



Tariffs. Export controls. More protection and promotion of strategic industries. Global defense spending at record

highs. Significant wars in Europe and the Middle East – with potentially catastrophic conflict on the horizon in Taiwan and across the Indo-Pacific.

Welcome to the brave new world of converging economics and national security – a world that’s less secure, more volatile, and far more dangerous than even a few years ago.

It’s also one less focused on the benefits of globalization and more accepting of higher inflation, lower growth and widespread trade protectionism as policymaker priorities shift from global integration to the cold logic of national security.

A series of structural shifts is today forcing policymakers from Washington, DC to Moscow, Brussels, Beijing and beyond to utilize “any tool in the toolbox” they believe will increase their respective national security and geostrategic positions in such an unstable environment.

There’s a lot driving this new geopolitical reality.

First, great-power competition between the US and China is rapidly remaking the global order – forcing countries worldwide

into new relationships with Beijing, and of course, with a more transactional, and less predictable, Trump administration.

Meanwhile, a series of emerging technologies – ranging from semiconductors, to space, biotech, robotics, and especially, artificial intelligence – is reshaping battlefields and policy priorities as leaders grapple with the promise and perils of each.

Last but not least, climate change is increasingly acting as a “stress multiplier” to this increasingly complex geopolitical backdrop – adding grave new economic and security risks to an already fragile situation.

The following essays explore some of the latest academic thinking on these vital issues – what’s real, what’s hyperbole, and how each impacts our shifting global macro and security environments.

From the destabilizing role of AI on elections around the world, to the rising importance of cyber-security, to the destabilizing ideological shifts these factors are forcing upon Argentina and other politically-challenged societies – what follows are essential reads for anyone trying to make sense of today’s increasingly fractured, dangerous, and volatile world.

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