

## Editor's Word

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Dear readers,

You are holding the first issue of the Strategos journal in 2025. As in previous editions, this issue features several high-quality papers which, I hope, will prove interesting and useful to our readership. The range of topics is quite broad, demonstrating Strategos' openness to contributions from various authors and their diverse interests in the fields of military defense and security-intelligence sciences.

Artificial intelligence remains a highly relevant topic today, with applications across a wide range of activities. The article "Integration of Generative Artificial Intelligence into Tactical Military Decision-Making" discusses decision-making within military organizations, where decision support is crucial. The authors explore how generative AI systems, such as ChatGPT, could be integrated into tactical decision-making processes as a potential component of the C2 model.

The following article, "The Evolution of NATO: Strategic Adaptation in a Changing Security Environment," examines NATO's ongoing transformation as a comprehensive and continuous process of adaptation. It identifies patterns and trends that reflect the Alliance's profound change and evolution.

The paper "Examining the Transformation of the U.S. National Security System after 2001" explores the approaches taken by the United States during the reform of its national security system. The author synthesizes conclusions and highlights key shortcomings in the operations of the U.S. national security structure.

The editorial board continues to accept, review, and publish papers on the Homeland War. This issue includes two such contributions. The article "Operational-Strategic Significance of the Sunja Bridgehead in the Homeland War" draws on original testimonies and documents to analyze

the operational-strategic importance of the Sunja bridgehead, emphasizing its key role in the defense of the city of Sisak and in preventing enemy forces from advancing toward Zagreb.

Concluding this issue is the paper "Engagement of the Varaždin Battalion of the 104th Croatian Army Brigade in the Liberation of Western Slavonia in Autumn 1991," written by active participants in those events. This work discusses the battalion's involvement in combat operations in the wider Pakrac battlefield area, aiming to prevent the loss of Lipik and Pakrac. The paper features original maps that vividly illustrate troop movements during the reported military operations.

On this occasion as well, I recommend these contributions from the joint publication of the University of Defense and Security and the Croatian Defence Academy to our readers. I also invite other authors to submit works from their fields of expertise. Furthermore, I believe many authors will find these papers valuable as reference material in their own research.

**Editor-in-Chief**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, cursive letters that appear to be 'A. B.' followed by a flourish.