

Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary

V. South America International Conference

*Defense and Security in South America:
Cold War and Post-Cold War Era*

February 28 - March 1, 2025

Budapest, Hungary

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
2025**

South America International Conference
Conferencia Internacional de América del Sur
Dél-Amerika Nemzetközi Konferencia



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Amadea Bata-Balog and Mónika Szente-Varga

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Dorina Nagy

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Onsite Session: Hungarian **Security Dynamics**

Zámbori, Márk Jonatán

Institution: Eötvös Loránd University (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: jonatan.zambori @ gmail.com

The negative effects of Syrian-Lebanese Immigration to Brazil: Anti-Semitic Expressions of Prominent Arabs in the 20th century

From the late 19th century to the 1930s, more than one hundred thousand Syrian-Lebanese immigrants arrived in Brazil, the majority of whom were of Christian faith. Many members of this diaspora managed to achieve upward mobility and contributed to the economic development and cultural diversity of the South American country. However, Syrian-Lebanese immigration also had negative consequences, as several prominent Arabs or people of Arab descent made anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist statements. The aim of my presentation is to examine the Arab diaspora's attitude toward Judaism and the State of Israel. To draw the final conclusions, I also take in account and examine the writings of businessman Nami Jafet, doctor Wadih Safady, writer Salomão Jorge, and other prominent Brazilian Arab authors.

Keywords: *Brazil, Syrian-Lebanese immigration, Brazilian Arab diaspora, Anti-semitism, Anti-zionism*

Abstract in Hungarian (Presentation Language):

A Brazíliába irányuló szíriai-libanoni bevándorlás negatív mellékhatása: Prominens arabok antiszemita megnyilvánulásai a 20. században

A 19. század végétől az 1930-as évekig több mint százezer szíriai-libanoni bevándorló érkezett Brazíliába. Többségük valamely keresztény felekezethez tartozott. A diaszpóra számos tagja sikeresen beilleszkedett, sőt aktívan hozzájárult a dél-amerikai állam gazdasági fejlődéséhez, kulturális sokszínűségéhez. A szíriai-libanoni bevándorlásnak azonban voltak negatív hatásai is, tekintettel arra, hogy több prominens arab, illetve arab származású ember tett antiszemita, anticionista megjegyzéseket. Előadásom célja bemutatni az 1890 és 1930 között Brazíliába érkezett szíriai-libanoni bevándorlók és leszármazottjaik zsidósághoz és Izrael államhoz fűződő viszonyát. A végső következtetések levonásához figyelembe veszem és elemzem Nami Jafet üzletember, Wadih Safady orvos, Salomão Jorge író és más prominens brazíliai arab szerzők írásait is.

Kulcsszavak: *Brazília, szíriai-libanoni bevándorlás, Brazíliai arab diaszpóra, Antiszemitizmus, Anticionizmus*

Onsite Session: Hungarian – Security Dynamics

Csernák-Haiszky, Edina Julianna

Institution: Danube Institute
Country of origin: Hungary
Email: edinahaiszky @ gmail.com

Russia and South America: Geopolitical Interests and Economic Influence

The current dynamics of Russia's policy in South America are characterized by a wide array of diverse aspects, the exploration of which is essential for understanding modern geopolitical relations. The aim of this presentation is to offer a comprehensive overview of Russia's strategic manoeuvres in the region through case studies associated with selected key countries—such as Venezuela, Brazil, and Argentina. Through these examples, we will examine how military, energy, and informational collaborations are structured, and the roles they play in counterbalancing American sanctions and bolstering Russian regional influence. This approach seeks to uncover Moscow's present objectives and instruments, as well as to elucidate how this strategy is increasingly shaping the evolving landscape of global power dynamics.

Keywords: *Russia, Russian Federation, South America, Strategic ties, Energetics, Case study*

Abstract in Hungarian (Presentation Language):

Oroszország és Dél-Amerika: Geopolitikai érdekek és gazdasági befolyás

Az orosz Dél-Amerika-politika aktuális dinamikáját számos és sokrétű aspektusok skálája jellemzi, amelyek feltárása elengedhetetlen a modern geopolitikai viszonyok megértéséhez. Jelen előadás célja, hogy egyes, kiválasztott országokhoz – Venezuela, Brazília és Argentína – kötődő esettanulmányokon keresztül átfogó képet nyújtson az orosz stratégiai lépésekről a régióban. A bemutatott példák révén megvizsgálásra kerül, hogyan épülnek ki a katonai, energetikai és információs együttműködések, valamint milyen szerepet játszanak ezek az amerikai szankciók ellensúlyozásában és az orosz regionális befolyás növelésében. A kutatás célja feltárni Moszkva aktuális céljait és eszközeit, valamint megvilágítani, miként válik ez a stratégia egyre meghatározóbbá a globális hatalmi viszonyok alakulásában.

Kulcsszavak: *Oroszország, Oroszországi Föderáció, Dél-Amerika, Stratégiai kapcsolatok, Energetika, Esettanulmány*

Bata-Balog, Amadea

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: b.amadea93 @ gmail.com

Venezuelan Snapshot: Migration and Deportation

Following the events in Venezuela, it tumbles deeper into dictatorship with the inauguration of President Nicolás Maduro on January 10, 2025. Despite the fact that the United States (temporarily) eased its sectoral sanctions against Venezuela as response to the Barbados agreement between the Caracas regime and its opposition on guarantees of the political conditions for the 2024 presidential election, the results of the elections in July were highly controversial, and the Venezuelan people were once again victims of a rigged election. Meanwhile, the new US president, Donald Trump, seems to have taken a new approach to his conflicted relationship with Venezuela, from which more than 7.9 million people have emigrated over the years due to worrying conditions. The majority (85%) settled within the region, while a growing number targeted the US. Host countries in the region are trying to legalize Venezuelan migrants by issuing temporary permits, while Trump recently announced that he would not renew the temporary protected status granted to immigrants from Venezuela starting in April. This measure could lead to the deportation of hundreds of thousands of people. Maduro and the US government already reached an agreement to repatriate Venezuelan citizens deported from the US, thereby on February 10, two Venezuelan planes returned with about 190 Venezuelans. As part of the Trump administration's strict immigration policy, hundreds of migrants were sent to the migration centre established in Guantanamo Bay, from where another plane arrived in Caracas on February 20 with 177 Venezuelan nationals. The purpose of this presentation is to provide a brief overview of the current events regarding the Venezuelan crisis, as well as to explore the circumstances of the aforementioned measures and the prospects for Venezuelan migrants.

Keywords: *Venezuela, United States, Migration, Migration policy, Deportation*

Abstract in Hungarian (Presentation Language):

Venezuelai helyzetkép: Migráció és deportáció

Figyelemmel kísérve a venezuelai eseményeket, az ország egyre mélyebb diktatúrába süllyed Nicolás Maduro elnök 2025. január 10-i beiktatása által. Hiába enyhült a Nyugat Venezuela irányába, amikor is az Egyesült Államok (ideiglenesen) enyhítette Venezuelával szembeni szektorális szankcióit, miután a caracasi rezsim és ellenzéke megállapodást kötött Barbadoson a 2024-es elnökválasztás politikai feltételeinek garanciáiról. A júliusi választások eredménye ugyanis igencsak vitatott, nagy valószínűséggel ismét elcsalt választásokról beszélhetünk. Mindeközben az Egyesült Államok új elnöke, Donald Trump új megközelítésbe helyezte konfliktusos kapcsolatát Venezuelával, ahonnan az aggasztó körülmények miatt több mint 7,9 millió ember vándorolt el az évek során. A többség (85%) a régió belül telepedett le, míg egyre többen vették célba az Egyesült Államokat. A régió befogadó országai ideiglenes engedélyek kiadásával próbálják legalizálni a venezuelai migránsok helyzetét, míg Trump nemrégiben bejelentette, hogy áprilistól nem hosszabbítja meg a Venezuelából érkezett bevándorlóknak biztosított ideiglenes védelmi státust. Ez az intézkedés többszázezer ember kitoloncolásához



vezethet. Maduro és az amerikai kormány csakhamar megállapodott az USA-ból kitoloncolt venezuelai állampolgárok hazaszállításáról, így február 10-én két venezuelai gép tért haza, mintegy 190 venezuelai állampolgárral. A Trump adminisztráció szigorú bevándorlási politikájának keretében több száz migránst küldtek a Guantánamói-öbölben létrehozott migrációs központba, ahonnan február 20-án újabb repülőgép érkezett Caracasba 177 venezuelai migránssal. Az előadás célja, hogy rövid helyzetképet nyújtson az elmúlt év eseményeiről, ami a venezuelai válságot illeti, valamint feltárja az említett intézkedések körülményeit és a venezuelai migránsok kilátásait.

