Importance and Methodology of Publishing the Papers in International Science Magazines

Nebojša Nikolić

Publishing the papers in international science magazines is a way of scientific communication and a key indicator of scientific and teaching staff competence. Through publishing, a newly established scientific result becomes visible and subjectable to verification of scientific community. This is the first step leading to legitimate introduction of a new scientific result into the scope of the existing scientific knowledge. The process of publishing the scientific papers in international science magazines is long-lasting, uncertain, and demanding. The acceptance level of papers in some leading world science magazines is ten percent of the number of papers submitted, due to high criteria, in particular the relevance and the originality criteria. Additionally, publishing the papers in international science magazines is the weakest link within the system of the educational and scientific institutions of the Defense Ministry of the Republic of Serbia. In our educational and scientific practice, this process is neither sufficiently known nor acknowledged, while being often accompanied by wrong prejudices.

The purpose of the paper is three-fold: addressing the importance of creating scientific papers of international relevance as a critical element of teaching and scientific staff’s competence; presenting the methodology of preparing the papers and the entire procedure through to their publishing; and the motivation of the academic community for the activity of publishing the papers in international science magazines. The presented matters are based on authentic practical experience in publishing the papers in a top-class international science magazine.

Key words: methodology, publishing, science, magazine.

Ethno-confessional Structure and Security of the Balkans – Prospects and New Challenges

Todor Mirković

The Balkans region is marked by its multiethnicity, multiconfessionality, and multiculturality. These have not been always exploited as advantages, but often as causes of disputes as well, even of mutual conflicts. Due to its extremely favorable geostrategic position, the Balkans region has for centuries been a target of great powers and a destination of war campaigns, which have brought big changes and new challenges.

During the two past millennia, at least three empires saw their collapses in the Balkans: the Roman Empire, the Ottoman Empire, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In addition to many wars of conquest and liberation wars, also the World War One started in the Balkans and brought deep and far-reaching geopolitical and other changes in this part of the world.
Apart from the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, the essence of these changes was also the creation of a new state of South Slavs – Yugoslavia – the existence of which was not very long (seventy years). The disintegration of Yugoslavia was followed by armed conflicts, enormous human suffering, and material losses. Also, its disintegration was associated with deep geopolitical, demographic, and other changes. Instead of a single, relatively stable and prosperous, country, six weak states were created and six small economies, with a possibility of “balkanization” (or “debalkanization”) to be continued. Deepened intolerance between nations and religions, economic underdevelopment, and global financial crises are threatening with new challenges – otherwise, the ongoing disappearance of some Balkan nations may well continue and be accelerated.

Key words: the Balkans, disintegration, war consequences, prospects, challenges.

Geopolitical Position of the Western Balkans

Miloljub Sretenović

The Western Balkans as a territorial entity that was, due to specific political, economical, and security features, discerned by the international community, comprises newly created states on the area of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including the Republic of Albania, but excluding the Republic of Slovenia. It is an area covering about 264,000 square kilometers, with a population of about twenty-and-four million. Five of six states in the Western Balkans have an access to the Adriatic Sea. The communication lines along the Morava and Vardar rivers, the Marica river, and the direction of Durres–Tirana–Skopje–Sofia–the Black Sea are of extreme importance not only for the Western Balkans but for Europe and Asia as well.

The paper presents basic determinants of the geopolitical position of the Western Balkans and its history analysis and current aspects of the new geopolitical organization.

Key words: the Western Balkans region, geopolitical position, geospace, balkanization, geostrategic position.

“Realistic” Alliance Versus “Liberal” Alliance – Possible Approaches to NATO Survival, Future and Globalization

Đorđe Stojanović, Katarina Štrbac

Since the end of the Cold War until today, discussions have continued on whether NATO will survive, and if it does survive, in what form and with what purpose. Possible directions of the transformation of initial realistic focus on standard domination of factors of bipolar struggle for power are analyzed, and prospects are questioned of liberal-constructive supposition that defines its conceptual framework through benefits of spreading the shared normative ideals versus unilateral political option. In this context, the paper will clarify: 1. relation of NATO military and political components; 2. qualities of NATO institutional-procedural structure; and 3. normative matrix of the modern NATO.

