

THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTINATIONAL PEACE MISSIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF REGIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS

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Abstract: *The current security environment, existing at global level, highlights a series of developments generated by specific issues, political, diplomatic, economic, financial, social, demographic and military that influence the relations between state and non-state actors, in an often unexpected and unpredictable way.*

From this perspective, we believe that the existing security environment at international level is under increasing pressure, generated by the intentions of some already mentioned state and non-state key players, to reset and reconfigure the power architecture established after the fall of communism in Europe and the world, respectively by the global competition for their repositioning and for faster and easier access to energy resources that are essential for human life.

In this sense, the resolution of conflicts triggered at the global level involves, among other things, an intense process of adaptation and redefining the response of the international community to the implications of such international crises, planning and conducting multinational operations being one of the options. most often used, in the last period of time, for such situations. The importance of multinational missions is growing day by day.

Keywords: *international security organizations, multinational operations, security and defense policies*

1. Conceptual delimitations on multinational operations

Considering that the danger of a major conflict, with global valences, is in a continuous dynamic, we consider that the attention of the international community is turning, at this moment, to the causes and effects generated by the amplification of asymmetric and hybrid risks towards stability and international security.

From this point of view, we consider that the decisive action of the international community, by all means at its disposal, whether political or

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diplomatic, economic or military, is the only one capable of ensuring an appropriate response to crisis situations and to the risks they generate.

The opinions of specialists in the geopolitical and geostrategic field converge to the idea that, at least at this moment, a high-intensity military confrontation, at global, zonal or regional level is unlikely, although tensions, humanitarian crises and low-intensity conflicts exist and manifest.¹ This situation highlights a feature of this period, namely that the use of military instruments to resolve such crises is considered a last-minute solution.

Being such a broad topic and much debated in the last period of time, it is natural that there are many opinions regarding the definition of this phrase. Thus, on this subject, in the period immediately after the fall of communism in the world, we find opinions according to which *multinational operations* represent " ... the operation carried out by the military forces of two or more nations, involving elements that are part of at least two categories of armed forces "² or " ... all actions carried out by a group of forces with a strategic or operational role, consisting of troops belonging to several countries within the alliance or coalition under the single command and whose purpose is unitary, or operations involving two or more than one state, deploying military forces of various sizes under political control and single command. "³.

More recently, in the first decade of the 21st century, opinions differ to some extent, taking into account the existing geopolitical and geostrategic environment. Thus, multinational operations begin to be treated as *Multinational Operations Other Than War* (*Military Operations Other Than War* / *MOOTW*), defined as " ... actions that military capabilities are employed in a whole range of military operations nonspecific war "⁴ or " ...

¹ *Doctrine for Multinational Joint Operations* , Bucharest, 2001, p. 10.

² Carl H., Bell III, *The Standard Theater Army. Command & Control Systems of the Future* , Military Review, June, 1994.

³ Târăcop, Cătălin-Marius, *Multinational operations, general considerations and their strategic character*, Bulletin of the Academy of Higher Military Studies, no. 3, Bucharest, 1997, p. 43.

⁴ *Joint Pub 3-07 Joint Doctrine for MOOTW* , June 16, 1995, chap. 1, for 2.

those operations carried out in situations of conflict other than war"⁵, a definition that is not simple but also correct in our opinion.

In our country, regarding *Multinational Operations Other than War*, there have been various attempts to define one of them, presenting these military actions as "... *special actions, carried out by the armed forces, for peace, crisis and conflict, in order to fulfill strategic objectives aimed at: preventing, discouraging, limiting or eliminating conflict situations of lesser magnitude and intensity, as well as supporting civilian authorities in situations of internal crisis*"⁶, and in the official environment it is highlighted that "... *participation in multinational operations other than war is one of the basic strategic missions of the Armed Forces for Peace*"⁷.

As the system of international relations has evolved, there have been different approaches to the classification of these military actions.

Thus, the term *Multinational Stability and Support Operations* appeared and was accepted, which designates "... *military actions carried out by two or more nations, usually in the structure of an alliance or coalition*."⁸ a much broader approach, given that this concept manifests itself across a range of conflicts.