Kulcsszavak: Venezuela, Egyesült Államok, Migráció, Migrációs politika, Kitoloncolás

Onsite Session: Hungarian – Security Dynamics

Kovács, Kinga Virág

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: kovacskingavirag @ gmail.com

The Most Critical Cyber Battlefield? - Background on Cyber Operations in South America

Cyber warfare is a growing threat in South America, where external powers, particularly Russia and China, are actively involved in cyber operations in the region. Some states in the region have already directly integrated Russian and Chinese digital infrastructure, which provides opportunities for government surveillance, information warfare and targeted cyberattacks. The central question of this research is the extent to which these above-mentioned countries contribute to cyber operations in South America and the means they use to achieve this goal.

Cyber operations in South America take many forms, including attacks on critical infrastructure, political and economic destabilisation operations, and state-sponsored surveillance systems. Russian systems allow the acquisition of sensitive government, military and economic information. External influence manifests itself not only in technological support, but also in active cyberattacks that threaten South America's infrastructure, state institutions and financial systems. Cyber operations in South America may not only cause internal conflicts and economic damage but can also be seen as part of international power plays, where Russia and other actors are using digital tools to increase their geopolitical influence. This research aims to explore these connections, identify attack methods and highlight the cyber defence challenges in the region.

Keywords: *Cyber warfare, Cyber operations, Critical infrastructure, External powers, Geopolitical influence*

Abstract in Hungarian (Presentation Language):

A legkritikusabb kibercsatatér? – A Dél-Amerikát érintő kiberműveletek háttere

A kibercsatatér egyre nagyobb fenyegetést jelent Dél-Amerikában, ahol külső hatalmak, különösen Oroszország és Kína, aktívan részt vesznek a térség kiberműveleteiben. A régió egyes államai már közvetlenül integrálták az orosz és kínai digitális infrastruktúrát, amely lehetőséget biztosít kormányzati megfigyelésre, információk hadviselésre és célzott kibertámadások végrehajtására. A kutatás központi kérdése, hogy milyen mértékben járulnak hozzá ezek a fent említett országok a Dél-Amerikát érintő kiberműveletekhez, és milyen eszközöket alkalmaznak e cél érdekében.

A Dél-Amerikát érintő kiberműveletek többféle formában jelennek meg, amelyek között kritikus infrastruktúrát célzó támadások, politikai és gazdasági destabilizációs műveletek, valamint államilag támogatott megfigyelési rendszerek is szerepelnek. Az orosz rendszerek lehetővé teszik az érzékeny kormányzati, katonai és gazdasági információk megszerzését. A külső befolyás nem csupán technológiai támogatásban nyilvánul meg, hanem aktív kibertámadásokban is, amelyek Dél-Amerika infrastruktúráját, állami szerveit és pénzügyi rendszereit fenyegetik.

A Dél-Amerikát érintő kiberműveletek nem csupán belső konfliktusokat és gazdasági károkat okozhatnak, hanem a nemzetközi hatalmi játszmák részeként is értelmezhetők, ahol Oroszország és más szereplők digitális eszközökkel próbálják növelni geopolitikai befolyásukat. A kutatás célja, hogy feltérképezze ezeket az összefüggéseket, azonosítsa a támadási módszereket, és rávilágítson a régió kibervédelmi kihívásaira.

Kulcsszavak: *Kibercsatatérés, Kiberműveletek, Kritikus infrastruktúra, Külső hatalmak, Geopolitikai befolyás*



Onsite Session: English

Transnational Connections



Onsite Session: English – Transnational Connections

Gergi-Horgos, Mátyás

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: ghorgos95 @ gmail.com

‘Democratic will’ or ‘illegal referendum’? – Media Coverage of the 2017 Catalan Independence Referendum in South America

The 2017 Catalan independence referendum was a highly controversial political event, sparking significant international media coverage. The purpose of my study is to analyze how the different media outlets based in South American countries portrayed the unconstitutional referendum, focusing on key narratives and framing strategies. Through content analysis of news articles, this research examines whether coverage was predominantly sympathetic to the Catalan independence movement, supported Spanish unity or perhaps aimed to maintain a balanced, neutral stance. Recurring themes in news articles will be explored, such as the steps taken by the Generalitat and by the Spanish government in light of the referendum. The findings of the study suggest that the coverage varied significantly between nations and political affiliations, with some media outlets framing the referendum as a legitimate expression of the Catalan people's will, while others emphasized its illegal, unconstitutional nature that could lead to the fragmentation of the Spanish State. The framing of the event was affected by South American political contexts, particularly by the ties of countries to Spain and the countries' specific experience with separatist movements. The results demonstrate how the coverage of specific international events is shaped by the media.

Keywords: *Catalonia, Referendum, South America, Media, Framing*



Onsite Session: English – Transnational Connections

Lehoczki, Bernadett, PhD

Institution: Corvinus University of Budapest

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: bernadett.lehoczki @ uni-corvinus.hu

South American Populists and Current International Conflicts: Ukraine and the Middle East

Typically, South American countries distance themselves from international conflicts and historically pursue inward-looking policies, focusing on domestic development. Their foreign relations have traditionally been limited to the Western Hemisphere, where the United States has maintained a predominant hegemonic position. However, since the turn of the millennium, various South American populist regimes have demonstrated a stronger global solidarity and interest in mediating in conflicts or simply expressing their autonomous approach to international events. The underlying reasons for this shift are multifaceted, including the populist demand for 'taking back control', the shifting global and regional position of the United States, the aspiration of emerging South American powers to pursue an independent foreign policy, and the rise of left-wing and right-wing populist regimes in the region that seek to alter or replace their countries' traditional foreign policy principles established by the 'elite'.

My aim is to explore the approach of South American populists to the following international conflicts: the war in Ukraine (2022) and the Israel-Palestine conflict (2023). My research question is: what internal and external factors shape populist stance towards armed conflicts?

Keywords: *South America, Populism, Armed conflict, Ukraine, Middle East*



Onsite Session: English – Transnational Connections

Sedeeq, Omid Saeed

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Iraq

Email: sedeeq.omid.saeed @ stud.uni-nke.hu

Hybrid Warfare in South America: Lessons from Iraq and the Middle East

Hybrid warfare represents a significant challenge in contemporary security studies, blending conventional military operations with irregular tactics, cyber warfare, propaganda, and economic coercion. This study examines the hybrid warfare strategies employed in Iraq and the Middle East, analyzing the role of state and non-state actors in shaping modern conflicts. Drawing parallels to South America, the paper explores the region's geopolitical vulnerabilities, the involvement of criminal organizations, and the increasing use of technology in asymmetric conflicts. The study highlights emerging threats and defense strategies applicable to South America by assessing these trends. The findings offer insights into policy recommendations for regional security cooperation, countering hybrid threats, and adapting military strategies to evolving security dynamics.

Keywords: *Hybrid Warfare, Asymmetric Conflict, Regional Security, Geopolitics, Non-State Actors*



Onsite Session: English – Transnational Connections

Hegedűs, Barbara, PhD

Institution: University of Pannonia

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: hegeds.barbi @ gmail.com

Lithium Wars in the Green Energy Era: Why Has South America Become the Centre of Geopolitical Struggles?

As the global transition to renewable energy accelerates, lithium has emerged as a critical resource, essential for electric vehicle batteries, energy storage, and the broader green economy. South America, home to over half of the world's lithium reserves—primarily concentrated in the "Lithium Triangle" of Argentina, Bolivia, and Chile—has become a geopolitical hotspot, attracting the interest of governments, corporations, and investors worldwide. This lecture will explore the growing geopolitical and economic tensions surrounding lithium extraction, addressing the role of multinational companies, the influence of global powers like China and the United States, and the challenges faced by South American nations in balancing economic development, environmental sustainability, and indigenous rights. The discussion will also examine the implications of nationalization efforts, regulatory changes, and the potential for regional cooperation in managing this strategic resource. By analyzing the intersection of energy security, global trade, and local politics, this lecture will provide a comprehensive understanding of why South America has become a focal point in the new "Lithium Wars" and what this could mean for the future of green energy geopolitics.

