

Letter from the Director of the Military Academy of Cadets, *alma mater* of the Colombian National Army

The 'Military Studies' section consists of four articles: (1) *Exploring new territory: recent contributions to the study of the relations between China and Latin America*, by Benjamin Creutzfeldt, a sinologist and lecturer of Contemporary China Studies at CESA (Colegio de Estudios Superiores en Administración) in Bogotá, and the editor of *China en América Latina: reflexiones sobre las relaciones transpacíficas* (China in Latin America: reflections on trans-Pacific relationships), published in December 2012 by Externado University. (2) *The fight against drugs in Latin America and the initiatives generated from OEA and UNASUR*, by the professors Walter Cadena-Afanador and Camilo Andrés Devia-Garzón, from Nueva Granada Military University. (3) *Transforming the strategy in the age of conversation*, original article associated with the research project "Alignment among strategy, structure and culture to achieve competitiveness in *superettes* from the Cauca Valley, Colombia", by Olga Herminda Román-Muñoz and César Augusto Patiño-Vargas professors at the University of San Buenaventura from Santiago de Cali. (4) *A critique of the accounting representation in a historical perspective: from the reflection of a profound reality to the pure simulacrum*, by the Colombian public accountants Édgar Gracia López, Rafael Antonio Franco Ruiz and María Victoria Agudelo Vargas, a progress in research in epistemology of accounting, in the context of the Doctorate in Accounting Sciences at the University of los Andes of Venezuela

The 'Human Rights and Humanitarian Law' section contains the article *Power, gender and democracy. From domination to gender equality*, article associated with a MSc research on democracy and global transformations at the University of Helsinki, Finland, by Felipe Jaramillo Ruiz, professor at the School of Politics and International Relations at the University Sergio Arboleda in Bogotá, Colombia.

The 'Education' section includes a single article: *The formation of values of responsibility and cooperative team work, in the research process for the degree work*, a research team led by professor Martha Hortensia Arana-Ercilla, PhD, with the active participation of Colonel Carlos Miguel Acosta-Arévalo, Major Vicente Hernán Ibarra-Argoty, and the student Jhon Huérfino-Caicedo, acting as a seedbed for research in our 'General José María Córdova' Military School of Cadets.

The 'Science and Technology' section has six papers (1) *Dermatoglífiã, somatotípiã e qualidades físicas dos policiais do batalhão de operações especiais-BOPE* (Dermatoglyphics, somatotype and physical qualities of police of Rio de Janeiro's Military Police Special Operations Battalion-BOPE), by the Brazilian professors Marcello Rodrigues dos Santos, MsC and José Fernandes Filho, PhD, two internationally recognized experts within their research field to help determine the genetic (dermatoglyphics, ACTN3, ECA) and anthropometric profiles of the physical, social, and psychological qualities from soldiers and police officers. (2) *Comparison of the stages of change for physical activity and physical exercise in Brazilian and Catalan university students*, by the psychologist Martha Claudia Gómez-Tinoco from the ESMIC, article associated with the research project based on the doctoral thesis in order for her to strengthen investigative capacity and obtain a Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS), from a doctorate in the psychology of human learning offered by the Basic, Developmental

and Educational Psychology Department, at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. (3) *Causes of failure of primary surgery of anterior cruciate ligament in Catalan football players*, by Santiago Gómez-García, MD from the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences of Villa Clara, Cuba, article based on the pre-doctoral thesis *Causes of Failure of Primary Surgery of Anterior Cruciate Ligament* in order for her to strengthen investigative capacity and obtain a Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS), from a Doctorate in Surgery offered by the Faculty of Medicine, of said Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. (4) *Mechanic characteristics of asphalt mixtures as a function of the origin and gradation of quarried aggregate*, by the research professors at the Colombian Military University Nueva Granada of Bogotá Oscar Oscar Javier Reyes-Ortiz, PhD In civil engineering from the the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain, Javier Fernando Camacho-Tauta, PhD civil engineering from the Technical University of Lisbon, and Angie Londoño León, MSc. (5) *Impact of oil spills on the mechanical properties of sandy soil*, a paper associated with studies on the evaluation of variations in the mechanic characteristics caused by oil spills from the hydrocarbons industry, written by three Colombian civil engineers: professor María Fernanda Serrano-Guzmán, PhD in civil engineering with particular emphasis on environmental impact, and Director General Research Office at the Pontific Bolivarian University of Bucaramanga, Colombia, co-authored with professor Luz Marina Torrado-Gómez, MSc, Coordinator of Laboratories at the same university, and professor Diego Darío Pérez-Ruiz, PhD in soils, and the Director of the Civil and Industrial Engineering Department at the Pontifical University Javeriana, Cali, Colombia.

Finally, the 'History' section contains the article *Colombia among wars (1919-1939)*, by Ricardo Esquivel-Triana, PhD in history from the National University of Colombia, and professor at the Colombian War College of the armed forces, whose paper is based on his research on the military formation in Colombia from the 19th to the 20th centuries.

We invite all members of the academic community to publish their research papers in military topics, in Spanish, English, French or Portuguese, for the following issues of the REVCGJMC.

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