## Forward to the Journal

The "Journal of European Studies and International Relations" is edited in a new series under the auspices of the Association of Ambassadors and Career Diplomats, which found it close to its preoccupations and of great interest to its members. It addresses topical subjects of the present evolutions in Europe and in the world and is one of the few publications in Romania devoted to the presentation and the analysis of major issues of international life.

This number of the Journal continues to look into the evolution of events and of their impact on the efforts of the Romanian people to preserve and protect its legitimate interests and to build and maintain a dignified place for it in international affairs, with all ups and downs offered by a history which was very often unjust and not favourable.

The Journal should give priority to subjects concerning Europe, as the Romanian people belongs to Europe, shared a common history with other European people and received political and cultural inputs from them. Today, Romania is a member of the European Union, of NATO and of the Council of Europe, and, as such, is directly interested in all issues of security and cooperation in Europe. The European Union, as the organization of integration which is present in our daily life, is passing through a period of changes-Brexit and after Brexit and a need of reforms to take more into account the needs and wishes of the people-which will certainly affect the existing framework and the situation in different fields of Union's activity.

Beyond that, a constant reflection on the place, role, duties and advantages of Romania as a member of the Union is necessary for State institutions, researchers and associations forming the public opinion, as a contribution to improve the participation and increase the level of advantages of cooperation and integration in the Union.

Other subjects of interest are those concerning stability and security in our areaaround the Black Sea, in the neighbouring States and in South-East Europe, taking into account present provocations and dangers for security in Europe, because history proves that the evolutions in the neighbourhood had always adverse effects on the Romanian people.

The Journal proved to practice total openness to new and challenging opinions and reflections. It is therefore open to different contributions, in full respect of the opinion of others, without taking responsibility for any and all opinions expressed.

Recording a frequency of one or two issues per year, the Journal can be found in the media interested in Romania, in embassies and prestigious universities and research centers in Europe. The Editorial Board is composed of leading researchers in international relations and European integration, which guarantees the rigorous application of international standards on the scientific contents of the materials published and represents an encouragement of participation of other studies within the scope of the Journal.

Editor-in-Chief, Ion Diaconu, PhD.