

Postmodern Openings

ISSN: 2068 – 0236 (print), ISSN: 2069 – 9387 (electronic)

Coverd in: Index Copernicus, Ideas. RePeC, EconPapers, Socionet,
Ulrich Pro Quest, Cabel, SSRN, Appreciative Inquiry Commons,
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Postmodern Openings, 2010, Year 1, VOL.3, September, pp: 71-81

The online version of this article can be found at:

<http://postmodernopenings.com>

Published by:

Lumen Publishing House

On behalf of:

Lumen Research Center in Social and Humanistic Sciences

The Military Organism of the State: Theoretical and Methodological Analysis

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Abstract:

This article is dedicated to the research of the nature and content of the military body of the state from a political perspective.

A particular emphasis is placed on the social and political, military and economic, military and diplomatic, military and scientific activities, as well as on the objectives determining the functioning of the state of the military organism of the state.

This article outlines the fact that the military organism is determined by the economic, social, spiritual and ideological and political relations. Highlighting the main types of the military organism allows the author to approach the content and nature of this social phenomenon from a political point of view.

The article emphasizes mainly the fact that one of the most important tasks of the Republic of Moldova is promoting a complex military reform, as well as upgrading the military system, upgrading the structure, and improving the training system of the military personnel

Keywords:

Military security, methodological analysis, military strategy, military organism, military conflict, armed forces

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Military organism of the state

The socio-political aspect of the essence and structure of the state represents the theoretical premises of the analyses of the military organism of the state. Related to the modern state of the Republic of Moldova, this subject is of a paramount actuality, because of the fact that The Republic of Moldova is passing through a complex period of its transitional development, and its military organism is experiencing an ambiguous reforming process. First of all the problem of the Military organism of the state requires a correct answer to the question: what is the difference between a military organism and a military formation? The main aspects that differ regard different areas. First of all, if the military organism of the state is a specific institution, created by the state, that a military formation may appear spontaneously, outside of and without the assent of the state. That is how at the beginning of the '90s of the XX-th century appeared the military formations on the left bank of the Nistru river, those from the South of the Republic; military troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tajikistan and in The North Caucasus etc. secondly, a military formation is formed out of groups of people and ordnance, joint together by common goals, and mission to obtain a certain pragmatic (operational) aim (Janowitz, 1990: 108-119; Niculae, 2004: 34-39; Trebin, 1999: 46-53; Pupko, 1976: 77-82). Unlike military formations, the military organism has a strongly defined political character. It insures first of all the implementation of the political interests of the state, regarding the insurance of the internal and external state security. Thirdly, the military organism, as a subject within the state, is far more complex than a military formation. Its' functioning insures the reciprocal relations among its' components, and it presumes:

- Theoretical foundation and consolidation of the military strategy of the state;
- Creating conditions for its implementation, and interaction of all of its' subjects for the sake of insuring the national (military) security;
- Certain measures regarding the improvement of the military strategy as a result of the necessity to liquidate any threat of long and short term in the state's address.

Thus the range of problems regarding the theoretical and practical activity of the subjects of the military policy regarding the creation of the military organism, maintaining the fighting capacity, applying it during war or peace, is obviously far more wide than the one regarding the society's military formations.

The specialized literature approaches the essence of the military organism of the state in different ways. According to one of such approaches the military organism of the state is defined as an ordered collectivity of enlisted men, totality of state and social subjects (unities, different categories of bodies

with special destination etc.), who are hierarchically ordered and who act in conformity with a certain set of norms, interests and goals (Mamontov , 1986: 109).

The military Encyclopedia, edited in Moscow, defines the notion of “military organism of the state” as a totality of, political, economic, scientific organizations and institutions that activate in the military area (Military Encyclopedia, 1994:135).

Even though the authors did their best to reflect as exactly as possible the essence of the military organism, because of certain reasons we believe that the listed definitions need to be somewhat modified.

First of all, the scientific community analyses social phenomena (like the military organism of the state) on the basis of a systemic approach, more likely being applied the characterization of the military organism of the state where it's components are analyzed not as a whole, but as a system.

Secondly, the notion “the military organism of the state” is related to the “military activity” this one, in its turn needs to be defined. The Military Encyclopedia reminds us that the military activity is a socio-political activity, oriented to the creation and in case of necessity applying violent measures and other elements of the military power for the sake of fulfilling certain goals of the state and social groups (Military Encyclopedia, 1994:135).

