ELIZA MARKLEY, DARINA LEPĂDATU - **Creating Agents of Change in the Global Security Community: A Transnational Ethnography of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch, Germany**

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this study is to reveal how the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (MC) experience contributes to fostering a shared security culture and global security community. The article attempts to unveil the process through which the MC alumni become agents of change in their home countries' security environment by applying newvalues, norms, and practices. Grounded in the theory of social remittances, this institutional ethnography is based on extensive immersion in the field and interviewing 202 MC course participants from 60 countries. The findings reveal that the MC alumni do become agents of change. They contribute to shaping a global security community, they transform their home countries' civil society, organizational and political culture, and challenge resistance to organizational change. We are proposing the concept of transnational ethnography to advance this innovative qualitative method based on accounts from participants from 60 countries and centered on two special settings: Garmisch, Germany and Bucharest, Romania.

PETRE NEPOT, PAULA CHIRILĂ - **Attention Control, a Predictor of Emotional Self-regulation**

ABSTRACT: The current theoretical knowledge points to a strong link between attention control and emotional self-regulation, and it remains debatable whether or not these two processes are distinct. The results of the studies support an overlap of them, generating a new direction of debate on the primacy of one of them, even if there is consensus on their simultaneous development. Using the Sustained Attention to Response Task (SART) to measure attention control, respectively selective attention and inhibition - dimensions of attention control in the executive functions paradigm - and Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale (DERS), to measure the sub-dimensions of emotional self-regulation dysfunction, the existence of 3 models was demonstrated that predict the values of emotional self-regulation, respectively the sub-dimensions of its dysfunctions - nonacceptance of emotional responses, difficulties engaging in goal-directed behavior and impulse control difficulties - based on attention control values and indicators - efficiency rate and accuracy of NoGo stimulus testing. The study concludes the need for further research on possible therapeutic interventions aimed at training attentional control to achieve better emotional self-regulation, some methodological revisions, such as including response times below 100 ms and processing data obtained from reaction time samples, a larger number of subjects and an off-line deployment.

BIANCA PELTEA - **Predicting Romantic Relationship Decisions Based on Attachment Styles and the Childhood Family Structure**

ABSTRACT: The study of sibling impact upon later-life decisions can expand family research by connecting it with intergenerational studies, with insights into cognitive structuring and into socializing by sibling dynamics, but also into lifelong individual development. In the present study the number of older siblings has been shown to be an effective positive predictor for the number of children with former romantic partners; and the number of younger siblings has been proven to add positive prediction power for the number of children with the current romantic partner; for the longest time that the person has stayed in a romantic relationship; and for the current romantic relationship duration; in each case adding their respective prediction power to either the person's age(in the case of older siblings) or the different attachment style scores (in the case of younger siblings), which have been shown in previous studies to predict romantic decisions. The present paper aims to further show how two simple indicators of family structure, along with seven manners in which they can result in newnominal or numeric computed

variables, can overcome the dominating view that family systems are hard to maneuver into research methodology. Two simple introductory questions regarding participants' older and younger siblings have been used again, together with variables computed based on them, in order to significantly predict romantic relationship decisions above and beyond the classical predictors pertaining to attachment styles.

## CRINUȚA POPESCU - **Identifying Musical Skills and Making Education More Effective in the Preschool Stage**

ABSTRACT: In today's music education - in order to achieve the objectives - teachers should know the differences between children and organise their activities accordingly. In this way, they will also be able to improve the results of children who initially lack aptitude or motivation. The aim of there search is to help the professionals to identify useful guidelines for educators to achieve their goals in musical activities. In this study, we have recalled the results of recent research on the validity of tests used to determine musical aptitude. Referring to pre-school education, I presented: the stages of children's musical development; the criteria for identifying their endowment; the means of forming musical skills and abilities. The present research proposes some guidelines for achieving the objectives of music education at the preschool age. By applying the recommendations flexibly and creatively, educators will not feel overwhelmed by the demands of musical practice for the development of all children's skills, regardless of their individual level of the native endowment.

## LAURA ION - **The Will to Meaning and Values during Crisis. Values Crisis and the Crisis of the Will to Meaning. Approach and Intervention**

ABSTRACT: At a first glimpse, it seems that people have a sort of an intuitive sense about what is right and what is wrong, but, behind the scenes, moral values are the one capable of sorting things and deeds and label them as good or wrong, justified or not. All these moral values determine how people behave, ultimately, how people judge external events orother individuals and how they behave in social situations. Socially speaking, the aggregate distribution of all these moral values in a population, shapes specifically and determinatively, patterns of human behavior. Moral values are profoundly connected to the will to meaning as the ultimate motor of life that makes humans fulfill their mission and sparkle uniquely. During crises both the will to meaning and values are challenged and under suffering, the individual has the opportunity to immerse in the depth of his psychological structure, acknowledging them, actualizing, structuring and restructuring them so as to adapt and gain balance. The Covid-19 pandemic and Ukraine war with its economic, social and psychological consequences, offers a truly unique opportunity as they are both, multidimensional experiments where to study how people's will to meaning and moral values behave. Under the impact of these two massive events, several research questions arise: Do the war and pandemic impact people'swill to meaning and values? Do people find their will to meaning and how? Do people change their moral values under the imprint of these tremendous crisis?

## RUXANDRA-MARIA COJOCARIU - **Metaverse: This Changes Everything Human and Communicational Consequences**

ABSTRACT: The aim of this paper is to provide a helicopter view of the Metaverse services launch by Meta, formerly known as Facebook, from a societal, legal and communicational perspective. We will be analyzing the probable consequences of this technological shift in an evolutionary sense, as well as predict the possible negative effects this technology will bring about. Our goal will be neither to acclaim the Metaverse philosophy, nor to condemn the possible consequences, but rather to acknowledge this

scientific progress in a multi-faceted way, while remaining positively neutral towards our future living in an increasingly immersive digitalized world.