



## AGENDA

# INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP “HYBRID WARFARE AND DISINFORMATION – THE NEW (OLD) THREATS TO EUROPE”

- Date:** 22 May 2018
- Place:** Representation of the EU Commission in Bulgaria  
(124 Rakovski Street, Sofia 1000)
- Organisation:** Yordan Bozhilov, President of Sofia Security Forum  
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- Languages:** Bulgarian, English

Many European countries experience negative impact on their societies and governments from the disinformation campaigns and hybrid warfare which pose at risks their democracies. It is proved that Russia uses all means to influence the public opinion but also decision-making process in many countries, intervening in some cases in the election processes. EU and NATO established already special cells to deal with the Hybrid risks but the main responsibility to cope with these risks and threats lies upon the individual countries.

The main purpose of the Workshop is to analyze the nature of the hybrid risks and disinformation to the democratic societies and to discuss different counter-measures at a national but also at European level.

**Tuesday, 22 May 2018**

- 13.30 – 14.00      **Registration and coffee**
- 14.00 – 14.15      **Opening**

14.15 – 15.45

**„Hybrid warfare and disinformation –  
the new (old) threats to Europe“**

**Mykola Bielieskov**, Deputy Director of the Institute of World Policy,  
Ukraine

**Henry Collis**, Deputy Director for Security and Defence Projects in the  
Prime Minister's Office and Cabinet Office Communications Team, UK

**Hans-Wilhelm Dünn**, Secretary General, German Cybersecurity Council,  
Germany

**Irina Nedeva**, Chairperson of the Association of the European  
Journalists, Bulgaria

**Martin Sokolov**, Center for National Security and Defense Research,  
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

**Moderator: Assoc prof. Mila Serafimova**, Sofia Security Forum

15.45 – 16.30

**Discussion**

16.30

**Closing the workshop**

**More about the speakers:**


**Irina Nedeva** is chairperson of the management board of the Association of European Journalists – Bulgaria (AEJ-Bulgaria) and Senior producer Current Affairs Channel Horizon BNR (Bulgarian National Public Radio).

She has an extensive experience as a radio and multimedia journalist (documentary features, screen-writing) with the National Bulgarian Radio, Channel Horizon and quite good international professional experience. Editor, anchor and presenter of the Morning prime time live talk-show on the Channel "Horizon" of the National Bulgarian Public Radio. Main issues - politics and culture, social and environmental issues, health, current affairs, international affairs, European integration, Human rights. She spent 7 years with the Public TV as presenter and short documentary maker.

Her work with the independent Center for culture and debate The Red house gave her a broader perspective of doing live debate events and talks with political actors, political analysts, civil society actors and widens the understanding and participation in the social and political reality.

**Hans-Wilhelm Dünn**, is currently General Secretary of the Cyber-Security Council of Germany and board member of BuCET Shared Services AG. Also he is member of the supervisory board of Klinikum Ernst von Bergmann gGmbH and of Lausitz Klinik Forst GmbH, as well as member of the advisory board of Luftschiffhafen Potsdam GmbH.

Studied Public Administration at the University of Potsdam. From 2007 to 2009 consultant to the Office of the Minister for Economic Affairs and Deputy Minister-President of the Federal State of Brandenburg. From 2010 to 2012 Managing Director of



Security and Safety Made in Brandenburg e.V. From 2009 to 2010 member of the supervisory board of Energie und Wasser Potsdam GmbH and from 2011 to 2014 member of the supervisory board of VIP Verkehrsbetrieb Potsdam GmbH. From 2012 to 2016 founding member and Vice President of the Cyber-Security Council Germany.

**Henry Collis** is Deputy Director for Security and Defence Projects in the Prime Minister's Office and Cabinet Office Communications Team. In this role he builds strategic communications capability, domestically and internationally, to help the UK and its allies achieve their national security objectives - including countering foreign interference.

As part of the Cabinet Office he has previously advised UK Government leadership on issues including defence reform, national security policy and anti-corruption; including conceiving, negotiating and delivering an International Sports Integrity Partnership for the Prime Minister's Anti-Corruption Summit in 2016.

Henry has extensive international experience including working alongside governments in Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia. Between 2010 and 2013 he was in Afghanistan advising NATO senior military leadership on counter propaganda and countering hostile foreign influence.

**Mykola Bielieskov** is Deputy Director of the Institute of World Policy. In 2016 he received a Master's degree in honors in the specialty «International Relations» at Institute of international relations at National Taras Shevchenko University. In the same year he began work at the Institute of World Politics. Author of research on Ukrainian-Japanese and Ukrainian-British relations, military assistance to Ukraine in conditions of Russian aggression, problems of neutrality. Field of study: foreign policy of the great powers, Ukrainian-American relations, military dimension of international relations.

**Martin Sokolov** is an expert at the Centre for National Security and Defence Research at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and a researcher at Sofia Security Forum. His work focuses on conventional and hybrid threats in the Balkan and Black Sea regions. Mr. Sokolov's research interests include European defence, countering-terrorism and radicalization, returning of foreign terrorist fighters to Europe, and developments in the Korean Peninsula. Martin Sokolov has published several articles and papers on these issues and is often invited as panellist to national and international conferences and round-tables. He is also frequently invited to discuss regional and international developments in Bulgarian media. Mr. Sokolov holds a BA in Politics and International



Relations from the University of Hull, the UK, and a MA in International Relations and International Organizations from the University of Groningen, the Netherlands.

**Mila Serafimova** is Coordinator of Media and Communication Program of Sofia Security Forum. Mila is Associate Professor at the National Defence Academy, Bulgaria, Psychology and Leadership Department. She was a reporter and an editor at daily newspapers from 1991 to 1998 and Public Affairs Officer at the Ministry of Defence from 1998 to 2009. She worked on the communication campaigns about Bulgaria's membership in NATO and the EU. She was a lecturer in Effective Communication at the NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany. Since 2010 till 2012 she was Director for PR at the Ministry of Defence.

Mila Serafimova studied Journalism at Sofia University, Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication, where she defended her doctoral degree in Media Management. She is graduated from the Defence Language Institute, San Antonio, USA and Defence Information School, George G. Meade Fort, USA. In 2004 she specialized in Leadership Programme of George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies.

Assoc. Prof. Mila Serafimova published the books Public Communication Foundations - Media Management, Phenomena Of The Political Communication in Bulgaria, Public Communication Technology, Public Communication Model In Security and Defence and has more than 30 publications in defence public communication.