# Security, Strategy and Military Change in the 21st Century

Cross-regional perspectives

Edited by Jo Inge Bekkevold, Ian Bowers and Michael Raska



### Security, Strategy and Military Change in the 21st Century

This edited volume explores and analyses strategic thinking, military reform and adaptation in an era of Asian growth, European austerity and US rebalancing.

A significant shift in policy, strategy and military affairs is underway in both Asia and Europe, with the former gaining increasing prominence in the domain of global security. At the same time, the world's powers are now faced with an array of diverse challenges. The resurgence of great power politics in both Europe and Asia, along with the long-term threats of terrorism, piracy and sustained geopolitical instability, has placed great strain on militaries and security institutions operating with constrained budgets and wary public support.

The volume covers a wide range of case studies, including the transformation of China's military in the 21st century, the internal and external challenges facing India, Russia's military modernization program and the USA's reassessment of its strategic interests. In doing so, this book provides the reader with the opportunity to conceptualize how strategic thinking, military reform, operational adaptation and technological integration have interacted with the challenges outlined above. With contributions by leading scholars and practitioners from Europe and Asia, this book provides a valuable contribution to the understanding of strategic and operational thinking and adjustment across the world.

This book will be of much interest to students of military and strategic studies, security studies, defence studies, Asian politics, Russian politics, US foreign policy and IR in general.

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In early December 2013 academics from three continents met in Oslo to discuss global perspectives on military change. This engaging and often surprising conference led to the realization that military change, its drivers and influences differ across the world and was worthy of further examination. As a result this volume was conceived of as a way to distil some of the conclusions reached during the conference.

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### **Abbreviations**

3G SAF Third Generation SAF
A2/AD Anti-Access/Area Denial
ACE Allied Command Europe
ACLANT Allied Command Atlantic
ADIZ Air Defence Identification Zone

AMS Academy of Military Science (China)

ARRC Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps

ASBM Anti-Ship Ballistic Missile ASDF Air Self-Defence Force

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

BICES Battlefield Information Collection and Exploitation System

C2 Command and Control

C3I Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence C4ISTAR Command, Control, Communications, Computer,

Intelligence, Surveillance, Targeting Acquisition and

Reconnaissance

CBS Corps Battle Schools
CCP Chinese Communist Party

CENTRIX CENTCOM Regional Intelligence Exchange System

CDU Christian Democratic Union (Germany)

CI Counter-insurgency

CIA Central Intelligence Agency CJTF Combined Joint Task Force

CMC Central Military Commission (China)

COSTIND Commission of Science, Technology, and Industry for

National Defence

COTS Commercial off the Shelf

CSDF Common Security and Foreign Policy
CSDP Common Security and Defence Policy (EU)

CSE Communications Security Establishment (Canada)

CSU Christian Social Union (Germany)

DANCON Danish Contingent

DCIS Deployable Communication and Information System

#### xviii Abbreviations

DJS Deployable Joint Staff

DJSE Deployable Joint Staff Elements
DJTF Deployable Joint Task Force

DSCO Doctrine for Sub Conventional Operations
DSD Defence Signals Directorate (Australia)
DTIB Defence Technological and Industrial Base

EDA European Defence Agency EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone

EME Electronics and Mechanical Engineers
ESDI European Security and Defence Identity
ESDP European Security and Defence Policy

ESS European Security Strategy

EUMC European Union Military Committee
EUMS European Union Military Staff
FDP Free Democratic Party (Germany)

GAD General Armaments Department (China)

GCHQ Government Communication Headquarters (UK)
GCSB Government Communications Security Bureau (New

Zealand)

GLD General Logistics Department (China)
GMTI Ground Moving Target Indication
GPD General Political Department (China)
GSD General Staff Department (China)
GSDF Ground Self-Defence Force (Japan)
ICBM Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
IED Improvised Explosive Device

IRBM Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile

IP Internet Protocol

ISAF International Security Assistance Force

ISR Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

J&K Jammu and Kashmir JSF Joint Strike Fighter

JSOC Joint Special Operations Command (US) KODAM Military Area Commands (Indonesia)

LPD Landing Platform Dock

LDP Liberal Democratic Party (Japan)

LoC Line of Control

MBT Main Battle Tank

MC Military Committee

MEF Minimum Essential Force

MFP Major Force Program

MJO Major Joint Operations

MLF Multinational Land Force

MND Ministry of National Defence (China)

