NEWSLETTER ON
THE RESULTS
OF SCHOLARLY WORK

IN SOCIOLOGY, CRIMINOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
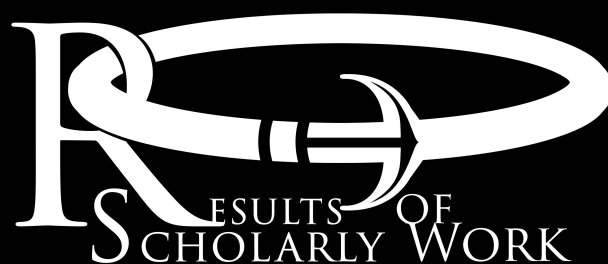
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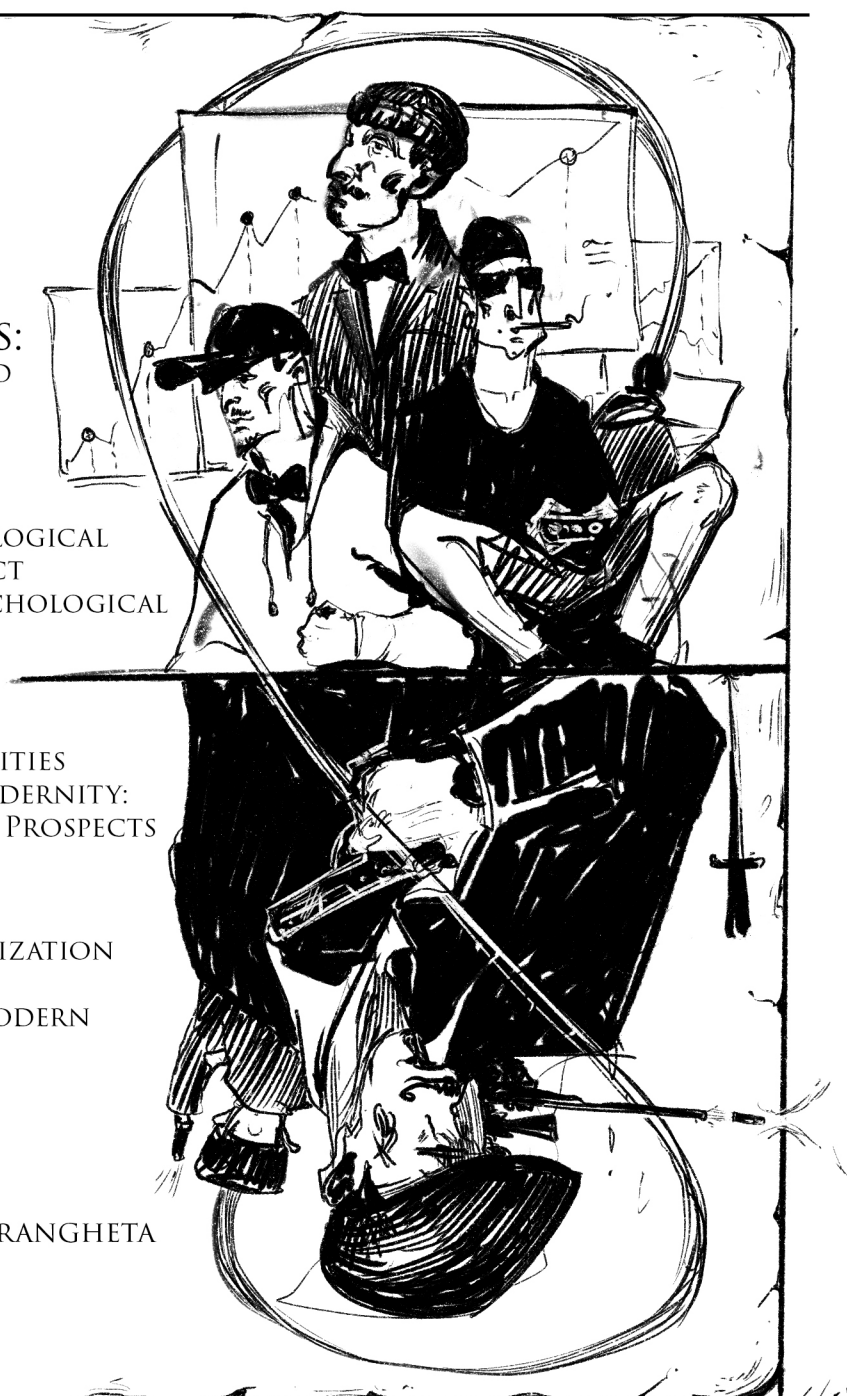# FATAL ATTEMPTS

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According to the "fate" concept, there are four crucial fate factors: name, time and date of birth, language (geographic factor), and fatal attempts. The discussion on fatal attempts revealed that individuals' destinies are influenced not only by their own choices (L. Szondi's concept) but also by the decisions made by others. For instance, a person may not choose a hired killer for themselves; competitors might make that choice. The decisions of these individuals (competitors) and the choice of the executor (killer) impact a person's fate without their awareness.

This issue of the Journal is dedicated to the topic of fatal attempts. It explores the genesis of security, the global concept of a "killer" across different territories (USA, Mexico, Russia, Italy, South Africa), geopolitical status and political crimes, the psychology of a significant criminal organization worldwide, and the four waves of AI development in modern society, among other things.

Editorial Board

CONTENTS

THE GENESIS
OF SECURITY

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ABSTRACT

In the 21st century, the concept of "security" predominantly revolves around global considerations. Mass media frequently discuss global threats to the planet, states, and societies, with individual security often taking a backseat. However, individuals are an integral part of society, and while living within the confines of a particular state, they possess the right to personal security encompassing their businesses, families, and homes. Contemporary notions of personal security are often constrained to the legal definitions of criminal offenses outlined in the state's penal code. But is this perspective sufficient? Can the state genuinely assure the safety of each individual? Is it equipped to guarantee security within the intricate fabric of today's global order, while respecting the tenets of personal freedom and limited intrusion into human life? This article offers a pragmatic exploration by the authors to address these inquiries.

Keywords
security, safety, global order, state, threats

INTRODUCTION

How does security manifest, and what prompts its relevance for an individual? At what juncture does this particular concept become pertinent to each person? Discerning these aspects is undeniably pertinent, impacting every individual. We are exposed to dangers in our daily lives, originating from myriad sources: natural calamities, impaired driving, or even a sidelong glance from someone deprived of their drug dose. Virtually any aspect of the world around us can pose threats to an individual. This problematic reflects the general discourse of current interdisciplinary research (Boustras & Waring, 2020; see also He et al., 2012; Hudson & Fraley, 2018; Nordfjærn & Rundmo,
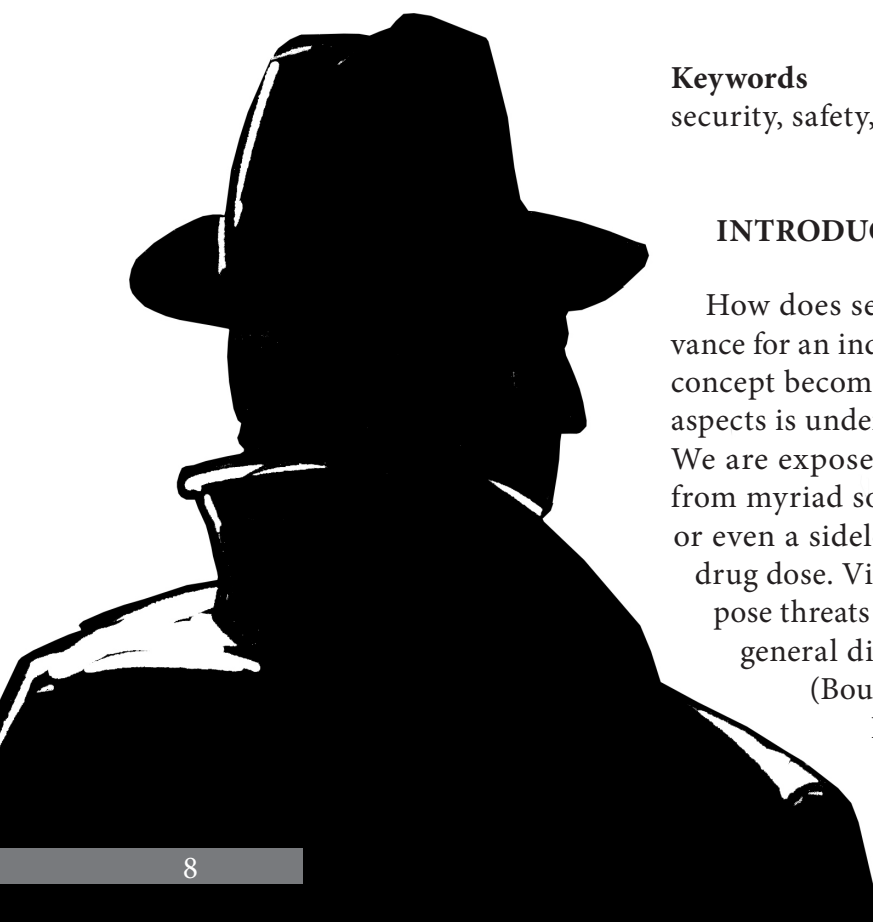
2018; Nunes-Vaz & Lord, 2014). Moreover, as digital technologies evolve, the number of risks associated with them is also increasing (Fielding, 2019; see also DeTardo-Bora & Bora, 2016; McBride, 2017; Scholz et al., 2020; Wojewidka, 2020).

Modern legal and philosophical doctrines assert the presence of the state as an institution for the cohesion of individuals, partly to ensure their safety. Governments often allocate substantial funds to defense budgets in the pursuit of "security." However, they tend to emphasize the security of the nation, society, or region, indirectly assuming that individual security is implicitly covered. Modern scholarship frequently delves into calculations and discussions of global threats, sometimes neglecting the individual, envisaging an automatic well-being for individuals when communal safety is assured. Nonetheless, the authors posit that this perspective deviates from reality. The jesting adage "Saving the drowning is the work of the drowning" holds true in this context as ever. The question arises: why does this discrepancy exist, and how can it be rectified? To grapple with this predicament, the authors have embarked on this study.

METHODOLOGY

This article employs primary methods of theoretical and conceptual analysis, focusing on the works of philosophers and sociologists. The primary methodology employed revolves around the philosophical framework of Jean Baudrillard (1993, 2016), facilitating a nuanced exploration of the concept of security in contemporary society. Jean Baudrillard, the last and most eminent mastermind of the twentieth century, emerges once in a hundred years, and today

such novelty is witnessed even more rarely. His works continue to be eagerly sought after his death, perhaps even more so. However, people started paying meticulous attention when the things he had written about became our reality; it was no longer amusing.

Baudrillard considered different pressing phenomena and introduced many concepts to describe today's world of hyperreality — among them the screen, seduction, simulacra and simulations, and the silent majority. He employed both qualitative and quantitative approaches, showing a preference for qualitative methods. To gain an in-depth understanding of Baudrillard's thoughts and scholarly methodology, it is essential to transition from construction to theory. He utilized specific measurements and models that could be geometrically represented on a board, serving as instruments for researching and analyzing the current state of affairs in various media. A comprehensive exploration of Baudrillard's works involves engaging with his instruments — the research toolkit of both a sociologist and a philosopher. Each tool demands comprehension and reflection.

The approach used for this article enables the identification of historical and cultural contexts associated with the concept of security. Social comparativism methods are applied to explore trends in social, political, and technological realms that influence the understanding and implementation of the security concept. Particular emphasis is placed on shifts in information technology and their implications for security. Generalization methods and the establishment of a unified conceptual framework, along with metatheoretical modeling techniques, are employed to analyze the dynamics of security in the contemporary world. This includes examining

the role of technology and factors related to social change that have the potential to impact security both at the individual and societal levels.

RESULTS

In his book "Symbolic Exchange and Death," Jean Baudrillard (1993) expounds upon the notion of security as a form of societal control and a means of exerting influence over life and its continuation. He remarks,

> Security is another form of social control, in the form of life blackmailed with the afterlife. It is universally present for us today, and 'security forces' range from life assurance and social security to the car seatbelt by way of the state security police force. 'Belt up' says an advertising slogan for seatbelts. Of course, security, like ecology, is an industrial business extending its cover up to the level of the species: a convertibility of accident, disease and pollution into capitalist surplus profit is operative everywhere. (p. 177)

He further asserts, "Security is the industrial prolongation of death, just as ecology is the industrial prolongation of pollution."

The concept of safety is proffered to us, its meanings curated through the "highlighting" of potential hazards. However, this highlighting is often directed by manufacturers and industries, catering to people's willingness to invest in protective measures. Such tactics absolve us of the responsibility to contemplate safety, as we have already been presented with predetermined answers to questions about the structure of the world. Yet, danger often emerges unexpectedly, defying the preconceived notions. The paramount inquiry into security today centers around the question: what is transpiring? This marks the starting point, but by the time it is posed, events are already in motion. Ideally, the question that should have been raised earlier is: what could potentially happen? This query stems from another contemplation: why has the need arisen to pose this question, or any question at all?

In the post-Soviet realm, the query "what is happening?" began to resonate among individuals immediately following the disintegration of the USSR in the 1990s. Prior to this juncture, the task of grappling with this inquiry was largely within the purview of specialized agencies and services. The advent of the "wild capitalism" era within the post-Soviet space granted individuals newfound freedom, yet concurrently introduced the necessity to self-reflect and ask such questions. For the average person today, security is encapsulated in a series of inquiries, reflecting the complexity and urgency of our modern existence.

When delving into the concept of the "genesis of security," we enter a realm of shifting concerns. Different eras have been marked by distinct prevailing issues, each possessing unique characteristics. For instance, the financial query of "Who?" emerges as a potent force. People seek to unravel the orchestrator behind events, grappling with a question that can profoundly affect their sanity. This question, "Who?" springs forth from the very essence of security. In the past, when something occurred, attribution was clear. However, contemporary technological advancements, particularly the global web, permit perpetrators to remain anonymous. In the aftermath of incidents, individuals yearn to uncover the identity behind the occurrence. They seek to ascertain accountability, responsibility, and culpability.

Today's dynamic revolves around events unfolding and subsequent inquiries into "Who?" This epitomizes the present state of the genesis of security. Several factors underlie this circumstance:

1. Formation of a Misconception: In the twentieth century, an "Amalgam" was established across the European Union for its inhabitants, fostering widespread belief and utilization (Maltsev, 2018). This Amalgam can be distilled into the equation: citizens pay taxes, authorities are obligated to safeguard them. Legally, this formulation is accurate, yet in practicality, it is untenable. For this concept to hold true, there would need to be three times as many law enforcement officers as citizens, considering the necessity for constant protection (with shifts every three days, weekends, etc.). This ratio is unattainable, leading to

the realization that no entity was ever genuinely committed to fulfilling these obligations. The role of the police is to uphold the law, not to shield individuals. Law enforcement responds after an incident, investigating crimes. Protection of the individual rests largely upon their own shoulders.

2. Dependence on Law Enforcement: Many still harbor the belief that aligning with law enforcement will assure their personal and business security. However, malevolent intentions can strike unexpectedly, evading both individuals and law enforcement. The assailant's blow may be swift and discrete, leaving the victim unaware of the perpetrator's identity. Consequently, there may be no time to summon "protectors," and even if attempted, their response time remains uncertain.

3. There is no term "security" in reality, there is a term "guarding"… Guarding team consists of individuals who adhere to strict structures and operate within legal frameworks. They are responsible for safeguarding individuals (bodyguards) or protecting enterprise assets (alarm systems, remote monitoring, security personnel). The purview of this guarding firms is confined by the law, which does not encompass provisions for broader aspects like ensuring the security of the business community. Consequently, guarding teams constitutes just a segment, an element of the larger concept of security. For instance, the Russian Federation's law of March 5, 1992, No. 2446-I, defined security as the state of safeguarding vital interests of individuals, society, and the state from both internal and external threats. Vital interests encompass a spectrum of needs whose fulfillment guarantees the sustenance and progressive advancement of the individual, society, and the state *(On Security, 1992)*.

The primary subjects of security encompass: the individual, their rights, and freedoms; society, its tangible and intangible assets; the state, its constitutional framework, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Although this law became obsolete, the new legislations that succeeded it refrained from furnishing similar definitions. The Law of Ukraine "On National Security" categorizes public security and order as the defense of the essential interests, rights, and freedoms of both society and the individual. This mandate is designated as a priority task for security forces, state bodies, local self-governance entities, their officials, and the public *(On the National Security of Ukraine, 2018)*. These entities collectively engage in coordinated efforts to realize and shield national interests against various threats.

Drawing insights from these instances, it is evident that the state predominantly prioritizes its own security over that of individual citizens. Examining the extensive bibliography in A. I. Doronin's book "Business Intelligence," with 222 cited sources of books alone, not to mention articles and publications, underscores the significant volume of material published between 1990 and 2000 (Doronin, 2009). Notably, the primary objective of information gathering is often to mount attacks, thereby creating danger. Industrial espionage as a method to establish and enhance businesses remains a widely practiced endeavor. However, a key distinction exists between planned and spontaneous dangers. Business operations inherently harbor dangers due to the competitive landscape they exist within. This sphere of activity encompasses both legitimate and illegitimate competition, spawning an array of potential hazards. The quest to undermine competitors is a common thread within this environment. Starting from 2004, this sector witnessed the infiltration of electronic means, spanning forums, social networks, media, and blogs. Novel strategies emerged to attain market dominance, ranging from direct actions like computer hacking to manipulating public perceptions of businesses by discrediting them in the marketplace.

This progression has led to the establishment of a multi-tiered security structure, from which diverse threats emanate. A case in point is A. Derevitsky's work "Commercial Intelligence," detailing 94 distinct methods of influencing individuals (Derevitsky, 2008). As emphasized earlier, contemporary security revolves around questions.

There is a formula: questions breed theories, and theories either answer questions or they do not. Consequently, a necessity emerges, and that necessity pertains to skill acquisition. Skill becomes necessary only when a question arises. With a question, a goal emerges — to learn a skill, whether it is
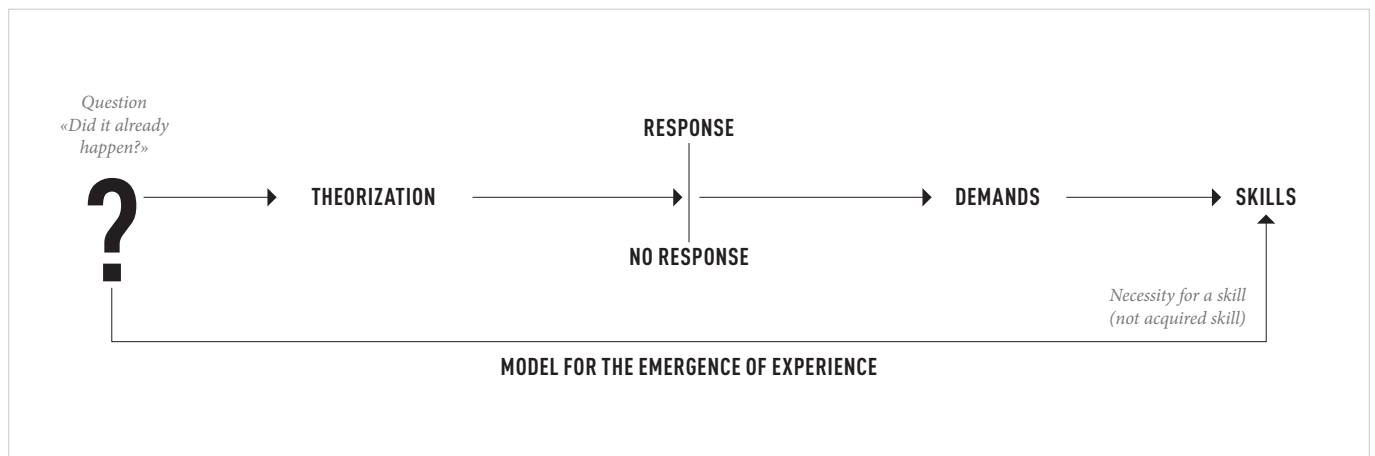
Figure 1. Model for the Emergence of Experience

self-defense, working with information, or something else. However, the need for skill manifests when the question already confronts an individual. This scenario necessitates skills to be acquired after the fact, as opposed to arising as inherent needs. To effect a more desirable state, skills should emerge prior to any occurrence, becoming ingrained needs for skills. In this manner, theorizing occurs before events unfold. This process constitutes the mechanism for forming experiences, with individuals effectively conducting experiments on themselves.

This model does not pertain solely to security but extends across all facets of human existence. It functions as a framework for shaping human experiences, often arising from challenging mistakes. Its endpoint remains uncertain, resembling a life-threatening lottery. It is an experience anchored in fate, a result of experiments conducted on oneself. To avoid this self-experimentation, the model necessitates alteration. For a person's questioning to transpire "before" events, prediction is essential; individuals must anticipate potential scenarios. This marks a shift towards predictive logic, where threats are foreseen.

Formerly, the security domain employed a threat scale, now supplanted by the "villains" scale. This scale of "villains" enables prediction. By gauging the time it takes for a "villain" to approach, individuals discern their time frame for acquiring essential skills. They understand the necessary skills to resist these "villains" (Maltsev, 2020).

