

MANIPULATION - A SOCIAL PHENOMENON

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Abstract

Manipulation is a phenomenon that manifests itself in politics, the media, military art, education, medicine and art, philosophy, religion, theology, and in all human relationships. Manipulation in general is negative, but it is also positive in some aspects. Having roots in the behaviour of animals, manipulation is still a human phenomenon, a social phenomenon.

Keywords: *manipulation, social phenomenon, human phenomenon, manipulation in politics, military manipulation, manipulation in medicine, theological-religious manipulation, philosophical manipulation.*

1. PRELIMINARIES

The public opinion today is very much aware of the negative or destructive meaning of the notion of manipulation. According to the Romanian explanatory dictionary, manipulation is figuratively interpreted as the influencing of the public opinion using a number of means (written press, radio, etc.) which, without using constraint, impose some certain behaviour. Also figuratively, manipulation also refers to the influencing through different means of the way in which a person or a community thinks and acts. This represents the destructive or negative manipulation.

The positive or constructive meaning of manipulation, that we come across not only in the Romanian explanatory dictionary but also in other explanatory dictionaries of the Romanian language, consists in interpreting it as the action and the capacity to manipulate its results and the manipulator is described as a person who manipulates devices, mechanisms and technical systems (DEX, 2009; BREBAN, 1987). In this constructive or positive sense, manipulation is desirable and necessary of being learned by every specialist, including the military ones. This fact is similar to perfection in the professional

activity. Hence, the need occurred for professional military personnel and army, able to ensure national, regional, international or even global security.

There are different types of manipulation. Some of them were and still are constructive. The majority however, at present time, are destructive. They serve not only to threaten human, national and regional security but also the global one and life itself, including that of the human species. The triumph of the truth and the exposure of all destructive manipulations represent a must of our present and future times.

Manipulation manifests itself in all the fields of activity of the individual, basically in all human relationships, even in love, religion, philosophy, science, art, etc. This article focuses on all these aspects, proving that manipulations in itself represents an inherent social phenomenon for the contemporary human being.

Reality served as study material alongside the scientific, philosophical and journalism literature. We studied them all using the dialectic method in general, the historical unity and the logic, the extrapolation and the comparative-analytic methods.

2. MANIPULATION IN SOCIAL ACTIVITY

Constructive manipulation - the basis of progress

Constructive or positive manipulation refers to the professional mastery of the specialists from all the fields of the human activity and practice. This type of manipulation seems to have its roots in the natural world. The flowers, that through bright colours and exciting smells attract insects in order to be pollinated, animals

that change the colour of their fur according to the season and field, the natural surrounding environment in order to hide better for defence reasons, the beasts' tactic to gain food, to catch and defend themselves better, aren't all these elements beginnings of manipulation or something similar to it? This aspect is debatable but manipulation is however a social phenomenon, particular to the individual led by reason. The human hand is completely different from the organs similar to it (paw, trunk, tentacles etc) belonging to animals. The difference consists in the mastery or operationality and universality of the human hand in comparison to the similar organs of animals. The human hand and its unique qualities are the result of the work activity (in historical aspect), of the education and training that brought and still bring it to perfection and universality.

Some instruments and the technique from all times, even the contemporary and present ones represent a result and a fortifier of the hand and of its manipulations using them. One could say that all the elements listed (some instruments, the technique) represent nothing else than an extension the hand and that manipulation comes from the concept of the hand. Being basically present in all the fields of the human activity, constructive manipulation lies at the basis of the progress of humanity and of its ascendant evolution.

Self-manipulation and manipulation in philosophy

We could also speak about self-manipulation, which is specific not only to the human being, but also to the animal and to the nature in general. The human being is creative but he always has doubts, especially in the creation process, in that of changing the environment and of the whole world. The French philosopher Rene Descartes considers that doubt represents one of the hints of human existence. You can have doubts about everything, except about the fact that you have doubts. "I think, therefore I am" represents his main thesis. I have doubts, therefore I think and then I know precisely that I exist. "I have doubts, therefore I think. I think, therefore I exist", represent ideas that changed the thinking manner of those times and not only. The French

philosopher stated that reason is the most important element and this represents a sort of manipulation based on a number of manipulations which try to prove its truth. The philosophical conception and philosophy in general are mostly influenced by manipulations; manipulations of thought, both constructive and destructive. These are the ones that lead to philosophical progress, as a form of social conscience or of culture. It, in a certain sense, represents the self-conscience of humanity and therefore a self-manipulation of it.

