

## EDITOR'S NOTE

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In the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, after the Cold War was over, the security issues have started to become neglected and eclipsed as a study object, in the frame of the predominantly economic agenda of the neoliberal globalization, both in the Academy and the political rhetoric. But the 9/11 attacks put the security in the center of the academic debate again, as part of the War on Terror and the asymmetrical conflicts. The focus adopted was directed towards the rift between the Western powers and the new threats of the terrorist groups and the so-called "Rogue States". Few analysts have explored the geopolitical dimensions that were implicit in such scenario.

As the second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century begins, the frame suffers a substantial change: the economic crisis of the OECD countries impacted the political equilibrium, while China became the second largest economy of the world and the acronym BRICS obtained political-strategic substance and materiality. Thus, the security analysis gained a new dimension, reaching the South. And this is the central subject of the third number of the journal AUSTRAL.

The global analysis of international security is followed by the regional approach of the issue – South American and South Atlantic –, where a new geopolitical space gains consistence. This space, evidently, connects itself to the African continent, and the last one to the Middle East, shaken by the "Arab Spring". This event, of aftermath still uncertain, sends shockwaves to every direction, including Africa and the South Atlantic. This set of matters is approached here, also because in academic, political and governmental milieux

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of the NATO countries and associated, the idea of an “Atlantic Community” (with Northern leadership) is being launched, theoretically to counterbalance the Asia-Pacific area.

And because the approach of such subjects is limited, we present two articles in the realm of instrumental theoretical approaches, constantly recycled in traditional academic circuits, from a critical perspective. The new emerging realities cannot be understood only through old visions and conventional reasoning. In this context, AUSTRAL journal shows the Brazilian and foreign readers that it develops another goal: to contribute for the theoretical-analytical renewal of the international strategic studies. Completing the third number, it is presented one more article about the South-South Cooperation on the HIV/AIDS fight, and a last one about the Anti-Corruption Law applied to transnational companies.

At last, we would like to highlight that the first anniversary of *AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal Strategy & International Relations* coincides with the commencement of the first ten Masters, together with three Doctors, of the International Strategic Studies Doctoral Program (PPGEEI), sealing the consolidation of the new program, created just two years ago. In the same period, the Brazilian Center of Strategy & International Relations (NERINT,) of the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul's (UFRGS) Latin American Institute for Advanced Studies (ILEA), changed its South Africa-Brazil Studies Center (CESUL) into CEBRAFRICA: Brazilian Centre of African Studies. The *South African Series* has become *African Series*, having published two new titles: “The African Countries” and “Congo, The African World War”, both in Portuguese.

Parallel to the release of the third number of AUSTRAL, NERINT starts its new “International Relations and Strategy Series” (through Editora Leitura XXI), which substitutes the *Integration and International Relations* and *International Studies* series, with the release of the book “Marxist Revolutions and Regimes” (in Portuguese). Thus, all the Professors and students involved in this interrelated projects array must be congratulated.

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