The increase in world population is rocketing the request of resources. Food and energy are the main issues. So, land for harvest is one challenge, energy another.

The Arctic retains many resources (oil, gas hydrates, fish etc.) and climate change will make their exploitation more and more accessible, thanks to the decrease in ice cover,

In this context, Russia, which in making decisions does not adopt complex procedures and the long time-scale of the western democracies, is provoking both from military (with unusual underwater or air activities) and legislative points of view (with claims of exploitation of the seabed). The countries bordering the Arctic, in the meanwhile, are building or upgrading their fleets for military intervention in those waters and / or investing in technologies for the exploitation of the seabed and the safety of navigation.

China buys land in Africa and is rushing to ensure the supply of resources, food and mining, through the canals of Panama and Nicaragua plus the railway that will cross South America.

It seems a apportionment of the planet between those who can act quickly and without public accountability.

But public attention is driven towards the Mediterranean: political instability, scattered non-regular armies, immigration due to war or poverty.

Distraction/diversion.

Distracting through the Mediterranean, by increasing the tension, the fear, the inability of Europe to respond effectively in problem solving. As long as gambling will...: the Russian solution of the crisis in the Mediterranean in return for the exploitation of the Arctic. A solution that will restore the balance between the "official" countries and those self-proclaimed these, maybe assigning the control of the reduced resources of the area to few European countries. So, Russia and China take the "north" and the "south", ready to crush financially and geographically the small "middle" Mediterranean.

And US? Maybe testing different options, adopting a "check and act" approach or just shifting their interest to the issues of big data and space control.