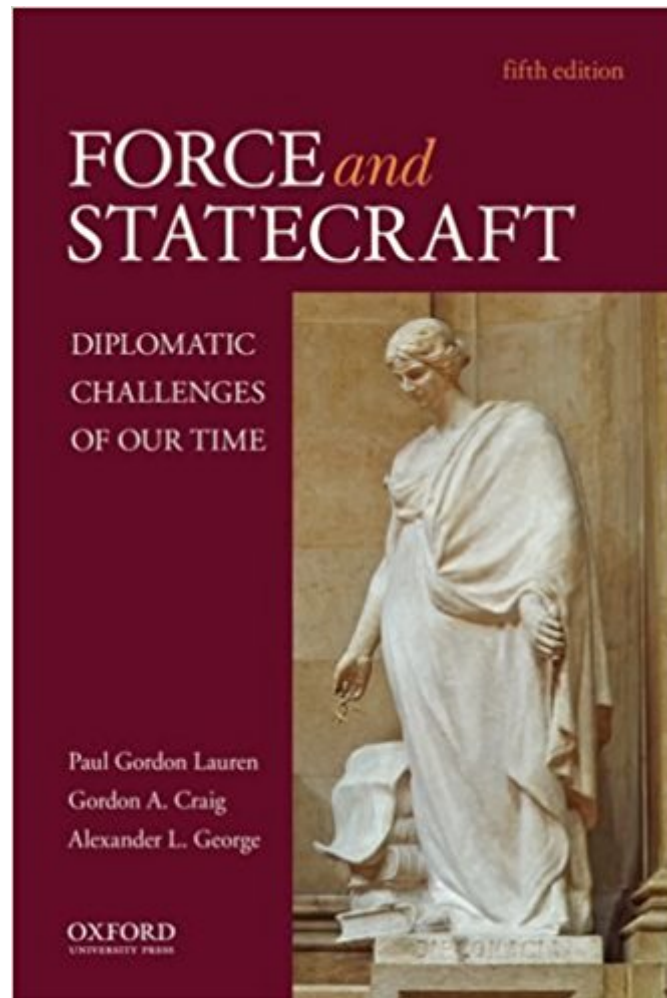




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Force And Statecraft: Diplomatic Challenges Of Our Time



Synopsis

Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Challenges of Our Time, Fifth Edition, is a concise historical discussion and insightful analysis of diplomacy. It uniquely combines history, political science, and international law in order to explore how lessons from the rich experience of the past can be brought to bear on the diplomatic challenges that we confront in our world today. This new edition combines the cumulative insights and reflections of three internationally renowned scholars--who have written more than fifty books between them--with an astute, stimulating, and up-to-date treatment of recent global developments. These include American foreign policy, the rise of China, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction in North Korea, and nuclear enrichment in Iran. Significant attention is given to the powerful impact of technology on the "digital revolution," the revolution in military affairs (RMA), drones, eDiplomacy, the "information revolution," cyber security and WikiLeaks, command and control, surveillance and reconnaissance, and social networking sites. This edition also provides a sophisticated and thought-provoking analysis of "hard" and "soft" power, the "invisibility of security," human rights, ethics, law, legitimacy, and the threat and use of force as an instrument of statecraft.

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Customer Reviews

"Force and Statecraft is a great book. It puts diplomacy front and center in the analysis [and examines] how individual state leaders navigate the challenges of international politics."--Steven Weber, University of California, Berkeley
"The straightforward writing and logical, clear organization make Force and Statecraft an ideal choice for undergraduates."--Nicholas J. Steneck, Ohio State

University" This is the best book in terms of its organization, writing, and quality of ideas as well as a superb framing of the problems and issues in the field."--John D. Stempel, University of Kentucky

Paul Gordon Lauren is Regents Professor and Distinguished Mansfield Fellow at the University of Montana and an internationally acclaimed authority on diplomacy, issues of security and peace, and human rights whose work has been translated into numerous languages and nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. The late Gordon A. Craig was J.E. Wallace Sterling Professor of Humanities at Stanford University, a renowned scholar of diplomatic and German history, and former president of the American Historical Association. The late Alexander L. George was Graham H. Stuart Professor of International Relations at Stanford University and widely known for his pioneering and award-winning work in political psychology, influence, and foreign policy.

Force and Statecraft is a standard and outstanding text in its field. This review is intended for the diplomacy hobbyist inspecting the range of authors. For the student who read this book already as a university text, the rigors of thesis research and the 500 other pages in one homework night's reading may have caused you to miss some of the book's gems. As someone who falls into both of the above categories, I found this second reading (from the fourth and fifth editions) a pleasure. "Force and Statecraft" does more than explain the evolution of diplomacy and the strategic use of force. The careful analysis defines diplomacy's application in international relations terms. It is one thing to study the theories of realism, liberalism, constructivism, security dilemma, idealism, liberal internationalism and the rest. It is another to witness these foundational concepts apart from their philosophical backers and intertwined in the thought and practice of preventing wars through global diplomacy. According to the book editors, the story of diplomacy is one of constant adaption. "...the world never stands completely still. Over time, new forces, personalities, ideas, discoveries, and technological developments sooner or later challenge existing arrangements and bring about transformations." Adaptation requires creativity and resolve. Mentioned numerous times by the authors, it also requires a deep understanding of history; considering the context in each specific diplomatic challenge. The newest edition expands the concept that the world never stand still. The necessary evolution of statecraft is driven by the same events and advances that should drive a review of the ethical application of force and human rights. The Just War Tradition might benefit from a consensus on "jus post bellum

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