The Sociology of Diplomacy: A General Outline with Some Aspects and Dilemmas

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Abstract: The sociology of diplomacy presents an effort to theorize and understand diplomacy within a sociological context and with a sociological research approach. The main background for such contemplation could be found in our reasoning that a concrete mode and appearance of diplomacy depends on a given social and historical situation. Because of the immense advancement of globalization after the end of the Cold War, the sociological apparatus has to be engaged to further research and understand diplomacy as a flexible phenomenon. The sociology of diplomacy should be understood as a special sociology focusing on the social context, development and operation of diplomacy.

Keywords: sociology of diplomacy, special sociology, diplomacy, social dependence, globalization

INTRODUCTION

This paper presents an initial effort to draw attention to a concrete scientific endeavour with the aim of constituting the sociology of diplomacy as a new special field of sociology. The author puts forward his understanding of this original observation of diplomacy within a sociological frame and with a sociological approach. The main goal of the paper is to discover the parameters and aspects with which this endeavour could be supported, and to point out some dilemmas associated with it while articulating the discussed topic.

This would practically mean that we would be theorizing the scope, modalities and forms of diplomacy within the current international environment by using the methods of analysis, comparison, deduction, and synthesis. Since the author is also a career diplomat, the method of observation with one’s own participation stands out as well in this approach. We see the main foundations for our contemplation in a thorough understanding of both diplomacy and sociology as well as in an effort to deepen and enhance the theorizing of diplomacy. Our paper tries to present and generalize our findings so that scholars would be able to better cope with the areas where both of these phenomena come together, and also in order to articulate a new understanding of the phenomena. It is our strong belief that for various reasons that