

Information Note¹

Event: *International Conference Strategies XXI - The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment*

Organizers: “Carol I” National Defense University, Ministry of National Defense, Romania

Date and venue: 21-22 November, 2013, Bucharest, Romania

Participants: *States:* Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania

International organizations: - 1540 Committee Group of Experts (by video); Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

Non-Governmental Organizations, Industry, Academia, and Other Entities: Center for Conflict Prevention and Early Warning (Romania); Romanian Scientific Society for Interdisciplinary Research; Romanian Diplomatic Institute; Academy of Romanian Scientists; Centre for Strategic and Defense Studies of the National University of Public Services (Hungary), Centre for Security and Military Strategic Studies of the University of Defence (Czech Republic); Bucharest University (Romania); National School for Political and Administrative Sciences (Romania); Academy of Economic Studies (Romania); “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University (Romania), “Babeş-Bolyai” University (Romania); “Lumina” South-Eastern Europe University (Romania); “Dimitrie Cantemir” Christian University (Romania); “Titu Maiorescu” University (Romania).

1. **Objectives of the conference**

The *International Conference Strategies XXI – The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment* aimed to provide a forum for the academic exchange of ideas, opinions and communication of the latest results of scientific research in the field of security and strategy.

2. **Background**

The National Defense University “Carol I” is directly subordinate to the Romanian Minister of National Defense. The university offers formal education and online training courses in the field of national defense and security and its staff undertakes studies and research projects as requested by the President, Government, Supreme Council of National Defense, or the Parliament of Romania. The National Defense University “Carol I” is currently led by Lieutenant General Teodor Frunzeti, PhD. The Centre for Defence and Security Strategic Studies (CDSSS), the main research structure of “Carol I” National Defense University, was founded 01 November 2000, as a scientific research

¹ For information –not an official report. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the 1540 Committee or of the organizers or participants in the event.

institution of the Ministry of National Defense, subordinated to the General Staff. CDSSS is responsible inter alia for publishing the bilingual (Romanian and English) quarterly scientific journal *Strategic Impact* and for organizing scientific events workshops on defense and security topics. On 21-22 November 2013, CDSSS organized the International Scientific Conference Strategies XXI - with the theme The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment. Participants were officials from the national defense structures and public policy, researchers, academics, doctoral and master students, military and civilian, from Romania and abroad.

3. **Highlights**

The conference was attended inter alia by senior level officials from the Administration of the President of Romania, Romanian Ministry of National Defence, Romanian Ministry of Administration and Interior, Romanian Intelligence Service, Romanian National Intelligence Academy, and the Romanian National Defence College.

The conference was organized in five sessions as follows:

- State and Non-State Actors in the 21st Century Power Relations
 - Topics for discussion: geopolitical context; power relations; frozen conflicts; security organizations' role in the 21st century international relations; security organizations and their revival; failed states; tension, crises, conflicts; political transition management in different regions of the world; nuclear disarmament and the spectrum of proliferation; role and implications of the use of private security companies in the context of interstate conflicts; diaspora and its role as an actor in supporting regional and global changes; terrorism and violent, illegitimate actions.
- Security Transformation
 - Topics for discussion: constancy and change in the international security environment; vulnerabilities, risks, threats; new issues in peacekeeping and peacebuilding; human security; transcultural security (east-west and north-south relations); energy security; food security; global climate change and international security implications; the economic factor and reconfiguration of the world's economy; urban armed violence; migration, demographic factor.
- Evolutions in Strategic Theory and Practices
 - Topics for discussion: strategic action; strategic interactions; strategic competition; alternative strategies; strategic models; strategic concepts; military strategic thinking, strategic culture, areas of strategic interest.
- Modernization of Military Organization
 - Topics for discussion: dynamics of military organization transformation; combat power and its components; policy on development and sharing of military capabilities; military organization and society; civil-military relations and the change in the military system; military education.
- Cyber Confrontation
 - Topics for discussion: the conceptual framework of cyber confrontation, roles and responsibilities of states and governmental international organizations; cyber security policies and strategies; cyber risks, threats and vulnerabilities.

The conference topics, whether suggested by participants through their presentations or brought up during panel discussions, generated lively debates, in particular with regard to the present geopolitical context, power relations, frozen conflicts, constancy and change in the international security environment, vulnerabilities, risks hazards, threats, new issues in peacekeeping and peacebuilding, the role of security organizations in the international relations of the twenty-first century, nuclear disarmament and proliferation phenomenon in all its aspects, terrorism and illegal violent action; dimensions of security, culture and strategic action, policy development and sharing of military capabilities, dynamic transformation of the military organization, the role and implications of private security companies in the context of inter-state conflicts, the risks, threats and cyber vulnerabilities .

The proceedings volume of the conference, edited in English, will be indexed in the Pro Quest international database.

The 1540 expert delivered a presentation by video on “*United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540: A Military Perspective*”. She provided an overview of the United Nations system, the Security Council’s responsibilities for maintaining peace and security and actions it may take under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, and an overview of resolution 1540 (2004) obligations and the work of the 1540 Committee and its experts.

The video presentation is available online at:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B5y3f4J7qPB1R0drWEJidXNOaW8/edit?pli=1>

4. **Additional comments**

For further information, please contact the 1540 Committee’s Group of Experts by e-mail at 1540experts@un.org