

## THE CONCEPT OF „SMART DEFENCE” AND POOLING AND SHARING

**Dorin SAVIN**

PhD. C., National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania.

### **ABSTRACT**

*THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS WAS THE MAIN STIMULUS THAT DETERMINED THE BREADTH AND SUCCESS OF THE INTELLIGENT DEFENCE IDEA OF COURSE, THIS IDEA OF SHARING RESOURCES AND USING THEM TOGETHER BY NATO OR EU MEMBER STATES IS NOT A NEW IDEA. THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE AT THE BORDER OF IMPLEMENTING NEW CONCEPTS OF DEFENSE PLANNING. IF WE HAVE THE CONCEPT OF „POOLING AND SHARING” AT EU LEVEL, THE CONCEPT OF „SMART DEFENCE” IS BEING CIRCULATED AT NATO LEVEL, WITH IMPLICATIONS GOING BEYOND DEFENSE PLANNING, THE SIGNIFICANCES BEING MORE COMPLEX, STRATEGIC, GEOPOLITICAL OR RELATIONSHIP-RELATED INTERNATIONAL. „SMART DEFENCE” AND „POOLING AND SHARING” HAVE GAINED A RESOUNDING SUCCESS IN THE SECURITY AND DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTS IN THE UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE INVESTMENT-ENVIRONMENT. EURO-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN ACHIEVE AN INCREASE IN SECURITY UNDER THE AUSTERITY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGETS GENERATED BY THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS, A CRISIS THAT PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN CREATING A FAVOURABLE CONTEXT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TWO CONCEPTS<sup>1</sup>.*

**KEYWORDS:** NATO, EUROPEAN UNION, SMART DEFENCE, POOLING AND SHARING,

### **Introduction to the concept of „Pooling and Sharing” and „Smart Defence”**

„Pooling and Sharing” and „smart defense” are two very similar concepts based on two fundamental principles, namely to avoid duplication of functions and efforts and complementarity of actions. The concept of „Pooling and sharing” is materialized in practice by the decision of several states to contribute materially and financially to the construction\ acquisition of some pooling equipment, which will be used later by several states (sharing)<sup>2</sup>.

This materialization in practice implies a sustained and continuous effort of cooperation and harmonization within the defense industries together with the allocation of the budgetary resources of the participating states to the project.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius Cristian Mărcău „European Policies and strategies for combating cross-border criminality. implications for the internal legal system”, in *International Conference "New Criminal Legislation - important phase in the development of Romanian law"*, Bologna (Italy), Medimond, pp. 291-296

<sup>2</sup> Flavius Cristian Mărcău, Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, “The vision about international security at the beginning of the XXI Century”, *European Scientific Journal*, April 2013 edition vol.9, No.11, pp. 301-311

Essentially, and after all, this project is nothing more than an effective solution to deal with the impact of the economic and financial crisis.<sup>1</sup>

To overcome the concept stage by going to the project, the European Defence Agency is coordinating military capability development projects by virtue of the pooling and sharing principle<sup>2</sup>:

- ISR (intelligence)<sup>3</sup>
- Helicopter training programme and general pilot training;
- Maritime surveillance network and naval training;
- Intelligent munitions;
- Logistics
- European transport centers
- Campaign Hospitals
- Refueling in the air;
- Global and European satellite military communications.

These military capabilities are distinct from those addressed within NATO, precisely to represent complementary solutions. This defence planning initiative actually addresses only a part of the crisis-related problems that the EU wants to address in the area of defence, economy, finance, social affairs or environmental protection. The Smart Defence concept is an innovative vision of NATO<sup>4</sup> and was formally launched by Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the NATO Summit in Chicago in May 2012<sup>5</sup>.

The goal is to streamline in funds of the Alliance's members with the fall in defence spending in Europe. Smart defence is „Sharing and sharing capabilities, prioritizing and better coordinating efforts”<sup>6</sup>.

In other words, the concept is defined as the action to generate modern defence capabilities that NATO needs for the next decade and not only by pooling and sharing it.

