

Complex deterrence theory and the post-cold war security environment / Koichi Arie

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Abstrak

After the Cold War, traditional deterrence theory has come under criticism from a number of perspectives, including the reduced value of deterrence accompanying the disappearance of conflicts between major powers, and the ineffectiveness of deterrence in dealing with regional adversaries and radical international terrorist organizations. Complex deterrence theory considers not only the nuclear weapons-based dyadic deterrence of the Cold War era but also the complicated deterrence relationships that encompass countries suspected of developing nuclear weapons such as North Korea and Iran, as well as non-state actors such as international terrorist organizations. This theory also examines the use of various military technologies other than nuclear weapons, as well as nonmilitary means, in deterrence. Although the theory has yet to be systemized to the same extent as Cold War nuclear deterrence theory, it nonetheless incorporates beneficial perspectives from which to analyze the post-Cold War security environment.