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ELUCIDATION OF RUSSIAN ARMED AGGRESSION ON THE TERRITORY OF UKRAINE IN HISTORICAL ONLINE SOURCES

This article offers an analysis of elucidation in historical online sources involving the armed aggression of Russian Federation against Ukraine, which started from year 2014. A characteristic of the online historical sources as means of influence on the historical consciousness is given. A small comparison analysis was made on how exactly Russian and Ukrainian online sources like web-courses, 3-D tours, scientific websites, social networking sites, YouTube and the free Internet encyclopedia Wikipedia picture Anti-terrorist Operation and Joint Forces Operation.

Keywords: Historical online sources, Russian armed aggression against Ukraine, Historical consciousness, Anti-Terrorist Operation, Joint Forces Operation.

Description of the problem and its current research status. A big range of possibilities which are connected with help of modern online technologies causes a rapid grow in using online resources as matters of historical online sources of information. That being said, when doing the analysis of The World Wide Web as means of collection, systemizing and usage of historical information you have to acknowledge the fact that historical sources are often used as means of influence on conscious perception of reality of different target audiences. In other words, a certain factor is in effect – a usage of historical material as means of "soft force" element of the hybrid war – the "consciousness affection weapon". If consciousness affection weapon is a technology that allows you to affect one's consciousness *(Senchenko, 2014)*, then we can safely state that one of the most effective methods to use this weapon is a system that allows you to influence upon the historic consciousness. In case of analysis of the historical sources that describe the Russian armed aggression against

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Ukraine there is a certain paradox - a complex of all historical platforms that describe the said conflict are by themselves become the part of war.

In a timeline where IT technologies dominate the information in general a historian has to get a regular access to modern methods of receiving and analyzing historical information. One of said methods would be Internet which drastically changed how people communicate with each other. If you combine the traits of printed media (text, static imagery), radio (audio media), television (audio and video media), Internet forms a sort of monolith of all of those aspects combined – a multimedia, the new form of representing information as it is *(Nabytovych, 2012)*.

Usage of Internet in historical research increases the heuristic potential of said research, improves the possibility of analysis and publication of material and information that has to be public – thus making electronic storage of information game-changing. Thanks to the wide spread of Internet some special parts of historical discipline develop, such as electronic archeography and historical computer technologies, usage development of electronic versions of historical sources – not just text. Electronic archeography (publication of historical sources on electronic storages and ensuring possibility of remote access to it) would be a best concept to describe the need in modern technology to present source historical material to a certain public.

In our modern info sphere we only start to develop the process of building a source base and modernizing the modern information sources to be worthy of modern society, which means applying to corresponding queries of different type of users – including those that don't have much experience in operating modern IT technologies *(Kalinichenko, 2015)*

Russian armed aggression against Ukraine is a process that goes on in real-time and due to this the information changes. To be frank, the history of this event is still being written. On another side, the fact of our enemies using the history (including the anti-terrorist operation on East of Ukraine, Joint Forces Operation and other elements of armed aggression of Russia against Ukraine) as means of consciousness affection weapon, which was mentioned previously, doesn't leave us a luxury of waiting until the time this historical event finds its end and of the further analysis from the distance of historical study. To

effectively fend off the enemy's influence of one's consciousness actions must be taken as soon as possible and historical online sources must be taken as number one priority due to their priorities – simplicity of access, wide range of historical material and practical absence of territorial borders.

Goal of the article – a through-out analysis of public portray in historical online sources on Russian armed aggression against Ukraine and a comparison analysis of picturing facts and events by Russian and Ukrainian sides.

Sources of main material. Classification of historical online sources was constructed in A. Peleshchyshyn and T. Bilushchak *(Peleshchyshyn and Bilushchak, 2016:18)*. Classification consists of five types of historical online sources of information. First one consists of archive sources, library's and museum's resources which are rendered by respective owners and organizations and presented as Internet exhibitions or 3D tours. Second group is constructed of websites of Ukrainian scientific organizations. Third group is made of Internet sources that aren't connected particularly in their nature but by making a massive amount of information form a massive segment of virtual communities and social networks. Fourth group includes educative material on the Internet – web-encyclopedias and websites. Fifth group is formed of Internet journalism. A good example of an Internet exhibition is a 3D tour "Following the roads of Donbas" made by the museum of "The Civil endeavor of Dnipropetrovs'k in the events of anti-terroristic operation" funded by Dnipropetrovs'k's national historical museum of D.I.Yavornitsky *(Ways of Donbass, 2019)*.