So, pooling and sharing, pooling and sharing capabilities is just part of NATO's definition of smart defence implementing a much more refined and more developed version. Thus, prioritization is very relevant, because at NATO level are precisely defined areas of critical importance in which „smart defence” will activate namely<sup>7</sup>:

- antiballistic defence
- intelligence
- supervision and recognition

---

<sup>1</sup> European Parliament, State of play of implementation of EDA's pooling and sharing initiatives and its impact on the European Defence industry, available at: [http://www.europool.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/534988/EXPO\\_STU\(2015](http://www.europool.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/534988/EXPO_STU(2015)

<sup>2</sup>European Parliament Workshop: Pooling and Sharing, Member States engagement and EU support, [http://www.europool.europa.eu/RedData/estudes/DAN/2015/534994/EXPO\\_IDA\(2015\)534994\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europool.europa.eu/RedData/estudes/DAN/2015/534994/EXPO_IDA(2015)534994_EN.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Flavius Cristian Mărcău și Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, “The role of intelligence in the fight against terror”, *European Scientific Journal*, January 2013 edition vol.9, No.2, pp. 1-11

<sup>4</sup> Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius-Cristian Marcau, “Coordinates of NATO – EU cooperation”, in proceedings “Strategic Changes in Security and International Relations”, 2014, pp. 258-265

<sup>5</sup> NATO, Smart Defence, available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohg/topics\\_84268.html](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohg/topics_84268.html)

<sup>6</sup> Cdor.conf.univ. dr.ing. Laurențiu –Răducu Popescu, The Smart Defence Concept and the Unmanned Abortion on board, The National Defense University Bulletin,

<sup>7</sup> NATO, Smart Defence, available at <http://natolibguides.info/smartdefence>

- maintaining the state of training and training of forces
- active engagement and protection of forces
- good coordination of efforts focuses on the development of costly and necessary capabilities to further carry of the missions undertaken by NATO partners
- terrestrial, maritime and air surveillance systems
- airborne warning and control systems
- combat improvised explosive devices
- control and control systems

Alliance member states will no longer be able to rely on the U.S. contribution to advanced and expensive capabilities.

### **Romania and Smart Defence**

Romania participates in 31 of the 168 programmes developed under the Smart Defence concept.

Smart Defence is a pragmatic approach to providing capabilities needed in efficient manner in terms of cost of operation and maintenance lifecycle.

This can be done by jointly purchasing or providing repairs, spare parts, ammunition and other material goods to be operated by several states. This avoids duplication of costs and efforts. In this context, Romania submitted the intention to participate in about one third of all projects identified at NATO level to be developed under the aegis of Smart Defence.

Two-thirds of Smart Defence projects have a leading nation as an European country, and one-third are exclusively- run. Smart Defence provides the necessary framework for both small and medium-sized countries to help allied capabilities.

Romania supported the approach that in the current economic circumstances, generating capabilities through multinational funding under NATO or EU is a solution, not just a result.

Romania is an active member of some projects such as<sup>1</sup>:

- NATO Airborne Early Warning (NAEW) Airborne Ground Warning Capability;
- Alliance Ground Surveillance Capability (AGS)
- Strategic Airlift Surveillance Capability (SAC)

The essence of the Smart Defence concept lies in the fact that intelligent defence does not mean higher, but more efficient spending. Smart Defence is not about saving money, but adding value by reducing costs and developing capabilities. Thus, more will be gained together with fewer resources<sup>2</sup>. There are three stages of implementation, namely<sup>3</sup>:

- Prioritization – means the way in which it is commonly agreed what is being cut and what is preserved;

---

<sup>1</sup> Cdr.conf.univ. dr.ing. Laurențiu –Răducu Popescu, The Smart Defence Concept and the Unmanned Abortion on board, The National Defense University Bulletin, <http://www.spodas.ro/revista/indexphd/tevistarticole/viewfile/106/76>

<sup>2</sup> Cdr.conf.univ. dr.ing. Laurențiu –Răducu Popescu, The Smart Defence Concept and the Unmanned Abortion on board, The National Defense University Bulletin, <http://www.spodas.ro/revista/indexphd/tevistarticole/viewfile/106/76>

<sup>3</sup> NATO , Smart Defence , available at :[http:// www.nato.int/cps/en/natohg/topics 84268.html](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohg/topics_84268.html)

- Cooperation – refers to what needs to be done with other nations to provide capabilities at a multinational level, which would normally be too expensive for many of us, take it separately;
- Specialization- it means that the Allies coordinate their plans more closely so that they can focus on what each one can do best and actually contribute to the capabilities needed to reach NATO goals;

Romania aims to achieve NATO army standards and support reform with adequate financial resources under the austerity financial framework and the Smart Defense<sup>1</sup> initiative is welcome in the intelligent defense is directly related to a necessary reinforcement of Article 5 of the NATO Treaty on Collective Defense.

