

## SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF MACHIAVELLIANISM OF CONTEMPORARY BULGARIAN POLITICAL ELITE

SONYA ILIEVA

PROFESSOR, DSC  
KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKY – UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
CHIEF EDITOR OF ONLINE JOURNAL SOCIOBRAINS

BULGARIA

SONYAILIEVAA@GMAIL.COM

**ABSTRACT:** THE MACHIAVELLIANISM IS UNDERSTOOD AS THE USE OF CUNNING AND DUPLICITY IN GOVERNMENT OR MANAGEMENT OR PERSONAL LEVEL - AS HYPOCRITICAL INTERPERSONAL STYLE, CYNICAL DISREGARD FOR MORALS WITH EMPHASIS ON SELF-INTEREST AND PERSONAL GAIN. EVERYTHING MENTIONED HERE FOR THE MACHIAVELLIANISM AS STATE POLICY AS THE NORM IN PUBLIC LIFE OR PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS CAN BE PLACED FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE BEHAVIOR OF THE NEW BULGARIAN POLITICAL ELITE. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE PREVAILING CHARACTERISTIC OF THE BULGARIAN POLITICAL ELITE IS ASSOCIATED WITH MASSIVE ABUSE OF POWER. IT HOLDS DEMOCRATIC CHANGES IN FULL ECLIPSE PROCEDURAL PERMEATED WITH HYPOCRISY FACADE. THE ARTICLE ANALYZED ITS BETRAYAL OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES, TO BRING IN OBEDIENCE OF THE WHOLE BULGARIAN PEOPLE THROUGH VARIOUS TRICKS.

**KEY WORDS:** MACHIAVELLIANISM, HYPOCRISY, SELF-INTEREST, PERSONAL GAIN, LOSERS, POLITICAL ELITE, ABUSE OF POWER, CORRUPTION

**Hardly** the great Florentine politician, statesman, diplomat and social thinker Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527) writing his work "The Prince" [4] ("Il Principe", "Prince" or "prince") is the thought that his name will become derivative concept. It is understood as "the use of cunning and duplicity in government or in government, as a whole" - Machiavellianism [8]. The concept was first cited by the Oxford English Dictionary in 1626 and immediately became popular with the public and political dictionary.

**Even** then appear those who oppose the Machiavellianism in the life of societies and states, among which the most popular is that of Frederick II the Great (1712 - 1786), King of Prussia out in his essay "Anti-Machiavelli". At the same time became popular thesis of the great French philosopher Denis Diderot (1713 - 1784), which examines makiavelizma as "disgusting type of policy" and "the art of tyranny" [6].

**According** to theoretical development Yankov Y. [5] the introduction in scientific and especially in propaganda stigmatisation turnover of "the Machiavellianism" is the work of Cardinal Reydzhinald Paul (1500-1558), who first traced the guidelines of negative discourse in the interpretation of the personality and works of Niccolò Machiavelli, as he initiated the idea that it treatise "The Prince" is the source of ideas and practices of godless, uncompromising, amoral and cruel government.

**Gradually** over the centuries formed a broad interpretation of the concept as it is understood in state policy based on the cult of violence and neglect of moral norms [2]. This is largely associated with the ideas of Niccolò Machiavelli rigid centralized power oriented

their decisions primarily in favor of the state, based on common sense, not on moral and ethical standards.

**In many** scientific and journalistic writings [2] in political science, makevializmat placed in the context of manipulation of mass consciousness - one of the means of the state for the management of socio-political processes in the society.

**American** psychologists R. Christie and F. Geysen develop a special "Scale of the Machiavellianism" which term is considered psychologically [3]. According to this scale concept is defined in three factors: 1. behavior - use of manipulative techniques in personal interactions; 2. respect - a reference to other people with suspicion and alienation, using people as a means to obtain a desired result; 3. ignoring morality when it interferes with achieving the desired result.

**It can be** concluded that in modern psychology, the Machiavellianism is understood as hypocritical interpersonal style, cynical disregard for morals with emphasis on self-interest and personal gain [7].

**Everything** mentioned here for the Machiavellianism as state policy as the norm in public life or personal characteristics can be placed for consideration in the behavior of the new Bulgarian political elite.

**The national** political elite is public minority, which has the knowledge, confidence and will to formulate the agenda of the nation. It shall adopt its mission implementation of the national doctrine and to have the political opportunity to do so. The majority of the nation should set the political elite agenda because of shared values and because of the trust that should be the elite.