MNF Mizo National Front

MPV Mine-protected Vehicle MR Military Region (China)

MRBM Medium Range Ballistic Missile

MRO Military Representative Offices (China)

MSDF Maritime Self-Defence Force NAC North Atlantic Council

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation NCCT Network Centric Collaborative Targeting

NCS NATO Command Structure

NDPG National Defense Program Guidelines

NDMC National Defence Mobilization Committee (China)

NDU National Defence University (China)

NPC National People's Congress NRF NATO Response Force NSA National Security Agency

NSC National Security Commission (China) NSC National Security Council (Japan) NSHQ NATO Special Operations Headquarters

NSS National Security Strategy (Japan)

NUDT National University of Defense Technology (China)

NWFP North West Frontier Province ODA Official Development Assistance OOTW Operations Other Than War

PAP People's Armed Police
PCG Policy Coordination Group
PFP Partnership for Peace
PKO Peacekeeping Operations
PLA People's Liberation Army
PSC Policy and Security Committee

RAP Readiness Action Plan

RMA Revolution in Military Affairs

RR Rashtriya Rifles

SACEUR Supreme Allied Commander Europe SACLANT Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic

SAF Singapore Armed Forces

SASTIND State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry

for National Defence

SDF Self-Defence Forces (Japan)

SDSR Strategic Defence and Security Review

SHAPE Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe

SIGINT Signals Intelligence

SLBM Submarine-launched Ballistic Missile SLOC Sea Lines of Communications SOCOM Special Operations Command (US)

SOF Special Operations Forces

#### xx Abbreviations

SPD Social Democratic Party (Germany)

SRBM Short Range Ballistic Missile SSBN Ballistic Missile Submarine TNI Tentara Nasional Indonesia

TNI-AD Tentara Nasional Indonesia – Angkatan Darat (Indonesian

Army)

TNI-AL Tentara Nasional Indonesia – Angkatan Laut (Indonesian

Navy)

TNI-AU Tentara Nasional Indonesia – Angkatan Udara (Indonesian

Air Force)

UAV Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

ULFA United Liberation Front of Assam

USAF United States Air Force

VJTF Very High Readiness Joint Task Force

WEU Western European Union WHAM Winning Hearts and Minds

### 1 Introduction

Jo Inge Bekkevold, Ian Bowers and Michael Raska

As the 21st century reaches adolescence, established orders are being challenged across the world. On a global level an economic and political power shift is occurring as China's rise and Asia's overall economic strength places the region at the heart of world affairs. While the US is rebalancing to Asia in response to China's potential threat to the established order, Europe is still dealing with the aftermath of the great recession and the impact of austerity. The actions of Russia in annexing Crimea and redrawing the European map have placed great pressure on European nations and NATO to engage more closely with the region's defence. But the battle between welfare and warfare continues to be waged in capitals across the Western world.

These geopolitical and economic challenges are occurring in a global environment of rapidly changing technologies and ever-increasing interconnectivity. Transnational threats and non-traditional security challenges such as terrorism and piracy are not new phenomena but pose long-term if not existential difficulties for state actors and institutions.

What is happening is not merely a shift in geographic priorities but a change from the continental to the maritime, from the asymmetric threat of insurgency to the considerations of great power politics and an alteration in capitals across the globe in how threats are perceived and should be confronted. Seen together, the developments and challenges described here amount to a fundamental shift in international security and the post-Cold War order.

This volume aims to address these shifts through examining cross-regional military change and its management. Why military change? This phrase provides the editors, contributors and ultimately the readers with the opportunity to conceptualize how strategic thinking, military reform, operational adaptation and technological integration have interacted with the challenges outlined above.

### A new security landscape in the making

As the world entered the 21st century, US military predominance was assured by a defence budget more than ten times larger than its greatest

potential competitor, China. By 2013 the disparity had been closed significantly with China's military expenditure being estimated as just under one-third of that of the US. While a gap remains, China's regional focus allows it to narrow its endeavours while the US is spread across the world, dealing with threats in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

China's new military muscle, its growing assertiveness in pursuing its international goals, and its perceived disregard for the established rules-based status quo is increasing regional tension and endangering the stability of the world's economic powerhouses.<sup>2</sup> This dynamic has been further fuelled by a complex mix of historical animosity, economic competition and ever more fraught territorial disputes.

