

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ETHICS AND PARTNERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY RELATED TO INTELLIGENCE

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**Abstract:** *The challenge of the intelligence staff is to strengthen interdisciplinary, by exposure to flows of acculturation partnership, the individual who will become the focal point of several dimensions, namely intelligence operator. The principles reflected in documents, such as statement about core values and code of conduct, values fundamental ethical the characteristics that unite and stand as intelligence professionals. At the macro scale, existing professional standards within the community network is insufficient to ensure that intelligence agencies act both, in the most efficient manner and in the interest of democracy, so it must be a process of acculturation network, which is defined as community pressure on illiberal agencies to adopt a more professional behavior towards rights. As a general rule, intelligence ethics should include principles of justification, proportionality, necessity and accuracy, and practitioners and policy makers must have the courage to introduce ethical and professional tools, a kind of nanoindicators, having the role of whistleblowers sensitive throughout the complex process of cooperation in intelligence.*

**Keywords:** *ethics intelligence, code of conduct, ethic power, acculturation network, nanoethics.*

### 1. THE INTELLIGENCE OPERATOR. THE PERCEPTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY

The job of an intelligence officer is undoubtedly one of the most exciting, ancient and essential jobs in the world. Moreover, the future of humanity is not of conventional wars that would impoverish or destroy the warring parties, but a future of information warfare, economic, psychological. We hear increasingly often the phrase "information is power". In this context, the role of intelligence agencies will increase more and more. So, the challenge of the intelligence staff is to strengthen interdisciplinary, by exposure to flows of acculturation partnership, the individual who will become the focal point of several dimensions, namely intelligence operator.

In the public eye, as PR specialist Mihaela Nicola (2014) noticed, Romanian intelligence officer has middle-aged, well educated, discreet, speaks several languages, is smart, clever and very adaptable. Does issues and concerns in a cosmopolitan way, he is patriot, has self-control, balance, does not have political preferences, is suspicious, silent, is skilful to achieve professional goals, his work is risky, difficult, but interesting. Romanian public does not associate SRI officer with James Bond, but they consider to be very "cool". Please fill in here:

SRI officer is young and is a professional with more rigorous in his work than I have met in private, with much more attention to details of major significance and bending to factual reporting at the expense of personal opinion. (Nicola, 2014).

The specialist in public relations that we cited here, deepening knowledge of local operators intelligence, and thanks to a partnership opportunities for the institution rebadged thus notes that:

SRI employees are particularly prone to reflection, to analyze, travel all the way from idea to speak, without burning steps. And then, from words to deeds, as carefully and thoroughly. They are extremely well trained, educated, have an unostentatious elegance, they are aware and able to anticipate the direction of concepts' movement.

Sociological investigation was necessary to introduce elements of marketing in an important issue of the institution: promoting a security culture. Thus, some conclusions were drawn regarding the axiological important items, in public opinion.

The first of these values, recurrent in most focus groups, is patriotism, so that the promise of value in the external public eye and also as the self-image of people who belong to the organization, the value of the institution declined

her new visual identity, in to the motto "Patria a priori". To be add in the public eye, a mixture of appreciation and gratitude for the professionalism intelligence officers for their effectiveness discreet for victory to be kept silent security, peace and stability, to be made Romania a country where the risks and threats were managed so that citizens and the rule of law to be protected.

All projections have one common: whatever would happen, SRI acts as a court brings in a unseen way, a form of equilibrium in systems, between systems.

## 2. ETHICS, CODE OF ETHICS AND INSTITUTIONAL BEHAVIOR PATTERN

Most ethicists consider ethics as a philosophical discipline that studies the moral, while the latter has the meaning of the object of ethics, real phenomenon, collectively and individually, comprising values, principles and standards, assessments and specific manifestations of human relations and subject to the requirement of public opinion and individual conscience

Ethics seeks to answer the question "How should act the individual in relation with himself, with his peers and with others?". The main task of ethics is prescribed rules for both individual behavior and social organization of the moral life. From this perspective, ethics can be defined broadly as the discipline dealing with what is valuable in life, what we deserve and what rules should govern human behavior.

**2.1 Principles of professional ethics for the Intelligence Community. USA.** For the first time in the largest democracy of the world, as a result of events uncontrolled leakage of classified information (see Manning cases, Snowden) there's the question of deep evaluation to a set of professional ethics values which should be undertaken by intelligence operators.

