Some Aspects of Russia’s Military Engagement in Syria

Slaviša I. Vlačić and Aleksandar N. Radić

The Russian military engagement in the war in Syria represents a new stage in contemporary international relations. The effective use of inter-service formations, with an emphasis on a mixed air task group, has stopped the advance and spreading out of radical and rebel Islamic groups in Syria. Government armed forces have been consolidated and conditions created for changing the strategic strength ratio on the ground. The paper focuses on some aspects of the employment of Russian air forces, as the main exponent of combat operations in Syria, as well as their fire actions and impact on the course of armed conflicts.

Key words: air group, Russian air forces, Syria, Russia

Ethnic Conflict in Ukraine from Neorealist Perspective

Miloš D. Milenković

The paper proceeds from the viewpoint that the ethnic conflict in Ukraine is not a consequence of the current moment, or short-term inter-ethnic disputes, but rather a product of complex relations that are almost always stirred by the interests of the great powers. This conflict is internationalized, with participation by the great powers that consider Ukraine to be their zone of influence. In order to get an insight in and understand the motives and interests of the great powers and their influence on the outbreak and the course of the ethnic conflict in Ukraine, an analytical framework offered by the neorealist theory of international relations is used. Given the fact that this approach does not directly address ethnic conflicts, this theory is first operationalized and its perception of the causes of war in general presented, and then this framework is applied to the ethnic conflict in Ukraine. The paper proceeds from the assumption that the explanatory capacity of neorealism is sufficient to understand and explain the causes of this ethnic conflict, but also necessary when considering the possibilities of its resolution.

Key words: ethnic conflict, Ukraine, neorealism, great powers, EU, USA, Russia, zone of influence

Protection of Victims in Conflict – Case of Guantánamo

Mirko R. Jovanović and Dragana D. Rajić

In Cuba there is one of the most infamous prisons in recent history – Guantánamo. The conditions therein have been made public by the media that reported on the torture of prisoners and their unlawful imprisonment for just being suspected of being
terrorists. They were detained only on the basis of presumptions, without any evidence and without any investigation. However, the United States have justified their actions by unconditional fight against terrorism. Guantánamo detainees find themselves in a "legal vacuum", because the US Constitution does not apply to them since the prison is not located on the territory of the United States. At the same time, various human rights organizations have raised their voices in an attempt to shut down this infamous prison. The United States have been accused of not respecting, above all, the Third Geneva Convention for the Protection of Prisoners of War, but they have argued that prisoners in Guantánamo are not prisoners of war, but terrorists. Based on the Guantánamo case, as a case study, the paper seeks, using various sources, to answer the question of which is a possible way to protect the victims of armed conflicts. In doing so, it uses the international law, primarily international humanitarian law, as an instrument.

Key words: Guantánamo, international humanitarian law, Cuba, international law, human rights, Geneva Conventions, prison, terrorism

Armed Aggression in Contemporary International Relations

Nenad V. Kovačević, Samed M. Karović and Mitar P. Kovač

Contemporary international relations have become a paradigm for the use of power and force between "great" and "small" nations. It is exactly power and force that have become the main features of contemporary international relations. Through aggression and armed aggression, as a way (method) of the exponence of power and force, "great" nations achieve their interests. Aggression and armed aggression are frequent terms and are often adequately used and interpreted. The paper explains the concepts of aggression and armed aggression, through their theoretical determination, their role in contemporary international relations, their place in the strategic doctrinal documents of the Republic of Serbia, and through related concepts and phenomena.

Key words: contemporary international relations, aggression, armed aggression

Strategic Culture in Europe – How Changes in the International System Structure Affect the Ideational Legitimacy Factors for the Use of Force in International Relations

Uroš V. Živković

Power, force and violence represent building blocks of the political behavior of individuals and states. They are also the basic lever of establishing and maintaining the political power at the national and international level. In this sense, the use of force in international relations is a basic category of research into the political behavior of subjects of international relations and the basis of the science of international relations. The matter of war and peace has always been a starting point for research on politics and political relations. The legitimacy
of the use of force in international relations is based on material and ideational factors that form the basis on which political elites justify their decision to protect their interests by using force and violence. It is these ideational factors, which shape the citizens' and social elites' view of violence in international political relations, that are the subject of this research.

