

Contents

Sources of the Present

- 7 **Realism, Liberalism and the Iraq War** *Daniel Deudney and G. John Ikenberry*
Of the many conventional wisdoms of American foreign policy, none is more misleading than the notion that the Iraq War was a product of liberalism.

Commentary

- 27 **Measuring Military Cyber Power** *Nigel Inkster*
Understanding how and why cyber capabilities are developed and deployed is becoming a critical element in determining the power dynamics between states.
- 35 **Allegation, Counter-Allegation and the INF Treaty** *Douglas Barrie*
Russia's alleged deployment of a treaty-breaching ground-launched cruise missile poses serious political–military questions for European states.

44 Noteworthy

Nuclear Narratives

- 47 **Strategic Stability Under Obama and Trump** *Brad Roberts*
The Trump administration must assess how strategic stability, an organising concept for the Obama administration's strategic policy, might fit with its own guiding principles.
- 75 **Disarmament Diplomacy and the Nuclear Ban Treaty** *William C. Potter*
A little-noticed phrase agreed by the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty review conference laid the foundation for a surprisingly successful effort to achieve a legal prohibition on nuclear weapons.

-
- 109 **US Detention Policy Towards ISIS: Between a Rock and a Hard Place** *Elizabeth Grimm Arsenault*
The United States' resort to torture in responding to past terrorist threats raises questions about how the country will deal with captured members of the Islamic State.



On the cover

US president George W. Bush talks with vice president Dick Cheney and secretary of defense Donald Rumsfeld outside the Oval Office, shortly after authorising *Operation Iraqi Freedom* on 19 March 2003.

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Israel's Security

- 135 **Can Israel Survive Without America?** *Charles D. 'Chuck' Freilich*
Those blithely advocating Israeli independence from the United States should be careful what they wish for.
- 151 **The Iron Wall Logic of Israel's Space Programme** *Isaac Ben Israel and Deganit Paikowsky*
Israel's space programme both provides tangible capabilities to deal with security threats and projects a message of national might.

-
- 167 **Poland's Foreign-Policy Turn** *Kamil Zwolski*
The new Poland is no longer an engine of European integration, nor does it seem to value its relationships with Germany and France.

Review Essays

- 183 **The Black Bonaparte** *Russell Crandall*
Philippe Girard's exhaustively researched book, *Toussaint Louverture: A Revolutionary Life*, is a reminder that even the greatest among us reflect the constraints of our own times.

Book Reviews

- 191 Russia and Eurasia *Angela Stent*
196 Asia-Pacific *Lanxin Xiang*
202 Politics and International Relations *Gilles Andréani*

Closing Argument

- 209 **Rollback?** *Steven Simon*
President Trump's totalising claims about the threat from Iran are not just analytically flawed but lead to dangerous policy objectives.