DISCUSSION

Contemporary tendencies lean towards neglecting skill development, vividly portrayed by terrorist attacks in Europe (Bouchard, 2018; Estrada & Koutronas, 2016). It is pertinent to reflect on the remarks made by Joseph Linder, the President of the International Counterterrorism Training Association, in the preface of Jean Baudrillard's book "The Spirit of Terrorism." Linder asserts that terrorism has coexisted with civilization throughout its history and will only vanish when life itself ceases to exist on our planet. He highlights the human tendency to develop diverse theories to suit various time periods. In the swift current of 21st-century information dissemination, novel theories are essential for comprehension and application. The evolving political landscape, political system cynicism, and geopolitical strategies contribute to a harsher environment. This cruelty transforms with technological advancements, particularly in the domain of "information poisoning." Linder places special emphasis on the fact that a majority of individuals remain unaware of the myriad psychological techniques they encounter daily, inadvertently becoming participants in aggressive processes that are, in reality, inconsequential to them (Baudrillard, 2016).

The current state of affairs is exemplified by the lack of organizations ensuring the safety of departing aircraft from airfields. This instance highlights a lack of accountability or industry. It is a realm where actions are bound by law, but beyond that, there is a sense of "every man for himself".

The motto "Saving the drowning is a matter of the drowning themselves" encapsulates the security paradigm.

While the police are intended to prevent crime, the complexities of modern society make it improbable. Full police control often contradicts human rights doctrines, rendering a true prevention strategy difficult to implement. As such, the concept of individuals having to save themselves remains the norm.

The legal concept of "necessary defense" exists in many countries to guide individuals in the event of physical harm, yet there is a lack of clear regulations for cases involving business sabotage, unfair competition, or industrial espionage. Some argue for self-organization as a solution, circumventing the need for state intervention. However, state limitations on self-defense, such as gun ownership, remain substantial hurdles.

If "villains" exist in a city, they are likely to target businesses sooner or later, often hired to undermine competition. The modern world, especially in business, is rife with dangers. Every employee can potentially be a saboteur (Harris & Ogbonna, 2012). Small irregularities can accumulate, resulting in major problems analogous to airplane crashes. Investigating plane crashes often reveals a chain of minor violations culminating in disastrous consequences.

CONCLUSIONS

The modern world order and the simulation of social norms can create a deceptive sense of safety, leading individuals to believe in automatic protection. However, historical shifts, changing social norms, and the increasing complexity of electronic devices often reshape dangers into new forms or amplify existing ones. This highlights the importance of individuals acquiring the skills needed to ensure their own safety, as the current state doctrine may not be able to fully provide it.

By deriving a formula for shaping human experience and working with it, individuals can proactively identify potential dangers and take necessary precautions for their protection. This includes acquiring the essential skills needed to navigate through various risks and challenges that may arise. In a world where dangers are constantly evolving, self-awareness and preparedness become crucial for maintaining personal safety and security.

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THEY AND US:
PSYCHOLOGY OF 'NDRANGHETA MEMBERS

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ABSTRACT

The age-old operations of criminal organizations like 'Ndrangheta are progressively infiltrating global economic, political, financial, and societal structures. The worldwide reach of 'Ndrangheta across all facets of existence is deeply unsettling to those even marginally acquainted with its history and undertakings. 'Ndrangheta has been a subject of scholarly investigation for many years, frequently dominating headlines in prominent newspapers. Notwithstanding, 'Ndrangheta fundamentally embodies an exceptionally ancient and archaic
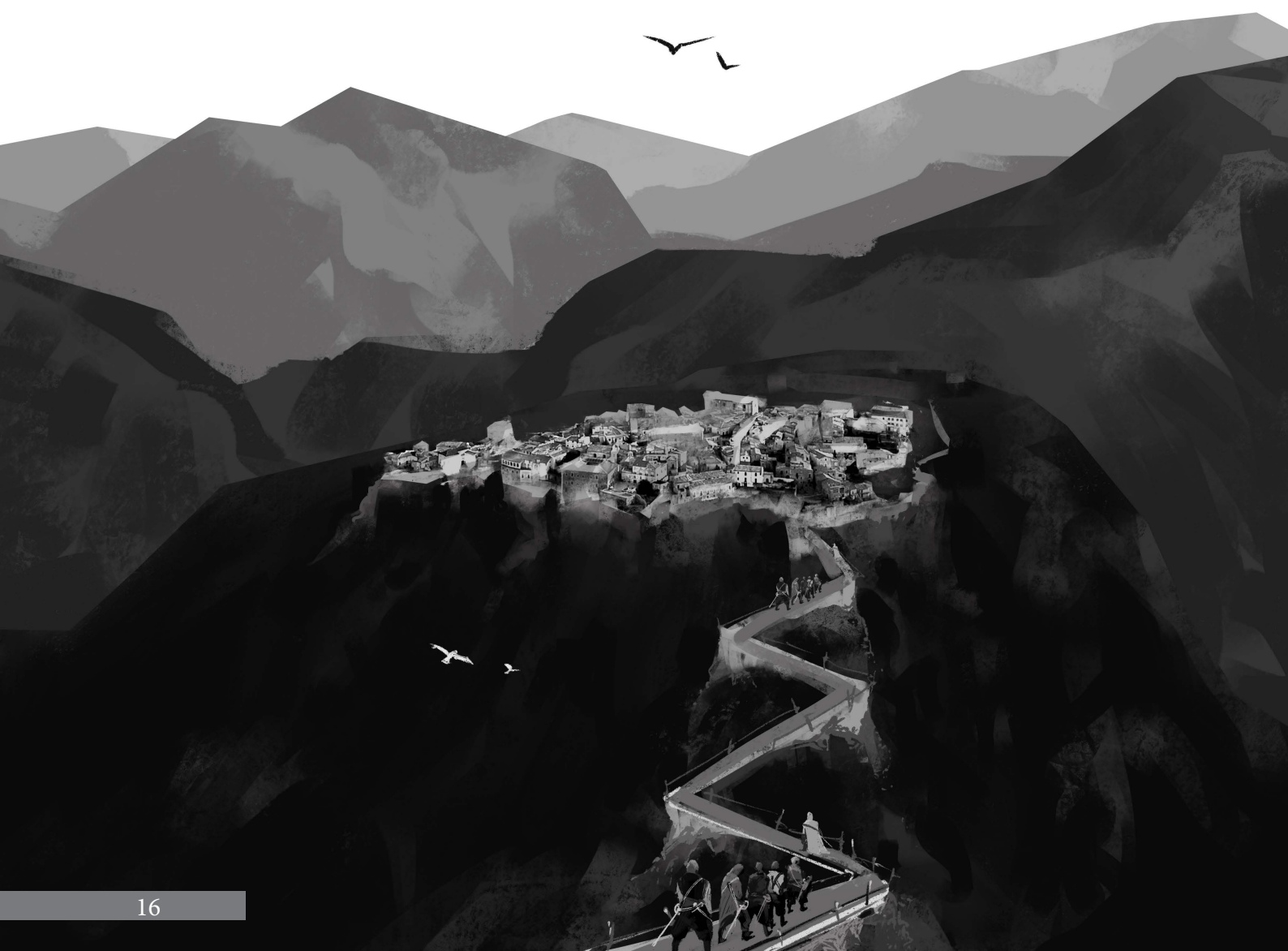
community, characterized by a remarkably robust structure and ideology, complete with its own regulations, symbolism, and way of life. Concurrently, it constitutes a dynamic entity that extends globally and adapts in accordance with various economic, political, and other circumstances. No nation worldwide has thus far succeeded in effectively addressing this phenomenon. However, delving into the mindset of the individuals within the 'Ndrangheta, scrutinizing their psychology and ideology, presents an alternate, potentially more efficacious approach to comprehending their mindset and actions. This article explores the core psychological and philosophical traits of the Calabrian subculture, which have endured unchanged for over a century, serving as effective paradigms for the educational, behavioral, operational, and lifestyle aspects of this criminal subculture.

Keywords
'Ndrangheta, 'Ndrangheta psychology, 'ndrina, family, psychological characteristics

INTRODUCTION

As time elapses and the conditions of existence undergo transformation, the 'Ndrangheta legacy persists, traversing borders, migrating to northern Italy and beyond. Despite its deep historical roots grounded in unchanging principles, rules, and upbringing, this entity remains a dynamic entity, perpetually undergoing reshaping due to the evolving global landscape. This includes its pursuit of enhanced efficiency and heightened resistance to external influences. 'Ndrangheta extends its reach into diverse realms of life, instigating the emergence of novel industries, markets, businesses, and enterprises.

This article delineates the principal attributes of 'Ndrangheta, which, in the 21st century, have evolved, adopted new configurations, trends in advancement, and novel characteristics that enable its sustained prominence on the global business stage. It thrives in its capacity to develop, broaden its scope of capabilities and activities, even in the face of crises, pandemics, and other cataclysms, both within Italy and across the world. It is noteworthy

that this organization not only maintains stability across diverse circumstances and industries but also actively capitalizes on emergent catastrophic events and global disruptions to further its gains. This proactive approach aids in accruing profits, attracting new adherents, and expanding its criminal enterprise. The topics being discussed align with the overall discourse in contemporary interdisciplinary research on organized crime (Astarita et al., 2018; Bueger & Edmunds, 2020; Daniele, 2019; Gamba et al., 2018; Villani et al., 2019).

METHODS

During the research, Academician Oleg Maltsev (2018a) devised a specialized approach named the "Methodology of Criminal Traditions Analysis" while investigating the 'Ndrangheta, a criminal organization situated in Calabria, Italy. This methodology comprises twelve blocks and offers a thorough depiction of criminal traditions. It enables the execution of research, the precise definition of research subjects, and the formulation of numerous conclusions. Moreover, it facilitates the assessment of an individual's proficiency in analyzing a specific criminal tradition. The methodology encompasses the following blocks:

- Block 1. Mechanisms of structure formation.
- Block 2. Motivating factor.
- Block 3. Rules of interaction between members of the organization.
- Block 4. Hierarchy.
- Block 5. Figures and roles.
- Block 6. Mechanisms of moving up the hierarchy.
- Block 7. Obstacles of levels.
- Block 8. Training inherent in each level.
- Block 9. Tactics and strategy.
- Block 10. Subculture.
- Block 11. Business. Mechanisms of expanding influence and secret power.
- Block 12. Special accesses.

It is crucial to consider the timeline when applying this methodology, accounting for historical periods in the development of criminal traditions. The methodology involves determining the initial period of tradition emergence, collecting data in

each block, and subsequently progressing to the next historical period and applying the analysis methodology. This approach is necessary due to the variations in block content across different historical periods of a tradition or organization's existence.

The methodology features a comprehensive set of questions that must be addressed to assert a thorough understanding of a specific criminal tradition. This versatile methodology can be employed for investigating any tradition or organization, not exclusively limited to criminal entities. This article provides a partial overview of Dr. Maltsev's research findings to address the questions posed herein. The findings of this research and a thorough explanation of the methodology are extensively documented in the book titled "Deceptive Silence" (Maltsev, 2018a).

RESULTS

The primary distinguishing characteristic of 'Ndrangheta, setting it apart from other criminal structures and organizations, lies in its foundation and existence rooted in familial ties, which facilitates its expansion and augmentation of power. Within the realm of the Calabrian criminal subculture, its organizational model mirrors that of patriarchal societies. The fundamental unit of 'Ndrangheta, referred to as the 'ndrina, is structured around the conventional Capobastone family, with additional members often having some degree of kinship. It is worth noting that historical records indicate instances where initiation into this organization could occur even without family bonds, such as during prison sentences. However, this practice

has largely waned in the contemporary era (Maltsev, 2018b). The dominance of the familial framework acts as a shield against extraneous and uncertain relationships, rendering 'Ndrangheta resistant to legal scrutiny while upholding its family-centric code of honor.

In the context of the Calabrian criminal subculture, a pivotal emphasis has consistently been placed on the education and upbringing of offspring born into these families. Raised in adherence to established lifestyles, principles, norms, codes of honor, and family laws, these children are nurtured within this distinctive milieu. Drawing upon research from the Memory Institute, Academician Oleg Maltsev (2018a) has postulated and substantiated the core concept of the 'Ndrangheta family as a "university." This "university" within the family encompasses distinct phases of psychological and philosophical indoctrination for 'Ndrangheta members. The educational hierarchy comprises four levels, paralleling the structure of the Spanish fencing system.

Any child born into an 'Ndrangheta family finds their fate irrevocably predetermined from the very outset, encapsulated in the adage "no escape from this cycle." Thus, their course in life is essentially preordained, leaving them with the sole option of following the path that has been set for them. In actuality, from a young age, clan offspring undergo meticulous training adhering to culturally ingrained paradigms and codes rooted in values like silence, fortitude, resilience, and defiance against legitimate authority. Immersed within the sphere of familial connections (albeit within a criminal context, marked by the distortion of ancestral principles

FACULTY 4	→	**CAPO RISPETTO** EXPANSION OF POWER AND INFLUENCE, TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE
FACULTY 3	→	**CAPO BASTONE** LEADERSHIP OF PEOPLE
FACULTY 2	→	**CAPO OF FORMALITIES** ACHIEVING RESULTS AND EARNING MONEY
FACULTY 1	→	**CAPO OF FENCING** FINDING AND ACQUIRING A KEY SKILL

Figure 1. Scheme of 'Ndrangheta "university"

such as honor, religion, and family), the children of bosses are compelled to internalize the dynamics of power, cultivate reverence for the "capi", and cultivate aversion towards the state and its representatives, as well as entire groups like "traitors" and homosexuals (Gratteri & Nicaso, 2016).

Of heightened significance in the contemporary 'Ndrangheta world is their cohesiveness and mutual trust. For instance, in the television series "ZeroZeroZero," which draws inspiration from Roberto Saviano's account of the potent and merciless 'Ndrangheta, as well as Mexican cartels and the like, one plotline underscores the actions of an authoritative figure who takes the life of his own grandson due to betrayal of the organization (Saviano, 2014; Sollima et al., 2020)

Naturally, this attitude of trust and solidarity within the subculture is cultivated right from childhood and solidified through initiation rites, inductions, and blood oaths. The specific rituals might exhibit variation across regions, an aspect that too remains a subject of scholarly inquiry. During the initiation process, a prospective "picciotto" pledges an oath to serve their 'ndrina devotedly until their demise, as stipulated by their unspoken code. As recounted by the Carabinieri, a statement made by Onofrio Garcei on February 28, 2010, during an interception sheds light on this. He said that the ritual was beautiful in all its forms. It was something that makes you do something (Trumper et al., 2014).

From a young age, the descendants of 'Ndrangheta leaders are instilled with the belief that dishonorable transgressions necessitate a blood remedy. Nonetheless, it is essential to underscore (drawing from 'Ndrangheta's historical context) that frequently, it is the women who orchestrate the "set pace of retribution", particularly within feuds and confrontations with mortality, aiming to eliminate to avoid being eliminated (Maltsev & Lunov, 2020). Moreover, it is imperative that they never overlook the principle that matrimonial unions are exclusively formed within the confines of the familial and criminal culture. Weddings essentially serve as instruments to fortify the criminal influence of two or more families.

For example, the marriage between Elisa Pelle, the daughter of Giuseppe ("Gambazza"), and Gi-

useppe Barbaro, the son of Pasquale ("u Castanu"), which occurred on August 19, 2009, was intended to establish a powerful alliance, showcasing their extensive influence from various angles. This insight comes from Raffaele Oppedizano (Baratta, 2016)

Over the years, a prevailing notion has emerged that the magnitude of attendance at banquets is a barometer for gauging the supremacy of clans over others. This principle extends to processions and festivities firmly under the sway of crime families, intended to garner consensus and public endorsement. Similar to other ceremonial occasions (such as baptisms and funerals), weddings serve as a forum for meetings wherein strategies are delineated, and hierarchies of the organization are allocated.

In discussions with Calabrian leaders concerning the significance and essence of the family, alongside the sanctity of marital relationships, the discourse consistently gravitates towards the care of children. However, many researchers underscore that it is imperative to recognize that these values are often merely a facade, exploited on one hand to embellish their societal image (a veneer of normality and social acceptability they often present), and on the other hand, serving as pragmatic instruments to conceal their illicit undertakings. The family assumes importance because it remains in close proximity to the boss; it is controlled by him, never betrays, and upholds its designated role. Through blood bonds, if necessary, it ensures the continuity of the 'remarkable endeavor' even when most are in prison.

In contemporary times, numerous psychologists delve into the behaviors of 'Ndrangheta members through the lens of intuition. Girolamo Lo Verso (2013), a psychology professor at the University of Palermo, underscores the discernment of an "integral mafia" identity — an individual identity that becomes nullified, where "each decision is anchored in the agreement and regulations dictated to the mind by the mafia family. Autonomy of thought and action is virtually non-existent. The mafia family prescribes the standards for delineating right and wrong, equity and injustice, and, most significantly, allies and adversaries. To them, someone outside the mafia family's fold possesses

inferior value, akin to "nothing." Such an individual is depersonalized, dehumanized, rendering them readily disposable. Terminating the life of a "non-person" culminates in a form of redemption. Some individuals who have cooperated with law enforcement, recounting their experiences within mafia families, recall the emotional strain of being perpetually beholden to the expectations of their patriarchs, the clan's "capi". Luigi Bonaventura, the former head of the eponymous clan, elaborates that he perpetually sensed he was under surveillance (Gratteri & Nicaso, 2019).

In the perspective of psychologists, even during acts of homicide, 'Ndrangheta members appear to lack any discernible emotional reaction. They simply carry out their duties with maximum efficiency. Lo Verso expounds that there is not a trace of killing, everything transpires akin to a dream, a sentiment that psychologists find somewhat heretical. This observation attests to the sheer tenacity that characterizes such men. Mafiosi, in this regard, assume the guise of war machines devoid of the capacity for emotional gratification. Gratification emanates solely from the dominion established, the thrill of omnipotence, the authority to determine the fate of others' lives and deaths. This elucidates their ability to perpetrate murder and inflict torment within stifling, claustrophobic hideouts (Coppola et al., 2010).

Interestingly, a prominent figure from southern Italian culture, renowned boxing coach Cas D'Amato, exhibits a parallel behavioral pattern owing to the cultural context he hails from. D'Amato, who mentored three world champions, was characterized by a strict and severe demeanor, yet he was also esteemed for his sagacity (Maltsev, 2019). In a biographical work about Cas D'Amato titled "Confusing the Enemy," Dr. Scott Weiss recounts an incident involving a visit from the mob to D'Amato's gym (Weiss & Hague, 2013). Faced with an unmistakable threat, D'Amato could have responded with aggression or even gunfire. However, he adopted an alternative approach. He calmly stated, "Take one more step, and I'll have you all on these stairs." Remarkably, without a hint of doubt, his words were heeded, and the "visitors" retreated. It is noteworthy that there was unwavering confidence in his ability to follow through with his statement. They simply

departed, and the confrontation was resolved.

Antonino Giorgi, a lecturer of the course "Elements of Psychopathology of Life Contexts" at the Catholic University of Brescia, was part of a team, led by Professor Caterina Gozzoli, that delved into the psychology of the 'Ndrangheta in Lombardy, with the aim of comprehending their psychological dynamics within social-organizational coexistence. Giorgi (2019) elucidates that the mafia organization epitomizes fundamentalism in the sense that it negates subjectivity and simultaneously shuns diversity, a pivotal facet for the evolution of identity structures. In this context, an individual's existence hinges solely upon their membership.

'Ndrangheta members can also be categorized as a form of enclave. There is an opinion that 'ndranghetisti incessantly maintain their role, overtly exhibiting an array of attributes such as hubris, egocentrism, haughtiness, manipulativeness, fascination with control, deceit, superficial and feigned emotional responses, absence of guilt, lack of remorse, deficient empathy, emotional detachment, fearlessness (in the negative sense, wherein they act with disregard for potential risks and others' reactions), disdain for danger, a propensity for risk-taking, disregard for societal disapproval, neoteny (a desire for youthfulness to minimize aging), and neophilia (among younger individuals). This is compounded by a disdain for social norms and substantial immorality, which translates into an outward respect for tradition, even to the extent of eliminating 'troublesome priests' if deemed necessary.

Extensive research has also been conducted within prisons where 'Ndrangheta members have been incarcerated. This phenomenon even garnered the attention of Cesare Lombroso (1890) in his treatise. He highlighted that prisons frequently consisted of unsanitary, poorly supervised spaces lacking facilities such as toilets, adequate lighting, and sometimes even water. This environment led to the annual outbreak of ailments like typhus and petechiae, which, due to the lack of hygiene, spread to uninfected prisons and neighboring towns. Numerous prisoners occupied ground-level rooms adjacent to busy streets, enabling them to converse with passersby, airing grievances, offering prayers,

and sometimes even audaciously issuing threats to those who walked by.

Contemporary research into prison behavior reveals that leaders are willing to endure stringent diets to project signs of fatigue, frailty, and exhaustion. Others, with the assistance of experts, swiftly self-diagnose mental illnesses to evade severe penalties. Researchers Grateri and Nicaso (2019), who focus on the Calabrian subculture, underscore that some investigations involve recorded interviews with incarcerated bosses and 'Ndrangheta operatives. These accounts frequently recount instances of feigned illnesses and meticulously orchestrated deceits, often with the collaboration of experts. A substantial portion of criminal inquiries centers on the interactions 'Ndrangheta members maintained with medical doctors, psychologists, and other specialists during their imprisonment. Many times, they simulate illness. Essentially, Calabrian bosses engage in deception to gain an upper hand. In certain scenarios, they don a façade of vulnerability, weakness, and unjust persecution. Conversely, in their pursuit of better self-preservation, often bolstered by considerable resources, they secure proficient legal and technical-expert assistance (Badolati, 2014; Gratteri & Nicaso, 2019).

