

PROBABLE POLICY SCENARIOS IN THE ROMANIAN RIVER-MARITIME AREA

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Likely strategic scenarios that may occur in river-maritime area of Romania are hypothetical situations and based on response options to a possible threat to national security interests.

Strategic scenarios are developed early in the planning process and are the cornerstone of contingency plans.

Strategic scenarios river-maritime area of Romania aims response options when producing asymmetric security crises, the hybrid nature of civil emergencies and activation of frozen conflicts in the area of strategic interest.

Keywords: asymmetric risks and threats; security crisis nature of civil emergencies; crisis hybrid security; contingency plans; armed conflict in national and multinational.

Romanian river-maritime area, circumscribing the eastern border of NATO and the EU, subject to all risks, threats and challenges conventional and unconventional, symmetric, asymmetric and irregular manifest in the current operating environment.

Therefore, we believe that in this space, complex and fluid occurs mainly hybrid risks and threats and frozen conflicts characterized by instability in Romania near the activation potential, terrorism, cross-border organized crime, cyber attacks, damage to critical infrastructure components and limitations determined by access to resources and the need to protect the environment.

Thus, we consider that the river-sea area of Romania is integrated security environment the wider Black Sea area, with branches to the Caspian Sea and Middle East, where the trend towards the reconfiguration of the architecture of power, competition between global actors and regional access to energy resources and control medium and long term.

We also consider that this area may be affected by the occurrence of natural disasters that can cause bouts of civil emergency nature, with implications for the population, material goods and the environment.

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The synthetic assessment of potential risks that may occur in river-maritime area determines the development of strategic scenarios contextualizing hypothetical options Romania as a member of NATO and EU by harmonizing plans for crisis intervention and institutional structures responsible optimization in order public safety and national defense.

Strategic possible scenarios considered in the river-sea area of Romania aims at the harmonization and optimization plans for managing crisis intervention nature of civil emergencies, optimization of power structures involved in crisis prevention and management of security, development options for the establishment, organization and of police action destined to participate in managing conflicts in national or multinational.

Harmonization and optimization plans for managing crisis intervention nature of civil emergencies

We believe that such a strategic scenario with a high probability to occur in the river-sea of Romania is based on the occurrence of natural disasters or major ecological catastrophe, with trans-boundary effects and serious consequences on the environment.

If other types of scenarios make riparian states in the position of opponents, this scenario puts the position of allies. Global climate change causes the frequency of extreme hydro-meteorological phenomena and their amplitude is becoming larger.

The river-maritime Danube area is flood exposed. High levels of the Danube during freezing, with ice floes leakage can have devastating effects on communities, people and the local ecosystem as a whole.

Development of industrial activities upstream can cause at anytime massive pollution of the Danube waters, with catastrophic effects.

The existence of oil terminals in the Maritime Danube ports that can trigger terrorist attacks on them may cause catastrophic pollution, with direct effect on the Danube Delta. From this perspective, Romania, Moldova and Ukraine must improve their internal mechanisms and procedures for cross-border response.

Producing such a situation can affect analyzed area, and its population, flora and fauna with very complex consequences.

Such a scenario approach is based on detailed knowledge of the technological risk sources of river-maritime space and on identified potential accidents that may occur on the water by the discharge of chemicals and petroleum.

The forecast of the likely effects produced in such situations is carried out by structures with responsibilities in civil emergencies at central and county level, and conclusions are embodied in the contingency plans drawn up for this purpose.

We appreciate that the possibilities for occurrence of crisis of civil emergency nature in river-maritime area of Romania are the following:

a. *in the category of natural risks* we include the possibility of dangerous phenomena such as floods and freezing on the Danube or its arms, with complex effects on the population, infrastructure assets, goods and space environment analysis and on cross-border area;

b. *in the category of technological risks* we include those associated with industrial activities that may come from possible accidents at nuclear power plant in Cernavodă, in facilities that have toxic industrial chemicals and during transport on land or water of dangerous materials, with medium and long -term consequences on the population and environment;

c. *in the category of technological risks* we include those *generating ecological crisis* by massive dumping petroleum products into the Danube, its arms and into Danube Delta or by the damaging activities at oil terminals in the ports of the Maritime Danube;

d. *in the category of biological risks* we include the possibility of epidemics, epizootics, zoo noses and pandemics in the river-maritime area, with negative consequences on the population, animals and plants.

Certainly, the effects of these risks are complex and their consequences are long-term manifested and include the entire internal and cross-border area of the river-maritime area of Romania. If we extend the analysis of the consequences that may occur, we see that, in addition to large scale effects, the Romanian interests in this area can be affected.

A cross analysis of these elements lead us to affirm that it requires the creation and operation of an integrated system to promote and protect the security interests of Romania, composed of modular, flexible and interoperable institutional structures able to perform the full range of missions to limit, ameliorate and eliminate the effects of these types of crises, protect and defend the political, economic and national security interests.

