



# **Regulation of hybrid warfare in Hungary**

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# Scope

1. Introduction
2. Threat perception
3. Strategic approach to countering hybrid threats
  - 3.1. Cyber defence
  - 3.2. Building national resilience
4. Crisis management system and decision-making

# Comprehensive security understanding

- „**all aspects** of security for Hungary and its people, such as
- political, economic, financial, societal, technological, environmental, health, military, law enforcement, **information** and **cyber dimensions**” (par. 8.).
- **Geographic Focus:** Carpathian basin, Central Europe, Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Sahel Region (par. 85.)

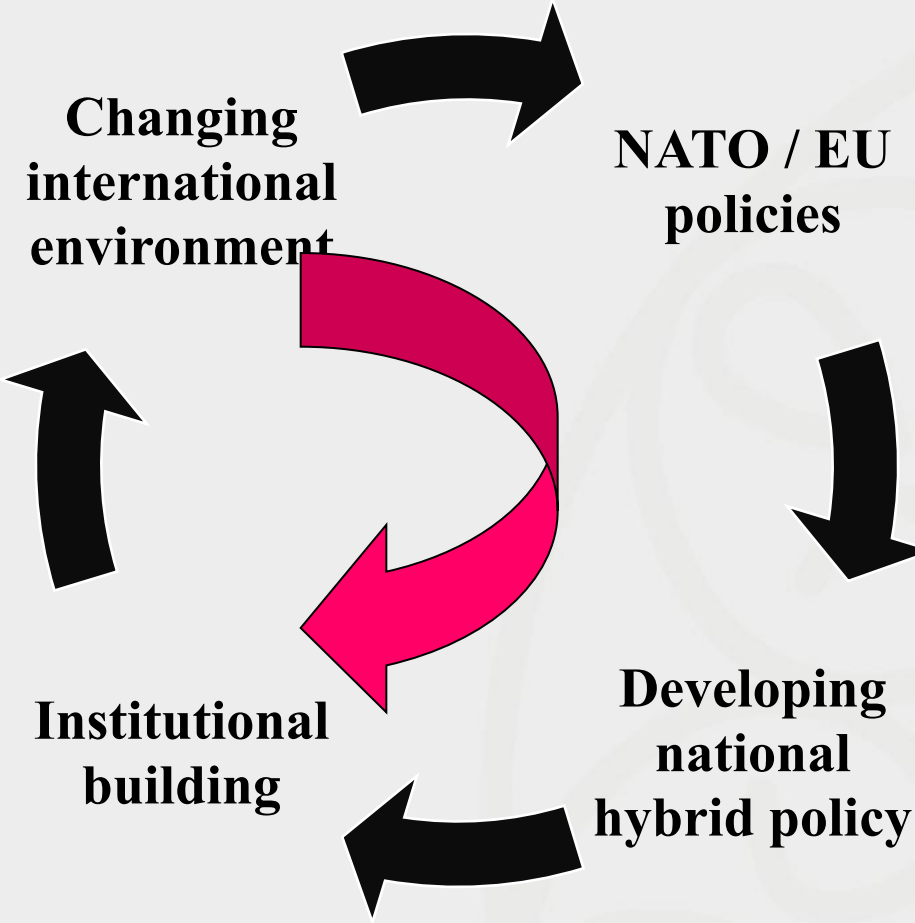
# HUN Understanding of Hybrid Threats

- If the hostile actions below the threshold of war **can destabilize** the country, **weaken** the government's ability to act, **break** the political stability and the social cohesion and **limit** the state's capability to fulfill its interests internationally.
- During hybrid war, the hostile actor aims **to inflict hurdles and harm** to Hungary, **create** crisis situations and **decrease** its capacity to operate and fulfill its interests **through the coordinated use** of military and non-military means, state and non-state actors.
- The separate or combined use of the elements of offensive measures **might be capable** to influence, disturb, undermine internal order, or form the public opinion without resorting to the employment of conventional military force.

