

Bulletin of "Carol I" National Defence University. Celebrating 85 years of existence and certification in the Romanian military publishing landscape

While "Carol I" National Defence University is celebrating 133 years of existence, almost two thirds of it equal the age of the most important and long-lived cultural and scientific journal in the military field: **The Bulletin of "Carol I" National Defence University**.

The journal was first issued in the Romanian publishing landscape early 1937 under the name of *Buletinul Școalei Superioare de Războiu (The War School Bulletin)* and has since remained loyal to the values of the institution shown in the topic profile and evolution of the military institution, commanders and staff officers' theoretical and practical training on armed combat at various times throughout national and universal history, but especially shown in the notoriety of the officers and generals who have published in the pages of the magazine. Many of the authors ranked captain, major and colonel who signed for the Bulletin during its 85 year' issues became generals and great commanders in time, some of them – with a distinguished conduct on the Second World War battlefield. Others, equally important as contributors, brought their input to the enrichment of Romanian military theory and practice through their ideas and opinions published in the pages of the magazine, all under the aegis "**Labor improbus omnia vincit**" ("**Earnest work overcomes everything**").

Since the first issues, the Bulletin has promoted ideas and opinions necessary for the renewal and improvement of the Romanian military system in accordance with the changes in the organization and equipment of modern armies. Through its pages, these ideas reached the entire military system, as General Ilie Ștefleă, former professor and director of this prestigious institution of higher military education (1937-1939) stated in one of the editorials of the Bulletin: "In this way, the Higher War School considers that it is fulfilling one of its roles: that of disseminating tactical knowledge in the military". The Bulletin was also a sounding board, as it still is today, for the most interesting and heated debates in military theory and practice of the time. An example of this is issue 3-4 of the Bulletin in 1939 which was devoted to the theory of the role of movement in military art and strategy. Its Foreword stated that the Bulletin will be of interest both to the officers of the troops (the theoretical part in particular) and to those of the various commands".



These are just a few of the hundreds of examples in the Bulletin's early pages that show that this magazine, , has been a continuous spring for those who promoted the new and a beacon of knowledge for those who wanted to improve, allowing military leaders to develop intellectually to build an army performing its duty to the people when needed, throughout all its 85-year history, regardless of various title changes.

After the Second World War, the military and the Higher War College, as indeed the entire Romanian society, stepped into an era of unprecedented change that swept the Central and South-Eastern European world. The institution and its journal had to face these challenges for almost half a century. For a good part of the time during the communist regime, ideas and Soviet military doctrine theses were imposed on the Bulletin's pages, which influenced both the thinking and the training of the military. The editors and authors who signed articles and studies in the pages of the Bulletin, however, also experienced a time of emancipation from the Soviet tutelage and the magazine became a standard-bearer for the return to Romanian military traditions and thinking.

Everything changed with the fall of Nicolae Ceaușescu's regime in December 1989 and the beginning of the transition process in Romania towards a democratic society based on Euro-Atlantic values. The Bulletin became a forum for debate and analysis, for the design of a modern military, with structures and personnel capable of operating in the new post-Cold War security environment. Academics, researchers, doctoral and post-doctoral students, students, military and civilian personnel from defence, public order and national security institutions at home and abroad, have equally published articles in this publication. Through the quality of its studies, the journal has thus become a prestigious publication recognized in the field of "Military Sciences, Intelligence and Public Order" by the National Council for the Accreditation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates.

On the 85th anniversary of its existence we can say that the Bulletin of the National University of Defence "Carol I" is a journal always close to all that is new in the military thought and practice. It has been and continues to be a scientific publication in the spirit of the times. through the efforts of those who manage the publication of each issue and, last but not least, through the quality of each author present in its pages, a military journal we are truly proud of.

Happy anniversary in promoting the novelty for the Romanian military thinking and in stating the ideals of freedom, security and stability!

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