Manipulation in religion and theology

Another form of culture or of social conscience is religion, which in essence, distinguishes the individual from the animal and it is a way of interpreting the world. Religion also represents the connection between people of the same confession, between individual and divinity, between body and soul, between heaven and earth. It is included in the manipulation basis and it is penetrated by manipulations. Theology seeks to prove the veracity of the religious truth, but also on the basis of manipulation. In order to prove that one religion is the best, superior and authentic in comparison to the others, theology and its representatives makes use of manipulation. If theological and religious manipulations make the individual happy and better in his relationships with the others, then they are desirable and have the right to exist. The individual is free to accept or reject them. These are all intimate aspects belonging to each individual.

Manipulation and art

Arts represent another form of culture, which also makes the individual different from the animal, and it cannot exist or function if there is no manipulation. Art is full of it; it may be the exactly the embodiment of manipulation. Artistic manipulation makes the human noble, happy and helps him love nature and people. Constructive manipulation seems to have found its climax in arts. Religion which has many tangential manipulating aspects in common with arts does not in vain try to use it in its own manipulation regarding the individual and his intimate or inner life. Arts, in its turn, manipulate

using religious subjects. Both religion and arts have a lot of advantages interacting with one another and also with philosophy and its ideas and conceptions. Universally or globally developed religions are based on philosophy and to some extent even infused with philosophical ideas. Philosophy can be not only materialist or idealistic but also religious. We can speak about the philosophy of art, which coincides in many aspects with aesthetics, the philosophical aspect of the sublime and monstrous (ugly).

Manipulation in religion

This led and still leads to the appearance of new confessions. The manipulating interpretation in Christianity led to a division of the unique Christian religion into Catholicism and Orthodoxy. The manipulating interpretation of the triad of The Holy Trinity represented the formal basis or the pretext for the appearance of the orthodox and of the catholic church. Protestantism, the third direction in religion, formally appeared also on a manipulative basis, in a controversy with Catholicism. Manipulations in Protestantism led to the appearance of a number of protestant confessions, such as that of Baptists, Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, etc. Orthodoxy also divided itself in old rite Christians and therefore the Orthodox church presents some differences in accordance with the patriarchy - Armenia, Georgian, Greek, the one from Jerusalem etc. Islam does not represent an exception, nor does Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism and others.

Manipulations in the field of the official medicine

Manipulations in the field of the official medicine and the difficulties here brought back to life the non-traditional medicine, which today is highly appreciated by many individuals. They are in favour of giving birth to a child outside a maternity; they are against children vaccination and against antibiotics etc. The absolutisation of the treatment modalities and of the "drugs" belonging to non-traditional medicine mostly leads to fatal cases and to obvious problems for the patients. Aramini Michele states that "the illness and the suffering, especially the incurable

diseases intimately and profoundly touch human conscience and it becomes frail, sensitive and unstable" (POPESCU, 2018). It would be all right if we could exclude the destructive manipulations from the field of medicine. Especially because, as Cristina Gavrilovici states, illnesses and sufferings are lived as a danger: the threat of the personal physical, psychic and social identity. The element that continuously guides us spiritually is the fear that everything is lost; everything that cannot be controlled with the help of medicine leads to the greatest of fears: the fear of death (POPESCU, 2018).

A field of manipulation that is related to the area of medicine is the one of the gender phenomena, especially of the problems of sexual deconstruction and of its medical and reproductive consequences. We mainly refer to transsexuality and the attitude towards homosexuality (ȚÎRDEA, 2018). The American Psychiatric Association excluded, in 1973, homosexuality from the list of illnesses. Despite this fact, according to the neuro-endocrinological theory, homosexuality is determined by the abnormalities in the process of gene differentiation by the brain during prenatal period. The partial masculinization of the woman brain leads to lesbianism or female homosexuality. It is to be noted that even though these abnormalities do not lead to homosexual attractions, they represent a premise for changing self-conscience and gender behaviour. Teodor ȚÎRDEA points out that one may notice various categories of homosexuality. The first category is that of pseudo-homosexuality. The homosexual acts do not appear due to homosexual reasons, but due to other reasons, for example for material benefits. The second category is represented by the homosexuality characteristic to the development period, characterized by lack of the development of sexual attraction during childhood stage. The third category is represented by the homosexuality determined by the problems encountered in the psychic development, neuroses or the lack of growing up on behalf of the personality, which displays fear when it comes to heterosexuality. The fourth category or the "authentic homosexuality" is determined by homosexual tendencies, and is takes the shape of homosexual representations also in dreams, in the

concentration of the attention upon the self, in homosexual behaviour (ȚÎRDEA, 2018).

