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ATTITUDE TO INFORMATION SECURITY: THE CONTRADICTIONS AT THE PERSONAL AND STATE LEVELS

The increasing role of the information space and a rich arsenal of means influencing the mass consciousness increase the importance of security problems of both the individual and the state. The law "On information, information technologies and information protection" (2013) fixes the observance of the interests of society at all levels: state, organization, personality. Awareness of threats to information security of the state against the background of global challenges was studied by us in the framework of the study of students ' attitude to information policy of the Russian Federation. A multi-factor questionnaire was developed for this aim. Political values, as well as personal qualities of students with the help of the "Big five" test were measured additionally. A total amount of 231 students of St.-Petersburg took part in the research. The sample consisted of 167 female and 64 male; the average age of the respondents was 22.4 years old. The results of the study revealed contradictions in the attitude of students to information security. Respondents did not consider it necessary to strengthen control over the Internet and blogosphere, even in connection with the increase in terrorist threats. At the same time, many noted a real threat to the well-being of Russia from some countries. Students believed that the Russian government is not far-sighted in foreign information policy. They also demonstrated the conviction that the state should improve the image of Russia in the world. Understanding the danger of ideas of extremist or terrorist nature, more than half of the surveyed believe, however, that freedom of speech should not be limited absolutely. Thus, students showed a tendency to overestimate their media competence and lack of readiness to balance security interests at the level of the state and the individual. Differences in attitudes to the need to strengthen state control of the media and the Internet were correlated with political values and personal qualities of respondents.