

Early Warning

MIT Security Studies Program



Spring 2020-21

Quarterly
Newsletter

SSP is now on YouTube!

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SSP Virtual Hallway Chat: The World Has Gone Nuclear

SSP faculty and fellows have been busy sharing their expertise to explain key issues in nuclear security.

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Kathleen Hicks

SSP alum Kathleen Hicks was sworn in as the 35th U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense by U.S. Secretary of Defense, Lloyd J. Austin III, on Feb. 9, 2021.

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IAP with the Military Fellows

Current SSP Military Fellows presented a series of talks during MIT's "Independent Activities Period."

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Ruina Dinner

William J. Perry, former U.S. Secretary of Defense from 1994-1997, was the keynote speaker at [SSP's annual Jack Ruina Nuclear Age Talk](#), held virtually in December 2020.

Publications

[*U.S. Defense Politics: The Origins of Security Policy, 4th ed.*](#)

Harvey Sapolsky, Eugene Gholz and Caitlin Talmadge
Routledge, December 2020

[*COVID-19 and Fieldwork: Challenges and Solutions*](#)

Fotini Christia, Richard Nielsen, Aidan Milliff, et al.
PS: Political Science and Politics, January 19, 2021.

[*China and India are Pulling Back from the Brink. They've Created a Buffer Zone and Started Talks*](#)

M. Taylor Fravel
Washington Post Monkey Cage, March 3, 2021

[*Access Denied? The Future of U.S. Basing in a Contested World*](#)

Renanah M. Joyce
War on the Rocks, February 1, 2021

[*Private Eyes in the Sky: Emerging Technology and the Political Consequences of Eroding Government Secrecy*](#)

Erik Lin-Greenberg
Journal of Conflict Resolution, February 8, 2021

[Russia's New Crises on the Periphery](#)

Carol Saivetz

Lawfare, February 14, 2021

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Multimedia

Watch: [Testimony before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, hearing on "US-China Relations and Chinese Communist Party's Centennial"](#)

M. Taylor Fravel

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, January 28, 2021

Watch: [Big, If True Webinar: New Year, Fresh Threats](#)

Erik Lin-Greenberg

Harvard Kennedy School, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, January 29, 2021.

Watch: [Can Europe Defend Itself?](#)

Barry Posen

International Institute for Strategic Studies, March 5, 2021

Watch: [Starr Forum: 3.11 Ten Years Later: Disaster and Resilience](#)

Richard Samuels

M.I.T. Center for International Studies, March 11, 2021

Listen: [U.S. Launches Airstrikes Against Iranian-Backed Militias In Syria](#)

Jim Walsh

National Public Radio (WBUR), February 26, 2021

News

PhD candidates, **Emma Campbell-Mohn** and **Suzanne Freeman**, received special recognition for their work from the [Janne Nolan Prize for Best Article on National Security/International Affairs](#) hosted by the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and Texas National Security Review.

Erik Lin-Greenberg and PhD candidate, **Rachel Tecott**, were named Adjunct Fellows with the [Center for a New American Security](#) (CNAS).

John Minnich, PhD candidate, was awarded the World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship from the Smith Richardson Foundation. The fellowship supports support PhD dissertation research with a preference to "projects that could directly inform U.S. policy debates and thinking."

Richard Samuels was quoted in *The Economist*, "[The Fukushima Disaster Was Not the Turning Point Many Had Hoped](#)," on March 6, 2021.

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Alumni News

Alumni Spotlight: Ketian Zhang

Ketian Zhang is an Assistant Professor of International Security in the Schar School



of Policy and Government at George Mason University.

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Alumni Highlights

Michal Ben-Josef Hirsch's (2009) scholarly article, "[Historical Acknowledgment as an Early Conflict Negotiation Strategy: A Feasibility Study of Israel/Palestine](#)," was published in *Negotiation Journal* in December 2020.

William James (Grand Strategy, Security, and Statecraft Fellow, 2019) was awarded first prize in the Royal United Services Institute's [Trench Gascoigne](#) competition in December 2020. The prize, which dates back to 1874, recognizes original writing on contemporary issues of national and international security and defense. James' winning article, "*Between a pandemic and a hard Brexit: Grand strategic thinking in an age of nationalism, great power competition and human insecurity*," will be published in *RUSI Journal*.

Gregory Koblentz's (2004) co-written scholarly article, "[Biosecurity risks associated with vaccine platform technologies](#)," was published in *Vaccine* in February 2021.

Peter Krause (2011), launched a podcast entitled, "[Stories from the Field](#)," based off his recent co-edited book, *Stories from the Field: A Guide to Navigating Fieldwork in Political Science*.

Sarah Kenyon Lischer's (2002) scholarly article, "[Hypotheses on Agony: Field Research in a Genocidal Context](#)," was published in *PS: Political Science and Politics* in January 2021.

Caitlin Talmadge (2011), **Brendan Green** (2011) and **Daryl Press** (2001) were awarded a grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation for "Assessing and Responding to the Changing Balance of Military Power" in February 2021.



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