

**THE EU'S ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM
(Lessons for the Republic of Moldova)**

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Terrorism is a serious threat to the democracy of many states. Europe is the place in which principle of collective solution for international problems is the most pronounced. The European Union has a significant role in the fight against terrorism. Instead of a lot of efforts to prevent and to stop this phenomenon there are registered many dangers caused by this. States consider that one of the most important way to solve the problem of terrorism is a high coordination of all agencies involved in combating terrorism and concrete way of working.

The level of research of the problem of international terrorism was studied by B.M. Jenkins, who describes state sponsorship of terrorism [1]. E. Stepanova gives the political, legal and socio-economic aspects of combating terrorism [6]. G. Nesi studies the role of UN and other regional organizations in combating international terrorism [3].

From Russian authors we should mention E. Lyakhov, V. Emelyanov, D. Bazarkina, F. Bezkadi and I. Morozov, who contributed significantly to the development of research of combating international terrorism by analyzing the nature of international terrorism, interstate measures, conventions and treaties on combating international terrorism [8]. and analysis of legislation of different states in combating terrorism [9]. and appreciating the threat of international terrorism which is one of the most dangerous reality in the modern world [10].

Morozov in his paper "*Terrorism as a Kind of Armed Political Violence under the Conditions of Global Urbanization*" provides a description of terrorism as an urban phenomenon. He also researches the ways terrorism is developed [11].

Romanian researcher Gh. Văduva considers the vulnerability of the population to terrorism, the types and categories of terrorism [7].

C. Ejova provided a theoretical – methodological and historiographical analysis of the concept of terrorism [2].

Continuing with the evolution of terrorism the author underlines the waves of terrorism. In such a way, the first wave of terrorism happened between 1890s to 1940s and can be called the Golden Age of Terrorism, with the assassination of the First Elected President of independent Poland, Gabriel Narutowicz, Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary and in the United States, President McKinley. The second wave of terrorism was less likely to appeal to killings. A very large number of young people dissatisfied with the existing political system created terrorist organizations, among which we can name the Red Army Faction in the West Germany and Italian Red Brigades and French Action Directe. During the third wave of terrorism, countries began to cooperate more in the fight against terrorism. The UN adopted anti-terrorism conventions. The freedom fighter was no longer a popular term in the UN [5]. Currently, the EU anti-terrorism legislation system is made up of two main components: legal acts to adjust criminal law norms and strengthening procedural guarantees of victims of terrorism, as well as legal acts countering terrorism financing. On 13 March 2020 the Council renewed the European Union terrorist list that sets out persons, groups and entities subject to restrictive measures with a view to combating terrorism. The author mentions Directive (EU) 2017/541 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 which according to him has an interdisciplinary nature, since it contains provisions of both criminal and criminal procedural standards [12].

After 2001 terrorism attack and the attacks in Madrid and London, the European Union became an active participant in the development of anti-terrorism programs and directives. It was the political shock that caused pressure on the leaders of European states. And since the threat was formulated as the transnational one, national governments quickly agreed of the need for coordinated European action.

In Germany was created a special organization such as GSG-9 within the federal border police in 1972. The General Center for the Protection from Terrorism which has the objective to bring together the efforts of over forty German federal and land institutions in order to stop and to prevent the activity of terrorist groups.

Another example of counter-terrorism activity is Italy which created the Central Office for General Investigations and Special Operations and tried to stop and to prevent activity of terrorist groups.

The European Union has a strong cooperation with NATO in the field of combating terrorism. In order to strengthen their cooperation in this direction they signed a joint declaration in Warsaw on 8 July 2016.

Moreover, in July 2018 the European Union and NATO signed a new joint declaration which established the ways which these two parts will achieve in order to combat this serious threat. Moreover this declaration is based on 4 areas: defense and security capacity building; CBRN weapons proliferation; maritime security and cybersecurity [4].

Regarding the first area, a significant contribution in the field of combating terrorism is the establishment of a dialogue on counter-terrorism issues in 2018 focusing on a strong cooperation in combating terrorism, collaboration in the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS and development of scenario-based discussions. Regarding the second area, NATO and EU cooperation in fighting this threat is manifested through the NATO Joint CBRN Defense Centre of Excellence and the EU CBRN Centre of Excellence which work closely in training capabilities and threat analyses. Thirdly, the EU-NATO cooperation regarding the maritime security is very strong and both parts try to cooperate and to maintain a peaceful atmosphere. Cybersecurity is another area of cooperation on counter-terrorist efforts since terrorist groups continue to use internet and social media with the main objective to spread propaganda materials and to recruit persons. Based on example of many countries and taking into account the threat done by the phenomenon of terrorism, the Republic of Moldova also tries to develop and implement a complex of prevention and control of terrorism.

The Republic of Moldova is a transit country, that is, a door between the north and south of the countries of the Balkan region.

This specifically distinguishes it from other countries.

Therefore, first of all, author recommends for Moldova to organize informational interaction with countries that are engaged in an intensive fight against terrorism. Secondly, taking the latest technological innovations in the world as a basis, it is recommended that artificial intelligence be introduced to instantly recognize human faces when crossing the border. If possible, there should be reconciliation with biometric data, if any. Thirdly, to exchange experience with countries that are actively fighting against terrorism in the field of working in the Internet space with the aim of possibly creating terrorist cells in Moldova.

Terrorism is a serious threat that affect all countries.

The European Union has a high experience in the fight against international terrorism thus offering important lessons for the Republic of Moldova in domain of combating terrorism.

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Recomandat
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