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The Role of Romania in Building the New Security Architecture

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Abstract: The approach towards a multipolar world will be long lasting, and the international community will probably pass through a deep restructuring, where the global and regional integration will coexist with the contradictory trend of fragmentation and ranking of the world. While due to globalism there is almost unlikely to have a war between the great powers, the amplification of the asymmetric risks, including terrorism, organized crime and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, is generating more and more reasons for conflict. Against the background of the rapid decrease of natural resources, along with the accentuated population growth, the battle for strategic resources remained the most stable source of conflict. The fight for them will increase, and the grouping of countries, according to their interests, around the new centers of power, will increasingly shape more clearly. We will probably assist to the affirmation and increase of their pressure in order to attract, in the sphere of influence, a larger number of countries, so as to occupy a place as advantageous as possible, within the new world order. This configuration will be determined by the interests, knowledge capacity, the volume and quality of information, technological strength and access to resources.

Keywords: integration; globalism; international community

1   Introduction

The operation of Romania's accession to European and Euro-Atlantic political, economic and security bodies printed a new vision to the reform and modernization strategy of the entire Romanian society, in its intention of returning to the big European family and of connecting to the universal values, to democracy and to the market economy principles and human rights.

Convinced that its national interests can be promoted, asserted and preserved only within the framework of Euro-Atlantic security structures, Romania considered that its membership to NATO represents the optimal solution to the security guarantees offered by the North Atlantic Treaty. The development and growth of international relations, especially after 1990, the enhancement of the political dialogue and the increase of trust between States have fostered a real close between East and West, virtually meaning the end of the Cold War.

By initiating cooperation projects and programs, NATO and EU countries have facilitated to Central and Southeastern European countries the conduct of the accession process to the two integrating institutions.

In this context, NATO, as an institution with a primary role in the Euro-Atlantic security, provided to the candidate countries for accession to its structures and to its partners the possibility to understand the philosophy of the Alliance, the substance and essence of interoperability, the knowledge of the control system, of its organization, information, logistics and details regarding its budgeting, analysis and decision processes specific to NATO.

2. The Matter Seat

Late political developments, especially after the historical events of November and December 2002 in Prague and Copenhagen, where the two integration institutions, NATO and EU, have made critical steps towards a new configuration of their size, by inviting new members, have marked, according to the views expressed by most political leaders, the end of the division of Europe.

The essential positive transformations in the public, economic, military, financial, social domain, which took place at the level of NATO and EU, as well as at the level of the countries invited to join the great Euro-Atlantic and European families, the development of democracy and market economy principles, the respect for human rights and universal values have positively influenced the period of the international loosening and cooperation initiated after the '90, while ensuring favorable conditions to the materialization for the new security architecture.

As a corollary of these conditions, the specter of large-scale armed confrontations on the European continent was clearly removed, appearing, in exchange, new and exciting challenges and threats generating stress and crisis, which, unidentified, unmonitored and timely unresolved can cause serious damage to the climate of peace and stability at local, regional or even global levels.

Identifying terrorism, organized crime and the proliferation of mass destruction weapons as the main threats to the security of States, required not only the joint efforts of the international community in order to prevent and control them, but also finding and applying new forms and methods of action. (Clava, 2001, p. 147)

The re-entrance to the forefront of global security of the issue of Iraq, while after the 1991 Gulf War the Baghdad regime headed by Saddam Hussein has not complied with the UN Security Council Resolutions on the production, stockpiling and use of weapons of mass destruction and its involvement in supporting terrorist groups, particularly those belonging to Al-Qaeda, which act in the Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq represents the reference event of this period, whose consequences can lead to the establishment of important new groupings and guidelines in contemporary international politics. (Clava, 2001, p. 196)

Barack Obama gave his first speech as President of the United States, on 21.09.2009, where he spoke about economy, defense, the withdrawal from Iraq or the Muslim world.

Thus, in terms of defense, he said that he rejects as false the choice between security and ideals. Their founding fathers were faced with dangers that they can hardly imagine, they have drafted a charter to ensure the role of law and human rights, a charter extended with the blood of all generations. These ideals still shine the world and they will abandon them for the sake of selfishness. He, therefore, sent to all other peoples and governments the message that America is the friend of every nation, man, woman and child and that it wants a peaceful and dignified future[3].

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[3] Barak Obama' Speech, Washintong, 02:15, 21.01.2009.