Key words: NATO, realism, liberalism, Cold War, constructivism.
Security Integrations in the Post-Soviet Area – Collective Security Treaty Organization

Zoran Kilibarda

The Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), consisting of Russia, Belarus, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, is an important institutional framework of cooperation between the countries of the post-Soviet area. A new moment in the organization’s functioning is the creation of Collective Operational Response Force whose main missions are to counter a military aggression and to combat the international terrorism, extremism, organized transnational crime, drug trafficking, and natural disasters. This is, according to the explanation of the decision on their creation, a response to “substantial conflict potential” that has accumulated in the region. Through military consolidation of the Organization, Russia has, as the leading member state, showed a resolve to strengthen its position in the area of the Commonwealth of Independent States in line with an effort to preclude further expansion of NATO to the territory of the former Soviet republics.

Key words: collective security, Operational Response Force, post-Soviet states.

Geopolitical and Geostrategic Importance of the Raška Area

Ljubomir Gigović

The Raška area is not marked by features of special geostrategic relevance as regards its size, natural resources and population. However, its geographical, traffic-wise, and military-geographical positions, geocultural determination, as well as specific ethno-demographic processes, have made this area very important from geostrategic and geopolitical aspects. Its importance is all the more critical if one keeps in mind that this is an area divided between Serbia and Montenegro, and burdened with complex, not only inter-confessional, but also intra-confessional relations and complex national structure, which make it potentially neuralgic from the viewpoint of security.

The paper deals with geographical, historical, politico-geographical, cultural, and demographic processes relevant for geopolitical and geostrategic positions of the Raška area.

Key words: the Raška area, Serbia, geopolitical position, geostrategic position.

Long-Term Planning of Defense System Development

Dejan Stojković

The paper presents basic suppositions of long-term planning of the defense system development. Very important for its understanding are: notion and purpose of the long-term development planning; approaches and variables in the long-term develop-
Summaries

Applying a Multi-Criteria Decision-Making Method in Defense System Procurement Using EXPERT CHOICE Software

Milisav Terzić

The efficiency of the Defense Ministry finance plan execution directly depends of the level of compliance between the planning procedure and the procedure of executing the approved budget resources. The major part of operating and investment expenditures execution is carried out within the public procurement procedure. Decision-making and selection of the most favorable supplier is a key issue whose solution is to be directed towards ensuring an efficient and effective use of the allocated funds.

The paper stresses the importance of multi-criteria decision-making and presents a procedure of applying the method of Analytic Hierarchy Processes. Using the Expert Choice software, the application of this method and characteristic criteria in decision-making on selection of the most favorable supplier are exemplified.

Key words: procurement, multi-criteria decision-making methods, selection of suppliers, Expert Choice

Public Procurement in Support of Defense – Some Countries’ Experiences

Branko Tešanović, Rajko Petrović

The defense system, as a specific organization, carries out its procurement activity in different types of markets. Procurement bodies have to be familiar with the laws of market and with goals and strategies that (potential) suppliers/bidders are guided by, in order to successfully go up against them and to respond to bidders/potential suppliers’ strategy of appearance on the market, namely to carry out their procurement task in an efficient and economic way.

In this connection, the coordination of the public procurement system operations implies the application of positive experiences of the countries with developed market economies combined with experiences of different systems in order for the public procurement system to evolve in the right direction.

Key words: procurement, market, defense system, public sector.
Management Aspects Applicable to Managing the Process of Doing Military Service in Civilian Institutions

Zoran M. Mačak

Human resources management is a scientific discipline aimed at gathering and developing human potentials, cherishing the benefits of individual and group work. Management is a universal activity, because its principles are applicable to all areas of economy and society – production, banking, trade, agriculture, sports, defense, art, health care, religion, international transactions, and similar.