In January 2016 the Dnipropetrovsk regional association of Anti-terroristic operation veterans initiated creation of a museum's of heroes of anti-terroristic operation. This initiative was supported by the local governmental administration with Valentine Rezinchenko. In March-May 2016 period according to the project generated by the builders under supervision of an artist V.M.Gukaylo main objects and equipment was built *(Kapustina, 2016)*.

On the other side in Russian Federation by National Bolshevik party "Other Russia" in 2015, St. Petersburg a similar museum appears called "Museum of New Russia". In 2017 this museum is closed then in the same year it resumes its work under a different name "Museum of Military Valor of Donbass". In this museum a different approach was taken – a certain clique of illegal armed groups

on occupied territories of Donetsk and Lugansk regions *(Museum of Military Valor of Donbass in St. Petersburg, 2017)*. A reason of this museum's existence is explained in Russian Mass Media, quoting: "Our own hybrid combat is going on for 3 years by our museum – we (referring to administration), the museum itself and its assistants. We do performances, hold discussions, poetic nights, film nights and delivery of humanitarian help. Well, there are those who don't understand our peaceful message. Those people are then referred to rather less talkative people in camouflage and Cross of St. Georgeon their chest – you can always shake their hands in a new museum" *(Erofeev, 2017)*.

Websites of most popular Ukrainian scientific organizations offer mostly books as sources of scientific material. For example, Mykhailo Grushevski Institute of Ukrainian Archeoragphy and Source studies recommends you use "Fraternal invasion" book – an analysis of Russian aggression against Ukraine from XII century to our time. It covers numerous Ukraine-Russia wars, including with the National war of Ukrainians for independency which started with invasion of Russian Armed Forces (RAF) in Ukraine at February 2014 *(Brekhunenko, Kovalchuk, Kovalchuk and Korniienko, 2016)*.

A huge stock of scientific material on Joint Forces Operations and Anti-terroristic operations is presented on the National Defense Universities of Ukraine (NDUU) website, for example. A white book of anti-terroristic operation on the Eastern part of Ukraine (2014-2016) is a good example too – it has a systematic chronology of events and a complex image of the role of defensive sector and defense of Ukraine, it's citizens in struggle against Russian aggression on the East of Ukraine in 2014-2016 and defense of the national integrity and independency of the country *(Rusnak, 2017)*. In the catalog of e-books of NDUU there are numerous historic graphical materials on the mentioned theme in different parts of it. There is an interview on research called "Unbreakable" by Valentina Rozumenko *(Rozumenko, 2016)*. In this work the events of anti-terroristic operation are preserved by their direct participants – the disabled veterans of anti-terroristic operations which paid the price for protection of the integrity and independency of Ukraine.

An attempt of systematization of events escalation in anti-terroristic operation is displayed by the work under the name of "Undeclared war. Unknown facts and chronicles of anti-terroristic operation." *(Kalynovska, Krishtopa, Nazarenko, Trohymchuk and Fedenko, 2015)*.

And on the Russian side websites and other instances offer different kind of literature which, as means of historical sources of

information, offer distorted image of the events, widely using different methods of manipulating one's perception. Let's take a rather similar book to one of Ukrainian historical source "Tragedy of south-eastern Ukraine. White book of crime" which contains accusations towards Ukrainian people with little to no confirmation and Ukraine as a country itself which are also generously stuffed with hypothetical sayings of political figures and untrustworthy description of witnesses *(Bastrykin, ed, 2015)*. As mean of realization of information warfare there are pseudoanalytical materials posted for the public attention in quite a large number. These materials usually focus on emotional connotations and primitive propagandist stamps. But even minding that you can conclusions out of these sources and they'd be rather important – in a work of Shuryhin V.V. "How is war done in Donbas" there is an interview of unidentified personalities which collaborate on the fact of ARF in Donbas, of course the interview is accompanied with propaganda *(Shuryhin, 2015)*. A similar example we find is work of B.Rozhyn "War in Ukraine. Day by day." *(Rozhyn, 2015)*.

A significant value as a modern type of historical sources nowadays present social networking sites which aren't just "collective propaganda agitator" tool but also in role of a brand new historical source. Thanks to the saturation of historical messages experts of different planes and including historians get access to not just fixation of the event but also collection and analysis of routine, memory, photo and video materials, stories, jokes, books and etc.. The value of social networking drastically increases and because of the full absence of epistolary historical sources.

