



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to Volume 3, Issue 4 of National Institute's online *Journal of Policy & Strategy*—a quarterly, peer-reviewed publication. In this issue, under the heading “Analysis,” readers will find timely articles by Dr. Mark Schneider, Dr. Keith Payne, Dr. Michaela Dodge, and Matthew Costlow. These articles address issues of contemporary relevance, including the size and characteristics of Russia's strategic nuclear arsenal, the prospects for arms control, and factors that might keep any nuclear conflict limited. In a tribute to the work of Dr. John S. Foster, former Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and a former Director of the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, the “Analysis” section also includes an assessment by Keith Payne and Matthew Costlow of how, in 1973, the “Foster Panel,” established the basic contours of U.S. nuclear deterrence policy that have endured, on a bipartisan basis, and remain helpful in today's complex deterrence threat environment.

This issue also includes interviews with Gen. Glen D. VanHerck, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), and Michael Rühle, former Head of the Climate and Energy Security Section at NATO. Gen. VanHerck discusses U.S. homeland defense posture and technology developments that are likely to affect future U.S. missile defense capabilities. He also comments on the importance of developing globally-integrated strategies and plans, the need to improve the defense acquisition process, efforts to share information with allies and partners, and the role of space in deterrence and defense. Michael Rühle assesses the relevance and applicability of NATO's security strategy to the current international security environment. He also identifies the most serious security challenges facing the West and offers his perspective on allied views of nuclear deterrence, missile defense, and arms control.

This issue of the *Journal of Policy & Strategy* also provides proceedings from National Institute's monthly online symposia, “webinars” moderated by David Trachtenberg. These proceedings are drawn from three different symposia that collectively focused on: “Restraints at the Nuclear Brink: Factors in Keeping War Limited”; “Comparing Soviet, Russian, and Chinese Influence Operations”; and “Russia's New START Suspension: Does Arms Control Matter?”. This issue's “Literature Review” feature includes three book reviews: David Trachtenberg's review of John Gentry's *Neutering the CIA: Why US Intelligence Versus Trump Has Long-Term Consequences*; Dr. Michaela Dodge's review of *Competitive Arms Control: Nixon, Kissinger, & SALT 1969-1972*, by John D. Maurer; and Matthew Costlow's review of *The Road to Pearl Harbor: Great Power War in Asia and the Pacific*, edited by John H. Maurer and Erik Goldstein.

The “Documentation” in this issue includes the Executive Summary from *America's Strategic Posture: The Final Report of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States* (2023), and select excerpts from the Department of Defense's latest report on *Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China, 2023*.

Finally, this issue's “From the Archive” feature is the Executive Summary from the bipartisan 2009 Congressional Strategic Posture Commission report. The findings and recommendations from this 2009 Commission report, when compared and contrasted to the findings and recommendations of the 2023 Commission report, demonstrate how significantly the global international security environment has changed over the past decade and a half and how the United States should adapt to these changes.

As always, we strive to make each issue of the *Journal of Policy & Strategy* informative and useful to our readers. We hope you find our efforts successful and that you find value in the contents of this issue. Above all, we thank you for your interest in and support of the Institute's work.

