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## INFORMATION WARFARE A NEW FACE OF WARFARE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Kuzmenko V.V.**

*National Aviation University, Kyiv*

*Scientific supervisor- Mayevska O.M., senior lecturer*

Information is one of the most important components in the life of modern society. The status of a person, state, or organization in the real world is largely determined by its ability to communicate with people and its position in the information space.

International relations have always been based on the principles of communication. International communication- is the exchange of information between participants on the world stage, which has an international character [1]. Information has a global impact, that is, with the successful management of people's minds, it is possible to destroy the opponent or even to start a war. And international communication is a guide to the beginning of information conflicts between the subjects, which can later escalate into information warfare.

Today, the causes of information warfare in international relations may be simple communication between participants, but most often it is terrorism and cybercrime. A computer as a tool can be used to commit a crime and can be the object of a specific crime. These actions are used to disrupt and disable various government databases and management systems. All this

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is caused by electromagnetic interference or disruption of their operation in case of illegal access [3].

States start information warfare in order to gain an information advantage over the opponent, because information in modern society is the main tool of management. Each state in information warfare pursues certain goals, namely:

- protection of their social and information systems;
- understanding the opponent's influence through information;
- fight against the national control system of the enemy;
- waging war in the field of political and economic information;

-waging a psychological war[2]. Information warfare is a kind of ideological confrontation between states. The psychological consequences of these wars for society can be much greater than consequences of armed wars.

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Information weapons for warfare, manufactured in the form of software and hardware systems, can be economically and easily disguised as a means of protection and can operate anonymously without declaring warfare. At the same time, it has versatility in construction and using, and has confidentiality[4].

One of the best examples of information warfare is the interstate conflict between Ukraine and Russia, which uses sociological and political propaganda, a set of activities that are constantly carried out by Russian governmental and non-governmental organizations in the information space of Ukraine[2].

All in all, information warfare is a phenomenon, a new form of struggle of the XXI century, which leads to the defeat of all spheres of state functioning. Information warfare are dangerous because they are undeclared, invisible warfares that threaten international security and especially international relations. Therefore, the development of protection measures should be a priority in the national security policy of the individual state and the world community as a whole.

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