

*Oliver BAKRESKI*UDK:355.45(460)  
Original research paper**NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM OF SPAIN***Brief summary*

The security policy serves as a key framework for the realization of Spain's fundamental interests. There is no doubt that security policy has a specific place as it is one of the most important security paradigms that creates the necessary preconditions for progressive development in the security sphere. Undoubtedly, this contributes to shaping Spain's security measures, in ensuring the necessary political neutrality, and whose action will be within the constitutionally permitted framework. It simultaneously enables the political ideals to grow into a political security doctrine that will strive to produce an optimal concept and strategy of procedures in order to achieve the set goals. Hence, an effective security policy can only succeed if it is based on scientific knowledge. It is a substrate in the shaping of its framework of philosophy and serves as a global basis for the decisive designation of the obligations of all subsystems in society when it comes to specific issues (economic, social, environmental, political, etc.).

*Keywords:* security, security policy, system, institutions, Spain.

**1. Introductory remarks**

Spain (Reino de España or España) covers more than four-fifths of the Iberian Peninsula<sup>1</sup>, which it shares with Portugal, Gibraltar, and Andorra. Spain is separated from France and the rest of Europe by the Pyrenees, and its national territory includes the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean, the Canary Islands in the Atlantic, and the small North African enclaves, including the cities of Ceuta and Melilla. Continental Spain is a region with diverse topography and climate and is more recognizable for its beautiful landscape than for its wealth of resources, but it also has valuable deposits of iron, coal, and other minerals, as well as oil. The Spaniards are a mixture of the indigenous mainly Iberian population with admixtures of the later invading peoples. The population includes several cultural and linguistic groups: Castilians, Gauls, Andalusians, Catalans, and Basques (who claim to be of different ethnicities). Regional sentiments remain strong, especially in the Basque and Catalan areas to the north and east, and various local languages and dialects are used in addition to the

<sup>1</sup> Iberia is a name used by ancient Greece for what is now the Iberian Peninsula (also called the "Iberian Peninsula").

long-dominant Castilian Spanish and are increasingly taught in schools. About 94 percent of the population is Roman Catholic, although religious freedom is formally guaranteed.

The Kingdom of Spain covers a total area of 504,642 km<sup>2</sup> and includes territories on the mainland peninsula and surrounding islands (the Canary Islands and the Balearic Islands, cities of Ceuta and Melilla as *Plazas de Soberanía*-places of sovereignty in North Africa).<sup>2</sup> According to estimates by July 2020, Spain has about 50,015,792 inhabitants. Of the total number of inhabitants in 2018 according to ethnicity, 86.4% declared themselves as Spaniards, 1.8% as Moroccans, 10.5 others, etc. Gross domestic product in 2017 was estimated at \$ 1.778 trillion. The gross national product per capita for 2017 was 38,400 dollars (Central Intelligence Agency, 2020, *The World Factbook: Spain*). Spain's GDP in the second quarter of 2020 fell by 16% to 21.8% over the previous quarter due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as the Central Bank of Spain reported, predicting different economic scenarios.

The Spanish constitution of 1978 imposed new "fundamental principles" on the organization of the state and ended the dictatorial regime established by General Franco, who was the absolute head of state (*Jefe del Estado*) until his death in 1975. The Constitution defines the Spanish state as a parliamentary monarchy and guarantees a variety of fundamental rights, including those of speech and of the press, association, and collective arrangements. Spain is also founded as a social and democratic state, subject to the rule of law, which stands for the highest values of its legal order, freedom, justice, equality, and political pluralism.<sup>3</sup> National sovereignty is vested in the Spanish people, from whom the powers of the state derive.<sup>4</sup>

## 2. Historical development

Spain is a country with deep historical roots in Europe. Its identity and unique discoveries such as the discovery of America and other continents are extremely important phenomena. At the same time, however, there are strong parallels between Spanish history and the history of other European countries. Although it never gave up its diversity, Spain emerged as a united state at a very early stage and played a key role in some of the most brilliant episodes in modern European history. From approximately 1100 BC, by the middle of the 3rd century BC, commercial and cultural contact with Mediterranean civilizations was articulated by the Phoenicians (whose territories stretched from the Algarve on the South-Atlantic coast to the Mediterranean coast of Iberia to the east) and the ancient Greek influence (stretched from the confluence of the Ebro River to the Bay of roses on the northeast coast of Spain). At the end of this period, both civilizations were displaced by the Romans and by the Carthagin-

<sup>2</sup> Presidencia del Gobierno. *History and Culture of Spain*.

