



Revista Científica General José María Córdova

(Colombian Journal of Military and Strategic Studies)

Bogotá D.C., Colombia

ISSN 1900-6586 (print), 2500-7645 (online)

Journal homepage: <https://www.revistacientificaesmic.com>

Editorial: Towards the consolidation of the Colombian Journal of Military and Strategic Studies

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To cite this article: Fernandez-Osorio, A. & Suarez Pineda, J. (2019). Editorial: Towards the consolidation of the Colombian Journal of Military and Strategic Studies. *Revista Científica General José María Córdova*, 17(25), 1-2. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21830/19006586.410>

Published online: 1 January 2019

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Volume 17, Number 25, January-March 2019, pp. 1-2
<http://dx.doi.org/10.21830/19006586.410>

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Editorial: Hacia la consolidación de la Revista colombiana de estudios militares y estratégicos

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Part of the essence of academic publications is their evolution in alignment with the developments in their areas of knowledge, which guarantees its readers current and quality scientific information that challenges paradigms and enriches the intellectual debate. Especially when the topics are enriched by interdisciplinary contributions, as in the case of military and strategic studies.

This has been the path followed by the *Revista Científica General José María Córdova* since its creation in 2000, arriving at the consolidation of 17 volumes of academic and scientific contents that bear witness to its positive and constant transformation as the **Colombian Journal of Military and Strategic Studies**. The *Journal* has adapted successfully to the dynamics of this interdisciplinary area of knowledge in which theoretical perspectives and innovative practices are explored in the study of power and its legitimate application in defense of national interests. However, far from having adopted a passive attitude to the requirements of the disciplinary area in which it is registered, the *Journal*, the flagship publication of the Escuela Militar de Cadetes “General José María Córdova” has instead sought tirelessly to construct a strategic culture. Beyond creating a space to publish, it has managed to create a rigorous field of sensible discussion and debate. Only in this way is it possible to grow a discipline that transcends the interests of a democratic

State, based on the defense and security of all its members, as well as on good relations with other nations.

To promote this disciplinary construction, the *Journal* –backed by its Editorial Committee and the ESMIC Publishing Seal– has endeavored to abide by the highest standards of quality and editorial management; this has allowed it to approach the vision of becoming a leading interdisciplinary publication in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Undoubtedly, essential to complying with these guidelines of excellence has been the strengthening of its editorial policy by defining the areas of study in which academic perspectives and key professional experiences converge that strengthen strategic thinking, and optimize public management, the stability of democracy, and the defense of human rights. These areas or thematic axes –which are bolstered by the disciplines in parentheses– are the following: 1) Education and doctrine (military sciences); 2) Politics and strategy (political science); 3) Security and defense (international relations); 4) Justice and human rights (law); 5) Armed Forces and society (history and geography); 6) Intelligence and logistics (administration); and 7) Industry and technology (economy).

The contents of the *Journal*, therefore, are framed within these seven thematic axes; this can be seen in the ten articles published in this issue, which were produced by interdisciplinary authors from different countries, contributing their knowledge and perspectives to the construction of critical but proactive academic debate that is respectful of national peculiarities. Thus, broadening the *Journal's* readership, which includes political decision-makers, members of the Armed Forces, public servants, professionals, teachers, researchers, and students of social sciences, as well as other areas of knowledge, interested in strategic thinking and culture.