

QUESTIONING 'DUAL USE' CONCEPT

*Todor Galev (PhD Student)
Technology Studies Group
Institute of Sociology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
e-mail: todor_galev@dir.bg*

Three main concepts – ‘dual-use development’, ‘spillover’, and ‘spin-off’ will be the central points of my efforts to define the cross-relationships between them within the framework of technology policy. In the investigation of these concepts, some hypotheses provide questions about methodological relevancies of the ‘standard view’ for technology’s potential duality, as well as, about the empirical verification of the theory in the case of developing countries and especially in the case of Bulgaria.

Describing the technology as an entity in itself neither military, nor civil, nor both of these at once, and thus, the technology depends on its social network to appear or disappear its potential duality. The secondary goal of this paper is to explore the ‘character’ of the technology in regard to the organizational and informational conditions required to realize this potential. In addition, the elaborated framework of the analysis does not discuss the political reasons for the existence of military expenditure because of the national security’s need, but the role of military R&D for civilian sector’s development as justified only on the basis of economic-technological capabilities.