Changes in the area of defense are inevitable, and there has been ever greater number of those who are ready to implement them. Doing one’s military service in a civilian institution is a relatively new form of fulfilling one’s military obligation in the Republic of Serbia, which is critically important from the aspect of the fulfillment of fundamental human rights, necessarily associated with international integrations of our country. The process of doing the military service in civilian institutions in which a specific (psychophysically fit) part of male population is managed, with whom a special form of socially useful activities are to be carried out within an organization/institution, and to prepare them for non-military challenges, risks and threats in any subsequent, possible crisis situations, is viewed by the author from management perspective.

Key words: management functions, process management, conscription, military service in civilian institutions, business-ethical dimension of management.

Doing Military Service in Civilian Institutions of the Republic of Serbia

Branko M. Babić

By the end of the sixth year of the implementation and doing of military service in civilian institutions, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia passed the Law on Doing the Military Service in Civilian Institutions on October 26, 2009. This completed the process of passing normative acts on doing military service in civilian institutions, which was started with the 2003 Amendments to the Ordinance on Conscription.

The paper discusses a very current topic – service in civilian institutions, whereby a conscript replaces his doing the military service with or without carrying arms. The Law on Doing the Military Service in Civilian Institutions, as compared to former normative regulations, specifies these problems and introduces new arrangements, creating legal supposition for continuing the reforms of the defense system and meeting the international standards in this area.

Key words: conscientious objection, military service in civilian institutions.

Work Obligation in the Defense System of the Republic of Serbia

Svetlana Ščekić

An aspiration for adapting to worldwide global changes and security integrations, as well as any relevant change in a state, society, or its environment, entail a matching adjustment of the defense system. As a part of the national security system,
the defense system is a form of organization, preparation and implementation of measures and actions based on which the citizens, government bodies, business companies, and other legal entities carry out their respective defense tasks. Accordingly, work obligation is a mandatory part of the overall system for carrying out the defense operations and tasks.

Key words: work obligation, defense system, work obligation unit, replenishment plans.

Material Obligation in the Defense System of the Republic of Serbia

Jasmina Milošević

In view of bringing in line particular provisions of legal regulations with basic legal, strategic and doctrinal documents in the area of defense of the Republic of Serbia, as well as the adjustment to global changes worldwide and trends in international security integrations, and with a purpose of ensuring more efficient functioning of the material obligation in general and removing any controversy in the provisions that are obsolete and present an impediment to consistent application in practice, a need has arisen for a law and sub-legal regulations to be passed, which would in the best way possible regulate the area of material obligation and match the material solutions to defense system requirements. Apart from the material obligation, the subjects of this law and sub-legal regulations are also the military and work obligations, since they are mutually connected and interdependent.

Key words: defense system, material obligation, civil defense, replenishment plan.

Role of Mathematics in Military Education

Natalija B. Jelenković

Based on the genesis of mathematics as a scientific discipline that is defined and applied in the military education (and in which many research studies in military sciences have been conducted), the paper transparently argues that the military profession is to a great extent determined just by mathematics as a scientific discipline. The paper presents a short chronological overview of some most known mathematical disciplines that had been developed in Serbian military schools following the example of some well-known European military centers.

The aim of the paper is twofold: on one side, to broaden, based on gathered facts and using appropriate scientific methods, a knowledge of mathematics as a very usable science in the military education; and on the other side, to specify the role of mathematics in the military education.

Key words: land surveying, geodesy, mathematical cartography, ballistics, cryptography, mathematical art.
Risk – Specific Form of Posing a Danger to Security

Milan Mijalkovski, Ivica Đorđević

In everyday life, the terms such as challenge, risk and threat are often used, primarily to warn of an existing or potential danger posed to safety of people, objects, assets, and other values. In the security theory and practice such meaning is represented by syntagmatic notions – challenges, risks and threats to security, or security challenges, risks and threats. Resolving any security issue is associated with decision process (decision making and execution), and any decision process involves an exposure to a certain amount of danger (risk). The paper discusses significant aspects of security risk, and points to its universality as regards posing a danger to security. Bringing the two parties’ (the security subject and the danger subject) decisions face to face is problematized in relation to the security object (values being protected), as regards the risk scope, character, and specific features of both parties in conflict.

