



EDITOR'S NOTE

Volume number 90 of Strategic Impact journal comprises five articles which deal with timely research findings within the realm of political-military topicality, EU's policies and strategies, trends and perspectives in geopolitics and geostrategy, concepts in defence and security, and aspects on the terrorist threat. The articles are followed by the *Scientific Event* and *Guide for authors* rubrics.

Political-Military Topicality. Brigadier General Constantin-Crăișor IONIȚĂ, PhD, opens our journal with an article on the subject of the Russia-Ukraine War and the perspectives of this conflict, with a focus on the main characteristics of the War in Ukraine at the beginning of 2024 to design several scenarios concerning what might happen in the near future. Even if the international support's effects in the theatre of operation are unclear and there is an uncertainty concerning the upcoming US presidential elections, the research could be used to design Eastern European countries' strategies for the evolving situation, including Romania.

NATO and EU: Policies, Strategies, Actions. The second article in the journal, written by Associate Professor Ruslana GROSU, PhD, refers to adapting military doctrines to the specifics of asymmetric conflicts as an ongoing process, which requires a flexible approach that allows military forces to respond effectively to a wide range of threats in a constantly changing security environment. Therefore, transformation of military doctrines in the context of asymmetric conflicts is an imperative to maintain the relevance and effectiveness of the military response to contemporary threats.

Under the heading ***Geopolitics and Geostrategy: Trends and Perspectives*** Mr. Ljubomir Mitrović has approached a topic that encourages reflection on the implications of the independent state's concept for international peace and security. Since the 'frozen conflict' represents a latent and permanent threat to the security of state and the identity of society, the Serbian national security system is adapting to the dynamics of the security environment by revising its defence capabilities. Due to the escalation of violence on the Eurasian continent and the security situation in the Western Balkans region, the research critically examines the need for the development of a defence system in the case of the Republic of Serbia.

In the ***Defence and Security Concepts*** rubric we find an article signed by Mr. Matei Blănaru, the author explains how the importance of soft power strategies in recent decades has been both overstated in some cases, and understated in others, and, as both approaches have come with negative effects for the initiators, as well as the recipient societies, we can still encounter them in contemporary societies, and



we also encounter more moderate and more balanced successful approaches as well. The author's assessment is that a balanced, professional, realistic approach and, above all, having as its final goal collective benefits for several states, for an entire region, not only for the initiating state, a soft power strategy that does not conceal hard power goals behind it, would be extremely welcome for Romania, and the author suggests several elements to accomplish it.

The Terrorist Threat rubric comprises an article written by Mrs. Iulia-Mihaela Drăgan, PhD Student, which deals with a review of the specialized literature regarding the theoretical delimitations of radicalization, aiming for a definition as comprehensive as possible that would characterize in a holistic manner the process of Islamic radicalization. Also, another objective of the paper seeks to identify the challenges of the academic community regarding the conceptual elements of the phenomenon, using a methodology based on the confrontation of different theories through which the process of Islamic radicalization is explained.

The **Scientific Event** rubric briefly presents aspects of interest from STRATEGIES XXI International Scientific Conference – “The Complex and Dynamic Nature of the Security Environment”, held by CDSSS on February 28th, 2024, in a hybrid format.

Also, this edition includes the **Guide for authors**, a mandatory reading for those who wish to disseminate the research results in our journal.

For those discovering *Strategic Impact* for the first time, the publication is an open-access peer reviewed journal, edited by the Centre for Defence and Security Strategic Studies and published with the support of “Carol I” National Defence University Publishing House, and, also, a prestigious scientific journal in the field of military sciences, information and public order, according to the National Council for the Accreditation of University Titles, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU).

Strategic Impact is an academic publication in the field of strategic defence and security studies journal that has been published since 2000 in Romanian, and since 2005 in English, in print and online. The journal is currently published exclusively in English. The articles are checked for plagiarism and scientifically evaluated (double blind peer review method). The thematic areas include political science, international relations, geopolitics, the political-military sphere, international organizations – with a focus on NATO and the EU information society, cyber security, intelligence studies and military history. Readers will find in the pages of the publication strategic-level analyses, syntheses and evaluations, views that explore the impact of national, regional and global dynamics.

In terms of international visibility – the primary objective of the publication – the recognition of the scientific quality of the journal is confirmed by its indexing in the international databases CEEOL (Central and Eastern European Online Library, Germany), EBSCO (USA), Index Copernicus (Poland), ProQuest (USA), and



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WorldCat and ROAD ISSN, as well as its presence in the virtual catalogues of the libraries of prestigious institutions abroad, such as NATO and military universities in Bulgaria, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, etc.

The journal is distributed free of charge in main institutions in the field of security and defence, in the academia and abroad – in Europe, Asia and America.

In the end, we encourage those interested in publishing in our journal to rigorously survey and assess the dynamics of the security environment and, at the same time, we invite students, master students and doctoral candidates to submit articles for publication in the monthly supplement of the journal, *Strategic Colloquium*, available on the Internet at <http://cssas.unap.ro/ro/cs.htm>, indexed in the international database CEEOL, Google scholar and ROAD ISSN.

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