The readings below have links, but they may be behind a pay wall. If so, obtain them through your institution’s library.

Read at least two of the articles listed under each topic.

- **The Non-Aligned Movement**: 'Battleground' states in this current era of strategic competition are choosing to not take sides to prevent cold war proxy conflicts and contests that ended up damaging the targeted states worse than the great powers orchestrating and manipulating arrangements from abroad. Today, the Chinese Communist Party has wisely selected a range of irregular warfare tactics that 'force' the USG and our higher income partners to backtrack on our progressive foreign policy and assistance agendas into a renewed and increased 'partner of choice' narrative that, at times, returns us to big dollars and big military, big programs and big arms, and less space for Global South nation self-determination, empowerment, and internal reform. What can we do to innovate our approach while not succumbing to the neo-mercantalist tactics of our adversaries who gain favor with political elites through unclear infrastructure and loan deals.
  - [Foreign Policy on Non-Aligned Movement](#)
  - [Is Russia’s War in Ukraine Dividing the World? - Carnegie Europe](#)

- **Economic Resilience**: Communities are already facing increased climate threats that threaten their traditional natural resource utility, compromise income generation, and lead to urbanization and/or migration. The JIIM-C\(^1\) can enable economies of force in line with the National Security and Defense Strategies and the State-USAID Joint Strategic Plan where the USG role becomes more of a convener than an intervener. How might USG statecraft convene support to local resilience without having to intervene?
  - [White House National Security Strategy Fact Sheet](#)
  - [JP 3-08: Interorganizational Cooperation](#)

- **Public-Private Partnerships**: DOD (thankfully) has coined the term JIIM-C, but in reality, it's C-JIIM ("See JIIM, while 'we' do/get what we want"). We think 'glass half full' about commercial entities because it's correctly embedded deep within our constitutional and socioeconomic fabric. But not all have the same ethics, integrity and universal good in mind. What are ways in which the USG can leverage US corporations beyond mere corporate social responsibility, or at the other end, generate access to markets that minimize exploitation and/or undermine local economies?
  - [Big Oil, US Cold War Politics, and the Angolan Civil (and Proxy) War](#)
  - [Myths of Corporate Social Responsibility from Stanford Social Innovation Review](#)

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\(^1\) JIIM-C = Joint (DOD), Interagency (USG), Intergovernmental (UN, WB), Multinational (Allies/Partners + Affected Countries) plus Commercial (including NGOs and Universities).
**Rural Service Delivery:** Health, education, and agriculture in the Global South embattle constraints not too distant from what were present in the early years of globalization. Infrastructure is trillions of dollars behind the world's technological advances. Many schools, health clinics, and social service establishments look no different today than 40-50 years ago. Telemedicine, virtual education, and social media enable some relief but dirt roads are still dirt roads. Dilapidated schools and health facilities are still dilapidated. The scale of need is immense and beyond any one great power or network of allies to address. What could be done more 'by, with and through' the populations themselves with more focus on innovation paired with resiliency?

○ Global Infrastructure scene setter: G7 vs PRC intro
○ UN Sustainable Development Goal 9: Targets

**The Problem with Language:** Most in the Global North and South can agree on what today's complex problems are, how they were derived, and what should be done, in theory. When rhetoric turns to strategy and strategy turns to implementation, much gets lost in translation (it's all in English for starters...) despite apparent agreement on what gets done and more importantly, how it gets done. Leveraging local organizations and/or employing local staff does not resolve differences in how other cultures tackle systemic issues through traditional means. What are ways in which the USG can alter the strategic engagement arena to ensure traditional initiatives are entirely locally led and yet have the ability to truly overcome core constraints to development and security in their own 'trademark' ways?

○ Watch: Foreign Service Lens on Defense, Diplomacy & Development in the Compound Security Environment and Strategic Competition
○ Watch: Timor-Leste: Peace, Reconciliation and Democracy in an Era of Growing Conflict and Climate Change

**Global Climate Change and Displacement:** Climate change is often described as a “threat multiplier” in that it exacerbates existing and interacting security threats. The human security threats generated by climate change and resulting natural disasters - from loss of home and arable land, to spread of disease, expanding urban populations, and potentially conflict - will all lead to increasing numbers of displaced peoples. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that in 2022 there were 108.4 million people forcibly displaced. Importantly, most of these people are displaced internally, that is, within their own states. The issue of climate exacerbated displacement raises both human security concerns to meet the needs of those who are displaced as well as the state security concerns of neighboring states who may not have the capacity to take in refugees. What can be done to assist states to build their internal capacity to both accommodate the displacement of individuals within their borders as well as to accommodate displaced people from neighboring states? What innovative adaptation and mitigation strategies can be proposed to
assist people who are vulnerable to the effects of climate change and displacement? Should “climate migrants” be granted refugee status under international law (and if so what can the US do to support that)?

- UNHCR “Global Trends” (just skim the webpage, however the full report is there to download if interested): https://www.unhcr.org/us/global-trends

- Expanding Women, Peace and Security (WPS): in October 2000 the UN Security Council unanimously passed security council resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. The purpose of the resolution was to call on all states and intergovernmental organizations to include the overlooked experiences of women and girls in conflict to all aspects of decision making - from peace negotiations, to post-conflict resolution processes, to militaries, police and democratic institutions, and women’s rights after conflict. All member states of the UN are expected to develop a national action plan for carrying out UNSCR 1325 (indeed, over 100 states and 11 IGOs - such as NATO - have done so, although only about ⅓ of the states have allocated funding to implement their national action plan. The US, which is about to release its 4 national action plan since 2011, is the only state to have passed legislation implementing its action plan). There is robust empirical evidence demonstrating the relationship between gender equality and state conflict - the better the rights of women in a state, the less likely that state is to be involved in civil war or interstate conflict (Hudson 2012). Keeping in mind cultural differences, what innovations exist for improving gender equality in states around the world to both alleviate human distress and to boost state stability and resilience?

- Valerie Hudson. 2012. “What Sex Means for World Peace.” Foreign Policy. (See PDF)