<sup>3</sup> The Spanish Constitution, *Article 1*.

<sup>4</sup> Presidencia del Gobierno. *Institutions of Spain*.

ians. In the VI century BC, the people of the coastal region, generically known as Iberians had already formed a homogenous group of city-states under the influence of the more developed urban trade, agricultural, and mining centers of the East Mediterranean.<sup>5</sup> The Roman presence of the peninsula was basically following the same pattern as the Greek trade bases, but unlike the Greeks, the entrance of Rome in Iberia was a result of a power struggle with Cartagena to gain control over the Western Mediterranean. The Roman presence in Hispania lasted for seven hundred years, during which time the primary borders of the peninsula were designated in regard to the other European countries. The Romans were mainly settled along the banks and rivers, leaving the lasting significance of cities such as Tarragona, Cartagena, Lisbon, and especially Merida, as well as the famous buildings of roads, bridges, aqueducts, temples, archives, theaters, amphitheaters, and circuses in the Roman settlements of the peninsula. However, at the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD, the map of Roman colonization began to change dramatically as many Germanic tribes marched on the peninsula and settled inland, as in the case of the Visigoths, but also in the west in the case of Suebi.<sup>6</sup>

In the early VIII century, the peninsula was hit by the Arab conquerors, who in 711 won the battle of Cadiz and destroyed the Visigothic state. The conquered peninsula first became a province of the Arab caliphates, and after its disintegration in 751, a separate caliphate was established in Cordoba. The Arabs did not last very long as rulers of all Spain, the north at the end of the VIII century was taken away by Charlemagne (Charles the Great). After the fall of Charlemagne in 843, several early Christian feudal lords were formed, hostile to the Arabs, whose invasion affected not only religion but also the state system. The rule of the Arabs was of great importance because they had introduced innovations in construction, agriculture, handicrafts, trade, science, art, and architecture (Arabic). From the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century until 1492, the war between the early feudal states and the Spanish Arabs, known as the "Rekonkvista", lasted. Throughout the Reconquista period, in which common interests such as the church and the tribe found common ground, they became richer and richer during the war. On the other side were the king and the construction, these constant disagreements between these two bodies, as well as the constant struggles in the dynasties between Castile and Aragon, constantly contributed to the weakening of the state.

So, the search for unity and the emergence of a new force embodied in Spain took place in 1492 with the conquest of Granada, which had a Muslim presence. This created the basis for pursuing an ambition for religious, ethnic, and cultural uniformity. In 1492, the Spanish monarchy was one of the earliest modern states in Renaissance Europe. Its external expansion across the Atlantic (America and Flanders) and the Mediterranean (Italy) is based on powerful military machinery, a solid economy, an international presence, experience at

---

<sup>5</sup> History and Culture of Spain. Government of Spain. Gobierno de España.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

sea and exploring new trade routes, as well as significant scientific and technical expertise: mathematicians, geographers, astronomers, shipbuilders, etc. Thanks to the maritime and trade traditions inherited from the Arabs, geography, astronomy, and navigation also developed in Christian Spain. This positioning in the 15<sup>th</sup> century enabled her to conquer territories and colonies in Europe, America, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. Christopher Columbus conducted the first explorations of the Atlantic Ocean, which contributed to the discovery of the New World and later to the colonization of America. By the middle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the main vicariates were established and inhabited: Mexico and Peru. The Spaniards sought allies in the tribes they conquered and in disgruntled leaders; they agreed to capitulations in exchange for privileges; they divided the new lands among the Spanish colonists; and they reorganize the indigenous settlements (La Moncloa. *España Puede*, 2021).