DISCUSSION

In this article, we have introduced a newly developed methodology, recognizing that contemporary discourse employs various methods for studying criminal organizations. Let us outline the general principles of methodology for such studies:

1. Ethics and Safety: Researching antisocial organizations often entails risks for investigators. It is crucial to uphold ethical standards and ensure the safety of researchers.
2. Multidisciplinary Approach: The study of antisocial organizations necessitates multifaceted research methods. Integrating elements from criminology, sociology, political science, and psychology can yield a more comprehensive understanding.
3. Qualitative Methods: Employing qualitative methods like interviews, observation, and document analysis aids in comprehending the

internal structure and functioning of an organization.
4. Use of Informants: Given the challenges of accessing antisocial organizations, researchers frequently rely on informants to provide valuable information.
5. Network Analysis: Research on antisocial organizations often involves analyzing their social and organizational networks.
6. Contextualization: Grasping the sociocultural and political context in which an organization operates is vital for interpreting research findings.
7. Quantitative Research: In addition to qualitative methods, quantitative data such as crime statistics can be utilized to analyze the scope and characteristics of an organization's activities.
8. Propaganda Analysis: Investigating materials created or used by an organization, such as propaganda materials, can offer insights into its goals and strategies.
9. Comparative (Cross-cultural) Analysis: Comparative studies of antisocial organizations can reveal commonalities and differences in their activities.

It is crucial to emphasize that research on antisocial organizations demands caution, strict adherence to laws, and unwavering commitment to ethical standards. Researchers must collaborate with relevant authorities and prioritize the safety of both themselves and the public. Compliance with laws and regulations, particularly in interactions with representatives or materials from these organizations, is paramount.

Additionally, highlighting principles, methods, and technologies is essential for investigating criminal and terrorist organizations:

1. Network Analysis and Technology: Employing modern technology for network analysis aids researchers in understanding the structure and interrelationships among organization members.
2. Radicalization Research: For extremist organizations, studying radicalization processes and the influencing factors in joining them is a vital component of research.
3. Remedial Education: Understanding the causes and mechanisms of antisocial organizations

contributes to the development of effective prevention and remedial programs.

4. Counter Propaganda: Research on propaganda techniques and their societal impact assists in developing strategies to counter the negative influence of these organizations.

5. Ongoing Research and Monitoring: The study of antisocial organizations requires continuous monitoring as they may alter their structure and strategies over time.

6. Collaboration with the Community: Involving the public in the research process can garner greater support for preventing and combating the activities of antisocial organizations.

7. Analysis of International Trends: Since many antisocial organizations are transnational, analyzing international trends is crucial for understanding their activities.

8. Flexibility and Adaptation: The study of antisocial organizations necessitates flexibility and adaptability to changing circumstances and modus operandi.

These principles lay the groundwork for developing a methodology for the study of antisocial organizations, with an unwavering focus on safety, ethics, and compliance.

CONCLUSION

According to psychologists and researchers who have meticulously examined and scrutinized 'Ndrangheta, this organization is progressively expanding, much like an imperceptible entity grounded in a historically established foundation. It manifests as a tangible yet concealed phenomenon entrenched within the labyrinthine recesses of globalization," as driven by the 'Ndrangheta imperative. The approach of analyzing the Calabrian subculture through the lenses of psychology and philosophy has proven effective in unraveling the latent aspects of 'Ndrangheta. Nonetheless, only a limited number of global scholars have ventured into these realms. The endeavor to delve into the rationale and cognition underlying the behaviors of 'Ndrangheta members serves as an efficacious avenue to fathom their mindset and conduct. This endeavor also facilitates the anticipation of particular actions and avenues of activity, along with the

strategies and techniques they deploy in various situations.

Their actions undoubtedly possess criminal characteristics. However, since the 20th century, significant attention has also been directed toward comprehending the business model and philosophy of 'Ndrangheta. This philosophy exhibits resilience against the fluctuations of the world and effortlessly adapts to varying conditions, thereby enabling substantial profits. While numerous researchers have analyzed 'Ndrangheta from sociological, historical, criminological, and economic standpoints, the psychological examination presented within this article also yields valuable insights and conclusions. This approach contributes to the study of the 'Ndrangheta phenomenon at the crossroads of various disciplines, enabling the projection of emerging trends in its development and proliferation, and engendering a comprehensive comprehension of the contemporary landscape. In essence, the fusion of psychological insights with the broader understanding of 'Ndrangheta permits a multifaceted perspective that transcends disciplinary boundaries. This holistic view empowers researchers to anticipate the trajectory of this organization's evolution and dissemination, all while advancing a comprehensive grasp of its role within the present-day global milieu.

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THE PROBLEM OF CATEGORIZATION OF THE GEOPOLITICAL STATUS OF THE STATE
IN MODERN GEOPOLITICS

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ABSTRACT

The following paper represents the review of the geopolitical status of the state as a category of geopolitics. The author introduces the comprehension dynamics of the geopolitical status of the state in the theories of classical geopolitics and modern researchers. The paper emphasizes the difficulties in categorizing the geopolitical status of the state as a subject of power distribution/redistribution, its resources and functions in the multidimensional geopolitical space. The concept of 'geopolitical status of the state' is clarified through an analysis of related concepts of 'social status', 'legal status', 'political status', as well as operationalization of the notion of 'geopolitical space'. The author remarks with regard to the geopolitical status of the state, on the one hand, it structurally regulates the role configuration of the world order and allows the states to participate more effectively in the global competition. At the same time, on the other hand, it is often

used as a manipulative technology in fixing the asymmetry of power relations between states in the 'dominance — subordination' format, as well as a technology of geopolitical stigmatization of states in their subjective marginalization.

Keywords

geopolitics, status, subject of geopolitics, world order, geopolitical space, geopolitical status of the state.

INTRODUCTION

The statement of the problem in general terms and the current state of its study, along with its relevance to significant scientific and practical objectives, revolve around the intricate and conflicting global transformations that have unfolded over recent decades (Bazilian et al., 2013; see also Balsa-Barreiro et al., 2019; Carr, 2020; Griffiths, 2019; Wallace et al., 2011). These transformations are intricately linked to the fundamental reshaping of the architecture of the global geopolitical realm (Browning, 2018; Hobson & Lynch, 2016; Hughes, 2016; Overland, 2019). The foundation of this realm was established by the Westphalian system and subsequently fine-tuned through various modifications. Consequently, it is unsurprising that geopolitics, with its spatial lens focused on deciphering the patterns, principles, and mechanisms governing the distribution and redistribution of power within the geopolitical arena, is increasingly garnering attention from the academic and expert communities vested in global political matters (Alami & Dixon, 2020; Laketa, 2019; Myers, 2013; Robin & Acuto, 2018; Watanabe, 2018). With the onset of active digitalization, the vector of this research has also moved into this field (Bronk, 2015; Harris, 2020).

During the latter part of the 20th century, a degree of skepticism surrounded geopolitics. Its scientific validity was questioned, and it was often relegated to the realm of journalism. Even the core object of its study — the geopolitical space — was met with significant doubt, accused of being enshrouded in mystification, ideological bias, and even occultism. This skepticism stemmed partly from its controversial association with Nazism.

Karl Haushofer, one of the founders of the German classical school of geopolitics, had certain ties to the National Socialist movement, though he was not a member of the NSDAP (Barnes & Abrahamsson, 2015). Haushofer played a pivotal role in institutionalizing geopolitics in Germany during the 1920s, but he became disillusioned in the late 1930s due to the distortion of his theories and their exploitation to advance the doctrine of Nazi expansionism. In the post-war era, geopolitics experienced a gradual resurgence and reclaimed its place within the spectrum of political sciences (Granieri, 2015). The theoretical, analytical, and applied tools of geopolitics were increasingly employed to substantiate strategies for the development of the global geopolitical landscape. Today, quite a few analytical works address the history of geopolitical ideas and events (Craggs, 2018; see also Brennetot, 2015; Korf & Rowan, 2020; Szulecki, 2015). Given the current environment characterized by rapid and transformative changes in the global order, there arises an imperative of a new discourse (Black, 2019; Last, 2015; Dalby, 2013; Scholten et al., 2020; Sharp, 2013). We need to reevaluate conventional geopolitical categories and cultivate novel oness. These categories form the bedrock of both the scientific and perceptual paradigms of geopolitics, shaping the comprehension of modern geopolitical necessities within the evolving framework of the global order.

The conventional categories of geopolitics, such as "thalassocracy," "tellurocracy," "heartland," "rimland," "living space," "expansion," and others, now constitute the mainstream of geopolitical inquiry in both theoretical and applied domains. Among these, the concept of a state's geopolitical status holds particular scientific interest (Larson & Shevchenko, 2019; Khong, 2019; Murray, 2018; Paul et al., 2014; Renshon, 2017). The state, serving as a pivotal subject of geopolitical interactions, is being examined not solely within the methodological framework of "geopolitics of the state," but rather as an integral component of "the state in geopolitical space."

METHODOLOGY

In the present geopolitical landscape, all existing states that engage within this sphere and operate

using its resources embody some form of geopolitical status. This notion has become so prevalent in expert and analytical discourse that its scientific essence is often overlooked. In reality, the classification of geopolitical status of the state (hereafter referred to as GSS) poses considerable challenges. A universally accepted set of criteria for evaluating a state's power, the attributes that indicate its multifaceted strength, enabling it to secure a particular standing in the hierarchical system of international relations, is yet to be established within scientific literature. At a cursory glance, ranking states according to their GSS could be influenced by factors such as their resource potential (physical-geographical, demographic, economic, military-technological, scientific-technical resources), their capacity for proactive foreign policy engagement (participation in international organizations and security structures, diplomatic initiatives, etc.), their reputation and image, and an array of other considerations. It is precisely the diversity of criteria in defining GSS and the inherently abstract nature of the concept that impede its theoretical formulation and practical application.

To address this issue scientifically, we have conceptualized the geopolitical status of the state by employing a systematic approach and categorical analysis. The comprehensive examination of the geopolitical status of the state is conducted within the systemic framework of "the state in geopolitical space." Here, space is depicted as an organizational "superstructure" above the territory, encompassing intricate interstate relations and interactions across various levels (geographical, economic, informational, cultural, etc.) within the global geopolitical space. Consequently, a intricate framework of spatial development and systematically structured multi-level interactions among geopolitical actors

is established. This pertains to the distribution or redistribution of geopolitical resources, along with alterations in the forms and extents of power control over them.

Drawing upon this systemic comprehension of geopolitical space, we have systematically analyzed the categorical aspects of the geopolitical status of the state. By examining the concept of "status" through the lenses of state and law theory, sociology, and political science, and considering pertinent advancements in geopolitics theory, we have put forth a conceptual definition for the geopolitical status of the state. The application of categorical analysis afforded us the chance to view the GSG as both a political and legal stance of the state, along with its role within the global spatial-geopolitical system. In light of diverse forms of state geopolitical behavior, we identified the following: geopolitical driverism, geopolitical conformism, geopolitical indifferentism, geopolitical clientelism, and geopolitical autarkism.

The utilization of the system approach and categorical analysis enabled us to perceive the geopolitical status of the state as a multifaceted integrative phenomenon. On one hand, states employ geopolitical status to construct the actual power distribution within the global order. Conversely, geopolitical status is frequently employed as a tool for geopolitical stigmatization by states, contributing to increased asymmetry in the world architecture and undermining its foundations.

RESULTS

The conceptualization of a state's geopolitical status is a nuanced undertaking, involving theoretical op-

erationalization. Employing a systematic approach and the method of categorical analysis, this study has yielded a definition for the geopolitical status of a state. It is construed as the political and legal stance of the state and its role within the global spatial and geopolitical system. This position is shaped by the aggregate power of the state, its geopolitical subjectivity, and the extent of its geopolitical expansion. In the contemporary context of evolving world orders, the primary objective for most developed nations is the formulation and execution of effective competitive strategies, aiming to enhance their geopolitical subjectivity. Consequently, the attainment of a specific geopolitical status by a state holds a dual significance.

Geopolitical status, as a comprehensive and transformative characteristic of a state's geopolitical competitiveness, establishes specific coordinates within the global architecture. The status of states shapes their power configuration, determining their potential capabilities and prospects for participating in shaping the global agenda and balancing power in the geopolitical space. Different geopolitical statuses enable states to employ various geopolitical technologies to varying degrees, securing support for their national interests and international projects. Higher geopolitical status implies greater expansionist potential in the development of a multilevel geopolitical space.

However, geopolitical status is often utilized by states for both geopolitical hegemonization and geopolitical marginalization. In the former, a state positions itself as a global leader, influencing others to submit to its normative force. In the latter, a stronger state may stigmatize a weaker one, using terms like "rogue state" or "failed state," leading to discrimination and relegation to the margins of global development. Our ongoing research aims to address the complexities of modern geopolitical statuses, offering detailed characterization and systematic representation based on the current geopolitical landscape.

DISCUSSION

Contemporary investigations into the phenomenon of "geopolitical status" remain somewhat cursory and fragmentary. Despite its active integration into geopolitical discussions, the theoretical foundation for examining GSS predominantly relies on the intellectual legacy of traditional geopolitical pioneers. These early theorists of geopolitics notably emphasized elucidating the geopolitical stance of a state in order to legitimize their theories and substantiate the imperative for expanding the state's living space. Friedrich Ratzel, a German anthropogeographer and ethnologist often regarded as the "father" of geopolitics and the founder of its continental paradigm, characterized the state's essential attributes based on its territory, location, capacity to adapt to its environment, and its potential for territorial expansion. An undeniable contribution of F. Ratzel (1897) lies in his establishment of seven fundamental laws of expansion, which retain relevance today as imperatives governing the spatial growth of states and the configuration of the global order. Ratzel also differentiated states based on their inclination towards land or sea civilization, a distinction that delineates the profitability and prospects of their living space (Barua, 2018; Chiantera-Stutte, 2018; Murphy, 2018).

Continuing the legacy of Ratzel's theory, the Swedish geographer, historian, statesman, and originator of the term "geopolitics," Johan Rudolf Kjellén (1930), formulated an innovative framework for comprehending the state. This framework extended far beyond the conventional purview of jurisprudence, encompassing the organization and operation of the state in all its dimensions, particularly its power. Of particular significance is Kjellén's concept of the state's "power," which can be perceived as a precursor to categorizing the geopolitical status of a state. He posited that the state incessantly seeks expansion to secure its existence, and its success hinges on its strength rather than merely adherence to the law (Kjellén, 1930).

Kjellén outlined five essential characteristics that illustrate the expression of state power, which can be articulated as follows:(a) state as population; (b) state as society; (c) state as geographic entity; (d) state as economic entity; and (e) state as governing body. Central to this notion is the idea that the management of force is the nucleus of the state's civilizing role. Through purposeful and autonomous action, the state endeavors to transcend

Figure 1. Johan Rudolf Kjellén (1864-1922)

Figure 2. Halford John Mackinder (1861-1947)

the dominance of nature. Within his framework of state power, Kjellén introduced the concepts of "world" powers (e.g., Great Britain, USA, Russia, Germany) and "great" powers (e.g., France, Japan, Austria-Hungary, Italy). He argued that a state's strategic potential is determined by the unique amalgamation of three spatial factors: expansion of territory, territorial coherence, and freedom of movement. According to Kjellén, only the USA, among all world powers, demonstrates the maximum manifestation of all three factors.

Halford John Mackinder, a prominent British geographer and politician who played a foundational role in the Anglo-Saxon maritime paradigm of geopolitics, established the groundwork for geostrategy as a practical geopolitical thinker. He introduced the concept of the "Heartland," which roughly corresponds to the geographical area of Russia (Mackinder, 1904; see also Fettweis, 2015; Hochberg & Sloan, 2017; Sloan, 2020). The Heartland is a strategically crucial pivot point for exerting control over the entire world. It signifies a state's dominant position and recognition of its leadership role in terms of strategic significance, representing a key hallmark of geopolitical status. Another influential figure, Admiral Alfred Thayer Mahan of the United States Navy, outlined a set of criteria for analyzing a state's position or geopolitical status (Mahan, 1890; see also Lane & Pretes, 2020). These criteria encompass factors such as geographical location and access to the seas, the configuration of coastlines and the presence of ports crucial for trade and strategic defense, territorial extent, population size, national character, and political governance. Similar to the classic geopolitical theorists, Mahan framed the world order in terms of the duality between land and sea powers. He emphasized that strong maritime states, with the United States foremost among them, hold superior geopolitical positions due to their maritime orientation, enabling them to potentially dominate global affairs and counter continental powers.

Nicholas Spykman, a significant figure in the development of the ideology of Atlanticism and classical realism within American international relations theory, served as the first director of the Yale Institute of International Studies. Building on Mahan's theory, Spykman delineated ten criteria

for assessing a state's geopolitical power. These criteria encompass territory size and layout, border characteristics (natural, artificial, land, sea), population, mineral resource potential, economic and technological advancement, financial strength, and geopolitical status. The cumulative result of evaluating these factors determines a state's geopolitical capabilities. States with a high geopolitical status tend to score close to maximum across these indicators. If a state's overall assessment of geopolitical capabilities falls short, it often compels the state to integrate into a larger strategic alliance, relinquishing a portion of its sovereignty to enhance its strategic position (Spykman, 1944).

Without delving into a comprehensive review of the theories proposed by all the major figures in geopolitics, let us focus on characterizing the ideas put forth by the founders of the Tellurocratic ("power of the Land") and Thalassocratic ("power of the Sea") paradigms. It is evident that in the geopolitics of Sir Halford John Mackinder (1861–1947), the concept of "geopolitical location/position" of a state is emphasized more than the notion of "geopolitical status," even though status is being conceptualized. The discussion primarily revolves around the geographical determination of the global geopolitical configuration. Addressing status necessitates consideration of factors beyond the physical and geographical, which N. Spykman sought to highlight.

Contemporary geopolitics theorists now emphasize the "expansion" of the scope of the geopolitical status category, extending beyond its geographical dimension. For instance, as industrial development progressed, economic space emerged, and in the post-industrial era, informational space manifested, encompassing information-cybernetic and information-ideological dimensions. Natalia Komleva's typology of spaces is particularly comprehensive, touching on various facets of modern geopolitics, such as world order, expansion, geospace, and a state's geopolitical status (Komleva, 2012). In the realm of analyzing the influence of status on international processes, several scholars have honed in on specific components of a state's geopolitical status. Esteemed researchers in modern geopolitics and international relations theory, including Z. Brzezinski (2000), G. Kissinger (2014), R. Keohane (2003), G. Modelski et al. (2007),
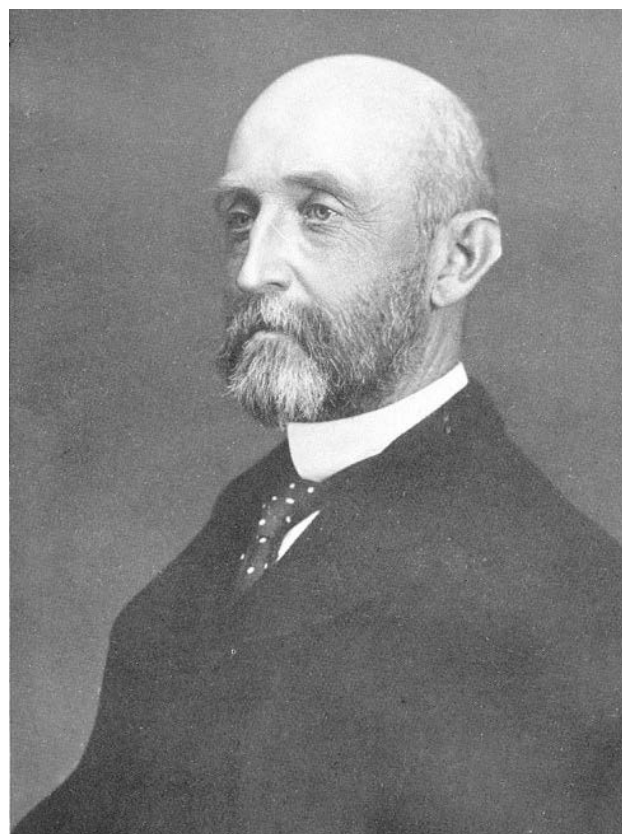

Figure 1. *Alfred Thayer Mahan (1840-1914)*

Figure 2. *Nicholas Spykman*

J. Nye (2011), R. Haass (2007), F. Fukuyama (2018), N. Chomsky (2012), and others, have delved into these issues.

In the post-Soviet academic community, figures such as S. Vasilenko (Vasylenko & Vasylenko, 2007), K. Gadzhiev (2014), A. Galchinsky (2002), M. Dnistryansky (2010), N. Kapitonenko (2015), F. Rudich (2009), R. Slivka (2015), O. Tynyanova (2011), L. Fartushniak (2015), B. Shaptalov (2009), and more have dedicated their works to the realm of world politics. Their research often centers on topics like global leadership and dominance, the world order and states' positions within it, global instability, and states' images. Furthermore, they explore the state's role as a geopolitical actor in shaping goals, means, and resources for developing geopolitical space across its various levels.

