



STRATEGIES XXI INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE - *“The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment”*

February 28th, 2024

This year’s edition of the International Scientific Conference *STRATEGIES XXI*, on the topic of the *“The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment”*, organized on **February 28, 2024**, by “Carol I” National Defence University (NDU), through the Centre for Defence and Security Strategic Studies (CDSSS), brought together in the Senate Hall participants from the national and international academic and research community, personalities with recognized expertise in the field of security, military personnel and specialists from the Defence Staff structures and institutions within the national defence, public order and national security system, members of the diplomatic community accredited in Bucharest, security and defence practitioners, MA and PhD candidates.



Photo: *Aspect of the International Scientific Conference*



The objective of the conference was to debate security and defence issues at national and regional level, in the context of the latest developments in the security environment, and to present and promote the results of scientific research in the field.

The conference was officially opened by Major General Eugen Mavriş, PhD, Commandant (Rector) of the “Carol I” National Defence University and Colonel Florian Cîrciumaru, PhD, Director of Centre for Defence and Security Strategic Studies, followed by keynote speakers, international and national experts in the field of security studies, who debated the issues of contemporary warfare and international security, as follows: Brigadier General Emilian Chirea, Deputy Military Representative to NATO and the EU, ROU; General (r) Virgil Bălăceanu, President of the Romanian Reserve Officers Association, ROU; Mr. Răzvan Buzatu, PhD, Chairman of the Research Task Group on Strategic Awareness of Energy Security within the NATO, ROU; Mr. Pavel Anastasov, Director of Operations Division, NATO HQ, BEL; Mr. Sven Gareis, PhD, Dean of the Führungsakademie der Bundeswehr, DEU; Asist. Professor Andreea Stoian, PhD, Director of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, USA; Mr. Andrzej Lis, PhD, Director of the Polish Armed Forces Doctrine and Training Centre, POL.



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We live in a dynamic world marked by a changing global environment, where the current security environment is characterised by attributes such as uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity and is the basis for the manifestation of today’s threats,



challenges and crises. An extremely complex case is the geopolitical situation on the Alliance eastern border, which has had a strong impact on the international security environment, generating a major conflict on Romania's border. These events show that a well-developed plan for ensuring global security is always needed, and good cooperation between states is a priority.

The conference was divided into three sections, the issues addressed being specific to the security and defence field, as follows:

- **Section 1: Contemporary Warfare and International Security**
- **Section 2: State and Nonstate Actors in Power Relations**
- **Section 3: Areas of Strategic Interest - Global Trends**

Within the sections, current issues in the security environment were debated, the main topics of interest covered issues such as the Russian-Ukrainian War and shaping future security policy, hybrid threats, concepts and theories on security and defence, tensions and crises in the Middle East, security trends in the Caucasus and Central Asia and last but not least, the impact of climate change on national security. The three sections comprised a total of 20 papers, 13 of which were presented by the authors during the conference.

The scientific event's main objectives were achieved by promoting a strategic and security culture, related to the new challenges, disseminating the latest research in the field of security and defence, developing national and international scientific cooperation and creating a framework for scientific dialogue in academia.

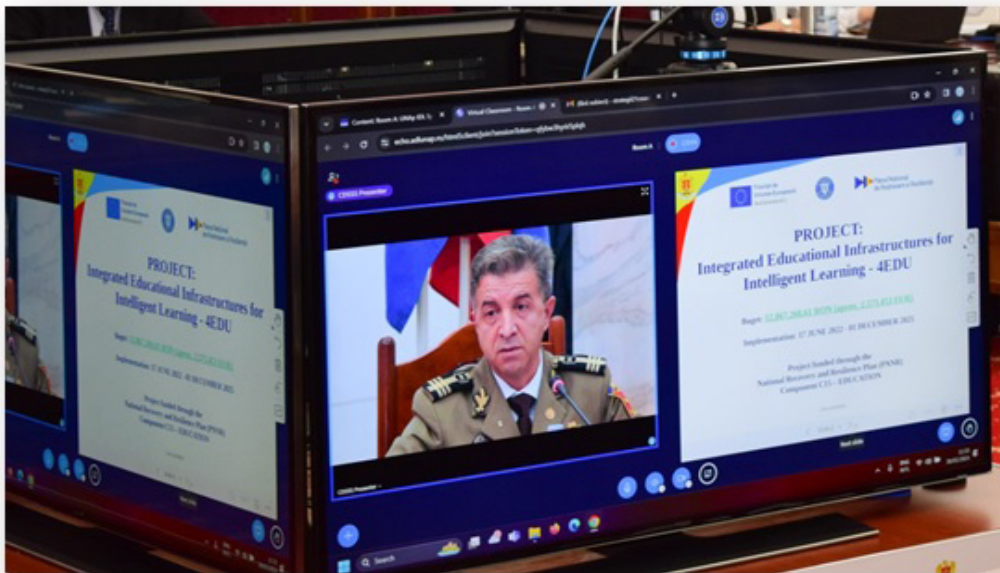


Photo: *Aspect of the International Scientific Conference*



The event created a framework in which the objectives of the 4EDU Reform/ Investment Project entitled “Integrated Educational Infrastructures for Smart Learning” were presented by the project manager Vice-Rector for Scientific Research and Interinstitutional Relations. The overall objective of the project is to transform “Carol I” NDU into a modern, flexible, environmentally friendly, nationally and Euro-Atlantic recognized educational institution, connected to the principles of digital education and meeting the demands of future generations of students. He also gave a lecture entitled “Digital Transformation. Challenges and Perspectives”, in which he highlighted the benefits of digitalisation in academia and the impact of these technologies.



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The conference was a landmark for the calendar of activities and scientific events of the Centre for Defence and Security Strategic Studies, offering, through the topics addressed, the scientific level of the debates and the diversity of participants, a high quality academic framework for debate.

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