

Book Review: *Forças Armadas na segurança pública: A visão militar*

Resenha sobre o livro: Forças Armadas na segurança pública: A visão militar

Abstract: The book *Forças Armadas na segurança pública: A visão militar* presents a chronology that brings together the legislation and Operations to Guarantee Law and Order (GLO) between 1992 and 2021. In addition, the authors present a range of testimonies from military authorities who were involved in operations during this period.

Keywords: Armed Forces; Public Security; Guarantee of Law and Order.

Resumo: O livro *Forças Armadas na segurança pública: A visão militar* apresenta uma cronologia que congrega as legislações e Operações de Garantia da Lei e da Ordem (GLO) no período entre 1992 e 2021. Ademais, os autores retratam uma gama de depoimentos de autoridades militares que atuaram nas Operações nesse período.

Palavras-chave: Forças Armadas; Segurança Pública; Garantia da Lei e da Ordem.

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Forças armadas na segurança pública: A visão militar (Armed forces in public security: the military perspective; our translation) was written by four authors: Celso Castro, Adriana Marques, Verônica Azzi, and Igor Acácio. It was published by Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV) press in 2023, and provided interviews with military authorities about their experiences and views regarding the role of the Armed Forces in Brazilian public security, usually implemented by the Guarantee of Law and Order (GLO). It is the result of the research project *Forças Armadas na Segurança Pública no Brasil* (Armed Forces in Public Security in Brazil), conducted from 2020 to 2022 and made possible by FGV.

The target audience comprises those interested in public security and its relationship with defense, particularly with the participation of military personnel. In this regard, the book meets readers' expectations by emphasizing the testimonies of authorities who played a direct or indirect role in defining this approach.

In the introduction, the authors provide context for the use of the Brazilian Armed Forces (AF) in public security, situating the reader within the thematic framework. They elucidate key terms related to the legal and political context that governed the involvement of the Brazilian Army, Navy, and Air Force in situations requiring public order maintenance and state action supplementation. Moreover, a chronology is presented that covers legislation and GLO public security operations from 1992 to 2021.

According to França *et al.* (2018), the use of the Armed Forces in GLO missions is not a recent phenomenon; there have been multiple historical instances when federal forces were mobilized to address internal security issues. This role is inherent to the Army, whose origins trace back to Guararapes, with interventions guided by articles of the Brazilian Constitutions promulgated and granted throughout the history of Brazil. In this context, although the 1988 Federal Constitution provides for the Armed Forces' participation in GLO missions, this intervention has sparked intense debates within civil society (Lima *et al.*, 2017), underscoring the theme's importance for social and military interaction.

The interviews, a fundamental component of the work, were conducted from April 2021 to February 2022, resulting in approximately thirty hours of audio and video recordings. In total, sixteen Brazilian Armed Forces officers were interviewed, including 13 Army Generals, one Army Colonel, and two Navy Admirals. The selection of interviewees aimed to encompass leaders who occupied privileged positions in decision-making, planning, or the conduct of public security missions.

The interviews also included the following military authorities: General Roberto Jugurtha Camara Senna; Colonel Romeu Antonio Ferreira; General Franklimberg Ribeiro de Freitas; General José Elito Carvalho Siqueira; Admiral Carlos Chagas Vianna Braga; General Adriano Pereira Júnior; General Tomás Miguel Miné Ribeiro Paiva; Admiral Reinaldo Reis de Medeiros; General Joaquim Silva e Luna; General Sergio Westphalen Etchegoyen; General Walter Souza Braga Netto; General Sergio José Pereira; General Richard Fernandez Nunes; General Edson Massayuki Hiroshi; General Sergio Luiz Tratz; and General Fernando Azevedo e Silva.

The questions for each authority were customized, and the interviewees addressed aspects related to their professional and personal experiences in major events involving the Armed Forces in recent decades' GLO operations. Some of the topics discussed include

military preparation, the prevailing doctrine at the time, interactions with other governmental agencies, military intelligence collaborations, legal support, comparisons between international United Nations (UN) missions and GLO operations, rules of engagement, and public opinion.