It is worth mentioning that an exact answer to the question: what is homosexuality – disease, pervert, vice, inborn anomaly, personality quality – has not yet been found. There is no theory to explain all the data and the mechanisms that lead to the appearance of the homosexual attraction (ȚÎRDEA, 2018) and this is why many speculations and manipulations occurred.

Another field in which manipulation is present is that of the politics in the social field – pensions, material allowances and aids for the population, according to their age. V.E. Fedotova and N.N. Fedotova state that nowadays, in most of the developed countries, there is the idea of equality according to the age group, and these people ask for financial help for all age categories, including children, youngsters and elderly people. They are granted more rights and social guarantees in preserving health, education, material insurances with the help of social politics, also including the requirements to exclude the discrimination of certain age groups.

This situation occurs in developed countries, whereas in Russia “age – a part of the social division of people, similar to the class, gender... Old and young people – the most materially and socially discriminated groups of individuals. The allocation of pensions and allowances is determined by the level of help offered to elderly people. Poverty occurs in a major part of the population”.

Our governors as well as the Russian ones take pride in the “achievements” in the economy and in “increasing” the standard of living of the employees, allowances, scholarships and pensions. In reality, this is all a lie, a fake and a shameless manipulation. In reality, the lack of jobs and the miserable level of the salaries and pensions make youngsters go and work abroad. Here, we therefore encounter a form of hypocritical manipulation on behalf of the governors. We also notice this form of manipulation in many EU member states, such as Hungary, Great Britain, Poland and lately in Romania. Hungary uses a pro-Russian politics, sometimes even against the community and it makes use of many manipulations. Great Britain, wanting to gain as many advantages from the

EU as possible used a referendum, which successfully lead to Brexit. The votes of the elderly people led to Britain’s exit from the EU against the will of the youngsters. The percentage of voters aged 18-24 was 64% and that of the people aged 65 and over was 90%. Elderly people remembered life before Britain became a member of the EU and they linked it to the freedom that, in their opinion, is unknown to the current young generation.

According to V.E. Fedotova and N.N. Fedotova highlighted a deep gap between generations: 73% of the participants in the referendum aged 18-24 voted to remain in the EU and only 40% of the people aged 65 and over voted the other way around. Young people become permanently a part in the reduction of the population. The votes of the youngsters, in minority due to the small number and of the low activity concerning political affairs were not decisive in Britain.

The same situation may have occurred in Ukraine and in Poland during the presidential elections. We think that the same thing happened with the parliamentary elections in Romania. This aspect was proven by the anti-governmental protests, where the majority of the participants was formed by youngsters. The leaders of this party and of those that are part of the parliamentary majority often make use of manipulations (the people elected us, voted mostly for us) in order to justify their failures in the national and international politics. They do not avoid making use of fakes and manipulations, of the kind that Romania is a sovereign state and does not need any guidance from Brussels, because they hinder this sovereignty, the same way the multinational organisations do. Once it entered the EU, Romania as well as other member states, signed certain “contracts” which also included a certain limitation of the borders of their sovereignty for the benefit of all. They make all the members of the community equal.

When it comes to foreign affairs, Romania, as well as other states, including those from the EU, has to go beyond the lack of trust and the fear of cooperation and partnerships (CIOCULESCU, 2015). This is not what the Russian Federation did with Ukraine.

Gregori Glison stated that when the EU destroyed Moscow’s hopes that, with the help of

manipulation and pressures, it will manage to tilt Ukraine on the side of the Eastern Economic Union, the Kremlin decided to use all the accessible means to fight to persevere the national sovereignty of Ukraine. The armed intervention of the Russian Federation in Ukraine basically started on February 24, 2014. If, at the beginning, according to Nicolae Țâbrigan the Russian president Putin stated that the troops in Crimea had only the role to protect the Russian military assets on the basis of the bilateral Russian-Ukrainian treaties, while “self-defence groups” and not the Russian army took control over the infrastructure and the military equipment in Crimea, subsequently the Russian leader was to state exactly the opposite, recognizing the fact that, in Crimea, some Russian soldiers without badges acted (ȚÎBRIGAN, 2015). The author demonstrates that all the Russian arguments in favour of a military intervention in the East of Ukraine are fake and not true, therefore being clear manipulations.

