CALL FOR ARTICLES

THE CARIBBEAN SECURITY AND STRATEGY CONFERENCE

and

THE CARIBBEAN JOURNAL OF STRATEGIC AND SECURITY STUDIES (INCORPORATING THE MONEAGUE PAPERS)
VOLUME 1 – ISSUE 2

Theme: "World on the Brink"

General Information

The tenth annual Caribbean Security and Strategy Conference will be held in Moneague, St. Ann, Jamaica from 26th – 30th June 2017. This annual conference is hosted by the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) in collaboration with Professors from the United States Naval War College and the University of the West Indies, with support from the United States Southern Command. As in previous years, the conference and the associated academic literature will have a common theme. The theme for the 2017 conference and academic publications is *"World on the Brink"* (see below for details). Part of the role of the conference is to facilitate introductions, allow people to form collaborative teams, and start to prepare material for later publication.

The period 2016 to 2017 saw the emergence of t*he Caribbean Journal of Strategic and Security Studies (CJSSS)*, which incorporated *The Moneague Papers* – the founding publication associated with the Caribbean Security and Strategy Conference. Volume 1: Issue 1 of the CJSSS (incorporating The Moneague Papers) and the initial volume of the Moneague Papers are available to all on the Worldwide Web at https://www.bookfusion.com/store/JDF. The CJSSS is principally comprised of articles that have been developed into complete journal articles of prescribed length, structure and academic rigor. The journal also incorporates academic working papers and literary contributions (retaining the concept of the Moneague Papers) that are not developed to the extent prescribed for inclusion as journal articles.

The Call for Articles for Volume 1: Issue 2 of the Caribbean Journal of Strategic and Security Studies (Incorporating the Moneague Papers) is hereby initiated. It is intended that articles pertain to the theme: "***World on the Brink.***" The theme centres on issues that present potentially catastrophic threats to security and stability at national, regional and global levels, as illustrated below. Theme-based contributions relevant to this topic would be warmly welcomed.

Format for Articles

- The article should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document
- Papers should be written in English
- Font should be Times New Roman, 12pt and single spaced
- Referencing should comply with the Chicago Manual of Style
- The word limit is four thousand (4000) words (maximum) for each article
- Authors are responsible for obtaining copyright permission for photos and/or illustrations
- Submissions will be subject to editorial review.

Timelines

- **Abstracts/article-proposals** (maximum 300 words excluding references) and a short **biography** (between 150-200 words) are to be submitted by **7 June 2017**
- Submission date for **first drafts** is **23 June 2017.** *It is intended that the first draft be presented and discussed during the Caribbean Security and Strategy Conference, which is slated for 26 – 30 June 2017.*
- Submission date for **completed articles** is **28 July 2017.**

Submissions

Authors are invited to prepare articles specifically for the upcoming issue of the journal. Alternatively, submissions may comprise academic papers that were previously completed (provided they are not published papers/articles), as well as extracts from previously completed work, for consideration for inclusion in the journal.

Submissions and queries may be directed to the editors via Mrs Marvelyn Barnaby at cds.secretary@jdf.mil.jm. In the event of any challenge, the alternative email is hqjdf.j5@jdf.mil.jm. Emails are to be titled "CJSSS - FAO Mrs Marvelyn Barnaby."

Information may also be obtained by contacting Lieutenant Colonel Maurice Matthews at Headquarters, JDF at the following address: maurice.matthews@jdf.mil.jm.

The theme: World on the Brink

The world is entering an era of exceptional turbulence. Here are just some of the factors that could present a profound challenge to the nations of the world.

Changing patterns of global power

The current administration in the USA is less committed to international frameworks, foreign engagements and multilateral accords, while the EU is increasingly preoccupied with internal tensions caused by a combination of the perceived costs of globalization and high rates of immigration. This is creating opportunities for non-democratic countries such as China and increasingly undemocratic countries such as Russia to expand their spheres of influence. A number of other countries, such as Turkey and the Philippines have elected strongman leaders that are disregarding democratic norms and human rights. The weakening of the West, the parallel shift in the global balance of power and the ability to project influence, and changes in the perceived desirability of particular political and economic systems could undermine support for democracy itself.

Resurgent nationalism

Resurgent nationalism is rapidly changing the debate about borders, migration, human rights, and both internal and international economic disparities. It has already led to the election of President Trump, the UK's decision to leave the EU, and the rise of far-right and – in some cases – openly racist parties across much of Europe.

