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**• EDITORIÁL – EDITORIAL •**

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We are pleased to announce that the second issue of *Studia Politica Slovaca* for 2023 has been published. This issue features the usual sections along with a Discussion section, which, although traditional, has not been regularly included. Additionally, we have introduced an Editorial in this issue as part of our gradual expansion of content. To date, the Editorial was only part of the historically first edition of *Studia Politica Slovaca* (2008) and the first monothematic/thematic double issue (2-3/2021).

This issue contains three research papers written in English exploring diverse subjects, primarily global politics, and local, contemporary Slovak military history. Lubomír Čech presents a sociological overview of the formation of the Slovak military elite, specifically the general officers, following the establishment of the independent Slovak Republic in 1993. The author highlights a neglected but exciting topic closely associated with contemporary military-political history. Notably, Čech asserts that the Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic have been regarded as one of the most trustworthy institutions in Slovakia for several years, in contrast to political parties and politics in general.

Tor Dahl-Eriksen delves into the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), one of the most critical and controversial political bodies in global politics. The institution does not always generate goodwill and often causes embarrassment. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East and the war in Ukraine are just a few examples that challenge its role as a guarantor of international peace and security. In his paper, Dahl-Eriksen asks to what extent recent international events question the legitimacy of the UNSC and how organizational hypocrisy can reduce this possible threat.

Hassan Malik investigates the nature of civil conflict and the rising prominence of Islamic militancy in Somalia. His paper analyzes the interplay between the nature of civil conflict and the ascent of Islamic militancy, shedding light on the historical, socio-economic, and governance-related factors that have facilitated this convergence. This topic is relatively unknown in Slovakia and Central Europe, so his descriptive approach is highly illustrative. Additionally, his interpretation of the social dimension of the problem is valuable.

In the Discussion section, we have included Peter Daubner's manuscript. His paper, written in Slovak, examines the perspectives, limits, and challenges of socialist thinking in the Anthropocene epoch. It represents a review essay dedicated to the book *Manifest socialistického hnutí* (Manifesto of the Socialist Movement) written by Czech left-orientated philosopher Michael Hauser. Daubner explains Hauser's main theses and raises thought-provoking questions that we hope will stimulate discussion.

Besides, two classic book reviews written in Czech are included. Political scientist Eva Taterová discusses a book presented by a collective of authors led by Štefan Danics. The volume deals with contemporary forms and patterns of radicalization and security aspects and reflects the growth of radicalization and extremism worldwide. For Taterová, the collective monograph is a book that provides a comprehensive summary of the rise of radicalism, extremism, and, in some cases, outright terrorism in European societies at the beginning of the 21st century.

Czech philosopher Petr Kužel reviews *Žižek and the Others. Ideology in the Post-ideological Time*, written by Peter Takáč. The Slovak philosopher asks how ideology is changing and what ideology means. The author attempts to answer these questions based on Slavoj Žižek's work. For Kužel, the book is a condensed interpretation of Žižek's concept of ideology. Following these book reviews, the information section closes this second issue in 2023.

The final section "From the Life of the Institute" provides information about events organized by the Institute of Political Sciences of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, v.v.i. in the second half of 2023 and also about significant activities of individual scientists.

Looking forward, we are glad to announce that the next issue will likely be a monothematic issue focusing on the early elections to the National Council of the Slovak Republic held on 30 September 2023.