In 2012 military budgets in Asia surpassed those of NATO European states for the first time. The five biggest arms importers between 2008 and 2012 were all in Asia.<sup>3</sup> A shift has occurred where the forefront of large-scale modern military procurement has moved from Europe to Asia. Importantly, the maritime system which sustains Asia's economy has now become the focal point of security interaction; sea power has replaced land power as the dominant reflection of national strength and prowess. The potential for a naval arms race exists, although currently competitive procurement is not quite in evidence, despite naval modernization continuing apace.<sup>4</sup> Thus the most peaceful region since the end of the Cold War has become the crucible for security in competition in the 21st century, complete with shifting threat perceptions, developing alliances and the integration of new and more powerful military technologies.

India currently finds itself on the edge of this security dynamic, but its size, location and ambition mean that it will play an increasingly important role in Asian and global security. However, it faces an extraordinarily complex array of threats. Pakistan alone ensures that India has to prepare for the combined threat of nuclear weapons (Pakistan went nuclear in 1998), conventional warfare (The Kargil War in 1999), insurgency (Kashmir), and terrorism (the Mumbai attacks in 2008).

At the same time China's rise and growing political, economic and military strength is both a concern and an opportunity for New Delhi. China has shown flexibility in solving most of its land border disputes but not yet with India, while the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) is an area where maritime ambitions could clash with dangerous consequences. The visit of Xi Jinping to India in September 2014 highlighted the potential for both competition and cooperation in the relationship. Alleged Chinese encroachment in the disputed border region coincided with agreements for Chinese economic investment in India. Prime Minister Modi has now made serious future economic cooperation contingent upon the settling of the dispute.<sup>5</sup>

Furthermore, India also plays an important role in peacekeeping and contributes to international military operations such as anti-piracy and disaster relief operations. India has, since independence, pursued a non-aligned

foreign policy, and even though it has been argued that India has 'crossed the Rubicon' in its foreign policy, and signed a nuclear deal with the US in 2005,<sup>7</sup> it wants to remain an independent actor in foreign and security policy.

Asia is not alone in having to deal with seismic shifts in its security environment. In Europe a perfect storm has been washing over the region's militaries. Economic difficulties resulting in austerity in combination with a lack of an identifiable enemy or strategic purpose and ambivalent populations weary of costly foreign operations has resulted in years of negative inertia.8

The 2012 reduction in real defence spending in Europe was 1.63 per cent, which came on top of a 2.52 per cent decline in 2011. In 2012, real defence spending fell in 60 per cent of European states. 9 NATO still maintains its aspiration for member states to spend at least 2 per cent of their GDP on defence, a goal met by few. Initiatives like 'smart defence', and pooling and sharing within NATO and the EU, may lead to some rationalization. However, many European states seem to act according to national imperatives, and capability reductions are largely uncoordinated, with significant implications for combat capacity. 10

It may be argued that such a reduction in defence spending makes sense for countries finding themselves in a relatively safe security environment. However, former NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen stated in Foreign Affairs in 2011 that 'Libya is a reminder of how important it is for NATO to be ready, capable, and willing to act'. 11 But the operation over Libya revealed gaps in key capabilities for NATO Europe. 12 These gaps were made further evident by operations over Iraq and Syria in 2014 where European contributions have been small and in some cases were hindered by a lack of capability. Further, sharp reductions in European spending on defence may have implications for NATO credibility.

Russian actions in Crimea and the Ukraine are a stark reminder of the realities of geo-politics and the potential need for core European competencies to be maintained and modernized. Russia is in the midst of a military modernization programme which has been justified through increasingly nationalist and irredentist rhetoric. NATO and the West are at the centre of a Russian view of the world where the status quo is an imposed constraint. The willingness to use force to redress this perceived imbalance is a significant threat to stability in Europe; one which requires NATO to take concrete measures to combat. The 2014 NATO summit in Wales saw the creation of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VITF) as part of a package of responses to the Russian actions. However, the new NATO Secretary-General, Norwegian Jens Stoltenberg, will be faced with the challenge of split expectations between Eastern and Western European member states in maintaining a consistent response to Russia.

Before premonitions of a new Cold War take hold, 13 it must be noted that Russia remains a relatively weak country. While its energy exports give

it a high degree of leverage over the gas-hungry states of Europe, its military, despite its large size and being bolstered by a substantial nuclear deterrent, lags behind its peers in terms of technology and training. Its economy, while being the ninth largest in terms of GDP in 2013, is dwarfed by the major economies of Western Europe. Russia accounts for 5 per cent of the world's total defence spending. While this is individually larger than any single European nation, when combined, the UK, France and Germany spending accounts for almost twice that amount. Large and NATO need to find a way to leverage their superior strength to prevent further Russian revisionism while operating within the confines of austerity and public suspicion.

