

“Threats and opportunities of international cooperation-Erasmus+ versus terrorism and prejudices” Magdalena El Ghamari

Experience from current conflicts is showing that it is hard to talk about the success of undertakings implemented by coalition forces. It turns out that military defeating the opponent and taking control of the area aren't a factor guaranteeing being a success in contemporary, connected operations.

The military victory isn't guaranteeing the liquidation of everyone threats, and hence the political, ethnical, religion solutions of cultural problems. The existing situation results from the fact, that military operations leading you, major effort focused on the combating of terrorism or of paramilitary rebellious groups, for creating and keeping democratic power structures, forgetting not only about the citizen and his problems, but also about in order to get to know, to understand and only then to try to change in the society. Through exchanged factors cross-cultural contacts are getting for underlining differences in determined societies themselves.

The fundamentalists adopted such concepts as “jihad,” “caliphate,” or “Islam.” In order to avoid dangerous cultural influences, they withdrew from the social mainstream and created sort of a counterculture. They mastered the rationalism and pragmatism controlling the modern world. Under the watchful eye of charismatic leaders they undertook the effort of improving the ideology which was the ruling force of their followers' lives. The extremists struggled with more and more sceptic attitude of the rest of the world to their faith. Finally the idea of restoring the lost holiness emerged.

Dr El Ghamari is a specialist in terrorism, cultural security, Islam, operations and operational techniques. She heads the Cultural Security Workshop at the Collegium Civitas Centre for Social and Economic Risk Research. Her research interests include issues related to the Arab-Muslim area, Islamic fundamentalism, threats to international security, terrorism, migration, intercultural communication and Arabic studies. She also specializes in the subject of crisis emergency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, NATO operations and the theory of military operations.

She teaches and cooperates with NATO's Civil-Military Cooperation Centre of Excellence (Enschede Holland), Frontex (Warsaw), the European Academy of Diplomacy, the Training Centre for the Needs of NATO Peacekeeping Forces, UNESCO, Intervention Groups of the Prison Guard, the Border Guard and the police. She has conducted classes for participants of Polish military contingents in the area of operations in Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya. She founded and manages the work of the El-Karama Foundation. Furthermore, she is a member of the Euro-Atlantic Association, the Association of Veterans of UN Peacekeeping Missions, the Polish Society for Security Sciences, the Polish Society for International Studies, the Polish-Albanian Society and the International Institute for Private, Commercial and Competition Law in Tirana. Magazine „e-terroryzm” and Security Review redaction member.

Author of publications on international security, interculturalism and Arab-Muslim, Dr El Ghamari's oeuvre includes *Cross-Culture Awareness in Crisis Response Operations* (2013), *Between Culture and Religion, Military Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan* (2015), *Cool Jihad* (2017), *Cultural Security in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan* (2017), and *The essence of conducting operations in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Cultural context* (2017).

More: <http://el-karama.pl/team/dr-magdalena-el-ghamari/>