In this case we have to explain, why in the proposed definition the socio-political activity is underlined, and it does not touch upon scientific, political or economic activity in the military area; of what goal of any social groups we can talk about, when we speak of the functioning of the military organism of the state? These considerations suggest the necessity to specify the definition of “the military organism of the state”. In our opinion we believe that we shall begin with the belonging of this notion to the category of “system”, and with the fact that any organism tends to reach certain goals, on the basis of a defined set of socio-military rules and procedures.

In this regard we suggest the following definition: the military organism of the state represents a system of military subjects and social, political, economic, scientific bodies of the state that aim at insuring the military power, fighting capacity, the military security of the state at a corresponding level.

The definition presented by us attests the fact that the basic element of the military organism of the state is the military formation. Usually it comprises not only the armed forces, but also other military structures of the state.

The military system of the state comprises the subsystem that insures the functioning of the military institutions. The most important elements are the industrial military complex, some areas of the economy and science that activate in the military domain.

The third element of the military organism are the institutions of the administrative and state power, that deals directly with problems regarding the

insurance of the national security, maintaining the defending capacity, the efficient functioning of the all the subsystems of the military organism.

The political literature approaches the army's taxonomy and the historical types of military organization in different ways. Some authors (Perlmutter, 1990:88-91; Gutaliuc, 2001:82-102), following the Marxist paradigm, underline 5 fundamental types of army, i.e. of military organism to which correspond the- slave, feudal, capitalist, imperialist, and socialist types of army. If we take into consideration the "spirit" of that time, than on the basis of different sources and historical researches, we may conclude that this typology is not full.

Another point of view regards the highlighting of the military organism in transition, on the background of the army types and military organisms listed above (Timorin, 1972:9; Sahov, 1999; Dziobani, 2003:69-78; Trebin, 1999:10-12). Apparently it is logic to relate it with the undetermined and unstable character of the vector of the political and socio-economic development of the developing societies and states.

The approach, according to which, if being part of a socio-economic structure, the character of the military organism cannot be modified is a weak one. It appears to be weak because of the fact that first of all the notion of socio-economic formation itself determines certain stages of development within the world history, secondly because of the fact that there are many examples of modifying of this character (France, the end of the XVIII-th century – beginning of the XIX-th; USA during the WWII; USSR, the end of the '70s – beginning of the '80s of the XX-th century).

Typology of the military organisms

As regarding the typology of the military organisms the following aspects shall be taken into consideration.

The modern science cannot base its ideas, principles and approaches on some socio-determining stable formula, on an approach based on the class competition, because when the basic premise is invalid, the conclusions are not valid as well.

Why than the world historic variety has to reduce to the sequence of socio-economic formations? The historic process is much more varied and is conditioned not only by natural disasters, explosions, social revolutions, but also by the long periods of development and evolution. Within this process appear, coexist and change different civilizations, socio-cultural systems and nations. In this regard it would be incorrect to relate a certain type of a military organism with a certain form of socio-economic organization. The range of these types is much more varied in reality.

The developing experience of the civilized states proves the fact that, in the context of the modern types of military organization, there is a strong tendency of not involving politics into this area. The appurtenance of the military organism to different parties, political unions will lead to its destruction thus putting at stake the military organism itself, for some political passions, and finally to a total demoralization or transformation into a autonomous political power, which means its destruction. A.A. Kresnovski stated: "The political appurtenance is incompatible with the military spirit and ethics- as an example we can bring the Red Army. The political appurtenance is also incompatible with Orthodoxy" (Kresnovski, 1995:81).

It would be logic to add the principle aspect to the existent typology of military organisms. Here lacks the military organism of a society in the transition period type. Besides the cited works there are many more of those which could support our statement (Trebin, 1998:48-252. Trebin, 1999:71-74).

It is known that the military organism type is determined by the totality of economic, social, spiritual and first of all politic relations. Following this logic, we may conclude that the military organism is in the same state as the society is. That is why, from our point of view, we shall highlight one more type of military organism- the army of the transition period- armies of the developing states (armed formation). It corresponds to the society which is experiencing transformations, social modernization, and creation of a new state system.

This type is characteristic to many states that in the XX'th century have freed themselves from the colonialism and have opted for an individual development (according to the previous terminology- armies of the developing states). To this category may be attributed the military subsystem of The Republic of Moldova, that is taking its first steps on the way to social reforms.

By highlighting the main types of military organisms of the state, in a historical retrospective and from the nowadays point of view, we can have a wider and more objective image as regarding the essence of this social phenomenon.

