

continue to sustain existing regimes which seek to reduce and check the spread of WMDs. These efforts will be supported by the United States for reasons directly related to its own perceptions of national security. Other countries can point out the links between proliferation and the RMA in continued efforts to curtail the spread of all weapons and steps can be taken to monitor the trade in advanced technologies. But mitigation of the adverse impact of the RMA is likely to be more a function of political trends rather than arms control considerations, even as the specific technologies advance.

The RMA, has indeed raised serious questions about the future of arms control. But it is just one of a number of dramatic political and military trends of the post-Cold War era, not all of them detrimental to global peace and security. Given the other factors that affect the international security environment, and the very uncertainties associated with the RMA, there is reason to conclude that arms control will survive the RMA.

## CONCLUSION

This paper posits the following conclusions:

1. Whether the technologies associated with the RMA constitute a "revolution" in warfare as it has been understood in the past has not been conclusively resolved and indeed is unlikely to be in the absence of a major war, especially between states who have deliberately sought to implement the RMA. However, the RMA is more than just a new way of delivering weapons. It involves the application of the most advanced computer technologies to warfare and the implementation of changes in the organization and structure of armed forces. Led by the United States, the RMA has become integral to an American national security policy which, whether explicitly nationalistic or couched in the language of liberal internationalism, is designed to maintain American global dominance. The RMA has thus already had immediate impact on the international geostrategic environment.
2. If the RMA has fostered a measure of obscurity and uncertainty, rather than clarity, about the future of warfare, it has done no less when it comes to arms control. There are two related problems. First, is the susceptibility of the RMA itself to arms control and the second the adverse impact of the RMA on existing efforts to control WMD.
3. While there is much that is observable about the RMA, its weapons systems are not easily susceptible to our present arms control methodologies and technologies in manner that would allow for a credible arms control regime.
4. The RMA has made the international control of WMDs more difficult because it has introduced into the international security environment enhanced conventional weapons which appear to give the United States and the West even more relative military power than they already possess and which can be used to further their own vision for global stability