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NEW ACQUISITIONS

FOREIGN RELATIONS



Lacy, Mark, *Theorising Future Conflict: War out to 2049* New York, NY: Routledge., c2024 [CO U 21.2 .L339 2024]

This book explores the changing tactics, technologies and terrains of twenty-first century war.

It argues that the world in 2049 is unlikely to look like the climate change/artificial intelligence (AI) dystopia depicted in *Blade Runner 2049*, but nor will it be a world where conflict and war has been transformed by a 'civilising process' that eradicates violence and conflict from the human condition. 2049 is also the year that the US Department of Defense has suggested China will become a world-shaping military power. All states will be engaged in 'arms races' across a variety of new tools and technologies—from drones, robotics, AI and quantum computing—that will transform politics, economy, society and war.

Drawing on thinkers such as Zygmunt Bauman and Paul Virilio, the book suggests that future war will be shaped by three broad tendencies that include a broad range of tactics, technologies and trends; the impure, the granular and the machinic. Through discussions of cybersecurity, urban war, robotics, AI, climate change, science fiction and new strategic concepts, it examines how these tendencies might evolve in the different geopolitical futures and types of war ahead of us. The book provides a thought-provoking and distinctive framework through which to think about the changing character of war. It concludes that for all the novel and dangerous challenges ahead, the futuristic possibilities of warfare will likely continue to be shaped by problems familiar to students of international relations and the history of war—albeit problems that will play out in geopolitical and technological contexts that we have never encountered before.

This book will be of much interest to students of critical war studies, security studies, science and technology studies, and International Relations in general.

Twiss, Sumner B., *Warfare Ethics in Comparative Perspective: China and the West* New York, NY: Routledge., c2024 [CO U 22 .W365 2024]

This volume explores East Asian intellectual traditions and their influence on contemporary discussions of the ethics of war and peace.

Through cross-cultural comparison and dialogue between East and West, this work charts a new trajectory in the development of applied ethics. A sequel to the volume *Chinese Just War Ethics*, it expands the range of the earlier work and includes attention to Japan and other Eastern and Western traditions for contrastive reflection and engages with the full range of Chinese intellectual traditions for comparative analysis. The book scrutinizes pioneering works such as *the Mengzi*, *the Han Feizi*, and *the Seven Military Classics*, investigating their influence in subsequent times. It also engages with new texts and thinkers such as *the Four Books of the Yellow Emperor*, Zeng Guofan, Chiang Kai-shek, and Mao Zedong, along with examining recent writings of the scholars of the People's Liberation Army. The final section of the book identifies and discusses some emerging issues in the comparative study of military ethics, just war and peace that derive from the preceding sections. The volume editors then offer some concluding remarks at the end of the book.



This book will be of much interest to students of the ethics of war and peace, just war theory, military ethics, Asian studies and International Relations in general.