

DIGITAL AGE, CYBER THREATS AND THE ASPECTS OF THE HYBRID WARS IN THE ACTUAL GLOBAL SOCIETY

VERONICA DUMITRAȘCU¹

INTRODUCTION

The advance of technology and digitalisation has multiple consequences regarding the evolution of society, having multiple effects on societal levels. Cyber security threats and digitalisation of the actual society bring in discussion the impact of these processes on societal and individual level.

The current issue of the Romanian Journal of Sociological Studies brings in attention articles that take into consideration the threats of cyber security and the means of resilience to defend cyber security capabilities, the understanding of “the psycho-sociological aspects of security in the digital age”, analysing what the author calls, “phygital space” “which encompasses physical, virtual, and bio-technological dimensions of human interaction”, the aspects of the hybrid war in the actual global society and their characteristics. Also, as an extra study, the volume takes in consideration a data analysis “on persons who committed drug law offences, registered by the Bucharest Probation Service”.

The article that analyses the effects of cyber attacks upon the society explores the necessity to take in consideration resilience measures and strategies to combat these threats. The author employs a methodology that encompasses qualitative and quantitative methods in order to explain “a causal linkage between societal resilience and the impact of war”. The author takes into account “the cooperation between the public and the private sector to enhance resilience” and, in this regard, to provide the tools through “identifying lessons learned”.

The article about the digital society and “phygital” space reveals “the generational differences in technology usage”. The author underlines “the psychosocial aspects of security, including cognitive-affective and behavioural-regulatory elements” and examines the appearance of “phygital culture” and its

¹ PhD, Researcher, Institute of Sociolog, Romanian Academy, București, sector 5, Calea 13 Septembrie nr. 13, e-mail: veronica.dumitrascu@gmail.com



impact on societal security. By bringing into analysis “the psychosocial risks and threats from digitalisation”, the author concludes that “the development of a new educational model of digital social resilience targeting digital natives (Generation Z and Alpha)” is extremely important.

Hybrid wars are the current most challenging threats in nowadays society. “The concept of hybrid war emerged as a response to changes in the global security environment”. The article that takes into consideration the elements and characteristics of the hybrid war in the work of a great Romanian diplomat, Mircea Malița (the volume „Between War and Peace”) shows the importance of the concept nowadays, how it emerges in the new geopolitical context, how the Romanian diplomat Mircea Malița “has perceived the advances of the new technology and the evolution of the wars in terms of tactics and methods, placing the author among the greatest visionaries of what many scholars name nowadays, “hybrid wars” and how this concept evolves in the geopolitical discourses.

The article concerning data analysis on persons „who committed drug law offences” contains a quantitative analysis that shows that “the drug offenders in Bucharest have recurrent offensive behavior, hide quite well their violent intentions and the protective factors”.

The studies from this special issue, theoretical or methodological contributions, or integrative reviews covers the review’s demands. Besides that, all the authors are responsible for the content of the articles.

Regarding all these, I want to express many thanks to the Deputy Director of the journal and the team for making possible this publication.