

MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADE IN RETROGRADE OPERATIONS

*Colonel Irinel APOSTOLESCU, Ph.D Candidate**

Abstract: *The experience of post-war military conflicts has highlighted the fact that even in modern warfare there will be frequent situations in which forces of different values will reach the position of withdrawing as a result of previous unfavorable actions. Consistent with the new demands of conflict, we will highlight the fact that this concept has been interpreted over time, and obviously, retrograde is always forgotten and always learned by each generation.*

Keywords: *operations, defense, military capabilities, mechanized brigade.*

Introduction

"If the enemy is strong and I am weak, I withdraw for the time being and avoid any employment - this until the competence of the generals and the efficiency of the troops will be equal again.¹". Universal military historiography records many examples of retrograde from the battlefield, some successful, others resulting in heavy casualties and war material, or even total defeat.

With the admission within the North Atlantic Alliance, Romania's security guarantees have increased exponentially, enjoying today, perhaps, the strongest security environment in modern history. Romania has the protection of NATO, being able to call on its most powerful instrument, namely the activation of Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which provides that *"The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them, ..., it will be considered an attack on all and, consequently, I agree ... to take immediately ... any action it deems necessary, including the use of armed force ..."*². As can be seen from the text of the Treaty, we deduce that a key condition for the activation of Article 5 is the recognition by all signatory states of the existence of an armed attack. At the time of 1949, when NATO was established, Article 5 was intended to be a guarantor of the security of

* Ministerul Apărării Naționale, Sibiu, România, E-mail: i_apostolescu@yahoo.com.

¹ Tzu, Sun, *The Art of War*, Bucharest, Humanitas Publishing House, 1998, p. 15

² Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty, available at: https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm, accessed 24.10.2021