

EDITOR'S NOTE

The world system is rapidly transitioning into an *unstable multipolarity*, gradually replacing the so-called *American unipolarity* and the virtual *US-China bipolarity*. There is also speculation about *tripolarity*, with India and the Geopolitical South forming an alternative pole, discreetly supported by Russia. Various arrangements are continually being tested and altered, and the prolonged Russian-Ukrainian conflict is now paralleled by the ongoing war in the Middle East between Israel and Hamas, which is nearing a year without resolution and increasing regional complexity.

Analysts' focus is primarily on relations between great powers, their summits, and elections in key countries, particularly the unpredictable American presidential race, which never fails to surprise. However, there are *emerging middle powers* that do not receive due attention and, unexpectedly, become protagonists, influencing international events.

In this context, we present a collection of articles examining the cases of Turkey, India, Indonesia, Brazil, and China, providing a platform for scholars from the Geopolitical South (Third World). Also relevant to the current "New Cold War" is an article by an American scholar, offering a critical reinterpretation of the Grand Strategy of the United States at the start of the "old Cold War". Additionally, there is an original article on the impact of the Russo-Ukrainian War on geopolitics, featuring scholars from India, Indonesia, Brazil, and the United States.

This issue is rounded off with a review of three thought-provoking books offering truly realist perspectives on the Russo-Ukrainian War, reinforcing our commitment to publishing comments on works of analytical originality. Moreover, we also introduce a renewed Editorial Board. The Council for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), part of the Ministry of Education responsible for the Brazilian Postgraduate System and its editorial production, has corrected technical aspects of journal evaluation, elevating AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal of Strategy and International Relations to category A-4, with retroactive effect.

The worldview of authors from the Geopolitical South enriches scholarly and strategic perspectives on the analysed themes, fulfilling the enduring objectives of AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal of Strategy and International Relations. This is crucial at a time when the global scenario is evolving into a

series of conflicts and tensions, which have already led to military escalation in a highly unpredictable environment. More than ever, there is a need for the academic sphere to conduct urgent critical-realist analysis, setting aside post-modern approaches.

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