# Evolutionary development

- **Awareness** of both the public and the government about the challenge of hybrid warfare **has emerged slowly** in Hungary
  - I. Phase (2016-): MoI (national security, cyber defence), MoD (military cyber force developing)
  - II. Phase (2019-): PM Office has taken the lead (Legal and institutional changes)
  - III. Phase (2020-): Further legal changes (Fundamental Law, New Law (XCIII/2021 – Coordination of defence and security activities), new NMS of 2021)

# International and National Relationships



# Changi

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NATO (1999)  
EU (2004) men

Enlargeme

- NSS 2020. VII/ p. 124.**
- 1. Illegal migration**
  - 2. Unexpected military attack**
  - 3. Information (hybrid) operations**
  - 4. Cyber operations**
  - 5. Terrorism**
  - 6. Undermining Sovereignty, the situation of HUNs living abroad**
  - 7. Demographic challenges**
  - 8. Int. Economic crisis**
  - 9. Energy crisis (barriers to import)**
  - 10. Instability in the region**
  - 11. Offensive IO threat**
  - 12. Int. crime**
  - 13. WMD proliferation**
  - 14. Industrial accidents and disasters**
  - 16. Natural disasters**
  - 17. Global warming, climate change**

**Strategic Shocks  
(2014, 2015)**



# Hierarchy of SDP documents



# Hybrid Threat Perception – NSS (2020)

**The strategy identifies the following hybrid threats:**

1. coordinated and widespread **diplomatic activity,**
2. **information and intelligence operations,**
3. financial and economic **pressure,**
4. **financial speculative attacks** and
5. *military threats* coupled with the above.

# Hybrid Threat Perception – NMS (2021)

The new NMS further specifies this hybrid-perception mentioning

1. conscious and active **influence** of domestic and international public opinion,
2. **manipulation** of information channels and social media platforms,
3. **incitement** of social, political and economic instability,
4. **taking advantage of crises**, and
5. the use of military and economic-financial aid as **a tool to exert pressure and influence.**

# Perception on Russia



'Hungary – while keeping the cohesion of NATO and EU as a priority – is interested in **the pragmatic development** of Hungarian– Russian relations and economic cooperation' (par.118.)



Strong fears from Russia

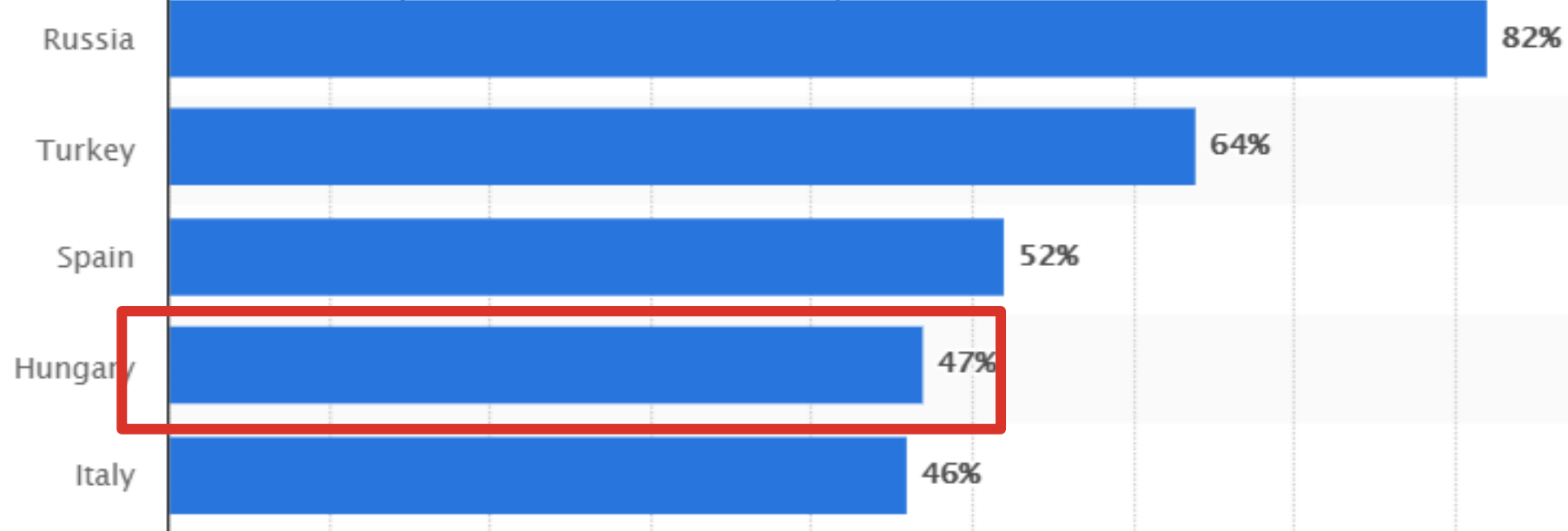
Desinformation Resilience Index 2018  
Average in V4 (1,3 population exposure; 2.8 gov. response; 2.4 vulnerability)  
Source: [DRI - Disinformation Resilience Index \(stratpol.sk\)](http://stratpol.sk)