Keywords: *Geopolitics, Lithium, South America, Green policy, Security*



Onsite Session: English – Transnational Connections

Martins, Vanessa Mariana

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Brazil

Email: [vanessamarimartins @ gmail.com](mailto:vanessamarimartins@gmail.com)

Strategic Cooperation in Military Logistics: Analysis of the Brazilian-Hungarian Partnership in the Acquisition of the KC-390

Embraer is a Brazilian aerospace company that operates in the commercial, executive, defence, security and agricultural aviation segments. It is one of the largest military aircraft producers in the world. The company has a strong presence in the defence sector, and one developing innovative aircraft is the KC-390 Millennium, a multi-mission military transport jet. In 2020, Hungary signed a contract with Embraer acquiring two KC-390 aircraft. The aircraft's arrival represents a milestone for the Hungarian Air Force, as it will give the Hungarian Defence Forces an amazing capability in military air transport. This also marks a significant step towards a partnership between the two countries. This study explores the implications of the partnership of Brazil and Hungary for bilateral relations, highlights its strategic cooperation in military logistics especially after the acquisition of the KC-390 military transport aircraft. The methodology is based on documentary analysis, literature review and interviews with defence experts. The lecture identifies the strategic advantages of the cooperation between Brazil and Hungary and the potential impact on this partnership on regional and global geopolitical dynamics.

Keywords: *Brazil, Hungary, Embraer, KC-390, Cooperation*



Onsite Session: Spanish Geopolitics and Security

Onsite Session: Spanish – Geopolitics and Security

Pajovic, Slobodan S., PhD

Institution: Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Economics in Novi Sad, Belgrade, Serbia

Country of origin: Serbia

Email: pajovicslobodan @ gmail.com

The Phenomenon of Latin American Integration and the Challenges Arising from the Current Redefinition of the International Relations System

The historical origin and characteristics of regional integration are important formative elements of the Latin American idiosyncrasy and identity. This phenomenon and its various concepts date back to the 19th century, on the eve of, during and after the turbulent independence and the uncertain entry into the international system. In both cases, integration was perceived as an instrument to defend independence, territorial integrity, political and economic sovereignty, and identity. However, this long process was slowed down during the first half of the 20th century and then resurrected dynamically by the ideas of ECLAC Economic School together with Dependence Theory. Models of subregional, regional and interregional integration were developed, accompanied by a multitude of bilateral, trilateral or group cooperation agreements. In short, different phases of the development of integration, its objectives, ideological basis, institutional structures, results, disagreements, etc., are characteristic of the mentioned historical period.

In order to evaluate the potential of Latin America in the current systemic changes, the complex socio-political and economic processes of the nineties and the first two decades of the 21st century are analyzed, as well as the causes of the defragmentation of the existing regional integration structure and the stagnation of the process itself. The intention is to prove that political-ideological differences and tensions influenced, conditioned and directed the flows of complex interdependence between national interests, on the one hand, and subregional, regional, interregional and global interests, on the other. Additionally, it is indicated that the ideological-political cyclicity directly affects the development of the concept of integration, security and international positioning of the region.

In concluding remarks, the current state of Latin American integration is presented and its regional potential is evaluated as an instrument for strengthening international positioning in the current phase of development of international relations that still fluctuates without defining the place of Latin America in this process that confronts the concepts of unipolarity with multipolarity.

Keywords: *Latin America, Integration, Fragmentation, Ideological cyclicity, International position, Hegemonies*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

El fenómeno de la integración latinoamericana y los desafíos provenientes de la redefinición actual del sistema de relaciones internacionales

El origen histórico y las variables características de la integración regional son sin duda los elementos formativos de la idiosincrasia e identidad latinoamericana. El fenómeno y sus diversos conceptos remontan al siglo XIX, en vísperas, durante y después de la turbulenta independencia y el incierto ingreso al concierto internacional. En ambos casos la integración se percibía como instrumento para defender la independencia, la integridad territorial, la soberanía política y



económica, la identidad. Este largo proceso fue desacelerado en la primera mitad del siglo XX para resultar dinámicamente alentado por las ideas de la Escuela Económica de la CEPAL y la teoría de la dependencia. Se desarrollaban los modelos de integración subregional, regional e interregional, acompañados de multitud de acuerdos de cooperación bilateral, trilateral o grupal. En síntesis, la historia regional registra distintas fases del desarrollo de integración, una variedad de objetivos, elementos ideológicos, estructuras institucionales, resultados, discordias, etc.

Con finalidad de evaluar el potencial de América Latina en los cambios sistémicos actuales se analizan los complejos procesos sociopolíticos y económicos - de los noventa y de las dos primeras décadas del siglo 21 -, las causas de desfragmentación de la existente estructura integracionista regional y del mismo proceso estancado. Se advierte que las diferencias y tensiones político-ideológicas influyeron, condicionaron y encaminaron los flujos de la interdependencia compleja entre los intereses nacionales, por un lado, y los subregionales, regionales, interregionales y globales, por el otro. Sostiene que la ciclicidad ideológico-política incide directamente en el desarrollo del concepto de integración, seguridad y posicionamiento internacional de la región.

En la última parte, se presenta el estado actual de la integración latinoamericana y se evalúa su potencial regional como instrumento de posicionamiento en la actual fase de desarrollo de relaciones internacionales que aún oscila sin definir el lugar de América Latina en este proceso que confronta los conceptos de unipolaridad con la multipolaridad.

Palabras claves: *América Latina, Integración, Fragmentación, Ciclicidad ideológica, Posición internacional, Hegemonías*



Onsite Session: Spanish – Geopolitics and Security

Sághy, Gabriela

Institution: Coordinator of the Criminal Forum, Venezuela - Hungary

Country of origin: Venezuela

Email: gsaaghy @ gmail.com

The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Defense of Human Rights in Autocratic Countries. Case: Foro Penal – Use of Strategic Litigation

It is not easy to exercise constitutional law in an autocratic country, where there are no freedoms and where the human rights of its population are systematically violated. That is why non-governmental organizations play a very important role in the defence of human rights. Such is the case of Foro Penal.

Foro Penal is a Venezuelan organization that provides free legal assistance and support to families and victims of arbitrary detentions, politically motivated persecution, forced disappearances, torture, cruel treatment and murder. It has a team of lawyers and Active Defenders who use Strategic Litigation as an instrument to transform the law.

The presentation will deal with the role of the Criminal Forum in the defence of human rights using Strategic Litigation to achieve justice and freedoms, and, subsequently, to establish the responsibilities of the perpetrators. Summary of the most important points of Strategic Litigation, how to increase the cost of arbitrary detentions, and what the “Puerta Giratoria” Effect is, are included.

Keywords: *Human rights, Criminal Forum, Strategic litigation*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

El papel de las organizaciones No Gubernamentales en la defensa de los DDHH. Caso: Foro Penal – Uso del Litigio Estratégico

No es fácil ejercer el derecho constitucional en un país autocrático, donde no hay libertades y donde se violan sistemáticamente los DDHH de su población. Por eso es que las organizaciones no gubernamentales juegan un papel muy importante en la defensa de los DDHH. Tal es el caso del Foro Penal.

El Foro Penal es una organización venezolana, que provee asistencia jurídica gratuita y apoyo a familiares y víctimas de detenciones arbitrarias, persecuciones con fines políticos, desapariciones forzadas, torturas, tratos crueles y asesinatos. Cuenta con un equipo de abogados y defensores activos que utiliza el litigio estratégico como instrumento transformador del derecho.

La ponencia se tratará sobre el papel del Foro Penal en la defensa de los DDHH utilizando el litigio estratégico para lograr justicia y libertades, y, posteriormente, establecer responsabilidades de los perpetradores. Incluye los puntos más importantes del litigio estratégico, de cómo aumentar el costo de las detenciones arbitrarias, así como el efecto puerta giratoria.

Palabras claves: *Derechos humanos, Foro Penal, Litigio estratégico*



Onsite Session: Spanish – Geopolitics and Security

Bács, Zoltán György, PhD

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: bacszygyorgy @ gmail.com

Security in Latin America: Path to an Uncertain Future

As has been the case on other occasions, Latin America and its problems are on the periphery of the world's media interest. Despite this, problems in many spheres of life in Latin America, including security, have the prospect of influencing global trends. This raises the question: what does security mean for Latin America today? What are the most important sources of insecurity in the subcontinent? What are the forms of its appearance in everyday life? These are the questions that the lecturer will attempt to answer.

