



NATO's New Mission: Projecting Stability in a Post-Cold War World (Praeger Security International)

By Rebecca R. Moore

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Reports of NATO's death have been greatly exaggerated. Characterizations of NATO as a relic of the past do not square with the fact that the Alliance is busier today than at any time in its history. As Europe has become more unified and more democratic, NATO has assumed new layers of significance in the global security environment. In a post-September 11 world, the old 1990s debate about what is in area and what is out of area is a luxury that the Alliance can no longer afford. Decisions made at the 2004 Istanbul summit aimed at enhancing NATO's partnerships with the states of Central Asia and extending the partnership concept to the Greater Middle East reflect the Alliance's new, more global presence as do new military missions in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Sudan.

Moore argues that a careful analysis of NATO's new, more global focus suggests that it's not the nature of NATO's mission that has changed, but rather its scope. NATO is approaching its new out of area missions with the political tools developed after the Soviet threat faded in the early 1990s when the Allies agreed that, rather than merely defend an old order, they would now create a new one grounded in liberal democratic values, including individual liberty and the rule of law. Indeed, the mission of projecting stability eastward was understood to be inextricable from the promotion of these values.

This new mission required that NATO devote greater attention to its political dimension. In fact, as the United States turned to promoting democracy around the world in the wake of September 11, it ultimately sought to enlist NATO in its mission of extending democracy beyond Europe to Central Asia and the Middle East. As Moore demonstrates in her attempt to provide a full and comprehensive understanding of the new NATO, while divisions within the Alliance persist as to just how global NATO should be, the post-September 11 security environment ensures that NATO's survival depends upon its willingness to project security beyond Europe. That mission will be as much political as it is military.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Moore offers a detailed analysis of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's continuing relevance in the post-Cold War world. Beginning with the demise of the Soviet Union, Moore details the dramatic transformation of the alliance from one based on collective defense to one whose contemporary mission is to extend stability far beyond its geographical boundaries. The book depicts NATO's relevance to a Europe whole and free and the tools adopted to become an agent of change. Through enlargement, NATO has acted as a tool for democracy promotion. Moore's examination does not dismiss the negative repercussions of US actions after September 11, including the controversy over Afghanistan and intervention in Iraq, but argues that the crisis in the alliance acted as a catalyst for NATO's ongoing attempt to redefine its strategic vision. Moore posits that measuring NATO's relevance solely based on military capabilities discounts the important political role it has played in extending stability beyond Europe. The question regarding how global NATO will become may be answered by whether its identity remains a western alliance or becomes a global alliance of democratic states. Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty." - **Choice**

Review

"Rebecca Moore captures the drama behind a great historical anomaly, the transformation of an alliance after its principal enemy has disappeared. She details not just the official record of this remarkable transformation but the debates that underpin that official record. The success of this effort to prepare NATO for its new mission is of vital interest to the national security of the United States." (Hans Binnendijk, Former National Security Council Senior Director for Defense Policy and Arms Control)

"Rebecca Moore's *NATO's New Mission* is a critical contribution to our understanding of how and why the Atlantic Alliance reinvented itself after the end of the Cold War. Pundits, political scientists and IR theorists often said it could (and should) not be done. This book helps us understand why they were wrong. As NATO seeks to again reinvent itself for a post 9/11 world, understanding what happened in NATO in the 1990s and why is more important than ever." (Ron Asmus, Executive Director of the German Marshall Fund's Transatlantic Center in Brussels, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs)

About the Author

Rebecca R. Moore is Associate Professor of Political Science at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she chairs the Global Studies program. She teaches courses in U.S. foreign policy, international relations, and international security and she has published previously on NATO, U.S. human rights policy, and the promotion of civil society in China. She held a NATO-EAPC Fellowship from 2001 to 2003.

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This NATO's New Mission: Projecting Stability in a Post-Cold War World (Praeger Security International) book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by

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