The Ontological Reality of the “Non-Violent” Violence: Color Revolutions as Weapons of Foreign Policy

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Abstract: — This study focuses on the elucidation of the true nature of the Color Revolutions. In the last decade, the number of Color Revolutions happened around the globe, leaving behind, a trail of blood that spreads across continents. At the same time, the idea of establishing democracy was hardly anywhere achieved. There is an insurmountable gap between the real cause behind the launching of these Color Revolutions and the effects they produced locally. They caused major geopolitical shifts that inevitably raise the question of the potentiality of their instrumental character as part of the global game of power. That is even more evident if we consider the last major Colored Revolution that happened in the Republic of Macedonia. In Macedonia, a government was overthrown, and a new was installed that accepted the Greek "Erga omnes" and changed the name of the country to join NATO as part of the geopolitical game. For this very reason, we tackle the question of the potentiality of the Color Revolutions being nothing else than a set of instruments of violence. A character that can be considered as a hard power tool in foreign policy that furthermore illuminates the political context in which they can appear. That is significant to clarify whether they are just tools for advancing foreign policy or real, local uprising for democracy. We have taken an ontological view and an objectivistic approach. We also use deductive reasoning to analyze secondary data. The findings of this study reveal that Color Revolutions are not a local and self-created uprising against the incumbent government in the name of democracy but a set of violent instruments. They do this for advancing the foreign policy of a particular state whose structures stand behind the entire organization and mobilization of the protestors and their local contractors that appear as their leaders. Color Revolutions including the Macedonian in 2016 that blatantly confirmed that Color Revolutions are just weapons in the foreign policy arsenal of states tailored precisely for waging the political warfare for geopolitical purposes. This is the main hypothesis of this study that ultimately shows that even though they are considered to be "non-violent" methods of political actions and thus part of the category recognizable by the name of civil resistance, in actuality, they are violent methods of political action. That is so because they are being used as instruments of coercion to impose one’s will for achieving political objectives which effectiveness is completely dependent on their capacity to cause damage and harm. All that is violent in itself that reveals their character as hard power tools in foreign policy that illuminates the political context in which they appear that is a country with an autonomous government that ought to be overthrown.

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