In order to provide the answers, a partial x-ray will be made of areas of interest from the point of view of the subject. Starting from the situation in 2025, the first thing one should look at is crime statistics, illicit trafficking in drugs and human beings, trafficking in other material goods, the map of major criminal organisations and their links to different political forces and groupings, and their place in international illicit activities. The analysis of these factors will help to determine the possible consequences of Latin American problems and the trends of their influence on global security.

Keywords: *Instability, Delinquency, Financial crisis, Networks of interests*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Seguridad en América Latina: Una vía hacia un futuro incierto

Como lo ha sucedido en otras ocasiones, América Latina y sus problemas están en la periferia del interés de la prensa mundial. A pesar de esto, los problemas de muchas esferas de la vida en América Latina, entre ellas de seguridad también, tienen una perspectiva de influir hasta las tendencias globales. Así surgen las preguntas: qué significa la seguridad para América Latina de hoy? Cuáles son las fuentes más importantes de inseguridad en el subcontinente? Cuáles son las formas de su aparición en la vida cotidiana?

Para dar las respuestas, se hará una radiografía parcial de campos interesantes desde el punto de vista del tema. Partiendo de la situación de 2025, lo primero que uno debe revisar, son las estadísticas de la delincuencia, de tráfico ilícito de drogas y seres humanos, tráfico de otros bienes materiales, el mapa de las mayores organizaciones criminales y su vinculación a diferentes fuerzas y agrupaciones políticas y lugar en las actividades ilícitas internacionales. El análisis de estos factores ayudará a determinar las posibles consecuencias de los problemas latinoamericanos y las tendencias de su influencia sobre la seguridad global.

Palabras claves: *Inestabilidad, Delincuencia, Crisis financiera, Redes de intereses*



Online Session: English

Security Landscape



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Hárs, András, PhD

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: hars.andras @ gmail.com

Ecuador's Diplomatic Relations in the Post-Cold War Era – A Pillar of Strength or Maverick of the International Community?

Ecuador's foreign policy and diplomatic relations have been turbulent since the end of the Cold War. Having diplomatic relations and representation in almost 180 states worldwide, Ecuador at first glance appears to be a pillar of strength for the international community. This is further demonstrated by the fact that the country has been an integral part of the humanitarian efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of American States regarding the reconstruction of Haiti. Nonetheless, Ecuador is also seen as a renegade in international relations which is shown by the controversial grant of diplomatic asylum to Julien Assange at the Ecuadorian embassy in London for 7 years by the government of Rafael Correa. Lately however in April 2024, Ecuador has sparked outrage by sending its special forces to breach the premises of the Embassy of Mexico in Quito and take the former vice-president Jorge David Glas Espinel into custody. The move is a blatant violation of the law of diplomatic relations and is contrary to the previous stance of Ecuador regarding diplomatic asylum. It has drawn the condemnation of 68 states and international organizations to date and for which Mexico has turned to the International Court of Justice in order to seek affirmation of the breach of obligations. Therefore, we see a dichotomy in the diplomatic relations of the country: on the one hand it is promoting regional and global security and on the other, it is causing severe outcry by its actions causing some of its partners to question the reliability of the state. This lecture aims to solve this conundrum by analysing the rationale behind Ecuadorian diplomatic relations and to ascertain what kind of reverberations Ecuador's actions caused in the international community.

Keywords: *Ecuador, Diplomacy, Diplomatic relations, Asylum, Embassy*



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Nagy, Gergő Máté

Institution: Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary (International Relations MA Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: gergomatenagy @ gmail.com

From Wallmapu to Palestine: The Symbolic Entanglement of Mapuche and Palestinian Decolonization in the Context of the October 7 Gaza War

In the aftermath of Hamas's October 7, 2023 terrorist attack against Israel and the ensuing war in Gaza, various Indigenous communities across Latin America mobilized in solidarity with Palestine and the Palestinian civilian victims of the conflict. Among these groups, the Mapuche people – living in present-day Chile and Argentina – stand out not only for their use of symbolic elements in pro-Palestinian demonstrations (e.g. the display of Mapuche and Palestinian flags) but also for the discursive strategies through which they, often alongside members of the Chilean Palestinian diaspora, have intertwined their own decolonization struggles with the Palestinian cause. Today, multiple parallels can be drawn between the conditions of the Mapuche and the Palestinians, rooted in shared histories of colonialism. A central argument of this presentation is that Wallmapu (the Mapuche territories in Mapudungun) and Palestine should both be understood as “unfinished decolonization projects,” where subaltern groups recognize their struggles for autonomy or independence as part of a global anti-colonial resistance. By applying the postcolonial school of International Relations, this presentation seeks to compare the Mapuche and Palestinian conflicts, demonstrating how solidarity gestures, emerging in response to the war in Gaza, reflect the use of “(counter)storytelling” and “weaving collective fabrics of struggle” as tools in their respective decolonization processes.

Keywords: *Mapuche, Palestine, Decolonization, Symbols, Gaza War*



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Iguavita Duarte, Fabio

Institution: Institute of Political Studies, Charles University, Czech Republic (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Colombia

Email: fabio.iguavita @ fsv.cuni.cz

Polarisation and Sectarianism: Reassessing the Post-Conflict Cleavages in Colombia

Colombia returned to the spotlight in 2016 thanks to a peace agreement signed between the 2010-2018 administration of Juan Manuel Santos and the FARC-EP insurgency. The conflict was labelled as the most protracted dyadic confrontation with a Marxist guerrilla in the Western Hemisphere. While the document has been praised internationally, the deal paved the way for societal polarisation and political sectarianism among the inhabitants in Colombia. For its citizens, there is still a gap between what was signed and the realities they face several years after its implementation, creating cleavages and reinforcing blame. This study investigates citizens' perceptions towards the armed conflict, the agreement, its achievements and structural challenges. The analysed corpus comprises a non-probable sample of (20) open semi-structured interviews conducted between February and April 2024 with Colombian citizens in Amazonas, Antioquia, Cundinamarca, La Guajira, Quindío, Tolima, Valle del Cauca and Bogotá D.C. Employing reflexive thematic analysis (RTA), this study offers an interpretation of the shortcomings and the main obstacles to overcoming this post-conflict label, which for some has been misused in contrast to a conflict-transformation phase. The findings showcase a dissonance between the perceived reality and the apparently unsuccessful attempts to overcome violence in Colombia, which nurtures an interplay to explain how post-conflict societies can strive internally to consolidate peace and reconciliation processes.

Keywords: *Cleavages, Latin America, Political violence, Post-conflict, Public opinion*



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Petroussenko, Valentin

Institution: Plovdiv University, Bulgaria

Country of origin: Bulgaria

Email: petrus@uni-plovdiv.bg

Implications of Trump`s Migrant Policies on South America

One important point of Trump`s presidential campaign regarding domestic politics was reconsidering previous Biden administration migration policies. A year earlier Biden`s negligence to the arising migrant crisis almost provoked strong resistance even from certain state authorities in the US-South regions. Mostly such discontent was demonstrated in Texas, but it did not bring the country to political disintegration.

Nevertheless, assuming power, Trump had initiated a series of strong administrative actions turning into battlefield all around his presidential team. He was forced to be decisive to keep his promises. Probably his Republican supporters were exalted by the first ever action to send a military plane with Colombian migrants towards their homeland.

But despite this radical proceeding, the Colombian government rejected to accept these migrants` repatriation. Of course, then followed exchange of dramatic political declarations between the both presidents - Trump and Petri. However, the Colombian opposition lasted less than an hour and ceded in view of menace to raise the tariffs and to cut existing commercial ties.

The outcome of this premature expulsion demonstrates that Trump in reality has no consistent strategy in the domestic and foreign political actions. This hypothesis is backed by Trump`s demonstrative declarations regarding the new US mastership of the Northern America (Canada and Greenland) or purchasing the Gaza Strip.

This paper aims to uncover the back side of the cited episode on new migrant policies and the potential outcomes for the whole Western Hemisphere.

Keywords: *Trump, Migration, Expulsion, South America*



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Agulló, Juan, PhD

Institution: Instituto Latino-Americano de Economía, Sociedade e Política, ILAESP, UNILA

Country of origin: Brazil

Email: juan.agullo@unila.edu.br

Review Your Approaches: How to Do Geopolitics from/about Latin America?

