

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [The Next Global War](#)

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Author(s)	Hal Brands
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Tweet: .@HalBrands notes that the global situation closely resembles that of the 1930s as three different revanchist powers find their goals in alignment, and argues that the US "would have great difficulty mobilizing for a protracted conflict."

Summary: The international system is facing three sharp regional challenges. China is rapidly amassing military might as part of its campaign to eject the United States from the western Pacific. Russia's war in Ukraine is the centerpiece of its long-standing effort to reclaim primacy in eastern Europe and the former Soviet space. In the Middle East, Iran and its coterie of proxies are waging a bloody struggle for regional dominance against Israel, the Gulf monarchies, and the United States. The fundamental commonalities linking the revisionist states are autocratic governance and geopolitical grievance; in this case, a desire to break a U.S.-led order that deprives them of the greatness they desire. Although dramatically ramping up military spending to drive down global risk is strategically essential, it seems politically inexpedient, at least until the United States suffers a more jarring geopolitical shock. In any case, it would take time—time Washington and its friends might not have—for even sizable increases in defense outlays to have a tangible military effect. Related: U.S. Weapons Industry Unprepared for a China Conflict, Report Says and Why Xi Can No Longer Brag About the Chinese Economy and Japan Raises Military Spending To Counter China With More Missiles and Ships

Primary Topic: Security

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