As members of the intelligence profession, they conduct themselves in accordance with certain basic principles. These principles are stated below, and reflect the standard of ethical conduct expected of all Intelligence Community personnel, regardless of individual role or agency affiliation. Many of these principles are also reflected in other documents that we look to for guidance, such as statements of core values, and the *Code of Conduct: Principles of Ethical Conduct for Government Officers and Employees*; it is nonetheless important for the Intelligence Community to set forth in a single statement the

fundamental ethical principles that unite us and distinguish us as intelligence professionals (NIS USA, 2014):

- Mission. We serve the people, and understand that our mission requires selfless dedication to the security of our nation.

- Truth. We seek the truth; speak truth to power; and obtain, analyze, and provide intelligence objectively.

- Lawfulness. We support and defend the Constitution, and comply with the laws of the state, ensuring that we carry out our mission in a manner that respects privacy, civil liberties, and human rights obligations.

- Integrity. We demonstrate integrity in our conduct, mindful that all our actions, whether public or not, should reflect positively on the Intelligence Community at large.

- Stewardship. We are responsible stewards of the public trust; we use intelligence authorities and resources prudently, protect intelligence sources and methods diligently, report wrongdoing through appropriate channels; and remain accountable to ourselves, our oversight institutions, and through those institutions, ultimately to the people.

- Excellence. We seek to improve our performance and our craft continuously, share information responsibly, collaborate with our colleagues, and demonstrate innovation and agility when meeting new challenges.

- Diversity. We embrace the diversity of our nation, promote diversity and inclusion in our workforce, and encourage diversity in our thinking.

**2.2 Codes of institutional conduct. Romania.** In the other hand, domestic affaires and so claims professionalism in duty of service are domains that should be very precisely engaged in a deep analyze about the matrix of conduct, similar profiles that sustain the real face of intelligence operator. Codes of undertaken conduct are part of our identity and define who we are as professionals in the field and we seek to become. As such, we also consider a code or a specific creed of intelligence activity. Thus, each intelligence officer must confront daily how each segment of their activities with some value requirements (Coldea, 2014):

- First, to place the institution value prior himself and Patria prior to any. *Patria a priori* - that is the motto assumed and the quintessence of a way of life that goes beyond the rigid distinction between "segment" of professional and personal values.

- To appreciate the history, culture and traditions of the country, so as to contribute to its

future. You can not go any further if you do not understand the past.

- To believe in the law, keep fairness and remain discreet, both inside and outside the profession.

- To defend the community in which he lives, to appreciate and respect people's beliefs. Intelligence officer is part of the social context, and each other's values and way of manifestation can be a natural addition to capital and security of Romania.

- To reflect objectivity to both, himself and the activity, and support exclusively and unconditional Romania's interests. Compared to these guidelines there's no partisanship, no whisksers and no color investigative efforts orientation or party-political pris.

- Have responsibility and believe in doing things right till the end. Each officer is related to norms and values deeply implemented and domestic system ensures the traceability of each command, of each action.

- To take intelligent risks, without excesses of tolerance or aversion. Risks are treated differently, depending on the assessment that realize on impact and probability, and the expected operational benefits.

- Have the courage to clearly highlight the truth and to assume responsibilities arising from vertical attitude. Information of the beneficiaries is based on factual truth, without nuances to fold or distort the information, according to their expectations.

- To defend their professional and personal integrity in any court. Integrity is more necessary precisely in those moments or situations that seem difficult to maintain. Ethical conduct of officers covers both, how and where, and the means of collecting data and information so that they are pertinent, relevant and valuable in relation to institutional objectives. It refers to integrity analysis, so it would ensure objectivity in professional diagnosis, during the "assembly" of all parts that are later given information's beneficiaries.

- To understand that intersection to others often remain discreet. The specifics of his work, an intelligence service is reserved at both, the institutional and the voice of his officers, for a public communication plan.

**2.3 Ethics begins where the law stops. Institutional bureaucracy versus professional ethics.** The common people must have deep understanding about the tough dilemmas facing intelligence professionals, for those who risked

much to give birth to a professional ethos began to those working in the shadows of society. These professionals make life more difficult when working for institutions, which, morally, are bankrupt, and the methods of force employees are harmful in every respect.