Critical Geopolitics is an epistemological approach with a lot of advantages for understanding key aspects of contemporary Latin America. This presentation argues that if it is conceived more as a field of interdisciplinary problematization rather than as a discipline with a fixed and static object of study, it is possible to overcome certain analytical inertias that tend to limit the understanding of some complex phenomena, characteristic of the region (such as organized crime, migration, or extractivism, among others). Moreover, the digitalization of the academic activity is opening a range of practical and highly suggestive possibilities. It allows, for instance, the rigorous subversion of the generalist perspectives: by adapting abstract frameworks to specific cases, denationalizing analyses, contextualizing issues, and questioning inherited narratives and categories. The Internet facilitates indeed remote interaction, not only between distant researchers (foreigners and Latin Americans) but also between researchers and local actors. This enables the development of research strategies based on networks without 'centers'. Only in this way is possible to construct comparative, collaborative, and bidirectional frameworks able to overcome inertias that usually hinder more consistent understandings of the region.

Keywords: *Epistemology, Geopolitics, Global South, Latin America, Methodology*



Online Session: English – Security Landscape

Barina, Balázs József

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Hungary

Email: bbjkajak @ gmail.com

The Effects of Climate Change on the Primary Intervention Tasks of Fire Departments in Hungary and South America

Global warming will bring significant changes to our lives in the coming decades. The effects of climate change are to be manifested in different ways in Hungary and South America. In Hungary, by the 2050s, rising temperatures and an increase in the frequency of droughts will have intensified forest fires, requiring fire departments to mobilize more resources for firefighting and mitigation. At the same time, urban areas will experience more intense heatwaves, presenting new challenges in rescue operations. In South America, the impact of environmental change is leading to an increase in extreme weather events, such as floods and gale-force storms. Fire departments in this region will most likely face higher numbers of flood and hurricane events, including assisting the injured and coordinating evacuations. The growing frequency of extreme weather and natural disasters in both regions require significant logistical and human resources from first responders in firefighting and technical rescue.

Keywords: *Global warming, Climate change, First response, Firefighting, Technical rescue*



Online Session: Spanish 1.

Security in the Cold War and the Post-Cold War Era

Palotás, László

Institution: Corporación Universitaria Uniciencia Bucaramanga
Country of origin: Hungary
Email: donlaszlo1 @ gmail.com

Gutiérrez, Uriel

Institution: Corporación Universitaria Uniciencia Bucaramanga
Country of origin: Colombia

Colombian-American Conspiracy Theories from the Cold War: The Assassination of Gaitán and the Retaking of the Palace of Justice

This paper describes two conspiracy theories (CTs) on tragic events from Cold War (CW) history in Colombia, the assassination of Jorge Eliécer Gaitán in 1948 ("A") and the violent retaking of the Palace of Justice in 1985 ("B"), and explores the plausibility of their key elements. Both CTs meet the basic criteria of their genre. (1) Secret plans (for false flag operations): (A) To assassinate the charismatic liberal socialist leader Gaitán, great favourite of the 1950 presidential elections, and attribute the crime to international communism as a boost to CW. (B) To take advantage of the anticipated seizure of the Palace of Justice by an M-19 guerrilla commando to deal a blow to the judiciary in the bloody retake, and attribute the death of judges and other hostages to the guerrillas. (2) Secret implementing organizations: (A) Colombian police following guidance of a CIA task force. (B) Colombian military intelligence with possible U.S. advice (in addition to technical assistance from the Southern Command to the retake, by sending powerful explosives and six support personnel. (3) Deteriorating conditions of communities adhering to such CTs: (A) "La Violencia" is structured in Colombia, and the GF reduces freedoms in the United States. (B) Military/paramilitary power increases in Colombia, ending peace agreements between guerrilla groups and the Betancur government, and leading to extermination of the Patriotic Union, a legal movement founded by the FARC communist guerrilla within the framework of these agreements.

Keywords: *Conspiracy theories, Cold War, Colombia, Palace of Justice*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Teorías de conspiración colombo-americanas de la guerra fría: El asesinato de Gaitán y la retoma del Palacio de Justicia

Esta ponencia describe dos teorías de conspiración (TC) sobre trágicos sucesos de la guerra fría (GF) en Colombia, el asesinato de Jorge Eliécer Gaitán en 1948 ("A") y la violenta retoma del Palacio de Justicia en 1985 ("B"), y explora la plausibilidad de sus elementos claves. Ambas TCs cumplen los criterios básicos de su género. (1) Planes secretos (de operaciones de bandera falsa): (A) Asesinar al carismático líder liberal socialista Gaitán, gran favorito de las elecciones presidenciales de 1950, y atribuir el crimen al comunismo internacional para impulsar la GF. (B) Aprovechar la anticipada toma del Palacio de Justicia por un comando guerrillero del M-19 para asestar un golpe al poder judicial en la cruenta retoma, y atribuir la muerte de magistrados y otros rehenes a los guerrilleros. (2) Organizaciones secretas de implementación: (A) La Policía colombiana siguiendo indicaciones de un grupo operativo de la CIA. (B) La Inteligencia militar



colombiana con posible asesoramiento estadounidense (aparte de la asistencia técnica del Comando Sur a la retoma, enviando explosivos potentes y seis efectivos de apoyo). (3) Condiciones deterioradas de las comunidades adeptas a dichas TCs: (A) “La Violencia” se estructura en Colombia, y la GF reduce las libertades en Estados Unidos. (B) El poder militar/paramilitar se incrementa en Colombia, acabando los acuerdos de paz entre los grupos guerrilleros y el Gobierno Betancur, y llevando al exterminio de la Unión Patriótica, movimiento legal fundada por la guerrilla comunista de las FARC en el marco de dichos acuerdos.

Palabras claves: *Teorías de conspiración, Guerra fría, Colombia, Palacio de Justicia*

Restituyo Grullón, Annette Virginia

Institution: Universidad Michoacana San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Mexico (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Mexico

Email: 2430479e @ umich.mx

Venezuela: A Turning Point between Mexico and Trujillismo

During the Cold War, Mexico and Venezuela became a target that Trujillo did not look away from, due to his excessive desire to control the Dominican opposition at the international level. One of the main reasons that made Mexico's relations with Trujillismo, particularly complex was that Mexico's revolutionary foreign policy was not only incompatible with Trujillo's dictatorial regime in the Dominican Republic but rather facilitated its association and alliances between politicians with democratic ideology in the region, such as Romulo Betancourt in Venezuela, a fervent opponent of Trujillo. Research works such as Tejeda's in his book "Enfrentar la fiera en su propia madriguera" shed light on the 1956 plot against dictator Trujillo, which was supported by former presidents Lazaro Cárdenas of Mexico and Romulo Betancourt of Venezuela and other former South American presidents opposed to the Dominican regime.

Our doctoral thesis, entitled "Relations between Mexico and the Dominican Republic during the Trujillo regime", which is currently in development, highlights in one of its chapters how the temporary alliances and/or the similarity of thought between Mexico and Venezuela regarding the Trujillo regime was a turning point in bilateral relations between Mexico and the Trujillo regime.

Keywords: Mexico, Trujillo, Venezuela, Exile

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Venezuela: Un punto de inflexión entre México y el trujillismo

Durante la Guerra Fría, México y Venezuela se convirtieron en un blanco del que Trujillo no desviaba la mirada, debido a su deseo desmedido de controlar la oposición a nivel internacional. Una de las razones principales que hacía particularmente complejas las relaciones de México con el trujillismo, obedecía a que la política exterior revolucionaria de México aparentemente no solo era incompatible con el régimen dictatorial de Trujillo en la República dominicana, sino que facilitó, más bien, su asociación y alianzas entre políticos de ideología democrática en la región, como lo fue Rómulo Betancourt en Venezuela, un fervoroso opositor de Trujillo.

Trabajos de investigación como el de Tejeda en su libro "Enfrentar la fiera en su propia madriguera", arroja información acerca de la trama de 1956 contra el dictador Trujillo que contó con el apoyo de los expresidentes Lázaro Cárdenas de México y el Rómulo Betancourt en Venezuela y otros expresidentes sudamericanos opuestos al régimen dominicano.

La tesis de doctorado titulada "Relaciones entre México y la República dominicana durante el Trujillismo" que se encuentra en desarrollo, destaca en uno de sus capítulos como las alianzas coyunturales y/o la similitud de pensamiento entre México y Venezuela frente al régimen de Trujillo fue un punto de inflexión en las relaciones bilaterales entre México y el trujillismo.

