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LITHUANIAN ANNUAL STRATEGIC REVIEW

2012-2013
Volume 11
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Lithuanian Annual Strategic Review

This is a peer reviewed annual research publication published by the Military Academy of Lithuania in co-operation with Vilnius University and Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas. The main objective of this publication is to provide readers with a wide-scale analysis and generalization of the changes, both essential and significant, in the national security of Lithuania at the international–systemic, regional, and national levels. The yearbook also aims to give maximum emphasis to the specificity of Lithuanian national security issues and comprehensively present them to a widely interested and concerned audience.

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Preface

The Strategic Research Centre of the Lithuanian Military Academy alongside its partners in Vilnius and Vytautas Magnus Universities present their readers the eleventh volume of the “Lithuanian Annual Strategic Review”, devoted to security problems of Lithuania in 2012 – 2013. Attention is again focused on urgent themes that call for significant research and insight. Continuing a long-lasting tradition, we have classified the ten studies presented in the journal into four main parts.

The first part called “Development Tendencies of the Global International System” presents three studies. Vaidotas Urbelis gets to the heart of the smart defence conception that is becoming ever more important and presents an analysis of the attitude of smaller NATO states from the perspective of such defence. Daivis Petraitis, systematically and in a composite way, researches the issues pertaining to how the antimissile defence of the USA, NATO and Russia is perceived and to what it is devoted. The text discloses how antimissile defence systems can both directly and indirectly impact not only military activity but also its impact on international politics. Sigita Trainauskienė explores the frequently discussed issue of the retention USA attention in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and within this context considers Lithuanian foreign policy priorities.

The second part of this publication, titled “Change of the European Security System”, also comprises three studies. Eitvydas Bajarūnas, the Lithuanian Ambassador in Stockholm, shares his point of view on the perspectives of the cooperation between the Nordic and Baltic countries in the defence area. In their study experts on economics Jonas Čičinskas and Arūnas Dulkys analyze the consequences of the financial crisis and new decisions in the European Union for smaller members of the Union and come to the conclusion that such countries as Lithuania can guarantee their economic stability only by joining the economic integration process which satisfies the needs not only of economic rationality and security but also conforms to the criteria and interests of political associations and cultural affiliation. The third study of this part, devoted to the 2010 unprecedented constitutional reorganization of Hungary that generated a great deal of attention in Lithuania because of the conflict with Europe, was prepared by András Deák, an associate fellow of the Hungarian International Relations Institute.

The third part of the journal, devoted Eastern neighbors of Lithuania, provides two interesting studies. Povilas Žielys seeks answers to the question:
why, in spite of great expectations pertaining to the Rose Revolution of 2003 in Georgia and the Orange Revolution of 2004 in Ukraine, does the democratic regime in these two states still remain not completely established. Ieva Ga-
jauskaitė, attempting to thoroughly explain in her study why the strategic part-
tnerships between Poland and Ukraine and between Lithuania and Ukraine are based on formality rather than effective cooperation, carries out their evo-
lutionary analysis and compares their intensity, strategic goals and the motiva-
tion of the partners to the common benefit they have generated.

The fourth part of the “Review” traditionally analyzes urgent aspects, issues and cases of the national security of Lithuania. This time, readers have may familiarize themselves with two research studies. Justina Budginaitė sur-
veys the activity of the Lithuanian Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afg-
hanistan’s Ghor province by paying particular attention to the dimension of military–civilian cooperation. The final article of the journal deals with why the progress achieved in fighting against corruption frequently goes unnoticed in Lithuania and why it is so difficult for the country to get rid of the image of a rather corrupted state. The answer to this issue, which is important for the security of the country, is supplied by sociologist Jolanta Aleknevičienė.

We wish our readers an interesting reading with new research studies. Please note that this and previous volumes of the “Lithuanian Annual Strategic Review” can be found at the General Jonas Zemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania Internet website as well as in various international databases.

Vilnius, May 2013

Editor-in-Chief

Volume 11 articles are available at:

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