



## EDITOR'S NOTE

The second issue of Strategic Impact journal, number 95/2025, examines security in a world marked by uncertainty and rapid change. In this edition we find articles addressing how European and global defense postures must adapt after a conflict that reshaped geopolitical realities. Moving from military dynamics to the power of ideas, another article revisits formative texts that influenced identity, legitimacy, and long-term tensions. The cognitive dimension of conflict is explored in one article which reveals how language and symbolic models shape strategic perception. Technological transformations are at the center of an article assessing how automation and decision-support systems may alter stability, escalation, and control. Together, these studies illustrate how security is built at the intersection of history, discourse, technology, and human contribution.

The first rubric, *Political-Military Topicality*, the article written by Mr. Matei Blănaru examines whether historical “lessons learned” remain relevant for professionals in security, defense, and geopolitics. Through a brief literature review and comparative analysis of recent conflicts, it argues that the post-Ukraine war landscape will be significantly more unstable. Regardless of the war’s outcome, emerging technologies, new military capabilities, and operational expertise developed during the conflict are likely to spread globally, increasing volatility in the international security environment.

The next section, *Geopolitics and Geostrategy: Trends and Perspectives*, brings to the reader’s attention an article, signed by Mrs. Bianca Brandea, which analyzes the role of religion as a political instrument in the emergence of Zionism. It explores how Jewish identity and documented historical oppression in Europe were used to justify the creation of Jewish settlements in Palestine. The study argues that plans for colonization, initiated in the late 19th century, expanded beyond initial agreements and evolved into escalating violence against the Palestinian population. It also notes that current Israeli military actions have been publicly compared to genocide and the Holocaust.

The *Information Society* rubric presents an article co-authored by Mrs. Veronica Păstae, PhD, and Mrs. Diana-Cristiana Lupu, PhD, which examines how metaphors function as tools in cognitive warfare, shaping perception and framing conflict. Drawing on literature from metaphor theory and cognitive linguistics, it explores how metaphors can be strategically used to manipulate collective understanding and influence social consensus. The study also addresses implications for defense



policy, the development of counter-metaphor strategies, and the ethical and legal challenges associated with this non-kinetic form of conflict.

The fourth rubric of this issue, *Emerging technologies*, comprises two articles. The first, signed by Mr. Mario Marinov, PhD, analyzes how AI integration into nuclear deterrence systems can both enhance and destabilize strategic stability. Focusing on the U.S., Russia, and China, it traces the evolution of automation since the Cold War and examines how different types of AI – rule-based systems, machine learning, and foundation models – affect key functions such as early warning, targeting, and response. It concludes by assessing likely areas of AI adoption and its implications for future nuclear capabilities and deterrence dynamics.

The second article, authored by Mrs. Alida Monica Doriana Barbu, PhD, examines the historically overlooked role of women in espionage and Intelligence, emphasizing that gender equality and mixed-gender teams are essential to effective security institutions. It explores whether women differ professionally from men, what makes their contributions unique, and how Intelligence agencies address gender equality. Using qualitative discourse and content analysis and case studies, the research analyzes perceptions of female operatives across major Intelligence organizations and highlights how women's integration reflects progress toward equality in Intelligence and military institutions.

The *Military History* rubric encompasses an article signed by Mr. Andi Mihail Băncilă, PhD, that takes us back in time, when after World War II, Romania came under Soviet occupation, and Western neglect allowed the communists to consolidate power. To prevent uprisings, they focused on controlling the Romanian Army, the key institution for maintaining state order, ensuring the regime's stability for decades.

The *Scientific Event* rubric briefly presents aspects from International Seminar "Lessons Identified from the Conflict in Ukraine", held by CDSSS on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 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. The journal has been published since 2000 in Romanian, and since 2005 in English, 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, military history, and emerging technologies. 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 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 at URL: <http://cssas.unap.ro/ro/cs.htm>, indexed in the international database CEEOL, Crossref, ROAD ISSN, and Google scholar, ResearchBib and Open Journal Systems.

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