A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE ACADEMIC STUDIES IN THE WESTERN AREA AND ROMANIA[1]

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Abstract: The increasing of public appetite for understanding intelligence issues determined the delivery of many "bachelor" or "master" academic studies around the world. Despite an exponential increase in the number of such educational programs, experts agree that the Anglo-American space is, qualitatively and quantitatively, the best represented. As a member of the European Union and NATO, Romania has to take on such standards for comparison, but also to understand the common points and differences that divide those areas both in conceptual and pragmatic approach. For this reason I will present and analyze comparatively security and intelligence studies identified in the US, Great Britain and Romania.

Keywords: education, intelligence culture, security studies, intelligence studies

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1. INTRODUCTION

The international sociopolitical developments of the recent years have led to the reconfiguration of the interest of regular people for intelligence and to the occurrence of a new paradigm specific for this field. Also, the increasing of public appetite for intelligence studies determined the opening of many "bachelor" or "master" programs around the world. Despite an exponential increase in the number of such educational programs, experts agree that Anglo-American area is, qualitatively and quantitatively, the best represented. As a member of the European Union and NATO, Romania had to assume such comparison standards, but also to understand what are the conceptual and pragmatic commonalities and differences. For this reason I will present and analyze security and intelligence studies identified in the United States, United Kingdom and Romania.

2. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The exponential institution for the American paradigm of "smart nation" is American Military University a leading provider of security education in the United States. The provided programs are diverse (bachelor and master degree or certificates of competence in different areas). All its courses are 100% integrated on an online platform, which is fueled by the country's major universities and all the information are derived exclusively from open sources. This institution is educate people in areas such as: *Undergraduate certificate intelligence analysis*; *Graduate Certificate in Intelligence Analysis*; *Bachelor of Arts in Intelligence Studies*; *Master of Arts in Intelligence Studies[2]*; *Graduate Certificate in Intelligence Studies[3]*; *Associate of Arts in Counter Terrorism Studies[4]*; *Homeland Security Online Degrees & Certificates[5]*; *International Relations*

[2]http://www.amu.apus.edu/lp/intelligence-studies/masters/
[3]Http://www.amu.apus.edu/academic/programs/degree/537/graduate-certificate-in-intelligence-studies
[4]http://www.amu.apus.edu/academic/programs/degree/1324/associate-of-arts-in-counter-terrorism-studies
[5]http://www.amu.apus.edu/lp/homeland-security/index.htm

Online Degrees[6]; National Security Studies Degrees & Certificates[7].

Henley-Putnam University is a private higher education institution founded in 2001 as *the California University of Protection and Intelligence Management* and is providing bachelor and master programs: *Bachelor of Science, Terrorism and Counterterrorism Studies[8]; Bachelor of Science, Strategic Security and Protection[9]; Bachelor's Degree in Intelligence Management[10]; Master of Science, Strategic Security and Protection[11]; Master of Science, Terrorism and Counterterrorism Studies[12]; Master of Science, Intelligence Management[13]; Doctorate, Strategic Security[14],* şi certificate: *Counterterrorism Studies, Executive Protection, Intelligence Analysis, Intelligence Collection, Intel & Terrorism Profiling, Security Management, Strategic Intelligence.*

The Institute of World Politics[15] also organises many intelligence and security studies such as: *Master of Arts in Statecraft and National Security Affairs[16]; Master of Arts in Statecraft and International Affairs[17]; Master of Arts in Strategic Intelligence Studies[18]; Certificate of Graduate Study[19]* circumscribed to eight different areas of specialization: *Comparative Political Culture, Counterintelligence, Intelligence, International Politics, National Security Affairs, American Foreign Policy, Democracy Building, and Public Diplomacy and Political*

Warfare; Academic Programs for Defense and Intelligence Leadership[20] (in collaboration with **United States Naval War College**, **United States Army** and some other agencies belonging to the American intelligence community).