In the US military, Multinational Stability and Support Operations are treated separately. Thus, stability operations represent "... *military and civilian activities across the spectrum, from peace to conflict, in order to establish and maintain order throughout the national territory of the United States of America (USA) and in regions*"⁹, while support operations aim at stability, security, transition and reconstruction, designating "... *the activities of the Department of Defense (DoD) to support the US government's plans for stability, security, reconstruction and transition, led to peacekeeping, in support of US interests*"¹⁰.

⁵ *Army doctrine publication, Vol. 1, Operations*, c. 7, pp. 7-1.

⁶ Mândru, Mircea, *The content of the main strategic actions of the Romanian Army within the multinational operations, other than the war*, doctoral thesis, Bucharest, 1998, Publishing House of the Academy of Higher Military Studies, quota D / 294.

⁷ *Romania's military strategy*, Official Gazette no. 191, Bucharest, May 4, 2000, p. 7, point 5.

⁸ *Joint Publication 3-16, Multinational Operations*, March 2007.

⁹ www.fas.org/irp/doddir/dod/d3000_05.pdf, DoDD 3000.05, November 28, 2005, p.2.

¹⁰ *Ibidem*, p.3.

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Given the risks and threats to international security, we would like to point out that both NATO and EU member states, by the very provisions of their organizational and operational treaties, are obliged / urged to participate in the full range of military actions carried out under the command. the two organizations, they even have a number of obligations in this regard.

The multinational operations in which NATO may be involved are differentiated by their main characteristics¹¹, the Alliance being able to act, in accordance with the provisions of the founding Treaty and the new Strategic Concept of the organization, in the whole spectrum of military actions, taking into account the aims of the Member States.

From another perspective, the North Atlantic Alliance takes into account both military operations such as those aimed at collective defense, in the event of an attack on one of the Member States, under Article 5, and military actions not carried out under this provision. article, known as *operations crisis response of non Article 5 (NATO non Article 5 crisis response operations / NA5CROs)*¹² specific to the period after the end of the Cold War.

According to NATO, *NA5CROs* include multinational operations, which do not fall under *Article 5* and which contribute to conflict prevention, ensure the achievement of humanitarian objectives and crisis management. What differentiates the two types of military action is that the participation of Member States in *NACROs* does not impose obligations on the members of the organization.

Non-Article 5 multinational operations are primarily associated with the support of (civilian) interagency actors working in *support of peace*,

¹¹ *AJP-3, Allied Joint Doctrine for the Conduct of Operations*, February, 2019, Edition C, version 1, pp. 1-27.

¹² *Allied Joint Doctrine for Non-Article 5 Crisis Response Operations AJP-3.4 (a)*, pp. III-1.

their classification being extremely diverse, ranging from actions against asymmetric threats to actions specific to armed struggle.¹³[13] .

Within the meaning of NATO, *multinational operations* other than combatants, considered as *NA5CROs* operations, include the following:

- *peace support operations* , planned and executed in the spirit of the principles and the UN Charter for the Restoration and Maintenance of Peace, which includes missions such as¹⁴: conflict prevention (in accordance with Chapter VI of the UN Charter); achieving peace; peace keeping; peace building; support for humanitarian action;

- *asymmetric operations (Irregular Activities / IAs)* , defined as including, but not limited to, “the use of threats, force, irregular forces, groups or individuals, often ideologically motivated or committing criminal acts, to produce or to prevent change, as challenges for the government and the authorities”¹⁵. Using asymmetric means, insurgents - groups or individuals, this type of operations includes insurgency, terrorism, crime, disorder and undermining. This type of operation requires NATO to understand the context and the participants, especially when opposing conventional and irregular forces.

NATO-led *peace support operations* include, but are not limited to, mining, disaster relief and humanitarian support, search and rescue, or non combat evacuation (*NEOs*), ensuring freedom of navigation, enforcing freedom of overflight, imposition of sanctions and embargo, support in stabilization and reconstruction, imposition of peace and counterinsurgency operations¹⁶. Depending on the objectives, means, period of deployment, final purpose, etc., *NA5CROs* may include the offensive, defense, stability and actions in support of them.

In our country, especially after joining NATO and the EU, the elaboration of a doctrine regulating the increasingly active participation of Romania, along with other Member States, in multinational operations,

¹³ In the political / strategic level documents developed at NATO level, these operations are described as *peace support operations*. Doctrinally, these types of operations are described as *peacekeeping operations*.

