

Editors' Note

The Romanian Journal of Society and Politics, an academic project developed under the auspices of The National School of Political Science and Public Administration, continues its publishing tradition with Volume 7, Number 2 (Issue 14). The present Issue of RJSP consists of four articles and one book review, all covering a diversity of subjects in the areas of Political Science, International Relations, Security Studies. The selected articles in Issue 14 reflect the international reach of RJSP.

In the article *From the Zitzler Club to the Battle of Laslovo. The involvement of the Hungarian minorities in the 1991-1995 Yugoslav wars*, Szabolcs László addresses the 'blind-spot' of the scholarly works dealing the 1991-1995 wars in former Yugoslavia. The author is examining the involvement of the Hungarian minorities of the Baranja and Vojvodina regions in the armed conflicts of the war in Croatia. He starts with a short presentation of the demographic and political situation of the Hungarian communities living in the two regions. The comparative analysis embeds the issue in the ongoing scholarly discussions on ethnicity formation and ethnic conflict, giving a conceptualization of the phenomenon discussed, and explaining the nature of the involvement of the Hungarian minority in the war. In theorizing the Yugoslav conflict as an 'ethnic war', the author uses the approach developed by Rogers Brubaker for explaining ethnicity as a project, as the 'crystallization of groupness'.

In *(Un)Fashionable Disciplines: Gender Studies in Higher Education in Romania. Integration or Autonomy?* Theodora-Eliza Văcărescu thoroughly investigates some of the institutional mechanisms, transnational higher education structures and interests, and personal investments and strategies that shape the current configuration of gender studies particularly in the Romanian universities. By putting together quantitative and qualitative data, the author makes a clear argument regarding the need to further develop this area of academic interest and also proposes some key points for future policies and actions. The annexation of gender-related concerns, equal opportunities legislation and gender studies as a valid field of teaching and research by various governmental and institutional agents in Romania could be read as part of the larger endorsement of the "democratization agenda. This phenomenon is characteristic not only to Romania, but also to other Central and Eastern European countries.

The article, *Transnational Crime, Human Rights Violation and Human Trafficking in Nigeria's Oil-Rich Niger Delta*, is written by a group of authors Richard Ingwe Walter A. Mbotto and Ude Ugwu. It presents human trafficking in Nigeria's Niger Delta region as one of the many forms of violations of human rights resulting from the marginalization policies repeatedly formulated and implemented by the Nigerian government.

The last article, *The Role and Rationale of Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty in the Twenty-First Century* by Tom Coppen, is presenting a valuable contribution to the debate surrounding nuclear non-proliferation. Nuclear non-proliferation is a relevant issue on world politics agenda, that played a significant role in the last decade: starting with the campaign against Iraq of 2003, continued by the crisis related to Iran's nuclear program and with the developments in North Korea of actually testing nuclear devices. The subject, which is an important component in the security policy, begs a series of major questions: Why do some states decide to pursue a nuclear military program? Why do others abstain from doing so? Why some start a program, then abandon it?

Finally, Mihai Zodian makes a review of *The Dictator's Handbook* written by Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and Alastair Smith, published this year. The review and the book may be of great interest for scholars looking for realist-inspired explanations of contemporary world politics.

The Editors