

MODERN MEANS UTILIZED BY ISIS FOR RECRUITING AND RADICALIZATION OF THE PRESENT TERRORISTS

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Abstract *ISIS has adopted modern ways of propaganda and persuasion, managing to become the most efficient terrorist organization worldwide with respect to recruiting and indoctrinating new adepts, being at the same time the richest terrorist organization all over the world.*

The Internet has changed everything regarding communication and propaganda for the journalists and terrorists, who have become experts in communication.

Keywords: *modern means, recruitment, radicalization, persuasion, propaganda, ISIS, World Caliphate, abduction, redemption.*

Introuduction

In our opinion, the persons' migration is the movement of the persons/people from one country to another, one way or another, that mainly has two types of manifestation: 1) immigration (when some people coming from any country in the world enter another country, namely a foreign country), and 2) emigration (when some people who come from a state of origin, enter and relocate into a foreign state). The differences between states determine people's migration from one state to another. Nowadays, primordially in Europe, migration has been the effect of a threat to the safety or security of a nation, but also, there are other reasons of different nature: economic, political, social, etc. Many people flee from war zones toward the Western World. The legal migration does not represent a

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significant danger for European countries, but the illegal migration is a big threat to EU security. Nowadays, migration has been a big source of risks, dangers or threats to the EU states' security.

Means used by ISIS for recruiting the terrorists

After the founder of Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden, and his assistants, disappeared (vanished), ISIS adopted a number of specific modern means of persuasion and propaganda, being helped by the new discoveries in the field. Therefore, it has managed to become the most efficient terrorist organization worldwide, even facing many states of the civilized world, with the intention of recruiting and indoctrinating new adepts.

Edward L. Bernays, the founder of the public relations in the world, the author of the three profile masterpieces: *Crystallizing of The Public Opinion* (1923), *Propaganda* (1927), and *Public Relations Treaty* (1952), with remarkable practical experience in (applying) putting into practice the knowledge of psychology and management, has actually legitimated this new profession of such importance in gaining social consensus and essential for common good, without which a normal society could never exist.

The Internet has changed everything, with respect to communication and propaganda for the journalists and terrorists, who have become experts in communication.

ISIS and radicalization of the present terrorists are "... serious global threats to mankind, as well as to national and international security, and that is why the subject is topical nowadays"¹.

The fascination of the people worldwide with the ISIS radical Islamic movement was analysed by many authors who have made an attempt to answer certain questions such as the following: Why have some citizens from the Western World, probationers of different religions, some of them educated by imams, others not, adopted the new religion of Islam (Muslims)? Why so many young people, from different states in the world (Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, France, etc.) are drawn to fight (combat) in wars that do not have any connection with their countries?

¹ Florian Tucă, Eugen Siteanu, *Terorismul – amenințare globală majoră în secolul XXI (Terrorism – a major global threat in the 21st century)*, Revista de Științe Militare, nr. 2(43)/2016, Academia Oamenilor de Știință din România, București, România, p. 48.

Some of them have got criminal record while others did not graduate high school but have a satisfactory material position; however, they have all enlisted into terrorist forces.

Certainly, many teenagers and youngsters long for action and at the same time do not consider patriotism as being sufficiently up-to-date for them. The family institution has continuously degraded in the civilized world, and Internet has become a “drug” which fools young people, with disastrous consequences for their health and for the society they live in.

Education in present schools does not pay enough attention to raising mature people who would become honest citizens of the state; the Christian religion is abandoned or forgotten in some states and in this way favourable conditions are created for promoting other religions that urge to insubordination, to disorder, to riot, etc.

Every year lately ISIS has recruited many adepts, using the new means of online persuasion, respectively the Internet, or through the agency of imams in big occidental mosques, or in jails of “Extended Middle East”, Northern Africa, but also worldwide. Moreover, ISIS has attracted many Jihadist groups which were trained in the harsh years of combat in Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Caucasus, North of Africa, etc. They were drawn by the big wages paid by ISIS, the food, the accommodation, the riches which are shared, the lootings, the adventure, as shown by so many authors.²

Thus, in only several years, terrorist fighters have come from 83 states in the world to enlist into ISIS.

Terrorist fighters raise different problems when coming back to their own countries indoctrinated and trained after many years of war, consequently making their reintegration rather difficult or not even possible at all. They thus become really “movable time-bombs” which can react at the signal of those who recruited and trained them.

Some analysts say that 4-5,000 ISIS fighters came back to Europe.

Those numbers should encompass the terrorists members of white Al Qaeda from the Balkans who have spread into many states of Europe, after Yugoslavia was divided and new states were founded in the Balkans (Kosovo, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, etc.).

² Mark Bouriu, *Isis jocul morții. Martiri, asasinate și fascinație*, București, Editura Corint, 2016, p. 139.

The financial sources of the ISIS

In addition to this, there is the constant intention of the ISIS masters for collecting money, to become the richest terrorist organization in the world in order to assure the salaries of terrorist fighters, offering a lot of money to tribes' chiefs, social meals, promoting ISIS images and slogans, etc.