Romania has demonstrated that it is already applying the concept of truly intelligent defence by installing on the Romanian territory elements of the anti-missile shield, which will ensure the defence of NATO territory not just one country, as in the case of the strategic transport capability or the Center of excellence from Oradea, for the

Training of special forces.

### **Conclusions**

In these times of austerity, every currency counts and Smart Defence or Smart Defence is a cooperative way of thinking about generating the modern defense capabilities the Alliance needs for the future.

In this new culture of cooperation, the Allies are encouraged to work together to develop, acquire, operate and maintain military capabilities to achieve the Alliance's core tasks agreed upon in prioritizing and coordinating better efforts. The Pooling and Sharing Concept covers the range of capabilities, ranging from integration and alignment with military requirements to management and support, including certifications and standardization, to support joint efforts of EU Member States to develop capabilities<sup>2</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Captain Commander Cosmin-Liviu Cosma, Reflection of the smart defence concept in infrastructure and acquisitions in the NATO member states air forces <http://smgmapn.ro/gmr/ultimulnr/cosma-p76-84pdh>.

<sup>2</sup> Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius-Cristian Mărcău, “The policy of the European Union on the climatic change. Security implications”, in proceedings “Strategic changes in Security and International Relations”, 2014, pp 266-274

## REFERENCES

1. Cdor.conf.univ. dr.ing. Laurențiu –Răducu Popescu, The Smart Defence Concept and the Unimanned Abortion on board, The National Defense University Bulletin, <http://www.spodas.ro/revista/indexphd/tevistarticole/viewfile/106/76>
2. Capitain Commander Cosmin-Liviu Cosma, Reflection of the smart defence concept in infrastructure and acquisitions in the NATO member states air forces <http://sngmapn.ro/gmr/ultimulnr/cosma-p76-84pdh>.
3. NATO , Smart Defence , available at : <http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohg/topics/84268.html>
4. NATO Smart Defence, available at <http://www.nato.int/docu/review/topics/en/smart-defence/html>
5. NATO, Smart Defence, available at <http://natolibguides.info/smartdefence>
6. Smart defence – a more effective defence, available at: <http://www.fmndk/allabout/Pages/SmartDefenceamoreeffectivedefence>
7. European Parliament, State of play of implementation of EDA’s pooling and sharing initiatives and its impact on the European Defence industry, available at; [http://www.europool.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/534988/EXPO\\_STU\(2015\)](http://www.europool.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/534988/EXPO_STU(2015))
8. European Parliament Workshop: Pooling and Sharing, Member States engagement and EU support, [http://www.europool.europa.eu/RedData/estudes/DAN/2015/534994/EXPO\\_IDA\(2015\)534994\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europool.europa.eu/RedData/estudes/DAN/2015/534994/EXPO_IDA(2015)534994_EN.pdf).
9. EDA, EDA’s Pooling and Sharing, available at: [http://www.eda.europa.eu/docs/default-source/eda-factsheeta/final-p-s\\_30012013\\_factsheet\\_en5\\_gris](http://www.eda.europa.eu/docs/default-source/eda-factsheeta/final-p-s_30012013_factsheet_en5_gris)
10. Flavius Cristian Mărcău, Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, “The vision about international security at the beginning of the XXI Century”, *European Scientific Journal*, April 2013 edition vol.9, No.11, pp. 301-311
11. Flavius Cristian Mărcău și Mihaela Andreea Ciorei, “The role of intelligence in the fight against terror”, *European Scientific Journal*, January 2013 edition vol.9, No.2, pp. 1-11
12. Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius-Cristian Marcau, “Coordinates of NATO – EU cooperation”, in proceedings “Strategic Changes in Security and International Relations”, 2014, pp. 258-265
13. Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius-Cristian Mărcău, “The policy of the European Union on the climatic change. Security implications”, in proceedings “Strategic changes in Security and International Relations”, 2014, pp 266-274
14. Ina Raluca Tomescu, Flavius Cristian Mărcău „European Policies and strategies for combating cross-border criminality. implications for the internal legal system”, in *International Conference "New Criminal Legislation - important phase in the development of Romanian law"*, Bologna (Italy), Medimond, pp. 291-296