

# Chapter 2

## Geopolitics, National, and Military Strategy

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### **ABSTRACT**

*For the realization of foreign policy, defense and national security priorities, each country needs to work out an appropriate National Security and Military Strategy. A National Security Strategy or Policy (NSS or NSP) is a key framework for a country to meet the basic needs and security concerns of citizens, and address external and internal threats to the country. Military strategy involves using military resources such as people, equipment, and information against the opponent's resources to gain supremacy or reduce the opponent's will to fight, developed through the precepts of military science.*

### **INTRODUCTION: THE ROLE OF STRATEGIES IN MODERN GEOPOLITICS**

Modern geopolitics, taking into account the colossal changes in the world, begins to take shape after the Second World War. But, despite these changes, both the classical and modern geopolitical paradigm necessarily included and includes *military strategy*. Military strategy is usually understood as the method and purpose of preparing and using armed forces in war. If military strategists — generals and admirals — are responsible for the methods, methods of training, and results of the combat use of troops and fleet forces, then the preparation for war of a nation, industry (including military), agriculture, infrastructure (means of communication, means of communication, etc.), the goals of the war are determined by the highest political leadership. Thus, military strategy is an integral part of politics in the same way that geostrategy is an element of geopolitics.

The geostrategy of modern developed countries is structured on three levels. The highest level of geostrategy is called *the national strategy* and includes all lower levels of strategy in certain areas and directions of the nation's development. It determines the goals of the development of the nation, ensures the effective use of spiritual and material resources, directs the nation to achieve national goals.

The second level of geostrategy is called *national security strategy*, which is sometimes replaced by the terms “grand strategy”, “defense strategy”, and “strategic doctrine”. The national security strategy

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includes strategies for those areas and areas that are extremely important for national security, that is, to ensure acceptable conditions for the formation and development of the nation. The national security strategy is usually formed in an official document, in Russia it is the National Security Concept (Rondeli, 2003).

The third level of geostrategy is *military strategy*, which coordinates only the military problems of national security: the development of the military industry and the provision of the Armed Forces with military equipment, weapons, communications equipment, ammunition, etc., the combat training of the military personnel themselves, the combat readiness and combat capability of the troops and fleet forces. Military strategy is usually formulated in *military doctrine* (Rondeli, 2003).

Military strategies have been around for a long time. At least, already in the policies of Ancient Greece there were elected state positions of archon and strategist, the first of which was interpreted as the position of the supreme ruler, and the second - as the position of the highest commander. Thus, it can be stated that the division of political activity into geostrategic and military-strategic occurred no later than the 5th century BC. BC e. (Chitadze, 2011).

However, it was also possible to combine these types of policies in the activities of one person. For example, Niccolo Machiavelli served as second secretary (internal affairs) and secretary of the Commission of Ten (military affairs) of the Florentine Republic. Therefore, he had to implement, in modern terms, both a national security strategy and a military strategy (and not only plan, but also lead the army). In other Italian republics and signories of the Renaissance, geostrategic tasks were decided by top politicians; for the implementation of purely military purposes, professional military men were invited – gonfaloniers (Mkurnalidze, Khamkhadze, 2002).

Up to the XX century. the prerogative to formulate the highest national and military goals belonged either to hereditary rulers (kings, emperors, caliphs, etc.), or to the highest political figures authorized to do this: presidents, chancellors, prime ministers, viziers, etc. Since the beginning of the 20th century the functions of drawing up strategic and military doctrines, and, consequently, of formulating the highest goals of the nation are gradually transferred to the apparatus that served the highest officials, i.e., to political scientists. The highest politicians of the state, as before, could formulate the strategic goals of the nation, but, receiving reports, certificates and doctrines in finished form, they preferred only to make the necessary changes to them. The formation of democracy contributed to the emergence of political analysts, who created political theories, concepts, strategies and offering them in a form of books, articles on the ideas markets.

## **Military Strategy**

Military strategy is a set of ideas implemented by military organizations to achieve desired strategic goals. The term “strategy”, derived from the Greek word “strategos”, first used in the 18th century, was considered in a narrow sense as “the art of the general” or “the art of disposition” of troops. and deals with the planning and conduct of campaigns, the movement and disposition of forces, and the deception of the enemy.

The father of modern Western strategic studies, Carl von Clausewitz (1780–1831), defined military strategy as “the use of battles to end the war.” B. H. Liddell Hart’s definition places less emphasis on combat, defining strategy as “the art of distributing and employing military means to achieve the goals of policy.” Consequently, both favored political goals over military goals (Chitadze, 2011).

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