

EDITOR'S NOTE

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With its 10th edition, AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal of Strategy & International Relations, completes 5 years of existence. Since its inception, it has been publishing dense and prospective analytical articles, written by Professors and Doctors, renowned experts in their fields of research. The idea was initially to draw attention to a global crisis (both geographical and thematic) in progress. Then, we addressed the acceleration of the political and economic processes of International Relations. Finally, in 2016 we can speak of a real earthquake shaking the already fragile world order.

The crisis in the Middle East has undergone a remarkable evolution and transformation, particularly when it comes to the role of Turkey (with its failed coup attempt) and the Russian protagonism in Syria. NATO's strength seems shaken, while Moscow affirms its presence with the recent retake of Aleppo by the Syrian government forces. Europe is experimenting the worsening of the migratory issue, the crisis of the integration and the Brexit vote, which for the first time will make a country leave the successful supranational union in almost 60 years.

Germany seems to be in an uncomfortable position, while xenophobia and the advancement of right-wing populism, as well as financial and social instability, continue to rise. The answers seem contradictory, with attempts to return to the foundations of the integration process, while, at the same time, recent NATO maneuvers point to the opposite direction. South America has undergone a near-complete political change, with the impeachment of Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff and the defeat of the center-left across the subcontinent, in a context of permanent instability and international realignments that are still not very clear.

But nothing was more shocking than Donald Trump's election to the American presidency. This a complex and deep rooted phenomenon that,

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instead of being analyzed, is currently being caricatured. More than an approach to Vladimir Putin's Russia, as was advocated by Henry Kissinger in his latest book 'World Order', the rejection of several free trade agreements in the Pacific and the Atlantic signals a significant change in the international arena, reinforced by Trump's propositions to reduce American engagement in NATO. Finally, in the last days of the year, the unthinkable happened: the UN Security Council condemned Israeli settlements in the West Bank, which was only possible with the American abstention, one of the last provisions of the Barack Obama era.

In this half-decade edition, the journal focuses mainly on matters of Defense, particularly in Asia and South America, as well as other regions.

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