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From the Editor in Chief

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From the Editor in Chief

Welcome to the Summer issue of *Parameters*. This issue consists of two *In Focus* commentaries concerning Russia's invasion of Ukraine, three forums, and the *SRAD Director's Corner*.

In our first *In Focus* essay, "Dysfunctional Warfare: The Russian Invasion of Ukraine," Rob Johnson traces Russian dysfunctionality in the conduct of the war. He also discusses how the war on Ukraine underscores six factors vital to armed conflict: adroit strategy, logistics, fighting spirit and motivation, mass, greater firepower, and technological superiority. In our second *In Focus* essay, "Putin's Invasion of Ukraine in 2022: Implications for Strategic Studies," I discuss how some of the key dilemmas in strategic studies—such as the decline of major wars, the limitations of strategic coercion, the utility of the paradigm "War amongst the People," and our current understanding of the relationship between war's character and its nature—are either challenged or refined by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The issue's first forum, *Russia and China*, includes two articles exploring important areas of strategic concern for the United States. In "Economic Statecraft and US-Russian Policy," Ryan Orsini offers a comprehensive assessment of the US-Russian economic relationship, identifying how Russia exploits strategic asymmetries to gain advantage in the so-called gray zone and how the United States can modernize its economic statecraft to sustain its ongoing economic coercion. In "Strengthen Arctic Governance to Stop Russian and Chinese Overreach," Mark Vicik examines the history of Arctic governance and demonstrates the weakness of the current rules-based order; he then provides policy recommendations for securing US interests in the region.

Our second forum, *Beyond Conventional War*, features two articles proposing different ways to think about warfare. In "Defining and Deterring *Faits Accomplis*," Brandon Colas describes *faits accomplis*, offers suggestions for how to deter them, and suggests Department of Defense leaders frame territorial disputes as a real estate market they can analyze and manipulate. In "InfoSwarms: Drone Swarms and Information Warfare," Zachary Kallenborn explores the dependence of drone swarms on information and offers insights into how this important emerging technology fits into the broader defense ecosystem.

The third forum, *Lessons from History*, consists of two essays providing historical perspectives on the character traits of successful leaders and the military-media relationship. In "Character Traits Strategic Leaders Need,"

Tami Davis Biddle identifies key leaders of World War II and highlights the qualities that helped them achieve success in the challenging roles they performed. In “Tomorrow’s Wars and the Media,” Alexander Lovelace uses military history to offer practical guidelines for how the press can be used successfully by military leaders in future conflicts.

In the final section, the second installment of the *SRAD Director’s Corner*, George Shatzer focuses on Russia’s strategy and its war on Ukraine. He reviews *The Russian Understanding of War: Blurring the Lines between War and Peace* by Oscar Jonsson and *Learning from Russia’s Recent Wars: Why, Where, and When Russia Might Strike Next* by Neal G. Jesse and shows how these books might help readers better understand Russian motivations and willingness to wage war. The books also provide insights for strategists attempting to deal with Russian aggression. ~AJE