In this respect, ISIS sold oil from the conquered refineries in Iraq and Syria, got involved in smuggling weapons and ammunition, drug trafficking, and other such deeds including kidnapping journalists, people performing humanitarian actions, employees of some companies, or young people from the West who traveled in failed states or other historically attractive but dangerous zones.

We could notice that after 9/11, the number of kidnappings has increased dramatically including for ransoms, some European states being forced to pay a lot of money to ISIS terrorist organization (for example: Italy, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, etc.). Between 2003 and 2012, the money paid for a journalist from the Occident ranged from 1 to 4 million US dollars.

This money should be added the money paid for the large number of migrants from failed states (Syria, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, etc.) who needed forgery passports, visas for entering the EU, boats for crossing the Mediterranean Sea, etc.

This is why Europol estimates that 90% of the migrants who came to Europe traveled through or due to a criminal organization.

“This is the biggest migration from the Second World War, a business which generates over one billion Euro per year, money which is received by criminal organizations of all kinds”³.

It would be quite awkward to consider the industry of human trafficking can compete with drug trafficking.

³ Lorette Napoleoni, *ISIS. Merchant of people*, Editura Corint, București, p. 235.

The indoctrination and radicalization of terrorists

Also, one should remark the fact almost each migrating person must take part in a one-week course where they are indoctrinated with Sharia provisions, for their safety, as Jihadists preach.

Terrorists take advantage of the inefficient European organizations, the 17 institutions in the domain, among which Europol, Eurojust, Frontex, Cepol, etc., and a certain dangerous tolerance for not applying the laws, at least those who might annoy somebody. Thus, for fear of not being labeled as extremists, certain rules are not applied, ignoring the fact that this will cost us a lot with respect to citizens' security.

On the background of European population constantly diminishing and ageing, between 2010 and 2030, the capacity for work deficit in the EU will be 20-30 millions, at the same time as in China and India there is an estimate of over 500 million people surplus of capacity for work only in 2016.

Many companies/organizations in Europe benefit from the citizens' money, but the integration remains sterile, without visible effects. One can see the big problems which have created a feeling of insecurity among the honest citizens at present in most EU states. The migrant crisis should not be transformed in a Western World crisis / an European nightmare, for European Security, in the context of a cheap capacity for work; yet, on long term, the consequences will be dramatic. The refugee camps in Turkey, Greece, Middle-East, Northern Africa, the big mosques in Spain, France, Italy, etc. were transformed in real schools of jihadists and criminals, as the majority of al Qaeda leaders (ISIS) were specialized in Egypt, Libya, Lebanon etc. prisons.

One could see the numerous terrorist acts which terrified Europe in last months in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, etc. The combating of the unofficial interdependent networks which were left dormant behind by ISIS will be more and more difficult in the Western World. The massacre which happened in May 2017, in the United Kingdom, Manchester, actually followed other unsuccessful attempted attacks in 2009, in the same town, and in 2010, in four big towns between Manchester and London also that were stopped by British secret services. However, the Internet will do wonders on jihadist propaganda regarding the recruitment and ideological and doctrine training of terrorists.

Nobody will be safe in nowadays international context.

The maritime security of the EU will have to spread its area, taking into consideration the piracy in the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean, and partially in the Mediterranean Sea (Northern Africa). The EU harbors in the Mediterranean Sea should not be neglected because more and more ships arrive in these ports, some of them with false identity, using also submarines and there are improvised ships coming from North Africa and the East, crammed with migrants.

Conclusions

Nowadays, in the EU, the immigration of millions of people from Northern Africa and Middle East has generated negative effects: risks and hybrid threats against European citizens and the security of the EU states, the proliferation of terrorism and transnational organized crime. In order to stop illegal immigration, EU states should put into practice the measures of the international conventions and of national laws.

The war against terrorism has been hijacked in favor of the battle for energetic resources and power, including that for armaments and sailing equipment often with the supreme price, namely the observance of human rights. For example, 400-billion worth armaments were sold toward Saudi Arabia.

The Western World has not become a fortress or a citadel, but measures should be taken in order to create the certain conditions into the states the migrants come from, through political, economic, juridical means and those regarding people security, which can stop the excessive migration that took place for instance last year in Europe. We consider that due to the shrinkage of the territory conquered by ISIS terrorists, most terrorists could return to their own Occidental states. ISIS will not disappear and many terrorists will infiltrate into failed states, or into other Muslim states, to eventually continue the fight/battle for their main objective.

Thus, a World Caliphate will be established from the West of India and China, Central Asia, Middle East, North Africa, South of Europe, Iberia and Balkan Peninsula, including Romania.⁴

⁴ Andreescu Anghel, Colectiv, *Efectul migrației asupra securității României și a Europei*, Editura RAO, București, 2016.

The predictions made by the important futurologist James Canton will remain valid for the future. *“The world which we live in depends on the wars we got that threaten the transformations which are waiting for us.*

A future dominated by the lack of certainty.

Nothing will be the same: security, economy, energy”⁵.



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⁵ James Canton, *Provocările viitorului*, Editura Polirom, Iași, 2010, p. 17, 18.