

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
**PREPARING PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE ARMED  
FORCES TO COUNTER HYBRID THREATS**

Warsaw – Kiev – Krakow

6-9.04.2020 r.

Today's world is experiencing many new threats affecting its security, and individual countries are still looking for new ways to both influence and defend themselves effectively against the difficult to define potential adversary. The issues of security concern new and new spheres, which in turn influences the classic definition of this concept, including military.

In recent years, the notions of threats and hybrid war, understood as a conflict involving states, international organisations, national and social groups, using all available means of combat, involving soldiers and civilians, started after the declaration of war or without the declaration of war, have gained particular importance, conducted with the use of means provided for by law or in violation of the law, with a significant share of non-military means, with the large-scale use of economic, political, information and propaganda activities, with different and changing objects of attack and aimed at defeating the opposing party or forcing the desired action on it.

There is no doubt, of course, that hybrid forms of conflict have been accompanying humanity practically since the dawn of history, and the name itself has been known by military theorists for many years. However, the concept of hybrid conflict only became widely known after the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine in 2014. It should also be emphasized that in the last dozen years or so, hybrid threats have undergone significant transformations - the balance between classical means of influencing the opponent and alternative (asymmetrical) means has been disturbed, the number of intra-state conflicts has increased, various types of entities with non-state status have replaced state entities, and the border between soldiers and civilians and the state of war and peace has been blurred. Changing security characteristics and new threats make it increasingly difficult for state structures to effectively guarantee security, sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of state borders, as well as to ensure constitutional order, public order and security of its citizens.

As the conflict in Ukraine has shown, chaos, the lack of a defined adversary, acts of diversion or intense disinformation block, especially in the initial stage of the conflict, the effective and quick implementation of actions by the public administration and the armed forces. Therefore, it is necessary to diagnose the current and future capabilities of the public administration and the armed forces (state defence readiness) to counteract hybrid threats. In this new world, questions must be asked: Is the current system of national security, including the state defence system, sufficiently prepared to face the emerging hybrid threats? What role do or should individual elements of the security system, including the state defense system, play in the context of hybrid threats? In what direction should it develop and what



capabilities should it achieve in the future? We hope that this conference will provide answers to these questions.

The conference, organized by the War Studies University in Warsaw, Ukrainian National Defence University in Kiev, Ukrainian Air Force University in Kharkiv, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Pedagogical University in Krakow, NATO Military Staff DEEP Programme, Polish Academy of Sciences Branch in Kiev, Institute of Security and International Development SDirect24, will be held on **6-9 April 2020 in Warsaw, Krakow and Kiev**.

Below you can learn about the topics discussed on **April 6th at the War Studies University in Warsaw:**

1. Characteristics of contemporary conflicts of a hybrid nature (on the example of the experience of the Hybrid War in Ukraine, conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and other contemporary armed conflicts).
  - Theoretical aspects concerning hybrid threats and conflicts with hybrid features,
  - legal aspects of hybrid threats and conflicts with hybrid features,
  - operational aspects of hybrid threats and conflicts with hybrid features.
2. Operation of specialized organizational units of public administration and armed forces in hybrid conflicts.
  - capabilities of the armed forces,
  - the activities of the Police, Border Guard, State Protection Service and other uniformed services,
  - the participation of civilian and military secret services.
3. Opportunities for systemic change to combat hybrid threats and effective participation of actors involved in hybrid conflicts.
  - Legal and procedural changes to improve the security system, including the state defence system
  - to prepare military and civilian personnel for combating hybrid threats and participation in hybrid armed conflicts.
  - Modernisation and equipment of military and civilian entities related to the preparation of military and civilian personnel.

The conference will be held in Polish, English and Ukrainian. You can learn about the topics discussed in Krakow and Kiev by clicking the [\[link\]](#):

Please send your application via [\[form\]](#).

Deadline for submission of applications: **15.03.2020**.

Fee for a conference in one city: **500 pln/120 eur**.

Publication of the text, without participation in the conference: **300 pln/70 eur**  
to the Institute of Security and International Development SDirect24:



**92 1140 2004 0000 3402 7885 4014** (staff of the organising HEIs do not pay any fees, the cost of their participation and publication is held by the home HEIs).

Currency account: **88 1140 2004 0000 3812 0820 2451**

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If you have additional questions, please contact us at: **hybridconference2020@gmail.com**

Best regards

Chairman of the Scientific Committee:

Prof. Waldemar Kitler -

Director of the State Security Institute of the War Studies University in Warsaw

Chairman of the Organizing Committee:

PhD Piotr Pacek - War Studies University in Warsaw