Although there are some higher education institutions that are delivering only a few courses, they must be mentioned here because of the quality they get. So it is important to underline the contribution provided by **University of Maryland** (*Program on Intelligence Research and Education (PIRE)[21]; Certificate Program in Intelligence Analysis[22]*), **University of Pittsburg** (*Major in Security & Intelligence Studies[23]*), **Georgetown University** (**Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service** settled the **Center for Peace and Security Studies - CPASS**[24] with the masteral degree *Security Studies Program – SSP*), **Stanford University** (*Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies – FSI* settled the **Center for International Security and Cooperation -** *CISAC*[25] with *CISAC Interschool Honors Program in International Security Studies* and **Center for Counterintelligence and Security Studies**[26], which provide expertise in the field of counterinformation, antiterrorism, regional studies).

3. UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN

UK is also positioned in the top states having scientific concerns in the field of intelligence studies. Because of the academic and administrative interest for such topics a large number of experts in this field emerged. In a study on British intelligence's, Maddrell has identified more than 30 specialists who

[6] http://www.amu.apus.edu/lp/international-relations/

[7] http://www.amu.apus.edu/lp/national-security-studies/

[8] http://www.hotcoursesusa.com/us/bachelor-of-science-terrorism-and-counterterrorism-studies-at-henley-putnam-university-2461681-usa.html

[9] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/126-191.htm

[10] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/127-192.htm

[11] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/101-189.htm

[12] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/478-233.htm

[13] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/101-189.htm

[14] http://www.henley-putnam.edu/641-260.htm

[15] http://www.iwp.edu/

[16] http://www.iwp.edu/programs/degree/master-of-arts-in-statecraft-and-national-security-affairs

[17] http://www.iwp.edu/programs/degree/master-of-arts-in-statecraft-and-international-affairs

[18] http://www.iwp.edu/programs/degree/master-of-arts-in-strategic-intelligence-studies

[19] http://www.iwp.edu/programs/detail/certificate-of-graduate-study

[20] http://www.iwp.edu/programs/detail/academic-programs-for-defense-and-intelligence-leadership

[21] http://www.publicpolicy.umd.edu/research/intelligence

[22] http://www.publicpolicy.umd.edu/executive-education/intelligence-studies

[23] www.gspia.pitt.edu/Academics/Programs/MasterofPublicInternationalAffairs/MajorInSecurityIntelligenceStudies/tabid/95/Default.aspx

[24] http://cpass.georgetown.edu/

[25] http://cisac.stanford.edu/

[26] http://www.cicentre.com/?page=all_courses

had already been teaching intelligence in 2003. Many universities have developed programs and master's degree, most of them being integrated by the departments or schools of political science, international policy, international history, war studies. Academic works of British experts are constantly delivered at specialised conferences such as *British International History Group, British International Studies Association* şi *British Political Studies Association* (which has its own *Security and Intelligence Studies Group* from 1993). The most prestigious universities of UK have incorporated into their curriculum the field of security and intelligence. Thus:

- **Brunel University West London** established the *Brunel Centre for Intelligence and Security Studies*[27] and a *Master of Art Intelligence and Security Studies*[28];

- **King's College London** oferes a pluridisciplinary program including military disciplines, intelligence history, international relations, social sciences to enables the understanding of different approaches, including critical or unorthodox viewpoints and established **Department of War Studies**[29] (Goodman & Omand, 2008:1) and *MA in Intelligence & International Security*[30];

- **University of Wales, Aberystwyth** with its *Centre for Intelligence and International Security Studies*[31], (*Intelligence and Strategic Studies*[32], *Intelligence Studies and International History*[33]);

- **University of Buckingham** deliver *Security and Intelligence Studies (MA)*[34] and established *Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies (BUCSIS)*[35];
- **University of Birmingham, Birmingham** provides *US Intelligence Services (M.Phil.)*[36];
- **University of Salford, Salford** offers a MA and Postgraduate Diploma în *Intelligence and Security Studies (MA)*[37];
- Sheffield University, Department of Politics - *International Politics and Security Studies*[38].

