

# Dünya İnsan Bilimleri Dergisi

## World Journal of Human Sciences

ISSN: 2717-6665

Temmuz 2023

Cilt/Volume: 2023

Sayı/Issue: 2

### Information Terrorism As a Form of International Terrorism

*Uluslararası Terörizmin Bir Türü Olarak Bilgi Terörizmi**Elvin Talişinski\**

#### Özet

Uluslararası terörizmin bir biçimi olan bilgi terörizmi daha doğru bir tabirle ideolojik terörü uygulamadaki ana araçtır. Bilgi terörizmi, insanların davranışlarını belirli bir şekilde yönlendiren gerekli görüş ve yargıları oluşturmak için insanların ruhları ve bilinçleri üzerinde doğrudan bir etkidir. Uygulamada, bilgi terörizmi genellikle ruh üzerinde böylesine şiddetli bir propaganda etkisi olarak anlaşılır ve bu, bir kişinin alınan bilgileri eleştirel bir şekilde değerlendirmesine fırsat bırakmaz (kural olarak, amaçlarına manipülatif kalitesiyle değil, açıkçası önyargılı bilgiler ulaşır). Bu makalede ayrıca bilgi terörizmiyle mücadelenin türleri ve yöntemleri araştırılıyor.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Bilgi Terörizmi, Bilgi Toplumu, Terörle Mücadele.

\* **Sorumlu Yazar/Corresponding author:** Azerbaycan Üniversitesi, talishinski1984@gmail.com, ORCID ID: 0000-0001-5318-5537.

**Atıf/Citation:** Talişinski, E. (2023). Information Terrorism As a Form of International Terrorism. *Dünya İnsan Bilimleri Dergisi*. 2023 (2), 127-134.

**Abstract**

Information terrorism as a form of international terrorism is the main tool for the implementation of ideological terrorism. Information terrorism is a direct impact on the psyche and consciousness of people in order to form the necessary opinions and judgments that in a certain way guide people's behavior. In practice, information terrorism is usually understood as such a violent propaganda effect on the psyche, which leaves no opportunity for a person to critically evaluate the information received (as a rule, frankly biased information that achieves its goals not by the quality of the manipulative impact, but by its volume). This article also explores the types and methods of combating information terrorism.

**Keywords:** Information Terrorism, Information Society, The Fight Against Terrorism.

## **Introduction**

Modern civilization is characterized by a number of global problems - environmental threats, economic problems, the threat of nuclear war, etc. The most important problem among them is international terrorism, which is the most dangerous threat to humanity. This problem is of great danger and is of global importance. If earlier terrorism was associated as a socio-political phenomenon, mainly with national borders, today it is characterized as a global problem that all participants in international relations face.

At present, the cross-border nature of the activities of terrorist organizations is not only a threat to a specific person or country, but also a global problem for the entire civilization. Terrorism has already become a way of life for terrorist organizations. Therefore, the fight against it must be multifaceted.

### **1. Basic Concepts of International Terrorism**

The beginning of the 1970s is the starting point of the modern period of international terrorism, which is characterized by increased attacks on state and political figures, subversive anti-government actions organized from abroad, massacres of innocent people, assassination attempts that damage stability and security international transport systems, communications, etc. Terrorist actions began to be actively used for various purposes by states, national liberation movements, transnational corporations, criminal elements, extremists of various persuasions. Over the years, acts of international terrorism have taken on ever more varied and brutal forms. Since the late 1980s, these crimes have become an integral part of the life of our society.

Since the 1970s, foreign scientists have been conducting research on the problems of terrorism, paying special attention to the doctrinal principle of international terrorism, while offering options for interstate and state counteraction.

At present, international terrorism is a multifaceted phenomenon that tends to constantly change depending on the socio-economic, political, religious and other conditions of a particular region. For this reason, the study of methods of combating terrorism and solving problems of international security is today one of the most important issues in all international politics. Unfortunately, there are no unequivocal answers to these very complex and extremely acute questions for the world community. It is clear that neither the material resources nor the advanced technologies of any world power can guarantee victory over modern terrorism.

