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## INTRODUCTION TO ISSUE 10 OF THE IEEE JOURNAL

The *IEEE Journal*, faithful to its appointment and to its objective of providing articles of academic quality on current affairs, in its final edition for 2017, offers readers six articles on major aspects of international reality.

The ever-changing terrorist phenomenon has forced the European Union to adopt normative measures in the face of this threat. Analysing these changes and answers is the topic developed by Ms Andreea Marica, Doctor of Law and Professor of International Law at the Camilo José Cela University in her article: *Measures and regulatory changes within the European Union to strengthen the fight against global terrorism*, in which she reviews the so-called “hard answers” and “soft answers” implemented by this macro-institution to guarantee citizens an area of Freedom, Security and Justice. In the view of the author, the updating and harmonisation of legal instruments is essential, as well as the improvement of cooperation between judiciary and information.

The second article, *Terrae ultima Thule: Cooperation in the Arctic region*, addresses the future of the Arctic and its natural resources. Its author, David López Morales, focuses on the Arctic region as a place for the coexistence of current superpowers and analyses the interests at stake that make cooperation among States in the Arctic central to the debate, as well as the need for cooperation to guarantee peace, security and stability in this region.

The third article addresses one of the current challenges to regional and international security: North Korea’s nuclear programme. Anass Gouyez Ben Allal, PhD in Law and Political Science at the Autonomous University of Madrid, analyses in the *North Korea’s nuclear programme: the survival of the regime and the challenges of security* the risk that this programme implies for illicit trafficking in nuclear technology and other practices.

Jihadism and terrorist violence are, regrettably, a permanent cause for concern and analysis. In article 4, Pablo Cañete Blanco, discusses *Jihadism as an expression of violence* and analyses the phenomenon as a changing, fragmented process which, without being alien to the rest of today’s Western social processes, has adapted to new global audiences.

The proposal to include the security of our land routes and land transport as another aspect of the Spanish National Security Law is the thesis defended by Maria del Carmen Girón, head of the International Relations Department of the General Directorate of Traffic in her article *An analysis of the National Security Law in Spain as a comprehensive security law. Proposal to include security on land routes as an area of special interest for national security*. For this author, the specific inclusion of the Security of Land Routes as an area of special interest for National Security and the Security of Mobility and Land Transport can make a contribution towards devising new patterns of thinking in relation to national and international security strategies.

Finally, the Commander and Chief of Operations of the General Staff of the Canary Islands Naval Command, Adolfo García Quintela, offers an analysis of national and community maritime policy in its adaptation to globalisation and new threats. His article *The evolution of maritime policy in the European Union and Spain: from “safety” to “security”* revises current policy and raises the need to regulate maritime activity and adapt it to the new global framework.

This edition concludes with reviews of two interesting works published in 2016 and 2015 respectively:

The first looks at the content and contextualization of the work of Paul Rogers, *Irregular war: ISIS and the new threat from the margins* and the second focuses on the great hegemon of today: *Following the Leader. Ruling China from Deng Xiaoping to Xi Jinping*, by David M. Lampton.