In this situation, we consider that it necessary to activate and intervene in the first phase of emergency with management module designed to work with structures set into action plans. In the second phase, structures assigned to restrict and eliminate environmental effects are acting and then their intervention will trigger the rehabilitation of the affected zones, restoring the infrastructure and the reply of the social and economic activities.

Optimization of the power structures involved in crisis prevention and management of security crisis

Security crises differ according to their characteristics and areas of endeavor. This category includes interstate and intrastate asymmetric crises that may affect national security interests in river-maritime area by:

- increasing crime by a high occurrence of violence that outnumbers normal specific situations;
- moving large groups of people from areas affected by the crisis to the unaffected or backwards to avoid or support actions turbulent elements;
- outbreaking of local or generalized movements being them of various shades and difficult to solve, which degenerate into breaches of the law rules actions and jeopardize the constitutional order and internal stability;
- increasing legal and illegal border cross passing in both directions, but especially to the interior;
- increasing of the tourist number and abroad journalists presents into the country;
- increasing tendency to purchase weapons, ammo and explosives by social groups, and deploying actions by aiming warehouses or military units;
- intensificating member's activities from diplomatic missions, to gather information.

In this context, we appreciate that the fact like in the Romanian river-maritime area an eventual security asymmetric crisis could be:

- intrastate, being characterized by the existence of differences, challenges or even threats to the Romanian security interests by a coastal state;
- interstate, when events behavior into different fields of activities have an adverse effect and with a major impact on the deployed activities in the river system;
- hybrid, by political, economically or social content, and threw its behavior, intrastate or interstate, the impact on Romanian security interests being complex.

In this context, we appreciate that the fact that the Romanian river-sea area could run a script aimed at the development of asymmetric actions by terrorist groups or cross-border organized crime could be manifested by:

- a) insurgent actions with clearly defined purposes and objectives;
- b) terrorist actions aiming harbors, infrastructure assets, ships and other interest targets in the area;
- c) illegal cross-border organized crime, smuggling, economic evasion, cyber attacks, etc, actions.
- d) piracy into the area of interest;
- e) aimed actions at destabilizing public nuisance;
- f) subversive actions with local or cross-border character.

Intervention of promoting and defending integrated components system of Romanian security interests aim at:

- a) counterinsurgency;
- b) terrorism/counterterrorism;

- c) border organized crime prevention;
- d) counter-rebels (for public nuisance);
- e) combat subversive activities.

Watching the multitude of forces and means involved into the prevention and countering asymmetric actions, we believe that they fall under the following stages:

Stage I - Operative-intelligence actions, aimed at gathering information, analyzing and disseminating information needed for efficient management structures into decision making process.

Stage II - Counter criminality/counterterrorism/anti-subversive actions, which involve preparing and deploying by measures of non-military activities and stopping/reducing action of potential asymmetric terrorist groups/criminal or subversive nature. This activity is included into potential risk areas, in addition to the defensive structures and specialized training for intervention.

Stage III - Counter criminality/counterterrorism/counter subversive actions, which are activities and offensive measures for deterring or reducing actionable potential terrorist groups/ criminal or subversive in nature. In this case, the specialized structures act by rules and military procedures in order to dismantle military adversary networks and protect people, material properties and their harbor infrastructure. In this stage, counter cyber actions aim at protecting own computer networks, by identifying and punishing hackers and by other specific safeguards.

Stage IV - Return to normality by removing the effects of asymmetric actions on short, medium and long term.

3. Develop options for the establishment, organization and actions of forces designed to participate in managing conflicts in national or multinational context.

We appreciate that this type of scenario has a low degree of probability, based on the principle use of policy instruments, diplomatic, economic and information to promote, protect and defend the security interests of Romania. Use of force is the last option of the military instrument, used to protect and defend the security interests of Romania, only if other options fail.

In this situation, we believe that participation in conflict resolution in river-maritime area may take place in Romania in the context of:

- National defense;
- Collective defense.

National defense concerns military instruments of power in space under assault for rejecting potential enemy, interdict conquest of strategic interest's area providing necessary conditions for NATO intervention.

Collective defense requires the deployment of a multinational operation in the area subjected to aggression to protect and defend the security of the State and therefore NATO.

In this context, we appreciate that in case of conflict, the potential enemy may perform the following actions:

- a) cyber attacks and the wave spectrum electromagnets disruption to friendly forces command and control system;
- b) air offensive on the directions of interest for hitting opponent and neutralize political goals, economic, military and critical infrastructure, artwork etc.;
- c) Air-land-naval offensive on a collision course to achieve goals in a short time.

Initially, the answer of friendly forces from a potential enemy action will focus on planning; organizing, coordinating and conducting joint operation in the Joint Operations Area, in national defense context, and then multinational operation will be performed in the collective defense context, with the participation and action management structures designed at NATO level.

In conclusion, although we consider that the strategic scenarios analyzed are possible, we believe that the highest probability are asymmetric attacks based on asymmetric scenarios and civil emergencies or the hybrid nature and that of lower probability are those regarding management of active conflicts in river-maritime area of Romania.

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