

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: Potential and Resources of Media in Enhancing Information Security of Russia in Context of Armed Conflicts.

Author: Anna Akopyan.

Academic Adviser: Vartumyan A.A., Professor, Doctor of Political Science

Organization: Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University, School of International Relations, Chair of Conflictology, Public Relations and Journalism.

Relevance of the research issue explains the necessity of formation, development and strengthening the new Russian state considering geopolitical changes in the world

The issue of information security is reflected in the Doctrine of Information Security of the Russian Federation and the National Security Concept of the Russian Federation.

Political experts define information security as “the level of protection of society and state, and consequent sustainability of the main spheres of life in respect of the dangerous destabilizing detriment to national interests in the form of information influence including information input and output”.

Russia faces new challenges in information sphere both in the domestic and the foreign politics. For example, a number of attempts to oust Russia from the international information field.

Information security issues include the lack of clear and coherent national information policy.

But despite the importance of the above-mentioned problems, the issue of building an effective information security policy of Russia and defining the role of the media in the system remains poorly studied.

Relevance of the study is confirmed by the opinion of E.P. Prokhorov, mediatheorist: “General Theory of Journalism expands its subject by transferring such sphere of knowledge as information security from latent to explicit shape”.

The purpose of the study is to identify the main functions of the Russian media in the sphere of information security system, as well as indicating the special role of the media in the system.

Research objectives are as follows:

1. To clarify the concept of “information security” and to analyze the state of information security system in Russia.
2. To indicate national interests of the Russian Federation in the sphere of information.
3. To identify opportunities in the context of prevention of and confrontation with the media information security threats in the foreign and the domestic policies.
4. To study the information potential of Russia Today channel and its policy towards military conflicts.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research is that conclusions of the research provide a theoretical basis for further study of information security of the Russian Federation. In addition, at the end of the research we identified a number of problems in the system of information security that can and should be further studied. The research has obviously shown that the sphere of information security includes not only the technical side but also psychological one.

Research materials can be used in the educational process in the lecturing such subjects as Political Journalism and International Humanitarian Law and Media.

Results of the research:

The study formulated the definition of information security of the Russian Federation. In our point of view it is a state of protection of national interests in the information sphere being defined by a set of balanced interests of individuals, society and state.

In addition, the legal provision of information security of the Russian Federation should be based primarily on compliance principles of legality, balance of the interests of citizens, society and state in the information sphere.

During the research we also indicated some contradictions between the Information Security Doctrine and the Constitution of the Russian Federation. Therefore, we believe that the implementation of the state policy meant to ensure information security of the Russian Federation should include:

- Development and implementation of mechanisms for legal norms realization regulating relations in the sphere of information;
- Development and implementation of ways for increasing efficiency of media state management activities.

We believe that the media can have a significant effect on development of any conflicts and it can be both positive and negative. Side that the media choose in the armed conflict and how they present conflicts can influence on outcome of the conflict.

In the research we analyzed the content of RT channel and military conflicts presentation features. Our work shows that in the era when such major broadcasters like BBC and CNN dominate, Russia Today has managed to become a powerful alternative channel for Western audiences. RT skillfully fights the “hits” from foreign media using opinions and ideas of Western experts, such as former U.S. Ambassador to Moscow Jack Matlock, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

In addition, quantity content analysis indicated intensity of Ukrainian military conflict broadcasting. In the period from November 13, 2013 to June 18, 2014 Russia Today has published more than 2,600 information products.

The main provisions of this study have been presented within the Inter-University Scientific Conference “Young Science-2014”. A report was prepared on the theme “Media Component of Information War”. In addition, within the XXII youth international scientific and practical conference “Intellectual Potential of the XXI century: Level of Knowledge” (a collection of materials May 14, 2014) was published entitled “The Role and Importance of Media in the Context of Armed Conflicts”.

Recommendations.

This analysis of information policy of Russia Today channel when showing armed conflicts let formulate some recommendations to improve the editorial policy of the channel while broadcasting about armed conflicts:

1. To expand broadcasting territory using Arabic and Chinese versions.
2. Military experts should be involved in commenting current events for analytical filling the channel plus to in informative.
3. New technologies should be used to extend the target audience including additional information satellites.
4. To increase the number of domestic television operator teams that offer broadcasting of Russia Today in Russia.
5. To increase the number of urgent television teams for immediate response to events taking place.