¹⁴ *ATP-3.2.1, Land Tactics and ATP-3.2.1.1, Guidance for the conduct of tactical stability activities and tasks*, pp. II-IV.

¹⁵ *Allied Joint Doctrine for Counterinsurgency AJP-3.4.4* , pp. I. 3.

¹⁶ *Allied Joint Doctrine for Non-Article 5 Crisis Response Operations AJP-3.4 (a)* , pp. I-4.

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under the auspices of the UN and the leadership of the UN, NATO, EU or OSCE, in order to resolve some of the conflicts that manifest themselves globally, it has become a first necessity, given the sustained steps of full integration into European and Euro-Atlantic security structures, while a normative, conceptual, organizational and procedural adaptation to the requirements these two organizations.

From this perspective, the Doctrine that regulates the participation of the Romanian Army in the multinational operations under the leadership of the International Security Organizations is included in the provisions of the programmatic documents that regulate the missions and responsibilities of the Romanian Army.

In this context, the *Doctrine for Multinational Joint Operations* ensures the reconciliation of the missions and responsibilities of the Romanian Army with the risks and threats to the national security of our country, with the international manifestations of competition between world states, including those in the current strategic environment. which tends to differentiate itself more and more from that of the classical war and which takes a multitude of forms, more and more diversified, from year to year.

Very important, at least for the scientific research approached, is, in our opinion, the clarification of the conceptual differences between alliance-type multinational operations and coalition-type operations.

Thus, if in respect of actions carried out in an allied framework they are, as a rule, of a joint nature and presuppose "... *an agreement concluded on the basis of formal agreements between two or more States, with medium and long-term political and military objectives*". , which seeks to achieve common interests and goals, as well as to promote the national values of its members ", those of the coalition force consider the conclusion of an "... *ad-hoc political and military arrangement between two or more states in order to carrying out joint actions*"¹⁷.

The participation of Member States in multinational operations *in an allied framework* implies, inter alia, the existence of agreements, plans, an appropriate degree of standardization, including as regards standard

¹⁷ *Doctrine for Multinational Joint Operations* , Bucharest, 2001, p. 11.

operating procedures or the planning and conduct of joint exercises, the establishment of an area of operations. and, most importantly, a commander and a multinational staff, working effectively in a system of efficient command and control relations to achieve the mutually agreed final status between the contributing nations (*Troop Contributing Nations*). TCNs).

On the other hand, participation in multinational operations type *coalition forces multinational*, it takes place without the organizational framework, such as the Alliance, the will and interests of participating States.

Although this type of participation should aim at resolving crises, in a very short time, the reality shows (the case of Iraq and Afghanistan) that these military actions can take place over an extended period of time, which is related to the lack of action efficiency of the participants, more precisely by not achieving the set strategic objectives.

Specific to this type of military actions is also the way in which the command and control is ensured, respectively the logistic support and the one of the nature of the communication and informatics services.

A corollary of both types of multinational operations highlights the need for an integrated approach, by military action planners, to increased coordination in all areas, including political, economic and military, ensuring a high level of standardization of military equipment., and, last but not least, the development of the necessary command and control arrangements, including in terms of governance structure and multinational force.

Given the combined nature of multinational operations, we would like to point out that in order to meet these standards, military actions must involve at least two states, with force structures from at least two categories of forces, for which a target has been set. strategic and which are placed under a single command, usually led by a multinational command¹⁸.

In conclusion, we would like to point out that multinational operations, regardless of classification both by their characteristics, but especially by their objectives, are considered as tools of great importance, for organizations such as the UN, NATO or EU, but not only, having taking

¹⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 12.

into account the diversity of aspects taken into account when making the decision to get involved.

Given the declining role of the UN as a guarantor of the global security situation, we are seeing an increasing involvement of organizations such as NATO and the EU, which are somehow "forced" to take part. to military operations of this type. From this point of view, the participation in such multinational operations has produced profound changes in both the NATO member states and those that are part of the EU, in terms of ways and modalities of action, in conceptual, normative, organizational plan. and actionally and decisively influenced the physiognomy of modern military actions.

