

Bucharest, October 14, 2015, National Military Center, Stefan cel Mare Hall

“The Hybrid War. The Cyber Threat”

– Debate organized by the New Strategy Center–

The security crisis in Ukraine has brought again into the spotlight the **hybrid war** and its many types and forms: political and economic pressures, new forms of military actions, information warfare and cyberattacks. The hybrid war is an informal interstate conflict, incorporating the conventional and unconventional capabilities, military and non-military tactics, as well as terrorist attacks, while the aggressor is seeking to exploit his enemy’s vulnerabilities, like the ethnic tensions, the institutional corruption, the economic instability or the lack of cybersecurity culture.

New Strategy Center launches a series of debates focused on the hybrid war, which will provide its invitees with the experience and the institutional expertise of distinguished personalities from Romania and from abroad regarding the features of the new type of confrontation and the ways to withstand it.

In recent years, people have become increasingly aware of the serious threat posed by the cyberattacks. In a globalized and heavily dependent on the electronic communications world, states have become increasingly vulnerable on the cyber front, especially since some terrorist or organized crime groups have developed offensive capabilities in this area. Given that the cyberattacks are likely to record an upward trend in the coming years, many Western countries have significantly enhanced the capabilities of cyber defense in order to prevent and effectively combat the aggressive actions in the virtual environment against the state critical infrastructure, communication systems, governmental bodies, and their own citizens.

One of Romania's national security objectives is the strengthening of the security and protection in the cyber field, by providing mechanisms of preventing and countering the cyberattacks against the information infrastructure of strategic interest, as stated in the Romanian National Defence Strategy 2015-2019.

Through the debates that New Strategy Center has initiated, it aims to provide a platform for dialogue between the institutions with responsibilities in the area of cyber security, specialized companies and experts from the academic environment, as well as to answer a series of questions about efficient means of preventing and combating cybercrime, the legislation on critical infrastructures protection, ways of communication and cooperation with the private sector, Romania's capabilities and its role in the transatlantic cyber space.