

EDITOR'S NOTE

As *AUSTRAL* celebrated its tenth year anniversary of the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian military conflict in February 2022, still active when this issue was closed, had a huge and multiple worldwide impact. It comes just six months after the shocking US withdrawal from Afghanistan, now ruled by the Taliban. The return of a conventional armed conflict between industrial countries, in the middle of Europe, diluted the theoretical narrative of a post-Cold War Kantian Peace, marked only by confrontations between non-state insurgent armed groups. The Euro-American strategy of containing countries through international sanctions, on the other hand, proved ineffective in the face of Russian determination, which used oil, gas and cereals in an economic war that affected the West, still not recovered from the effects of the pandemic. Sanctions were followed only by rich industrial countries, and even then, not fully.

War also affects the geometry of the world order, as Ukraine is formally armed and supported by NATO, contributing to Sino-Russian convergence on a global level. It also represents a prelude to greater tension between the United States and China. However, there is another relevant aspect: the Western media profile in the coverage and analysis of the war event. The lack of scientific and objective analysis of the causes and forms of war is worrying, which and when they exist are blocked from being disseminated to the general public. The public follows purely superficial and emotional versions of events, through selected images. However, behind the “consensus”, significant realignments in the international order can be observed, as well as the unfolding of the international crisis.

As of this issue, *AUSTRAL* presents eight articles, with authors from countries not yet represented: Oman, Jordan, Vietnam and Peru. The first two are general in nature, addressing the Sino-American hegemonic shift through Giovanni Arrighi's accumulation cycles and the power of American digital technology multinationals. Afterwards, the role of China in the stability of the Taliban's Afghanistan is analysed and then, in the same region, the role of the Sultanate of Oman in the Yemen Civil War. Next, there is an article on Maritime Security in the Indo-Pacific, based on the perception of analysts from the region itself. Another innovative topic, in the context of slow and interminable negotiations between the European Union and Mercosur, is a

historical analysis of the contradictions between the European Community and Latin American integration in the late 1980s. Also original is the discussion on the civilizational divide of the far-right from the perspective of German politics. Finally, Mozambique's foreign policy under the presidencies of Samora Machel and Joaquim Chissano receives an exciting overview.

NERINT Strategic Analysis provides readers with three articles on Russia and Ukraine. Although is a text written in the heat of events, they form an extremely objective view of the forces in confrontation. Subsequently, the Summit of the Americas is analysed in the context of the weakening of Washington's policy for the continent and another on the frustrated appointment of an Ambassador to Brazil. The following text, authored by an experienced retired Brazilian diplomat, analyzes an important topic for reflection in the year of the bicentennial of Brazil's independence: the role of Brazil's relationship with China and the South Atlantic for the development of the world order. Finally, the wave of violence that shook Kazakhstan at the turn of the year is analysed in the context of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, which relates to the first texts, dedicated to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict.

This publication was possible thanks to the Research Office at UFRGS through the Support Program for Journal Editing (PAEP), as well as the entire team of editors and translators, in particular to the Editorial Assistants Guilherme Geremias de Conceição, Felipe Samuel Werner and Igor Estima Sardo, with the collaboration of Guilherme Thudium, Eduardo Secchi, Gabriela Ruchel, Isabella Cruzichi, Marina Felisberti, Magnus Kenji Hiraiwa e João Pedro Lopes Gonçalves. Once again, we would like to thank Professor Cristina Soreanu Pecequilo for reviewing the translations, as well as the reviewers, without whom the Journal would not be able to maintain its regularity and quality.

Disclaimer: *AUSTRAL prioritises British English as the standard variety of the English written language. Some English translations, however, may be written under the American English dialect.*