Is Militarization Essential for Security in 2022 and Beyond?

In the 20 years from 9/11 to the U.S. exit from Afghanistan, the United States and its allies significantly expanded their military and security infrastructures. As America pivots from the War on Terror, new areas of focus have begun to take center stage, including the militarization of space and the debate over whether the U.S. and China are headed toward, or might already be engaged in, a new Cold War.

On December 14 at 3:00 PM ET, Carnegie Council invites you to attend a virtual panel on both the security benefits and often misunderstood costs of militarism for society. Click here to register.

Hosted by Carnegie Council President Joel Rosenthal, panelists will include: Elliot Ackerman, author and a former White House Fellow and Marine; Neta C. Crawford, professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at Boston University; and Ned Dobos, senior lecturer in international and political studies at UNSW Canberra.

Ethics, Governance, and Emerging Technologies

Emerging technologies with global impact are creating new ungoverned spaces at a rapid pace. In this critical moment, frameworks and approaches to govern these technologies, particularly in the international sphere, are often unclear or altogether nonexistent.

In a recent virtual event, the leaders of Carnegie Council's Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G) and the Artificial Intelligence & Equality Initiative (AIEI) discussed the ways they are working to educate and activate communities around these critical governance issues.

Watch, Listen to, or read the transcript on Carnegie Council's website.
News from Our Impact Initiatives

The U.S. Global Engagement (USGE) initiative hosted a virtual event with author Saumya Roy on her new book Castaway Mountain: Love and Loss Among the Wastepickers of Mumbai. Roy joined Senior Fellows Tatiana Serafin and Nikolas Gvosdev to discuss the people living in Mumbai’s vast Deonar garbage mountain, and how this forgotten community reflects the massive problem of waste around the world. Gvosdev and Serafin also published two new episodes of The Doorstep podcast, which premieres every other Thursday. With cyber weapons, disinformation, and mercenaries presenting new threats, how can America shore up its defense and rethink the trillions of dollars it spends on defense? In a conversation with Atlantic Council’s Sean McFate, they explored the ways in which the current paradigm of warfare is obsolete. And in an interview with Howard W. French, the Columbia Journalism School professor calls for a reckoning with history that recognizes the importance of Africa in the global conversation. Join the conversation by following @DoorstepPodcast on Twitter.

Carnegie Council’s Artificial Intelligence & Equality Initiative (AIEI) posted several new resources monitoring the current failings of AI ethics. First, in an opinion article for Fortune, Senior Fellow Wendell Wallach discussed the limitations of human connectivity in the “Metaverse,” cautioning against walking blindly into these virtual spaces. In another article with Senior Fellow Anja Kaspersen, she and Wallach described a “perfect storm” in which AI is exacerbating existing inequalities while simultaneously creating new systemic issues at a rapid pace. Plus, Kaspersen and AIEI Advisory Board Member Kobi Leins argued that the notion of any human being put in charge of overseeing complex systems, particularly those including AI, could lead to potentially disastrous consequences. Additionally, Kaspersen hosted the latest Artificial Intelligence & Equality podcast interview with King’s College London’s Kenneth Payne. Discussing the impact of AI systems on geopolitical affairs and the nature of warfare, they asked: "Are we in a new ‘horse & tank’ moment?" Finally, former AIEI Research Fellow Volha Litvinets outlined the ways in which we should be worried about AI-powered online marketing. For more on AIEI, visit carnegieaie.org.

The Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G) published a new C2GTalk interview with Vera Songwe, executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). She said that equity, justice, and transparency are needed to enable meaningful conversations around the debate on solar radiation modification. African countries have to be careful about climate-altering technologies, especially when we do not understand their consequences. Don’t miss the C2GTalk podcast series with episodes airing every Monday on Carnegie Council’s website, YouTube, Apple Podcasts, and Spotify. Also, the Initiative welcomes your feedback on their products and activities by asking for your participation in this stakeholder survey. Follow the work of C2G directly by visiting c2g2.net or by following @C2G2net on Twitter.

In Case You Missed It
As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, new questions have arisen in regards to the ethics of global vaccine distribution. In the latest episode of the Global Ethics Review podcast, University of Pennsylvania's Ezekiel Emanuel returned to discuss boosters and vaccine hesitancy and how that affects vaccine distribution around the world. Plus, he shared his thoughts on Biden administration policies concerning the travel ban due to the Omicron variant, domestic mandates, testing, and masking.

In an online exclusive for the Ethics & International Affairs journal, Fernando C. Saldivar, S.J., global policy and advocacy officer for the Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network Africa, shared a perspective from Africa on the G7’s agreement to restructure international corporate taxation. For more from the journal, visit ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org.

Carnegie Council’s programs, including our free podcasts, audios, and videos, are made possible through the generous donations of supporters like you. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the Council. We thank you very much for your support.

DONATE/JOIN To host or sponsor a Carnegie Council event, or to dedicate an event to a friend, family member, or colleague, please call Melissa Semeniuk at 212-838-4120 ext. 247.

Subscription Preferences or Unsubscribe

© 2021 Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs