

Editorial

Editor / Group Leader



Anna Stanisławska is a skilled professional with a background in international relations and security. After earning her bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of Warsaw, she served as a liaison officer for the Polish Presidency in the Council of the European Union. She is also a Vice-president of the Warsaw Representation of the Forum of Young Diplomats. Currently, she is expanding her expertise through studies in International Business at the Warsaw School of Economics and an International Security program at the European Academy of Diplomacy. Her main areas of interest are international security, with a particular focus on terrorism and the Asian region, especially China.

Minilateralism, digital diplomacy & new actors in 21st-century IR

Dear Reader,

In this changing world and pivots on cooperation, old ideas are forced to evolve and adjust accordingly to the new needs. After the post-war order and the creation of the League of Nations that later evolved into the widely known United Nations, peace and cooperation found its platform. However, the modern world is starting to lose trust towards the big blocks after their potential and security mechanisms failed. This realization, explored in Marie's analysis of Post-Westphalian Diplomacy, accelerates a fundamental rethinking of global security. That's why countries from all parts of the world are turning towards alternative models of cooperation.

This search for new frameworks defines the contemporary international arena. We see the urgency of this pivot reflected in the emergence of minilateral initiatives and NATO's hybrid partnerships, offering tailored solutions where broader consensus has fractured. Simultaneously, we examine how powers are deploying non-traditional tools, including digital diplomacy and PSYOPS campaigns, and dissect the geopolitical significance of strategic investments, looking closely at China's Belt and Road Initiative and the vital potential of the new EU-India partnership.

In this report you will find analysis on how the importance of different actors on the international arena is changing—from the diplomatic role of small states to the strategic affirmation of the Global South—and how the approach changed on different continents. You will see what young, aspiring professionals pay attention to and how their fresh eyes analyse international affairs.

This report is to mark the changing dynamic of international relations in the XXI century and highlight the most revolutionary pivots. In the name of our writers, we wish you a pleasant reading.

Anna Stanislawska

Editor of the EPIS International Relations and Diplomacy Report Group