**Elite** is materially secure. The poor man is strongly committed to its own survival. Material wealth is the freedom to think about things more abstract than yourself, and resources to carry out their projects. Not necessarily political elite consists of super-rich, but the poor could hardly be active elite.

**History** and social characteristics of Bulgarian national elite are almost unknown. In Bulgaria for 150 years it fails to establish genuine traditional acting elite. As often as a social circle remain atop more than one generation, historical twist changes the balance in society and the political elite lost its position. Starting from industrialization and the reforms that opened the Ottoman Empire to markets worldwide in the first half of XIX century, after the Liberation, which gives impetus to the political projects, but closes the huge markets crisis 1913-1918, and the subsequent management of the BAP - are all strong earthquakes that rocked the deep public peaks. Communist dictatorship after 9.IX.1944 practically it takes not only the status of the incumbent elite, but physically liquidate many of its representatives.

**Since** the beginning of the transformation of public life in Bulgaria from totalitarianism to democracy after 1989 to the present day form a new, so-called. "Democratic elite". What are its characteristics?

**The** predominant feature of the Bulgarian political elite is associated with massive abuse of power. This creates massively pronounced dissatisfaction with the elite as a whole, but also apathy, reluctance to vote for anyone from elite. Most of the people themselves as losers - losers, losers trying to seek state protection, but the mass is simply no such conviction. Or if there is, it serves only the interests of Bulgarian political elite.

**In the above** reasons to trust the government, whatever it is single-party or coalition is traditionally low in Bulgaria. This is because people see that the government is benefiting from power. None Bulgarian government since 1989 there has been more than 50% approval.

At the same time in all the years of transition, the political elite of the former communist party able to effectively beat up attempts to create authentic movements, parties and new elites.

**Bulgarian** political elite held democratic changes in full eclipse procedural permeated with hypocrisy facade. This is not about the failure of the entire political class and its betrayal of democratic values, to bring in obedience of the whole Bulgarian people through various tricks. It's about "Hoops", "pyramid", "circles" and other geometric shapes, including costumed and cunning walk greed of the political elite with all its parties. We started to see hinted profiles of people claiming to be political elite who successfully pass from one party to another. Also there are Kadrovitsa network and political players. In this area we can meet and "our prosecutors", "our judges" and "our investigators." They were joined by collectors of compromising facts which are capable stifled any attempt of an honest man to attempt to enter the category of "political elite". There are also collectors of "useful people", which under certain conditions can do "useful work".

**Distanced** from the losers in the company of political elite roam advisors, consultants, erudite, knowledgeable interesting deals complacent firms and experts. Among them scurried advisors, consultants, erudite, knowledgeable interesting deals complacent intermediaries astute experts. Thanks to the patronage of the Bulgarian political elite they giddily career and build their international contacts are gray areas to pass all the governments. They are able to protect the interests not of Bulgarian and foreign owners and get their hands on almost everything and quality which will benefit the economy and finance.

**These** politicians are our elected from party lists molesting us, with whom we have daily direct or indirect contact with them at meetings or broadcasts. Smiling, dandified, confident. Selected from us - the sovereign power to govern us in the highest offices of the national government, they see themselves as gods and quickly forget the oaths of allegiance to the Fatherland, uttered at the beginning of his political rise.

**So the** political elite degenerate into owners of their country and people by turning millions of his compatriots only electoral slaves. Gradually turned into a hateful caste of people depersonalize their own people.

**Bulgarian** political elite since 1989 responsible for several aspects of transition:

1. Failed transition from communism to democracy - the implications of this is the collapse of the welfare of the vast majority of citizens due to the failed privatization of state assets and the formation of a small stratum of 4-5% of the population in illegal or semi-legal time accumulates income . Bulgaria is still the poorest country in the EU with an average salary of about € 300. As a result posocheneto: demographic collapse, demolition of structures in health and education, poverty and unemployment, and others.
2. A missed condemnation of the communist regime - Communism was replaced by the criminal terrorism on society of derivatives of the same criminal power. If communism - that era of violence, duplicity, hypocrisy was condemned before the world she could and finally disappear, but not to continue within a democratic society in some surrogate form.
3. Symbiosis between democracy and wild capitalism - money again went to those who do not deserve. All this stems from the remnants of communism in the mythical "red" briefcases, privatization waves, draining the banks banal theft and corruption. Post-communist government does not create good business practice, but bad (practice) created a rich transition. The acquisition was not a market basis, and mafia. The

accumulation of capital is robbery at all times, because there is no way for the market to capitalize. People were robbed.

