THE CONCEPT AND TYPE OF PEACE OPERATIONS

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ABSTRACT

If we look at the international scene in recent years, we see the desire of state and non-state actors to resolve conflicts using the armed forces for peace operations.

Peace operations have a number of characteristics as the techniques used are different from those used in conventional battles.

The problem of concept and typology of peace operations from the perspective of NATO doctrine, and in terms of Romanian doctrine, is a topic that is vast and full of traps. The objectives and general principles of peace operations cause any mistake or derogation from the rules of engagement to have profound implications at the highest level, and a sometimes virulent international public response. The concepts used are the current guidelines used in U.S. military doctrine and standards of the North Atlantic Alliance, which were adopted by the Romanian army.

KEYWORDS: peace operations, decision, conflict

1. General Considerations

Depending on the capabilities they possess, each state adopts the types of operations that aim to achieve certain political and military objectives. Military operations, other than war, are a type of security operation to prevent/hinder war, and promote peace through involvement/ non-involvement of force or threat of force. NATO military operations other than war require the expertise of armies. Much less experience is required than the field of battle – but the important war specific knowledge, learning and preparation for the deploying army is imperative. U.S.A. and Romanian military specialists are opting for “stability operations and support”, and the current political-military context is more suited to these types of operations.

Stability and support operations are utilizing military capabilities in all types of operations short of war. These military actions can be used to complement any combination of the instruments of state power, before, during or after a war or armed conflict, often without reaching actual engagement.

Stability and support operations are a complex framework that requires disciplined forces, flexibility, and the ability to respond to different situations. This includes facing a shift from military operations to other operations of war; they can include the full range of forces and combat operations. Stability and support operations may include elements of combat or non-combat operations in all environments, in peacetime, crisis or war.
Ground forces have adopted two classes of stability operations and support operations. The main types of stability operations that are integrated into the mission of Army units are: arms control, combating terrorism, support anti-drug operations, humanitarian and civic assistance to the nation; evacuation of non-combatants, the imposition of sanctions; operations peace; demonstration force. Peace operations [1] are:

- conflict prevention;
- peace making;
- peace building;
- peace keeping;
- peace enforcement.

Support operations are used to help foreign and domestic civil authorities when they are preparing or responding to crises and other special situations beyond their capabilities by providing support, services, resources or specialized resources base as appropriate. Typology operations support includes: internal support operations (ISO) – which take place inside of national territory – and external humanitarian assistance (EHA) – outside of it.

In ISO, the units engage in: rescue operations in case of natural calamities and disasters, accidents consequence management, nuclear support, biological, chemical, radiological and explosion of high power (NBCRE); support civil law enforcement; community assistance.

In the EHA, the units usually execute rescue operations, but can participate in and support the response to accidents, NBCRE management and community assistance.

Joint operations [2] encompasses only stability operations that are classified as arms control; combating terrorism; drug operations support; civic and humanitarian assistance; internal defense, foreign support; evacuation of non-combatants; assistance in security problems; peace operations (which has only two subclasses: peacekeeping and peace enforcement). Also, demonstration of force; support and operations support insurgencies (these are the same as the content presented to ground forces, except they support civil law enforcement).

The U.S.A. concept [3] is called peace operations and have the following missions:

- Support diplomacy (peace making, peace-building, preventive diplomacy);
- Peace keeping (ceasefire monitoring, reporting and monitoring, investigating complaints and violations, negotiation and mediation);
- Peace enforcement (re-establish and maintain order and stability, protection of humanitarian assistance, guarantee or interdiction of movements, sanctions implementation-establish and monitor protected areas);
- Separation by a belligerent force (strong force intervention, implementation of the ceasefire, bringing warring parties to the negotiating table, achieving demilitarized zone, demilitarized zone expansion).


Peace Support Operations are multinational operations conducted impartially in support of ONU or OSCE mandate, involving military forces and diplomatic and humanitarian agencies, designed to achieve long-term political settlement or other conditions set out in the mandate.

NATO P.S.O. typology is more structured, in form and substance. It has been adopted and implemented by the Army and is most often commonly used at this time. According to the two documents, peace support operations (Peace Support Operations – PSO) “are multifunctional operations, impartially led, for supporting the ONU/OSCE mandate. This activity involves military forces and humanitarian and diplomatic agencies, having a common goal to offer a long-term solution for political problems or others conditions outlined in the
mandate”. In this category there are the following types of operations [5]:

- Conflict Prevention – CP;
- Peace Making – PMO;
- Peace Keeping – PKO;
- Peace Enforcement – PEO;
- Peace Building – PBO;
- Humanitarian Operations – HO.

Conflict prevention – includes various activities, especially under Chapter VI of the UN Charter. These range from diplomatic initiatives to preventive deployment of troops, with the intention of preventing the escalation of disputes into armed conflict or their extension to other areas. Conflict prevention can include fact-finding missions, consultations, warnings, inspections and monitoring. Preventive deployment consists normally of military and/or civilians who are deployed to stem a crisis. Specific tasks are: early warning, surveillance, preventive deployment, stabilizing measures.

