

“Alternate Security Strategies: The Strategic Feasibility of Various Notions of Security”

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From “Security” to “Security Strategies”

- a. Not as easy as it looks
- b. Linkage is unclear
- c. Strategy is difficult – or impossible
- d. Key question: will it work? (prescription vs. description, explanation)
- e. Start at end and work backwards: **what works strategically?**

Strategy Defined

- a. A plan for matching means to ends
- b. Increasing capabilities and defining and prioritizing goals
- c. Adjusting to changes on either side of the means-ends equation
- d. Dynamic, sophisticated plan
- e. Requires the management of complex organizations
- f. Multiple audiences (public, bureaucratic, allied, future legacy)
- g. Multiple executors (military, national, grand, international)

Strategy is Difficult

- a. Impossible to judge costs and risks ahead of time
- b. Policymakers and publics are not rational
 - i. Cognitive and emotional limitations
 - ii. Ignorance and lack of information
- c. Operational and organizational hindrances
- d. Democracy works against strategy
 - i. Clear preferences, calculations and consistency of choice vs
 - ii. compromise and consensus-building

[Jablonsky, Betts]

Relevance to Re-conceptualizing Security

- a. Targets (Effectiveness)
- b. Coherence (Effectiveness)
- c. Audiences (Resources): Ability to unify...
 - i. Governments
 - ii. Sub-national groups
 - iii. International organizations
 - iv. International society

Relevance to Re-conceptualizing Security

- . Who makes “new” security policies? (What level?)
 - i. Individuals
 - ii. Bureaucracies
 - iii. Governments
 - iv. International Organizations
 - ✍ Transnational/Global Public
- . Whose consciousness must change?

Traditional Notions of Security

- a. Sovereignty, protection of citizens and territory
- b. National in focus
- c. State executes strategy
- d. Targets: clear, persistent
- e. Coherence: mixed
- f. Audiences: domestic coalitions possible

Human Security

- a. Rights
- b. Individual/ group focus
- c. Identity, development
- d. Targets: how clear and persistent?
- e. Coherence: mixed and contingent upon normative hold
- f. Audiences: are coalitions possible? National or global?

[Liotta and Rogers, eds.]

Ecological Security

- a. Global sustainability and related goals
- b. Ecosystem is focus
- c. Global action
- d. Targets: global vs. transnational vs. national
- e. Coherence: high but science (information) dependent
- f. Audiences: are coalitions possible?

Re-conceived Security: An Idea or a Norm?

a. Ideas

- i. Powerful but sticky
- ii. Social psychology
- iii. IR theory/ foreign policy studies

b. Norms

- i. Weber, Durkheim vs. Marx, Mannheim
- ii. Norm diffusion
- iii. Normative “staying power”

Indicators of Effective Global/Regional Strategies: Three Examples

- a. Realism (Traditional security)
- b. Liberalism
- c. Security Communities

Realism

a. Process

- i. Leaders are concerned with relative gains
- ii. Leaders do worst-case scenario development and procure accordingly

b. Outcomes

- i. Policies aim at maximizing power and traditional conceptions of security
- ii. Cooperative acts are narrowly self-interested

Liberalism

a. Motivating Perceptual Factors

- i. Evidence, and shared views, that conflicts of interest can be ameliorated through shared information
- ii. Evidence of a concern among leaders for the shadow of the future

b. Outcomes

- i. Evidence that new information alters prior perceptions, policies or behavior in the security realm
- ii. Evidence that regime- type arrangements effectively lowers the costs of acquiring critical information
- iii. Evidence of regime- constraining effects on traditional behaviors and interests

Security Community . . .

a. Consciousness

- i. Density of transactions
- ii. Extent of transactions
- iii. Evidence of "we- feeling"
- iv Evidence of Trust
- v. Evidence of shared images

a. Impact on Significant Groups

- i. Evidence of these issues revealing themselves in key policy making groups or in public
- ii. Evidence of changes in self- conception, conceptions of others, and conceptions of future relations with others.

... Security Community

a. Outcomes

- i. Evidence of convergent interests
- ii. Evidence of spillover when agreement is not reached in one area
- iii. Overall decrease in tensions

Human Security: What should we see?

- ✍ Growing normative concerns
- ✍ Among which polities, publics, international institutions
- ✍ What kind of policies
- ✍ What kinds of progress, where
- ✍ Whose consciousness must change?

Conclusions . . .

- a. History of strategy has implications for re-conceptualizing security
- b. Targets, Coherence, and Audiences are critical and closely related
- c. We need metrics for gauging progress
- d. How are we doing re: human security, environmental security etc.?

... Conclusions

- a. What other conceptions have “strategic value?”
 - i. Security “Insurance”
 - ii. Long-term security
 - iii. Social Security
- b. Advantages and Disadvantages of Dropping “Security Label”
 - i. Human Rights
 - ii. Slavery
 - iii. Civil Rights