The history of Spain during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is known as Habsburg Spain when the Habsburg dynasty ruled over a vast heritage and sought to establish a comprehensive, flexible monarchy consisting of kingdoms and dominions united in a vast confederation around one crown. Under Charles V and Philip II, Spain was one of the world's largest powers, controlling parts of the Americas, the Philippines, Asia, France, the Benelux, Germany, much of present-day Italy in Europe, and during the period from 1580-1640, it included Portugal. However, in the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, Spain lost its consolidation and superiority. The struggle for Spanish inheritance took place between 1701 and 1714 between most of the great European powers over the unification of the kingdoms of Spain and France under the crown of the Bourbon dynasty. Charles II, the last heir of the Spanish Habsburgs, was idle and left the inheritance to the nephew of his sister Maria Theresa and Louis XIV of France, Philippe of Anjou. Crowned King of Spain and the Indians in 1701, Philip V inaugurated the Spanish Bourbon dynasty. His reign prolonged the Enlightenment in Spain, a period of balance in foreign policy, reform, and domestic progress. Balance and peace in Europe became the two goals pursued by Spain during the XVIII century. Throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Spain was under strong political and cultural influence from France. Napoleon I forced King Charles IV of Spain to be his ally in the war against England, all of which ended in the defeat of the Spanish-French fleet at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. Spain was left without a fleet, and the entire Iberian Peninsula fell under the strong influence of England. Napoleon conquered Spain in 1808, ousted King Charles IV, and appointed his brother Joseph to the throne, leading to the awakening of the Spanish people and many battles at Zaragoza, when Napoleon first suffered his defeats. In 1812, a Spanish government was formed in Cadiz. The Spaniards drafted a free constitution, which had long been the ideal of the South Roman peoples. Due to economic and social backwardness, the liberation war of the Spanish people did not take the form of a bourgeois revolution, as they were ruled by landowners and the Catholic clergy, so that in 1814 Spain became a kingdom again when the Bourbon dynasty came to power (La Moncloa, *España*

*Puede*, 2021). The eighteenth-century also marked the historically important First Spanish Republic, which began with the introduction of parliamentary rule in the period from February 11, 1873, to December 29, 1874, when General Martínez Campos issued a proclamation marking the beginning of the Bourbon Restoration of Spain. The monarchy was restored in the person of Alfonso XII, Isabella's eldest son. After the abdication of Amadeus I, for whom there was no popular support, on February 11, 1873, the National Assembly (Congress and Senate) proclaimed the First Republic with 258 votes in favor and 32 against. Although it lasted only until December 29, 1874 - this republic advocated new theories that shaped the immediate future: federalism, socialism, and cantonalism (La Moncloa, *España Puede*, 2021).

Monarchical rule continued into the twentieth century, during the dictatorship of Miguel Primo De Rivera in 1923-1930, but still gave way in 1931 and a multi-party republic became increasingly subject to leftist influence.

Spain maintained its neutrality during World War II, and in 1947, with the passage of the Law of Succession, Spain was declared a monarchy (albeit without a monarch), and again in 1967, an appropriate law reaffirmed Franco's position as head of the state, and ensure strictly limited public participation in elections to the legislature. Political and administrative controls from the Civil War were considered - temporarily relaxed in the early 1960s, but subsequent calls for change created increasing instability. In December 1973, Prime Minister Luis Carrero Blanco was assassinated by Basque separatists and succeeded Carlos Arias Navarro. Franco fell ill on October 17, 1975. When Franco died on November 20, 1975, Spain began the transition to democracy. In Spain, the transition from authoritarian rule to democracy was the product of a series of pacts and negotiations, and the outcome was the end of the dictatorship in exchange for "a high degree of formal respect for the legitimacy of Franco's political system."

After the 1990s, Catalonia's demands continued, first in the regional Catalan government and at the national level for "true" autonomy for Catalonia. A violent separatist campaign that began in the 1960s in the Basque Country and launched a new wave of terrorist attacks in 1995 has also continued. The rise in civilian deaths as a result of ETA's terrorism has led to tensions and trials on the organization's political wing, and the Constitutional Court later ordered their release. On March 11, 2004, in the deadliest attack on Spanish civilians, seven bombs exploded on four trains in Madrid, killing 191 and injuring 1,400 others. Today, ETA is no longer a significant threat thanks to the triumph of the rule of law and the tireless work of state security forces in investigating crimes, protecting victims of terrorism, and conveying a narrative that highlights the struggle for democracy against terrorism. In the absence of this threat in 2017, Spain faced a political crisis triggered by the holding of a referendum on Catalonia's independence from Spain on 1 October 2017. Spain was shaken by the referendum on Catalonia's secession from Spain.

