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- Faculty of Social Sciences  
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- Department of International  
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Department of International Relations, Political Science and  
Security Studies**

550324 Sibiu, Calea Dumbrăvii 34

Tel. / Fax: +40-0269-422169

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E-mail: [magazine.studiasecuritatis@ulbsibiu.ro](mailto:magazine.studiasecuritatis@ulbsibiu.ro)

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# INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

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*Vitalie GAMURARI*  
*Free International University of Moldova, Chişinău*

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## THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION OF A POST-CONFLICT SOCIETY: COMPARATIVE ASPECT

<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>The implementation of transitional justice institutions is a complex process. It is dynamic and conditioned by various factors of political, legal, historical, religious nature. Thus, it cannot be uniform, and inevitably determines effects to its respective society. Traditionally, the field experts are divided in two groups: advocates of criminal investigations and supporters of amnesty processes. The analysis is also relevant for the Republic of Moldova, which has two sensitive situations that could benefit of the tools of transitional justice: the unresolved “Transnistrian conflict” and a politically divided society.</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Transitional justice; conflict; reconciliation; lustration; amnesty; criminal prosecution.</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: <a href="mailto:vgamurari@gmail.com">vgamurari@gmail.com</a>
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	<b>Free International University of Moldova, Chişinău</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	52 Vlaicu Pârcălab street, Chişinău, MD-2012 Republic of Moldova Tel.: (+373 22) 220029; Tel/Fax.: (+373 22) 220028

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*Ruslana GROSU*  
*Institute of Legal, Political and Sociological Research (1)*  
*“Alexandru cel Bun” Armed Forces Military Academy (2)*

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## THE ILLUSORY ”APPEARANCE” OF STATES SECURITY THROUGH THE PRISM OF NEUTRALITY STATUS

<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><i>The neutrality as a theoretical concept and status, which has found its applicability in times and geopolitical conjunctures, is an issue, susceptible to research both in scientific and analytical papers.</i></p> <p><i>Recognizing the complexity of the institution of neutrality, the researchers concerned of the subject deal with the issue of neutrality nowadays by arguing that the recourse to the declaration of neutrality status had an obvious political underpinning throughout history. It was shaped by the position of the declaring neutrality state, the interest of the actors who imposed it on certain forms of pressure, and the countries that were the guarantors of security, as well as the cause-effect relationship or the cost-benefit perspective. The distinct and complex character of scientific studies in the field of neutrality is due to a solid foundation on the way of research of the concept of neutrality.</i></p> <p><i>The geopolitical realities have generated transformations, which have repercussions on status of neutrality and policies of neutral states, an impact manifested by discrepancies and interpretations of legal norms. For some countries, the status of neutrality has not been clearly defined and legitimized in official documents.</i></p> <p><i>Some scientific papers on the case study of some EU Member States have confirmed the irrelevance of this status and its compatibility with some regional and international cooperation projects. The essence of this practice has been strengthened by conclusions based on the provisions of the rules of the international law. Some of the historical, legal, geopolitical or other forms of reasoning have prompted some European states to declare their neutrality in the twentieth century and have lost their topicality.</i></p>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Neutrality; status of neutrality; security; NATO; policy; EU membership; neutral state; cooperation; defence.</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: ruslana.grosu@gmail.com
<b>Institutional affiliation of</b>	<b>(1) Institute of Legal, Political and Sociological Research – Academy of Sciences of Moldova</b>

<b>the authors:</b>	<b>(2) “Alexandru cel Bun” Armed Forces Military Academy</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	(1) 1, Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt avenue, Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova, MD- 2001 (1) (2) 23, Haltei street, Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova, MD-2023 (2)

---

*Alexandra Ioana SILEA (1)*  
*”Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu*  
*Marius ȘPECHEA (2)*  
*”Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu*

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**COMING BACK TO REALISM? CONTEMPORARY  
CHALLENGES AND REALITIES IN INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>The election of the American President Donald Trump and the defining of the US strategic vision, Russia’s actions in the international arena, China’s bigger and bigger weight as well as EU’s crisis create an unpredictable and dynamic environment.  This environment requires not only strategic repositions, but mostly conceptual redefinitions. Therefore, can we discuss about a reaffirmation of pure realism in international relations?  Was it always like this – or, from ideological reasons, the society refused to accept it?</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Realism; national interest; ideology; balance of power; strategy</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: (1) marius.spechea@ulbs.ro (2) ialexandrasilea@yahoo.com
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	<b>(1), (2) ”Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	550324-Sibiu, Calea Dumbrăvii nr. 34, et. II, cam. 10 Tel: 0040/734306434, Fax: 0040/269/422169,E-mail: office@lact.ro