The most terrifying aspect comes from the recommendation to establish a coursebook two months after Crimea’s annexation, by Ministry of Education from the Russian Federation, in which students were supposed to get familiarised with the arguments that led to the annexation of Crimea. The purpose of this special course was to prove the existence of some “humanist and pacifist” reason for Russia’s military intervention in the peninsula.

Teachers were recommended to justify Russia’s intervention in Crimea by the fact that in Ukraine the power had been taken over by “extremist and anti-Russian elements, supported by the NATO member states” (ȚÎBRIGAN, 2015). Therefore, in Russia not only the grown-ups are manipulated, but also the children, as in this example. The truth is not on the surface, but in the depth, why Russia really took over Crimea. The European Parliament notices that the illegal annexation of Crimea determined a significant change in the strategic image of the Black Sea basin and the surrounding area; it considers that Russia’s aggressive actions represents its return to the hostile approach based on “the contrast of the two blocks”; it says that by occupying the whole peninsula, Russia gained a very important launching platform towards the West (the

Balkans, Transnistria and the mouth of the Danube) and the South (the eastern region of the Mediterranean Sea), where Russia established a permanent operating-naval group as well as the fact that the illegal annexation of Crimea offers Russia “a southern Kaliningrad”, another shelter right next to NATO” (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, 2015). That is why Russia needed Crimea. The rest represents a blackout of this truth, a manipulation on behalf of Russia and of those who are on its side. I agree with the slogan: “Russia prepares to occupy the Black Sea”.

Manipulation is a tool permanently used by the Russian president, V. Putin. As reserve colonel Andrei Covrig, president of the “George C. Marshall” Association from the Republic of Moldova states, “Kremlin cheats. Let us acknowledge the fact that the boots of its soldiers stepped on Ukrainian land and from the city of Gujova over the border the modern Katiusas attacked the Volunteer National Guard and the Ukrainian civilians for Putin, who could say: Yes, I am to blame!” (COVRIG, 2015).

Russia isn’t the only one that manipulates using the so-called geopolitical interests in one area of the world or the other. Who are the ones who legally offer or confirm such interests, ONU, UNESCO, NATO? Nobody. This thing is arbitrary and manipulative, especially today in the 21st century. Svetlana Cebotari defended her PhD. thesis and published an impressive monography on the geopolitical interests of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Moldova and in the south-eastern part of Europe in general (CEBOTARI, 2016).

Russia, in its foreign politics is extremely aggressive and coward. It mingles not in the internal affairs of not only the former Soviet Union countries, but also in those of all countries, either big or small. Among them we can mention the USA, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Poland and many others, constantly denying this aspect. Russia presents credibility only in the countries which have a dictatorial, antidemocratic and aggressive regimes, which it supports and helps, manipulating that the leaders were chosen democratically. A major role in the Russian’s manipulations is held by the EU states. The purpose of the Kremlin leader is mainly to build a lack of trust among member states, therefore

weakening the European Union. Discrediting democracy in the entire world, but especially in developed and truly democratic states, proves to the ones who want to develop democratically that this is not the best option.

Destructive manipulations take place not only in foreign politics, but also in the internal one. Usually politicians insist that artists, philosophers, teachers and intellectuals in general should not enter politics, since this activity should only be performed by professional politician. The reality however probes that the majority of these great individuals, no matter what field of science they are in, were and still are preoccupied by the field of politics, with the practice of governing.

According to Amititeloaiie the explanation lies in the fact that the scientific, cultural or artistic creation act is meant to improve the life of the individual and make it more beautiful and interesting. But such a goal depends in the same manner on the way in which society is governed, on how much satisfaction the political power is able to ensure and to what extent does it succeed to meet the horizon of expectations belonging to the large masses of individuals (AMITITELOAIE, 2018).

The author stresses that during the times of political and institutional lack of stability, when the administration proves to be incapable of managing the vital fields for the present and the future of a nation, people with spirit and especially the humanistic ones, they cannot remain insensible to everything that is happening with their country and to the way in which the society is led. They either directly take part in the government process, accepting the inherent risks associated with such actions, or they try to influence it using their personality, work or message (ROCEANU, 2008). In this context we could remember not only Eminescu. He did not limit himself to writing poems. He also established some doctrinal concepts regarding the government problematic, the organization and functioning of the state institutions. The great historian Nicolae Iorga paid with his life for having been involved in the affairs of the Romanian state.