2. Options for engaging the Romanian armed forces in multinational operations under NATO and EU command.

The status of our country as a member of the North Atlantic Alliance, since 2004, respectively of the European Union, since 2007¹⁹, imposed on the political and politico-military decision-making bodies concrete measures to adapt the national defense policy to the policies in the mentioned field, existing within the two organizations and to align with the elaborated documents, from the perspective of the collective defense policy. the first organization and the common security and defense policy of the latter.

This new situation, in which our country finds itself, has generated a wide debate of ideas regarding the place, the role, the missions and the operations that the Romanian Army occupies and must fulfill.

Thus, opinions emerged regarding the need for the participation of staff and force structures in "... missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state²⁰", collective defense, in the framework of the North

¹⁹ Romania signed the North Atlantic Treaty on March 29, 2004, and the official national flag-raising ceremony took place on April 2, 2004. Romania has been a member of the European Union since 01.01.2007.

²⁰ Law no. 121 of June 15, 2011, regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, amended and supplemented by the provisions of Law no. 283/2011, regarding the approval of GEO no. 80/2010, regarding the regulation of some financial measures in the budgetary field, respectively of the Government

Atlantic Alliance for" ... *ensuring the security of EU Member States* ", in the framework of the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) and" ... *in response to crises, peace or humanitarian assistance* ", carried out under the mandate of the UN or the OSCE, under the leadership of NATO or the EU and, last but not least, within coalitions of forces.

The participation in this type of operations and missions in such a complex and heterogeneous framework imposed on the decision-makers of the Ministry of National Defense the development of new strategies to rethink the force structure of the Romanian Army and to ensure it a *pronounced expeditionary character of the forces*²¹ allocated to this type of military actions, often carried out at a great distance from the area of responsibility of NATO and the EU, in arid, complex environments, totally different from those in which the Romanian armed forces are accustomed to act.

In other words, the missions and operations in which the force structures and the personnel of the Romanian Army can take part, outside the national borders, take several forms, going, depending on the situation and from case to case, from collective defense to within NATO, under the auspices of Article 5 to ensure the security of EU states.

The Romanian Army is composed of "... *central structures, structures and forces*"²² of the Ministry of National Defense. Thus, if the central structures of the ministry ensure the politico-military leadership of the Army, the military structure is composed of the military leadership structure and the force structure. The objectives of such multinational operations may be to monitor, on a case-by-case basis, the implementation of allied security measures, advanced presence and deterrence, as well as other actions established by NAC decisions to ensure security in the North Atlantic, in response to crises. peace and humanitarian assistance²³.

Emergency Ordinance no. 21/2017, regarding the completion of Law 121/2011 regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, art. 1 and 2.

²¹ *Doctrine of the Romanian Army*, General Staff, Bucharest, 2012, art. 0101, aln. 2.

²² *Law 346, regarding the organization and functioning of the Ministry of National Defense*, Bucharest, 2006, art. 2.

²³ *Law no. 121 of June 15, 2011, regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, amended and supplemented by the*

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In the sense of the presented, it becomes obvious that multinational missions and operations carried out outside the territory of the Romanian state can be carried out both under the mandate of the UN and the OSCE, respectively under the leadership of the UN, OSCE, NATO and EU or in coalitions. either at the request of these organizations / bodies or of the states affected by the crisis.

We want to emphasize, from the beginning, that regardless of membership in the two international organizations, the *responsibility for national defense rests with the Romanian state authorities*, at least until the implementation of decision-making mechanisms on collective defense - NATO and common - EU, which, moreover, from the experience of the last military actions carried out at regional level, are delayed in being put into operation.

Thus, Romania must prove its credible membership in the situation of forceful participation in operations of international bodies to which it is a party and maintain necessary and sufficient capabilities for national defense.

In the sense of those presented and in full accordance with the foreign policy objectives and international commitments assumed by our country, the Romanian army must be able to have appropriate military capabilities that allow it to *"... prepare, deploy and support participation peacekeeping forces in order to resolve crisis situations affecting national and international interests. In case of a military aggression against Romania, as well as against a partner or allied state or a group of states to which the Romanian state has assumed obligations of support, the Romanian Army must be able to participate in joint multinational operations."*²⁴.

