

Feedback to [Stuart Pearson](mailto:s.pearson@unsw.edu.au)
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Thanks to Kate Delaney &
Rhyll Vallis for feeding this.

New



[Global Security PLuS](#) was launched at UNSW on 19 July and involves US UK and Australian universities - education & research

Teaming: optimising military capability for the coming Era of Equality: 2020 to 2050

This is my favourite for the enewsletter - Liz Boulton has written this for Army as "a 'deep dive' into gender issues and Army capability. Well written and lively it synthesizes the vibe and research from a wide range of fields – cognitive science; feminism; masculinity studies; and developments in the security environment – and gives a vivid full 'gender dimension.'" [link](#) It is supported with a short [blog](#) and interview. Know: 1. Positive masculinity. 2. Wake Forces. 3. New mateship

Submarine future

This is an excellent long article on the sub and the future of the sub is one to watch; what nations do here shows a long game. By 2050 surface fleets may become increasingly vulnerable and may need to stay much farther away from littoral areas, which will be a major problem. That's because the great powers will place greater emphasis on such areas due to the changing emphasis from global to regional disputes. Subs more vulnerable to detection and far more capable but needing to avoid a crowd of UAV hunter/killer swarms. [Link](#)

DISASTER ALLEY Climate Change, Conflict & Risk

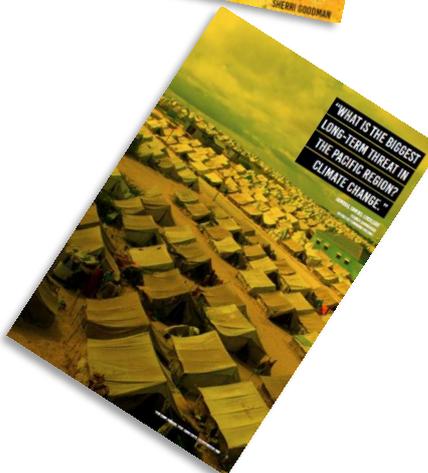
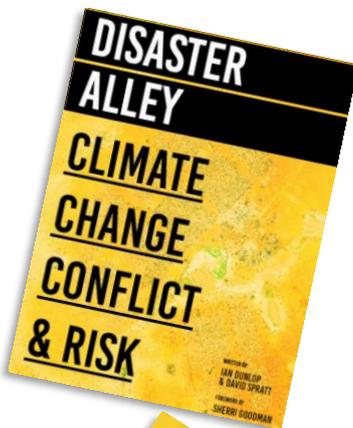
In this striking new Breakthrough report drives into the meat of climate change and conflict issues – this is the strongest call to action. With precision this goes to all the places for cowards to hide and inspires a braver response. [Link](#)

Terror in the Name of God

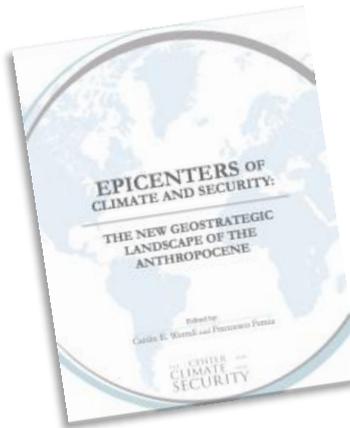
Citizens of liberal societies must learn to take religion, and the claims of religious believers, seriously.

“Ramping up security in all public arenas will continue, but in reality it can offer only limited protection – until the next attack, followed by yet more heightened measures. Increased security can only be part of a short-term response. Dislodging violent ideas from the heads of death-obsessed religious extremists takes more than imposing more bag checks or telling those being attacked to: “Run, Hide, Tell.”

Rather, it means renewing our commitment to liberty, tolerance, and the rule of law. It means reclaiming the values of western civilisation, instilling those values in every citizen, and working hard to ensure newcomers to a country are integrated into the wider society. It also means encouraging open discussion about religious ideas — including criticism of religion — without fear of attack or legal action under the guise of stamping out ‘Islamophobia’.” [Link](#)



Epicenters of climate and security:

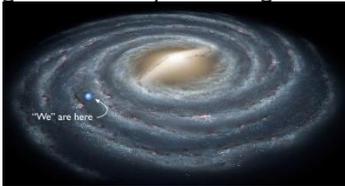


The new geostrategic landscape of The Anthropocene Using short chapters this publication identifies 12 key climatic risks to international security that could shake the 21st Century geostrategic landscape. It includes climate security practitioner's and policy-maker's toolbox (not much in it I am afraid!)

There is a [youtube](#) intro – OK probably too many circles in that video.

Chapter by Australian Michael Thomas on [Fish, Food Security and Future Conflict Epicenters](#) is good and Chad Briggs contribution on [Foresight Tools](#) is useful and timely he writes about **dark reports** “to identify what is not yet known about the subject, why it is not known, and communicate these findings to help planners anticipate potential risks associated with this uncertainty. While common practice among military and intelligence communities, scientists are often discouraged from publishing negative findings, or from communicating uncertainties to policymakers who keep pressing for accurate predictions. Yet it is necessary to map out uncertainties in order to place existing knowledge within a larger context (118)

Thinking about Big Data – [context matters in metadata](#)– a great article by Kurt Cagle



Open Source Intelligence is discussed before Chad observes that the “complexity of climate security requires effective engagement with scientists, military planners, intelligence analysts, and, crucially, local experts who can give resolution to specific impacts and vulnerabilities. While this engagement often runs counter to the secrecy of security communities, or the publishing demands of academia, it is critical for the ability to understand the broad spectrum of climate security risks, and where the impacts may first be felt.