However, the core question concerning the fundamental nature of a state's geopolitical status, along with a reevaluation of its functional significance, remains unaddressed. As a result, the primary objective of this article is to comprehensively examine the concept of the "geopolitical status of the state." This analysis will encompass both theoretical and practical dimensions, situated within the broader context of the "state in geopolitical space."

Before delving into the discussion of a state's geopolitical status, it is imperative to establish a clear understanding of the term "status." The term "status," derived from the Latin word "status" meaning position or state of an entity, refers to a collection of rights and obligations that define the legal standing of an individual, organization, institution, etc. across various contexts (Efremova, 2006). Within the realm of humanities and social sciences literature, the concept of "status" encompasses multifaceted definitions. In sociology, it signifies the position or role of an individual or group within a social system, determined by a range of economic, professional, ethnic, and other characteristics specific to that particular societal framework (Kravchenko, 2002).

From the standpoint of legal and political theory, the state represents a sovereign entity, officially acting on behalf of its society both domestically and on the international stage in relations with other states. Consequently, the legal status of a state is established through two parallel systems: domestic law and international law. A state must possess both a general and specific legal status. The general legal status is shaped by the tenets (rights and responsibilities) of its constitution within its own legal framework, while in the sphere of international law, it is shaped by the norms (rights and responsibilities) of the international community that apply universally to all participating states.

The distinct characteristic of a state as a subject of international law lies not only in its possession of rights and obligations under international law but also in its capacity to partake in the formulation of international norms and principles. As a result, each state holds a shared general international legal status. However, a state's specific legal status depends on the unique and diverse legal relationships in which it engages, both within its own borders and on the global stage. It is insightful to adopt the concept of the "legal status of the state," which encapsulates the combination of general (domestic and international) legal status and specific legal statuses arising from the state's participation in legal relationships. The clarity and stability of a state's legal status, as governed by domestic law norms, positively impact its international legal standing, fostering credibility, and offering ample opportunities for collaboration with other states (Skakun, 2000).

To synthesize the concept of status, a comprehensive definition can be formulated: it denotes a position within a specific framework of social relations, occupied by an entity within an existing hierarchical system. It encompasses a set of rights, obligations, and subsequently responsibilities, determining the legal stance of an individual, public or international organization, governmental body, and indeed the state itself. From the realm of political science, the term "state" (derived from the Latin "status," meaning position or state) refers to a unified political organization of society situated within a particular territory, with its governing authorities possessing the exclusive right to centralized control and utilization of coercive measures. Consequently, based on this definition, the political status of a state characterizes its political standing, primarily in terms of power and resource capaci-

ties, as it engages in intra-political and interstate relations. Identifying attributes of a state's political status encompass aspects such as the nature of its political regime, power sovereignty, the legality and legitimacy of its entire governance structure, the extent and scale of state property, its legal position, and universal international legal persona.

Given the context of our article, where we explore geopolitical status within the comprehensive framework of "state in geopolitical space," it becomes essential to clarify the concept of geopolitical space. Our prior publications have been dedicated to the analysis of spatial elements in geopolitics (Lepska, 2017a; 2017b; 2017c; 2018a; 2018b). Within the scope of this article, it is pertinent to emphasize that state development corresponds to the spatial organization of territories. Spaces, including geopolitical ones, emerge when states transition from extensive territorial development to intensive forms, and natural and political boundaries fail to confine state actions.

As articulated by Nikolay Kosolapov, space represents a component of the organizational superstructure over a territory, where specific spatial forms and relations are established on a regular basis, fostering a comprehensive utilization of the territory for the benefit of humanity, society, and the state (Strezhnev, 2011). As such, space is not merely "flat" but possesses "volumetric" characteristics. On one hand, it encompasses the territory as a physical and geographical reality, often quantitatively expressed, thereby constituting the foundational geographical level of geopolitical space. On the other hand, space is qualitative in nature, evolving through the inclusion of new levels resulting from society's and the state's dynamic influence on the basic geographical level, ultimately shaping a "subject-object" system within the spatial domain.

Within the global world system, intricate interactions occur between states and non-state entities, influencing the development of geopolitical global space. This complex dynamic gives rise to a more intricate spatial development structure denoted as "subject-subject-object" (SSO). Consequently, geopolitical space is not a static characteristic solely determined by a state's territorial and geographical parameters, but a dynamic, integrative phenomenon shaped by multi-level, intricately organized interrelations and interactions of SSO nature. These interactions involve various aspects, including the distribution and redistribution of geopolitical resources and changes in the forms and extents of power control over these resources. Such an understanding of geopolitical space is pivotal as the state's status within it is a multifaceted phenomenon.

A concept of geopolitical status of the state developed by N. Komleva seems particularly comprehensive and deserving of attention. Komleva defines the geopolitical status of a state as its position within the hierarchy of states during a specific era, determined by its overall power and the scope of its geopolitical expansion. Power, in this context, constitutes an integral feature of a state, signifying its competitive capabilities within the geopolitical arena — its practical potential for expansion across various spatial dimensions. Geopolitical expansion pertains to the enlargement of space, serving as a primary goal and principal type of geopolitical conduct for actors of diverse nature. Conversely, the contraction of geopolitical space occurs when it diminishes and contracts (Komleva, 2010).

However, we find the characterization of the geopolitical status of a state as merely a position within a hierarchy of states to be somewhat simplistic. Associating status with a place implies a sense of stability and fixity. Yet, the dynamics of geopolitical space stem from the active engagements of geopolitical actors in geospace resource development. States, as primary agents in geopolitics, possess rights and obligations governed by international law. They concurrently play roles in geospace development within the constantly evolving framework of the global order.

V. Baranenkov, in his discussion of legal status, defines it as the "role position" that a subject occupies in legal relationships, a certain level of legal position development, the attainment of which brings about a significant transformative change and the emergence of a new legal state (Baranenkov, 2008). In the context of delineating a state's geopolitical status, it is beneficial to draw a parallel with this operationalization of legal status. The geopolitical status of a state within the geopolitical system and the global order can be seen as the state's role within this system, its behavior. The aggregation of roles that a state plays — such as peacemaker, negotiator, transit state, stabilizer, or enforcer — constitutes its role system. While these geopolitical roles are frequently informal, they can sometimes be formalized within international legal documents. Among various forms of a state's geopolitical behavior, underlying corresponding geopolitical statuses and roles, several can be identified: geopolitical

"driverism" (proactively influencing geopolitical processes), geopolitical conformism (adapting to and accepting geopolitical realities without will to change them), geopolitical indifferentism (detachment from geopolitical realities), geopolitical clientelism (subservience to a geopolitical leader, dependence on them), and geopolitical "autarkism" (deliberate self-sufficiency).

When referring to states as geopolitical subjects, it is important to emphasize that we are discussing sovereign states. In theory, all sovereign states possess equal rights, freedoms, and opportunities in global geopolitical space. However, in practice, the degree of a state's geopolitical agency varies, fundamentally determined by its geopolitical potential (resource base), and under specific geopolitical circumstances, it is converted or remains unconverted into the state's geopolitical power and its capacity for geopolitical expansion.

In conclusion, building on the understanding of geopolitical status elucidated by N. Komleva, we can propose the following definition: it signifies the state's political and legal position along with its role within the global spatial-geopolitical system. This positioning is shaped by the state's overall power, its geopolitical agency, and the scope of its geopolitical expansion. Geopolitical status is contingent on the degree of a state's genuine sovereignty, its capacity to independently manage and develop its resource potential, and its capability to bolster its power not only within existing levels of geopolitical space but also to proactively anticipate innovative scientific and technological trends that could shape its future and secure leadership positions. F. Ratzel's statement that the state's choice of a vital-spatial concept and how it extends its vital space are of utmost importance remains strikingly relevant.

Certainly, the geopolitical status of states varies, leading to an asymmetry in the configuration of the geopolitical landscape. It is important to underscore that the concept of geopolitical status can encompass both objective indicators, such as economy, military strength, population, and territory, as well as subjective indicators like the authority of the government, state sovereignty, and strategic direction. The assessment of these indicators is often the task of experts. The process of a state

acquiring a certain status is intricate and grounded in empirical evaluation, involving competitive rivalry between states. The outcome of this process might be informally recognized through rankings of states, often without formal documentation, or it could be articulated in certain international legal documents. However, obtaining unconditional legitimacy recognized by all members of the global community might be a challenge. It is plausible that a state systematically pursuing geopolitical dominance could establish a reputation as a global leader and advocate for the status of a superpower. States following a similar geopolitical path might acknowledge this status. Nevertheless, competitors and adversaries might be unwilling to acknowledge such a status.

On the contrary, the notion of "geopolitical status of a state" could also be perceived as a manipulative label, akin to a symbolic construct. Stigmatization through labeling enables powerful states to operate by their rules on the global stage, implanting negative stereotypes about weaker states, imposing prejudiced narratives and images on them

and other states in the global realm of meanings, and carrying out informational neo-colonization in line with their expansionist geostrategies. This process could further heighten geopolitical asymmetry, making it extremely challenging for marginalized states to later restore, or even significantly alter, the status quo.

CONCLUSIONS

Indeed, the concept of geopolitical status of a state is a multifaceted and complex category, particularly when it comes to its theoretical operationalization. In the present context of a shifting world order, nearly all developed nations prioritize crafting and implementing effective competitive strategies to bolster their geopolitical influence. As a result, the attainment of a specific geopolitical status by a state holds a dual significance.

On one hand, geopolitical status functions as a comprehensive transformed characteristic of a state's competitive potential in geopolitics. It establishes
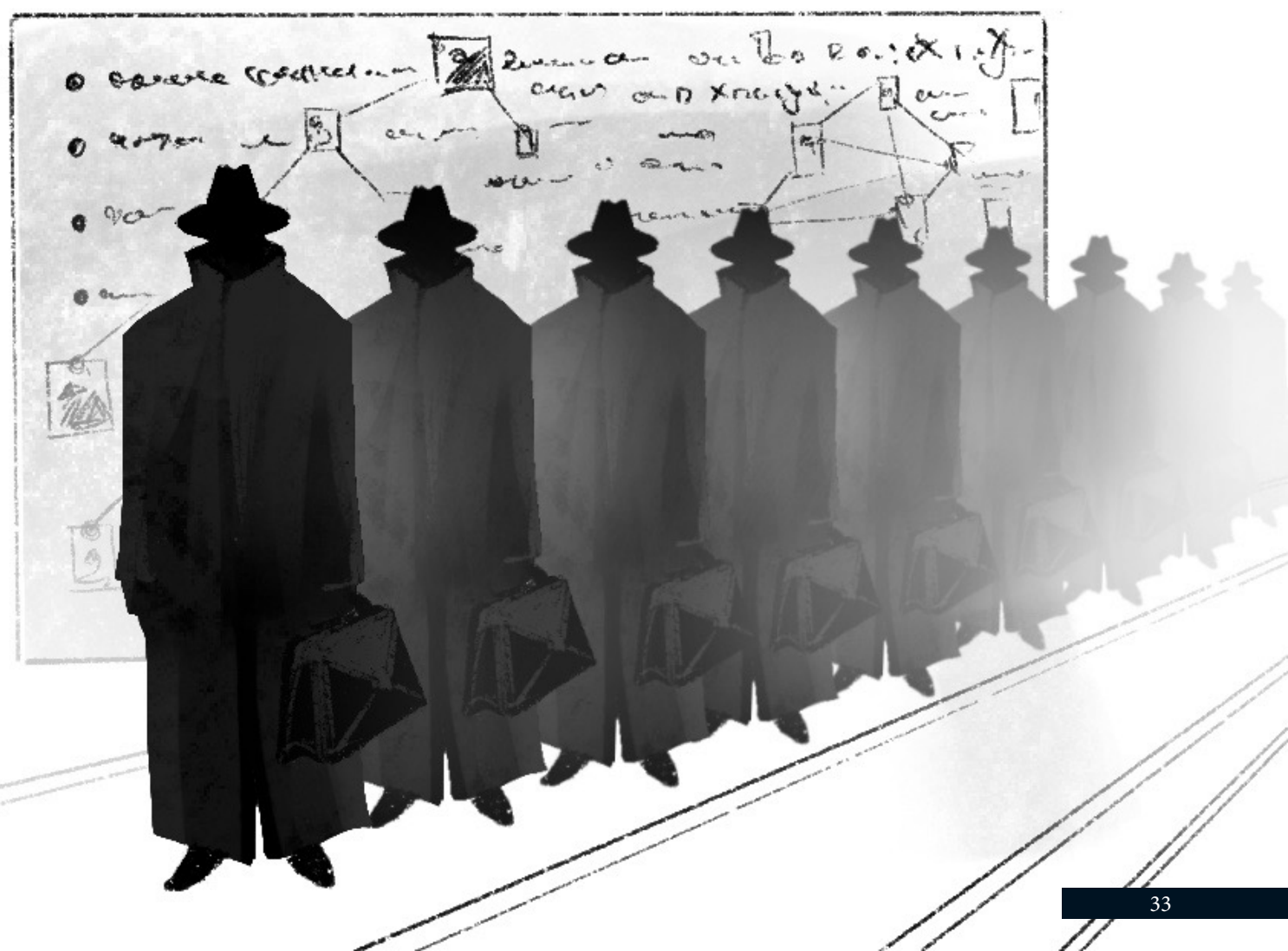
a set of coordinates within the global framework, shaping the power configuration of states. This configuration determines their available capabilities and future prospects for active participation in shaping the global agenda, as well as modeling the equilibrium of power in the geopolitical realm. The possession of a certain geopolitical status empowers states to utilize varying degrees of geopolitical strategies in advancing their national interests and international initiatives, often gaining support from other actors. A higher geopolitical status corresponds to greater potential for expansion within the multilayered geopolitical space. On the other hand, states often employ their geopolitical potential as a means of both geopolitical hegemony and marginalization. In the former scenario, a state positions itself as a global leader, asserting its authority and shaping the world according to its own norms and values. Other states then find themselves influenced by this normative force. Conversely, in the latter scenario, a powerful state may stigmatize a weaker one with labels like "pariah state" or "failed state," effectively isolating it from the international community and relegating it to the periphery of global development. Exploring the intricacies of modern types of geopolitical statuses of states is a topic of ongoing research.

Declaration of Conflicting Interests

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EVOLVING AI COMMUNITIES IN THE ERA OF POSTMODERNITY: DILEMMAS, PERILS, AND PROSPECTS

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ABSTRACT

The significance of studying artificial intelligence within our contemporary society holds immense importance as the world has embraced an era of novel innovations. The objective of this investigation is to conceptualize the advancement of an artificial intelligence-centered society within the framework of risks and challenges characteristic of postmodernity, while also exploring its potential

integration across all facets of human existence. The study encompasses three key objectives:

1. Exploring the evolution of artificial intelligence through its four distinct waves, as it progressively becomes more intricate and exerts an impact on human life.
2. Investigating the developmental trajectories of artificial intelligence (AI) within the context of the growth of smart societies and smart technologies.
3. Developing the conceptualization of artificial intelligence within the dynamic landscape of technological shifts and the digital economy.

Upon analysis, it becomes evident that the progression of an artificial intelligence-based society within the realm of the digital economy is in a state of perpetual evolution, leading to enhancements and the emergence of novel challenges, issues, and risks. The article presents a comprehensive exploration of the development of an artificial intelligence-driven society through its successive "four waves," each characterized by increasing complexity and influence on human existence. The pathways of artificial intelligence development within the domain of smart societies and smart technologies are thoroughly examined.

It becomes apparent that artificial intelligence has the capacity to fulfill various functions, including learning, comprehension, reasoning, and interaction. Its applications extend across diverse domains including: (a) data security, (b) fraud detection in financial contexts, (c) diagnosis of human ailments in machines, and (d) anticipation of potential diseases based on markers, as well as personalized marketing strategies designed to gather insights about customers. In essence, our interconnected and susceptible society confronts a multitude of risks, predicaments, and challenges. Therefore, safeguarding ourselves becomes imperative, necessitating a triumph in the contest for the ethical implications of technology. This victory in the realm of technological morality is an imperative measure to withstand the trials of progress.

Keywords
artificial intelligence society, data protection, security, smart society, smart technology

INTRODUCTION

The research topic's significance lies in the imperative need for caution in dealing with artificial intelligence, given its potential to be more perilous than nuclear weapons. Contemporary "robots" possess the capacity to interface with a wide spectrum of programs, monitor alterations, and even adhere to predetermined schedules (Andriukaitiene et al., 2017).

A socio-philosophical analysis of the evolution of an artificial intelligence-driven society underscores the reality that we inhabit an interconnected and fragile societal landscape rife with risks, predicaments, and challenges. Consequently, it is imperative that we take measures to ensure our protection and emerge victorious in the endeavor to shape the ethical essence of technology, thereby withstanding the challenges posed by the journey of progress. The issue being examined mirrors the broader discourse in interdisciplinary research (Abràmoff et al., 2020; Cohen et al., 2020; Feijóo et al., 2020; Rodrigues, 2020; Wakunuma et al., 2020). The analysis indicates that threats within the realm of artificial intelligence society, such as hacking, virus proliferation, intellectual property infringement, industrial espionage, spam dissemination, identity theft, and DDoS attacks, have been automated. The pervasive presence of extensive computer botnets, exemplified by entities like "Mariposa" and "Conficker," possesses the capability to infiltrate an individual's computing environment, rendering it a subservient automaton for participating in DDoS attacks. Indeed, the transformation wrought by the artificial intelligence society is reshaping the global landscape, with pioneering Chinese enterprises spearheading this paradigm shift. Among the positive aspects worth highlighting is FlyTek, a company engaged in artificial intelligence advancements, particularly in the realms of language recognition, translation, and linguistic synthesis.

The research's overarching objective is to encapsulate the maturation of an artificial intelligence-centric society within the context of the challenges and uncertainties presented by postmodern philosophy, while concurrently exploring the avenues for augmenting its efficacy and pervasive integration across all dimensions of human existence.

Specific Research Objectives:

1. To scrutinize the evolution of artificial intelligence within the context of its four progressive waves, characterized by increasing complexity and their influence on human life.
2. To investigate the trajectories of artificial intelligence (AI) development within the context of the emergence of smart societies and the advancement of smart technologies.
3. To elaborate on the conceptual framework of artificial intelligence amidst the dynamic landscape of technological evolution and the digital economy.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology incorporates various approaches for comprehensively analyzing the development of an artificial intelligence-driven society, some of them are as follows:

1. Poststructuralism: This methodology employs indices and modalities for comprehending the intricate reality of the artificial intelligence landscape. It involves analyzing the technogenic, cultural, and social dimensions of reality through the lens of poststructuralist techniques.
2. System Method: The utilization of the system method facilitates the explication of the artificial intelligence society as a sophisticated organized system. This approach reveals the society's structure and substructures, functioning as integral models of development. The system's characteristics encompass integrity, structuredness, adaptability, interplay with the environment, and uniqueness.
3. Discourse Comprehension of AI: This methodology is rooted in linguistic-textual modeling and involves distinguishing matrix-species within artificial intelligence. It seeks to understand the sign-symbolic essence of artificial intelligence as a complex phenomenon.
4. Causal Correlations: By establishing causal correlations among artificial intelligence phenomena, this method enhances comprehension of the interconnectedness and coherence between the technogenic world and its associated challenges, problems, and risks.

The methodology employed in AI research encompasses various approaches and methods utilized by researchers to explore different facets of the field. Below are key elements of AI research methodology:

- Problem Definition: Research initiates with a precise delineation of the problem or question to be addressed. This could involve developing a new algorithm or enhancing existing ones.
- Formulation of Hypotheses and Objectives: Informed by a literature review, researchers articulate hypotheses or primary research questions. Additionally, they outline the research objectives they aim to accomplish.
- Selection of Research Methods: Identifying the methods for collecting and analyzing data is crucial. In AI research, this may encompass mathematical models, statistical analysis, data experiments, and more, tailored to the specific task.
- Data Collection: When the research involves experimentation or model training, relevant data is gathered. Ensuring the data's representativeness and alignment with study objectives is paramount.
- Implementation and Experimentation: Researchers implement models, algorithms, or systems devised to address the problem. They conduct experiments to validate hypotheses and assess the efficacy of developed solutions.
- Analysis of Results: A systematic analysis of obtained results occurs using statistical methods or alternative approaches. Researchers evaluate how well the results align with hypotheses and if the research objectives are met.

The field of artificial intelligence research employs various specific methods and approaches, tailored to the specific task at hand.

Below are some common research methods:

1. Machine Learning

- Supervised Learning: Constructs models predicting outputs based on labeled training data.
- Unsupervised Learning: Deals with unlabeled data, including clustering, dimensionality reduction, and associative rules.

- Reinforcement Learning: Focuses on algorithms learning through interaction with the environment to maximize cumulative rewards.

2. Deep Learning, Neural Networks:

Investigates deep neural network architectures for problem-solving across domains like computer vision and natural language processing.

3. Transformers: Utilizes sequence processing methods based on transformer architectures, commonly employed in natural language processing.

4. Natural Language Processing (NLP):

- Word Vectorization Methods (Word Embeddings): Explores representing words as vectors for NLP.
- Question-Answer Systems: Develops systems capable of answering questions in natural language.