In conclusion, the authors highlight the legacy of the development of a legal framework by the Brazilian state for GLO operations, with the Armed Forces adapting via specific doctrine and conduct. The implementation of GLO training, incorporated into both basic recruit training and the education of future officers, reflects this evolution in anticipation of potential future deployments.

Regarding the content, the book presents a clear introduction that is only superficially anchored in the foundational literature on the subject. The absence of a more comprehensive theoretical review limits the reader's contextual understanding, especially for those less familiar with the topic. Moreover, the lack of a robust dialogue with established theories and studies prevents the text from offering a more significant theoretical contribution, which might be expected in a publication of this scope.

Another critical point lies in the conclusion, which appears in the early pages and lacks sufficient exploration of the interviews. Although the authors conducted rich and diverse interviews, the closing section falls short by not delving into the specific implications of the interviewees' statements. There is a noticeable gap in the interpretation and analysis of the data, which could have been employed to strengthen the final arguments or suggest new directions for future research.

Regarding organization, particularly in the sections dedicated to the interviews, the text exhibits aspects that hinder reading fluency. The lack of a cohesive structure and appropriate transitions between interview questions leads to a fragmented narrative, which compromises the understanding of the main arguments. For a work that aims to highlight the voices of the interviewees, a more careful organization would be essential to allow readers to clearly grasp the nuances and contributions of each participant.

The quality of the interview questions is notable, demonstrating a deep understanding of the topic by the authors. It is evident that the questions were carefully formulated to explore different dimensions of Guarantee of Law and Order (GLO) operations, prompting the interviewees to reflect on strategic, ethical, and operational aspects. This approach led to rich and detailed responses that significantly contributed to the critical analysis, offering readers a comprehensive and multifaceted view of the subject.

Moreover, the participation of military authorities is a highlight of the work, given the importance of these voices in the context of GLO operations in Brazil. The authors were assertive in selecting interviewees, including key figures who played fundamental roles in past operations. This inclusion provides a robust and authentic analysis, allowing readers to understand the complexities and challenges faced during these missions. The testimonies of these personalities enrich the content and lend legitimacy to the discussions presented.

As a strength, the richness and reliability of the testimonies are highlighted, which were carefully selected and analyzed. The interviews encompass a diversity of perspectives, covering the views of military authorities from different generations and political contexts. This diversity

not only enriches the narrative but also provides authenticity and depth to the analysis, offering readers a more complete and nuanced understanding of GLO operations.

Another strong point of the work is its textual clarity, which facilitates the understanding of the complex themes addressed. The language is accessible without sacrificing the technical precision required to address issues of national security and military operations. The fluidity of the writing allows readers to easily navigate the different sections of the book, absorbing the information effectively without linguistic obstacles—a crucial feature for reaching a broad and diverse audience.

Additionally, the detailed chronology of legislation and GLO operations presented in the work is a valuable resource that significantly contributes to readers' orientation. By organizing events and legislative milestones sequentially, the authors create a historical context that situates readers within the complexities and evolutions of these operations over time. This chronological structure not only facilitates the understanding of GLO development but also enables a more informed critical analysis of the changes and challenges encountered over the years.

As for its limitations, the book reveals an opportunity for improvement in terms of a more in-depth theoretical foundation, which would enhance the critical analysis of the subject. The authors focus on empirical data and collected testimonies but do not establish solid connections with existing theories that could enrich the discussion and offer a broader perspective on GLO operations. Additionally, there is a clear need for a more expansive concluding synthesis, considering the nature of the interviews. The rich contributions of the interviewees are not fully explored in the conclusion, resulting in a closing that lacks a robust articulation of the ideas presented throughout the text. Readers are left anticipating a final analysis that integrates these diverse perspectives, which would have provided a more comprehensive and critical view of the subject, thereby strengthening the work as a whole.

In summary, the work *Forças Armadas na segurança pública: a visão militar* significantly contributes to defense studies in Brazil. Its contemporary relevance reflects the authors' commitment to an ongoing project that offers a potential research source for future reflections and studies.

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