The paper presents the ideational factors and their impact on giving the legitimacy to a state to use force in international relations in Europe. It clarifies how political practice and changes in the structure of the international system have influenced these factors and what is today's relation between European internal policy and war, as institutional and organized social violence at the international level. It also shows how these changes affect Euro-Atlantic cooperation and European integration processes, as well as the emergence of humanitarian interventionism. In this regard, strategic culture is used as an analytical tool for "measuring" the indicators and drawing the conclusions on the ideational factors of the legitimacy to use armed force in Europe.

Key words: strategic culture, strategy, use of force in international relations, ideational factors, legitimacy, war, Euro-Atlantic cooperation, humanitarian interventions

Migrant Crisis as a Challenge for Preserving the National Identity of EU Member States

Dane R. Subošić and Ivana M. Vasiljević

Migrations from Africa and the Middle East is a central topic of the contemporary socio-political scene. In this regard, the paper seeks to demonstrate the (in)ability of EU member states to deal with mass migrations, as well as possible consequences of such migrations for the countries of the Union. Namely, since its creation, the European Union has respected the national identity of its member states. However, the integration of a part of European countries under the common legal framework has led to the formation of a supranational European identity, while weakening the national identity of the EU member states. The current migrant crisis has opened up many issues in the Union and instigated the awakening and renewal of national consciousness and identity, not only in the member states, but also in other European countries (e.g. Switzerland, etc.). In this regard, the aim of the paper is to explain the effects that have weakened the national identity of the European Union member states (globalization, multiculturalism, and the legal basis of the Union), and the effects of mass migrations that have strengthened it. Bearing this in mind, the hypothesis that is reviewed by this paper is expressed by the view that in contemporary social conditions the globalization, multiculturalism and the legal basis of the European Union weaken the national identity, while at the same time, the current mass migrations strengthen the national identity of the Union member states. Hence, the first part of the paper is devoted to the revision of factors that weaken the national identity of European countries, the second part discusses the crisis of the national identity of the member states, and the third part analyzes the impact of the current migrations on strengthening the national identity in the European Union member states.

Key words: migrations, national identity, globalization, multiculturalism, European Union
Serbia's Security in the Context of Further NATO Enlargement in the Western Balkans

Ivana M. Veličkovski

The policy of NATO enlargement in the Western Balkans, which continues with the invitation extended to Montenegro to become a full member of the Alliance, certainly alters the security environment of Serbia. Shortly after the invitation was extended to Montenegro, Serbia confirmed its cooperation with NATO, concluding an agreement on logistic cooperation with this organization. The main aim of this paper is to analyze these events, especially in relation to the proclaimed neutrality of Serbia and its national goals. The paper seeks to present the national interests of Serbia on the basis of its strategic documents, and the basic feature of the security environment of Serbia, being gradually surrounded by NATO members, as well as the ways in which the invitation to Montenegro to join NATO and the latest agreement between Serbia and NATO affect both the security of Serbia and the relationship between Serbia and Russia. The study leads to a conclusion that NATO is an unavoidable security factor in the entire region of the Western Balkans, and that any planning of Serbia’s defense and security must take this important fact into account, especially due to Serbia’s determination to tie its destiny to the EU, which sees NATO as the key protector of its own security.

Key words: security, national interests, Serbia, Montenegro, Western Balkans, NATO, USA, Russia

Information Management of Ebola Epidemic – Case Study

Slavimir S. Nikolić

The last registered Ebola epidemic in West Africa (2014 to 2015), in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, claimed 11,316 lives – the most in the history of all hitherto reported cases of this viral disease on the continent. As the United Nations consider spreading of infectious diseases as one of the potentially greatest threats to global security, the implementation of adequate information management in the process of collecting and analyzing information on their incidence and spread is an imperative in understanding this phenomenon and providing an adequate response to their evolution. Information management, based on a joint online geo-information environment, applied in combating the Ebola epidemic in West Africa, contributed to strengthening the overall efforts of the international community to provide an adequate response to the spread of the epidemic. It also enabled all partner entities to act in an organized and identically-aimed way, making the technical partnership of national and international institutions possible and feasible, while significantly contributing to preserving the collective security and improving the public health.

