

TITLE: The evolution of intelligence in Portugal: from dictatorship to democracy

ABSTRACT

The subject of intelligence is still rather unknown in Portugal, and until now only the military ones approached this theme. The University began quite recently the study of these materials, as a part of Strategy and Strategic Studies.

This essay is an example of how became of academic interest the learning of the period of the Portuguese history when the transition, at the level of intelligence, from dictatorship to democracy happen. In a country where persists the Estado Novo political police's syndrome, the PIDE-DGS, the study of such matters assumes always a major responsibility.

That is why we propose to answer the key and essential question, «what are the main differences in the production and use of the intelligence during the Estado Novo and after the Revolution of April 25th, 1974?», trying to describe and compare how the intelligence was produced and used in a dictatorial regime and as it is today in a democratic rule of the law. So, an analysis is made of the scope, means and supervisory mechanisms inherent to intelligence services in each one of the historical periods, including the former DGS and the current SIRP.

Keywords: Intelligence; Intelligence Agencies; Estado Novo; Revolution of April 25th, 1974; SIRP.