

## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

It is an honor to introduce this year's Fletcher Security Review, which focuses on the reflection, refraction, and redirection of international security issues. There is no better place to study, research, and learn about security than The Fletcher School. The members of our editorial team—as well as both the makeup of our student body and interdisciplinary school curriculum—embody this theme perfectly. Fletcher students are redefining what it means to study security, and how security is viewed by academia, governments, non-profit organizations, and the private sector. When you read the articles in this year's edition, I hope you can see that security issues do not happen in a vacuum: instead, similar to light refracting out of a prism, they spread and shine on all aspects of our world and daily lives.

This edition covers a variety of international security issues, including infrastructure and connectivity; outer space, cybersecurity, technology, information warfare, and data protection; Great Power Competition and aggression; international cooperation and the role of cultural identities in security; and trade, transportation, and wildlife crime. My hope is that whether you are a professor, practitioner, or passionate international security student, you will see how each article—either directly or indirectly—interacts and engages with the others within this journal. You cannot read Samuel Bendett's article on aerial drones in Russia without considering the greater implications on drone security in other conflicts, such as those mentioned in Brigadier General Spalding's piece on China's new doctrine of warfare and Jay Batongbacal's piece on contested areas around the South China Sea. Of course, literature on technology and warfare also leads to conversations around cybersecurity, connectivity, and infrastructure resiliency, which are highlighted in the articles by Elisabeth Braw, Niva Yau, Gabrielle Lim and Joan Donovan. For the sake of not spoiling the pages to follow, I'll let our readers make further connections between these pieces.

Of course, these pieces could not have come together without the help of our entire FSR team. Despite rigorous course loads, outside work, and other community involvement, this team dedicated time and energy into ensuring that each author and article bloomed into its greatest potential. I am thankful to have worked with a wonderful peer and friend, Cameron Henley, who served as our Senior Managing Editor this year. I am also grateful for our Managing Editors, Rose Fusco and Emmaline Soderholm, who were instrumental in editing and overseeing the final publication of this journal. The journal is in the best hands with them leading next year's publication. I also want to recognize our indispensable editorial staff that worked tirelessly to solicit and edit articles throughout the entire school year. This journal could not have come together without them, and I am lucky to have worked with brilliant peers who continue to question, challenge, and redefine the security landscape.

I also want to thank the International Security Studies Program and the Fletcher Russia and Eurasia Program for their continued support of our journal. All members of our editorial team have learned from and worked with the top-tier professors who lead these programs. Specifically, our team is grateful to the guidance and generosity that Professor Richard Shultz has shown this journal throughout its existence. We have also thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with Arik Burakovsky and the Fletcher Russia and Eurasia Program as we continue to solicit from authors, artists, and other security professionals from around the world. I also want to thank Kathy Spagnoli and Alice Enos for their guidance and support throughout the journal's publication process.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to Tully Sullivan and Chan Som from Fletcher's Office of Communications, Public Relations, and Marketing team. They were instrumental in connecting us with our incredibly talented graphic designer, Pamela Maiato. Lastly, thank you to Kurt Peterson from Puritan Press for being so helpful in getting this across the finish line.

Whether you study, practice, research, or simply enjoy reading about issues related to international security, I hope that this FSR edition helps you better understand how security impacts all aspects of our world. It has been a joy to create what I see as a living document—this journal not only shows the current security landscape, but also sheds light on the interconnected and complex aspects of future security issues. Happy reading!

**Sophia Z. Warner** Editor-in-Chief