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– BETWEEN STRATEGIC SHOCK AND STRATEGIC SURPRISE

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Abstract: *The present international security environment is subject to dramatic changes having a strong impact on societies, nations, organizations and individuals. The increased frequency of strategic shocks, or the manifestation of what is called strategic inflections, be it the effects of the economic and financial crisis, the new geopolitical trends, such as the resurgence of Russia, the relative decline of US involvement in hotspots around the world, the emergence of centers of power such as China or India, or the ISIL military influence in Middle East, needs a new approach and a new understanding of the international relations and power processes.*

Keywords: *security environment, geopolitical trends, strategic shock, strategic inflection, Crimea.*

1. Dynamics of security environment

The strategic impact caused by certain dynamics in the evolution of international relations, the use of force in promoting the interests of both state and non-state actors opens the door to a disruptive potential that will require an increased interest in early identification of destabilizing conditions and effects; this can lead to their characterization as being strategic shocks.

Because of the changes in the international security environment, the relationship between various dimensions of security has changed. The military dimension of security and the military power for providing security and winning the wars or countering specific types of asymmetric threats is not by itself sufficient. Achieving security depends on addressing simultaneously all dimensions of national security (political, diplomatic, military, economic, social, information, cultural, psychosocial, environmental, etc). We need to make careful analysis from multiple perspectives. The political and diplomatic dimension covers both the relationship between the state and its citizens and the international relations in which the state is involved. The economic dimension is influencing not only the military power, but also the economic component of individual or human security. This level of human security is one related to the social dimension of security: national security is extremely important, but cannot be achieved without the security of individuals. The environmental dimension, which brings new issues under study, includes three aspects that cannot be ignored: the environmental problems caused by war or manmade catastrophe, natural resources whose possession can trigger international disputes and natural disasters.

Therefore, one can argue that achieving security, especially the national security, requires addressing simultaneously all these dimensions, which involves the creation and