Nuclear proliferation

Alleged nuclear weapons programs in Iran, India and Pakistan have the potential to destabilize their regions. North Korea is trying to develop long-range ICBM capability so that it can reach targets in the USA. The USA is unlikely to allow North Korea to reach the point where it might feel able to blackmail the USA, while China appears to be losing influence over the increasingly aggressive conduct of North Korea. With unpredictable actors on both sides, the situation could escalate into the world's first nuclear exchange.

Hybrid warfare

New patterns of asymmetric warfare and terrorism are emerging. Future power struggles are likely to be fought in a number of dimensions simultaneously (space, cyber, and land) between a complex array of actors (state, terrorist, criminal and proxy), using a range of new technological options. Countries such as Russia are now skilled at hybrid warfare, using a combination of disinformation and fake news, local agents and covert state power.

Fake news

A number of countries have now reported serious attempts to influence elections with the large-scale manufacture and planting of fake news and manipulation of social media. In the most organized attacks, hackers penetrate email servers and capture personal information. Some fragments of this information are then used in slanted stories that are then disseminated by large networks of bots, mercenary and state propagandists around the world via social media, comments sections of websites and chatrooms, while fake hacktivists reach out to sympathetic journalists posing as the original hacker to 'authenticate' particular accounts. These stories are then reported in mainstream media, and so acquire credibility. At the same time, authoritative news sources that have exposed these operations are attacked as 'fake', in a way that threatens to undermine journalistic standards and weaken the concept of truth itself.

Terrorism and social media

Terrorist organizations such as ISIS/Daesh are now highly skilled at recruiting disaffected youth via social media. Many of the recruits to Daesh are alienated youth with a history of personal or psychological problems, petty crime and gang membership. Daesh offers a powerful message of glamour, violence and a sense of belonging to a great cause. As a result, some of the recent terrorist attacks in the West involved 'home-grown' jihadists radicalized via social media. It is clear, therefore, that social media has become a key battleground for terrorist and CTOC organizations, which raises important questions about the appropriate balance between privacy rights and legitimate security concerns in a new era of disinformation and terrorist recruitment.

Technological disruption

The next wave of technological innovation and change is likely to have a particularly rapid and extensive effect on economic structures and on the nature of work and employment. Many new jobs will undoubtedly be created, but a far larger number of current forms of employment are likely to become displaced, at least in the short term; recent estimates suggest that 50-80% of all current forms of employment could now be done much more efficiently and cheaply by robots. The profound challenge facing the world, therefore, is to find worthwhile activities for people no longer needed in the workforce. Any failure to do so is likely to increase the risk of disaffection, crime and terrorism, as much of the world's population could be relegated to an economically-impotent underclass.

The end of the Middle East

Much of the Middle East and North Africa (the region includes 22 countries with nearly 400 million inhabitants) may become uninhabitable within a generation. Accessible fresh water has fallen by two-thirds over the past 40 years; *per capita* availability of fresh

water in the region is now 10 times less than the world average, and is expected to fall a further 50 per cent by 2050. The Persian Gulf region, with shallow waters and intense sun, may become uninhabitable, as most of the major cities in the region could soon exceed the temperature threshold for human survival, even in shaded and well-ventilated spaces. This will have serious implications for the world's supply of oil, for patterns of forced migration, for conflict in the region, and for a new surge of terrorist activity, fueled by rage at the destruction of entire nations.

The next phase of the long war
The threat from terrorism is becoming increasingly fluid and complex. ISIS/Daesh is likely to respond to the loss of their remaining territory in Iraq and Syria by reverting to a regional insurgency and international terrorist network, with the latter focusing on small-group and lone-wolf attacks in Western nations, organized through family and gang networks and via internet/social media recruitment. The end of the current phase of the ground war in Syria will also leave an extraordinarily complex conflict between Sunni and Shia, the minority Assad regime (with Russian support) and a range of internal factions, the Turks and the Kurds, and the Iranians and the Saudis. A permanent solution would require resolutions to many issues, including questions of borders, ethnicity, identity, governance, faith, economic development, access to land, water and other resources, climate change and other environmental impacts. None of these are easy; and there is no comprehensive solution in sight. This struggle is likely to spread far beyond the region, drawing in both state and non-state actors in a war that now appears to be unstoppable.

World on the Brink
Any one of the challenges listed above would be exceptionally difficult to solve. The combination threatens to overwhelm much of the established world order, which would lead to an era of profoundly destabilizing turbulence.

<u>Articles</u>

Articles may relate to, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Exploring the dimensions and impacts of any of the above threats to global stability (or other equally profound threats not included in the list above)
- How can the threats to global stability be averted or mitigated?
- How can nations – especially smaller nations – develop strategies for survival in a world in which it appears that nothing can be taken for granted any longer?