ABSTRACT

Formulating a cognitive interest in national security requires a focus on military issues. It is at the heart of understanding and explaining security. But delineating an explanatory schema of military problematics presupposes the clarification of basic concepts that situate it. Such are the concepts of war, warfare and the military. Inevitably, they also require an explanation of functional dependencies and interrelationships between them and with other concepts. This means that the research approach to the problem posed will be structural-functional.

The objects of its consideration are war, warfare and the military.

The object of consideration are scientific approaches in the social sciences that conceptualize these social phenomena. In other words, how particular social sciences provide their explanatory framework for them.

The work is structured by design in three volumes.

This first volume is structured into an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, and references.

The proposed work aims to present possible sociological and political science approaches to conceptualizing war, warfare, and the military.

In Chapter One, "Clarifying Concepts. Theoretical and methodological formulations" the basic concepts underlying the object and subject of the study are discussed. The diverse understanding and definitional fixation of their meanings is provided. Thus, the initial theoretical clarity for the handling of these concepts is outlined in the search for a univocal understanding of their essences, contents and meanings.

Chapter Two, "A Sociological Approach to Conceptualizing War, Warfare, and the Military," offers a thesis through which to develop an account of a permissible sociological approach to explaining these three phenomena. This, in fact, represents a possible methodological perspective. The essence of the proposed sociological approach is the unfolding of an explanatory scheme through basic sociological categories. These are the basic construct of the author's theses. This methodological ground, however, is by no means the only one. In addition to the author's general military sociological and historical-military sociological approaches, sociology offers various other conceptualizations of war, warfare, and the military.

These sociological paradigms and theories emphasize their respective social dimensions and the ways in which they shape and are shaped by society.

Chapter Three, A Political Science Approach to Conceptualizing War, the Military, and the Army, outlines the author's proposed approach and approaches by other authors, and political science offers various other conceptualizations of war, the military, and the army. The author's approach starts from the nature of the political process and is based on a basic political science category, which is power and in its respective dimensions and the classical relation of politics to war. The category of "power" is also taken into account in the author's other approaches, for example, Huntington's concept of civil-military relations. Naturally, the political science research gaze is also placed on other perspectives of conceptualizing war, warfare and the military. In this line of thought, more basic political science methodological perspectives on these phenomena emerge. The political conceptualization of war, warfare, and the military focuses, as in our case, on their relationship to power, governance, and the state.

A second volume will be devoted to economic, (self-)military and psychological approaches to conceptualizing these phenomena.

The third volume will include cultural, historical and legal approaches to explaining war, warfare and the military.

The aim is - to make sense of key points related to the approaches of different social sciences to the description of war, warfare and the army. Giving an author's interpretation of them.

The work focuses on the theoretical aspects of social scientific approaches to war, warfare and the military. But here it is about society and politics. In their everyday life, they are filled with living life. Some of the theoretical propositions are therefore practice-oriented. Applied questions, examples and case studies are presented to seek answers in the practical field of public life and politics.

In this regard, the search for relevant answers, especially in the proposed case studies, aims to seek an adequate logical connection of the theoretical political science formulations with actual examples from reality as a configurative correlation between politics in general, geopolitics, foreign policy and war and as a feedback loop. Here, political axiomatics in the face of established laws in politics and war, proven regularities in their interaction should be applied with a view to analyzing the substantive logic and soundness of the methodological political

chain of actions of the respective state leaderships. Because both politics and war are pre-planned actions, subject to strict rationality, instrumentalized in complex calculations that make them possible. The issue with them is finding the appropriate political and military steps in the chain of action from goal to outcome. If the political and military leadership are aware of this, then their effectiveness as such will be there. If not, the achievability of their goals will be questionable. In the end, every politician and military officer is measured against the specific results of his policies and on the battlefield. In setting the case studies, there is clarity for:

- the complex nature of politics and war;

- the fact that politics and war have their public and non-public sides as planning and acting processes;

- the fact that the nature of the information sets handled by the political and military leadership, especially data from the intelligence communities, cannot be known in public;

- the fact that these case studies are fragments of a "larger game" with n-more factors and variables to be considered by policymakers, the military, and analysts;

- that, notwithstanding the above circumstances, knowledge or ignorance, compliance or non-compliance with the laws and regularities of politics and war are always distinctly visible and are indicative of the degree of preparation of politicians as statesmen and of military men as able military leaders.

Finally, the point of the chosen research approach is the understanding that theory would be worth nothing without its application in practice.