In August 2020, during the coronavirus pandemic, in which Spain was at the top of the list of countries that were seriously endangered by the virus,

which resulted in numerous human losses and a serious decline in economic growth and development, and a serious political upheaval when The Supreme Court has launched an investigation into former Spanish King Juan Carlos I on suspicion of corruption linked to Saudi Arabia. Following this financial scandal, the former king left Spain. Earlier in 2014, he abdicated in favor of his son Philip VI after scandals in the last years of his rule, which deprived him of the immunity from the Constitution that guarantees him as head of state.

### 3. Institutions for creating a security policy

A parliamentary monarchy is the “political form of the Spanish state”, and with this expression, the creators of the constitution indicated that the monarchy is not considered a government in the classical sense; a monarchy, not a republic, is just a form of state. The term “parliamentary monarchy” was chosen to avoid any confusion with the previous regime when monarchies were restricted. However, in the Spanish political system, the most important place belongs to the monarch, the parliament, and the government as an iconostasis executive body.

*The king* is the head of state and a symbol of his unity and permanence. He arbitrates and moderates the regular functioning of the institutions, and assumes the responsibility for the highest representation of the Spanish state in international relations, and performs the functions assigned to him by the Constitution and the laws. His title is the title of King of Spain and he can use other titles belonging to the crown, and the Spanish crown is inherited by the heirs of H. M. Juan Carlos I de Borbón, the legitimate heir to the historical dynasty. The succession to the throne will follow the regular order of primary operation and representation, the first line will always have an advantage over successive lines; in the same line, the closer over the more distant; male over female and same-gender, older over younger. Should all statutory ranks disappear, Cortes General (the Spanish Parliament) should secure the succession to the crown in a way that is most appropriate to Spain’s interests.<sup>7</sup>

In exercising his constitutional powers, the King is obliged to: sanction and promulgate laws, to call for the dissolution of the parliament and to call elections according to the conditions provided by the Constitution, to call a referendum in the cases provided by the Constitution, to nominate a candidate for President of The Government and, with a possibility to appoint or remove him from office, as provided by the Constitution, appoint and dismiss members of the Government on the proposal of the Prime Minister, issue decrees approved by the Government (Council of Ministers), in order to award civilian and military positions and to award honors and decorations in accordance with the law, to exercise the supreme command of the armed forces, to take care of the exercise of the right for clearance in accordance with the law, etc.<sup>8</sup> The King

<sup>7</sup> Spain’s Constitution of 1978 with Amendments through 2011, Article 56 and 57.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., Article 62.

accredits ambassadors and other diplomatic representatives as well and engages foreign representatives in Spain, declared by the issued laws, in accordance with the Constitution and laws, and has the power to declare war and declare peace under the authorization of parliament.<sup>9</sup>

The legislative power in Spain is entrusted to the *Parliament* (Cortes Generales) which consists of two chambers. In accordance with Article 66 of the Constitution, Parliament is responsible for representing the Spanish people and is consisted of Congress and Senate. The Constitution also stipulates that no one may be a member of both chambers at the same time, or be a representative in the Assembly of the self-governing community and a member of Congress at the same time. Cortes Generales exercises the legislative power of the country and adopts its budget, controls the actions of the Government, and has other powers conferred by the Constitution.

*The government or the Council of Ministers* functions as a collegial body of government and consists of the prime minister, cabinet ministers, and, as the case may be, the deputy prime ministers. The origins of the Council of Ministers date back to November 19, 1823, the date on which King Ferdinand VII issued a decree addressed to the then First Secretary of State, Victor Damien Shaez, which created the Council of Ministers, from which the following paragraph is worth noting: "issues of general use will be resolved, each minister will take over the responsibilities of the secretariat under his authority; he will receive my solutions and ensure their implementation. The Council's agreements will be set out in the general ledger, including the reasons behind them. "When I am not present, you will chair the meeting as my first secretary of state, and the head of the Ministry of Justice will determine the general ledger for this purpose."<sup>10</sup>

The Prime Minister is proposed by the King, who has the power to nominate candidates for Prime Minister and, if necessary, to appoint them according to the Constitution. The nominee must win an absolute majority in Congress or a sufficient number of votes in the second round of voting. The proposed candidate, after the vote, submits a program from the government that he intends to implement. In case he does not get enough votes in the second round, the king should present a new nominee. In terms when none of the nominees succeeds in gaining the confidence of Congress within two months, the king shall announce a new election, in which the neutrality of the King's proposals is guaranteed. Mandatory forecasting has a preventive role; the goal is to get a majority within the given deadline. The demand for self-dissolution should also be considered if a majority in Congress calls for early elections. The constitution requires hierarchical authority. Resignation or death is the end of the government, and when

---

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 63.