If you haven't been paying attention then [Climate, Coffee and Security](#) might help. Shiloh Fetzek uses model result to show impact in growing areas and even to your cupful.



The Institute for Regional Security (IFRS) has EOIs on Future Strategic Leaders' Program (FSLP) Committee There is also a journal.



China

Pentagon's annual [report](#) to Congress on military and security assessment of China - two aspects overseas base construction and energy are of interest. 'China is expanding its access to foreign ports to pre-position the necessary logistics support to regularize and sustain deployments in the “far seas,” waters as distant as the Indian Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and Atlantic Ocean. In February 2016, China began construction of a military base in Djibouti Africa and probably will complete it within the next year. China says the facility is designed, “to help the navy and army further participate in United Nations peacekeeping operations (PKO), carry out escort missions in the waters near Somalia and the Gulf of Aden, and provide humanitarian assistance.” This initiative, along with regular naval vessel visits to foreign ports, both reflects and amplifies China's growing influence, extending the reach of its armed forces.' How does Australia engage with this?

US Surveys show domestic extremists tend to be much older, better educated, more affluent, more religious, and are more likely to be white than street gang members. What was learnt from gangs doesn't predict extremists – gangs don't breed extremists. With over a million young gang members in the US that's a good thing. US survey data sets using 1,473 political extremists in the Profiles of Individual Radicalization in the United States (PIRUS) dataset with 705 gang members from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSR) dataset. And Trump administration has named the large U.S. street gang MS 13 "one of the gravest threats to American public safety," [link](#)

Rapid test for [Zika](#) virus developed.

Recommended

Strategic and Military Geography
[@SMGeography](#)



Pacific Environmental Security Forum (PESF) is the U.S. Pacific Command's (USPACOM) engagement to explore solutions to environmental security issues throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. PESF purpose is to increase regional militaries' understanding environmental security issues and their environmental stewardship obligations, and coordinate efforts with civilian agencies and NGO's for whole-of-government and whole-of-society solutions. In the last meeting in Hawaii they considered Hickam Air Force Base with an [interactive map and links](#) to documents from Environmental & Real Property Branch of the USAF Pacific. The 2018 Regional Environmental Security Forum (RESF) will be hosted by Mongolia. [link](#)



[Land Power Forum](#)

Australian Army's professional development network

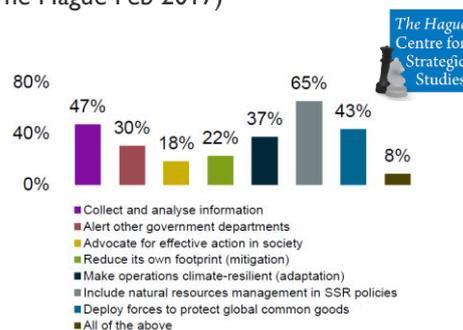


What – when - then?

- HIV is eliminated (with [CRISPR](#) gene tech). How does that affect global population growth and all the predictions of resource shortages? Then is it only made available to the wealthy?
- Battery-powered, autonomous ships [2020](#). What's to stop pirates or nations helping themselves (to the cargo, truck or ship) or moving a truck or ship (eg fertilizer/explosives) to damage critical infrastructure?
- Pocket-sized genome [sequencers +](#) (produce, detect). Will they make nonsense of current food safety, medicine and research? And then enable the rich enough to choose better food and reduce bio-risk.

Future Force Conference (The Hague Feb 2017)

[Issue Brief](#) of key takeaways including response of 100 Global Expert Group to: "What should armed forces focus on in managing natural resource challenges?" Note mitigation (in green) is low.



"Might there be a legal and ethical obligation to use 'killer robots' in lieu of 'killer humans'?" (Brooks 2016:136)



Also identified need more granular grasp of the dynamics involved in environmental risk multipliers through the use of integrated datasets will allow for enhanced situational awareness and enable timely action.

How everything became war and the military became everything: Tales from the Pentagon by Rosa Brooks

(2016) is an excellent book – highly recommended. Rosa is a law professor, journalist, Pentagon advisor and Army wife who grew up in an anti-war family. Recommends - better work on the war-peace continuum and need to develop new rules and institutions [NY Times review](#)

Did I miss something?
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Changing behavior

Using knowledge gained from practical adult volunteers (farmers) this is a summary of *know what* and *how* of behavior change by Prof [David Pannell](#). The best is [free](#) and applicable to getting behavior change and adoption.

Did you get the last edition?



Left of boom: capable governments more important than weather

Study finds while climate change is expected to lead to more violence related to food scarcity, new research suggests that the strength of a country's government plays a vital role in preventing uprisings. "A capable government is even more important to keeping the peace than good weather," Using data on food insecurity and state vulnerability on the occurrence of violent uprisings in Africa for the years 1991 to 2011. Addressing the vulnerabilities of countries is "crucial to breaking the link between food insecurity and violence," [Link](#)

Part of the [AJASN](#) stable

AJASN next meeting
9-10 August 2017