

Letter from the Editor

Recently, this journal stepped into the second decade of its existence. From the twentieth anniversary of the end of the Cold War to the world highly dominated by social media, in particular tweet. Hopefully, Descartes is not turning around in the place where he rests.

A rather charming perspective of a partially mysterious year 2020 (numbers like 22022020 or 02022020 appear on the calendar and in real life only few times in a millennium – we witnessed both of them and some others as well) was exceedingly brutal swept away with the outburst of the C-19 pandemics. It has been a global shock for the human race. Also Brexit is still political mantra, and diplomats remain to be part of the information gathering machinery.

Hence, these are also topics we contemplate on the following pages.

The first article focuses on a relation between diplomacy and intelligence services. An everlasting dilemma that is still far from being solved, what goes even more for small states. The respected author, being himself a career diplomat, dwells on organizational, policy and substantial questions of dealing with the researched topic. It is up to each country to choose the approach, though basic principles are known and should be taken into account. *Sensitive*.

Our second contribution discusses the UN peace keeping operations with a reference to dual attribution. The ambitious author looks at the aspects of the UN's responsibility in the current practice and the way how it is being shared. Some cases have already been filed at national courts of troop-contributing States to further outline this issue. There is a question if current circumstances would make it possible for each side to accept its own part. *Focal*.

The third contemplation brings our attention to Brexit having in mind immigration as one of key determinants of the voters' decision to withdraw from the EU. The knowledgeable author uncovers that the question of controlling immigration paves the way for the social structure of citizenship and its management. Obviously Eurosceptic

views prevailed. This journal continues to pay attention to this challenging act of the United Kingdom. *Analytical.*

The fourth discussion deals with the strategic orientation of the Slovene gambling industry that faces, although not being an exact part of its strategy, the need for going more strongly international. The expert author brings to the point that gambling industry, in particular in the time of C - 19 pandemics, has definitely become an on line area. In a certain way more outspoken internationalization has been a part of gambling tradition in Slovenia. *Insightful.*

The fifth paper dwells on the philosophy of the Preambles of the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and on Consular Relations. It's their uniqueness, ethics, formality and flexibility that have been determining their main messages for the past sixty years. *Encrypted.*

The sixth piece of examination contemplates the Dayton Peace Accords 25 years after its adoption. The Agreement brought peace to the country, but also affected significantly its functionality. An overture to our October issue that brings a section on Dayton. *Remember.*

Our first book review elaborates on conclusions of the "Stop Genocide and Holocaust Denial" Conference that took place in Sarajevo in June 2019, and the second one speaks about a collection of papers with a unique, innovative style. Plus, the current Guest View contemplates the major crisis that happened in the recorded human history - the pandemics of the C - 19 virus, an unprecedented standstill, unimaginable only a while ago.

Not only a careful reader will notice our bellow *intonation*: Slovenia is preparing for its second Presidency of the EU Council, having in mind the Congress of Ljubljana that took place two centuries ago. Diplomacy is null without tradition. See you in autumn.

Ljubljana, April 2020

M. J.

From the Congress of Ljubljana 1821 to the Presidency of the EU Council 2021