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Impact of the Ukraine War on the Evolution of Threat Perceptions in the Western Balkans

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Impact of the Ukraine War on the Evolution of Threat Perceptions in the Western Balkans

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Abstract. The Ukraine war has brought about changes to the security situation in Europe, which has had effects on the Western Balkans. This research paper explores how the Ukraine war has influenced the security strategies of countries in the Western Balkans. Through an analysis of these strategies the study investigates how perceptions of threats have changed among Balkan states taking into account aspects such as military modernization, border security and diplomatic efforts. By comparing security approaches after the Ukraine war this paper highlights shifts in threat awareness among Western Balkan countries and how it has led to adjustments in their national security plans. This examination provides insights into the evolving security landscape in the Western Balkans and the impact of the Ukraine war on broader European security paradigm.

Keywords: Ukraine War, Western Balkans, National security strategies, Threat perceptions, EU security environment.