In general, “a criminal act consisting in the use of violence or in the threat of violence against individuals or a group of individuals, accompanied by intimidation of the population

---

---

and the deliberate creation of an atmosphere of fear, depression, tension in order to influence the adoption of decisions beneficial to terrorists and is characterized by increased public danger and the public nature of its commission. At the same time, the goals of terrorists can be different: religious, political, economic, etc.” (Михеев. И.П.: 2003, 80)

The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Combating Terrorism” dated June 18, 1999 defines terrorism as follows: “Terrorism is a threat to life, health of people, significant material damage, explosion, fire or other action, as well as the threat of such actions or other socially dangerous consequences for the purpose of undermining public safety, creating panic among the population or influencing the decision-making of state bodies or international organizations.” (Закон Азербайджанской Республики «О борьбе с терроризмом» от 18 июня 1999 года. № 687-IQ. <http://e-qanun.az/framework/3855>)

In the context of growing globalization and the formation of an information society in the world, terrorism began to act as an independent factor that threatens the statehood and integrity of countries, international stability. At present, the effectiveness of modern terrorism is growing not only in the domestic politics of individual states, but also in the field of international security.

At the beginning of the 21st century, terrorism has become one of the most dangerous and difficult to predict phenomena, which has led to the development of many different types of it. Although the most dangerous types of terrorism for mankind are chemical, biological, nuclear, etc., political, economic, ideological, ethnic or national terrorism are also one of the urgent problems for states. Undoubtedly, due to the requirements of modernity, one of the priorities of the policy of any state today is information terrorism, which can occur both in wartime and in peacetime.

Today, information plays a very important role in the life of each of us, and this is due to the fact that we live in an information society. Using information, you can do a lot of good and bad. Nowadays, such expressions as "Who owns the information owns the world" are widely known, "In the information war, as a rule, the one who attacks and constantly increases the pressure wins", "Today the information war is a war of civilizations", "This is confrontation between knowledge and theories", etc.

## **2. Forms And Methods of Conducting Information Terrorism**

First of all, it should be noted that information terrorism arose as a result of the rapid development of modern technologies. Information terrorism can be viewed as psychological pressure and influence without the use of physical means of influencing the enemy and rely

---

only on information influence, the main purpose of which is to sow fear and keep the population in fear. Sociologist Edmund Burke, the famous Anglo-Irish-American statesman, said of fear: "There are no emotions that so deprive the human mind of all actions and thoughts as fear." (Бёрк Э.: 1979, 237) It should also be noted that the word "terror" comes from the Latin language and the etymological meaning is "to intimidate".

Information terrorism affects three main areas:

- a) domestic, when the lesion has a localized personal character;
- b) scientific, when the objectively regular logical connections of verified scientific truths are destroyed;
- c) socio-political, when at the national-state (worldwide) level, the entire population of humanity of the society of the community of numerous peoples of nations of civilizations is deceived.

Information terrorism is considered as one of the most dangerous and complex phenomena of our time. It is becoming more and more menacing, and terrorist acts are becoming more organized, using the most modern technology and means of communication.

An important role in the dissemination of the activities of information terrorists is played by the internal political interests of the state in the regions where acts of terror take place. If the state is interested in political stability, then it takes real measures to suppress the actions of information terrorists. And, on the contrary, in the absence of such an interest in relation to information terrorists, it does not take any real measures. In the second case, political and corrupt connections in the authorities, administration, and especially in law enforcement agencies provide the organization of international terrorism with a certain level of security, timely information about the actions of these agencies against it.

Like most social phenomena, information terrorism has a very complex nature, its emergence and development depend on many factors, among which, according to the author, the most important are geopolitical, socio-economic, religious and cultural ones. Of course, they do not exhaust the whole variety of factors that influence the genesis and development of this political phenomenon.

It should be emphasized that in connection with the globalization of information terrorism, preventive measures to combat it should be based on uniform laws developed by the international community. There is no need to say that the policy of "double standards", when the assessment of certain informational actions often depends on political sympathies, religious beliefs or nationality, does not contribute to the destruction of one of the global problems of

---

---

mankind. Therefore, information terrorism must be countered by the combined strength of the entire world community.

Information terrorism occurs in the moral sphere, which combines political, philosophical, legal, religious and other views and thoughts, where there is a struggle of ideas. The availability and free use of information technology greatly increases the risk of such terrorism. Thus, the more informed the society, the more sensitive it is to the consequences of mass psychological terror.