Peace enforcement, under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, is the use of military means to restore peace in a conflict zone. This may include treating a conflict between states or within a state whose institutions have collapsed or to meet humanitarian needs. Peace enforcement operations include actions to restore international peace and security, sanctions and embargoes, and no-fly zones.

Peace building is an after conflict action carried out to detect and identify structures that tend to reinforce and strengthen the political basis to avoid escalation. This includes mechanisms to identify and support structures that strengthen peace, to develop a sense of trust and support economic reconstruction. It may require the involvement of both military and civilian personnel.

Humanitarian operations are missions conducted to limit human suffering, especially given that the authorities in the area are unable or unwilling to provide adequate services to the population. Humanitarian missions can be deployed in a peace support mission, or completely independently. Possible missions of humanitarian operations are:

a. Aid and protect humanitarian convoys;

b. The humanitarian transports;
c. The maintenance, repairing and infrastructure consolidation;
d. Health and medical assistance;
e. Assistance for redeployment refugees;
f. Humanitarian demining activities.

Peace making can include providing good offices, mediation, conciliation and actions such as the imposition of sanctions and diplomatic isolation [6]. This operation consists of an effort to resolve a conflict or maintain peace through diplomatic action, persuasion, mediation or negotiation, but sometimes requiring use of military force or other means [7]. Good offices is an indispensable element for achieving peace operations, and includes friendly intervention of a third party between the warring parties in order to restore direct contact [8]. Military Force component tasks of achieving peace are:

- Supervise withdrawing forces from the lines;
- Ensure withdrawal of heavy weapons;
- Monitoring of external borders;
- Supervise and control the exchange of prisoners or refugees;
- Assistance in restoring civil infrastructure;
- Assistance in mine clearance operations and explosive ordnance instructions for use;
- Support the establishment of new political structures;
- Assistance in restoring or establishing a civil administration, respect for laws and human rights;
- Supervision and demobilization of risk areas.

Peacekeeping is intended to moderate and/or end hostilities between states or within them through the intervention of a
third party that is impartial, organized and directed internationally. It uses the military and civilians to complement the political process to resolve the conflict and to restore peace. Although the term “peacekeeping” is not specifically used in the UN Charter, is authorized in the chapter VI. Distinctive features of peacekeeping operations have been raised in an empirical manner by the UN Secretary-General, and consist of the following:

a) peacekeeping operations are not acts of coercion based on Chapter VII of the UN Charter;

b) peacekeeping forces are made up of contingents, with materials provided voluntarily by UN members. Member States should have the right to demand participation in an operation;

c) do not contain forces from permanent members of the Security Council and any country that may be suspected of having a special interest in the conflict is forced out;

d) operations performed are independent of those of her host. Multinational forces should not be used in solving problems in the Member and may not be by no means a belligerent in an internal conflict;

e) Peacekeeping forces may not initiate the use of armed violence, but they have the right to self-defense against an attack, including attempts to conquer the positions they occupy, by order of legitimate commanders.

These operations follow diplomatic negotiations which established the mandate for the peacekeeping force. It describes the purpose of the operation, and determines the size and type of force required of each participating nation. Also the mandate specifies the terms or conditions which the host intends to impose and has the capacity to make a clear assessment of the peacekeeping functions that must be satisfied. In places prone to violent actions, peacekeeping forces have an important deterrent role. It gathers information by any means of research (observation posts, patrols, surveillance, monitoring and Reconnaissance).

Multinational peacekeeping operations have been developed based on objective and viewpoint, generating several stages and forms that are effective in achieving results. Examples of observation missions included an initial step or FIRST STAGE in general periodization peace operations:

– UNSCOB – UN Special Committee on the Balkans between 1947-1951, GREECE;


– UNMOGIP – Group UN military observers India and Pakistan, from 1948 to present.

STAGE II - Emergency Multinational Force use:


– UNSF – UN security force to New Guinea from 1962 to 1969;

– UNFCYP – UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus from 1964 to present.

CURRENTLY – Multidimensional action of the peacekeeping force utilizing their specialization. Broad-spectrum operations (WIDER Peacekeeping Operations) incorporating conflict prevention, restoration, enforcement and peacebuilding:


– UNAMIR – United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda from 1993 to present;

– UNOSOM I and UNOSOM II – UN Operations in Somalia from 1992 to present;

– IFOR, SFOR – Force NATO – OSCE implementation and stabilization of peace in BOSNIA from 1996 to present.
3. Conclusions

The events that took place in the international arena in the past twenty years and acting forces and trends currently seem to reveal an emphasis on change and a gradual reduction of the elements of continuity. Meanwhile, two major elements – the Cold War and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 – significantly marked two distinct periods in the evolution of the international system in the last fifteen years. The new century I walked for a few years, began in an atmosphere of optimism, based on the idea that once the Cold War ended, the world will move towards an era of peace and stability. This optimism was the main point of support the concept that increasing economic interdependence and symmetrically, increasing prosperity of nations and therefore a growing part of the population will cause the use of military power and war as tools promote the interests (national or group) to be perceived as unacceptable behavior in international relations.

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