

## EDITORS' NOTE

The Wider Black Sea or the extended Black Sea Region plays a crucial role in European security. The region has become in 21<sup>st</sup> Century a strategic frontier for Europe (especially European Union), United States (NATO), and Russian Federation. The recent European wars – 2008 in Georgia and 2014 in Ukraine (ongoing), held in the Black Sea basin confirms its geopolitical importance. The Black Sea region for ages was an area of military, political and economical confrontation between the regional actors and global powers. Nowadays, the Black Sea basin seems to be the crucial region of the Euroasian rivalry.

The newest issue of “Ante Portas – Security Studies”, which I am pleased to share, is mostly concerned with the threats and challenges that we are recently witnessing in the Black Sea basin. Our Authors represent the countries from the region, especially Georgia. Their studies show numerous problems, specific and complex, such as the NATO regional approach towards missile defence in the Black Sea basin (Alika Guchua), cyber warfare, and new technologies (Thornike Zedelashvili), Russia’s propaganda and disinformation (Revaz Topuria, Zaza Tsotniashvili), asymmetric warfare and terrorism in the region (Vakhtang Maisaia & Magdana Beselia), or the future of the Ukrainian conflict (Vadim Volovoj, from Lithuania).

The other articles concern various issues represent many regions and areas of research. Igor Ivanow & Svetlana Petrenko (Kazakhstan) brought us the importance of the INF Treaty for Central Asian security, and Muhammad Maigari Abdullahi, Usman Ahamd Karofi, Uthman Abdullahi Abdul-Qadir & Ibrahim Arafat (Nigeria) described the Nigerian counter-terrorism and special military operations.

Military and defence matters play the main role in the recent issue, however, not the only ones. Svetlana Cebotari & Stelana Stejaru (Moldova) emphasized the role of the UN Security Council in the COVID-19 crisis management, Tomáš Beňuška (Slovakia) shows the challenges of social security in the context of religion and demography, Olena Yatsenko (Ukraine) continues the problem of social security (or society’s security) in the virtual space, Przemysław Furgacz (Poland) announced the incoming revolution in the banking system.

I am proud, as “Ante Portas – Security Studies” Editor-in-Chief, of diversity that characterizes our journal – the diversity of Authors, opinions, points of view, areas of interest. I am sure that all of our readers will find this as an added value. Enjoy your reading!

*Jakub Žak*  
*Editor-In-Chief*