

# The US Army War College Quarterly: Parameters

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Volume 50  
Number 4 *Parameters Winter 2020*

Article 2


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11-20-2020

## From the Editor in Chief

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### Recommended Citation

Antulio J. Echevarria II, "From the Editor in Chief," *Parameters* 50, no. 4 (2020), <https://press.armywarcollege.edu/parameters/vol50/iss4/2>

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## From the Editor in Chief

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Our Winter 2020–21 issue of *Parameters* begins with an *In Focus* contribution by Tim Hoyt and Pamela Holtz entitled, “Challenging Prevailing Models of US Army Suicide.” The authors examine the inability of current models to capture accurately or predict suicides among US Army soldiers. Hoyt and Holtz recommend the Army take a more collaborative approach to this tragic health concern.

Our first forum, *War, Gender, and Civilians*, features three articles that analyze the interactions of civilians and combatants in modern campaigns. In “Gender Blindness in US Doctrine,” Jody Prescott argues the US military needs to revise the gender assumptions imbedded in its doctrine to reduce risk to mission accomplishment and improve force protection. In “Civilians, Urban Warfare, and US Doctrine,” Andrew Bell proposes changes in doctrine to better sustain soldier health and well-being in the face of civilian mass casualties and civilian noncombatants common in today’s urban battlespaces. In “Stability Operations in WWII: Insights and Lessons,” Ray Millen reveals how skilled civil-military affairs teams can prove indispensable in the wake of successful combat operations.

The second forum, *Lessons from Afghanistan*, includes analyses of the lessons learned by two nations that participated in the International Security Assistance Force effort during the conflict in Afghanistan (2002–14). In “Contribution Warfare: Sweden’s Lessons from the War in Afghanistan,” Jan Ångström contends Sweden learned case-specific, tactical lessons, not strategic lessons, from its involvement in the war. In “Never Again? Germany’s Lessons from the War in Afghanistan,” Philipp Münch maintains Germany should not involve itself in wars intended to transform foreign societies.

The issue’s final forum, *Regional Challenges*, offers one contribution concerning India-Pakistan and one pertaining to the Middle East. In “India and Pakistan: Managing Tensions,” Philip Kao considers the recent history of border conflict between these nuclear-armed neighbors and determines they have averted nuclear crises through means other than the framework of conventional deterrence theory. In “Diverging Interests: US Strategy in the Middle East,” Christopher Bolan, Jerad Harper, and Joel Hillison suggest ways for US foreign policy to adjust to the geopolitical realities of four key nations in the region: Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Turkey. ~AJE