5. Evolutionary Algorithms:

- Genetic Algorithms: Studies optimization techniques inspired by natural selection mechanisms.
- Genetic Programming: Applies evolutionary principles to generate computer programs.
- Image Processing: Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs): Utilizes convolutional layers for visual feature extraction.

6. Transfer Learning: Implements pre-trained models on new tasks to enhance performance.

7. Mechatronics Methods: Explores integrating mechanical and electronic systems for efficient robotic devices.

8. Computer Vision Systems for Robots: Develops visual information processing techniques to enhance robot navigation and environmental perception.

This overview highlights some methods, and research often combines various approaches to address complex challenges. As technology advances, ongoing improvements and emerging methods contribute to the evolving landscape of artificial intelligence research.

RESULTS

I. Study of the Development of Artificial Intelligence Society within the Context of its "Four Waves"

The initial two waves — Internet-based artificial intelligence and business-oriented artificial intelligence — have silently enveloped us, progressively reshaping the digital and financial domains. The inaugural wave of the Artificial Intelligence Society draws sustained attention to internet-based enterprises. This wave is characterized by the replacement of mid-level legal professionals with algorithms, algorithmic stock trading, and disease diagnosis. Presently, the artificial intelligence society is in the process of digitizing the world, mastering facial recognition, comprehending requests, and perceptively observing our surroundings. The promise of this wave resides in its potential to revolutionize our perception and interaction with reality, effectively erasing the demarcations between the digital and physical realms.

The influence of autonomous artificial intelligence on our lives is profound. As self-driving vehicles navigate our streets and autonomous drones take flight above, the shift towards intelligent automation is reshaping our daily existence. Even traditional jobs are undergoing a transformation, as smart technologies penetrate factory settings and redefine roles across the spectrum. The ramifications of these changes are so vast that they will render every facet of our lives unrecognizable. From cultivating organic produce to commuting in self-driving cars, to even the production of fast food, these paradigm shifts are altering the landscape of familiarity.

Each of these evolutionary waves demands distinct types of data, offering both the United States and China an opportunity to assume leadership roles in these dynamic processes. China, with its prowess in Internet AI and perceptual AI, is poised to lead in these spheres and is expected to rapidly bridge the gap with the United States in

terms of autonomous AI. Presently, artificial intelligence within the business domain is the sole arena where the U.S. undeniably maintains its leadership. However, this competition will extend beyond the borders of these two nations. AI-based services initially emerged in the markets of the U.S. and China, but their influence is now disseminating worldwide, a phenomenon already widespread in emerging economies. Industry giants such as Uber, Didi, Alibaba, and Amazon are engaged in fierce competition to capture emerging markets, employing divergent strategies that wield a significant impact on the global economic landscape of the 21st century. As Silicon Valley titans introduce their products to new countries, China's Internet enterprises are taking a different approach, investing in local startups that strive to withstand U.S. pressures (Lee, 2018).

"The First Wave" of Development in Artificial Intelligence Society: Internet-Based Artificial Intelligence. Internet-based artificial intelligence, also known as the "first wave," has arguably ingrained itself in our thoughts and potentially our finances. This initial wave of artificial intelligence began to surge nearly 15 years ago and had solidified by around 2012. It primarily manifests as recommendation algorithms, which acquire knowledge of individual preferences and subsequently propose content tailored to those preferences. The efficacy of these mechanisms hinges on the data they can access, and currently, major internet conglomerates possess the largest reservoirs of digital information globally. However, this data becomes truly valuable to algorithms once it is appropriately "labeled." These labels encompass various facets such as purchase history, expressions of dissatisfaction, recurrent views of web pages or products, or the time spent on specific websites. These labels are employed to further refine algorithms, enabling them to offer pertinent content to consumers.

Another compelling illustration of the prowess of artificial intelligence lies in its capacity to leverage data to amass insights about individuals, subsequently fine-tuning its actions to align with our preferences. This process of optimization contributes to heightened profitability for Internet-based corporations that derive revenue from our online activities, such as Google, Baidu, Alibaba, YouTube, and their counterparts. The assertion that good data

signifies abundant data is not coincidental. In the realm of artificial intelligence on the Internet, both Chinese and American companies exhibit comparable strength, and the prospects of leading the field are approximately evenly divided. The economic potential arising from the inaugural wave of artificial intelligence remains predominantly confined to the domains of high technology and the digital realm. This "first wave" of artificial intelligence is based on the behaviors of internet users who, in turn, automatically generate data for analysis (Nikitenko et al., 2019).

"The Second Wave of Artificial Intelligence Society Development": Artificial Intelligence for Business. This represents a significant area of interdisciplinary research interest today (Black & Van Esch, 2020; Di Vaio et al., 2020; Gruetzemacher et al., 2020; Libai et al., 2020; Wagner, 2020). The fundamental premise underlying artificial intelligence for business is that traditional enterprises have been harnessing vast troves of data for decades. For instance, insurance companies not only disburse accident claims but also frequently uncover fraudulent activities. Algorithms capable of amalgamating thousands of discernible and latent attributes through intricate mathematical operations often outperform human experts in various business analytics tasks. These tasks encompass a wide spectrum, ranging from processing extensive stock market data to monitoring credit card utilization and evaluating statistics pertaining to unpaid mortgages. The financial sector, replete with well-structured information and precise metrics for optimization, is fertile ground for such advancements. Chinese industry leaders maintain a perspective that investing in external expertise is not a worthwhile endeavor. The application of artificial intelligence holds significant promise in sectors like medical diagnostics, legal proceedings, banking, insurance, and others that demand meticulous data structuring.

"The Third Wave of Artificial Intelligence Society Development": Artificial Intelligence of Perception. Rather than merely cataloging audio archives as sequences of binary digits, algorithms have evolved to comprehend language and interpret the significance behind phrases like "frequent expenditure." This progression signifies the emergence of artificial intelligence of perception.

The third wave encapsulates the ongoing enhancement of these capabilities, delving even further into all aspects of our existence. The process of digitization will envelop our surroundings through the proliferation of sensors and intelligent devices. These devices will transform facets of the physical world into digital data, enabling their analysis and optimization through the utilization of deep learning algorithms.

"The Fourth Wave of Artificial Intelligence Society": Autonomous Artificial Intelligence. The fourth wave, autonomous artificial intelligence, represents the pinnacle of all achievements from prior stages. As machines attain the ability to "see and hear" their surroundings, they will be poised to navigate and interact seamlessly within them. This phase marks the convergence of machines' prowess in optimizing based on extensive data with their newfound sensory capabilities. The result of this fusion will empower machines not only to comprehend their environment but also to actively shape it.

Devices driven by autonomous artificial intelligence are orchestrating a revolution in our daily lives. From shopping malls to restaurants, factories to cities, and fire departments to every corner, a profound transformation is underway. Similar to preceding waves of artificial intelligence, this transition unfolds progressively, culminating in the creation of "AI-powered cities." Such cities will feature road surfaces embedded with sensors, traffic lights equipped with computer vision, pedestrian crossings capable of discerning the age of pedestrians. Unquestionably, exceptional expertise in fourth-wave artificial intelligence is pivotal, considering the intricacies of safety and the elevated complexity involved in engineering autonomous vehicles. The pursuit of such advancements necessitates a world-class team of engineers (Nikitenko et al., 2019).

FOUR WAVES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SOCIETY

1. Artificial Intelligence on the Internet
2. Artificial Intelligence for business
3. Artificial Intelligence for perception
4. Autonomous Artificial Intelligence

Figure 1. Four Waves of Development of the Artificial Intelligence Society

II. Directions of Artificial Intelligence Society Development in the Context of Smart Society and Smart Technologies

Robots and machines, long present in our world, often adhere to predetermined action algorithms they have been programmed with. The advent of innovations like Apple's Siri, Microsoft's Cortana, and Amazon's Alexa has democratised access to artificial intelligence for ordinary individuals. Among the most vigorous debates today are those surrounding programs that bestow artificial intelligence upon robots, particularly in the context of conceptualizing smart societies and smart technologies (Andriukaitiene et al., 2017, p. 11–12). The scientific and technological discipline dedicated to crafting intelligent machinery and sophisticated software is known as artificial intelligence. Since the inception of computers, the aspiration to create machines with human-like cognitive abilities capable of substituting for professionals across domains has persisted. The appeal of artificial intelligence lies in its capacity to analyze vast datasets — commonly referred to as BIG DATA.

Its applications are extensive: Facebook, equipped with a repository of images and user data, autonomously aids in identifying friends in photos; Google leverages data from myriad translated documents on the web to offer real-time translations in multiple languages. Furthermore, advancements in language recognition have proven to be a significant breakthrough for artificial intelligence. Frequently, artificial intelligence is tailored to execute specific tasks, such as language or facial recognition, online data collection, and operating household appliances. Apple's Siri, for instance, can interpret voice commands, perform medical diagnoses, or even drive vehicles. Artificial intelligence exhibiting human-like cognitive capabilities is deemed strong artificial intelligence. Notably, experts from the McKinsey Global Institute anticipate that, when considering aggregate effects and factoring out competition effects and transition costs, AI could potentially deliver an additional economic output of around $13 trillion by 2030 *(Notes From the AI Frontier: Modeling the Impact of AI on the World Economy, 2018)*.

A report by Accenture predicts that global economies will witness growth until 2035, driven by the integration of artificial intelligence (Purdy & Daugherty, 2016). Artificial intelligence becomes an intrinsic facet of product offerings, seamlessly integrated into goods. It finds application in enhancing road safety within vehicles or serving as an integral component of Netflix's recommendation service. Additionally, artificial intelligence streamlines workflows, as evident in the automation of contact centers, which subsequently reduces customer call handling costs.

Another prominent avenue for the application of artificial intelligence is in analytical tasks serving as the foundation for decision-making (Schwab, 2017). The emergence of the notion of a creative persona within the framework of the creative economy, amid the challenges of globalization, underscores the role of all directions in artificial intelligence development in catalyzing business expansion, enhancing customer loyalty, and driving profitability.

The primary trajectory in the development of artificial intelligence society entails real-time data processing, capable of managing extensive datasets while discerning similarities and differences within them. In the realm of medicine, this translates to early-stage diagnostics, while in the financial sector, it is instrumental in combating fraud linked to payment cards and financial transactions. These capabilities also hold potential for enhancing security monitoring and facilitating climate change mitigation efforts.

The second trajectory of artificial intelligence society advancement revolves around its capacity to swiftly generate countless scenarios and templates, subsequently testing ideas using Big Data. This dynamic aids in the discovery of solutions to intricate problems by evaluating their viability through experimentation.

The third trajectory of artificial intelligence society development is dedicated to empowering merchants to tailor personalized offers to their customers, leveraging capabilities akin to those exhibited by platforms such as Netflix. This dimension also facilitates the testing of product names to ascertain customer perception and resonance.

The fourth trajectory of artificial intelligence society development encompasses the ability to process diverse formats, including images, videos, music files, and similar media. This versatility generates an expansive corpus for analysis. As a consequence, contemporary applications such as voice recognition and event scheduling on mobile phones, or lawyers gaining access to data from analogous legal cases, can now thrive. Artificial intelligence's potential extends further, enabling interaction with the environment by collecting data from disparate systems and sensors, facilitating navigation, and fostering collaboration with machinery.

In its multifaceted evolution, the development of an artificial intelligence society embarks on several functions:

1. Learning.
2. Understanding.
3. Reasoning.
4. Interaction.

The progression of artificial intelligence society finds application in various domains:

1. Data protection and security.
2. Detection of financial fraud.
3. Diagnosis of human diseases by machines and anticipation based on markers of disease probability.
4. Personalized marketing, leveraging it to extract customer insights.
5. Language recognition as a cornerstone of customer service in contact centers.
6. The integration of artificial intelligence into the Internet by 2025 to learn and enhance human habits for increased comfort.

Simultaneously, it is vital to acknowledge that the advent of super-intelligent artificial intelligence brings with it a host of risks and uncertainties. Notably, computer luminaries have raised concerns about the potential threats posed by artificial intelligence, given that humanity has never before confronted the challenge of creating super-intelligent entities. Predicting the outcomes of such a scenario is exceedingly complex. Presently, artificial intelligence is already contributing to 30 corporate audits, with 75% of respondents anticipating a significant turning point in this realm by 2025.

Artificial intelligence has demonstrated its capacity to proficiently manage typical solutions and automate processes, rendering it invaluable for numerous tasks within large organizations and industries. The trend is pointing towards an environment where artificial intelligence will progressively replace humans in various tasks, a prediction highlighted by Klaus Schwab (2017). This evolution foresees the computerization of approximately 47 percent of jobs that existed in the U.S. in 2010 within the coming 10–20 years (Sandhana, 2015). Despite these changes, positive outcomes have emerged, including:

1. Cost reductions.
2. Heightened productivity.
3. The dismantling of barriers to innovation.
4. New avenues for small businesses to flourish.

Yet, a potential transformation looms on the horizon — an explosion of intelligence surpassing human capabilities, termed the "singularity," a concept pioneered by Raymond Kurzweil (2005). Elaborating on this, Elon Musk underscores the profound threat posed by artificial intelligence and suggests that risks can be mitigated through the application of artificial intelligence control and security measures (Clifford, 2018). If Moore's Law persists, projecting developments at the same pace as over the past three decades, computer processors could reach the processing speed of the human brain by 2025.

In the realm of robotics, the International Federation of Robotics notes the existence of 1.1 million robots globally, with 80% of automobile manufacturing workflows powered by robotic systems (Britchenko & Polishchuk, 2018). These machines have the potential to streamline supply chains for improved business predictability and efficiency. A significant tipping point is anticipated by 2025, as 86% of respondents projecting.

Positive Outcomes of this Process:

1. Streamlined supply chains and logistics.
2. Enhanced free time.

3. Improved treatment outcomes.
4. Heightened access to materials.
5. Reshoring — the substitution of foreign labor with robots.

In the context of robotization and artificial intelligence, there is a general willingness to acknowledge that computer programs have the capacity to defeat human experts in games like checkers or chess, and computers excel in performing complex calculations with greater efficiency than humans. Simultaneously, there is a prevailing belief that artificial intelligence possesses ethical boundaries. The ongoing progression of technological capabilities suggests that we are approaching a time when the manipulation of two fundamental types of information–biological and computational, represented by the byte and the genome–could potentially result in the emergence of advanced entities. This impending prospect underscores the necessity for humanity, collectively sensing the potential risks and complexities posed by artificial intelligence, to actively engage in a discourse. This discourse should encompass the realm of possibilities and challenges associated with the trajectory that artificial intelligence might follow.

The emerging technologies of today–robotics, artificial intelligence, synthetic biology, nanotechnology, and 3D manufacturing–are also shaping the trajectory of the global landscape and giving rise to numerous potential threats. These technological advancements signify a new reality and an existential transformation of all aspects of modern socio-thought. This evolution introduces fresh challenges and risks for humanity, necessitating the formulation of novel paradigms, theories, and models to address the survival issues faced by individuals and society.

III. Development of the Concept of Evolution Society of Artificial Intelligence (AI) 3.0 in the Face of Technological Change and Digital Revolution

Disruptive changes reverberate across various domains, triggering global implications that encompass employment, privacy, and even the very definition of "humanity" in the future. Thus, science and technology must be anchored more firmly to ethical boundaries. In response, the artificial intelligence community must establish institutions capable of continuous assessment of the broader ramifications stemming from comprehensive technological progress. This pertains particularly to the emergence of new artificial intelligence developments capable of achieving, or even surpassing, human intelligence across diverse domains and challenges.

The evolution of the artificial intelligence (AI) concept within the context of the digital economy is an ongoing and progressively refining process. Despite advancements, AI's cognitive capacities still fall notably short of human capabilities across numerous domains, notably in areas such as social skills; efforts have been made by humans to educate Artificial Intelligence in the art of programming systems flawlessly. This approach has gained traction among scientists due to their faith in the concept of an imminent intellectual explosion, a concept initially introduced by British mathematician Irving Goode in 1965 (Andriukaitiene et al., 2017).

Artificial intelligence denotes an immensely intelligent machine capable of exceeding the entirety of cognitive prowess possessed by even the most astute human. Given that the construction of machines is intrinsic to cognitive processes, this superintelligent machine could engender the creation of even more advanced machines. Consequently, an "intellectual explosion" is anticipated, leading to a considerable advancement that outpaces the human intellect by a substantial margin. Developers who have accomplished this recursive perfection believe that the machine's intelligence will soon elevate to a level where it can autonomously acquire and excel in all other human skills deemed relevant.

The concept of life encompasses a process capable of storing intricate forms and replicating itself, characterized by three developmental stages:

1. The biological phase (1.0), in which it evolves both its physical framework (body) and its "software" (intelligence).
2. The cultural phase (2.0), where it possesses the capacity to develop its own "software" through learning.
3. The technological phase (3.0), enabling the creation of "hardware" and the assertion of control over its own fate. The advent of Artificial Intel-

ligence might even enable the commencement of Life 3.0 within this century.

In grappling with this intricate matter, three primary perspectives have emerged:

1. Technoskeptics contend that the creation of superhuman artificial intelligence is such a formidable task that its realization might remain elusive for hundreds of years, thus rendering immediate concern unnecessary (Life 3.0).
2. Digital utopians predict that the emergence of such intelligence could transpire as early as this century and enthusiastically embrace "Life 3.0" as a natural and desirable progression in the cosmic evolution.
3. The movement advocating for the development of enabling artificial intelligence, characterized by its ability to achieve intricate objectives, deems its attainment plausible within this century. However, they acknowledge that favorable outcomes are not guaranteed and advocate for persistent efforts focused on ensuring the safety of artificial intelligence.

Amidst these discussions, certain challenges arise from misunderstandings, leading to pseudo-contradictions. Engaging in debates over terms such as "life," "intelligence," and "consciousness" can be futile if opposing parties attribute divergent meanings to these terms or propagate misconceptions (Cherep et al., 2020).

Central to the progression of the artificial intelligence society is the fundamental concept of "intelligence," characterized by the ability to accomplish intricate objectives through a spectrum of skills geared toward achieving AI-driven goals. Current artificial intelligence tends to be specialized, with individual systems designed to achieve very specific objectives, in stark contrast to the wide-ranging capabilities of human intelligence. If the ongoing advancement in the AI sector persists, the eventual attainment of human-level proficiency across all skills by artificial intelligence will present captivating opportunities and intricate challenges across industries spanning bug detection, weapon regulations, and job security (Lee, 2018).

DISCUSSION

In the foreseeable future, the trajectory of AI progress holds the potential to significantly enhance human existence, manifesting in multifarious ways. This ranges from enhancing the efficiency of personal lives, electrical grids, and financial markets, to the implementation of autonomous driving for lifesaving purposes, and the utilization of surgical robots and AI-based diagnostic systems (Nikitenko et al., 2019). To enable artificial intelligence to effectively govern real-world systems, a vital prerequisite is bolstering its robustness to ensure precise alignment with human expectations and to prevent harm. This entails addressing demanding technical issues encompassing verification, validation, security, and control.

Certainly, in the near future, advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) have immense potential to significantly enhance human existence. Key areas where AI can play a pivotal role include:

1. Medical Research and Healthcare: AI applications in medical research, diagnosis, and treatment can enhance diagnostic accuracy, personalize treatment plans, and increase the efficiency of medical practices.
2. Education: AI in educational technology can create personalized learning programs, analyze individual student needs, and foster more effective learning experiences.
3. Energy Management: Optimizing energy systems, predicting energy production, and developing efficient renewable energy practices can be enhanced using AI.
4. Transportation: AI contributes to autonomous vehicles, traffic optimization, improved navigation, and safety systems, making substantial advancements in the field of transportation.
5. Environmental Protection: AI aids in climate modeling, ecosystem monitoring, and natural disaster prevention, facilitating effective environmental management.
6. Business Optimization: AI can optimize business processes, forecast market trends, and automate production, improving enterprise efficiency and fostering development opportunities.
7. Communication: Enhanced machine translation systems, chatbots, and voice interfaces can make

cross-language communication more convenient and efficient.

Despite these positive aspects, challenges such as ethical considerations, data security, and issues of transparency and accountability in AI development and application must be addressed. It is crucial to develop and implement AI technologies with a focus on these aspects to maximize their potential for the benefit of humanity.

Discussions in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) encompass numerous concepts, theories, and contributions from various authors. Key figures and their associated concepts include:

1. Arthur Samuel (2000): Introduced the term machine learning and developed ideas on machine learning using data.
2. Tom Mitchell (1983): Defined machine learning as a field allowing computers to learn without explicit programming.
3. Andrew Ng (2016): Machine learning expert and co-founder of the Coursera platform, contributed to the development of deep learning.
4. Yann LeCun: Developer of deep learning algorithms, known for work in pattern recognition and neural networks (Farabet et al., 2013; LeCun et al., 2015).
5. Juergen Schmidhuber (1992, 2013): Contributed to the development of neural network architectures and recurrent neural networks.
6. Alan Turing (1950): Pioneer in the theory of computation, formulated the Turing test to determine machine intelligence.
7. John McCarthy (1986): One of the founders of AI research, developed the Lisp programming language.
8. McCulloch and Pitts (1943): Proposed the artificial neuron model, the basis for neural networks.
9. Sutton and Barto (1998): Authors of "Introduction to Reinforcement Learning," making important contributions to reinforcement learning concepts.
10. Norvig and Russell (2011): Authors of "Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach," addressing NLP principles and AI aspects.
11. Yoshua Bengio, Yann LeCun, and Geoffrey Hinton: Made significant contributions to deep learning techniques, particularly in the context of NLP (LeCun et al., 2015).
12. Timnit Gebru: AI ethics researcher, known for uncovering ethical and social issues in AI (Jo & Gebru, 2020).
13. Rodney Brooks(2013): Co-founder of iRobot, a developer in robotics and AI research.
14. Hans Moravec (1999): Contributed to mobile robotics and the development of autonomous robots.