Also, the U.S. president noted that the previous generations have dealt with fascism and communism, not only with missiles and tanks, but also with fierce alliances and sustainable beliefs. They understood that not only their power can protect them or that it entitles them to do what they want. Instead, they knew that their power grows through caution, that their safety comes from the justice of their cause, from the force of their example and the temperate qualities of their modesty and ability[4].

However, Barak Obama said that they will begin leaving the Iraq to its people in a responsible manner and by achieving peace in Afghanistan. With old friends and former enemies, they will work tirelessly in order to eliminate the nuclear threat and to remove the specter of global warming. They will not apologize for their lifestyle and they will not plead in their defense; they will say to those trying to reach their goals through terror and killing innocent people that their spirit is strong and that it can not be defeated. He said that they are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Hebrew, Hindu and atheists. They are modeled after each language and culture, coming from every corner of the world, and they knew the bitter taste of the Civil War and segregation and they have exceeded that dark chapter, becoming stronger and more united; thus, they can only to believe that old hatred will disappear someday, that the borders that divide them will be deleted; as the world becomes smaller, their common humanity will emerge. And America must play its role as the path breaker of a new era of pace[5].

The dimensions emerged in the U.S., Great-Britain and their allies on the one hand and France, Germany, Russia and China on the other hand, on how to resolve the Iraqi crisis, have challenged not only the role and place of the main security-oriented international organizations - UN, NATO and the EU - in solving the major problems of mankind, but also the need to redefine the world order resulted after the Cold War.

Far from affecting only the countries in the Persian Gulf, the Iraqi crisis directly addresses the geopolitical future of the planet.

Long before the onset of the military campaign in Iraq, there have been shaped ideas and options regarding the configuration of the new world order. Among the best known and publicized, three of them have made a career:

1. The unipolar option - with the U.S. as a single global superpower; this option has been called by some European analysts the Rumsfeld option;

2. The multipolar option, which relies on a possible alliance between France, Germany and Russia; it was called by some American and European analysts as the Gaelic option.

3. The Transatlantic West option, which is based on the U.S. and the United Europe, which is regarded as a more developed version of what existed during the Cold War.

For now, the idea was not explicitly treated, the option regarding the place and role that China and Russia will be able to play in the geo-strategic plan towards the middle of this century.

Under the impact of Iraqi and Afghan crisis, the two structures of the Euro-Atlantic stability of the past 50 years, NATO and the EU, have been in a position to question the soundness and quality of the relationships of its members. This event is, by its effects, the conjuncture created at the global level which accelerated the shaping, consolidation and expression process of individual positions of certain geopolitical actors against unipolarism in its concrete contemporary form, the one of the U.S.

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[4] www.mediafax.ro
[5] www.mediafax.ro

unilateralism. The attitudes were, with few exceptions, the result of decisions taken at national level, and, only accidentally, they have been adopted at the level of decision making forums of UNO, NATO and the EU collective security structures.

Rather than having the means necessary to give consistency and credibility to national options, the main regional actors have made only statements, petitions and joint arrangements with regard to the Iraqi crisis, which, in time, could develop into multinational structures, sufficiently strong to set up a multipolar world.

In these circumstances, the war in Iraq emphasized that, in order to combat new threats such as "terrorism - Weapons of Mass Destruction", the relations between nation-States tend to become defining elements and not multinational arrangements. It is also clear that the reconfiguration of the new world order is ignored, with or without intent, existing collective security structures - the UN, NATO, OSCE, EU.

3. Conclusions

Romania, as part of these international developments, faces the challenges generated by the transformation process and aims to adapt the demands of today's world. Our country has adhered to democratic principles and values thus strengthening its position in the international community, becoming a major player on the international scene. Romania and its army opted unequivocally for the submission to a collective defense and security environment that ensures best the promotion and defense of our national interests.

In these conditions, the Romanian Army, as a fundamental institution of our country, can be adjusted flexibly to the demands and requirements imposed by the dynamics of events, in order to face new challenges. The NATO membership means advantages, benefits, but equally duties, responsibilities. In order to reach them, the transformation is a priority condition. In this respect, we appreciate that we have already a chance, namely that the transformations undertaken by the military institution in order to become an ally army are held simultaneously with the transforming measures set by the Alliance Summit in Prague[1].

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[1] *Gandirea militara romaneasca* – Revista de teorie si stiinta militara editata de Statul Major al Armatei Romane, nr. 5, septembrie – octombrie, 2008.

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