MULTINATIONAL APPROACHES IN MANAGING EMERGING AND DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

*Dragoş ILINCA, PhD**

Abstract: The last decades were marked by substantial technological achievements with a constant expansions of applicability domains, including on security and defence. Generally, the new technologies are known under the title of emergent and disruptive which has a substantial note of generality. From this perspective, a particular sense of ambiguity is affecting the possibility of categorizing the new technological trends. There is a general consensus for several categories, especially artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, big data, which have a growing applicability supported by innovative approaches and use of dual-use capabilities. The challenge posed by EDTs are two folded, in terms of opportunities provided for overall progress of human society as well as regards the challenges and risks for contemporary society. Finding a balanced approach is one of the priorities for the coming period, whether we speak on national undertakings or multinational ones. The role of NATO and EU in this undertaking is incremental, especially for supporting national efforts and maintaining technological edge.

Keywords: NATO, EU, CSDP, hybrid, emerging and disruptive technologies, artificial intelligence, interoperability, defence capabilities

There is no doubt that Emerging and Disruptive Technologies (EDT) is one of the most debated topics nowadays. To an equal extent, any discussions on this subject is a more complex than ever considering the overall industrial and economic dynamic and interlinkage between human factor and technological advance. Subsequently, approaching disruptive technologies requires certain conceptual clarification, especially from the perspective of a relative novelty of this feature.

* coordinator of research programs at the Institute for Political Studies of Defense and Military History, dilinca@yahoo.com.