Palabras clave: México, Trujillo, Venezuela, Exilio

Valenzuela Carreño, Xochitl América

Institution: Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora

Country of origin: Mexico

Email: xochitl.val.car @ gmail.com

Brazil in the Cold War: Security and Foreign Policy in the Brazilian Military Regime under Castelo Branco's Administration

This paper analyzes the Brazilian military regime of Marshal Castelo Branco's orientation towards national, regional, and economic security through its foreign policy.

The implementation of the Brazilian military dictatorship in 1964 brought with it a series of values aligned with the manifestations of the global and regional Cold War. Therefore, it is essential to provide a brief historical context for this presentation to outline and understand the postulates regarding security and their impact on foreign policy that Castelo Branco's administration was maintaining. This unquestionably means that elements such as the coup d'état, the relationship with other countries, especially the United States, as well as the military nature of the analyzed government, directly influenced the security definitions of the Brazilian government.

It is observed how, in terms of security, Brazilian foreign policy was managed in three interconnected dimensions, both influenced by and influencing the international context of bipolar confrontation. Thus, we outline the National Security Doctrine, focusing on its reconfiguration of the enemy concept and the anti-communist ideological orientation, hemispheric security, which involved relations with other Latin American countries, and economic security, which added economic cooperation. All of this was accompanied by Brazil's search for regional leadership.

Keywords: *Brazilian foreign policy, National Security Doctrine, Regional security in the Latin American Cold War, Brazilian security and foreign policy, Brazilian military regime*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Brasil en la guerra fría: Seguridad y política exterior en el régimen militar brasileño durante la administración de Castelo Branco

Este trabajo analiza la inclinación del régimen militar brasileño del Mariscal Castelo Branco hacia la seguridad nacional, regional y económica, a través de su política exterior.

La implantación de la dictadura militar brasileña en 1964, trajo consigo una serie de valores concordantes con las manifestaciones de la guerra fría mundial y regional. Así que resulta por demás esencial realizar, para esta presentación, una breve contextualización histórica para demarcar y comprender los postulados que en materia de seguridad y con impacto en política exterior, la administración de Castelo Branco estaba manteniendo. Esto significa, incuestionablemente que, elementos como el golpe de Estado, la relación con otros países del mundo, especialmente Estados Unidos, así como el carácter militar del gobierno analizado, impactaron directamente en las definiciones de seguridad del gobierno brasileño.

Se observa cómo, en términos de seguridad, la política exterior brasileña se manejó en tres dimensiones interconectadas entre sí, influidas e influyentes por el contexto internacional de



confrontación bipolar. Así, delineamos a la doctrina de seguridad nacional en tanto su reconfiguración sobre el concepto de enemigo y la orientación ideológica anticomunista, la seguridad hemisférica que añadía las relaciones con otros países latinoamericanos y la seguridad económica que suma la cooperación económica. Lo anterior acompañado por la búsqueda brasileña del liderazgo regional.

Palabras clave: *Política exterior brasileña, Doctrina de Seguridad Nacional, Seguridad regional en la guerra fría latinoamericana, Seguridad y política exterior brasileña, Régimen militar brasileño*

Inostroza Avaria, Álvaro

Institution: Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos, ANEPE (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Chile

Email: alvaro_inostroza @ hotmail.com

Chilean Armed Forces: Between Recognition and Controversy, an Open Debate on their Role in Public Order

The Armed Forces (FAs) in Chile have historically enjoyed high prestige and high public approval, characterized by their stability and transversality. However, the participation of these armed institutions in public order tasks has generated controversy, since their use in these functions causes a dissonance between citizen perception and the original purpose of their capabilities. This paper argues that, although the FAs efficiently fulfil their missions, their involvement in internal security takes them away from their main function. At the same time, a contradictory phenomenon can be observed: on the one hand, a generalized recognition of their work and, on the other, a growing disaffection of certain sectors of society. To analyze this dynamic, aspects such as the historical role of FAs, institutional trust, and its relationship with the international arena are addressed. Supreme Decree No. 265 of 2019, which regulates military support to the police, allows this problem to be examined from the theory of securitization, concluding that, while the Armed Forces continue to participate in internal security, controversies will persist over their use, since, although they contribute, they do not solve the underlying problem.

Keywords: *Controversies, Disaffection, Law and Order, Role of the Armed Forces, Safety*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Fuerzas Armadas Chilenas: Entre el reconocimiento y la controversia, un debate abierto por su rol en el orden público

Las Fuerzas Armadas (FAs) en Chile han gozado históricamente de un elevado prestigio y una alta aprobación ciudadana, caracterizándose por su estabilidad y transversalidad. Sin embargo, la participación de estas instituciones armadas en tareas de orden público ha generado controversias, ya que su empleo en estas funciones provoca una disonancia entre la percepción ciudadana y el propósito original de sus capacidades. Esta ponencia sostiene que, aunque las FAs. cumplen eficientemente sus misiones, su involucramiento en la seguridad interna las aleja de su función principal.

Paralelamente, se observa un fenómeno contradictorio: por un lado, un reconocimiento generalizado hacia su labor y, por otro, una creciente desafección de ciertos sectores de la sociedad. Para analizar esta dinámica, se abordan aspectos como su rol histórico, la confianza institucional y su relación con el ámbito internacional. El Decreto Supremo N.º 265 de 2019, que regula el apoyo militar a las policías, permite examinar esta problemática desde la teoría de securitización, concluyendo que, mientras las FAs. continúen participando en seguridad interior, persistirán las controversias sobre su uso, ya que, si bien contribuyen, no solucionan el problema de fondo.

Palabras clave: *Controversias; Desafección, Orden público, Rol Fuerzas Armadas, Seguridad*



Gatica Bórquez, Jorge, PhD

Institution: Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos, ANEPE

Country of origin: Chile

Email: jgatica @ anepe.cl

Ojeda Bennett, Carlos, PhD

Institution: Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos, ANEPE

Country of origin: Chile

Email: cojeda @ anepe.cl

The Implication of Rimland Theory for the Chile of Tomorrow

Throughout history, numerous ideas have emerged to explain phenomena or address challenges, eventually evolving into classical theories. One such example is the Rimland Theory, introduced by Nicholas J. Spykman, who in 1944 reinterpreted the principles of Halford J. Mackinder. Spykman's thesis, which focuses on security, remains highly relevant today. What was once viewed as a containment perimeter can now be understood as a platform for the global projection of states. Chile, with its direct connection to the Indo-Pacific and key markets such as China, Japan, South Korea, and India, has the potential to become a strategic nexus, linking South America with this dynamic region. By leveraging its efficient port infrastructure and extensive trade agreements with various Pacific Rim countries, Chile could expand its role as a trade hub, facilitating not only its own exchanges but also those of other South American nations. By adapting Spykman's theory, Chile's potential as a bridge to the Indo-Pacific is clear. However, this must be evaluated in light of Brazil's and Argentina's ties to the Atlantic, the preference for the Panama Canal, and ongoing East-West interconnection projects in the region.

Keywords: *Geopolitical theory, Indo-Pacific, Exchange, Development, South America*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

La implicancia de la teoría del Rimland en el Chile del mañana

A lo largo de la historia, muchas ideas han surgido para explicar fenómenos o resolver desafíos convirtiéndose en teorías clásicas. Tal es el caso del Rimland acuñado por Nicholas J. Spykman quien, en 1944, reinterpreto los postulados de Halford J. Mackinder. La tesis de Spykman, centrada en la seguridad, sigue siendo relevante hoy. Lo que antes se concebía como un perímetro de contención, hoy puede entenderse como una plataforma para la proyección global de los Estados. Chile, con su conexión directa al Indo-Pacífico y mercados clave como China, Japón, Corea del Sur e India, tiene el potencial de convertirse en un nexo estratégico, de amplio espectro, entre Sudamérica y esta dinámica región. A partir de su eficiente infraestructura portuaria y amplios acuerdos con diversos países de la cuenca, Chile podría ampliar su papel como plataforma de intercambio facilitando, no solo el propio, sino también el de otros países sudamericanos. Ajustando la teoría de Spykman, el potencial de Chile como puente con el Indo-Pacífico es claro, sin embargo, debe considerarse los vínculos de Brasil y Argentina con el Atlántico, la preferencia por el uso del Canal de Panamá y los proyectos de interconexión Este-Oeste en desarrollo en la región.