The Romanian armed forces that participate in the multinational missions under the aegis and command of various international bodies and

provisions of Law no. 283/2011, regarding the approval of GEO no. 80/2010, regarding the regulation of some financial measures in the budgetary field, respectively of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 21/2017, regarding the completion of Law 121/2011 regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, art. 2, aln. 2.

²⁴ *Doctrine for joint multinational operations* , Bucharest, 2001, p. 18, art. 30.

organizations do so both with the structures and personnel necessary to achieve the assumed objectives, as well as with the armament, technique and equipment. Thus, in view of the preparation and participation in the multinational missions, the force structures of the Romanian army and the staff *"may take part in exercises, trainings, ceremonies and other related activities organized in the country and outside the territory of the Romanian state"*²⁵.

From this perspective, the Romanian army can participate, in addition to the military operations organized, planned and carried out for the defense of the national territory, in multinational operations, in the Alliance, as well as in the Coalition carried out in order to²⁶ :

- supporting the international community in ensuring peace and security;
- confirming the role of our country as a factor generating security and stability, at zonal, regional and global level;
- developing the level of cooperation with both NATO and EU Member States and with other countries in various parts of the globe;
- ensuring an appropriate level of training, adapted to the area of action;
- the fullest possible fulfillment of interoperability standards with similar structures belonging to other NATO and EU Member States.

For example: NATO Allied Joint Force Command in Naples, Italy (JFC Naples) organizes, on October 26-28, 2021, the "Noble Blueprint 21" Exercise in Romania, as part of the exercise program and joint training aimed at strengthening the collective defense measures of NATO members.

Another level aimed at the participation of the Romanian Army in multinational operations outside the national territory concerns, without limitation, actions and operations in support of the governmental authorities of other states affected by natural disasters or disasters, respectively, in

²⁵ Law no. 121 of June 15, 2011, regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, amended and supplemented by the provisions of Law no. 283/2011, regarding the approval of GEO no. 80/2010, regarding the regulation of some financial measures in the budgetary field, respectively of the Government Emergency Ordinance no. 21/2017, regarding the completion of Law 121/2011 regarding the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the territory of the Romanian state, art. 3, aln. 2.3.

²⁶ Doctrine for multinational joint operations , Bucharest, 2001, pp. 18-19, art. 32.

order to prevent and manage political crises. or military, including to limit the extent or liquidation of their effects, which affects both stability and regional, zonal and global security.

At the same time, taking into account the provisions of the Romanian Constitution, the provisions of the treaties to which Romania is a party, we are of the opinion that the participation of staff and force structures in the Romanian army in such operations is subject to natural limitations and conditions. and our country's membership in these international security organizations. Thus, the participation of the Romanian army in multinational operations under the auspices of the UN and OSCE and under the command of the UN, OSCE, NATO and EU is based on political options and national interests of our government and country and, last but not least, Romania's international commitments.

These options take into account the following aspects²⁷: the threat of international peace and security; carrying out a legitimate process of political settlement of a crisis; the existence of a UN or OSCE mandate; the request of the host state for the multinational operation and a ceasefire agreement involving the acceptance of the parties to the conflict; the freely expressed agreement of some (or not) NATO and EU Member States to participate in the multinational operation; coherent and objective approach to the implications of the participation of the Romanian armed forces in the multinational operation, in terms of relations with the countries involved, especially in the medium and long term.

In accordance with the constitutional provisions, with the country's laws and defense policy objectives, the Romanian Army fulfills the following missions: defending Romania and participating in the defense of allies (joint multinational operations for collective defense, according to Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty) and civilian emergency management within NATO and the EU; contribution to Romania's security in peacetime; promoting regional and global stability (UN / OSCE-led peace operations; NATO-led non-Article 5 crisis response operations, including

²⁷ *Ibidem* , pp. 19, art. 34

counter-terrorism, under UN / OSCE mandate); supporting central and local public administration bodies during emergencies.

The participation of our country in multinational operations under the auspices of the UN and the OSCE and under the command of the UN, OSCE, NATO and EU, in coalitions of international forces and, last but not least, in regional initiatives, security and stability, involves the commitment of our country. important resources (human, material and financial), depending on the provisions of the commitments assumed, at international level.