Key words: United Nations, collective security, infectious diseases, World Health Organization, Ebola epidemic, information management, geo-information systems
Barriers to Improving the Preparedness for Responding to Natural Disasters

Vladimir M. Cvetković

The paper presents quantitative research results of testing the barriers to improving the measures of preparedness for responding to natural disasters. The survey was conducted in 19 local communities in Serbia in 2015. On this occasion, using the household testing strategy and multistage random sampling, 2500 citizens were surveyed. The results of the survey show that 20.5% of the respondents think that the emergency response and rescue services will help them, and therefore they do not need to take any measures of readiness to respond; 31.7% of respondents do not consider that they are endangered or that their households are endangered by the effects of disasters; 20.9% of the respondents point out that they have no time for this; 23.1% of respondents think that taking such measures is very expensive; 19.4% think they are not capable of taking such measures; 22.8% point out that they have no local community support; 27% point out that they can not prevent the consequences of natural disasters in any way. The results of inferential statistics on the influence of sex, parenting, employment, disability, past experience and military obligation, show diverse results in terms of their statistical association with barriers related to the readiness to respond. The significance of the conducted research is reflected in the improvement of the theoretical and empirical knowledge of factors resulting in low level of citizens’ readiness to respond to natural disasters. The results of the research can be used as a starting point in designing the model of improving the preparedness of citizens for responding to natural disasters.

Key words: security, natural disasters, barriers, response, sex, parenting, employment, disability, previous experience, military obligation

Industrial Espionage in Contemporary Conditions

Nadežda Gudelj and Vojo Laković

For centuries, mankind had functioned on the principle of the supply market, and in the last fifty years this has been replaced by the demand market. Today, the world enters the knowledge market, which implies the possession of knowledge, i.e. information. Nations are now struggling for the primacy in the structure of knowledge, and so the power goes from hands of the rich in capital into the hands of the intellectually rich.

Presently, 57 countries of the world have government institutions engaged in collecting classified information of this type, and the governments of at least another 100 countries spend a part of national income to cover the cost of industrial espionage, in particular Germany, Japan and France, followed by Russia, China and South Korea.

Contemporary world order is characterized also by modern international relations, and these relations are characterized by globalization. In this, transnational companies have special place and role, and their main goal is to dominate and control the market,
which raises an extraordinary need to master knowledge in all its aspects. In the struggle for markets, knowledge is the most powerful weapon, and the "killer weapon" has always been sought and acquired in any possible ways, and nowadays, industrial espionage is most often used as a tool to acquire information.

Key words: industrial espionage, state interest, economic and national security

Role and Importance of Chaos Theory in Command and Control of Operations

Zoran M. Karavidić and Damir M. Projović

Chaotic behavior can often be noticed in nature. Such phenomena are part of not only material, but also immaterial environment in which human beings and all their spheres of existence can be found. They pervade all complex systems, even the military organizational ones. A variety of constant changes, which randomly and to some extent unpredictably occur, makes it difficult to forecast a future situation and causes major problems in deciding how to use units in operations.

The paper discusses the influence of the chaos theory on command and control of operations. Understanding the role and importance of the chaos theory in command and control can help improve the process of making military decisions and give new perspectives in creative thinking and problem solving. It is important to recognize, expect and utilize the chaos that can arise during operations, and thus contribute to success.

The chaos theory does not contradict classic theories that direct the process of command and control in operations. It is partially embedded in the different elements of the process and environments, which are examined and looked at during the planning and execution of operations. On the other hand, it encompasses and complements the existing norms and regulations, and thus makes them more complete.

Key words: chaos theory, fractals, command and control, prediction, decision making, issuing orders, operations

Human Resources – Key Element of Sustainable Development of the Republic of Serbia’s Defense System

Nebojša Dragović, Saša Trandafilović and Ranko Lojić

The way human resources are managed is a decisive factor in the successful functioning and sustainable development of a military organization.

Human resources are the most valuable and most important resources if managed effectively and invested adequately. Organizational structures dominated by bureaucratized and hierarchical relationships are gaining new dimensions nowadays. The attitude towards employees in a modern military organization does not mean only compliance with the principles of single seniority and subordination, but also the development of each individual's creative abili-
ties. At the same time, it also implies the promotion of profession determination through the selection of competent and capable personnel who will strengthen the management functions in the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces by professional and ethical conduct.

