

IV. WSBiP's DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL SECURITY

REPORT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS CONFERENCE "ASYMMETRIC CONFLICTS AND HYBRID WARS IN THE 21TH CENTURY" IN THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN OSTROWIEC ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKI

On 23-25 May 2018 Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski third time become the host of national and international experts in field of security, international relations, political science and many other disciplines. More than 100 experts and participants from Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Romania, Georgia, Lithuania, Hungary, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Mauretania, Slovakia or Moldova have the opportunity to discuss about topics which especially in Central and Eastern Europe are more than current. The main aim of the Conference was to give the platform for exchange experience and knowledge, share the reflections and thoughts of guest.

At opening ceremony participates were greeted by the rector Izabela Zaborowska. She expressed the satisfaction that the Colleague of Business and Entrepreneurship again become the host of such important event on international scale. During opening ceremony we have the opportunity to listen the speech of Polish parliament deputy Jarosław Rusiecki, who is the chairman of national security parliamentary commission and also was the Head of Conference Programme Council. Guest were also welcomed by general Mieczysław Cieniuch.

After official part, the experts from Poland, Romania and Ukraine present to participants their research results. As first the general Anatol Wojtan speak about the genesis and strategic aspects of asymmetric conflicts and hybrid wars in XXI century. General Józef Flis with general Andrzej Pietrzyk raised the aspects of discussion about hybrid war as new or old phenomenon. General Virgil Balaceanu, responsible for integration of Romanian army with NATO structures, represented the Reserve Officers Association of Romania present the topic "The economical war in Europe. ROU National Defence Industry". At the end of this panel the voice took professor Jurij Makar from Chernivtsi National University, who together with PhD Ludmyła Nowoskolcewa spoke about Russian invasion in Ukraine as the exemplification of hybrid war.

After lunch break the proceedings were resumed in two parallel panels. First session were devoted in general to information about the asymmetric conflicts and hybrid wars. This however give the possibilities to listeners to complete their knowledge and discuss about disagreements. Session was open by the presentation of Marzena Żakowska from Poland, with presentation about

“Determinants of armed conflicts”. Later participants have the opportunity to listen presentation of Aliko Guchua “Asymmetrical Threats and the Impact of Hybrid War on Global Security and Role of NATO in Ensuring Peace”, and Eka Beraia with “Asymmetric Challenges and Their Impact on Contemporary International Relations” both from Georgia. Also during this session guest from Ukraine and Russia present their result of research. Professor Władysław Strutyński present the topic “Political Component of Hybrid Wars: History and The Modern Realities”, Vira Burdiak present “Conflict in The East of Ukraine and its psychological features”, and the Igor Seleznev A Quarter of the Century is on the Guard of Collective Security against the Asymmetric Conflicts and Hybrid Wars”. The panel was closed with the speech concerns “Geostrategic Aspects of International Tensions and Conflicts” of Marzena Araźna.

Second parallel session in the same time was devoted mostly to war in Syria. During this panel we had the opportunity to listen experts from Lithuania, Ukraine and Poland, among them Vadim Volovoj with presentation “Political and Military Lessons of the Russian Campaign in Syria”, colonel Dariusz Brązkiewicz “Intervention of the Russian Federation in Syria - a Case Study of the Russian Policy in the Middle East”, Przemysław Furgacz “Iranian Military Intervention in Syrian War: Causes, Hallmarks and Ramifications for Iran’s Relations with Israel and Other Middle-Eastern Powers”, Šarūnas Rinkevičius “Non-Muslim Militias and Their Role in the Conflict in Syria and Iraq” and Natalia Tomaszewska “Russian Experience From War in Syria. Different Battlefields in Modern War”. The panel was ended by Andriy Butyrski from Ukraine with topic “Protection of the Rights of Internally Displaced Person in the Conditions of the Conflict on the Donbas”.

After every session the organizers leave the possibility to discuss with and between experts. Participants could share their remarks, questions and opinions about heard information’s on every presented topic.

Second day 24th May the proceedings start with two parallel sessions. First one was devoted mostly to Russia and connected with topics, like place of military actions in her doctrine or did the hybrid war was a tool use against countries like Ukraine, Moldova or Georgia. Among others, experts present the results of research about propaganda, information warfare or economic elements of hybrid war. Colonel Crăişor Ioniță present the topic “Russia: From Cold War via "Peace Dividend" to Hybrid War in Europe. How to reconcile Europe's strategic interests with Russia's legitimate interests?”, Beata Gostomczyk spoke about “Russian Hybrid Warfare and its Place in the Russian Geopolitical Doctrine”, Wojciech Szczepański give the answer for question “Does Russia Engage in Hybrid Warfare in the Balkans?”, Anna Bałdyga, spoke about “Manipulation of Raw Material Prices on Global Markets as a Key Element of Economic War – the Case of Russia after the Annexation of Crimea”. Łukasz Gałczyński present the elements of economic war on example of Kremlin Internal Recolonisation of the South Caucasus, Marina Gorbatiuc “Transnistrian Conflict as a Phenomenon of Hybrid War”. Worth to mention

are also the presentations of Maia Urushadze “Foreign Propaganda Projection in Georgian Politics”, professor Khatuna Chapichadze “Has Georgia Won the Information War against Russia in the Context of the Russian-Georgian Conflict of 2008?” and the professor Jarosław Tomasiewicz “Nation-party Against Nation-state. The Kurdish Nationalist Movement From Terrorism to Quasi-statehood”.

