

EUROPE - TYPES OF DIPLOMACY IN THE VISION OF SIR HAROLD NICOLSON

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Abstract: *The paper outlines the types of diplomacy. This brief paper does not include all known and analyzed types of diplomacy. From a certain perspective, diplomacy is also a way of dialogue, of communication between states. Diplomacy seeks to settle and resolve conflicts or remedy differences of an economic, social and other nature. If, for various reasons, they do not find a solution with the help of diplomatic means, only military means are used. From the oldest information about diplomacy, we are informed that the people, respectively the leaders had a certain inclination to try to resolve conflicts, first, through diplomatic means. Even if this process is not necessarily a short-term process, it is preferable to resorting to military means. The latter would cause real disasters and much more material and even human damage. If this happens, it means that at least from a theoretical point of view, negotiations and diplomatic activities have failed. In all this context, it is imperative to take into account the specifics of the actors in question, their language and culture, history, geography, socio-cultural and political influences and, obviously, other elements that could directly influence or indirectly, the activity and the external relations. Thus, without limiting ourselves to these factors, we must admit that the existence of several types of diplomacy is generated. A good external relationship implicitly determines the advantages of those who are involved, advantages of an economic, commercial and other nature. In this way we can distinguish several types of diplomacy, among which we mention: British, German, French and Italian. In general, each state seeks to achieve certain objectives, and to achieve them it is involved in the international diplomatic sphere. Involvement in the diplomatic sphere also means cultivating foreign relations with as many states as possible, especially those with which it seeks to develop business relations, partnerships and agreements in various fields.*

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An eloquent presentation of them is made by Nicolson (1988) in the content of the paper "Diplomacy". Thus, some of the differences at the diplomatic level are characterized from a theoretical and practical point of view for Great Britain, Germany, France and Italy. Regardless of the state referred to, its representatives must be people of trust and who inspire confidence through words and actions taken. This is because it is enough for one time to make a mistake towards the negotiating partner in order to be labeled negatively, thus affecting his professional image, respectively of the state whose representative he is.

British diplomacy (Nicolson, 1988, pp.70-71) is generally viewed by foreign observers with admiration, but also with indignation. On the one hand, it is observed that professional British diplomats do not show much initiative, do not make great efforts to impress others with their intellectual brilliance and apparently have a rather lethargic and slow style. On the other hand, the British diplomat is exceptionally well-informed, manages to gain and maintain the trust of foreign governments. During the more turbulent periods he has the ability to keep his clarity in decision making and thinking, thus resulting in many successes in his work. The success of British diplomacy is also due to the principles underlying the actions. Thus, "British diplomacy is only the expression, in terms of international contacts, of those political principles which, owing to their history, geographical position, imperial responsibilities, liberal institutions and national character, have, over the centuries, been more suitable for British requirements "(Nicolson, 1988, p.71). Another view of British diplomacy is stated by Dr. Kantorowicz in his work entitled "The Spirit of British Policy", where he considers that "the main virtues of British diplomacy are the three qualities of chivalry, objectivity and humanitarianism" (Nicolson, 1988, p.74).

The German theory of politics and diplomacy (Nicolson, 1988, p.78) is represented by a heroic conception or a warrior, being different from the mercantile conception of the British. In order to see where this conception that underlies German theory and diplomacy comes from, we must follow, in particular, the evolution of the thinking of this people. One concept that led, to some extent, to stagnation in the formation of new skills and techniques was their idea of putting the power and decision-making process in the hands of a single person. In fact, "German diplomatic and consular services are fine professions, employed by more efficient and honorable people. Pre-war German ambassadors were usually accustomed to the profession itself and thus acquired a clearer sense of Europe's common interests and a more sensitive understanding of foreign psychology than was held by the Berlin offices "(Nicolson, 1988, p.80).

The French diplomatic service is a traditional one and should, in relation to its seniority and skills acquired through experience, but also native, be among the most competent in the world. The qualities that characterize the staff of the French diplomatic service have been noted over time and are embodied by a "remarkable intelligence, vast experience and great social charm. The French combine with the acuity of observation a special gift of lucid persuasion. They are honorable and precise. However, they have no tolerance "(Nicolson, 1988, p.81). In addition, the dogmatic character is underlined by the inclination towards logic, realism and the removal of motives of any nature that could disturb their concentration or endanger their activity.

Italian diplomats (Nicolson, 1988, p.82) make use in negotiations of a common method, namely that they first create bad relations with the country with which they want to negotiate and then offer good relations. Before starting such negotiations, be careful to ensure with three versions of the negotiation. The first of these is a feeling of discontent and hostility, which is artificially provoked among the Italian people. The second is a certain form of molestation against the country with which Italy is about to negotiate. The third is a request for a concession that Italy does not

expect to obtain or really wants, but for which the waiver will oblige the other country to pay compensation.

Regardless of the diplomatic service, we can think and compare two or more diplomatic services. If Italian diplomats are known for their practice of first forming a bad relationship with the partner with whom they are to negotiate, French diplomats are known to be gentle, characterized by social charm. At the same time, we must point out that their social charm should not be confused with tolerance or neglect. On the contrary, they are characterized by pragmatism and focus on the goal. At this point, French diplomats resemble pre-war German diplomats who managed to focus on the situation without letting anything disturb their work. Obviously, this situation shaped and marked them in a certain way different from that of colleagues who had only office work in the diplomatic sphere. On the other hand, representatives of British diplomacy seem to be slower in their work. This image is rather a first impression. In essence and in practice, they show intelligence and lucidity in thinking and action.

It is easy to understand that diplomatic services, including diplomacy, have undergone changes over time. Their evolution is determined by the changes taking place in the world. These changes, in my opinion, can be of two kinds: expected or anticipated changes and changes occurring on the fly or unexpected. The first category refers to changes that people, especially those who are part of the diplomatic corps, diplomatic mission, etc., can anticipate or research more closely than other people, in terms of direct connection and involvement in this activity. For example, it can be anticipated that the evolution of technology and technology will also have an impact on the diplomatic sphere at European and global level, more precisely on the way in which the activity is carried out. In this sense, each actor prepared or adapted to the new in the way he considered most appropriate. The second category refers to changes such as those caused by the occurrence of a military or non-military conflict, climate change, natural disasters, the occurrence of pandemics or others. Diplomacy and types of diplomacy have changed over time. Resistance to change is not a feature of diplomacy. Therefore, they have been influenced by national or international changes, namely expected changes and unexpected changes.

In conclusion, each type of diplomacy has its advantages and disadvantages. By carrying out diplomatic activity, the sovereignty of the states is respected. There is no general formula in diplomatic theory and practice, each actor involved has various options. It is free to act, preferably under the conditions laid down in internationally accepted treaties. Diplomacy seeks, among other things, the harmonization of relations between states at European and international level. In diplomatic theory and practice there are negotiation standards considered to be common, permanent and universal, but nevertheless we must admit that there are, in diplomatic activity, differences both theoretically and practically. These differences result from the specifics of the country, history, culture, traditions and more.

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