



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to Volume 3, Number 1 of the *Journal of Policy & Strategy*—a quarterly, online and peer-reviewed journal. In the “Analysis” section, the reader will be treated to five excellent thought pieces on issues of contemporary importance. Robert Joseph, Robert Collins, Joseph DeTrani, Nicholas Eberstadt, Olivia Enos, David Maxwell, and Greg Scarlatoiu collaboratively offer a national strategy for countering North Korea that features the promotion of the rights and freedoms of the North Korean people in the broader context of unification with South Korea. Gen. Robert Kehler (USAF, Ret.), former Commander of Strategic Command, reflects on the one-year anniversary of Russia’s full-scale, brutal invasion of Ukraine, assessing the unique role nuclear weapons play in U.S. and allied security. Brian Ellison, Dennis Evans, Matthew Lytwyn and Jonathan Schwalbe catalogue weapon developments in Russia, China, and North Korea and consider their implications for the U.S. nuclear forces posture, including different approaches to adjusting in response to contemporary trends. Keith Payne writes that although the basic nature of deterrence endures, the U.S. approach must now hedge against Russia’s and China’s common goal of overturning the classical liberal world order, their use of nuclear coercion to advance that goal, and their formation of a quasi-alliance against the United States. Finally, David Trachtenberg addresses the continuing misperception that U.S. nuclear targeting policy is based on the notion of mutually assured destruction, which would require the deliberate destruction of civilian targets.

This issue also features “Proceedings” from National Institute webinars on: deterrence in a trilateral strategic environment; overcoming the roadblocks to homeland missile defense; deterring China in the Taiwan Strait; and the 2022 *Nuclear Posture Review*. Avid readers will appreciate the “Literature Review” section, which includes Susan Koch’s review of Keith Payne’s new text, *Chasing a Grand Illusion: Replacing Deterrence With Disarmament*, David Trachtenberg’s review of Ashley Tellis’s *Striking Asymmetries: Nuclear Transitions in Southern Asia*, Michaela Dodge’s review of Alexander Lanoszka’s *Military Alliances in the Twenty-First Century*, Matthew Costlow’s review of Toby Dalton, Megan DuBois, Natalie Montoya, Ankit Panda, and George Perkovich’s *Assessing U.S. Options for the Future of the ICBM Force*, and C. Dale Walton’s review of Beatrice Heuser’s *War: A Genealogy of Western Ideas and Practices*.

The “Documentation” section includes selections from a September 15, 2022, Senate Armed Services Committee hearing to consider the nomination of General Anthony J. Cotton (United States Air Force) to become Commander of United States Strategic Command. Last, but by no means least, the editors include in the “From the Archive” section Colin Gray’s 1983 *Information Series* titled *Nuclear Deterrence and the Catholic Bishops*. We hope you will find these items of interest.