The US is reassessing its strategic interests after over a decade of war and a focus on COIN. In the midst of overcoming its own economic problems and subsequent reductions in defence spending the world's largest military power is rebalancing towards Asia by increasing its diplomatic, economic and military assets in the region. This is, however, being tested by the continued proliferation of traditional and non-traditional threats across the globe. The actions of ISIS in Syria and Iraq and renewed tensions in Europe highlight the difficulty the US faces in balancing its global commitments.

In 2012, the US accounted for just under half of global defence spending (45.3%) and still outstrips that of the next 14 countries combined. <sup>15</sup> The US has been forced, however, to reduce its defence budget <sup>16</sup> and withdraw resources from Europe, <sup>17</sup> choosing instead to refocus its strategic outlook and military capabilities on Asia. <sup>18</sup> The level to which the US can continue to commit to such a wide variety of threats in such diverse geographic locations remains to be seen. Budgetary pressures and potential political disengagement call the future of US as a global enforcer of norms into question. Strategic shifts are occurring all around, and US engagement or otherwise will have a large impact upon the direction such shifts take.

Alongside this changing geo-political landscape and a renewed emphasis on great power politics, nations are facing an increasing array of non-traditional or new security challenges. Thus militaries are potentially being pulled towards a broader and broader spectrum of operations, many of which require international coordination and collaboration.

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), piracy and terrorism have been an ever-present feature in defence thinking around the globe. These threats require a broad range of responses, many of which are multilateral rather than state-centric and place further pressures on already stretched budgets. While piracy and terrorism cannot strictly be considered new threats, extant platforms and capabilities are not always the most efficient at countering them. As more state and non-state actors invest in developing cyber capabilities, the conventional use of force is increasingly intertwined with confrontations in and out of cyber space, cyber-attacks on physical systems and processes controlling critical

information infrastructure, as well as various forms of cyber espionage. The increasing complexity of cyber threats means that the distinctions between civil and military domains, state and non-state actors, principal targets and weapons become gradually blurred. How militaries balance their capabilities and operations to deal with both the traditional and the non-traditional is a key concern. At the same time, international cooperation in tackling the converging 'hybrid' threat spectrum is required.

#### Military change and its management

This volume aims to understand how militaries and nations are adapting to the external and internal instabilities outlined above. In order to achieve this, military change and its management is defined as the ongoing process of adapting, changing and improving military capabilities to handle and manage threats and risks. The success and failure of this process is defined by an intervening set of variables such as institutional and political capacity, leadership skills, technology, and economics.

In other words, managing military change is linked to strategic, organizational, and operational control and adaptability - not only in detecting new sources of military innovation, but more importantly, changing military posture quickly and easily over time in response to shifts in geo-strategic environment, military technology, the realities of cost, performance, and organizational behaviour, and national priorities. 19

How change is managed is reflected in the choices or judgements the actors in question in the case studies of this volume make and as such it is best revealed in the strategies, procurement, organization and operational means that a military employs.

We have already argued that the world is seeing significant changes in international security which, when taken together, will have major consequences for the established post-Cold War order. As a result of the changes in the security environment in Asia, Europe and the US, are we witnessing a major military change, or are the countries in question 'muddling through' in a slower evolutionary process of military change? This study proposes to examine this phenomenon by addressing both external and internal variables utilizing the following criteria:

- How do the geo-political changes and emerging new security landscape affect each country (if at all) with regard to threat perception and strategic thinking?
- How well do political, strategic elites and military institutions manage to translate threat perception and strategic thinking into doctrines, operational plans and procurement?
- What are the pathways, enablers and constraints of military change in each country, and what is the institutional capacity to manage military change?