<sup>10</sup> La Moncloa. *History of the Council of Ministers*.

an initiative for government responsibility is launched, then a new candidate for prime minister must be proposed.<sup>11</sup>

In general, the government conducts domestic and foreign policy, civilian and military administration, and defense. Exercises executive power and power of legal regulations in accordance with the Constitution and laws, ie performs the executive function, administrative power and has a legislative initiative. The government is also responsible for the public administration which serves the general interest in the spirit of objectivity and will act in accordance with the principles of efficiency, hierarchy, decentralization, deconcentration, and coordination and in full compliance with the law.<sup>12</sup>

#### 4. National security policy of Spain

Spain's national security policy is focused on ensuring the security of Spain and its citizens and is the responsibility of the Government and the public administration, but also of society as a whole. Security is one of the basic pillars of an open and democratic society such as Spain and a basic condition for its prosperity and progress. The purpose of the National Security Policy, which is ultimately legitimized by the constitutional purpose, is to guarantee the necessary security. The National Security Strategy is a framework and benchmark for Spanish national security policy, and certainly, a national policy based on a broad concept of security. This strategy builds on some of the concepts defined in 2013 and represents a step forward in adapting this policy to new developments in the ever-changing security environment (National Security Strategy 2017, *Presidency of the Government*).

Spain's national security policy is developed upon Spain's national security vision based on its democracy status, as well as its distinct geostrategic profile and its global aspirations. Spain faces a number of threats and challenges, both internal and external, including its demographic perspective, its limited energy ties, and its territorial cohesion. Challenges to the rule of law and the general interests of Spain require a rule of law-based response to protect the rights and freedoms of all its citizens. In addition, in the midst of a technological revolution, Spain, as an interconnected and interdependent country, must adapt to this transformation and seize opportunities to make progress in addressing the new challenges posed by hyper-interconnectedness. In this regard, it is important to raise awareness of today's major threats and challenges, through an appropriate culture of national security.<sup>13</sup> The Spanish Security Strategy identifies the following threats and risks and strategic lines of action and response: 1. *Armed conflicts*. Spain may be required to participate in three

<sup>11</sup> Radosavljević, D. (2011) *Savremeni politički i pravni sistemi*, Fakultet za pravne i poslovne studije Dr. Lazar Vrkatić, Novi Sad, p. 126-148.

<sup>12</sup> Spain's Constitution of 1978 with Amendments through 2011, Article 97 and Article 103.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3-13.

types of conflict where the role of the armed forces is crucial: conflicts not shared with allies, multilateral conflicts that directly affect Spanish interests, and multilateral conflicts that do not directly affect Spanish interests. The defense of interests and values will guide Spain's efforts in this area, from a threefold perspective of conflict anticipation and prevention, conflict management, and resolution and subsequent peace consolidation. To this end, Spain will pursue a comprehensive approach to combining tools for diplomatic, military, police, and foreign assistance.

2. *Terrorism*. Terrorism directly threatens the security of all citizens, seeks to undermine democratic institutions, and can cause serious damage to critical infrastructure. ETA was one of the examples that plagued Spain for more than 40 years. Transnational terrorism also has the potential to disrupt the normal functioning of society. Therefore, it is an existential threat to the country, and preventing and defeating terrorism is a national, European, and international priority. To achieve this goal, there must be a comprehensive and integrated response strategy based on respect for democratic values, human rights, and the rule of law. The main response includes prevention and protection, together with the availability of funds, the joint efforts of democratic parties, and their support for the work of the state security and intelligence services and international cooperation.

3. *Organised crime*. It is one of the most serious, though at times least recognized, threats to Spanish security. It is increasingly interconnected with terrorism, violent groups, and local crime in a way that makes everyone interact and strengthen each other. That is why a threefold approach is needed to deal with this threat, such as: increasing staff, developing effective legislation in this area, and improving coordination between national and international subjects.

