Letter from the Editor

The *Journal of Homeland and National Security Perspectives* (JHNSP) returns after a brief hiatus. COVID-19 caused societal disruptions in all industries, which resulted in a worldwide scaling back of operations. Fortunately, thanks to the grit of Dr. Eduardo Martinez and Dr. W. Layne Dittman, the *JHNSP* endures. As a result, I'm pleased to announce that Angelo State University's (ASU) Kay Bailey Hutchison Center for Security Studies now releases Volume 7 of the *JHNSP*.

The *JHNSP* seeks to provide students with the opportunity to advance their careers. We seek robust articles that shape homeland and national security. Furthermore, the *JHNSP* allows students to read, contribute, or support the journal. The material incentivizes long-form reading and writing, which is increasingly vital as we further digitize our personal and professional lives. Likewise, its broad scope exposes readers to diverse perspectives. This edition advances security through insightful articles on intelligence fusion centers, the United States (US) Saudi Arabia strategy, and cyber threats.

President Joseph Biden's *National Security Strategy* (NSS) raises topics of the utmost importance, and the *JHNSP* articles provide a basis to examine the policy further. First, the *NSS* identified the next decade as an inflection point for the world. Second, it broke down the dividing lines between foreign and domestic policy, seeking to build resilience at home. Third, it sought to align the international order with American interests and values. Lastly, it highlighted cybersecurity as a priority. Each issue raises concerns from a security perspective. Cybersecurity blurs the domestic and foreign lines when attackers mask their locations. Moreover, shaping the international order according to American interests and values highlights the recent authoritarian and democratic divide within world politics. We must ask how the US could navigate the blurring of the domestic and foreign lines while preserving civil liberties.

One security problem is how to provide timely and actionable intelligence to decision-makers. However, we should also consider what an American citizen, afraid of mass shootings, lone-wolf terrorism, or government overreach, thinks of resiliency. Their fears highlight the new threat. Terrorists have an amorphous shape, complicating law enforcement efforts to detect and disrupt their plans. One solution to the problem might be to increase intelligence collection (e.g., National Security Agency bulk data collection). However, the perception of government overreach could legitimize their grievances. The issue is complicated. Ultimately, local security threats require local responses. One method is fusion centersð owned by state and local entitiesð that provide intelligence to decision-makers. Alison E. G. Dinong assesses the current state of fusion centers and identifies inefficiencies while providing recommendations for improvement.