Palabras clave: *Teoría geopolítica, Indo-Pacífico, Intercambio, Desarrollo, Sudamérica*



Online Session: Spanish 2. Security in the Post-Cold War Era

González-del-Castillo, Javier, PhD

Institution: Universidad Europea de Madrid, Spain

Country of origin: Spain

Email: javier.gonzalez3 @ universidadeuropea.es

Goals and Geopolitics: Football as Iran's Diplomatic Weapon in Latin America

Since 1982, football has been a key tool in the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic strategy to strengthen its influence in Latin America. This approach, rooted in ideological affinities with Latin American leftist movements, gained significant momentum with Hugo Chávez's rise to power in Venezuela in 1999. The close cooperation between Iran and Venezuela overcame economic sanctions and translated into mutual political and military support.

In this context, football emerges as a soft power mechanism that reinforces and legitimizes these alliances. Iran's international friendly matches have not been mere sporting events but rather part of a carefully designed diplomatic strategy to project its influence.

This research demonstrates how sport has served as a tool to consolidate agreements and strengthen Iran's international presence, using football as a means of internal legitimisation and external projection. The connection between sport and politics underlines the crucial role of sport diplomacy in Iran's global strategy, consolidating the country's position in Latin America in the face of an adverse political and economic context.

Keywords: *Iran – Latin America relations, Soft power, Diplomatic strategy, Sports diplomacy*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Goles y geopolítica: El fútbol como arma diplomática de Irán en América Latina

Desde 1982, el fútbol ha sido una herramienta clave en la estrategia diplomática de la República Islámica de Irán para fortalecer su influencia en América Latina. Esta aproximación, basada en afinidades ideológicas con la izquierda latinoamericana, ganó especial relevancia con la llegada de Hugo Chávez al poder en Venezuela en 1999. La estrecha cooperación entre Irán y Venezuela superó sanciones económicas y se tradujo en apoyo político y militar mutuo.

En este contexto, el fútbol emerge como un mecanismo de poder blando que refuerza y legitima estas alianzas. Los partidos amistosos internacionales de Irán no han sido meras competiciones deportivas, sino parte de una estrategia diplomática cuidadosamente diseñada para proyectar su influencia.

Esta investigación demuestra cómo el deporte ha servido como una herramienta para consolidar acuerdos y fortalecer la presencia internacional de Irán, utilizando el fútbol como un medio de legitimación interna y proyección externa. La conexión entre deporte y política subraya el papel crucial de la diplomacia deportiva en la estrategia global de Irán, consolidando su posición en América Latina frente a un contexto político y económico adverso.

Palabras clave: *Relaciones Irán-América Latina, Poder blando, Estrategia diplomática, Diplomacia deportiva*

Camacho Posada, Maria Fernanda

Institution: Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary (PhD Program)

Country of origin: Colombia

Email: mafecapo @ gmail.com

Cybersecurity Strategies in Regional Integration Alliances: A Comparative Study of the Pacific Alliance and the Visegrad Group

As global interconnectivity continues to expand, cybersecurity challenges within regional integration alliances have become a critical concern. This abstract presents a comparative analysis of the cybersecurity agendas of two distinct regional integration initiatives: the Pacific Alliance and the Visegrad Group.

The Pacific Alliance, comprising Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru, represents a geographically dispersed coalition in Latin America, while the Visegrad Group, consisting of Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic, forms a bloc in Central and Eastern Europe. Despite differences in geography, historical backgrounds, and economic development, both alliances share a commitment to regional integration and cooperation.

This study explores the cybersecurity strategies, policies, and initiatives adopted by these alliances to address emerging digital threats. It evaluates their roles in promoting cybersecurity, facilitating information sharing, and strengthening collaboration among member states. Additionally, the research examines the influence of regional dynamics, including external actors and power balances, on the formulation and implementation of cybersecurity policies.

By comparing these two regional alliances, this study seeks to provide insights into how diverse regional contexts shape cybersecurity agendas. The findings offer valuable implications for policymakers, highlighting the approaches regional alliances use to enhance cybersecurity amid evolving cyber threats and vulnerabilities.

Keywords: *Cybersecurity, Regional integration, Policy cooperation, Digital threats, Information sharing*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Estrategias de ciberseguridad en Alianzas de Integración Regional: Un estudio comparativo de la Alianza del Pacífico y el Grupo de Visegrado

A medida que la interconectividad global sigue expandiéndose, los desafíos de ciberseguridad en las alianzas de integración regional se han convertido en una preocupación crítica. Este resumen presenta un análisis comparativo de las agendas de ciberseguridad de dos iniciativas de integración regional distintas: la Alianza del Pacífico y el Grupo de Visegrado.

La Alianza del Pacífico, conformada por Chile, Colombia, México y Perú, representa una coalición geográficamente dispersa en América Latina, mientras que el Grupo de Visegrado, integrado por Hungría, Polonia, Eslovaquia y la República Checa, forma un bloque en Europa Central y del Este. A pesar de sus diferencias geográficas, antecedentes históricos y desarrollo económico, ambas alianzas comparten el compromiso con la integración y la cooperación regional.

Este estudio analiza las estrategias, políticas e iniciativas de ciberseguridad adoptadas por estas alianzas para hacer frente a las amenazas digitales emergentes. Se evalúa su papel en la promoción



de la ciberseguridad, la facilitación del intercambio de información y el fortalecimiento de la colaboración entre los Estados miembros. Además, la investigación examina la influencia de las dinámicas regionales, incluidos los actores externos y los equilibrios de poder, en la formulación e implementación de políticas de ciberseguridad.

Al comparar estas dos alianzas regionales, este estudio busca ofrecer perspectivas sobre cómo los diferentes contextos regionales influyen en la formulación de agendas de ciberseguridad. Los hallazgos proporcionan valiosas implicaciones para los responsables de la formulación de políticas, destacando los enfoques que las alianzas regionales emplean para reforzar la ciberseguridad ante amenazas y vulnerabilidades en constante evolución.

Palabras clave: *Ciberseguridad, Integración regional, Cooperación en políticas, Amenazas digitales, Intercambio de información*

Álvarez Rubio, Ariel, PhD

Institution: Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos, ANEPE

Country of origin: Chile

Email: aalvarez @ anepe.cl

The Russian-Ukrainian Conflict: “Mercenaries” vs. “Foreign Fighters”

The goal of the lecture is to address the complexity of the extensive use of “private military companies” (PMC) and “foreign combatants” in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, an objective that has made even more difficult by the use of the generic term of “mercenaries” to those who, without being regular soldiers or citizens of any of the countries in conflict, participate directly in the combat. Reports obtained from open sources and international state bodies suggest that both Russia and Ukraine have recruited and complemented these types of forces, in ways that potentially affect international legal norms. The active participation in the conflict by the Russian CMP Wagner and the creation of the International Territorial Defence Legion of Ukraine, also known as the International Ukrainian Legion or the Ukrainian Foreign Legion, openly demonstrates that both States have resorted to the use of thousands of combatants to fight for their respective causes, which has had direct repercussions in South America, since troops have also been recruited from Brazil, Colombia, Argentina and Chile, with direct effects on the Law of War.

Keywords: *Mercenaries, Foreign fighters, Privatization of violence, Wagner group, Ukrainian Foreign Legion*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

El conflicto ruso-ucraniano: “Mercenarios” vs. “combatientes extranjeros”

Abordar la complejidad del amplio empleo de “compañías militares privadas” (CMP) y “combatientes extranjeros” en el conflicto ruso-ucraniano, situación que ha tornado aún más difícil la denominación genérica de “mercenarios” a quienes sin ser militares regulares o ciudadanos de ninguno de los países en conflicto participan directamente en el combate. Los informes obtenidos de fuentes abiertas y de organismos estatales internacionales, sugieren que tanto Rusia como Ucrania han reclutado y complementado este tipo de fuerzas, de maneras que potencialmente afectan las normas legales internacionales. La activa participación en el conflicto por parte de la CMP rusa Wagner y la creación de la Legión Internacional de Defensa Territorial de Ucrania, también conocida como Legión Internacional Ucraniana o Legión Extranjera Ucraniana, demuestra abiertamente que ambos Estados han recurrido a la utilización de miles de combatientes para luchar a favor de sus respectivas causas, lo cual ha tenido repercusiones directas en América del Sur, toda vez que se han reclutado efectivos de Brasil, Colombia, Argentina y Chile, con efectos directos en el Derecho de la guerra.