**2017 - EMERGENCE/DECLINE OF THE AD-TERRORISM  
PHENOMENON**

<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><i>The activity of ad-terrorism, taking advantage of too easily influential media, is an active generator of negative feelings among the civilian population. 2017 was introduced on the list of time intervals for the most monstrous terrorist attacks, not because of countries such as Iraq, where 267 1446 dead, 1661 wounded and 12 abducted persons were executed, due to the over-mediation of attacks on the territory of European states such as the United Kingdom, which generated about 4% of the attacks by SI in 2017, but which represented the first media news media.</i></p> <p><i>Practically, the media is responsible for the gap created between helping, supporting and building security between the West and the Middle East through ignorance of massacres on the Asian continent and the outlook for the Muslim population in the area.</i></p>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Terrorism: 2017; ad-terrorism; organizations; media; Muslims</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: nicoleta.munteanu@ulbsibiu.ro
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	<b>"Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Department of International Relations, Political Science and Security Studies</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	34 Calea Dumbrăvii, 0269422169 fax, site web <a href="http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/en/">http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/en/</a>

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**Mihai Marcel NEAG (1)**  
*"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu*  
**Florin Cătălin CRIȘAN (2)**  
*"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu*

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**THREATS OF CYBERSPACE IN THE CONTEMPORARY  
SECURITY ENVIRONMENT**

<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>The cyberspace generated by the widespread deployment and development of information and communication technology systems and networks is expanding and is increasingly integrated into the structure of modern states. Over the last few years, information technology has developed very much, from an administrative tool of optimizing office processes, to a strategic tool of industry, administration and of army. Prior to September 11, risks and threats to the cyberspace were discussed only in small groups of technical experts. But since that day, it has become clear that the cyber world has serious vulnerabilities for the various societies that are increasingly interdependent.</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Cyberspace; security environment; hybrid risks and threats; modern warfare; unconventional actions.</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: (1) <a href="mailto:mmneag@yahoo.com">mmneag@yahoo.com</a> (2) <a href="mailto:florin_crisan23@yahoo.com">florin_crisan23@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	(1), (2) "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu
<b>Institutions address:</b>	(1), (2) Revolutiei no. 3-5, Sibiu SB, 550170, +40-269-432990, +40-269-215554, <a href="http://www.armyacademy.ro">www.armyacademy.ro</a> , <a href="mailto:office@armyacademy.ro">office@armyacademy.ro</a>

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*Loredana GAMURARI*  
*University of Sarajevo (1)*  
*University of Bologna (2)*

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## ACCESS TO INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE IN KOSOVO – LESSONS LEARNT

<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>Since 1999, the accountability for human rights violations committed in Kosovo during and after the war was addressed by ICTY, UNMIK and EULEX. However, a whole set of crimes committed in the aftermath of the war were not properly addressed. The research aims to understand whether international judicial mechanisms intervening in Kosovo until today, successfully planted the seeds for the blooming of post-conflict justice. The paper</i>
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	<i>adopts a qualitative approach, including analyses of cases, reports and interviews. The findings show that both international and local actors in many cases could not ensure justice for war crimes committed in the country, which brought to the conceiving of the Specialist Chambers, an extraterritorial court with no local personnel, but under Kosovo national legislation. The paper focuses on previous experiences to understand if the lessons have been learnt, showing the challenges that the new Specialist Chambers will have to overcome to bring justice.</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Transitional justice; criminal prosecution; war crimes; Kosovo; Specialist Chambers</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: loredana.gamurari@gmail.com
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	(1) <b>University of Sarajevo</b> (2) <b>University of Bologna</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	(1) <b>Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Sarajevo, Zmaja od Bosne 8, 71000 Sarajevo, BiH</b> (2) <b>Via Zamboni, 25 Bologna, Italy</b>

## ***THE TRANSNISTRIAN CONFLICT***

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*Eugen STRĂUȚIU*  
*Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu*

