



International Security: The Contemporary Agenda

By *Roland Dannreuther*

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International Security: The Contemporary Agenda is a cutting-edge introduction to key security challenges and developments in the post-Cold War world. Drawing on a wide range of contemporary examples, it is an essential guide for students seeking to understand the theoretical and empirical debates over the fast-changing nature of international security today.

The book is clearly organized into four main sections. Section 1 provides an analytical framework for the book, identifying the most significant post-Cold War shifts in international security and recent theoretical developments in security studies.

Section 2 looks at environmental security, including the threat of resource-based conflict, most notably over oil and water, and the perceived security challenges of international migration.

Section 3 analyses the root causes of the so-called new wars, and the broader insecurity found in many regions of the South. Dilemmas and problems of intervention, including the controversial debate over humanitarian intervention, are examined in detail.

Section 4 discusses new security challenges posed by international terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It explores the strategies and policies adopted by the United States, particularly in the aftermath of 9/11.

This book will be valuable reading for students of international relations, international security and strategic studies.

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Review

"Essential reading for those who critique rationalism rather than jettison it."

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"The book sets a very high standard of scholarship which others must now strive to emulate."

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"Anyone needing to navigate post-Cold War security studies need look no further than *International Security: The Contemporary Agenda*. Dannreuther clarifies and advances critical debates even as he provides an unmatched tour d'horizon. He treats often arcane material critically, fairly and insightfully, conveying his arguments in straightforward and effective prose. This is a timely and extremely useful book."

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About the Author

Roland Dannreuther is Senior Lecturer in the School of Social and Political Studies, University of Edinburgh.

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