Although in recent years the Management of the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces have emphasized that men and women are the most important resource of a military organization, in practice much is happening contrary to the declarative determination. Professional members of the Serbian Armed Forces are still not given the opportunity to fully demonstrate creative and innovative abilities in the process of performing their assigned duties and tasks. The need for redesigning, or improving, the management of human resources and their potentials, remains one of the priority tasks in the future period.

Key words: human resources, the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces, military organization, sustainable development

Managerial Competencies of the Serbian Armed Forces’ Officer Personnel

Jasmina Milošević-Stolić and Jan Marček

The aim of this paper is to define needs for managerial competencies of officers, which are necessary in performing professional military duties. In addition, it determines whether there is a connection between the variables of belonging to a particular arm/service, military rank and duty assigned to officers, and the perceived needs for managerial competencies. As regards the managerial competencies necessary for performing professional military duties, six factors related to those needs have been identified by the factor analysis procedure. These are the needs for managerial competencies required for performing: 1) activities directed to the management and coordination of groups of people towards achieving common goals; 2) activities to create a network of relationships; 3) activities related to the direction, development and education of employees and cadets; 4) activities in planning and analyzing the work of the unit; 5) activities in controlling and analyzing the work of cadets; 6) activities related to the concern of one’s own advanced education and training and professional development, and to taking care of people.

Using the variance analysis, the differences were determined in evaluating the necessary managerial competencies (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) for performing professional officer duties, depending on the arm/service, rank and current duty of senior officers. The obtained results indicate that the variables of belonging to a particular arm or service, as well as the duty which they currently perform, significantly differentiate the needs of officers’ managerial competencies in relation to the variable of their current rank. Namely, in relation to the variables "arm–service" and "duty", significant differences were found among the groups of respondents for four factors (first, third, fourth and fifth), while for the variable "rank" significant differences were found for two factors (fourth and sixth). Significant differences among the groups of respondents in all three variables were not found for the second factor.

Key words: managerial competencies, competencies of the Serbian Armed Forces’ officers, educational needs
Prevention Mechanisms for Successful Functioning of the Defense System in Emergency Situations

Dejan R. Đorđević and Samed Karović

In emergency situations, the defense system plays very important and, in many cases, indispensable role. In addition, the Serbian Armed Forces are constantly involved in the protection and rescue system. Prevention mechanisms are part of an integrated response system, aiming to reduce the risk of natural and other disasters and contribute to more effective management in emergency. For successful functioning of the defense system in the circumstances of a declared emergency, prevention mechanisms play an important role reflected in the timeliness and effectiveness of the response.

The Republic of Serbia has experience with already established mechanisms of prevention and their application in emergency situations. The process of integrating the prevention mechanisms has not been fully established. In addition to the implementation of the already existing legislative framework, strategies and plans regulating the emergency situations, and the engagement of the defense system in emergency situations, a special law should be adopted to regulate the prevention of emergency situations.

Key words: emergency situation, defense system, prevention, prevention mechanisms, emergency situation management

Media and the Contemporary Role of the Military in Managing and Resolving the Crisis Situations

Vladimir Barović

The paper identifies and defines crisis situations from the media aspect, as specific processes and phenomena that can cause great losses to the community. It then discusses the role and significance of the Serbian Armed Forces in resolving, managing and recovery of crisis situations, in Serbia and in the region. The author specifically discusses the role of the military in the new defense strategy, which, as priorities of the armed forces, lists, in addition to the country’s defense and peacekeeping missions, also the resolving of crisis situations that could endanger the property and security of the population on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Key words: Serbian Armed Forces, media, crisis situations, management, strategy, recovery

Importance of Procurement Criteria for the Level of Operational Capabilities of the Serbian Armed Forces' Units

Milan B. Mihajlović and Samed M. Karović

The defense system, as a budget user, seeks to achieve the highest efficiency and effectiveness in using the approved funds. Carrying out of procurement in the defense system is a complex task through which most of the operational and investment
tasks are completed. The paper presents how the application of multi-criteria optimization method can help assess the importance of the elements of the criteria for carrying out the procurement and their impact on the level of operational capabilities of the Serbian Armed Forces' units, through the element of the forces' timely availability in the execution of the third mission of the Serbian Armed Forces. This is particularly important given the fact that the capability of the forces' timely availability depends on the level of mobile assets availability, which is ensured by the implementation of the procurement procedures.