That is why, sometimes, the matrix of beneficiary affects almost natural process of maturation of a foundation and professional ethical conduct in the field.

Wide of intelligence community appears more discussed the "politicization" problem. This basically means that policymakers impairment of product information, so as to meet their desires and prejudices. This can lead to horrible consequences (as when top-level decision makers want to attack someone, regardless of the facts, or go crazy and take their country on the path of disaster and destruction in other ways). Therefore, all schools that prepare intelligence officers teach analysts avoid such politicization (Andregg, 2014:14).

Very interesting is the point of view of a well known American expert (Andregg, 2012:100-120) on intelligence, saying that bureaucratic institutions fear of ethics for at least five reasons: fear, greed, embarrassment, an obsession with secrecy itself, and as a result, isolation from society respect.

*Fear:* Tasked with defending America from all threats to the republic, and faced with novel dangers of international terrorism, our intelligence community has overreacted enormously. Pervasive propaganda to encourage public support for unpopular wars and invasive surveillance at home blows back on the agencies themselves.

*Greed:* A climate of perpetual fear leads to *much bigger budgets* for all of the security and intelligence services.

*Embarrassment:* IC bureaucracies do not want their mistakes, waste, and other dirty laundry revealed to a world that is very focused on costs of government in normal times, much less when thousands are dying each year because of mistakes made long ago.

*The Obsession with Secrecy:* Trying to operationalize protection of essential secrets in large bureaucracies has led to a spider's nest of rules, regulations, and cherished customs that turns back to ensnare and poison the very people who created them.

*Isolation from society:* Security clearance systems isolate many good and kind intelligence professionals from deeply moral people who can often see more easily what is wrong and sometimes

help with solutions. Furthermore, the most moral people simply will not sign a broad nondisclosure agreement that requires keeping all secrets, no matter how lethal or evil. That keeps those with moral dilemmas inside, isolated from outsiders with expertise in such problems, such as clergy and psychologists. That has bad consequences for IC employees, as evidenced by their stunning rates of alcoholism, divorce, and suicide, among other indicators of excessive stress induced by employer rules.

*Ethics matter.* Discarding ethics just because we are scaring ourselves to death, to get a few billions more in budgets, because we prefer to hide our embarrassments, and/or because we are obsessed with some aspects of tradecraft and thus are isolated.

### **3. PARTNERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY. ETHICAL STANDARDS INSIDE COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

The experience of the last years is a indication that existing professional standards in network arrangements are inadequate to ensure that intelligence services act both in the most effective way and in the best interests of democracy. Connections to untrustworthy, unreliable intelligence partners create a substantial risk of bad foreign policy decisions, false positives, and subversion of democracy. There are argues in favor of clear ethical professional standards to advance reliable intelligence sharing and human rights compliance. Also, contends that the most effective way to institute compliance with such standards is through *acculturation within the network*—that is, communitarian pressure on illiberal agencies to adopt more professional, rights-respective behavior.

**3.1 Cooperative partnerships and ethical behavior towards allies.** Cooperation through intelligence efforts, information sharing and other needs of today's cooperation is achieved through agreements, programs, projects or information operations, specifying that terminology introduce two other terms, *cooperation* - on the activity within an intelligence service or *collaboration*, which, together with cooperation in space is done internally or externally. Cooperation in the field of intelligence requires a new stage in the cooperation between intelligence services: moving the center of gravity from the exchange of information of the generality for cooperation on cases and specific measures as a way to reap the full potential of the partners involved.

The issue of collaboration / cooperation arising from the intelligence community, we believe that actions on this line should be to:

- increasing interconnectivity between intelligence services for existing vulnerabilities boundary demarcation of several systems (critical infrastructure security, disruption of energy supplies, financial markets, climate change);
- build a robust information infrastructure based on a culture of information sharing;
- shifting the focus from „exchange of information” at „exchange of knowledge" by addressing strategic knowledge exchange and management, operational capacity, robust networking, collaboration services permanent, integrated e-learning solutions, means view and organizational management systems;
- realization of virtual networks among analysts classified Community and intelligence services with access to databases made on issues or areas.