Parallel session was generally devoted to medical aspects of modern war, which refers to lecture of colonel Zoltan Toth from NATO Centre of Excellence for Military Medicine Interoperability Branch in Hungary. During this panel, participants have the opportunity to listen expert from TACMED Michał Czerwiński, the known author and recognize authority in case of medical services, who present topic “Modern threats for Emergency Medical Services in Context of Asymmetric Warfare”. Among other author’s presentation we can distinguish John Quinn and Patrick Chellev from Czech Republic, Lt. Maciej Paszyn, Paweł Kawalerski and Damian G. Dzierżyński from Poland. In this panel beside medicine topics, were present also aspects of territorial defence and local governments issues, cyber war, fourth generation wars.

PhD Alba Popescy from Romania with topic “Muslim Brotherhood and the Global Caliphate” get a lot of attention from listeners. What should be emphasize that this topic was one of the most popular during the discussion among participants. Captain Dariusz Loranty presentation conneced topics of medicine and territorial defence in “Polish Territorial Self-government - Tasks in the Field of Medical Logistics in the Aspect of Asymmetric Conflict. Current Status, Advantages and Disadvantages”

After lunch break participants returned do Assembly Hols for last two parallel panels.

First one was devoted in whole to Ukraine. Participants mainly from Poland but also from Great Britain spoke about hybrid war in Ukraine and its consequences, like migration, asylum seekers or information aspects of war. Piotr Kułakowski rise the topic about the possibility of separatist actions in Zakarpatia region. In fourth panel we could see the domination of media issues, like: “Facebook and Twitter in the Hands of the Terrorists” Lena Kuzka, “The Control and Regulation of Fake News and Hate Speech Online” Ruth Barber, “The Role of Local Media in Shaping Awareness in the Field of Security: on the Example of the Interaction of the Reformed Newspapers and the Armed Forces of Ukraine” by Agata Woźniak-Krakowian.

Second day of proceedings end with mentioned lecture of colonel Zlaton Toth. Information’s about help on battle field and medial process during conflicts gathered many listeners, also nurses from Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski.

During the last day 25th May, we had the occasion to hear among other professor Vahtang Maisaia from Caucasus International University, who speak about Jihadist hybrid war as a asymmetric military strategy for aggressive non-state religious actors – main characteristics and doctrinal implications (Daesh, Taliban and “Caucasus Islamic Emirate” Cases). Staying in topic of Islam,

Aleksandra Cieślak from King's Collage of London spoke about fighting for ISIS - the case of Great Britain. In this panel were also discussed issues connected with migrations, terrorism and climate change.

In second and last panel at that day and general in conference listeners have the occasion to continuing discussions about the asymmetric conflicts in case of terrorism. Leonid Gusev from Russia present the topic of fights in post-soviet area against asymmetric conflicts. Latter Jakub Žak present how and what weapons are used during asymmetric conflicts. Roman Temnikov spoke about the case of Azerbaijan and it's winning fight against terrorism. The panel end with presentation of colonel Grzegorz Motrycz with topics "Terrorist Attacks as an Example of Asymmetrical Actions During the ISAF Mission, and Piotr Lewandowski "Twitter Revolutions - Geopolitical Consequences for International Security".

After panels were conduct two parallel open lectures, first about "Safety at Work of Public Officials – Communication in Crisis Situations" led by captain Dariusz Loranty, known polish police officer, negotiator and specialist in internal affairs and second lecture of professor Vakhtang Maisaia, NATO expert and participant of NATO summit in Warsaw from Georgia who speak about "Caucasus-Caspian Region in the post-Cold War".

Apart from conference, during breaks in proceedings participants have the opportunity to get acquainted with the latest press and book publications concerning asymmetric conflict and hybrid wars. After lectures conference were closed with speech of Rector Izabela Zaborowska and Dean Paweł Gotowiecki.

The conference was broadly commented in national and local media, also abroad. Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski once again become the significant place, where number of experts from 18 countries, different science environment and disciplines, have the possibility to factual and uninhibited discussion on topics which are crucial not only for Central or East Europe, but for the whole Europe, Asia and North America.