A clear case of destructive manipulation, which influenced and influences the internal and external political life, is "the diversion of the

rebaptism of the gypsies". Generalising, starting with 1990, of the lexeme "rum", replacing that of "gypsy", an objective achieved with the complicity of the authorities of the Romanian state, of the radio and TV stations that adopted, as a tactics to access in the public space the servility towards the new authorities and even towards the representatives of some foreign powers, as well as that of the ignorant and careless public in respect to everything that is going on with the nation from which he is part of.

A. Amititeloaiie stresses that, without the existence of any scientific basis, this word reached the public space provoking an inevitable confusion with the name of the major ethnicity respectively that of "Romanian". Besides the dishonour of the Romanian ethnics and especially of those who travel abroad and who are subjected to all sorts of insults and offenses, generated by this confusion, it is to be noticed that the diversion aims beyond these aspects, although they themselves are also serious. Amititeloaiie states that it is related to the contesting of the Latin origin of the Romanian people, of its primacy and continuity in the Carpathian-Danubian-Pontic geographical area (AMITITELOAIE, 2018).

I would say that I am not exactly as radical as the law professor Alexandru Amititeloaiie regarding the existence of the axiological war (AMITITELOAIE, 2018) and the dispute regarding the Latin origin of the Romanian people and of the geographic specific nature, in which it appeared thousands of years ago and in which it activates even in the present. It is clear that replacing specific terms is not at all appropriate and it leads to serious problems. I would also pity the gypsy ethnics, which no longer have any identity - from gypsies they become rums, something foreign from them. The habits, their culture in general, which I think they take pride in, did not change when their name changed. For example, the talented artist Nicolae Botgros from the Republic of Moldova, is as much appreciated and loved now when he is literary called rum, as he was when we called gypsy. Those negative habits (stealing, begging, cheating, etc.) did not disappear together when the term "gypsy" was replaced by "rum". The arguments of the Romanian jurist about "the axiological war" are somehow supported by the

fact that not only the gypsies from Romanian but also those from other European countries have started to be called “rums”. In some languages “rums” and Romanians sound almost the same and this where the offence to Romanian people appeared, since they are not ashamed of their identity, but they do not want to share it with some nomadic people that once had Indian roots.

“The poor gypsies” are also neglected by their native country, India. This fact was obvious in the second half of the 20th century when a Scandinavian scientist, Swedish if I am not mistaken, in the linguistic basis, proved that gypsies originated from India. The representatives from India denied this aspect. Ordinary gypsies have to change their archaic behaviour, in order to gain the appreciation of other people, and not their name. A gypsy, no matter how we call him, still remains a gypsy.

Speculations, therefore manipulations, also lead to natural disasters: phenomena that are not completely explained and also those that are completely unknown. Among them we include the potentially risky cosmic phenomena such as the comets and the asteroids (ROCEANU, 2008), and also the so-called black holes. However, they cannot compete against the speculations and the manipulations that are related to the so-called UFO – unidentified flying objects. Some people “have seen them”, others do not believe that they exist as a product of the extra-terrestrial civilisations. Many of those UFOs were and maybe still are American or Russian technical constructions. There are “witnesses” who are said to have been taken by extra-terrestrial people and subjected to experiments that took place in these UFOs. Do these speculations really have any ground? Science today cannot offer a clear answer to this question.

Manipulation in the military sphere

This basically exists starting from the antiquity and it will continue to exist as long as the war, a way of solving social problems, will disappear. Is this thing possible? Let us hope it is.

A contemporary form of war is represented by the hybrid war. General Victor Strîmbeanu considers that according to the European security specialists, the hybrid war consists of a large range of ambiguous actions which can be

included into four major categories (the so-called “DIME” paradigm): diplomatic, informational, military, economical. V. Strîmbeanu considers that a more complete collocation would compulsory include, before the above mentioned four categories, the political component. This is the one that determines the goals, the scope, the amplitude and the intensity of the hybrid war. “PDIME” is the complete form for this complex of political, diplomatic, informational, military and economical actions, that we nowadays see in full swing against Ukraine without being able to accuse Russia of aggression, although the conclusions are more than obvious. V. Strîmbeanu emphasizes the fact that separatist forces from eastern Ukraine were instigated, organised, logistically and most likely operationally supported directly with troops, by “an unknown” entity or they accomplished all of this alone, they “somewhere” found the weapons and started the war (STRÎMBIANU, 2008).