Palabras clave: *Mercenarios, Combatientes extranjeros, Privatización de la violencia, Grupo Wagner, Legión extranjera ucraniana*



Herrera León, Fabián, PhD

Institution: Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo

Country of origin: Mexico

Email: fabian.herrera @ umich.mx

On Understanding the Phenomenon of Totalitarianism in Post-Cold War Latin America

This paper will deal with the problem of the study of totalitarianism in Latin America, a phenomenon that over time ceased to be refer solely to European fascism, extending, mostly after 1989, to various experiences of communist motivation recorded in the context of the Cold War and post-Cold War period in the Latin American subregion (Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela). As will be seen, the regional notion of the totalitarian experience continues to be the subject of interesting adjustments, without being today the subject of concern or discussion among an important sector of the regional intellectuals, who would prefer to look the other way rather than judge the practices and excesses of a totalitarian nature that oxygenate such regimes.

Keywords: *Totalitarianism and Latin America, Cold War and post-Cold War, Communist-inspired Revolutions in Latin America, Notion of Totalitarianism in Latin America*

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Sobre la comprensión del fenómeno del totalitarismo en la posguerra fría latinoamericana

Esta ponencia se ocupará del problema del estudio del totalitarismo en el ámbito latinoamericano, un fenómeno que con el paso del tiempo dejó de estar referido únicamente al fascismo europeo, extendiéndose, mayormente después de 1989, sobre diversas experiencias de motivación comunista registradas en el marco de la guerra y posguerra fría en la subregión latinoamericana (Cuba, Nicaragua y Venezuela). Como igualmente se apreciará, la noción regional de la experiencia totalitaria sigue siendo objeto de interesantes ajustes, sin que hoy en día sea objeto de preocupación o discusión entre un sector importante de la intelectualidad regional, la cual prefiriera mirar a otro lado antes que juzgar las prácticas y excesos de naturaleza totalitaria que oxigenan tales regímenes.

Palabras clave: *Totalitarismo y América Latina, Guerra y posguerra fría, Revoluciones de inspiración comunista en América Latina, Noción de totalitarismo en América Latina*

Ehrenfeld Rohland, Evelyn

Institution: Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos, ANEPE

Country of origin: Chile

Email: evelyn.ehrenfeld @ gmail.com

Evolution of Security and Defense in Chile in the Post-Cold War Era

Chile was a pioneer in Latin America in publishing the National Defense Book in 1997, aligning with international efforts to promote transparency, mutual trust, and cooperation through White Defence Papers. This first edition was followed by updates in 2002, 2010, and 2017, along with the 2020 National Defence Policy, which is currently under review.

The analysis of these documents highlights the progressive evolution of the defence concept, reflecting a shift from a traditional model centred on conventional state threats toward a Multidimensional Security approach, which considers a broader range of threats, challenges, and security concerns.

In this context, the COVID-19 pandemic acted as a catalyst for ongoing transformations, consolidating the use of defence capabilities in managing non-traditional threats. A key example is the protection of critical infrastructure and the increasing use of constitutional states of emergency to counter the rise in criminal activities, particularly those related to organized crime. The presentation examines this evolution, identifying the factors that have driven the transformation of security and defence concepts in Chile and their implications for current strategic planning.

Keywords: Chile, Defense, Security, Multidimensional Security, Threats

Abstract in Spanish (Presentation Language):

Evolución de la seguridad y defensa en Chile en la era de la posguerra fría

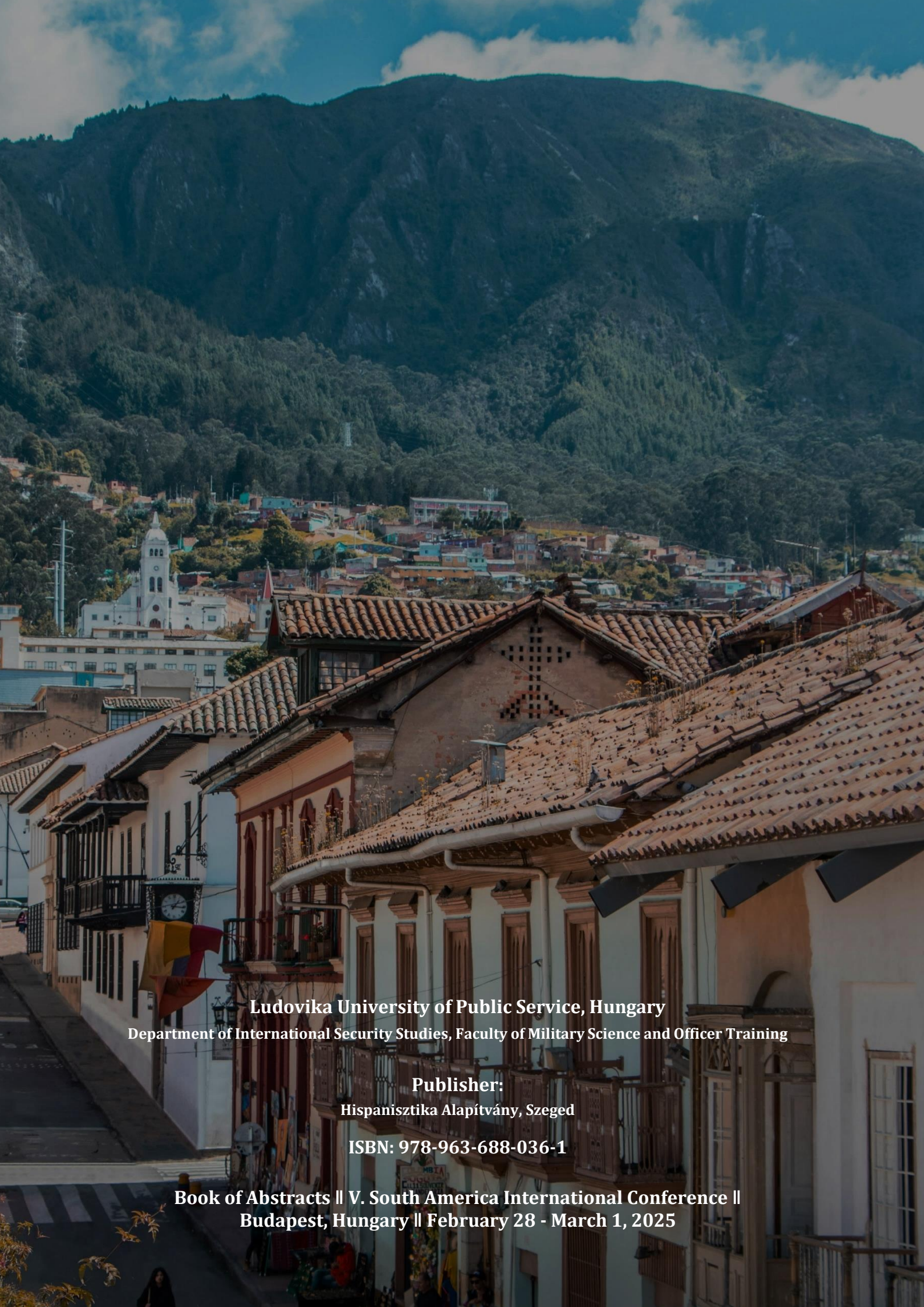
Chile fue pionero en América Latina con la publicación del Libro de la Defensa Nacional de Chile en 1997, en línea con los esfuerzos internacionales para fomentar la transparencia, confianza mutua y cooperación a través de los Libros Blancos de la Defensa. A esta primera versión le siguieron las actualizaciones del 2002, 2010 y 2017, además de la Política de Defensa Nacional del año 2020, que se encuentra en proceso de actualización.

La revisión de estos documentos evidencia la evolución progresiva en el concepto de defensa, reflejando una transición desde un modelo tradicional centrado en amenazas convencionales al Estado, hacia un enfoque de Seguridad Multidimensional, que considera otras amenazas, desafíos y preocupaciones a la seguridad.

En este contexto, la pandemia del COVID-19 catalizó los cambios en curso, consolidando el uso de capacidades de la defensa en la gestión de amenazas no tradicionales. Ejemplo de ello es el resguardo de infraestructura crítica y el incremento de la declaración de estados de excepción constitucional para contener el incremento de actividades delictivas, particularmente aquellas vinculadas al crimen organizado.

En la presentación se analiza dicha evolución, identificando los factores que han impulsado la transformación del concepto de seguridad y defensa en Chile y sus implicancias para el diseño estratégico actual.

Palabras clave: Chile, Defensa, Seguridad, Seguridad Multidimensional, Amenazas



Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary
Department of International Security Studies, Faculty of Military Science and Officer Training

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