

A CEMISS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

# FROM THE ADRIATIC TO THE CAUCASUS

## VIABLE DYNAMICS OF STABILIZATION

Edited by Stefano Bianchini and Susan L. Woodward



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Longo Editore Ravenna

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## FOREWORD

Beginning with their 2000 research programme, CeMISS has entrusted the Centre, under the direction of Prof. Bianchini, with a wide mandate of research. The objective was to locate and deepen our understanding of regional processes for stabilization or destabilization, above all in Southeastern Europe, so as to identify the most significant elements for consideration in crisis management and peacebuilding in fragile regions.

The very interesting results of this research at this stage will, of course, be subject to further improvement, particularly in regard to the complex mechanisms – involving both internal and external factors – by which the chain of events in crisis areas are to be explained. In the view of CeMISS, however, there is also much to be gained culturally by permitting disclosure to the international relations community of the results thus far, even while it retains rights to the intellectual property involved.

# EUROPE AND THE BALKANS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

COSTITUITO ALLA FINE DEL 1993 CON IL SOSTEGNO FINANZIARIO DELL'UNIONE EUROPEA (PROGRAMMA HUMAN CAPITAL AND MOBILITY), IL NETWORK INTERNAZIONALE "EUROPE AND THE BALKANS" SI AVVALE DELLA COOPERAZIONE DI ALCUNI FRA I PIÙ NOTI STUDIOSI DELL'EUROPA E DEGLI STATI UNITI. IL NETWORK NASCE COME INIZIATIVA UNIVERSITARIA E CON L'AMBIZIONE DI SVILUPPARE CONVERGENZA STRETTA FRA RICERCA SCIENTIFICA ED ESIGENZE DI INFORMAZIONE QUOTIDIANA NELLA NOSTRA SOCIETÀ.

THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK "EUROPE AND THE BALKANS" WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE END OF 1993 WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (HUMAN CAPITAL AND MOBILITY PROGRAMME) AND RELIES ON THE COLLABORATION OF SOME OF THE BEST-KNOWN EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN SCHOLARS. THE INITIATIVE WAS CONCEIVED AS A UNIVERSITY PROJECT, AIMING TO MAKE ACADEMIC RESEARCH MORE RELEVANT TO THE WIDESPREAD NEED FOR INFORMATION.



Università di Bologna

Following upon a previous research project on the dynamics of destabilization in the Adriatic-Caspian corridor (published in this series in 2001), this volume explores some viable conditions for its stabilization. An international team of prominent area experts reminds Western policy makers of the importance of stabilizing the countries bordering an enlarged European Union; the dangers of neglecting them in the wake of the anti-terrorist campaign that has followed the attacks against the USA on September 11th; and the relevance of key factors they identify for sustainable stabilization after a decade of instability and war. Structured as a series of thematic chapters and seven case studies (Abkhazia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, Kosovo, Macedonia, Nagorno-Karabakh, and Serbia), the book emphasizes the crucial interdependence of local and external factors and suggests that democratization and selective incentives are not sufficient tools if they are not supported by a long-term strategy for effective state building, regional cooperation, and the genuine prospect of EU membership for the Balkans and at least a policy of reassurance and standardization for the North-East Black Sea area. Such a framework significantly increases the prospect that controversial issues related to minorities, territories, balance of power, and a market economy - as well as the challenges of globalization to nation states - can and will gradually find solutions.



*Centro Militare di Studi Strategici*

The CeMiSS (Military Centre for Strategic Studies) is an organization that, under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence, organizes research on subjects of strategic matter. Founded in 1987 by a decree of the Ministry of Defence, CeMiSS carries out its work with the help of Italian or foreign experts that are authorized to express their own thought on the topics dealt with, in both the military and civilian field. Therefore, the content of the published studies exclusively reflects the opinion of the research group and not of the Ministry of Defence. A Scientific Committee, chaired by the Italian Minister of Defence, sets the guidelines for the Centre's activities; while the Board of Directors defines the annual programs. The Director is a Major General, a Brigadier General or an Admiral, who is assisted by an Executive Committee. CeMiSS also organizes and promotes national and international conferences and seminars dealing with general interest issues in the strategic, political, technical, scientific, industrial and sociological fields.

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