Pages of social networking profiles and groups also open up a possibility of analysis, including networking connection, speed of information spreading, reaction to published information and many more, which makes feedback get on the level of classic communication.

Using this social networking cites make up for a rather unique and specific historical source, which unifies almost every type of previously known historical sources.

Profiles of social networking cites give us written sources, spoken sources, images, photo documents, video documents, audio documents, ethnographical sources and local folklore – almost everything besides material sources. With that in mind, not only does it provide written sources in numbers bigger than ever before – it also offers a wide variety of them, like cartographical sources (maps and plans), statistics, activity-based sources, bureaucratic, personal, artistic, scientific and historical sources *(Yurkova, 2015)*.

One of the most popular and most resourceful sources is social networking system called Facebook. Most valuable place judging by presence of historical resources on the matter is official page of the press center of Anti-Terroristic Operation (in future renamed to official page of the press center of Joint Forces Operation) *(Joint Forces Operation, 2019)*. In current time it is important to outline the fact of a certain tactic the enemy uses, fake historical pages, to be exact *(Gordonua.com, 2019)*. This tactic is used to avert the focus of a central auditory and further publication of needed content.

Most parts of Ukraine Armed Forces have their official Facebook pages which contain valuable historical sources, such as stories of the participants, photos, documents, etc. Very important role has an online project called "Book of memory to sacrifices for Ukraine" which is also publicized in social networking Facebook page. In this actively updated source they post the names and information about people who were killed in process off Anti-Terroristic Operation and Joint Forces Operation as heroes. Also they offer a chronology of most important events of said operations. Project was created with support of National military historical museum of Ukraine *(Memorial book to the fallen for Ukraine)*.

It is important to outline a rather effective method of mass communication such as video hosting, such as the most popular nowadays called "YouTube". In reality YouTube offers a sort of electronic encyclopedia presented in video form. Nowadays all mass media using Internet will be in some way presented on YouTube, would it be online television, or online press. Even most of literature novelties are presented on YouTube, mostly by their respective authors. YouTube is tightly connected to social networking too. Most pages on Facebook which contain information about Anti-Terroristic Operation and Joint Forces Operation have their own YouTube channels which are used to have video chronic of events, analytics, etc. Joint Forces Operation's press center can be used as an example *(Joint Forces Operation, 2019)*. Various analytic materials are widely present on YouTube about Anti-Terroristic Operation and Joint Forces Operations. For example, a documentary on a battle pass of participants of Anti-Terroristic Operations or/and Joint Forces Operations which is presented as series of analytical video materials "The Struggle for Ukraine" of television and radio studio Breeze *(Yurii Bieliakov. Path of the Warrior, 2018)*.

When analyzing electronic encyclopedias as historical online sources, it is most important to mention an example of Wikipedia. Nowadays,

most scientists are rather skeptical towards using it; its usage is limited in scientific communities and works. However, it's mostly used to search for information on the topic easily, so they just use the literature given on the topic in the end of the article.

And to mind that Ukrainians usually uses Wikipedia and mostly trusts the information publicized on it. The colossal popularity of Wikipedia as a source of information is caused by several reasons. High ratings in the search engines and open access to the articles, using Internet technologies 2.0 as means of generating content, user-friendly UI, navigation on categories, structuralism and logical placement of information *(Onysko and Shkodzinsky, 2012:298)*.

Everything mentioned previously makes Wikipedia a priority target as a tool for modern online hybrid wars. The structure of it is as simple as a construction work on a foreign playground, only difference in current case is that you want the work to be spray painted with your own opinion. As a result of this tactic the information spreads between a focus group (and in this case the focus group is marginally wider spread then it was ever before). Usage of Wikipedia as a platform for publication gives an opportunity to quickly track down hostile attempts of counter measuring the informative influence, using "War of Edits", and to neutralize them. Also this allows you to change the information if needed *(Khardel, 2019)*.

In Wikipedia there is also a chronic of Anti-Terroristic Operation and Joint Forces Operation in an article called "War in Eastern Ukraine". Article gives a detailed rundown on why the conflict started; the escalation of events; gives a detailed analysis on military strength of the sides; description of reaction in Ukraine, Russia and world overall; gives a score and classification of the conflict. The article is well detailed by photos, maps and has links to over then 200 sources. There are links for some other articles for each important part of the published material, for every element, personality and part of the article *(War in Eastern Ukraine, 2014)*. Mentioned article called "War in Eastern Ukraine" is a part of a cycle of articles called "Hybrid aggression against Ukraine".