4. *Economic and financial uncertainty*. Economic security is an integral and essential part of general security. Threats and risks related to economic and financial activity may arise from public or private macroeconomic imbalances, market instability, destabilizing, speculative, or even illegal activities of various economic agents, poor supervision and regulation, economic interdependence, resources competition, or an unbalanced growth model. Prevention and mitigation of their effects require the state: to prosecute criminal activities; to ensure proper supervision and regulation of markets; to advance in European and global governance; strengthening Spain's international presence; guaranteeing the functioning of critical economic and financial services and infrastructures, and promoting sustainable economic development that minimizes imbalances and guarantees of economic growth and social cohesion.

5. *Energy vulnerability*. The high dependence on fossil fuels and the unsustainability of the current energy model around the world, which is also harmful to the environment, make the energy factor a key component of safety. The lines of action to improve energy security include: diversification of energy sources; energy saving and efficiency, with the dual goal of reducing external dependence and improving economic competitiveness; security of supply at a reasonable price, limiting the dependence on supply from one country, development of strategic reserves, as well as international interconnections, strengthening of infrastruc-

tures and liberalization of markets 6. *Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.* The proliferation of nuclear, radiological, biological, or chemical weapons is one of the biggest threats, especially if they come from uncontrolled entities such as terrorist organizations. Preventing and neutralizing this threat requires intensive multidisciplinary work. Spain supports various international initiatives in this regard, including the Treaty on Nuclear Disarmament, and the creation of an adequate capacity for collective defense against the proliferation of ballistic missiles.<sup>14</sup> 7. *Cyber threats.* The use of information and communication technologies has found wide application in everyday life. This new scenario of opportunities offers development in the exchange of information and communications, but at the same time, it entails serious risks and threats that may affect security. Several factors contribute to the proliferation of criminal activity in cyberspace: the profitability of its use for economic, political, or other purposes and the ease, but also the low cost of using the tools to use and carry out attacks with which attackers can hide. carry out these activities anonymously and from anywhere in the world, with cross-influences on the public and private sectors and the citizens themselves (National Cyber Security Strategy, 2013. *Presidency of the Government*). 8. *Uncontrolled migration flows.* The impact of mass and illegal migration can generate social conflict and create urban ghettos due to a lack of integration, which can become a breeding ground for extremist, religious groups or lead to ideological radicalization. Preventing the risks associated with this phenomenon requires cooperation between countries, developing a legal policy on immigration and social integration, strengthening cooperation with countries of origin and transit, border control and surveillance, as well as the ongoing fight against human trafficking and networks. 9. *Disasters.* Threats and risks posed by any human activity or natural disasters, exacerbated by climate change, health problems such as pandemics, or water and other basic resources scarcity, can become primary risks to the safety and well-being of citizens. Spain has sufficient preventive and management measures to respond appropriately, e.g. National Civil Protection System and Military Emergency Unit. In addition to the above, we will emphasize the shortcomings of globalization, demographic imbalance, poverty and inequality, climate change, technological dangers, and radical and undemocratic ideologies. These are transnational drivers that can multiply the effects of risks and threats or even transform their nature. Obviously, efforts should be directed towards addressing, and the security strategy should identify the most important threats and risks and offer ways in which they can be addressed. They can occur in a variety of domains where the action is required: on land, at sea, in the air, in space, in cyberspace, and in the realm of information. This counterpoises the basis for formulating strategic response lines, developing capabilities, and implementing organizational reforms of the national security system.<sup>15</sup> National security contributes to the consolidation of the basic aspects of 21st century Spain: its democratic sys-

<sup>14</sup> Spanish Security Strategy, *Everyone's responsibility*, Gobierno de Espana, p. 1-12.

<sup>15</sup> Spanish Security Strategy, *Everyone's responsibility*, Gobierno de Espana, p. 1-12.