Each of these figures has left a lasting impact on different facets and directions within the field of artificial intelligence. Their collective work forms the foundation for numerous innovations and applications in this rapidly evolving field.

This imperative for heightened reliability becomes especially pronounced in the context of AI-powered weaponry, where the risks can be substantial, necessitating international agreements to avert unbridled arms proliferation. Opportunities also exist to enhance the fairness and efficiency of the legal system by creating transparent and unbiased AI judges. As our legal framework adapts to the rapid evolution of artificial intelligence, posing intricate legal queries about privacy, liability, and regulation, the integration of intelligent machines can increasingly contribute to the labor market.

The prospect of creating cyborgs appears plausible and holds the potential to pave the way toward achieving highly advanced machine intelligence. The phenomenon of an intelligence explosion signifies a rapid surge in technology, culminating in a stable state governed solely by the laws of physics. This technological pinnacle surpasses the current scope of technological advancements, enabling the generation of energy at a scale almost 10 billion times greater from a given mass (utilizing sphalerons or black holes), the storage of information by 12–18 orders of magnitude more in the same mass, a computation speed boost of 31–41 orders of magnitude, or the transformation of matter into desired forms. Within the realms of space, information is poised to emerge as the primary commodity for exchange or trade. Interactions between two expanding civilizations can lead to assimilation, cooperation, or war. It is quite possible that life is the only form of existence capable of animating the observable universe in the future.

If we continually advance technology with due care, foresight, and strategic planning to circumvent failures, the possibility exists for life to flourish on Earth and extend far beyond for billions of years, exceeding the imagination of our forebears. The construction of increasingly sophisticated machines is driven by the pursuit of our objectives. By creating machines that exhibit goal-oriented behavior, the objective is to align machine goals with human aspirations.

The potential of artificial intelligence holds the promise of a remarkable future, contingent on addressing some of the most challenging inquiries. In the words of Nick Bostrom (2014), we are presently safeguarding our future and the continuation of life by steering the trajectory of artificial intelligence toward a more promising future for humanity. The preference lies in fostering a society where the outcomes of scientific research are harnessed for the betterment of people rather than ignored.

The evolution of concept of Artificial Intelligence 3.0 within the context of technological shifts and the digital economy is becoming a mounting concern, given our escalating reliance on it that renders us susceptible, while contemporary intricate systems continuously burgeon (Schwab, 2017).

The advancement of the artificial intelligence society has linked a multitude of new devices to the Internet, thoroughly saturating various facets of our daily existence. This ongoing connectivity will interlink individuals and machines across the globe, interweaving them into our shared consciousness, which is also burgeoning at an exponential rate. The technological "cornucopia" that we embrace into our lives without contemplation and thoughtful evaluation could rebound and introduce a range of problems, complexities, and inconsistencies. These dangers foreshadow the advent of a novel reality, a forthcoming era for which we are not yet adequately prepared.
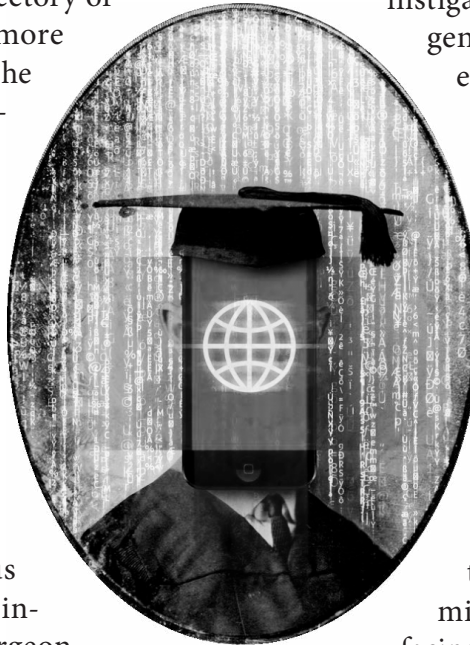
Through recognizing and acknowledging the perils posed by artificial intelligence technologies to humanity, it is imperative to initiate the requisite changes that will bolster the foundation of our technological future. There arises a necessity for enhanced governmental oversight of cybercrime, which is witnessing a surge in activity across networks; companies must elevate security standards and ensure robust cybersecurity measures. Irrespective of the sophistication of technology or Internet services, participants in the digital underground stand ready to employ innovative tools at their disposal, often motivated by financial gains through calculated large-scale thefts. This defiance challenges authorities and disregards regulations and laws, as they devise malicious software and instigate innovative cyber scams, thereby generating new domains of criminal enterprises. Hence, it is incumbent upon the state to preempt hacker assaults, thereby safeguarding against cybercrime.

The state ought to formulate a spectrum of technical, technological, organizational, and educational guidelines encompassing public policy, aimed at mitigating the risks associated with technology. It should also utilize various strategies and tools to maximize benefits while minimizing adverse consequences. In facing the crucible of progress, humanity must prevail. In the contemporary landscape of society and economy, trust within the digital realm holds immense significance. With the escalating threats, daily data breaches orchestrated by hackers, and the state's limitations in safeguarding individuals, and businesses lacking adequate technical resources for defense, the need for heightened governmental vigilance in protecting society and individuals against cybercrime is imperative. This entails elevating security standards, strengthening cybersecurity measures, and preventing assaults on critical state infrastructure.

In light of the evolving artificial intelligence society, the state should devise a robust national security strategy and bolster control mechanisms

to thwart cybercriminal attacks. In anticipation of potential future conflicts, the establishment of a cyber army and cyber police holds merit (Lee, 2018). Vital components like cyber security, biometrics, digital identification, platforms, and cloud technologies play pivotal roles in augmenting the efficiency of artificial intelligence. The convergence of information and computer technologies ought to serve as a groundbreaking force that propels the development of artificial intelligence. As highlighted by Oleg Maltsev, the relentless surge of technological advancement is progressively engulfing the physical realm in the digital domain. This paradigm shift necessitates novel security approaches in consonance with the exigencies and parameters of the 21st century (Huzhva, 2020).

CONCLUSIONS

1. The evolution of the artificial intelligence society within the postmodern context, while acknowledging its issues, risks, and challenges, underscores the dissolution of boundaries between the online and offline worlds. This dissolution is occurring at an accelerated pace, increasing the touchpoints through which our interaction with the Internet takes place. Novel hybrid environments are emerging, characterized by the integration of online and offline realms. This convergence from pure e-commerce to online-to-offline service provision signifies the next phase in artificial intelligence evolution, underscored by comprehensive integration. In the foreseeable future, the artificial intelligence society will revolutionize shopping centers, grocery stores, urban streets, and homes into online-to-offline convergent spaces. Innovative additions arising from this transformation will enable everyday users to experience scenarios akin to those in science fiction films, such as cashless payment at restaurants through facial recognition technology, eliminating the need for cash, cards, or mobile phones.

2. As perceptual artificial intelligence continues to advance, gaining proficiency in recognizing faces, comprehending language, and perceiving the world, it creates a multitude of new intersections between the online and offline realms, propelling the evolution of the artificial

intelligence society. The emerging challenges are expanding in complexity, revolving around safeguarding and maintaining control over the myriad devices integrated into our daily lives. Presently, a lack of robust models for genuinely secure and reliable computing persists.

3. The progression of the Artificial Intelligence Society mandates a strategic trajectory to navigate the array of technological threats confronting humanity today. Through a global mobilization of the artificial intelligence society and the reclamation of comprehensive control over our devices and technologies, we can harness these tools solely for the advancement of human welfare. The establishment of secure and dependable computing is paramount for the foundation of our technological future, to avert potential system collapse.

4. The development of the artificial intelligence society within the context of postmodernity, acknowledging challenges, risks, and problems, underscores the imperative to concurrently address national interests, legal frameworks, ethical considerations, and societal repercussions inherent in the technological advancements we have fostered. We bear a moral obligation for the growth of the artificial intelligence society and the consequences of our innovations. The responsibility for safeguarding the essence of technology rests upon us, urging us to triumph in the battle to preserve this essence and to endure the trials of progress, thus catalyzing a resolute call to action.

When incorporating artificial intelligence into practice, several crucial aspects should be considered. Here are practical recommendations:

1. Identify specific tasks: Clearly define tasks that artificial intelligence should address, such as automating routines, optimizing business processes, or enhancing decision-making.
2. Collect quality data: Data quality significantly impacts AI system performance. Ensure an ample amount of clean and relevant data.
3. Choose the appropriate machine learning algorithm or method: Select the method that best fits the problem, considering, for example, convolutional neural networks for image processing and NLP methods for text processing.

4. Train the model on diverse data: Use varied data during training to enhance the model's generalizability and its ability to handle new data effectively.

5. Regularly train the model: Depending on task changes and data variations, conduct regular training sessions to maintain the model's relevance and effectiveness.

6. Ensure interpretability: Design AI systems with attention to model interpretability, crucial for understanding decision-making processes, particularly when impacting individuals.

7. Address ethical considerations: Consider ethical issues in AI development and application, ensuring transparency, respecting data privacy, and preventing potential negative consequences.

8. Periodically test and validate: Regularly test and validate the AI system on new data to identify potential issues and maintain reliability.

9. Utilize user feedback: Adjust the model based on user feedback to enhance the system over time.

10. Train and update staff: Provide training on effective system use and interaction. Install monitoring systems for tracking performance and results, ensuring regular updates and optimization.

11. Automate and optimize processes: Streamline business processes and reduce staff workload through the automation and optimization of routine tasks.

12. Collaborate and share knowledge: Engage in collaboration and knowledge sharing within the AI community and industry.

13. Scalability readiness: Design AI systems with scalability in mind to handle increasing data volumes and tasks efficiently.

14. Assess potential risks: Evaluate data security, ethical considerations, and potential negative consequences associated with AI use.

15. 16) Explore emerging trends: Stay informed about new trends, technologies, methods, and approaches in AI to enhance your system.

16. Readiness to adapt: Be prepared to change and adapt your system to new requirements and technologies.

17. Investigate societal impact: When designing and implementing AI systems, consider their impact on society and societal values, evaluating potential social and ethical implications.

Following these practical recommendations facilitates successful integration and utilization of artificial intelligence in various fields and activities, contributing to more effective implementations in practice.

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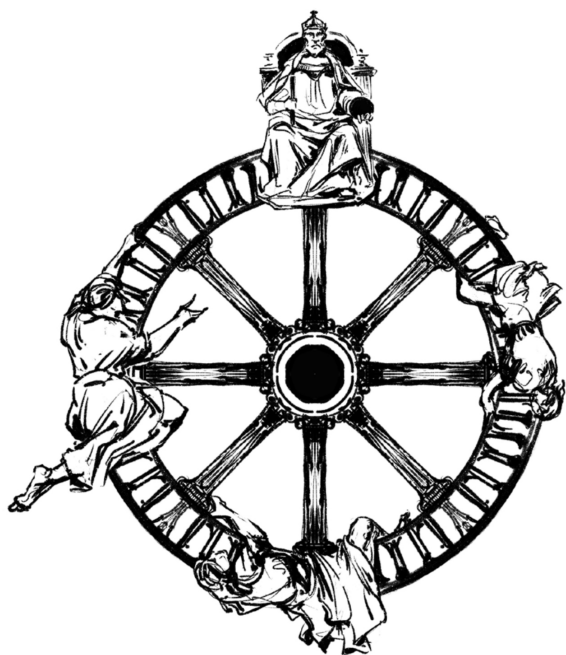
HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGICAL THOUGHT.
THE OBJECT OF RESEARCH IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

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ABSTRACT

The evolution of psychological thought spans an extensive timeframe, witnessing diverse stages of development. Views regarding the subject of study in psychological science have transitioned from philosophical contemplations to more methodical and scientific approaches throughout the centuries. This article focuses on the inception of the most widely used tests in psychology, highlighting distinctions between psychological and philosophical sciences. The dynamic nature of psychology as a science is evident through its continual progression, introducing fresh research methods and topics as it advances.

Keywords
psychology, test, MMPI, Rorschach

INTRODUCTION

Often, there exists an inclination to blend the definitions of different fields of science and their goals. What constitutes psychology and how does it set itself apart from disciplines like philosophy? Delving into philosophical concepts necessitates the application of logical reasoning. The exploration of psychological concepts demands experimentation, trials, observations, and similar methodologies (Maul et al., 2016; see also Ashton, 2018; Brugha & Meltzer, 2017; Ellis, 2019; Putnick & Bornstein, 2016). In the context of psychology, though, the primary instrument continues to be the test, as it reveals the intricate psychological processes occurring within an individual that remain imperceptible to ordinary perception. Considering a wide range of contemporary issues and the role of psychology in their resolution, the topic of this article is highly relevant (Bögel & Upham, 2018; Bruce, 2014; Duffy et al., 2019; Johnson & Acabchuk, 2018; Lisciandra, 2018).

Psychology's foundation is rooted in testing; in its absence, psychology as a discipline, probably, would cease to exist. Thus, the concept of a "test" serves as a cornerstone and essential instrument in psychology. This represents the distinction between psychology and philosophy. While philosophy requires the utilization of a logical research framework, the realm of psychology necessitates an alternative research approach, involving experiments and tests, among others. As such, the concept of a "test" holds a fundamental role and serves as a crucial instrument within psychology.We find confirmation of this in the general discourse of current social-behavioral research (Coulacoglou & Saklofske, 2017; see also Benson et al., 2019; Heller, 2019; Melikyan et al., 2019; Oishi et al., 2019; Reynolds & Livingston, 2019; Urbina, 2016). New tests, questionnaires and scales are constantly being developed (Lacroix et al., 2019; Levin et al., 2019).

This article will delve into an examination of the historical evolution and origins of testing, as well as the characteristics of widely employed tests that hold significant relevance in the global scientific community. Moreover, it will explore the contemporary issues surrounding the utilization of testing in connection to various research subjects and categories, shedding light on the stages of its application within the global context.

METHODOLOGY

Research methodology in psychology encompasses principles, approaches, and methods employed to collect, analyze, and interpret data, aiming to attain scientific knowledge about psychological processes and phenomena. The main research methods in psychology are as follows:

- Epistemology examines questions about knowledge acquisition and testing in psychology, essential for justifying research methods and assessing result validity.
- Ontology explores questions about the essence of phenomena and objects of study, aiding in determining the nature of various aspects of the human psyche.
- Experimental Research is conducted under controlled conditions to identify cause-and-effect relationships between variables, enabling more confident conclusions about potential causal relationships.
- Correlational Studies examine the degree of association between two or more variables, revealing statistically significant associations without allowing conclusions about causal relationships.
- Observational Studies involve direct observation of behavior, using structured or unstructured observations to obtain descriptive data.
- Clinical Research focuses on studying psychological disorders and the effectiveness of psychotherapy, utilizing observational, interview, and testing methods.
- Questionnaires and Surveys are standardized forms of questions designed to gather information about subjects' opinions, beliefs, or experiences.
- Experimental Instruments are used to measure physiological, neurophysiological, or psychological variables, such as EEG (electroencephalogram) or MRI (magnetic resonance imaging).

- Observation entails systematic recording and documenting of behavior or phenomena in a natural environment.
- Descriptive Statistics are used to describe research data, including mean values, medians, standard deviations, and correlations.
- Inferential Statistics allow inferences about a general population based on sample data, including hypothesis tests, analysis of variance, and regression analysis.
- Meta-analysis systematically combines results from multiple studies to draw generalized conclusions.
- Adherence to Ethical Standards encompasses protecting the rights and welfare of research participants, ensuring confidentiality of data, and maintaining objectivity in reporting.
- Psychoanalytic conversation is employed to delve into unconscious processes and conflicts and serves therapeutic purposes.
- Cognitive distortions are utilized to pinpoint and analyze distorted thinking in patients.
- Neuropsychological methods: Neuroimaging employs technologies like MRI and PET to examine brain activity and structure during various cognitive tasks.
- Electroencephalography (EEG) records the electrical activity of the brain, facilitating the study of electrical changes in response to various stimuli.
- Experiments in Virtual Environments: Virtual Reality (VR) enables the creation of controlled environments for studying behavior and emotional responses to sensory perceptions.
- Text methods and content analysis: Content analysis of text is employed to systematically analyze text content, identifying patterns, themes, and meanings.

These methods offer various approaches to investigate different aspects of psychology, and the choice of a particular method depends on research objectives, available resources, and ethical considerations. Research methodology in psychology continually evolves, incorporating new technologies, statistical methods, and approaches to data analysis. Successful research necessitates careful planning, transparent methodology, and ethical consideration.

Successful research requires meticulous planning, a systematic approach, and unwavering adherence to scientific principles. Here are key elements contributing to successful research in psychology:

1. Clearly articulated research objectives.
2. Comprehensive review of existing literature in the chosen research area.
3. Selection of an appropriate research method.
4. Formulation and testing of hypotheses reflecting expected results.
5. Determination of the sample and data collection methods, including the development of a research protocol with controls for variables and the design of experiment or observation procedures.
6. Ethical consideration: Obtain informed consent from study participants by explaining the aims, procedures, and potential risks. Ensure data confidentiality and protect participants' rights.
7. Systematic data collection and analysis: Collect data according to the developed protocol and employ appropriate statistical methods for analysis and hypothesis testing.
8. Interpretation of results: Formulate conclusions based on data and hypothesis testing. Analyze the practical significance of results and their relevance to existing theories and research.

Following these steps and paying meticulous attention to each stage of the research process contributes to the success of a study in psychology.

RESULTS

The term "psychodiagnosis" was first introduced in 1921 by Hermann Rorschach (1921), who coined it in reference to the process of assessment utilizing the "inkblot test" he devised, later recognized as the **Rorschach test**.

In the ensuing years, the term 'psychodiagnostics' began to be used as a synonym for 'psychological testing,' gradually supplanting its usage. It's worth noting that the concept of "psychodiagnostics" emerged subsequent to the development of the projective approach, which facilitated the comprehension of a comprehensive personality profile and other individual functions. During this era, substantial theories within the projective approach, formulated by

diverse psychoanalysts, started gaining prominence. For a considerable duration, the notion of "psycho-diagnostics" remained intertwined with projective tests, prominently employed by German and Swiss psychologists. As a result, Germany is regarded as the birthplace of testing, while the United States of America also witnessed significant progress in this psychological domain until the 1970s. During World War II, driven by the pursuit of better opportunities, numerous individuals from Europe sought refuge in the United States, contributing productively to the field. Consequently, this period witnessed a proliferation of historical studies concerning psychological testing.

In terms of the origin and introduction timeline of tests, various interconnected concepts emerge, as testing finds application beyond the realm of psychology. In classical historical accounts, the credit for the initial application of the term "test" is often attributed to **Francis Galton**, an English researcher and the founder of differential psychology and psychometrics (Yaroshevsky, 1996). As early as 1693, a test was devised for the purpose of selecting carriage drivers for streetcars.

We would be accurate in asserting that the origins of testing trace back to Europe, particularly Germany and Switzerland. It was within these regions that a majority of the renowned tests and enduring psychological concepts originated, still serving a meaningful purpose today.

The inaugural recognized test, as previously mentioned, was crafted by Swiss psychiatrist and psychologist Hermann Rorschach in 1921. This test, utilized for scrutinizing personality, psyche, and potential disorders, has withstood the test of time. Certain psychologists employ it to discern an individual's personality traits. The test is administered through an examination of the subject's responses to designated "blots" or Rorschach inkblots (Rorschach, 1921).

The subsequent test to emerge was the **MMPI**, formulated in the late 1930s to early 1940s at the University of Minnesota by Starke Hathaway and John McKinley (1921). This test adopts the structure of a personality questionnaire, rendering it user-friendly. Consequently, it finds extensive application in

the analysis of individual traits and mental states, serving as a valuable psychodiagnostic tool within clinical practice.

In 1935, the realm of psychology welcomed the introduction of the **TAT test** — Thematic Apperception Test. This innovation was conceived at Harvard by Henry Murray and Christiana Morgan. The TAT test serves as a probing tool into the impelling driving forces of personality, internal conflicts, drives, interests, and motives of an individual.

Henry Murray (1943) personally delineates the TAT, as follows: The Thematic Apperception Test, better known as the TAT, is a method by which the dominant drives, emotions, attitudes, complexes, and conflicts of the personality can be identified and which helps to determine the level of latent tendencies that the subject or patient conceals or is unable to show due to their unconsciousness.

The **Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire (16PF)**, commonly known as the Cattell Test, was co-developed by Raymond Cattell (1957), along with Maurice Tatsuoka and Herbert Eber. This assessment tool has gained widespread usage in personnel selection across universities, corporations, and government agencies.