More understanding towards Russia

No fears from Russia

Source: European Social Survey 2017.

Source: Perceptions on China in Europe 2019 | Statista



- **NSS** Para 119
- The intensive strengthening of HUN-CHN relations (BRI)
- It is HUN interest to join with benefits
- Monitoring CHN development, account must be taken of the factors arising from the exposure



Will China have an overall positive influence on world affairs ?

# Two- Step Defence Strategy against Hybrid Threats

- **International cooperation** (POC- system, participation in the international institutions /Hybrid CoE Helsinki- 2019, NSD- South Hub, NATO CCD CoE/
- **Domestic level**
  - **Cyber defence** (2013-): national cyber strategy, National Cyber Security Center, National Cyber Defence Coordination Council, Cyber Inspector in the HDF – **Hungary 31st** in the Global Cyber Security Index
  - **Building Resilience** in accordance with the obligations of NATO and EU

# National resilience – the Plan by 2023

- Act XCIII of 2021 on coordination of defense and security as **the ability of the population, economy and the state** to forecast and prevent threats and dangers, mitigate risks, and manage the consequences and solve the tasks of recovery
- **Hungary's Plan of Recovery and Resilience (May 2021)**
  - 7 Bn EUR dedicated to strategic development goals (healthcare, transportation, education, critical infrastructure, environmental protection)

# Institution development & decision-making I.

- Three, competing CMS (1) military defence (Defence Administration Intergovernmental Coordination WG), (2) internal security (Disaster Response Intergovernmental Coordination Committee), (3) Counter Terrorism (Counter Terrorism Coordination Committee)
- Coordination by the **National Security Cabinet** led by MoI (Dep PM) or PM
- **Not effective enough-** Operative Staff for the Protection Against Coronavirus Pandemic

# Institution development & decision-making II.

2016- Counter Terrorism Information and Criminal Analysis Centre

2018 – Information State Secretary position in the PM Office

2021- Special Diplomatic Coordinator in MFA

Mid 2023- **New bodies will be established**

- National Defence and Security Forum
- National Situation Reporting System
- Increased role of PM Office

# Conclusions

- HUN's policy against hybrid threats has evolved gradually (crucial role of EU and NATO). **Significant development in Legal Regulations from 2016**
- Certain areas show significant progress (cyber, coordination of NS services, critical infrastructure), the other areas (information, economic - financial, health care) leg behind
- Covid-19 pandemic has influenced the process (Act XCIII of 2021). **Reciprocal interaction between the two (special, normal) legal regulations**
- Strengthen the whole of government approach, control and coordination system by the mid of 2023
- **National Hybrid Strategy is needed**



NEMZETI  
KÖZSZOLGÁLATI  
EGYETEM  
LUDOVIKA

# Thank you for your attention!

## Literature