From this perspective, the capabilities offered by our country in this field, aim not only to achieve national security objectives and interests, but also to increase the visibility of our country, internationally, as a state generating security and stability in the region and in the area both in terms of the collective security offered by NATO, and in terms of the CSDP and the European Security and Defense Identity (IESA).

Fulfillment of commitments to international bodies is achieved through²⁸: Achieving the Force Objectives, undertaken within the Alliance, on various occasions and the Major Objectives, set out in the EU Catalog of Strengths and Capabilities; implementation of the Capabilities Package; participation in the defense planning process, within the North Atlantic Alliance, in various NATO initiatives (NRF, NRI, EDI, NFC, etc.), in EU Battlegroups - EU BGs and in multinational operations under the auspices of the UN and OSCE and under the command of both the UN and the OSCE, as well as NATO and the EU.

Another component of this state of affairs is the increase in the level of cooperation between the leading military structures of the Romanian Army with similar structures within NATO and the EU, respectively with the other competent bodies within the UN or OSCE.

Finally, we would like to highlight the fact that the active participation of the Romanian Army, in recent times, in multinational operations, under the auspices and leadership of the UN, NATO, EU or OSCE, respectively the consistent positions of our country during various crises regional, zonal or global character, in which it participated,

²⁸ *Doctrine of the Romanian Army*, p. 53, art. 303, aln. 3.

highlighted the fact that our country is a factor generating stability for all the states with which it participated in these military actions.

Last but not least, participation in these multinational missions has led to a very high level of training for Romanian army forces and staff, including by linking the national training system to the requirements of NATO and EU Member States, materialized by accepting and implementing a high number of military standards, mastering the work procedures specific to multinational staffs, including by participating in the decision-making process within the command structures of the two organizations, mentioned above.

3. Conclusions

The involvement, in the last period of time, especially after the end of the Cold War, at global level, of the states of the world in solving some politico-military crises, appeared at world, zonal and regional level imposed from the international community a concerted effort materialized in considerable efforts. , from a human, material and financial point of view, to limit the effects generated by these situations and to finalize them with appropriate results, in terms of individual and collective security and stability.

From this perspective, along with other instruments of an economic, diplomatic or social nature, those of a military nature, materialized through the organization, planning and conduct of multinational operations were an option, even if last minute, which was used to solve this type of seizures.

In the sense presented, the planning and deployment of such military actions, in the current geopolitical and geostrategic context, existing globally, requires a considerable effort on the part of the international community, materialized in the employment of extremely important human, material, financial resources, diplomatic and military to ensure the achievement of the ultimate goal of multinational operations, cessation of hostilities and disengagement of conflicting forces, highlighting the importance of multinational peacekeeping missions in the context of amplifying the effects of regional armed conflicts.

The experience gained so far in the field shows that, not infrequently, the objectives set at the beginning of the planning process are rarely met, the periods of conduct of military actions increase depending on the nature of the conflict, the resources of the belligerents and, last but not least, their desire to gain, regardless of the resources allocated to resolving such conflicts, by the international community and the examples of multinational operations such as those in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Libya or the states of Central and West Africa (Congo, Central African Republic, Mali, Ivory Coast, etc.) are among the most eloquent in this regard.

Begun in 2001, the multinational operation called *Force International Security and Assistance* (*International Security and Assistance Force / ISAF*) in Afghanistan, continued from 2013 with the mission *strongly supports* (*Ressolute Support Mission / RSM*) is an example, even though the peace process between the belligerent forces and the multinational forces had a foreseeable end, this year it involved the allocation of human and financial resources that engaged the participating states in extremely important efforts in the desire to resolve this conflict.

One of the extremely important conclusions of these multinational operations is that, from the perspective of participating in such military actions, outside the national territory, contributing states with forces must necessarily have significant resources to be able to put at the disposal of the Multinational Force the personnel necessary to achieve the planned objectives.

