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Abstract

GLOBAL COALITION AGAINST DAESH IN FIGHTING ISLAMIC TERRORISM

Citing from the UN Resolution 2170 from 2014 which states that “terrorism in all forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security”¹, there is no doubt that the topic of islamic terrorism is worth deep and reliable research. Taking into account fact that nowadays, one of the most serious terrorist threats, not only in the Middle East region, but also here in Europe, seems to be the islamic terrorist group DAESH, known also as Islamic State, the author in her PhD thesis (titled Global Coalition Against DAESH in Fighting Islamic Terrorism) decided to study the functioning of the Global Coalition. Although accessible online sources (such as government websites) and written sources such as reports, analysis, or articles indicate obstacles and challenges on the way to fight islamic terrorism more effectively, the author underlines the lack of consistent and comprehensive study, which, first of all, consolidates the opinions of civilians and military from different countries and institutions, and secondly, proposes a conception to improve Coalition’s actions. What is more, freshness and currency of the subject matter is an obvious reason of the constant shortage of reliable sources analysing the functioning of the Global Coalition.

The main aim of author’s PhD research is to diagnose the Global Coalition – its structure, way of functioning, strategy for the future and possibly to submit a conception of actions directed at improving the effectiveness of the Coalition. In order to achieve the ultimate aim, the author is going to tackle the following problems: (1) What are the obstacles

¹ United Nations Security Council, Security Council Resolutions, <https://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/2014.shtml> [dostęp 04.06.2018].

met by the Coalition in achieving its goals?, (2) What are the good examples of different international coalitions whose actions were considered effective?, (3) Which theories concerning functioning of international organizations and entities might be used to enhance Global Coalition's effectiveness?, (4) What changes in strategy and structure might be done to improve its fighting islamic terrorism?

In order to achieve the most practical and international meaning of the final conception of her PhD research, the author is going to make research in the form of in-depth interviews with Polish and international community from the military and civilian branch. Namely, the institutions and units the author will be conducting her research in are:

- Polish Special Forces unit actively in Operation Inherent Resolve by the Global Coalition Against DAESH (the author has already made some initial research in the unit in form of several interviews)
- Armed Forces Operational Command
- Ministry of National Defence
- NATO Centre of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism in Ankara
- EU Coordinator for Terrorism in Brussels (the author has got an initial agreement for the research there)
- Institute of World Politics in Washington (the author has got an agreement to go and make research there)
- Middle East Institute in Washington
- Center for Strategic & International Studies in Washington
- US Army War College (the author has got an agreement to make research there and stays in contact with Prof. Antulio Echevarria

As far as the main hypothesis, bearing in mind asymmetric nature of the conflict, with the Global Coalition on the one side and DAESH on the other, the author assumes that one of the ways to improve the Coalition's functioning is changing its strategic and structure to some extent. Moreover, the next way might be some changes in the International Law of Armed Conflicts, which in that case, applies only to one side of the conflict. Finally, the author assumes that comparing opinions of such different communities (European, American, military, civilian, soldiers, commanders, academics, authors) on the Global Coalition Against

DAESH may result in interesting and surprising conclusions and solutions in fight against islamic terrorism.

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