

Political Theme

Trends	Implications	Key Takeaways
The Re-distribution of Geopolitical Power - Continued relative decline of the West - Emergence of multi-polar order	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Challenges to the Rules Based Order	Establishment of duplicate structures and disregard of international agreements and norms
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential conflict in power transition	Emerging power may challenge status quo by use of force
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alliance cohesion challenged (Euro-Atlantic relations)	Alliance cohesion will be challenged due to increasingly diverging priorities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for improved strategic communication including public diplomacy	Potential for further improve innovate strategic narrative
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued cooperation with other actors	Need to cooperate due to decreasing capabilities

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Challenges to Governance in nearby regions - Increased risk of failing states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="388 408 967 658">• Spread of instability alongside and across NATO's borders<li data-bbox="388 658 967 789">• Spread of radicalization and extremism / terrorism<li data-bbox="388 789 967 921">• Migration caused by inter alia instability / conflict<li data-bbox="388 921 967 1165">• Importance of comprehensive security approach including use of non-military tools	<p data-bbox="967 408 1906 658">Lack of effective governance will create power vacuums with spill-over effects</p> <p data-bbox="967 658 1906 789">Radicalization will continue in failed and failing states causing local and regional instability</p> <p data-bbox="967 789 1906 921">Lack of effective governance and security in MENA and other regions in crisis will cause further migration</p> <p data-bbox="967 921 1906 1165">Military approach does not address all aspects/causes of instability</p>

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Increasing influence of Non state actors in domestic and international affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requirement for closer cooperation with Non State Actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to differentiate between 'good guys' and 'bad guys'• Need to take into account their sensitivities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Security is not limited by borders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-state actors have trans-national and trans-border influence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Existence of wide variety of non-state actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to clarify political, legal and ethical issues in dealing with different types of non-state actors

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Power politics - Use or threatening with use of military, economic, diplomatic and other instruments to achieve political ends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased potential of confrontation and conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased importance of defence and deterrence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Synergy between hard and soft power and other instruments of power	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to include both in planning and operations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased nationalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divergent perceptions of threats and risks could challenge cohesion within the Alliance• Change in defence priorities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased requirement for defence spending	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Burden sharing remains an issue

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Public discontent within the Western World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rise of populism and anti-establishment sentiment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased inward looking nationalism• Anti -EU and -NATO sentiment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of trust in elites and governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to improve effectiveness of narrative• Increase competition between sources of information

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Interconnectedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greater complexity and uncertainty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to deal with unintended consequences
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased interdependency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involves both risks and opportunities• Adversaries can leverage interdependency
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Globalization of security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need to protect critical infrastructure and lines of supply• Organized crime, terrorist organizations require closer cooperation between security entities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential counter trend of isolation	