The subsequent year ushered in the emergence of new tests: **the Frieling test and the Szondi test.** German psychoanalyst Heinrich Frieling (1968) employed his test to delve into an individual's inner aspirations, the bounds and vistas of the unconscious, and the nuances of perceiving the surrounding world, employing the "Color Mirror" methodology. Despite encountering substantial critique, this test remains employed for swift evaluations of mental state, vocational guidance, personnel management, analysis of personal attributes and aptitudes, and more.

The **Szondi test,** devised by psychiatrist and psychoanalyst Leopold Szondi, serves as a projective personality assessment using portrait selections. Its primary aim is to explore an individual's drives and unveil potential mental anomalies. Szondi introduced the psychological category of fate, positing that eight drives coalesce to shape the outcomes in an individual's life, thus shaping their fate (Szondi, 1956).

Starting from 1949, experts embraced the **Luscher color test** as a projective technique for personality analysis, initially pioneered by **Max Luscher (1971)**. This test shares certain resemblances with the Freeling test. Luscher maintained that human perception of colors is objective, while color preferences and choices remain subjective. Consequently, he gauged a person's subjective stance towards specific colors, thereby crafting the sole authentic test incorporating the precise hues and intensity of colors required.

Following that, the **Fundamental Interpersonal Relations Orientation Test,** also referred to as "Fundamental Interpersonal Relations Orientation," made its appearance. In 1958, this framework was introduced by the American psychologist **William Schutz** (1989). This assessment tool facilitates the identification of unique behavioral patterns exhibited by an individual and their interactions with others across diverse domains. Human behavior is categorized with respect to three dimensions: inclusion (I), control (C), and affect (A), each encompassing six scales. Employing these attributes, it becomes possible to construct a comprehensive interpersonal profile of the individual in question.

In 1962, the subsequent projective technique introduced was **Edwin E. Wagner's Hand Test**. This test employs ten distinct 3.5x4.5 inch cards, nine of which feature uncomplicated line drawings of individual hands, and the tenth card remains blank, intending to measure how the viewer perceives the actions of each hand (the blank card is left to the viewer's imagination). The observer offers verbal responses or "projections," which are subsequently documented, evaluated, and analyzed. Wagner presented the Hand Test as a "starting point" or a "narrow-band" tool that may not encompass all major facets of personality, but rather assesses an individual's behavioral inclinations (Wagner, 1983).

In 1970, drawing from the theory of "accentuated personalities," which proposes that each individual possesses inherent traits and characteristics that are initially viewed as pathological but can manifest positively or negatively under specific circumstances, the **Leonhard-Shmishek questionnaire** was devised. This test aims to diagnose the specific type of personality accentuation. Leonhard delineated ten distinct accentuation types, suggesting they represent a sort of "sharpening" of an individual's inherent traits, dividing them into character and temperament accentuations. Consequently, the primary purpose of utilizing this tool is to discern the accentuated character and temperament traits of an individual (Leonhard, 1976).

The subsequent test was formulated by **Martin Achtnich (1978),** a Swiss psychologist and educator who studied under Leopold Szondi. Adept in the realms of career counseling, occupational disorders, clinical psychology, and depth psychology, Achtnich crafted the "Test of Photos of Professions (BBT–Berufsbilder test)" — a photographic assessment tool for vocational guidance. This test gained substantial traction in Switzerland and various European nations during the mid-1980s. The foundation of the test draws from the association technique pioneered by Austrian psychologist and psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, centered around the selection of photographs as optimal stimulus material (Achtnich, 1978).

In 2015, drawing on the principles of fate-psychology, which originated with Leopold Szondi, **PhD Oleg Maltsev introduced the Quadro-test**, a tool aimed at revealing an individual's life path and fate (Antonova, 2017). The testing procedure involves the selection of a stimulus material comprising 48 book covers, arranged and chosen in a specific manner. Participants are tasked with selecting eight covers they prefer, eight they dislike, and one portrait. This test serves to ascertain the most efficient route to attain an individual's highest potential, thereby establishing a tailored training regimen based on the individual's personality traits and potential. The test's development and successful application are attributed to the International Schicksalsanalyse Community Research Institute and the Memory Institute. To date, the test's outcomes have consistently demonstrated its effectiveness beyond doubt.

DISCUSSION

The history of psychological thought is a specialized branch of psychology that delves into the evolution and development of ideas within the field of psychology over time. This methodology involves a thorough analysis of historical contexts, philosophical currents,

scientific discoveries, and paradigms that have played a role in shaping psychological theories and concepts.

The object of study in psychological science encompasses a diverse array of aspects related to human mental functioning. This broad scope includes phenomena such as perception, attention, memory, thinking, feelings, motivation, behavior, personality, and various other dimensions of the psyche. The overarching goal of psychology is to comprehend, describe, explain, and predict these mental processes and behavioral patterns.

The history of psychological thought covers a long period of time and has gone through various stages of development. Views on the object of study in psychological science have undergone changes over the centuries, from philosophical reflections to more systematic and scientific approaches. Here is a brief overview of the key stages in the history of psychological thought and its objects of study:

1. Philosophical period: This stage is associated with the studies of ancient philosophers such as Aristotle (1984), who pondered the nature of the human mind.
2. Behavioral Revolution: Marked by the emergence of behavioral psychology, associated with figures like Ivan Pavlov (2001), John B. Watson (Watson & Rayner, 1920), and B. F. Skinner (1971). It emphasized the study of observable behavior and its learnability.
3. Modern Directions: Modern psychology encompasses various approaches such as neuropsychology, evolutionary psychology, and social psychology, continuously expanding the knowledge of its object of study.
4. Integrative approaches: In current research, there is a desire to integrate different approaches, including combining neuroscience with psychology to understand how neurophysiological processes influence mental phenomena.
5. Cultural and Psychological Ecology: With increased globalization, the impact of cultural factors on mental processes has become a pressing issue. Cultural and psychological ecology seeks to understand how sociocultural aspects shape psyche and behavior.
6. Health and Psychotherapy Research: Psychology actively engages in research on mental health, psychopathology, and psychotherapy techniques. Understanding various mental disorders and effective treatments is a crucial aspect of modern psychology.
7. Digital Age and Technology: The development of digital technology has opened new avenues for mental health research. The Internet, virtual reality, and research in artificial intelligence are providing fresh perspectives on understanding the human mind and behavior.
8. Carl Rogers (1961) and Humanistic Psychology: Carl Rogers significantly contributed to humanistic psychology by introducing the concept of self-actualization. He believed that the purpose of human beings is to strive for self-development and self-discovery, with psychotherapy focusing on supporting this process.
9. Abraham Maslow (1954) and the hierarchy of needs: Another key exponent of humanistic psychology is Abraham Maslow. He developed a hierarchy of needs — a pyramid where basic physiological needs form the base, and the highest levels include the needs for security, acceptance, self-esteem, and self-actualization.
10. Erik Erikson (1969) and the theory of personality development: Erik Erikson contributed to the study of personality development by proposing a theory of psychosocial development. He identified eight stages, each associated with certain conflicts that individuals must overcome to achieve health and harmony.
11. Daniel Goleman (2019) and Emotional Intelligence: In more recent times, Daniel Goleman proposed the concept of emotional intelligence, emphasizing the importance of understanding and managing one's emotions and empathy in social interactions.

These authors and concepts represent only a small part of the multifaceted world of psychology. Today, psychology continues to evolve, integrating new research methods, technologies, and cultural and social changes. The history of psychological thought demonstrates the constant development and change of paradigms in psychology, allowing for a better understanding of the human psyche and its functioning. The object of study in psychology remains the human being and their psyche, but with the development of scientific methods and the expansion of cultural contexts, this science is in constant evolution. Psychol-

ogists seek not only to understand how the human mind functions but also to apply this knowledge to improve the quality of life, develop effective teaching methods, prevent and treat mental disorders, and address various sociocultural problems.

The list of basic tests that have been most commonly used in psychological science includes the following:

- Rorschach test: Hermann Rorschach (1921).
- MMPI: Starke Hathaway and John McKinley (1921).
- TAT test: Henry Murray and Christiana Morgan (Murray, 1943).
- Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire: Raymond Cattell (1957).
- Frieling test: Heinrich Frieling (1968).
- Szondi test: Leopold Szondi (1956).
- Luscher color test: Max Luscher (1971).
- Fundamental Interpersonal Relations Orientation Test: William Schutz (1989).
- Hand Test: Edwin E. Wagner (1983).
- Leonhard-Shmishek questionnaire: Hans Schmishek and Karl Leonhard (1956).
- Test of Photos of Professions (BBT–Berufsbilder test): Martin Achtnich (1978).
- Quadro-Test: Oleg Maltsev (Antonova, 2017).

However, it's noteworthy that this list also reflects the divergence in interests and orientations within psychological science. An illustrative instance is the contrast between the Rorschach test and the MMPI. The former constitutes a projective test, whereas the latter embodies a psychometric assessment. The tensions and disputes surrounding these tests, often rooted in the rivalry between European and American schools, could potentially be attributed to the significant contributions of the MMPI's creators.

The MMPI test serves as a psychiatric assessment, grounded in the commonly posed queries by psychiatrists. It incorporates 12 distinct scales, yielding eventual numerical scores. The MMPI test has a"floating stencil of behavioral adequacy" and assesses the traits of behavioral adequacy within specific situations. Its administration is straightforward, and interpreting the outcomes is relatively uncomplicated — a designated key is employed to calculate and summarize the numerical results. The MMPI's straightforward nature has contributed

to its widespread use, in contrast to the relatively limited utilization of the Rorschach test.

The Rorschach test serves as a remarkable tool for psychologists, offering profound insights into an individual's persona, psyche, potential disturbances, and even the underlying motivations for their actions. Generates a distinct, independent assessment that unveils extensive information about an individual and their psychological makeup. This test also lays the foundation for a distinct personality theory and projective environment. But, operating and interpreting this test proves to be a challenging task, demanding a specific level of expertise, profound comprehension of the intricacies of human psyche and memory. Consequently, due to its complexity, the utilization of the Rorschach test remains limited globally, with only a handful of specialists using it. Effective utilization of the Rorschach test demands a scientific background, involving adeptness in serious projective interpretation and a comprehensive grasp of not only psychodiagnostics, but also other relevant scientific disciplines.

In comparative analysis of these two tests, the MMPI comprises 12 sectors and scales, each serving as a discrete "thermometer" measuring one aspect. In contrast, the Rorschach test functions akin to a "meter," metaphorically "immersed" into a person's memory to varying depths, revealing insights into what unfolds at different layers of memory. The data extracted from these memory "depths" is subsequently decoded.

In the context of the introduced psychological concepts, it's important to highlight not just the Rorschach test, which is underpinned by its distinct personality theory. Another concept of significant importance is Leopold Szondi's proposition of "Ego Analysis" (Szondi, 1956). Szondi's psychology revolves around eight drives, while Rorschach's psychology delves into relationships with eight figures. On the other hand, Frieling's psychology is founded on eight figures functioning as components of the prototypical unit, where the figure is replaced by mechanisms.

It is evident that the American school of psychology initially focused on assessing the level of adequacy in individuals, while the European school

delved into the realm of "Ego Analysis" probing the depths of human personality. These represent two distinct paths of research and exploration. Herman Rorschach's work centered on studying personality and substance, delving into human experience Rorschach, whereas MMPI gauged adequacy. These two tests and their respective orientations are fundamentally divergent.

CONCLUSIONS

It is important to acknowledge that a multitude of researchers and scientists spanning the globe have contributed a variety of distinct tests to the field. Each individual scientist or psychoanalyst who has formulated the tests discussed in this article brings forth their unique categories, psychological theories, and corresponding tests. Upon scrutinizing the evolution of psychological thinking, two prominent streams emerge — the European and American schools.

The European and American schools in experimental psychology exhibit distinctive features. Here are some key differences and commonalities:

The European school is often more theoretically oriented, paying attention to scrutinizing concepts and notions, and developing fundamental theories. It frequently maintains close ties with other areas of the humanities, such as philosophy, sociology, and linguistics. For example, Gustav Fechner (1864), a German scientist and one of the founders of psychophysics, integrated methods from both physics and psychology. This school places great emphasis on the careful description and classification of psychological phenomena, utilizing various research methods, including qualitative and quantitative approaches. Franz Brentano (2006), an Austrian psychologist, exemplifies this approach with his development of the concept of intensionalism and emphasis on descriptive psychology.

On the other hand, the American school is more oriented toward practical applications of psychology, emphasizing applied research methods to solve specific problems. B. F. Skinner (1971), an American psychologist in the field of behavioral psychology, is an example of this orientation, having developed the principles of operant conditioning. The American school is more focused on experimental methods and statistical analysis of data, seeking objective and repeatable results. John B. Watson (Watson & Rayner, 1920), an American psychologist known for his classical conditioned reflex experiment with "Little Albert," exemplifies this emphasis.

The American school of psychology primarily directed its attention towards evaluating individuals' level of appropriateness, whereas the European school delved into the intricate domain of "Ego Analysis," delving deep into human personality. Scientists and researchers must bear in mind that tests serve as fundamental instruments in psychological science. Yet, the selection of such tools demands careful consideration, prioritizing their inherent worth over mere ease of application.

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POLITICAL CRIMES:

THEORETICAL AND APPLIED ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM

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ABSTRACT

The article discusses one of the types of crimes, specifically political crimes. It emphasizes that the research remains relevant and significant in democratic countries. While conditions have been created in such countries to reduce the factors that lead to political crimes, the occurrence of such crimes has not been completely eliminated. The study aims to clarify the characteristics of contemporary political crimes. The author points out that despite the long history of research into this phenomenon, there is still no universally accepted definition for the concept of "political crime." In most definitions of po-

litical crime, these crimes are typically associated with the pursuit, maintenance, and use of power. The article focuses on the main issues that currently pique the interest of researchers analyzing political crimes, and it presents a classification based on the subjects and objects of these crimes.

Studying both the individuals who commit political crimes and their victims is crucial to understanding the specificities of these crimes. The article draws attention to the fact that labeling actions within the political sphere as "criminal" is contingent upon various factors, including systems of values, established norms and regulations, societal norms, and the influence of media on public awareness. Trust in authorities and their legitimacy also plays a role. Furthermore, the article presents models that demonstrate shifts in attitudes towards revolutions, uprisings, and the reassessment of actions that were once considered "criminal." These shifts can be attributed to changes in the political and social systems. The author highlights that these alterations could be linked to transformations in the political and social systems.

INTRODUCTION

Opinions vary on the origins of the term "political crime." While some scholars argue that the phenomenon gained attention in ancient times, the actual term to describe it emerged in the 19th century. N. Zelinskaya (2005), for instance, links the conceptualization of "political crime" as an offense aimed at authorities to socio-political developments in Western Europe and North America during the mid-18th century. It was during this period that a perception of political crimes as ethically justified transgressions, lacking "absolute criminality," started to take shape.

Steven Shafer (1971) posits that political crime might be the oldest form of criminality, with instances of political criminals present in the histories of virtually all societies. These figures have existed throughout time, continue to exist, and will persist in the future. Recognizing this, it's also valid to note that certain factors that historically fueled political crimes, such as oppression of ethnic groups and religious intolerance, have seen a gradual reduction over time. Cesare Lombroso and Rodolfo Liaschi highlight this trend, yet they emphasize that these underlying causes haven't entirely vanished (Lombroso & Laschi, 1890).

Debates persist regarding the specificities of political crime, especially concerning when violations of laws by authorities or individuals can be justified by expediency or the greater good (Ross, 2012). The relative nature of political crime, as highlighted by Steven Shafer (1971), contributes to the varied and sometimes inconclusive approaches to defining political offenders and categorizing them among different criminal types. The character of political crimes evolves and adapts; in the era of the information society, modern communication systems empower political criminals to achieve their objectives. The utilization of psychological and information warfare can lead to destabilization and orchestrated chaos (Burmaoglu & Sarıtas, 2017; Li & Kovacich, 2016; Miller, 2019; Robinson et al., 2015; Straub, 2019). This topic is reflected in the broader discussion of contemporary interdisciplinary research in the social and behavioral sciences (Benedict et al., 2019; Sætra, 2019; Shin et al., 2018; Talwar et al., 2019; Tanner et al., 2017). Proving the deliberate guilt of those involved, particularly for personal gain, and classifying such actions as "political crimes" pose considerable challenges.

The definition of political offenses can vary based on specific legal, cultural, and political contexts. The determination of political crimes is influenced by the laws and regulations of individual countries or international agreements. International bodies, like the International Criminal Court, may contribute to defining and prosecuting political crimes on a global scale. There are several common features and characteristics are associated with political crimes. Offenses such as treason, attempts to overthrow a government, anti-state propaganda, and acts against the interests of the state are considered political crimes.

Acts of terrorism, intended to achieve political, religious, or ideological goals through violence, may be classified as political crimes. Political Corruption: Offenses involving the improper exchange or use of material or immaterial advantages to gain power or influence can be recognized as political corruption crimes. Actions that infringe upon the political rights of citizens, such as suppressing the opposition, restricting freedom of speech, or impeding the right to peaceful assembly, may be deemed political offenses.

Violations of international humanitarian law during conflicts, including crimes against humanity, can have political implications. Acts of extremism and expressions of hatred directed at specific political or social groups may fall under the category of political crimes. The definition of political crimes is shaped by the specific legal frameworks of individual countries or international agreements, and organizations like the International Criminal Court may contribute to the global understanding and prosecution of such offenses. Political crimes involve unlawful actions aimed at gaining or retaining power, influencing political change, and may manifest in various forms with diverse motivations, all closely tied to the political sphere.

One of the primary characteristics of political crimes is their motivation, which revolves around the pursuit or retention of political power, influence, or control. These crimes typically occur within a political environment, often intertwined with state power, political institutions, and civic structures. Political crimes may involve tactics like manipulating public opinion, utilizing propaganda, disseminating disinformation, and employing other strategies to accomplish political objectives. Many political offenses, including corruption, encompass activities such as acquiring improper benefits, abusing power, and engaging in bribery.

Certain political crimes may be directed against the state, such as terrorism or treason, or they may involve systematic violations of human rights and crimes against humanity. Offenses arising from ethnic or religious conflicts might be categorized as political, as they aim to achieve political goals through group confrontations. Actions intended to interfere in the political processes of other countries may be deemed political crimes, particularly if they contravene international law. Some political crimes may stem from systemic issues, including deficiencies in democracy, the absence of the rule of law, and inadequate control systems. While the characteristics of political crimes can vary based on specific contexts and circumstances, their common thread is their connection to the political sphere and their utilization for the achievement of political objectives.

METHODS

Defining political crime is an initial step in the methodology, covering acts for acquiring power, violating political rights, or engaging in terrorism. Key steps include classifying political crimes, analyzing causes, identifying and investigating cases, enhancing the legal framework, developing preventive strategies, and considering the international dimension. This interdisciplinary approach, involving political science, criminology, human rights, and international law, is essential for understanding, predicting, and combating political crimes.

The methodology for political crime research is a comprehensive framework that combines theoretical and practical aspects to understand, analyze, and address illegal actions within the political sphere. The key research areas span diverse perspectives:

1. Socio-economic analysis: Examining the socio-economic context reveals contributing factors, such as resource distribution, economic crises, and social tensions, influencing political crime.
2. Psychological analysis: Considering psychological aspects unveils the motivations driving individuals to commit political crimes. Studying mental states and backgrounds aids in understanding the choices made by these individuals.
3. Network analysis: Utilizing network analysis techniques identifies links and relationships between individuals, groups, or organizations involved in political crime, revealing structures and patterns of activity.
4. Historical analysis: Reviewing the history of events related to political offenses elucidates context and dynamics, providing insights to predict and prevent similar events in the future.

5. Cultural analysis: Examining cultural characteristics and values helps determine how the cultural environment influences political offenses, such as identifying political religious extremism through belief and ritual analysis.

6. Gender analysis: Applying a gender perspective reveals how stereotypes and inequalities impact political offenses, aiding in understanding the structural causes and consequences of political illegality.

7. Communication analysis: Examining communication modes between those committing political offenses uncovers means of influence and manipulation. Analyzing language in political declarations and public statements offers insights into motivations and goals.

8. Financial flow analysis: Investigating financial flows exposes corruption schemes and financing mechanisms for political offenses. Identifying funding sources and money routes aids in uncovering and disrupting illicit activities.

9. Technological analysis: Applying technological analysis reveals the use of information technology in political crimes, including cyber attacks and social media manipulation.

10. Social media analysis: Examining social media activity unveils public sentiment, information dissemination, and manipulation of public opinion. Analyzing the influence of social media on political views is crucial for understanding potential implications.

11. Biographical analysis: Scrutinizing the personal histories of political offenders provides insight into their identities, motivations, and action dynamics.

12. Scenario analysis: Using scenario analysis enables the development of different possible scenarios, facilitating strategic decision-making to prevent political offenses.

13. Expert analysis: Involving experts from various fields brings diverse perspectives, such as political science, criminology, psychology, or economics, enhancing the understanding of political crime.

Combining these methods creates a fully informed analysis of political crime, forming the basis for developing effective strategies to manage risks and counteract such phenomena in the future.

