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## Information warfare as a new subject of philosophical inquiry

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### Abstract

XXI century is known as the age of information technology, the greatest discoveries and prospects. However, despite all the advantages and achievements, a number of social and political processes taking place in the modern world, influences on international processes. These problems include social conflicts, which use methods and technologies of the information war: its complexity can be explained by the lack of a common conceptual approach to study and reconciliation. Despite the active use of the concept of "information war", in philosophy this concept began to be used recently and it has not been studied from philosophical point of view yet. However, political, psychological, economic sciences are actively studying this concept.

*Keywords:* information war, information space, informative superiority;

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### 1. Introduction

Currently, issues of information warfare and information security are vital in international relations. In May 2011 the United States adopted the "International Strategy for Cyberspace," which declared that the information and national information infrastructure as a whole should be a strategic resource, however, it can be if in a polycentric system of international relations an active role in information warfare belongs to various non-state actors.

This idea is supported by the official statement said by a former president of the USA, Barack Obama: "Cyberespionage crime in information and communication networks have a growing trend. Therefore, cyber security is a key task of the country's national security in the XXI<sup>st</sup> century "[3].

Despite the fact that the concept of "information war" was firstly used only in the middle of 1980, its methods (psychological warfare, etc.) have been used since ancient times.

However, the concept definitions of "information" and "information space" are not given. In modern philosophy the concept of "information space" is widely spread, but the concept of "information warfare" is relatively new and is studied by political sciences very carefully.

The relevance of this topic is that "information war" in the modern world is a technology of war or competitive struggle. The main goal of it is the manipulation of public opinion using all methods that have constructive or destructive functions. It is also an integral part of the contemporary socio-political, economic relations, and without right understanding of its mechanisms, it is practically impossible to make an objective assessment of the existing social problems.

A main task of social philosophy is the study of the main social problems that affect the life quality of a man and society!

## **2. Main idea of work**

The philosophical approach to the study of using techniques of information warfare is to find the "root of the conflict" using all philosophical methods.

The study of this problem began with the study of such concepts as "information space". A. Toffler in one of his philosophical works, "Powershift", analyzes the problems of the society in the XX century, social conflicts and global challenges that humanity will face at the turn of the century. The American sociologist, Zbigniew Brzezinski wrote about "Technetronic Era", the French explorer, Jacques Ellul, described technological society, Daniel Bell, an American sociologist, writer, editor, and professor at Harvard University, used the concept of "post-industrial society."

Describing a new step of ethnic and geopolitical changes A. Toffler supposed that it was important to be adapted to rapid changes as quickly as possible. In his work "Powershift", he said that modern world is an information society with widely spread of PC, turbojet aircraft and flexible technologies. In the information society there are new types of family, work styles, life, new forms of politics, economics and consciousness. The symbols of this society are integrity, individuality and pure human technology [4]. A. Toffler, Yu. Habermas, F. Webster, H. McLuhan and others also studied the problems of "information space".

The definition of "information antagonism" that was firstly used by Zbigniew Brzezinski is actively used now. In his book "The Grand Chessboard" Z. Brzezinski noted the benefits of information warfare comparing it with shooting war against the Soviet Union.

Despite the active use of the concept of "information war", in philosophy this concept began to be used recently and it has not been studied from philosophical point of view yet. However, political, psychological, economic sciences are actively studying this concept.

The key researcher in the field of information warfare, AV Manoilo notes that modern wars are becoming more and more psychological, and remind a massive PR-campaign, and actual military operations don't play a leading role, they have only a limited in a military campaign [1].

The problem of information warfare in Russia is studied by A.V. Manoilo, N.N. Slyadneva, A.P. Kurilo, D.S. Cheredash, A.A. Streltsov, I.A. Sheremet, G.V. Vus, V.N. Tsygichko, I.I. Zawadzki, N.I. Zhiveynov, I.M. Dzyaloshinsky, I.A. Mihalchenko, S.P. Rastorguev, I.I. Bazhin and etc.

The concept "information war" officially appeared in the decision document of the secretary of defense of the USA in 1992. In 1996 Pentagon confirmed the doctrine of information war by the «Doctrines of struggle against control and management systems», and in 1998 the department of defense of the USA put the "Incorporated doctrine of informative operations" into force. According to the "Incorporated doctrine of informative operations", an information war is defined as a "military guidance for the exercise of authority by combatant commanders and other joint force commanders (JFCs) and prescribes joint doctrine for operations, education, and training. It provides military guidance for use by the Armed Forces in preparing their appropriate plans. It is not the intent of this publication to restrict the authority of the JFC from organizing the force and executing the mission in a manner the JFC deems most appropriate to ensure unity of effort in the accomplishment of the overall objective" [2].

In the Russian Federation scientists have been studying the technologies of this war actively for a few decades.

## **3. Conclusion**

Therefore, the concept of "Information war" is identified with such concepts as "manipulation", "psychological influence", "informative superiority" that play a leading role in modern journalism and news reports. The study of this war is very important, as the protection methods should be found.

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