

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Analúcia Danilevicz Pereira

August/2017

Publishing its third number, BJAS enters its second year of existence, and is already consolidated. The acceptance in several indexes, the receiving of articles by reputed authors from Brazil and abroad and the growing demand of the public for its content are proof of that. In this edition, the topic of greater prominence is Security and Development in Africa.

The world order that came to be in the decades that followed the Second World War, as contradictory as it may sound, created some consensus. The more industrialized regions of the world were exhausted by the War and the less developed ones were beginning their decolonization and identity redefinition processes. Therefore, all needed more cooperation and less confrontation. The Cold War led to a systemic balance and, when it ended, new challenges. Among these, the main one is the rebuilding of the international system itself. And this rebuilding must rely on a coherent and well-crafted strategy.

In this scenario, the African states will need to establish their concepts of internal order, its regional and global role. And they will not be able to do so individually. Conflicts of a new kind disorganize some states, while others increase their levels of dependence on foreign elements. On the other hand, the destabilization processes affect the African middle powers and influence a possible reconfiguration of a new world power balance.

The third number of the BJAS seeks, thus, to evaluate, the new challenges the continent faces. Yoslán Silverio González, in his work *Brexit, the EU and strategic uncertainties: short, medium and long term implications for Sub-Saharan Africa*, analyses the uncertainties created by the weakening of the European integration in the relations with Africa. Fátima Chimarizeni, in *Iran-Africa relations: Opportunities and prospects for Iran*, discusses how the African space became a strategic alternative for Iran in its quest for political and diplomatic support, besides its search for economic relations

in order to relieve the onus imposed by the sanctions.

In the article *The International Criminal Court (ICC), Impunity and the Rise of a Siege Mentality among Kenya's Kleptocracy*, Westen K Shilaho analyses how the entry by the International Criminal Court (ICC) into Kenya's post-electoral disputes of 2007/2008 affected the penalties among Kenya's politicians and influenced the results of the 2013 election. Shilaho argues that the accusation of prominent Kenyans by the ICC for atrocities committed during the post-electoral violence was the first attempt to break a vicious impunity cycle deeply entrenched in the country's political body.

Ekpotuatin Charles Ariye and Laz Etemike, in turn, using the conflict between Nigeria and Cameroon over Bakassi as a case study, focus their study on the issue of the application of alternative means as complements to the judicial options, adjudications and arbitration in the resolution of disputes/conflicts in the article titled *Contextualizing the use of the diplomatic alternative in conflict resolution in the dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon over Bakassi 1994-2006*. Also related to security matters that involve Nigeria, Osakue Stevenson Omoera, Adesina Lukuman Azeez and Roselyn Vona Doghudje analyze *The Mass Media's Bearing on the Resolution of Post-Independence Security Issues in Nigeria*. According to the authors, the mass media have been suggested to have the capacity to contribute meaningfully towards assisting security institutions in eliminating or checking the security challenges faced by the country.

Lang Michael Kpughe critically discusses the treatment of the German missions in Cameroon, both in British and French areas, during the Mandate and Trusteeship periods, focusing especially in the opposing attitudes of both administering powers towards the missions in their spheres of influence in the article *The plight of German missions in Mandate Cameroon: an historical analysis*. Walter Gam Nkwi, in turn, in *Migration and Identity in Southwest Region of Cameroon: the Graffie Factor, c.1930s-1996*, analyses the dynamics of internal migration, taking the case of Bamenda Grassfielders migrants in coastal Cameroon and stresses on how such migrations gave rise to the identity puzzle between those who were branded as the graffie and their host.

In the article *Nelson Mandela's Prestige Diplomacy in South Africa (1994-1999)*, Pedro Vinícius Pereira Brites and Yuri Debrai Padilha analyze the foreign policy of the Nelson Mandela administration following a new international structure in the post-Cold War, mapping the actors involved in this environment and the indicators and variables that conditioned the foreign policy of the country. Anselmo Otavio analyses the importance of the South Atlantic in the post-apartheid South-African foreign policy, arguing that the increased interest in the South Atlantic is, in truth, result of the

appreciation of the South-South relations by South Africa in the article *From Mandela to Zuma: the importance of the Southern Atlantic region for South Africa's foreign policy*. Finally, Ana Luiza de Oliveira e Silva, in “*The only reality in Black Africa back then*”: Boubou Hama and the integration between technique and spirituality, discusses the case of the intellectual Boubou Hama, in Niger of the 1900s, who worked for the preservation and promotion of a cultural framework. According to the author, under the impacts of colonization, Hama wished Africa to know its own values and conceptions of the world.

This number also includes two book reviews. The book *Reimagining Pan-Africanism: distinguished Mwalimu Nyerere lecture series 2009-2013*, by Wole Soyinka and Samir Amin, is presented by Ermelinda Liberato, while the work *Geometrias da Memória: configurações pós-coloniais*, by António Sousa Ribeiro and Margarida Calafate Ribeiro, is presented by Fernanda Salomão Vilar.

BJAS publishes an electronic bilingual version (Portuguese and English) and an English printed version. Thus, we hope to receive the contribution of colleagues from Brazil and abroad, with whom we intend to establish bonds to the advancement of the knowledge and the building of a Southern vision about the African continent and the relations with it.

\*\*\*

We thank the Edition Assistants Rafaela Serpa and Salvatore Xerri and the team of CEBRAFRICA, that worked on the translation of the articles. We also thank Guilherme Thudium, Felipe Giordani, Cecília Maieron and Bruno Ronchi for the collaboration in the translation and revision of the English texts.