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## PRESENTATION OF ISSUE Nº 9 OF THE SPANISH INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES (IEEE) MAGAZINE

It is my pleasure to present Issue nº 9 of the *Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies (IEEE) Magazine*, thus keeping the date it has with readers every semester. This magazine deals with many security and defense subjects from multiple points of view, and seeks to base itself not only on the scientific world in Spanish but also on that in English.

This issue includes six articles which rigorously deal with six subjects of great interest, as well as critiques of two books.

In the first article, entitled “*Proxy Wars in Cyberspace*”, its author Manuel R. Torres Soriano, full Professor of Political Science at the University Pablo de Olavide in Seville, analyzes the so-called *proxy wars*, or *low-cost wars*, which resort to *cyber-proxies* to obscure State responsibility for notably delinquent activities, or for espionage. In an environment of great uncertainty, proxies are able to initiate and maintain low-intensity cyber conflicts which could, nevertheless, be assumed and strengthened by the States.

Civilian-military relations are the frequent subject of many studies, but it is not common to find a methodology that can help in the complete analysis of this question. In his article, “*Definition of a Procedure for the Analysis of Models of Civilian-Military Relations*”, the doctoral student in the program “Government and Culture of Organizations” at the University of Navarra, Brigadier General Salvador Sánchez Tapia, proposes a model with which to reach this objective. After presenting the conceptual fundamentals of the model, four areas are developed to focus the investigation and apply it to two western democracies: the United Kingdom and Greece.

The study of war from the point of view of mass communication is particularly attractive thanks to the work of Frigate Captain Manuel García Ruiz, author of article nº 3, entitled, “*The Political Cartoon: the New Weapon during World War*”.

Beyond the historical research about World War I, the study of the graphic propaganda published during this conflict shows us the true impact that it had on the population. As the author points out, in a world without television, with cinema

still in the making, and in which photography, although not widespread, provided the principal graphic record, graphic comic strips filled a visual vacuum for a society that was experiencing war in the flesh for the first time.

Javier Lion Bustillo, Professor of the History of Political Thought and Social Movements at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, deals with the issue of the rapid expansion of the Islamic State (ISIS) in Syria and Iraq throughout 2014 in *“The Islamic State and Jabhat Al-Nusra, New Actors in Lebanon?”*.

Jabhat al-Nusra (linked to Al-Qaeda), which dominates several areas in Syria, is an example of transnational Suni Jihadism, of Salafist inspiration, whose political struggle is centered at a global level. Lebanon is suffering from the growing activity of these groups in such a way that, in the author’s opinion, the Islamic State and Jabhad al-Nusra could become new actors in the political scenario of the country, with the ability to influence its always precarious balance of power, become linked to national groups such as Hezbollah, and create a growing instability.

*“Central Asians Fighting in Syria: The Danger of those Returning to Central Asia from the Islamic State”* is the title of the article by Antonio Alonso Marcos, a Political Scientist, holding a PhD. from the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, wherein he analyzes the recruitment, throughout the territory of the former Soviet Union, of the almost 3,000 Central Asians who have abandoned their countries of origin to fight with the Islamic State (ISIS) in Syria. The jihadist threat in this region is on the security agenda again in Central Asian countries. The social, economic, and environmental causes do not seem to be enough to explain why a person becomes involved with the *jihad* in Syria. The author tries to explain the reasons that lead many Central Asian youngsters to the jihadist struggle, and the possible impact on the security of Russia and Europe.

Finally, Engineering Lieutenant Coronel Carlos García-Guiu López, PhD in Psychology, Directorate of Research, Organic Doctrine and Material at the Combined Center of the University of Granada-Training and Doctrine Command, analyzes, in *“Ethical Leadership and Responsible Management as Improvement Vectors in Security, Emergency and Defense Organizations”*, the important role that ethical leadership and social responsibility have in the improvement in command and management of the Security and Defense institutions in Spain as an essential element in the favoring of commitment, innovation and quality in public service. To the author, without a development of ethical leadership by those responsible for Security, Emergency and Defense Organizations, it will not be possible to enhance the spirit of service, nor favor innovation, nor will it be possible to foster the culture of commitment, and the maintenance of a high organizational/ethical environment.

To sum up, yet another issue of the *IEEE Magazine*, product of its management group, and above all, of the collaboration of its consultants, experienced PhDs on the subjects analyzed who guarantee the scientific rigor of the magazine.