Psychological influence is usually carried out through the media, and the information that is used to apply such an effect should be easily assimilated. Programs specially designed for this instill in a person the ability to easily absorb any information and believe it without hesitation. The comprehensively collected information is intended to manipulate public opinion, the consciousness of people, and physiological and psychological laws are used in its assimilation. For this, a specially prepared text, a certain tempo and modulation of the language are used. Manipulation of consciousness is carried out by immersing people in a certain controlled area of information, which creates a non-existent view of the world. If I may say so, the basis for the formation of a virtual information field is false (inaccurate information).

The problem of manipulation of consciousness in recent years is increasingly in the center of attention of sociologists, psychologists and political scientists in the scientific and theoretical literature. In our time, a number of researchers have called this psycholinguistic phenomenon the main object of study and described manipulation as an inducement of a person to do something without thinking or against his will (inform, perform some action, change his behavior). Manipulation is used in the sense of purposefully directing the human mind in a certain direction. (Тальшинский Э.Б.: 2020, 251-253)

There are two types of information terrorism in the scientific community. One of its types is cyberterrorism. The main goal of cyberterrorism is the use of computer networks as a means of disrupting important national infrastructures (energy, transportation, government) and intimidating government and civilians.

Dorothy E. Denning, professor at Georgetown University and one of the leading experts in computer crime and information security, writes in her book "Activity, Hacktivism and Cyberterrorism: The Internet as a Tool for Influencing Foreign Policy" that "cyberterrorism is an attempted illegal attack on computers and networks to force government agencies to pursue their political or social goals." (Mark M.Pollitt: 1997, 285-289)

Another type of information terrorism involves the use of the Internet by terrorist groups for property, financial, information and other support for their activities, but not for the direct

---

commission of terrorist attacks. The well-known American terrorologist Gabriel Weiman identifies eight ways in which terrorists use the Internet: 1) conducting psychological warfare; 2) search for information; 3) terrorist training; 4) collection of funds; 5) propaganda; 6) recruitment; 7) organization of networks; 8) planning and coordination of terrorist actions. (Вейман Г.: URL:<http://www.crime.vl.ru/index.php?p=949&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1>)

### **Conclusion**

The most pressing issues within the framework of the issues under consideration, requiring comprehensive scientific research and expert and practical discussions and decisions are, in particular: improving the international legal framework for countering threats to international peace, security and stability in the sphere information; increasing the efficiency of the system for their identification and analysis, harmonization of legal and organizational mechanisms for ensuring information security, contributing to the "synchronization" of various national approaches; development of a theoretical and methodological base for studying the threats of using information and communication technologies for the purpose of carrying out terrorist activities, as well as the creation of scientifically based multivariate models for combating information terrorism.

Thus, terrorism is one of the most acute problems in the modern world, and the fight against it is an important part of the policy of any state. In turn, the fight against information terrorism as a new form of international terrorism is one of the most discussed problems of all states and international organizations.

## References

- Бёрк Э. (1979) Философское исследование о происхождении наших идей возвышенного и прекрасного: Пер. с англ. /Общ. ред., вступ. статья и коммент. Б. В. Мееровского.— М.: Искусство (История эстетики в памятниках и документах).
- Вейман Г. Как современные террористы используют Интернет. Спец. Документ №116. URL:<http://www.crime.vl.ru/index.php?p=949&more=1&c=1&tb=1&pb=1>.
- Закон Азербайджанской Республики «О борьбе с терроризмом» от 18 июня 1999 года. № 687-IQ. <http://e-qanun.az/framework/3855>
- Михеев. И.Р. (2003). ТЕРРОРИЗМ: Понятие, ответственность, предупреждение (уголовно-правовое исследование). Квалификационная работа. - Владивосток: ЮИ ДВГУ.
- Талышинский, Э. Б. О. (2020). ИНФОРМАЦИОННЫЙ ТЕРРОРИЗМ КАК ФОРМА МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО ТЕРРОРИЗМА. In ФИЛОСОФИЯ И КУЛЬТУРА ИНФОРМАЦИОННОГО ОБЩЕСТВА (pp. 251-253).
- Mark M.P. (1997). "Cyberterrorism: Fact or Fancy?" Proceedings of the 20th National Information Systems Security Conference, October.