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### **A PROPOSAL FOCUSED ON A METHOD FOR THE CALCULATION OF THE CONVERGENCE OF THE TWO BANKS OF THE DNIESTR**

<b>Abstract:</b>	<i>Following the armed conflict in 1992, the Moldovan society, on the left bank of the Dniester broke, from a political and administrative point of view, proclaiming itself a separate state under the name "The Moldavian Dniester Republic" – which is unrecognized until today at an international level. The negotiation process, started in 1992, did not produce</i>
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	<p><i>significant convergence effects - although issues related to the everyday life of the population are resolved today at a faster pace than ever before.</i></p> <p><i>The present article aims at investigating, principally and (as much as possible) quantitatively, to what extent the political divergence has evolved over two decades and a half, and to what extent it finds itself in economic, military and civil society divergences. In conclusion, we will try to evaluate the chances of a convergence process between the two banks of the Dniester in the near future.</i></p>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Transnistrian conflict; negotiation process; divergence; convergence</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: eugen.strautiu@ulbsibiu.ro
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	<b>Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Department of International Relations, Political Science and Security Studies</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	34 Calea Dumbrăvii, 0269422169 fax, site web <a href="http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/en/">http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/en/</a>

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*Ernest VARDANEAN*  
*Moldova State University*

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## THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN CONFLICT AND RISKS FOR THE TRANSNISTRIAN SETTLEMENT PROCESS

<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><i>This research analyzes the confrontation between Russia and Ukraine since 2014, highlighting the major political, military, and diplomatic risks for the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict, as both countries are mediators and guarantors.</i></p> <p><i>The military phase of the conflict in Donbass, which is not over yet, is gradually evolving towards a political and diplomatic confrontation. It is fraught with protracted unsuccessful negotiations, long coordination of various documents, inclusion of secondary problems on the negotiation agenda – that is, the maximum departure from the main causes of the conflict and the key problems during its resolution.</i></p>
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	<i>All this taken together reminds of the evolution of the Transnistrian settlement, which also began with documents signed by the parties to the conflict and equalizing the “metropolis” with the separatists, as well as giving the status of a mediator to the de-facto third party of the conflict (Russia). An obvious analogy with the Transnistrian issue is noticeable even in the post-conflict process stages</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Annexation of Crimea; conflict; Donbass; Transnistria; 5+2 format; negotiation</b>
<b>Contact details of the author:</b>	E-mail: <a href="mailto:ernest.vardanean@gmail.com">ernest.vardanean@gmail.com</a>
<b>Institutional affiliation of the author:</b>	<b>Moldova State University</b>
<b>Institution address:</b>	18 N.Testimițeanu Str, bl. 6, MD-4027, Chișinău Tel: +373 22 797122, <a href="mailto:frispa@usm.md">frispa@usm.md</a> <a href="http://frispa.usm.md/">http://frispa.usm.md/</a>

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*Mihai MELINTEI*  
*Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu*

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**DYNAMICS OF THE TRANSNISTRIAN REGULATORY PROCESS  
(JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018)**

<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><i>The resulting situation at the international as well as regional level has reactivated the foreign policy of the parties (Chisinau and Tiraspol), which reacted to the provocations and the threats of the diplomatic realities in the region.</i></p> <p><i>At the moment, the negotiation process is characterized by an activation of the peaceful resolution mechanisms of the Transnistrian issue. The dynamics of the dialog between Chisinau and Tiraspol is mostly due to the necessity of creating and applying the agreements established in the Vienna Protocol on November 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> 2017.</i></p> <p><i>The regulation of the political problems between Chisinau and Tiraspol is related to the diplomatic capacity of the</i></p>
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	<i>"5+2" format and is a very complex and long-term process. The uniqueness of the present situation is that for the first time there has been significant progress in the peace settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.</i>
<b>Keywords:</b>	<b>Republic of Moldova; Transnistria; the Transnistrian conflict; the Transnistrian regulatory process; "5+2" format; working groups</b>
<b>Contact details of the authors:</b>	E-mail: mihai.melintei@gmail.com
<b>Institutional affiliation of the authors:</b>	<b>Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu</b>
<b>Institutions address:</b>	550324-Sibiu, Calea Dumbrăvii nr. 34, et. II, cam. 10 Tel: 0040/734306434, Fax: 0040/269/422169, E-mail: office@lact.ro