On the other side, the Russian segment of Wikipedia has a similar article which has the same name but in Russian – "Armed Conflict in Eastern Ukraine". Mentioned article focuses on denying of involvement of Russian Federation in the conflict and exists as an attempt to make the conflict seem like a civil war *(Armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine, 2014)*. For example it ignores the fact of artillery strikes hitting the territory of Ukraine from the territory of Russian Federation, which has a detailed

analysis on an article in Ukrainian segment of Wikipedia *(Russian cross-border artillery shelling of Ukraine, 2014)* (note that the article is absent in Russian segment). Ukrainian segment also offers such an article as (*Russian Military Units which died during the Russian invasion of Ukraine (2014), 2014*) and *(Russian Military Units which are held captive due to Russia-Ukraine war (from 2014), 2014)* which are also absent in the Russian Wikipedia.

Internet versions of mass media widely illuminate the events of Anti Terroristic Operation (Joint Forces Operation). With this in mind, these articles have too little actual news covered. With an investigation made by Institute of Mass Media which shows that only 7-9% of Ukrainian Internet Mass Media covers the events on the east of Ukraine (every 12th article). None of the 11 popular Ukrainian internet mass media resources publish any investigations on their own on anti-terroristic operation. 100% of the articles were either copied from previous releases or unchecked information from the Internet.

Monitoring was held by experts from Institute of Mass Media with support of Internews Network 23-30 of July 2017. It investigated all news about Anti Terroristic Operation zone which were publicized during the week by 11 mass media online resources ("Ukrayinska Pravda";, "LIGA.net", "UNIAN";"Ukrinform", "Correspondent.net", "112.ua", "LB.ua", "Strana.ua", "Obozrevatel", "Censor.net" and "Vesti"). Generally it analyzes 548 articles *(Holub, 2017)*.

Conclusion. Internet sources are a very valuable resource base for a modern historian. The advantages of Internet sources include: easy access, wide amount of information, advanced search engines, possibility of feedback, analyzing of comments given by different researchers. Along with that you need to mind the fact of subjectivity of given information and the fact usage of historical information in hybrid war of Russian Federation with Ukraine.

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ВИСВІТЛЕННЯ РОСІЙСЬКОЇ ЗБРОЙНОЇ АГРЕСІЇ ПРОТИ УКРАЇНИ В ІСТОРИЧНИХ ОНЛАЙН-ДЖЕРЕЛАХ

У статті аналізується відображення в історичних онлайн-джерелах збройної агресії Російської Федерації проти України, що триває з 2014 року. Здійснена характеристика історичних онлайн-джерел у якості засобу впливу на історичну свідомість. Проведено короткий порівняльний аналіз відображення АТО та ООС у російських та українських онлайн-джерелах, зокрема веб-виставках, 3D-турах, сайтах наукових установ, соціальних мереж, відеохостингу YouTube, електронної багатомовної енциклопедії Вікіпедія.

Наведено приклади веб-виставок, 3D-турів, присвячених війні на Сході України: створеного на фондах музею «Громадянський подвиг Дніпропетровщини у подіях АТО» 3D-туру «Шляхами Донбасу» та створеного національ-більшовицькою партією «Інша Росія» у Санкт-Петербурзі «Музею військової доблесті Донбасу». Наводяться приклади книжкових онлайн-видань, що розміщені на сайтах провідних наукових установ.

Пропонується змістовний аналіз такого новітнього типу історичного джерела як соціальні мережі, зокрема такої популярної соціальної мережі, як Facebook. Підкреслено важливість таких джерел, як офіційної сторінки прес-центру АТО (у подальшому перейменована на офіційну сторінку прес-центру ООС), офіційних сторінок військових частин Збройних Сил України, а також сторінки онлайн-проекту «Книга пам'яті полеглих за Україну».

Розглянуто такий тип історичного онлайн-джерела, як відеохостинг YouTube, зокрема офіційні YouTube-канали, на яких розміщено відеоматеріали із хронікою бойових дій, аналітикою тощо. Аналізується Вікіпедія як приклад використання онлайн-енциклопедії у якості історичного джерела та одночасно інструменту інформаційної війни.

Ключові слова: Історичні онлайн-джерела, Російська збройна агресія проти України, історична свідомість, АТО, ООС.