Key words: procurement, criteria, operational capabilities, Serbian Armed Forces, method of analytical-hierarchical process

Economic and Legal Analysis of the Level of the Serbian Armed Forces Members' Income before and during a Multinational Operation

Miloš Miljković, Aleksandar Savić and Goran Divac

The paper explains how the amount of income received by security force members in a multinational operation influences their decision to take part in the mission. The salaries of employees in the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces, depending on the rank and the duty they perform, varies around and above the amount of average monthly salary in the Republic of Serbia. Money is certainly one of the basic motives for work. Considering that the remuneration for taking part in a multinational operation is high for our conditions and standards of living, it is one of the main motives and drivers for the members of the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces to take part in a multinational operation. This assumption is also confirmed by the fact that the number of interested members of the Serbian Armed Forces is considerably increasing. The paper also provides a comparative overview of the income amounts that the members of the Ministry of Defense and the Serbian Armed Forces receive before leaving for a multinational operation and the total income they will receive after participating in some of the missions, as well as the legal regulations stipulating income amounts before and during the multinational operation.

Key words: peacekeeping operation, salary, money, motive

Cost Management of the Serbian Armed Forces’ Operation

Šerif Bajrami, Rade Slavković and Ljubomir Dulović

Cost represents the exploitation or spending of resources in order to achieve a specific objective. The achievement of the defined objectives of the Serbian Armed Forces' operation requires resources whose scope, manner of using and management have a major impact on making the right decisions in the operational planning process.

The emergence of costs in the conduct of operations of the Serbian Armed Forces is inevitable. The essential question is what is the extent to which it is possible to minimize
costs without reducing the required quality of operational capabilities for the achievement of the set objectives. Rational spending of resources, i.e. the balance between the reduced available resources and the capabilities needed to achieve the defined objectives, certainly requires planned and efficient management actions. The cost management model of the Serbian Armed Forces operation, which is based on the application of appropriate techniques and methods in cost planning (estimating), monitoring and controlling, and analyzing, is one of the ways in which a compromise can be successfully reached between these two conflicting requirements.

Key words: military operation, management, costs, cost estimation, cost monitoring and control, cost analysis

Immanence of Depression in the Capitalist Market Economy and the Conditions for its Overcoming

Bogdan B. Ilić, Nebojša M. Praća and Slavko Đ. Vukša

Nowadays, changes, frequent crises and numerous challenges govern the world. International relations are becoming complicated, and economic problems have led to a difficult economic situation. It could be said that depression has been immanent to the capitalist mode of production since its creation. The subject of this paper is an attempt to find out how crises of capitalist market economies emerge, how to mitigate the economic and social consequences caused by crises, how to manage those, and what are the possibilities for their overcoming in the context of global events and their impact on the development of national economies, as well as the society as a whole.

Key words: economy, capital, crisis, depression, market economy

International Orientation of Business Operations as a Factor of Economic Stability and National Security

Boban Dašić, Dejan Dašić and Radmila Trklja

The paper discusses the connection between the international orientation of foreign investors’ business operations and the economic stability and national security. The economy and economic growth are at the core of social development, and the economic growth is today, especially in underdeveloped countries and countries in transition, unthinkable without foreign direct investments, i.e. without international business orientation of companies. Typically, the economies of these countries lack domestic resources and investments and, therefore, strongly need additional investments from abroad. However, the broader context of social development must include, in addition to the concept of economic stability, which today is inconceivable without foreign direct investment, the solution of the issue of national security as well. It is precisely for this reason that the successful functioning of the state in the security sector, in addition to economic stability,
is one of the most important factors that influences the decision of a foreign investor on potential investments in that country. The aim of the paper is to highlight the importance of international business orientation and its role in the concept of economic stability and national security.

Key words: international business orientation, foreign direct investment, economic stability, national security

Voluntary Pension Insurance as an Option for Additional Financial Security

Radovan Damnjanović

Voluntary pension insurance offers the possibility of providing a safer old age through savings in voluntary pension funds, as an addition to the pension that will be received from the government pension fund. In order to permanently develop the system of voluntary pension insurance, it is necessary to ensure an individual’s awareness of the necessity of possessing such an additional form of pension insurance. Here, the amount of supplementary (private) pension is formed by the amount of paid contributions, the period of payment and the accrued gain for the years of service, not the professional qualification, the current number of pensioners, and receiving a government pension or a pension from abroad.

