The Power of Disinformation as the Basis of Division - The Possession of Information as a Ruling Technology

Policy Paper

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Tbilisi, 2022

A BRIEF SUMMARY

On the modern political and social "grand chessboard" (Z. Brzezinski), along with the military "hot" phase of the war, technologies of hybrid war appear, which become more massive and precise at the same time. The disinformation is an integral part of this hybrid war. It's as fast as

the internet and can have the same emotional impact, (especially if it's negative) as the great power of fear.

The disinformation has a psycho-social aspect/dimension, the main purpose of this phenomena is precisely to cause harm. And not only damage, not only harm. The hybrid war is a challenge for a society. Especially for Georgian society, where the formation of attitudes, process of perception and analysis of new information depends on age and social groups- the reason is simple, historical and cultural "background", context and past. This is an operational game that determines the attitude of individuals, citizens, and social groups to a particular issue or problem.

The fact that the characteristics of international security and conflict remain unchanged. States are, as always, involved in zero-sum military conflicts; These conflicts are inevitable; More, the security dilemmas remain continual, there is a constant balancing act etc. However, the course of action has changed over the past year, and the Russo-Ukrainian war confirms it. Conflicts and wars take place in new, innovative and radical ways and means. All this requires the management and functioning of relevant institutions. And the better you manage, the more you achieve the desired result on the local and international space.

The main difference between the hybrid war and the well-known wars' technics is the following determining factor: the element of openness. (That's why the information is so valuable). In military conflicts we know who is fighting with who, in a hybrid conflict, for example internet space, there is no such openness, at least at the initial stage. Instead of a like-minded, colleagues, they sometimes find people who are completely unfamiliar, standing on the other side, having the opposite position.

The Disinformation is a rapid process with long-term consequences and the mostly disastrous results, which is reflected in the feeling of danger, fear, panic in society, and, as a result, we see decisions that are harmful to persons and society.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. An immediate response to misinformation by state/social institutions should be implemented using all technical and communication platforms (at their disposal).
2. To create anti-disinformation services (it also takes into account the function against disinformation and propaganda presented and supported by foreign countries); Mass-media representatives and non-governmental organizations should be involved in the process through research and analysis.
3. Audit of fake accounts should be performed regularly (twice a year) according to market and competition characteristics.
4. To create a special educational video-content, the purpose of which is to promote the acquisition of information verification skills among citizens. It is necessary to involve the mass-media.
5. Social institutions and mass-media should stop supporting disinformation.