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The Future of Land Warfare Rising Powers and South-South Cooperation Michael E. O'Hanlon Kevin Gray
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what happens if we bet too heavily on unmanned systems cyber warfare and special operations in our defense in today's U.S. defense policy debates big land wars are out drones cyber weapons special forces and space weapons are in accordingly pentagon budget cuts have honed in on the army and ground forces this after the long wars in Iraq and Afghanistan seems like an appealing idea no one really wants American boots on the ground in bloody conflicts abroad but it is not so easy to simply declare an end to messy land wars a survey of the world's trouble spots suggests that land warfare has more of a future than many now seem to believe in the future of land warfare Michael O'Hanlon offers an analysis of the future of the world's ground forces where are large scale conflicts or other catastrophes most plausible which of these could be important enough to require the option of a U.S. military response and which of these could in turn demand significant numbers of American ground forces in their resolution O'Hanlon is not predicting or advocating big American roles in such operations only cautioning against overconfidence that we can and will avoid them O'Hanlon considers a number of illustrative scenarios in which large conventional forces may be necessary discouraging Russia from even contemplating attacks against the Baltic states discouraging China from considering an unfriendly future role on the Korean peninsula handling an asymmetric threat in the South China Sea with the construction and protection of a number of bases in the Philippines and elsewhere managing the aftermath of a major and complex humanitarian disaster superimposed on a security crisis perhaps in South Asia coping with a severe Ebola outbreak not in the small states of West Africa but in Nigeria at the same time that country falls further into violence addressing a further meltdown in security conditions in Central America

this book examines the extent to which a space has opened up in recent years for the so called rising powers of the global south to offer an alternative to contemporary global economic and political governance through emergent forms of south south cooperation in contrast to the third worldism of the past the contemporary rising powers share in common the fact that their recent growth owes much to their extensive and increasingly international engagement rather than partial withdrawal from the global economy however they are nonetheless openly critical of the perceived bias towards the global north in the dominant institutions of global governance and seek to alter the global status quo to enhance the influence of the global south contributions to this volume address the question of whether such engagement particularly on a south south basis can be categorised as a win win relationship or whether we are already seeing the emergence of new forms of competitive rivalry and neo dependency in action what kind of theoretical approaches and conceptual tools do we need to best answer such questions to what extent do new groupings such as BRICS suggest a real alternative to the

dominance of the west and of the neoliberal economic globalization paradigm what possible alternatives exist within contemporary forms of south south cooperation this book was originally published as a special edition of third world quarterly

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