4. ROMANIA

After the fall of communism Romania's intelligence was reconceptualized in several stages and this process was facilitated by the integration of the country in NATO and EU structures and the need to align to the main paradigms of thought in these areas.

The "Mihai Viteazul" National Intelligence Academy (MVNIA) is the leading provider of intelligence and security expertise in Romania, and its curriculum include bachelor[39] and masteral[40] degrees and postgraduate courses[41] which are organized in a transdisciplinary manner from using knowledge from the filed of psychology, intelligence, communication studies, public relations, security studies. Their main objective is to revolve security culture among students, but also the skills and competencies specific to the domain. Also, together with the Faculty of Sociology, University of Bucharest, MVNIA established a *Master program: Information Analysis*[42] (this institution also deliver master programme *Security and Defense Studies*[43]).

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[27]http://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/acad/sss/research/centres/bciss

[28]http://www.brunel.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/L900PINSSTD

[29]http://www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/sspp/ws/grad/programmes/maiis/

[30]http://www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/sspp/ws/grad/programmes/maiis/

[31]http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:m8rAJr6asuUJ:users.aber.ac.uk/rbh/iss/aber.htm+University+of+Wales,+Aberystwyth+%22Intelligence+Studies+and+International+History%22&cd=4&hl=ro&ct=clnk&gl=ro&source=www.google.ro

[32] http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/interpol/prospective-students/masters/degree-schemes/intelligence-studies-strategic-studies/

[33] http://www.aber.ac.uk/prog-specs/index.php?L298S-MSCEC

[34]http://www.buckingham.ac.uk/humanities/ma/securityandintelligence

[35] http://www.buckingham.ac.uk/research/bucsis

[36]http://www.uscanada.bham.ac.uk/postgraduate/Intelligence_Studies/index.shtml

[37] http://www.salford.ac.uk/course-finder/course/1345

[38]http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/prospectus/courseDetails.do?id=4986282012

[39] http://www.animv.ro/ro/index.php?ccs=20

[40] http://www.animv.ro/ro/index.php?ccs=21

[41] http://www.animv.ro/ro/index.php?ccs=23

[42] http://www.unibuc.ro/ro/master_ai_ro

[43] http://www.unibuc.ro/ro/master_fsassa_ro

Another important institutions that is providing bachelor and masteral programme dedicated to security and intelligence are:

- the **National Defence University "Carol I",** who founded the **Center for Strategic Studies and Defence**[44];

- the **West University of Timisoara,** where the Faculty of Master of Economics provides the masteral programme *Security, Development and European Integration*[45];

- the **Babes-Bolyai University**, which organizes in **the Faculty of History**: Security *Studies*[46]*, Security Management in Contemporary Society*[47] and training programs to became *"security inspector"* and *"security agent"*;

- **the Christian University "Dimitrie Cantemir":** *the Security and Defence Studies, the NATO Studies Center*;

- **National School of Political and Administrative Sciences** which prepares NATO experts through *Senior Executive Master*[48]*;*

- **Romanian Association of Security Industry**[49]*,* **which own the franchise of the Security Institute of UK**[50] for Romania and Moldavia organizes *The Management of Security*, which include 2 stages: a certificate and then a bachelor degree.

3. A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE STUDIES

The enumeration[51] of the security and intelligence academic programme in the western and Romania areas allows us to identify some trends on several levels of comparative analysis. Thus the obvious differences or uniformity are derived from variables that influence the orientation programs of study, the involved staff in different teaching subjects, the priority areas that are orienting those studies.

As a general conclusion the curriculum of security and intelligence is that such programmes are concerned to teach general knowledge of history's intelligence and security, to clarify the priority areas of interest (terrorism, economic security, environmental security, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, crisis management and conflict, human rights), the manner in which the specific activities are developing and how they are valued by the beneficiar. In western area, there is constant concern to ground the theory of the domain and therefore they are extensively discussing topics such as ethics, human rights, the relations with civil society, the public - private partnership.

