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**NEO-TERRORISM IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY
AS A BASIC ELEMENT OF HYBRID WARFARE STRATEGY¹**

In the article the authors pay special attention to the issues of information security and neo-terrorism as the basic element of hybrid warfare strategy in the information society.

Keywords: *information violence, neoterrorism, infosphere, political singularity, hybrid wars.*

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НЕОТЕРРОРИЗМ В ИНФОРМАЦИОННОМ ОБЩЕСТВЕ КАК БАЗОВЫЙ ЭЛЕМЕНТ СТРАТЕГИИ ГИБРИДНЫХ ВОЙН

В статье авторы обращают особое внимание на вопросы, касающиеся информационной безопасности и неотерроризма как базового элемента стратегии гибридных войн в информационном обществе.

Ключевые слова: *информационное насилие, неотерроризм, инфосфера, политическая сингулярность, гибридные войны.*

... citizens measured justice not by the preaching of private individuals,
but by the laws of the state and were at peace not because of controversy,
but by the power of authority ...
T. Hobbes

Introduction. The modern paradigm of societal development, as well as the destructive orientation of global processes, provokes structural disproportions in all spheres of life of information society and there is an increase in armed conflicts, the number of cyberattacks associated with neoterrorist aggression in the era of hybrid wars [1, p. 95], which, according to the authors of the article, affects the infosphere, provoking information-psychological deformation of society and personality, fixing social recapitulation, which inevitably changes the moral-intellectual potential of modern man.

Today in the infosphere the purposeful neoterrorist aggression related to the sanctions of the "collective West", demonstration of the US military power is systematically carried out, which actualizes the national security of the Republic of Belarus in the era of hybrid wars. The ongoing changes in various spheres of life of the information society dynamically change the infosphere, affecting the public existence and consciousness, which actualizes the problems associated with the development of national economy, preservation of traditional values, cultural and scientific potentials of the Republic of Belarus [2, p. 96]. That is why it is no coincidence that neo-terrorism is gaining strength in the information society, initiating panoramic manipulation of public consciousness by means of information violence, which results in information-humanistic deactivation of the personality (change of traditional values, conflict of interpretations, semantic eclecticism, toxic format of intercultural communications, aggressive digitalization). In addition, in the era

of hybrid wars there is a total domination of aggressive-destructive wide format interaction of elites and as a result of permanent world crises and pandemics (economic, demographic, political, anthropological crises) the modern man is in a situation of information and psychological deprivation and sinking into a wave of increasing information chaos under the influence of financial and economic eclecticism, information and psychological confrontation destroys national economies

Neo-terrorism, which is a basic element of hybrid warfare strategy in the information society, actualizes the multidimensional conflictogenic potential of modern social relations, used by engaged elites to change the ratio of "...non-military and military methods" determining the infosphere, transforming the axiological matrix of personality, generating a value vacuum [4, p. 15]. Neoterrorism is a scientific definition describing large-scale, multidirectional, systematic and prolonged in time purposeful aggression (cyberattacks, information violence), implemented by latent forces through a set of external and internal activities in the infosphere. Neoterrorist aggression, according to the authors of the article, is sanctioned by elites, the distinctive feature of which is the intensive use of military-political, socio-economic levers of pressure, as well as the extensive use of information and telecommunications technologies (cyberattacks) [5]. Interference of the engaged elite of modern states in the internal affairs of the independent Republic of Belarus, through economic sanctions, media pressure, cyberbullying,

foreign policy pressure during the pandemic, provoke protest, unauthorized struggle of citizens for the ghost democracy and freedom of information, which, in fact, turns into the confrontation of one people with a common history and a distinctive culture against itself [6].

Neo-terrorism thus purposefully provides systematic funding and media support from destructive forces that provoke social chaos through an opposition element ("protesters," "criminal beau monde") that "rocks" the national economy and calls into question traditional values and discredits social institutions.