RESULTS

Political crime serves as a subject of interdisciplinary exploration, engaging scholars from law, criminology, political science, and sociology. A key focus for jurists and criminologists revolves around the distinctions and resemblances between political crime and other forms of criminal activity. V. Timoshenko (2011) emphasizes the need for a clear demarcation between criminological investigations of political crime and the analysis of the issue solely from a political science perspective. Nevertheless, there are instances where criminological and political science approaches to studying political crime intersect, as evident in the examination of political repression (Bove et al., 2017; see also Bhasin & Gandhi, 2013; Gooch, 2019; Roberti, 2019; Van Voren, 2015). Notably, criminologist V. Luneev (2005) dedicates a chapter in his work "Crime in the XXth Century: Global, Regional and Russian Trends" to scrutinizing political crimes, including political repression, as one of its subsets.

It's important to highlight that political scientists and sociologists often avoid using the term "political crime" when examining phenomena involving large groups of people. Instead, their focus lies more in understanding the objective and subjective factors underlying these occurrences, the prerequisites and aftermath, participants, and their motivations. Authorities that have been defeated, which typically trigger such acts of public disobedience, tend to label these processes as "political crimes." Conversely, protesters view the actions of authorities as criminal.

When assessing such processes in the contemporary context, it's crucial to consider their unique origins and evolution within the framework of the modern information society. Emerging information technologies like the Internet and social networks facilitate the task of destabilizing societal situations for interested parties, whether internal or external. However, such actions are seldom classified as political crimes. V. Luneev (2005) observes that the term "political crime" is cautiously employed in associating actions with criminality, based on the rationale that "in the criminal legislation of a democratic society, political motivation cannot be criminalized." However, this stance doesn't ex-

tend to separatism, which is also rooted in political motivation. Separatism is categorized as a crime, specifically as one type of anti-state political crime, where other states might also have vested interests. In the context of hybrid warfare, actions to incite or support separatism within a target country of aggression are feasible.

Contemporary studies on political crimes delve into both the exploration of their causes, motivations, participants, consequences, and avenues for prevention. These crimes can manifest as either violent or non-violent in nature. Consequently, a considerable portion of research is currently dedicated to the realm of political terrorism. This emphasis stems from the emergence of globalized international terrorism, posing a threat to the security of all countries, including those that are politically stable.

Numerous definitions of "political crime" exist, with a common thread being their connection to power dynamics (acquisition, maintenance, utilization) and their foundation in political motivation. However, implementing these definitions in practice presents challenges due to the emotionally charged and evaluative nature through which this phenomenon is perceived, as acknowledged by researchers.

Types of Political Crimes

According to V. Luneev (1999), various forms of political crime can be grouped into three main types: (a) crimes committed for political reasons by individuals or groups against the established constitutional order, the state's interests, or its legitimate leaders; (b) crimes committed for political reasons by individuals or groups against their political rivals: and (c) crimes committed by the ruling elite of totalitarian regimes for their own political objectives, targeting the people, specific parties, groups, or individuals.

This classification demonstrates that political crimes encompass a spectrum of actions. They can originate from both the state's ruling elite against its citizens and citizens against the state, the political system, or political opponents. In both scenarios, the crimes can be deliberate acts or incited reactions. In times of socio-political and economic crises, large-scale peaceful demonstrations by the

populace can trigger an excessive response from the authorities due to their apprehensions about potential backlash from the people. If the use of force to disperse such protests results in casualties, it can create a "self-fulfilling prophecy," as termed by conflictologists (Stukas & Snyder, 2016). While the state maintains a monopoly on the use of violence, this authority should be exercised in extreme circumstances.

People's uprisings can also be seen as a collective response to the actions of authorities — a form of "collective self-defense" against rights violations, infringements on freedoms, or even physical harm. This type of resistance represents a movement against policies that are detrimental to the people. This raises the question of whether such uprisings should be classified as political crimes. At times, failing to resist such policies has led to significant human suffering, as seen during events like the Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932–1933.

Perception of Political Crimes

It's important to highlight that the assessment of identical actions carried out by the same individuals or groups can vary based on the perspective of the evaluator, the value system, the repercussions of these actions, ideological beliefs, propaganda, and the media coverage of events. Throughout the existence of the Soviet Union, for instance, perceptions of Communist Party leaders underwent changes. During the period of Stalin's repressions, many figures who were once considered "heroes of the revolution" were branded as enemies of the people, effectively being treated as political criminals. Subsequently, during the "thaw" era, with the declassification of certain documents from the time of Stalin's repressions, former "prosecutors and judges" found themselves labeled as "accused" of committing political crimes.

The policy of "glasnost" introduced by M. S. Gorbachev in the 1980s further illuminated the crimes committed by the authorities against their own citizens. Similar transformations occurred in the nations of the former socialist bloc. However, it's worth noting that various countries and even different regions within the same country exhibited varying levels of readiness to accept this

"new" historical truth. Such disparities can be attributed to differences in political subcultures, life experiences, and value systems. Many individuals struggled to part with established stereotypes, often as a means to avoid cognitive dissonance. In these situations, defense mechanisms like displacement (essentially "forgetting" distressing or traumatic information) came into play.

The acknowledgment of the Communist Party's activities as criminal had implications for numerous citizens of the Soviet Union, given the party's widespread membership. In 1990, a year prior to the USSR's collapse, the party boasted 19 million members, a number that dwindled to 16 million by 1991. Ordinary members of the party were generally not involved in shaping party policies, and many among them, along with their family members, were also victims of those policies. Nonetheless, the party's indictment for crimes triggered complex emotions in these individuals. Some experienced fear, while others grappled with a sense of injustice. From their standpoint, they themselves hadn't committed any crimes as party members; on the contrary, they believed they had contributed significantly to societal progress.

During the era of perestroika, the perception of the 1917 revolution also underwent shifts. This change in perspective was evident in the use of the term "October Revolution" rather than "Great October Socialist Revolution" (the full official name in the USSR), as well as the removal of the holiday "Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution" from the list of public holidays (this occurred in Ukraine in 2000). Nevertheless, there are individuals who remain in disagreement with the policy of decommunization.

The matter of the "justness" of popular uprisings against authorities has garnered attention from numerous scholars. Throughout history, protests against oppression and governmental violence have been vindicated through various lenses. In the Middle Ages, the justification rested on the belief that rulers had transgressed "God's laws," while in the Modern Age, discourse centered on breaches of the "social contract." In contemporary times, the focus has shifted to violations of human rights and freedoms outlined in the Constitution, which designates the people as the wellspring and bearers of power.
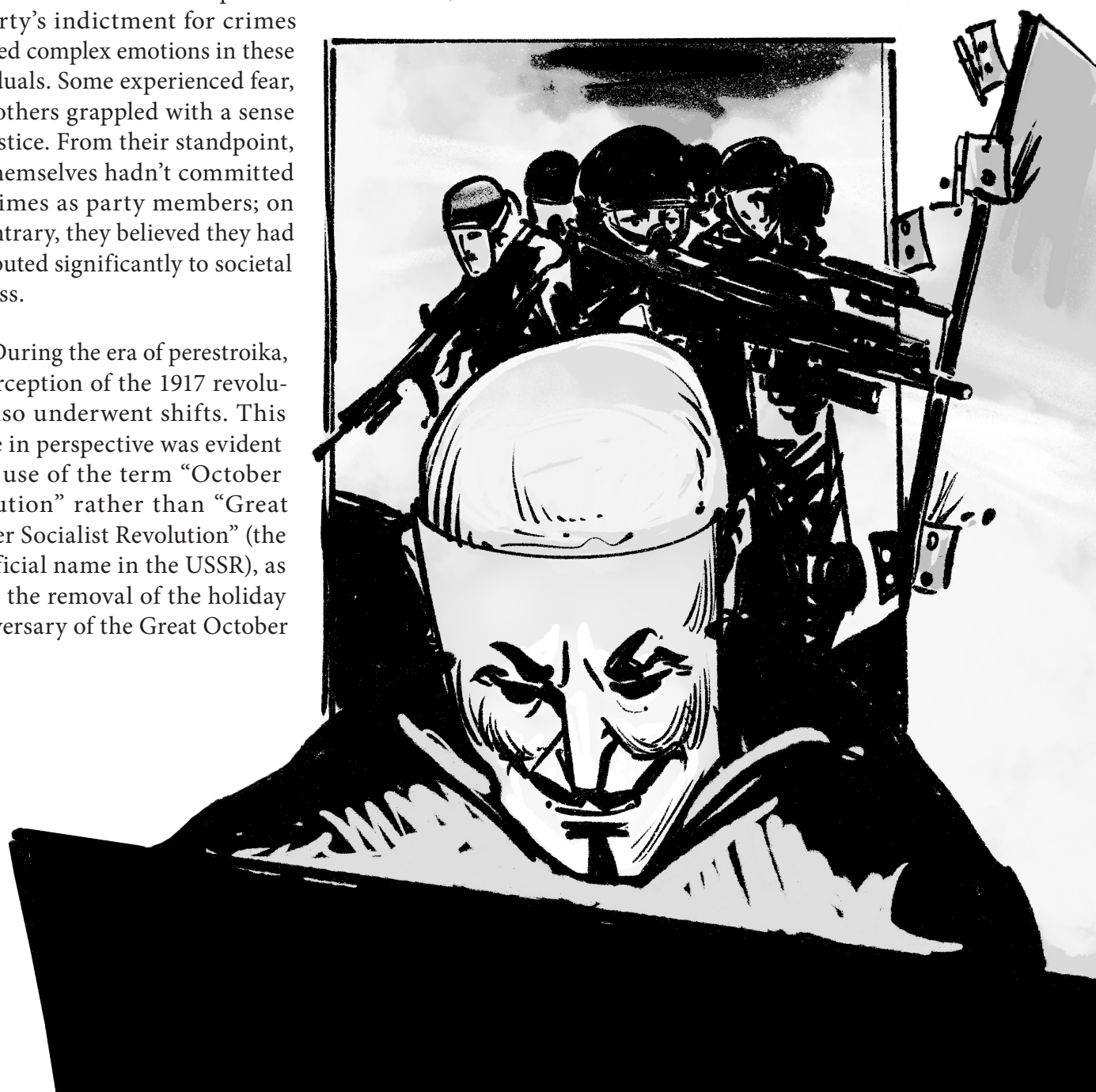
Can an insurgency against power-holding "representatives of the people" who employ violence and terror be deemed criminal if alternative avenues for resolution are scarce? Evaluating such scenarios is intricate and consistently prompts debates, not solely within society but also among scholars. These scholars are not isolated from the societies in which they live, thereby influencing their perspectives. Rendering judgment in such instances is perpetually equivocal. Scientists, as representatives of distinct groups, harbor particular interests that shape their interpretations of revolutions and uprisings. Some perceive these events as outcomes of objective factors, while others construe them as products of conspiracies, leading them to label such occurrences as political crimes. This quandary, known as a problem of objectivity in socio-political understanding, was explored by M. Weber (1904).

The preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948, underscores the importance of safeguarding human rights through the rule of law to prevent individuals from being forced into rebelling against tyranny and oppression as a last resort (United Nations, 1948). Does this imply that if legal protection of human rights falters, individuals should resort to rebellion as a means of self-defense against tyranny and oppression? Although this defensive approach finds validation in the writings of certain historical thinkers and contemporary scholars, the majority of scholars tend to advocate for more conventional methods of asserting one's rights.

Societal instability stemming from either revolutions, uprisings, or mass protests constitutes a political crisis, a bifurcation. At this pivotal point of bifurcation, anticipating the trajectory of societal development and identifying all potential risks becomes arduous.

Subject of Political Crimes

Understanding the nature and characteristics of political crimes inherently involves comprehending the individuals behind these actions (subjects). Therefore, a comprehensive exploration of political crimes necessitates the examination of the personalities of political criminals. These subjects can encompass those in positions of power striving to maintain their authority through any means necessary, segments of the population or individual citizens attempting to unlawfully alter the constitutional order, and opposition politicians employing illicit methods to seize power.

Among the pioneers delving into the study of criminal personality was Cesare Lombroso (1978), who classified political criminals as "criminals by passion." According to Lombroso (1978), class and social fanaticism play a substantial role in political crimes. Criminals of passion exhibit heightened affectivity, making them prone to committing serious offenses under unusual and tense circumstances. However, fully concurring with this perspective proves challenging. In many cases, political crimes perpetrated by those in power against the populace are executed by calculating, rational, and composed individuals.

DISCUSSION

Numerous scholars have taken an interest in the impact of value systems on the conduct of political criminals. Notably, Steven Shafer (1971) observed that the influence of values and morality is more conspicuous in political crimes compared to other types of offenses. The preservation of societal stability and its governance considerably hinge on established value systems. Amidst conditions of anomie, the once-deterrent nature of conventional behavioral norms erodes, and actions once condemned might lose their stigma. Consequently, what previously constituted a political crime could undergo a shift in perception.

In his work titled "Political Crime and the Political Offender: Theory and Practice," Nikos Passas (1986) delves into the political motivations of criminals across various historical periods, spanning from antiquity to the 19th century. Through his exploration, Passas (1986) arrives at the conclusion that the inspiration behind such acts, societal attitudes toward this category of crime, and the public image of these political criminals have undergone shifts and transformations. Notably, there existed a time when political criminals, distinguished by their noble and altruistic motives, commanded

respect that set them apart from ordinary criminals (Passas, 1986).

The transition in perception of former political prisoners in post-Soviet countries during the era of perestroika and glasnost is an illustrative case. This transformation was palpably manifested in the early "post-perestroika" elections. Individuals who had been previously labeled as political criminals assumed roles as influential figures in public opinion, garnering support in elections to governing bodies. This phenomenon underscores the influence of media coverage on shaping public opinions regarding actions and individuals. Importantly, certain breaches of the law pursued with "noble goals" can still be regarded positively by the populace, even if official sources of information present differing perspectives on these acts. This phenomenon is intrinsically tied to the level of trust placed in the government's legitimacy and media credibility.

Object of Political Crimes

When political motivations behind the actions of authorities are not readily apparent and remain concealed, categorizing such actions as political crimes becomes a challenge, even if they result in significant harm to large segments of the population. Contrastingly, the task is less complicated when it's evident that the authorities are intentionally targeting and suppressing political opponents or societal groups, as witnessed in the 20th century within countries governed by totalitarian regimes.

These repressive measures were often directed at specific groups based on ethnic, social class, religious, or ideological factors, or were arbitrarily selected to induce fear within the population. The purpose behind the Holodomor in Ukraine during 1932–1933 is subject to multiple interpretations. It might have been an attempt to eradicate Ukrainians, given their majority presence in the rural populace. It could also be construed as a method of "penalty" Ukrainian peasants. The rural landscape of Ukraine accommodated not only Ukrainians but also individuals from other nationalities. The peasantry expressed their dissent against collectivization policies and prodrazverstka in the 1920s, often disregarding council elections.

In the viewpoint of V. Luneev (1999), the Soviet regime's "political criminality" could be viewed as a repressive strategy against the populace that did not share the Communist Party's political ideologies or actively opposed them. Luneev (1999) emphasizes that from this standpoint, those subjected to repression ought to be seen not as criminals, but as victims of political arbitrariness. The political motive underlying repressions, such as the Ukrainian famine, was evidently to compel acceptance of any actions or policies endorsed by the authorities, even if they starkly contradicted societal interests. This objective was largely fulfilled, as the fear of similar tragedies influenced people's conduct for years to come. During the initial stages of perestroika, scholars remarked upon the conservative nature of Ukrainian society. The process of shedding "social fear" in Ukraine was gradual and incremental.

At times, deliberate information withholding can place people in jeopardy, as exemplified by the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster in the Ukrainian SSR. Could this be justified by the aim to avert panic? Evidently, political motives are also entwined in such actions, driven by the desire to maintain political stability and power. In neighboring countries, including those within the socialist camp like Czechoslovakia, immediate measures were undertaken to safeguard the population from radiation, and through informative campaigns, panic was averted. In contrast, Ukraine not only disseminated inaccurate information about the accident's magnitude but also organized mass events involving numerous children. A notable instance was the International Workers Day' demonstration in Kyiv.

The privatization of state assets, leading to the emergence of a small group of oligarchs in Ukraine, exhibited certain traits of a political crime. This oligarchic group continues to wield substantial influence over state policies. The outcome of power oligarchization was the transformation of a nation with considerable potential wealth into a society where the majority finds themselves within the "lower" class. A portion of the elite, comprising former Soviet nomenklatura, capitalized on their access to power during times of general crisis, societal transformations, and administrative upheaval to amass personal wealth. Gaining control over the

privatization process enabled them to acquire assets that were previously state-owned (Kindratets, 2012).

There are several key concepts and theories that contribute to the understanding of political conflicts:

1. Political Realism: The realist approach to understanding political conflict assumes that states work for their own self-interest and security. According to this theory, conflicts arise from the struggle for power, resources, and influence between sovereign actors.
2. Liberalism Theory: The liberal approach views conflicts as the result of misunderstanding and lack of communication between states. Liberals believe that international institutions, economic interdependence, and diplomacy can reduce and avoid conflicts.
3. Constructivism Theory: Constructivists view conflicts as the result of social constructs, identities, and ideologies. According to this theory, conflicts arise because of differences in perception of the world and understanding of oneself and others.
4. The power politics theory: This theory suggests that conflicts arise from the struggle for control over resources, territory, and power. Power and resource capture are considered key factors in political conflicts.
5. Postcolonial theory: The postcolonial approach highlights the impact of colonial history on contemporary political conflicts. It is noted that many of the conflicts are the result of former colonial events, including borders, ethnic divisions, and economic problems.
6. Negotiation Theory: This approach emphasizes the importance of diplomatic negotiation and engagement in conflict resolution. Rather than emphasizing misunderstandings or conflicts of interest, this theory emphasizes the potential for conflict resolution through negotiation and cooperation.

There are several authors who contributed to the development of some concepts:

- Political Realism: Hans Morgenthau (2008) contends that conflicts are an essential component of state relations, originating from the competition for power, security, and resources.
- Liberalism theory: Michael Doyle (2011) advocates the idea that fostering economic interdependence, democracy, and international institutions could mitigate conflicts.
- The power politics theory: Douglas Lemke (2008) posits that the primary drivers of political conflict are the acquisition and control of resources, power, and other values.
- Engagement Theory: Joseph Hewitt, Jonathan Wilkenfeld, and Ted Robert Gurr perceive conflicts as outcomes that arise from the involvement of various actors, including civil society and mass social movements (Hewitt et al., 2010).
- Territorial Dispute (boundary dispute): According to Niall O Dochartaigh (2015), conflicts may stem from disputes and contentions over territorial boundaries and resources.
- Morton A. Kaplan (2005), a political scientist, explained conflicts through the lens of systems analysis.

The concept of "political crimes" encompasses various aspects and theoretical approaches.

Theoretical Aspects:

- Theory of Power and Legitimacy: Examines how power is used, its legitimacy, and whether citizens' rights are violated in the commission of political crimes.
- Social Counterrevolution Theories: Explore how political crimes can arise in the context of social discontent and efforts to maintain or change the existing order.
- Criminology and Sociology Theory: Analyzes political crime based on criminological and sociological principles, considering the causes of crime and the interaction of social factors.
- Theory of Corruption: Within this framework, political crimes related to the misuse of power and personal gain are studied.
- Theory of International Relations: Considers political crimes in the international context, examining their connection to international conflicts, terrorism, and other forms of interaction between countries.

Applied Aspects:

- The consideration of political crimes includes defining and criminalizing actions perceived as a threat to public order.
- Legal Remedies and Penalties: Involves the development and application of legal means to prevent and punish political crimes.
- International Courts and Tribunals: Set legal precedents for the trial and punishment of political crimes at the international level.
- Implementation of Strategies and Measures: Aims to prevent and control political crimes through proactive measures.
- International Cooperation: Focuses on collaborative efforts to identify, investigate, and punish individuals responsible for political crimes.

The comprehensive approach to the study of political crimes combines theoretical reflections with measures to regulate and control them at various societal levels.

CONCLUSIONS

This study underscores the theoretical and practical dilemmas inherent in classifying specific actions as political offenses. The divergence lies in the varied valuation of motivations, circumstances, and prerequisites surrounding these actions. Presently, numerous events warrant scrutiny by experts in political crimes. Such endeavors can potentially preclude political crimes and offer solutions to the predicaments arising from them.

Addressing political crime necessitates a comprehensive approach:

- Legal Framework: Clearly define political crimes in the law and establish an effective justice system for prosecution.
- Human Rights Protection: Safeguard fundamental human rights, including freedom of speech and peaceful assembly. Develop mechanisms to protect human rights defenders and journalists.
- Institutional Strengthening: Enhance transparency and accountability in government and institutions. Establish independent anti-corruption bodies and audit services.

- Civil Society Support: Foster civil society organizations focused on human rights and political crime monitoring. Encourage citizen participation in decision-making through robust civic engagement mechanisms.
- International Collaboration: Collaborate with international organizations and countries to exchange experiences and information on political crimes. Establish international mechanisms to prevent and address political crimes.
- Education and Information Campaigns: Conduct campaigns and educational activities to inform citizens about their rights and the risks of political crimes. Promote media education and critical thinking to counter disinformation.
- Monitoring and Analysis: Establish mechanisms for monitoring and analyzing political crimes through specialized commissions and research organizations. Regularly publish reports and research findings.
- Conflict Prevention: Develop programs and projects to strengthen social solidarity, foster economic development, and resolve social conflicts, contributing to effective prevention, detection, and punishment of political crimes while safeguarding citizens' rights and freedoms.

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