In this respect, the forces assigned to the multinational operation must be '*structured, staffed with qualified personnel, trained and equipped with means of combat appropriate to the nature of the missions to be entrusted to them in the various theaters of operations*'.²⁹

In other words, each participating state with forces and means must engage in the support of the forces deployed in the theater of operations a real system of regeneration of forces, which in addition to the necessary efficiency and effectiveness must have an extremely important component for training

²⁹ Moștofleu, Constantin, Dolghin, Nicolae, *The impact of the regeneration of the Romanian Army structures engaged in military actions outside the national territory on the Romanian society*, "Carol I" National Defense University Publishing House, Bucharest, 2005, p. 8.

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personnel. military actions to ensure its participation in as wide a range of missions as possible.

Another conclusion from the participation of NATO and EU forces in this type of operation is that all troop-contributing countries must have a high-performance logistical support system that ensures the support of their own forces over a long period of time, respectively at a great distance from the national territory and the area of responsibility of the two organizations.

In Romania, the approaches to the participation of the armed forces in multinational operations are extremely extensive, ranging from opinions, few that we should not engage forces in any NATO or EU operation, to resolutely supporting unconditionality of such military actions.

In this regard, we would like to emphasize that we fully support the views that our country should participate as much as possible in such military actions, as this is an opportunity to train and prepare the participating forces, in the best possible conditions. close to the real ones, including in terms of multinational exercises, carried out in Romania or on the territory of other member states, NATO and EU, but not only.

If the process of generating the forces participating in such multinational operations is fairly well regulated, the one regarding their regeneration, we consider that it should be revised and improved, in order to establish appropriate obligations on the part of all structures generating such units (subunits) ensuring the rotation of staff employed outside the national territory, without difficulties and without involving several structures at the same time.

Thus, we argue that the process of generating / regenerating military structures participating in multinational operations, outside the national territory, is a mandatory and continuous process that takes place under the command of the staffs of the force categories and support commands aimed at maintaining units (subunits) engaged in this type of military actions in a fully operational state, simultaneously with the adaptation of this approach according to the specifics of the area of operations, the missions received from the command of the Multinational Force.

At the same time, given that the whole process under discussion is of a scientific nature, properly organized and planned, its ultimate goal can only be to maintain the combative capacity of the participating structures.

Last but not least, we believe that, while the generation process must take into account all military structures participating in multinational operations, the regeneration process can take into account either a subunit or the entire unit participating in military actions, except national territory³⁰. With regard to the development and regeneration processes within NATO and EU Member States, their dimensions take into account both the efficiency of the specific system, which results in structures able to participate in multinational operations, and especially their permanent adaptation to the realities of the international relations system, the risks, dangers and threats to the national security of the countries belonging to the two organizations.

In this context, the process of generating and regenerating forces intended to participate in multinational operations under an ally or under EU leadership also considers the creation of the voluntary reserve (voluntary reservists) as a resource that can be used, if necessary. And in our country, such a legislative initiative materialized through the promulgation, by the President of Romania, on January 1, 2017, of Law no. 270, which regulates the training and use of this military corps, Order of the Minister of National Defense no. M 25/2017, being issued in this respect.

Our proposals, in order to improve the legislative framework governing the participation of our country in multinational operations outside the national territory, address both the normative dimension of the approached process and the organizational one, given the multitude of force structures that participated in such actions. military, over time. Thus, from a normative point of view, we consider that it is extremely important to appoint the Joint Forces Command, as Director of Major Program, to have the necessary resources to train and support the forces during their deployment, outside the national territory.

Another proposal in this regard is to make it mandatory for all military personnel holding such positions in the military system to participate in these multinational operations, taking into account not only

³⁰ Moștofleu, Constantin, Dolghin, Nicolae, *op.cit.* , p. 9.

our country's membership in NATO and the EU, but also the need for appropriate training for special situations.

From an organizational point of view, we believe that the system for creating military structures in the Romanian Army should be revised, so as to allow the national military structures to achieve as many criteria as possible specific to the structures designated Capabilities Targets, in the process. NATO power generation, through this, could gradually reach the standards of NATO capabilities, by as many structures within the Ministry of National Defense.

In view of the above, we believe that by analyzing or adopting one or another of the proposals, the institutional framework (normative, organizational, action) of the structures participating in multinational operations outside the national territory could be improved and adapted to the realities around us, respectively to the new global geopolitical and geostrategic environment, thus highlighting the importance of multinational peacekeeping missions in the context of amplifying the effects of regional armed conflicts.



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