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On 24 May 2013, in the presence of the President of the Republic of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski and over 200 invited guests, the White Book on the National Security of the Republic of Poland was inaugurated. The document is the result of the recently completed National Security Strategic Review and presents a strategic vision of the integrated security of Poland.

In this section we present the synthesis of the White Book and the speech of President Bronisław Komorowski, Head of BBN prof. Stanisław Koziej and invited speakers – prof. Bolesław Balcerowicz (defense area); former Deputy Prime Minister and Head of BBN Henryk Goryszewski (security area); President of the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity (WOŚP) Jerzy Owsiak (social area) and prof. Witold Orłowski (economic area).

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Przemysław Pacuła

Co-operation in the Baltic Sea Region is focused on economic and political aspects. The potential of defence co-operation remains unutilized, mainly due to diverse interests of the states in the region. The economic crisis in Europe which imposed savings on the defence budgets is conducive to developing joint projects in this area, in particular among states with similar military potentials. Hence, it is worthwhile to consider possibilities of deepened defence co-operation among the states of the Baltic Sea Region.

Russian policy towards the West – selected issues 67

Katarzyna Przybyła

On 12th February 2013, a new foreign policy concept was adapted by the Russian Federation, which replaced the 2008 concept. According to the document, the necessity to update the priorities and goals of the foreign policy follows changes in the international arena. The new concept is connected mainly with Vladimir Putin's reinstatement in the office of the President. The analysis of both: the up-to-date actions taken by Russia and of the content of the strategic document confirms the thesis that we are seeing an ongoing process of Russia's intensified activity and assertiveness in the international arena. Despite the fact that the Cold War is over, the way of thinking from that era still persists in Russia, whereas the West remains to be the point of reference of Russian policy: rivalry with NATO, efforts aimed at acknowledging equality of relations with the United States and co-operation with Europe focused on economic relations.

Negotiations with Afghan armed opposition 91

Piotr Łukasiewicz

Impossibility of finding a military solution in Afghanistan is conducive to searching for political solutions, such as peace negotiations with the armed opposition. The last thirty years have seen a number of initiatives aimed at stabilizing the country. Nevertheless, they have not resulted in a positive outcome due to discrepant interests of the negotiating parties. Likewise, attempts at peace talks, undertaken since 2009, have failed to bring positive results, and the perspective of reaching a political agreement is being postponed beyond 2014.

Impact of internet espionage on relations between the USA and China 111

Michał Grzelak

Security in cyberspace has for some time now dominated in discussions about contemporary threats. Among methods aimed at counteracting cyber-threats, the necessity of international co-operation is enumerated, which remains limited in practice. The developments in recent months – numerous reports on surveillance and espionage – have fuelled discussions on the necessity of regulating the activity of states in cyberspace. The main actors in this theatre are the United States and China. The USA applies controversial methods of collecting classified

data, but it openly accuses the People’s Republic of China of infiltrating American networks and stealing intellectual property. China rejects such accusations and calls for co-operation, claiming to be also a victim to foreign hackers.

Shale gas – new regulations 129

Paweł Turowski

Polish government is working on new draft Acts regulating extraction of shale gas and changing the rules upon which fees are charged, as well as the amount of such fees. While creating new legal provisions, the legislator followed Norwegian, Danish and Dutch examples. Starting from 2020, the State plans to collect up to 40% of profits from the production of hydrocarbons. On top of that, a new state-owned operator shall be established who, by virtue of law, will become a shareholder in each extraction licence and will be granted a property fund for accumulation of a part of profits derived from extraction. Old regulations were adopted in the early 1990s. They mainly pertained to rules regulating the mining of bituminous coal and the construction of a system for financing environmental protection.

Interview with Martin C. Libicki, PhD on cyber security policy-making 147

Dominika Dziwisz

In the last quarter century cyberspace became the newest addition to the traditional – land, sea, air and space – family of domains. However, unlike the other domains, cyberspace is man-made and therefore must be operated and maintained. Establishing Air Forces Cyber (AFCYBER) and United States Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) proves that the Internet can be a powerful and respectful weapon. Every year more developed countries invest billions of dollars for protecting their civil and military ICT systems. In the interview Dominika Dziwisz asks Martin Libicki from the RAND Corporation about his evaluation of the cyberspace security threats and possibility of waging wars in this domain.

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