The same author states that the hybrid war is mainly an offensive one starting from its own meaning and purpose, that of reaching its goals by using some hidden, dissimulated and methods and ambiguous methods and actions, in order to avoid aggression allegations. The hybrid war is by definition illegitimate and illegal (STRÎMBIANU, 2008). We could say that the hybrid war represents a major manipulation which, in its turn, finds its expression in more reduced or narrow manipulations and speculations.

Manipulation is also related to the so-called strategic communication or STRATCOM. V. Strîmbianu states that strategic communication consists of a group of messages transmitted to the adequate political and military samples, with effects at least at a strategic level. The external STRATCOM is targeted towards the adversary. His actions have to be anticipated, prevented, discouraged and counteracted. The internal direction of strategic communication is targeted towards own population and the decisional political factors which, according to the general, have to be persuaded regarding the need and the development of defensive capabilities and the implicit financial support. Given communication must not necessarily be a verbal one. Messages can take a number of forms, starting from a

simple statement, press release or set of images up to complex activities and adopted assurance measures, exercises and applications, troop dislocations or force demonstrations (STRÎMBIANU, 2008).

Mass-media and the army.

In order to influence the politic, within the country one must gain public support. In order to achieve this "an alliance" with the media is necessary. V. Stîrmbeanu considers that the relationship with the media has to be a completely special one, open in the limits of the security requirements, correct and prompt. Mass-media has to be perceived and treated as "a friend" rather than "a neutral" actor and in no way as "an adversary", since both the media and the armed forces act in the service of the people. The management of the relationship with the media has to take into account the fact that the public wants the media to be aggressive when it comes to the political class and the central and local authorities (a hunt against corruption, sensational stories, including those from the army), while the latter want a favourable media for themselves. Military commanders from all representative levels have to be taught to keep opinion makers and the media as close as possible and to correctly manage the relationship with them, and in the case of dislocations in war theatres, says the above mentioned general, special teams have to be formed in order to support the commanders and to dislocate themselves together with them (war correspondents) (STRÎMBIANU, 2008).

The manipulations of the governing would be less effective or even completely ineffective without those of the media. I think that the journalists and the media as a whole are the most ingenious and successful manipulators of the public opinion. This is why these people have to become allies with those who are in favour of the truth and are not co-interested in a destructive manipulation of the public opinion. This is why general Victor Stîrmbeanu's position, presented by us above, is to be preferred when we consider the interactions between the army, the military and the media. The main propagation vector of this constructive idea is and has to be the press, the media or more precisely the crossmedia. Manipulation in the military sphere also

manifests in art, the military masking skill. Professor Emil-Victor Chețe, in *Forward* to doctor Costinel Nițu's paper stated that "The issues regarding organisation and training in the field of masking represent a permanent scientific research direction, in the spotlight of all modern armies" (NIȚU, 2013). Masking basically represents a sort of manipulation necessary for all those who are in the middle of a military conflict or war, which one or more opponents, in order to ensure or to increase the necessary security level both for those who fight and for the peaceful population. Doctor Costinel Nițu offers detailed information about masking, from a historical and contemporary point of view, in his paper "Masking - between past and future" (NIȚU, 2013).

As we noticed, the military field, as well as all the other previously mentioned fields, is not "neutral", regardless of the manipulation, either it is constructive or destructive. Regarding both we have formed our own opinion and we have offered them our won definitions. Can manipulation may be desirable, not only the constructive one, but also the destructive one? It depends on the field or the sphere of manifestation for both of them. They are both desirable in the military sphere, since soldiers have to be up to date not only with the constructive, but also with the destructive manipulations. What for? So that they can combine and use them in the interest of the population and of their own armed forces. They are both necessary in philosophy and arts, partially in the field of health and medicine, as well as in other spheres. All the aspects stated above can be included in the limits of the ecological wisdom as a philosophy of survival and security for the individual, society and terrestrial nature (SÎRBU, 2018), therefore of the new contemporary philosophy.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Manipulation can be both constructive and destructive. Depending on the sphere or the field of desirable manifestations, there can also be destructive manipulations.

Manipulation has been inherent to the human being regardless of the time. It is in itself both a

human and a social phenomenon. Rudimentary, something similar to it can be found in the natural world, where it can mainly represent a form of adaptation to the conditions of the natural environment. The possibility of the disappearance of the destructive or negative manipulations depends on the advancement degree, in terms of humanism and democracy, of the human being and of the human society.

The above-mentioned aspects fit completely in the new philosophy – Ecosophy or the ecological wisdom, as a philosophy of survival, security and durable development for the individual, society and the terrestrial environment.

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