A good proposal integrates an approach that benefits from the expertise and exploit synergies arising from the breadth and depth of the partnership. Strengthen existing partnerships and establish new ones with private and public entities, internal and external sources to improve access to information and to ensure appropriate dissemination of intelligence products, is a prerequisite functioning intelligence community in terms of efficiency and performance. Partnerships can provide the solution to the problems of transnational exceeding existing organizational boundaries, and this approach should be circumscribed and comprehensive national policy to be implemented at the community level through policies that define the roles, responsibilities and authorities.

Achieving this objective to strengthen partnerships have focused on the following areas:

- strengthening the relationships existing - by informing partners about what the intelligence community, capacities and capabilities, as well as awareness of the benefits offered by partners;
- extending partnerships - to determine the exchange of information and cooperation;
- establishing new partnerships - by building mutual trust and a common understanding regarding the needs, capabilities and missions undertaken with partners.

Improved integration and exchange of information are intended to provide information management practices related purpose, information systems and architectures to meet their

responsibility to provide information and data, while protecting them from the risk of compromise. The type and amount of data grows exponentially with the speed and capabilities of their processing, which makes the whole cycle information to be held in a compressed frame and exchange of information to be quick, protecting at the same time, sources and methods and respecting fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens.

**3.2 Get busy with professional tools. Rebranding less trustable partners.** Professional standards, rather than legislative or other domestic oversight, are the prime mechanism to sanction and professionalize network partners. Therefore, the use of peer accountability and reputational sanctioning to enforce ethical professional norms, including prohibitions on mistreatment, may present the most effective mechanism to professionalize repressive intelligence agencies. Changing the culture of intelligence agencies is without a doubt a difficult task, and legal and ethical standards have to be taken seriously if they are to become part of the organizational culture, rather than just window dressing. Effective acculturation to ethical professional standards will require concerted reputational sanctioning and targeted use of intelligence aid and training. If leading intelligence powers set standards through intelligence collaboration, restraint, and objective assessment, other professional norms can spread to less professionalized agencies.

Here are some recommendations (HRW, 2014) of a very interesting report of a ONG that monitoring civil rights in USA. They suggest using professional sanctioning and transmitting norms through intelligence networks to encourage more effective long-term counterterrorism information sharing and overall strategy. It relies primarily on the theory of acculturation and argues that where hegemony or groups of influential intelligence agencies encourage compliance with certain norms, other intelligence agencies may adopt and comply with them. The idea of *communitarian pressure* operating within intelligence networks to induce human rights compliance may seem unlikely, but changes may occur, especially where well-respected intelligence agencies target their support and sanction violators collectively and consistently.

Such use of intelligence networks suggests the capacity of intelligence contacts to provide a lever for change. Inclusion in a network can lead to pressure to imitate and identify with the group,

which is likely to generate compliance with the group's norms. Within intelligence networks, interactions among partners and concern over the development of reputation can drive compliance with professional norms. For less reputable agencies, the anticipated long-term benefits of a good professional reputation may then outweigh the present value of violating network standards. Rewarding good behavior similarly may help induce compliance by less reputable intelligence agencies.

The goal of intelligence network sanctions and rewards should be to cultivate capable, accountable, and professionalized network partners who can be trusted to gather, analyze, and use information in humane and professional ways. As is the aspiration of western intelligence generally, intelligence networks should employ reputational sanctions and aid in order to keep the players honest, not permit disreputable arguments to thrive, point out where positions are internally contradictory or rest on tortured readings of the evidence.

### 3. CONCLUSIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Perhaps the most effective way to establish professional standards is the process of *acculturation network*, which is defined as a community pressure on illiberal agencies, representative of some questionable democratic states to adopt a more professional behavior towards fundamental rights citizens. As a general rule, intelligence ethics should include principles of justification, proportionality, necessity and accuracy. All partners should understand that individuals will be covered only when the situation is justified, authorized, and the information collected will be properly recorded and kept or made available when establishing a legitimate need. Exercise transparency and participatory, the citizenship could support the premise that setting standards and monitoring by acculturation strengthen democratic bodies of intelligence networks to encourage ethical standards and behavior information in the interests of liberal democracies.

Here are some topics insight underlying our horizon near, and that requires a joint effort of all stakeholders in taking democratic principles, both in terms of respecting the overall framework of human rights, especially the radiography of the best security solutions. Could be true? Let us have the courage to introduce ethical and professional

tools, a kind of nanoindicators, with the role of whistleblowers sensitive throughout the entire complex process of cooperation in intelligence.

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