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### **Book Review**

**Sociologia terorismului – author Maria  
Cristina Aboboaie, Lumen Publishing  
House, 2014**

*Roxana NECULA*

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## Book Review

**Sociologia terorismului – author Maria Cristina  
Aboboaie, Lumen Publishing House, 2014**

**Roxana NECULA<sup>1</sup>**

### **Abstract**

*The current review aims to make a short overview of the aspects that we considered as being representative for Maria Cristina Aboboaie's approach when she tackled the international terrorism research topic, and the delimitation of certain defining aspects of the sociology of terrorism.*

### **Keywords:**

*Sociology of terrorism, Islamism, international terrorism, Maria Cristina Aboboaie.*

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### **Introduction**

By overcoming the culturalist approaches, the volume „Sociology of the terrorism” aimed to carry out an objective, comprehensive and clear research regarding the manifestation of international terrorism. The challenge the author chose to take is greater as the approached phenomenon is not sufficiently debated and studied in Romanian specific literature, which is why we can consider her initiative a real effort of synthesis, analysis, debate and even proposal of solutions from a sociological perspective in order to improve national efforts of fighting against international terrorism.

### **Particularities of terrorism from a sociological perspective**

This volume is based on the distinction between the internal and international terrorism, the latter concept being defined by the author through the actions of the subnational groups to include multiple nationality militants that act simultaneously in many states, the main form of manifesting international terrorism approached by the author being islamic terrorism.

The volume abounds in conceptual delimitations, clarification and terrorism originating, with accent on the particularities of Islamic terrorism. We have noticed that the chapter „International terrorism: history, evolution, social manifestation” offers definitions on terrorism in the international and scientific community, but also debates from the originar point of view of the international terrorism, as well as its evolution. The origins of international terrorism and the modern terror cover a significant space in the economy of the chapter.

Terrorism is regarded from two perspectives: the first one, of the threat it represents for the western world, and the second one, the martiric perspective the terrorist, and in particular the islamic ones, assign themselves.

By rejecting alterity, the fundamentalist religious factor prevents the individual from having a tolerant perspective on other people from the same cultural space. Globalization represents a cultural invasion that destructures the symbolic forms of the patriarchal world, where the islamic believer is originated.

Regarded as a degradation of the muslim world, the western cultural domination justifies, in the eyes of the extreme islamic groups advocates, the armed battle as a way of acknowledging the values of

sacrifice. The heroic nature of sacrifice is being amplified by rituals and ceremonies, among which the video recording of the suicidal bomber's last wish, but also the video recordings of public executions of persons considered symbol of the western imperialism. The Islamic version of the martyrdom cult is originated in the belief of the individual that this gesture glorifies himself and the cause he fights for by participating in the violent version of Jihad, which is the sacred war.

It is usually discussed the suicidal version of terrorism acts, where the bombers give their lives for the Islamic cause.

The author makes an interesting overview of the situation of terrorism in Romania, as a sociological research whose objectives targeted:

- Identifying of the experts, academic teachers and parliamentarians' perception on the factors that lead to international terrorism.
- The sociological research of the way in which the radical, incorrect interpretation of the religious writing stimulates violence and international terrorism.
- Investigating the resources that underly the Islamic threats in Romania, based on the perception of the interviewed.
- Identifying the types of activities developed by the Islamic groups in Romania, in the opinion of the participants in the sociological research.
- Establishing the institutional mechanisms of preventing and combating terrorism.
- Identifying the extent to which the current strategies take the best practice models or develop new models of counteracting international terrorism.
- Researching the way in which the responsible institutions are preoccupied by the development and advertising of the „security culture”.
- Analysing the real situation regarding the extent to which institutions and society are prepared to face international terrorism. (Abobaie, 2014, p. 235).

The qualitative methodology consists of interviews with experts in counter-terrorism, law, military and sociology teachers in higher education, and politicians.

The paper proves to be an excellent piece of knowledge on the social-legal reality of the counter-terrorism measures that apply in Romania, and the active implication of the Romanian Information Service, the Romanian Police and the Prosecution, as well as the political factor.

### References

Aboboaie, M. C. (2014). *Sociologia terorismului*. Iași: Lumen Publishing House.