Main part. Recall that neoterrorism as a modern resource of international terrorism is characterized by a latent-destructive impact of a long-term nature on modern states, which is carried out through the direct influence of various elites, dynamic-accumulating aggressive diverse impact on all areas of life of information society to neutralize the adaptive potential of any social system.

In this format, according to the authors of the article, neoterrorist aggression as a sufficiently extended in time and purposeful activity aimed at changing social being and consciousness with the use of modern information and telecommunication technologies that change the infosphere, format the public consciousness, differentiate value-normative systems, implementing the replacement of traditional axiological guidelines for surrogate, anti-values, which concerns personal information security.

Let us note that the sources of such destructive influences are not only armed formations, analytical units of the enemy, but also the upgrade technology initiated at the international level, including public organizations. That is why it is important to pay special attention to information security, the dynamics of development of the modern infosphere, axiological orientations of the modern man, which will allow to focus on the positive and creative orientation of social relations, initiating social adaptation and axiologically-oriented existence of the individual. And one cannot but agree that it is neoterrorist aggression or neoterrorism as "... a phenomenon and updated type of international terrorism used as an element of hybrid warfare strategy, provokes geopolitical and socio-tectonic changes in a globalizing world, determining information and

telecommunications technologies, formatting mental and cultural matrix, the national self-consciousness of the individual, thus, creating conditions for system crises" [7, p. 103].

In the era of hybrid wars there are systemic changes and crises (crown crisis), and neo-terrorist aggression becomes large-scale and destructive, as today various elites actively rebuild the map of Europe, implementing their anti-democratic slogans, applying, both in form and in content, violent formatting of the existing social reality, which transforms social relations and axiological matrix of personality. And this value vacuum arising in the information society due to the dehumanization of the infosphere is not filled automatically, and as a result, it is neo-terrorist aggression that changes the spiritual equipment of man. Thus, the active propaganda of reification in the conditions of political singularity and the introduction of anti-values into the public consciousness, the dominance of consumer psychology, initiates violence, generating aggressive behavior of the individual (suicide, fear, stress, neurosis, depression).

Neo-terrorism is a purposeful and destructive expansion in the period of political singularity, as a basic element of hybrid warfare strategy (digital influence, information violence, large-scale media pressure, cyberbullying, marginal opposition). The singular description of neo-terrorist aggression borders on information violence and actualizes the destructive axiological orientations of the modern individual (disinformation, unauthorized access to information, information violence, aggressive digitalization, systemic cybercrimes).

Political singularity as a scientific category characterizes an extremely unstable state of socio-political, financial and economic system, which is observed at the initial stage of formation of society, when the activity of modern elites is constantly increasing, and destructive influence on the development of social relations acquires a systemic nature, affecting all areas of life of information society.

In this regard, it is necessary to actualize the author's methods, which are necessary to ensure more effective information security.

First, the method of aggregation and anti-monopoly development of information infrastructure (infosphere), program (system) implementation of sustainable-security development, initiating integrative foreign

economic activity in the field of information (national strategy for the development of security, and in particular the information security of the individual).

Secondly, the method of priority in the development of funding of scientific and technological innovation developments, especially those related to information security (nanoindustry, nanobiotechnology, robotics, artificial intelligence, android construction, upgrade technology, medical, space industry).

Thirdly, the method of coherence in addressing current issues related to the informatization of society and the creation of more efficient territorial infrastructures in order to implement a systematic approach in creating a single infosphere, which would guarantee a high level of personal information security.

Fourthly, the method of coordinating the impact and implementation of sustainable development, ensuring the stability of the economy and the unity of the territory of an independent state, where the important place belongs to the policy of informatization and integrated security.

Fifthly, the method of forecasting the prospects of development of the infosphere (information-semantic and legal field) on the basis of humanization of information and telecommunication technologies (information-analytical support, monitoring of information security).

