, as well as the evolution of their relationships.