As regards the voluntary pension insurance, the funds on the personal accounts of the insured are invested, and the realized gain is quarterly accrued to each account. In this way these assets are increased. Contribution payers opting for the transition to a new pension insurance system transfer their contributions from the old system to a new one, which entails reducing the contributions to the public pension insurance. Voluntary pension funds are said to be cautious investors in the capital market, since the largest percentage of money from voluntary pension funds is invested in securities – the purchase of government bonds, commercial papers and treasury notes. Also, pension funds are catalysts of savings and economic growth, because through investments they enable the development of capital market, infrastructure, construction industry, savings, and labor market.

Key words: voluntary pension fund, government pension, mandatory public pension insurance, contributions, investment unit, investment policy

Crisis Management and Emergency Situation

Stanimir Đukić

The paper defines the concepts of crisis and crisis management. It also discusses the term "emergency (urgent) situation", which is often identified with a crisis and a disaster, and it is therefore necessary to distinguish between these terms and the con-
cepts they designate. The key elements for distinguishing are the clarity of the nature, character and scope of the events that occur in an emergency situation, but not in a crisis. Unlike the crisis, an emergency situation is usually resolved by routine operational procedures within the existing capacity of an organization or community. Also, the paper discusses characteristics of crisis managers who should take into account important crisis management principles and the emerging difficulties, and adjust the available crisis management tools to the specificities of certain types of crises. In terms of organization, it is particularly important to compose a crisis management team so as to make it ever more efficient, with necessary observation of the most important ethical principles.

The paper also discusses the similarities and differences between crisis management and concepts like issues management, risk management, security management, disaster management, civil protection and business continuity management. The specificities of crisis management and the basic and interrelated stages of crisis management are analyzed, namely: confining (prevention), planning (preparation), response, and recovery, as well as the management system response to the occurrence of an emergency situation. In addition, the paper presents a legislative framework and provides a brief analysis of the activities, as well as the results that the police achieved in uncovering illegalities in the scope of work of the Emergency Management Authority.

Key words: crisis management, crisis, emergency situation, disaster, accident (emergency), conflict, crises management, emergency situation management

Traffic Policy and Sustainable Urban Development in Contemporary Social Environment

Gruja Kostadinović

The modern approach in traffic policy poses the emphasis on the optimization of the efficiency of existing traffic infrastructure, the management of transport requirements, as well as the promotion in favor of greater use of public city transport and other environment-friendly types of transport. The main direction of sustainable traffic development policy is immediate slowdown in negative environmental impacts, and stabilization and reduction of negative impacts, in order to ensure a relatively decent life for future generations. Serbia and the countries of the region must place priority on improvement of the economic situation, development of economic relations with foreign countries through a greater placement of products and services, as well as strengthening of investment activity in the planning and construction of traffic infrastructure. Current trends of regional and economic integrations inevitably cause numerous changes and require modifications in all segments of socio-economic life. Of particular importance is the traffic sector which is considered the bloodstream of any state and region, as well as the main prerequisite for performing other economic activities.

Key words: traffic policy, sustainable urban development, economy, society, environment
Production and Development of Traffic Services in Conditions of Market Competition

Predrag Ristić

Traffic is the first general condition for the normal development of social life and the economic development of a country. Traffic services are an important factor of the social activity, and at the same time represent an independent economic area, but also a significant precondition for the development of other economic areas. In other words, as an economic activity, traffic stimulates the development of industry through transporting mass quantities of products. Improvements in the speed of movement, regularity and security contribute to quick return of the funds invested in the production of goods from the circulation process into the production process. Due to their important function, traffic services must be viewed as both direct and indirect components of an economy based on the developed division of labor.

Key words: production, development, traffic services, market, supply, demand, competitiveness

Ergonomic Arrangement of the Workplace with Video Display Terminals in a Thermal Power Plant

Danijel Stojanović, Slaven Komljenović and Srdan Marković

A thermal power plant, in accordance with its purpose, is a set of numerous equipment for working with multiple sources of danger and harmfulness to the safety and health of persons performing their work duties therein.

