

## HISTORICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MILITARY WOMEN – PART I

*Lecturer Andreea DRAGOMIR, PhD\**  
*Ioana FLORESCU, Master's Candidate\*\**

**Abstract:** Reports and data provided by North American Treaty Organization (NATO) member States indicate a grave deficit still exists in the participation of women in the military, decision-making functions, military operations, humanitarian and peacekeeping missions for the United Nations (UN) and European Union (EU). In a two part comparative series between women in Romania's military and women in the United States (US) military, we will highlight the access and challenges to the military for women and the consolidated efforts to ensure integration, diversity and equal opportunity in the military. Part I: *Historical Accomplishments of Military Women*, provides a historical perspective of women's roles in the military to clearly illustrate how women's past accomplishments opened opportunities regardless of the limitations imposed. Part II\*\*\*: *Military Women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, details the progression and challenges of the military educational systems, occupation and mission opportunities available to military women throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Keywords:** military women, gender integration, military culture, military organization, law and policy, Romania, United States.

The military represents, for the majority of countries in the world, one of the most important State institutions. It is appreciated and perceived as a trustworthy institution because it is a guardian of high moral qualities and national tradition. The military supports and protects the nation and local communities in case of natural disasters and crisis<sup>1</sup>.

Women have answered the call to military service since the beginning of history, sometimes in hiding and sometimes in support roles. They have proven themselves indispensable and have surpassed the imposed

---

\* University lecturer, Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania , email: andreea.dragomir@ulbsibiu.ro .

\*\* Master's candidate, University of New Hampshire, United States, email: ifl022@wildcats.unh.edu.

<sup>1</sup> Dușu, P., *Perspective în evoluția armatelor naționale*, Editura Universității Naționale de Apărare „Carol I”, București, 2007, p.5.