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Title: The Kaliningrad District in the Russian Federation military security system

Key words: Kaliningrad District, Russia, armed forces, national security.

Summary

The Kaliningrad District and its role and importance in the Russian Federation military security system is the subject of the dissertation. The dissertation was written under the direction of prof. Tadeusz Marczak. The main objective of the study was to analyze and assess the military importance of the Kaliningrad district, as well as to determine the level and nature of its potential threats for Polish security. The research problem posed at the dissertation comes down to the question: what role does the Kaliningrad District play in the security system of the Russian Federation and how will its military importance change in the future? The author has assumed a hypothesis that the importance of the Kaliningrad District in the military security system of the Russian Federation will be reduced.

The Kaliningrad District history and present day situation has been characterized in order to achieve the assigned objects of the elaboration. The changes in the international environment of Russia which that took place as a result of the break-up of the USSR, as well as Russia's relations with selected states and political organizations were described. Russia's relations with the Baltic Sea States neighboring the Kaliningrad Region as well as the relations with states and international organizations having a significant impact on the security situation in the region (United States, NATO, European Union) have been taken into account. An important part of the work was the military aspect and related issues of the potential of the Russian armed forces. The state and potential of the Russian armed forces, including the Kaliningrad region, were presented in the 1992-2016 period. Based on the available literature, the military role of the Kaliningrad Region during the USSR and Russia has been described, with particular attention to the events that have resulted in tensions increasing in the region over the last few years.

The author has attempted to draw conclusions about the role that the Baltic exclave can play in the defensive system of the Russian Federation in order to assess its real threat to Poland. For this purpose an assessment of the level of militarization of the Kaliningrad District on the background of the Russian Federation was made, and the factors determining the possibility of a hypothetical armed conflict involving Poland, connected with

the Kaliningrad District, were analyzed. Based on the research conducted, the author has shown that both the present and the future military role and significance of the Kaliningrad Region for the Russian Federation will be increasing.

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