To answer these questions it is important to calibrate our conceptions of military change. The literature on military change has traditionally portrayed the term largely in the context of the debate on what constitutes major military revolutions (MRs) and revolutions in military affairs (RMAs). According to Williamson Murray and MacGregor Knox, for example, 'military revolutions recast society and the state as well as military organizations. They alter the capacity of states to create and project military power.' In other words, military revolutions reflect a disruptive change at the grand-strategic level that transcends the operational military-technological domain. In contrast, within or alongside the cataclysmic military revolutions are lesser RMAs characterized by Murray and Knox as

periods of innovation in which armed forces develop novel concepts involving changes in doctrine, tactics, procedures, and technology ... RMAs [also] take place almost exclusively at the operational level of war. They rarely affect the strategic level, except in so far as operational success can determine the large strategic equation. RMAs always occur within the context of politics and strategy – and that context is everything.<sup>21</sup>

Similarly, Theo Farrell and Terry Terriff, distinguish major military change or 'change in the [organizational] goals, actual strategies, and/or structure of a military organization' and minor change or 'changes in operational means and methods (technologies and tactics) that have no implications for organizational strategy or structure'. More recently, Michael Horowitz equated major military innovations as 'major changes in the conduct of warfare, relevant to leading military organizations, designed to increase the efficiency with which capabilities are converted to power'. Dima Adamsky also focused on disruptive military innovation through the lens of military-technical revolutions (MTRs) or RMAs, when 'new organizational structures together with novel force deployment methods, usually but not always driven by new technologies, change the conduct of warfare'. As a conduct of warfare'.

The perennial question of what constitutes military revolutions, revolutions in military affairs and military-technical revolution has shaped a significant path in the contemporary strategic studies debate, with each term emphasizing the disruptive or 'revolutionary' character.<sup>25</sup> However, in a historical perspective, most military changes and innovations have arguably followed a distinctly less than revolutionary or transformational path, consisting of incremental, often near-continuous, improvements in existing ways and means of war.<sup>26</sup> In other words, while major, large-scale and simultaneous military innovations in military technologies, organizations and doctrines have been a rare phenomenon, military organizations have progressed through a sustained spectrum of military innovation ranging from a small-scale to a large-scale innovation that has shaped the conduct of warfare.

More importantly, the academic debate has focused predominantly on what, why and when the MRs and RMAs occur, with only limited insights on how military change diffuses, how it is managed, adopted and adapted over time. In our perspective, therefore, we attempt to conceptualize the term military change as a dynamic yet gradual (not necessarily revolutionary) process of policy change at three interrelated dimensions: strategic change focusing on changes in the global and regional security environment, and concomitant changes in defence strategy, and operational conduct; defence management embedded in the transformation of ideas and knowledge into new or improved products, processes, and services for military and dualuse applications; and *military innovation*, encompassing 'both product innovation and process innovation, technological, operational, and organizational innovation, whether separately or in combination to enhance the military's ability to prepare for, fight, and win wars'.<sup>27</sup>

In particular, policy-level changes may be defined as national-level changes and fall under the realm of grand strategy. Grand strategy is the highest level of direction in which military power and strategy is linked with political, economic, demographic, and other national resources to form a coherent direction for the employment of state power.<sup>28</sup> Thus an analysis of grand strategy would include the capacity of a state's civil and military leadership to adjust its threat assessment and grand strategic direction, to formulate and update national security strategies according to changes in a country's domestic and external security environment and to manage civil-military relations during this period of transformation.

Strategy bridges the policy and institutional levels. Identifying a single definition of strategy is a complex task given the diffusion of meanings that now surround the term. As Freedman notes, 'strategic discourse has now moved beyond its etymological roots in the arts of generals'. 29 In this volume, we use a classical definition of strategy in that it is the link between military means and political ends. The 2012 US Department of Defense Strategic Guidance - Sustaining U.S. Global Leadership: Priorities for the 21st Century Defense, for the first time signed by a US president, would fall under the definition of strategy with implications for military change. In this context, strategy is a tool with which to utilize military power and is dependent on choice and the conditions both internal and external which frame it.

On the operational level doctrine is the central element. Defining doctrine is also complex, as each country and organization utilizes and understands what doctrine is in diffuse ways. We see doctrine as a guide and, by extension, a tool of change for how to conduct strategy and direct armed forces at an operational level. Optimally it reflects a state's capabilities – in terms of technology, manpower and various other factors – its ethos, culture, training and ultimately the external and internal environments in which a military operates.<sup>30</sup>

However, to focus on strategy and doctrine in an analysis of military change has certain caveats. A doctrine in itself does not ensure institutional

change, and may be 'developed as much for political as for strategic or operational reasons.<sup>32</sup> This reinforces the need to understand how doctrine is reflected in operational success on the ground.