As we know, the content of any phenomenon or process has a certain shape that confers a complete structure to the military organism of a certain historic type; it sets the relation with the existent political regime, with the realia of the power within the state, with the habits and customs of a nation.

Further on we are going to analyze the most typical military organisms of the state from the point of view of the historical precedents.

The military organism that is created on the basis of the personnel principle.

This type represents a regular army, up kept by the government during peaceful time, for the sake of solving paramount military problems, and also for preparing reservists and the fulfilling of the necessary mobilization for completing a much more numerous army.

The mass military organism- formed out of numerous armed forces, usually mobilized by the state during war time.

This form of military organization appeared during the affirmation of the capitalist system of producing. It was created for the first time in France, during the period of the Great French Revolution and it was completed according to the principle of military service.

The military organism created on the basis of the police principle

These types of military organisms were created on the basis of the territorial and police principles, according to which, during peace, the military units consist of a nucleus – the apparatus and a small number of commanders. The majority of members of the military organism were simple soldiers, attributed to the military units according to the territorial principle and prepared outside the military units or during short time concentrations. Such a principle used to be applied in the process of the Red Army constitution in 1923 till the end of '30 s. This principle was combined with the personnel principle.

The military organism (army) of mercenaries.

This form of military organism represents troops formed out of professional military, hired by the state for the paid military service. Such an organization appeared in the Ancient Egypt in the III-rd millennium, and it was completed mainly by foreigners. By the XV-th century it becomes the main military force of many states. At the end of the XVIII-XIX-th century the mercenary troops are replaced by the regular armies.

In a range of modern states like – USA, Great Britain, Federal German Republic – was rehabilitated the system of the contract military service. It the so called army of professionals. The contract system has its advantages and disadvantages, but it is for sure that such armies can be up kept exclusively by developed countries, for the up keeping expenses are high.

During the forming process of the military organism of The Republic of Moldova are being taken the first steps towards the creation of an army of professionals, based on the contract principle. The first results show that the process of transition, because of sound reasons, will last many years, while at the moment it would be acceptable the adoption of a mixed principle that would include both, the contract based military service and the compulsory one.

The modern Moldovan society still discusses the military organization form that would be appropriate for our state. From our point of view the military organism shall correspond to the following principles:

- Within the process of staff reshuffle there is a paramount need of technical equipment and insurance of national (military) security;
- It is necessary to consolidate the base of the state, which is a guarantor of the constitutional values, human rights and freedoms of the citizen defense;

- As a subject of politico-military relations, the military organism shall participate in the implementation of the norms of the international law (including humanitarian);
- From the strategic perspective, the military organism shall react in a mobile and flexible way, and shall assure the fulfilling of its responsibilities, according to the changes in the international and domestic situation of the military state;
- The military organism shall participate in the consequence liquidation of natural disasters, exceptional situations and to help calamity victims.

The socio-political aspect of the military organization forms shall be completed with special military terms and conditions, that will determine its structure, which include: a unique completing method and system, centralized and unified management of the troops; a structured organization of the personnel office, a unique type of equipment and armament, a system that would assure the education and psychological activity of all the military organism elements, unique conditions of the military service, a system of social protection of the military and their families and reservists.

Creation of an optimal structure of the military organism of the state, especially in the condition of changes of the socio-economic and political base of the society, it is a complex problem that shall be treated from many perspectives. It depends on a range of conditions like financing possibilities, geopolitical emplacement of the state, the existence of real threats for the national (military) security. This factor determines the relations of the elements of the military organism, conditioned by historical factors.

The structure of the military organism of The Republic of Moldova is determined by its nature of a hierarchical subordination, by its goals and tasks. In the context of the transition period that The Republic of Moldova is passing through, the structure of the military organism comprises some components linked on the basis of the subordination principle.

The politico-military component of the military organism of the state. By its importance for the state activity and within the process of national security insurance, this element plays an important role. Fact that is sanctioned by the Constitution of The Republic of Moldova, and in other legal documents. At this level the main subjects of the military policy are:

- The President of The Republic of Moldova – The supreme commander of the Armed Forces;
- The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, within which activates the Defense and Security Commission;
- The Government of The Republic of Moldova, chiefs of the force institutions are part of it.

The main directions of their activity are: the analysis of the politico-military situation in the country and in the world and the prognostication of its evolution, the elaboration of national security concepts; adoption of an efficient military strategy and doctrine, creation and development of the military organism of the state, preparing citizens for the military service, insurance of civil protection of military and their families, and of the reservists as well etc.