Key words: posing a danger to security, challenge, risk, threat.

Critical Essay on Establishing the Time of Terrorism Emergence and Its Predecessors

Dragan Simeunović

Though in political theory there is a broad conglomerate of suppositions on the time of its emergence, the terrorism as a modern phenomenon has existed since the 19th century only. In studying the terrorism as a complex form of political violence, particular confusion in establishing the cause of emergence of terrorism and its predecessors is brought in by those who come forth from ideological and religious positions, not from scientific or professional ones. As to “the first terrorists”, two types of mistakes are usually made. First – when some historical examples of some types of political violence, which are not terrorism, are uncritically quoted as a phenomenon of terrorism. Second, proceeding from the first one – when those are classified as terrorist predecessors who cannot be sometimes designated as such according to any terrorist characteristics. Particular attention is addressed to elaborating the organizations of Thuggee, assassins, and zealots, with the purpose of exemplifying the notion of terrorism.

Key words: terrorism, terrorist predecessors, Thuggee, assassins, zealots, emergence of terrorism.

Jihadist Terrorist Use of Strategic Communication Management Techniques

Carsten Bockstette

Jihadist terrorism has spread beyond the borders of the regions in which it had its origin and has reached a global dimension. The interaction and dependencies between media and terrorism are still to be fully investigated, in particular the utilization of
the Internet by terrorists. The theoretical jihadist terrorist communication plan described in this paper shows that they know how to apply strategic communication management techniques. The mass media and especially the Internet have become the key enablers and the main strategic communication assets whereby terrorists have ensured a favorable communication asymmetry to offset the asymmetry in military might.

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Key words: terrorism, jihad, management techniques, public relations, asymmetric warfare, Internet.

Wahhabism – Radical Islamic Movement

Dragan Bojančić

Wahhabism and Salafism are influential religious movements within the Sunni branch of Islam, which request the Muslims to turn back to Islamic principles and practice such as used to exist in the days of the God’s envoy Mohammed and “Pious Ancestors” (Salaf al-Salih) of the first three generations of Muslims. According to Wahhabi views, original Islamic teachings should be purified from all innovations, deviations or polytheism, which have gradually tarnished the Koran and Sunnah over the former centuries. Mohammed bin Abdel al-Wahab, the founder of the Wahhabi movement, argued that the Muslims of Arabia had a responsibility to resist to foreign influences, primarily the Persian (Shiite) and Turkish (Sufi) deviations of the true Islamic faith. The essence of the Sheikh al-Wahab’s teachings – Wahhabism – is a specific liberation movement of the early 19th century when (Arab) revolt against Ottoman Empire force started. Osama bin Laden and al-Qa’ida marked the beginning of the 21st century with terrorist attacks and showed the ruthlessness of asymmetric warfare. Wahhabism is an official (governmental) and prevailing religious teaching of the Saudi Arabia and Khatar. It has become a global phenomenon and its further gradual strengthening and, very likely, its expansion may be expected. As to the Balkans, Wahhabis are present in Albania (probably the center of Wahhabism in the Southern Balkans region), in Bosnia and Herzegovina (there are many indicators of Wahhabi presence and influence), Serbia (mainly in the province of Kosovo and Metohija, and in the Raška area, namely in the part thereof belonging to Serbia), Montenegro (mostly in its northern part), Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Croatia. The most forceful Wahhabi intrusion into the Balkans came through Islamic centers, Islamic schools, and Islamic humanitarian and charity organizations. Wahhabi proselytism is founded on infiltration, indoctrination, and financial support.

Key words: Wahhabism, Saudi Arabia, Salafism, Islamism, religious conflict.