These three overarching levels of change may be observed in Japan's recent approach to its security. Japan is, in response to the challenge of China and other internal and external pressures, looking to adjust its constitution and by extension its policy-level posture while developing a new security strategy (enunciated in the NDPG 2014) and retooling its forces and adjusting its doctrine to meet both the challenges set by the new strategy and to take advantage of the opportunities provided by rapidly advancing technologies.

#### The structure of the volume

In looking to answer these questions this volume has selected major and medium military powers in both Asia and Europe. The eclectic mix of states, including the United States and Russia, is designed to highlight the diversity of how military change is managed on policy or grand strategy, strategy and doctrinal levels. While some states have pursued and managed military change on all three levels, others have been more restrictive in their efforts to deal with their security environment.

Part I examines military change in Asia. In a region of rising powers, US allies and sleeping giants, the chapters highlight the diversity of responses to military change. In Chapter 2, Dennis Blasko analyses the main drivers, enablers and constraints of China's rapid military modernization. He elicits the success or otherwise of ongoing military change projects and emphasizes the primacy of the political leadership in setting military modernization policy. In Chapter 3, Isao Miyaoka looks at how Japan's defence force is redefining its role in accordance with the changing regional security environment. By focusing on the National Defense Program Guidelines (NDPG) he highlights how the Japanese leadership has managed military change amidst varying levels of opposition from a reluctant populace and the seemingly intractable problems of the Japanese economy. In Chapter 4, Benjamin Schreer addresses how the sleeping strategic giant in Southeast Asia, Indonesia, is attempting to realize its renewed ambition for military change and the modernization of its doctrine, training and equipment. In Chapter 5, Bernard Loo discusses the case of the Singapore Armed Forces, the strategic context in which Singapore finds itself, and the challenges for Singapore as a small state with a conscript force embracing costly, high-technology weaponry.

Two chapters on India conclude Part I. Facing an array of threats, India makes an excellent case study for students of military change. Its operational and structural adaptations have to be assessed alongside economic growth but ever-present budgetary pressures. The extent to which India can cope with and adjust to future challenges will be a significant factor in

regional and global security. In having to deal with both conventional and non-conventional threats since its founding, India is the only nation in Asia with a sustained history of combat operations. It is a unique case in that it has had to apply lessons learned from operations while continuing to deal with extant threats. This provides an important differentiation between it, Japan and China. The two chapters address the challenges of China, Pakistan and insurgency, reminding the reader of the sheer complexity of the security challenges facing India. In Chapter 6, S. Kalyanaraman provides an assessment of the changing Indian strategies towards conflict with China and Pakistan, placing the posture of Pakistan as the key determining factor in the Indian military's various approaches. In Chapter 7, Vivek Chadha examines how the Indian Army has adapted to change in the face of challenges emerging from insurgencies and terrorism. His analysis is conducted across three major drivers of change: doctrinal, organizational and operational.

Part II addresses military change in Europe. The chapters demonstrate how austerity and disinterested publics have challenged militaries to justify their existence through the construction of contributory expeditionary forces. The Russian annexation of Crimea and the instability in the Ukraine highlights the complexity of the current strategic situation and difficulties Europe faces in attempting to manage such a situation. In Chapter 8, Sven Bernhard Gareis paints the bigger picture of military change in Europe. He argues that in facing a number of security challenges European nations will have to align their military and security policies, advocating the eventual formation of a European army to meet the region's security needs.

In Chapter 9, Katarzyna Zysk examines the motives, drivers and enablers of Russian military reforms and modernization after 2008. She looks at Russia's understanding of the geo-strategic environment and the leadership's willingness to use force to alter perceived disadvantages in the status quo. In Chapter 10, Tom Dyson examines the ability of the UK and Germany to translate the imperative of closer defence cooperation through the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) into actual policy change. Denmark is a unique case as they have approached military change in an almost corporate fashion. In Chapter 11, Mikkel Vedby Rasmussen describes how defence cuts set the agenda for redefining the mission and force structure of the Danish armed forces. He argues that the armed forces are thus no longer a fighting force that can deliver independent, joint operations but are now structured to provide key combat capabilities to larger allies such as the UK and the United States.

Part III addresses military change in the United States and NATO. In Chapter 12, Paal Hilde enlightens us on how military change is managed within an alliance, using NATO and the Combined Joint Task Force Concept (CIFT) as his case. In 2011, after 17 years of troubled existence, the NATO Military Committee unceremoniously dropped the concept.