During war and military conflicts within the country, the activity of the main subjects of the military policy gains a new feature and aims at insuring states' security and national interest's defense.

For example, art. 87 of the Constitution of The Republic of Moldova attributes to the President, the defense area and stipulates that "in case of military aggression of the country, the President of the Republic of Moldova shall take measures in order to repel the aggression, declare state of war, and bring this fact to the acknowledgment of the Parliament" (The Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, 1994:29).

At the moment one of the main tasks of the Republic of Moldova strategies' consists in the implementation of a complex military reform that besides the above listed directions presupposes the elaboration of a new state policy in the area of military collaboration with other states and politico-military international institutions, the elaboration of a civil control system of the force structures of the state, the improvement of the ruling system in the military area during peace and war, the structure optimization of the number and structure of the Armed Forces, the modernization of the education system etc. (Conceptia reformei militare, 2002:17-119; Bodoasca, 2001:6-7; Fiodorov, 1998; Bondarenko, 2002:34-41).

The administrative component of the military organism of the state. At this level the administration of the military organism of the state is accomplished by military institutions that are empowered properly. Here we mean not the military institutions themselves but the ruling apparatus with the responsible commanders for the functioning of the Armed Forces, for the qualitative fulfillment of the tasks that are imposed during peace or war. Among the competences of the subjects at this level is the solving of a range of problems linked with the insurance of fighting capacity of the troops, and when it is necessary, their interaction.

Lately one of the main principles of the Ministry of Defense is the increasing of the prestige of the military organism of the state, fact determined by the changes on the politico-military international arena. This presumes not only high military competences of the military administration, but also a political responsibility for the adopted decisions in the relation area between military institutions with different states.

The strategic structure of the military organism of the state. At this level are characteristic to institutions that deal with strategic planning of different

military institutions that function in any state (coalitions, politico-military blocks). In different states they are called differently- the committee of general staff chiefs, general staffs, strategic planning groups (nuclear), committees of planning and deployment etc.

But the most important is the fact that these bodies have the role of ruling the Armed Forces during war and peace. Also we shall mention that the activity of the above listed subjects at this level bears a multifunctional character (from many regards a closed one). Among their competence are:

- Performing the strategic planning, reacting to different critical situations within the country, region or in the world;
- Insurance of the fight and mobilization readiness of the Armed Forces;
- The continuous management of the military troops, and insurance of their interaction during peace or war;
- Organizing the service within troops and the administration of their daily activity;
- Guidance of the fight preparing process of the troops, deployment of military maneuvers, trainings of the general staff etc;
- Coordination of programs and common actions with partner states.
- The specific generic component of the military organism of the state. The functioning of the military organism of the state presupposes the existence of, first of all, constitutive elements of the structure itself. Every state, depending on the historical and socio-cultural features and the geopolitical situation has a specific structure of the military organism of the state. In conformity with the military Doctrine of The Republic of Moldova, adopted by the Parliament decision No. 482- XII 6 june 1995, The Armed Forces of The Republic of Moldova comprise:
 - The National Army;
 - The Frontier guard troops;
 - The “carabinieri” troops.

The military organism of the Republic of Moldova besides the Armed Forces and other formations includes: The Civil Protection troops, State Guard, The special troops “Fulger” etc.

The main goal of the development of the military organism of the state is the defense of the national interests and the military security of the Republic of Moldova.

Conclusions

Despite the fact that the history of our state and of the Armed Forces is pretty short, the internal and external changes implemented in the last few years, the eventual risks, that might fundamentally influence the national security, imposed a reevaluation of the national defense system, fact which determined the necessity of the military reform. The reform itself tends to reorganize the military structure depending on the potential or real danger for the national security and the economic possibilities of the state.

The military organism of the state includes a totality of elements (military institutions) with politico-military and strategic specific functions that can solve by themselves problems that are in their competence.

The military departments (institutions) are solving certain problems and have a certain political and military status equal with the one of the military organism of the state. Generally speaking, these can be studied from a unique legal perspective, from the point of view of their importance for the state.

Because of these reasons, when we refer to the analyzed variant of the military organism structure, we have to take into consideration the fact that each component has its own destination, its own “area”, within the system, and it does not depend on any other component from the political or military point of view. These cannot be said about the interdependencies with a military character, that are determined by reasons that regard the military logic.

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