4. Huge economic violence against ordinary citizen - is carried out by methods typical of initial accumulation of capital - expropriation of property and the rapid increase in social inequality, with extreme lack of resources. Performed expropriation of two types of property. The first is the personal savings destroyed by explosive price liberalization, inflation and the creation of uncontrolled banking system, whose collapse them melt. The second is a giant property belonging to all citizens, which is appropriated by a minority through privatization techniques.
5. The Bulgarian ethnic model - it is wrong to believe that this model was created and is based solely on an ethnic party. Ethnic model is created through the centuries together from all ethnic groups living on the territory of Bulgaria. Maintaining the idea of Bulgarian political elite in the name of ethnic peace must tolerate the establishment of the only ethnic party in Bulgaria means that we have to pay a kind of tax "corruption" of koruptionerite of this party.
6. The lack of lustration and the late opening of the files - These are among the main reasons 25 years after the end of the totalitarian Communist regime and the beginning of democracy in the majority of Bulgarian society to assess the transition as unsuccessful. With the failure of these steps were given the opportunity to persons directly connected with the communist dictatorship to occupy key positions in politics, the economy, the state and local government. It forms a "democratic political elite" whose origin is from the "party nomenclature" of the former Communist Party. It creates an opportunity for the vast influence of the former State Security on the transition in Bulgaria.
7. As a result, over 900,000 people (constituting one-tenth of the population) essentially economic forcibly leave Bulgaria. Loss of human resources is greater than in all the wars fought before by bourgeois Bulgaria.

**Yes**, these are some of the manifestations of makevializma of modern Bulgarian political elite. He led Bulgarian society towards bright horizons of a prosperous democracy, and dropped it into a "black hole" of history. Party has not made a step forward in socio-economic terms, today's GDP barely reaches the level of 1989. Catastrophic transformation can not be explained only by objective factors. It is also a result of irrational, incompetent and highly destructive activities of a whole series of a number of Bulgarian politicians and governments. Essentially, throughout this period, they are mostly destroyed state. In the Machiavellism - only to their own advantage and without any sense of morality. So these past 25 years have been lost in the economic history of our country. Nobody is responsible for and has no view to bear. Not to mention the guilt - not Machiavellism.

**At that** time the world made a huge leap forward. Central European countries earlier with close Bulgaria indicators obviously have a more rational, competent and responsible political elite have made much less destructive transformations and significantly ahead of us. It turns out that the management of these countries have been immeasurably more accountable to its people.

## REFERENCES

1. **Dotsenko, E.L., 2003:** Доценко, Е. Л. Психология манипуляции: феномены, механизмы и защита. — 3-е. — М.: Речь, 2003. — 304 с.
2. **Kara-Murza, S.G., 2005:** Кара-Мурза, С. Г. Манипуляция сознанием. — М.: Алгоритм, 2004. — 528 с.; М.: Эксмо, 2005. — 832 с
3. **Kristy, R., Gaze, F., 1970:** Кристи, Р., Гейз Ф., Шкала макиавеллизма, 1970,
4. **Machiavelli, N., 1991:** Макиавели, Н., Владетелят, София, 1991
5. **Yankov, Ya., 2007:** Янков, Я., Политически и правни учения (Основи на политикоправния генезис). Том 6. Средновековие. Книга 3. ЕВРОПА. - С., "Янус", 2007
6. **Diderot, Denis, 2004:** (ascribed by Jacques Proust). "Machiavellianism." The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert Collaborative Translation Project. Translated by Timothy Cleary. Ann Arbor: Michigan Publishing, University of Michigan Library, 2004  
Trans. of "Machiavelisme," Encyclopédie ou Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers, vol. 9. Paris, 1765. Accessed 31 March 2015
7. **Jones, Daniel N. Paulhus, Delroy L. 2009:** "Chapter 7. Machiavellianism". In Leary, Mark, R., & Hoyle, Rick, H., Handbook of Individual Differences in Social Behavior.
8. The Oxford English Dictionary "Machiavellian" as a word became very popular in the late 16th century in English, though "Machiavellianism" itself is first cited in 1626