The funding of the identified programs is whether institutionalized by the state or by private initiative. The teaching staff is generally mixed as the practitioners, who offer their expertise in different areas of intelligence, and the theoreticians, who store theoretical knowledge of the field, are equally involved. Frequently, the first category shall recruit new members from retired or retired practitioners. In terms of beneficiaries of such programs, graduates are prepared either for the state own needs in various institutions's intelligence or to work in other connected area (foreign affairs, politics, diplomacy).

Regarding the degree of the openness of the country to the study security and intelligence there are different characteristics. Thus, there is a significant opening of academics and officials to study such topics in the United States and their points of view are converging. The Central Intelligence Agency is an important promoter of academic study and teaching of this subject since 1960: the National Security Agency and CIA have their own team of historians specialized in intelligence, who initiated and made permanent the practice of inviting teachers to spend long periods of time in their agencies[52].

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[44] http://cssas.unap.ro/
[45] http://www.scritube.com/economie/DOSAR-DE-PREZENTARE-MASTERAT-S734111015.php
[46] http://hiphi.ubbcluj.ro/licenta/securitate.html
[47] http://admitere.ubbcluj.ro/master-istorie.html
[48] http://www.centru-studii-nato.ro/pcsnato.html
[49] http://www.arisonline.ro/
[50] http://www.iisec.co.uk/
[51] The lack of space is the reason for giving the web address of every mentioned programme instead of describing it more specifically.

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[52] Also, the National Security Agency launched an invitation for students.

In UK, on the contrary, there is no such synchronization, but a considerable distance between academics and practitioners. The access to archives and information was allowed only for a few historians commissioned to write the history of the Second World War and only in 2004 *the Advisory Group on Security and Intelligence Records* was established under the tutelage of *Cabinet Office*, which is responsible for the relations with the academic field.

In Romania the situation is different, especially in terms of our socioistoric context: the transition from a totalitarian state to democracy has been a challenge for the Romanian intelligence services, born on the ruins of the former *Securitate*. Lingering feelings of suspicion that people are still feeling for *the Securitate*, lack of trust in state institutions, the selective and weak legal basis governing the intelligence activity and its lack of transparency have been major obstacles for developing and strengthening a sense of confidence that people would have been cherished for these institutions.

This may be the reason why, not mentioning the notable exception of **"Mihai Viteazul" National Intelligence Academy** established 20 years ago, the most initiatives to study intelligence are of recent date. Unfortunately, Romania still lacks a national strategy to address direct academic research of the field or a law to regulate the domain specific unclear concepts (Sebe, 2009). The lack of such a coherent strategy is reflected even in the relatively few studies dedicated to security and intelligence and their random distribution across the country. The very term of "intelligence" was firstly introduced in various scientific papers and articles only a decade ago.

The few Romanian specialists in intelligence have adopted a rather passive way of relating to the field developments and their contributions have remained unknown. Instead of cooperation and collaboration, universities seem to rather compete having no tangible results. The cases of institutional cooperation (as was the master "Information Analysis" conducted by the Faculty of Sociology, University of Bucharest and NAIMV) are very rare. But the biggest problem of Romania is the lack of international visibility of these programs of study. Without a link to the quality of teachers involved or to the other ingredients related to education quality, the publications are poorly capitalized and poorly disseminated, the participation in professional conferences is sporadic, and exchanges of students and teachers nonexistent. The research topics addressed are therefore limited and not dependent of context, as it requires the global one.

As a conclusion, we can say that the level and visibility of intelligence studies programs is conditioned on the one hand by the current strategic interests in that area, but also by the financial strength of the country and the importance it attaches to security and intelligence. Although the orientation and curriculum of Romanian programme are in line with those of the highly developed countries of the world, there is a gap in terms of funding, methods of dissemination and the degree to which experts and research results are used by authorities of the state.

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