The aim of this paper is to identify ergonomic risks by presenting a simple method of ergonomic analysis of risk in working with video display terminals in the thermal power plant, analysis of the work environment and psychophysical load, and software analysis of ergonomic risks at the workplace with video display terminals. This procedure creates conditions for taking measures to reduce the risk to the least amount possible or to eliminate it, in order to create an ergonomically better arranged and safer workplace.

Key words: thermal power plant, video display terminals, ergonomics, ergonomic risk analysis

Different Approaches and New Thought Paradigm: Examples from the History of Physics

Bojan M. Tomić and Milica M. Tomić

In order to show the basicality and the importance of a multidisciplinary approach, examples from the history of physics are shown, representing the ends of the famous epochs: the ancient and medieval ones that are covered in Aristotle's physics, and
the classical one, preceding the quantum and relativistic physics. It was necessary to find a new answer to the questions that had been raised before the scientists’ community. The paper is about the researchers who succeeded in this. The changes brought about by new insights into known phenomena can be traced through the rapid development of civilization, communication, technological innovations, weapons, and other. The conclusion is that different views of known problems are one of the key factors that trigger scientific revolutions.

Key words: different approaches, new thought, paradigm, physics, history

The Collapse of the Eastern Bloc, the Warsaw Pact and the USSR, and Post-Cold War Military and Political Integrative Processes in the Former USSR and in Asia

Nikola Tošić Malešević

Shortly after the end of the Cold War (November 9, 1989), the Eastern Bloc, led by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, suffered defeat, resulting in the collapse of the Bloc (from 1989 to 1991) and its military alliance – the Warsaw Pact (July 1, 1991). After that, neither the USSR did last long, but disintegrated on December 25, 1991. These events provided the winners of the Cold War – the Western Bloc led by the United States and its military alliance NATO – with a great opportunity to get to control the areas of the former Eastern Bloc and even the former USSR.

Sensing the great threat, the successor of the USSR, the Russian Federation (Russia) immediately tried to ensure itself some kind of protection. This led to post-cold war military and political integration processes on the territory of the former USSR, and later in Asia too, where there were countries that also felt threatened by the hegemony of the United States, NATO and the Western Bloc.

Key words: United States of America, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Russia, NATO, Warsaw Pact, Western bloc, Eastern bloc, cold war, economic crisis, CIS, USRB, SCO, CSTO, Parliamentary Assembly of CSTO, GUAM

The Last Days of Krajina – Republic of Serbian Krajina between the Operation Flash and the Operation Storm

Milan N. Gulić

The paper, based on the available archival material, relevant literature, newspapers and magazines, and works of memoir character, presents the last days of the Republic of Serbian Krajina, that is, the period between the two major offensive of the Croatian Army (Flash and Storm), where it was first left without the territory of the Western Slavonia, and then collapsed after the fall of its entire western part. The period from
the beginning of May to the beginning of August of 1995 was characterized by a crisis of the government and institutions, attempts to strengthen defense capabilities, peace initiative and negotiations, shortages of electricity, oil and foodstuffs, dissatisfaction of the population and increasingly noticeable moving out, which all affected combat readiness and significantly contributed to the collapse. The strongest strike of the Croatian army since the beginning of the war came when Krajina was in the worst situation since its creation in 1991, and it is not surprising that all resulted in the expulsion of the entire population of the western part of the former Republic of Serbian Krajina.

Key words: Operation "Flash", Republic of Serbian Krajina, Milan Martić, Milan Babić, Borislav Mikić, Vidovdan parade, Yasushi Akashi, Franjo Tudjman, Geneva negotiations, Operation "Storm"

South-East Serbia in Research of Academician Vladimir Stojančević – Contribution to the Future

Milena Žikić

The life of Academician Vladimir Stojančević is an inexhaustible source of knowledge. Scientific results achieved over the past seven decades and more than eight hundred bibliographic units testify about a thorough researcher who, even in the tenth decade of his life, clarifies and opens up scientific fields, giving guidance to future historians. Consistent in the historical-critical method, as well as a strict analytical approach, he has been exploring the historical past of Serbia in an objective way and communicating his scientific results to the present day. In addition to the bibliography of works from South-East Serbia, the paper also presents his short work biography.

Key words: Serbian-Turkish wars, national liberation movements, South-East Serbia, Berlin Congress