

EDITORIAL


Our first article in this edition, “Idealizing a Space Cluster in Alcântara, Brazil,” by Bruno Martini et al. advocates for the transformation of the Alcântara Launch Center in Brazil into a space center with full spaceport capabilities, providing Brazil with the capability to autonomously access outer space and transport payloads. We then follow with “Trafficking for a Cause: A Historical Analysis of Cuban Governmental Involvement in the Western Hemispheric Drug Trade,” by Alan Cunningham. The article analyzes how Cuba’s involvement in the drug trade was used as a foreign policy tool to sow chaos amongst their enemies and achieve Cuba’s foreign policy goals in Central and Southern America.

Our next article, “US Disaster Response Aid in US Southern Command Region: An Effective Tool for Maintaining Primacy in a Disaster-Prone Strategic Arena with China?” by Capt Karen Mae Salvaggio, USAF, discusses how disaster response aid is one of the few aspects of foreign policy in Latin America and the Caribbean where the US is significantly ahead of China.

Next, we present an article by CAPT (Ret.) Daniel Rojas Sánchez, and CAPT (Ret.) Germán Afanador Ceballos, Colombian Navy, analyzing the “The Intersection between Military Leadership and Bioethics” and the need for a paradigm shift in military education and training to eliminate the recurrence of military ethical failures.

In continuation with our partnership with the USAF Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs, we present an article by Dr. Evan Ellis, “The Impact of the Political Orientation of Latin America, on the Advance of the People’s Republic of China [PRC] in the Region,” advocating for the US, Latin America, and the Caribbean to continue working with the PRC within the framework of transparency, strong institutions, and a level playing field, to promote the region’s economic and democratic health; with the understanding that China will not prioritize the interests of partners in the region over their own.

Finally, we present an article by Lt Col Héctor Daniel Ríos Martínez, Honduran Air Force, on the history of “Honduran’ Air Power.”



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