Conclusion. In the era of hybrid wars, according to the authors of the article, the latent forces initiate ideological confrontation and redistribution of resources, including informational ones, to format the value orientations of a personality through the "war of controlled chaos", "multivariant war", "complex military actions", full-scale information-humanistic deactivation of a personality, influencing "... both rational and emotional perception of the subject of politico-military reality" [8, pp. 8-9].

As a result, neo-terrorism provokes large-scale changes in the infosphere, destructively influencing the national economies of various states, social institutions, which makes completely ineffective international cooperation, which, paradoxically, more often "... goes not so much at the negotiating table, as in the hot spots" [9, p. 4]. And today, synthesizing various forms and methods of traditional warfare,

neoterrorism initiates the most modern levers of pressure on the public consciousness, which is relevant to the infosphere and digitalization, as well as to the axiological orientations of man, because it is in the era of hybrid wars negative "... social and psychological consequences manifest in the fact that the individual begins to blur both moral values and abilities to distinguish the illusory and the real" [10, p. 182].

To effectively counter neo-terrorist aggression in the information society it is necessary:

- focus on humane and tolerant interaction of modern elites of different states, as well as the most politically correct international cooperation in the field of information security (military-strategic, financial-economic, political-legal, socio-cultural interaction, intercultural communications), minimizing the degree of distrust between countries, reducing the existing risks associated with military conflicts, international terrorism in addressing global and regional problems;

- Initiate more effective international control of scientific research, providing legal support for innovative developments in the field of security (innovation and tactical, strategic systems, disarmament programs, the creation of modern weapons, collective control in ensuring cybersecurity), which is a catalyst for structural transformation in a polycivilized world;

- to optimize social relations on the basis of trust in order to improve the ways of multi-format, transportent interstate cooperation in the process of strengthening the security system, as well as changing the focus of information structures that affect the modern alliance of superpowers. Thus, the Ukrainian politico-military modernity proves the fact that there is a real danger of destroying national economies and social institutions that have changed the map of modern Europe.

In the era of hybrid warfare, the existing axioms of humanism, goodness, justice, collectivism, patriotism are subject to negative impact and destructive interpretation, as well as constant toxic criticism. Thus, international events in modern Europe show that neo-terrorism is gaining momentum in the information society, as a result of which humanistic principles, traditional values lose their meaning and violence, fear, as well as the

dominant trend, characterized by material damage, physical and psychological harm to the individual, are prevalent in the society. And, as a consequence of the above-mentioned destructive phenomena, informational violence is progressing today, which is the result of targeted exposure to illegitimate information, the unauthorized use of digital technologies used to manipulate information, which provokes ideological pressure, cyberbullying, destructive intercultural communications. All this inevitably leads to a structural transformation of the personality, which manifests verbally and indirectly directed aggression, as it becomes flashy, irritable (physical actions against someone, rudeness, threats, gossip, shouting in the crowd, angry jokes, mass protests).

As a result, neo-terrorism initiates cyber-attacks, the destructive use of paramilitary forces, specially trained terrorists, and traditional marginal opposition to destabilize the situation in any modern state. It is as a result of neo-terrorist aggression in a particular country or region that the destruction of national economies and social institutions take place. As a consequence, an axiological eclecticism and value vacuum occurs in the information society, affecting the formation of positive public opinion, necessary for the preservation of moral values, scientific and cultural potential of man and society.

Thus, neo-terrorist aggression, initiated by modern elites and encouraged by the superpower alliance, destroys national economies and social institutions, ultimately destroying the independent states of modern Europe. Information violence and cyber-attacks have a destructive effect on the existing social reality, determining the existence of modern man, which leads to axiological deformation of the personality [12, p. 19]. And as a result, neo-terrorism, as a special element of hybrid warfare strategy in information society, generates information violence, initiates multi-format crises (anthropological crisis, crown crisis) in order to change power relations in a particular state, applying all kinds of modern warfare.

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