

Editors' word

In this issue, we present three articles. The first one, authored by Simon Sweeney and Neil Winn analyses the Common Security and Defense Policy through the concept of Open Method Coordination hence challenging the predominant intergovernmentalist approach. They conclude that “structures that now exist, centred around the HR/VP and the EEAS, demonstrate a complex network of engagement that reaches across supranational and intergovernmental institutions, while also incorporating important relationships with external stakeholders, including industry and other international institutions, as well as EU member states.” The second article, written by Ivana Boštjančić Pulko assesses planning aspects of EUFOR Althea in Bosnia and Herzegovina and EULEX Kosovo. She argues that “both missions seem to suffer since CSDP is low on political agendas of EU member states and too many partial interests within the EU hamper effective planning.” Finally, the third article is written by Ali Al-Ghafli who analyses the newly established Islamic Military Alliance to Fight Terrorism. He argues that the Alliance “sufficiently reflects the main conceptual aspects of military alliances, aims at performing vital collective security functions, and involves some of the immediate and potential issues typically associated with alliance politics.” In addition to these three articles, Vuk Velebit contributes to this issue with a book review of Dimitar Bechev’s *Rival Power: Russia’s Influence in Southeast Europe* (Yale University Press, 2017). We hope that you will enjoy the issue and stay interested in *Journal of Regional Security* in the future.

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