tem, its pluralistic and open society, its rich territorial and linguistic diversity, its socio-economic development, and its status as a country with a distinctive historical heritage and global language and culture. These aspects are important for understanding the goals that Spain represents in the international arena, as a country that is open to the world and that protects its citizens. The importance of respecting the rule of law and the value of constitutional and European consensus are fundamental criteria that Spain shares with the European Union. Its unique geostrategic position and natural orientation towards different spaces require it to have its own strategic and dynamic approach. Its central position in key areas - between Europe and North Africa; between the Mediterranean and the Atlantic; the peninsula with its archipelago, islands, and sovereign territories in North Africa - makes Spain a bridge between countries and cultures, citing it as a specific security profile. Reflecting on its global aspirations, Spain contributes to regional and international security initiatives, from which it also benefits. It is a reliable partner and with its secure European and Atlantic status, Spain is a key member of organizations such as the European Union and the North Atlantic Organization, accepting its collective security responsibilities. In addition, under the umbrella of the United Nations, NATO, and the European Union, it participates in various overseas missions far beyond its borders and traditional spaces. These commitments in the field of security and external action of Spain represent, in turn, a great effort in terms of opportunities and investments, which is necessary to ensure a stable international environment and, thus, security and prosperity (National Security Strategy 2017, *Presidency of the Government of Spain*).

## Conclusion

Spain's national security policy is structured to enable the government to take into account all the security challenges facing the country in terms of security, ie to consider all threats in a comprehensive way to increase the effectiveness of the system for national security through optimization of resource rationalization and through an increased anticipatory approach of all security actors in charge of policy implementation.

It is obvious that the Spanish security policy is interdependent with other policies. Its uniqueness, which encompasses all levels of social life, understandably complicates its effective determination and implementation. Hence, it is quite clear that the national security policy, in order to be in symbiosis with its determination, but also to be in dialectic with other policies, must be integral and elaborated in detail.

The ability to successfully implement Spain's national security policy is a direct consequence of the nation's power and the ability to use that power at the right time and in the right way. The power that Spain possesses in terms of security is determined by the size of the security sector, its dimension, and the equipment and armaments at its disposal, and through its ability to mobilize to-

tal human and material resources in complex security situations in the direction of protection of vital national interests. This manifestation also means the ability to deal with sources of threat to national security, ranging from prevention to effective management in complex security situations.

**Literature:**

- ARRIGO, B. A. 2018 *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Surveillance, Security, and Privacy*. SAGE Publications, Inc..
- MARAVALL, J., M., SANTAMARIA, J. 1998 "El cambio político en España y las perspectivas de la democracia" Buenos Aires, Argentina: Paidós. Marín.
- LANSFORD T. 2019 *Political Handbook of the World 2018–2019*, CQ Pressan imprint of SAGE.
- ROSE R., 1987 *Ministers and Ministries, A Functional Analysis*, Clarendon Press, Oxford.
- RADOSAVLJEVIĆ D., 2011 *Savtemeni politički i pravni sistemi*. Fakultet za pravne i poslovne studije Dr. Lazar Vrkatić, Novi Sad.
- HUNTINGTON P., S. 1959 *The Soldier and the State*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- HUNTLEY, J., R. 1998 *Pax Democratica: A Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire Palgrave, MacMillan
- HILSMAN R., 1993 *The Politics of Policy Making in Defense and Foreign Affairs*. Prentice-Hall.

**Internet Sources:**

- Bankarstvo.mk  
<https://bankarstvo.mk/>
- Gobierno de España. Government of Spain  
[https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/gobierno/councilministers/history/Paginas/20140509\\_History\\_CMinisters.aspx](https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/gobierno/councilministers/history/Paginas/20140509_History_CMinisters.aspx)
- Gobierno de España. Government of Spain.  
<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/espana/historyandculture/Paginas/index.aspx>.
- National CyberSecurity Strategy CCN-CERT-CNI, Presidency of the Government, 2013.  
<https://www.ccn-cert.cni.es> ›
- National Security Strategy for Spain, 2017. Presidency of the Government.  
[https://www.dsn.gob.es/sites/dsn/files/2017\\_Spanish\\_National\\_Security\\_Strategy\\_0.pdf](https://www.dsn.gob.es/sites/dsn/files/2017_Spanish_National_Security_Strategy_0.pdf)
- Spain's Constitution of 1978 with Amendments through 2011.  
[https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Spain\\_2011.pdf?lang=en](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Spain_2011.pdf?lang=en)
- The Spanish Security Strategy EES, 2011. Everyone's responsibility, Gobierno de Espana.  
[https://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication\\_series/monographs/monographs/the\\_spanish\\_security\\_strategy\\_ees\\_everyone\\_s\\_responsibility](https://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication_series/monographs/monographs/the_spanish_security_strategy_ees_everyone_s_responsibility)
- The World Factbook: Europe: Spain.  
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sp.html>

