



Editorial

This issue of *Air and Space Power Journal–Africa and Francophonie* contains international articles that highlight the importance of history in our technologically advanced society. The topics included herein range from national issues to international relations and how those relationships have influenced the necessity of modern technology. In “Fourth Generation Warfare and the US Military’s Social Media Strategy,” Dr. Christina Knopf and Dr. Eric Ziegelmeier explain the importance of creating a level playing field on the technological front. They show us the role that social media now plays in the US military and recommend that we embrace technology to gain an advantage over our opponent. The other four articles in this issue demonstrate relationships between nations and ways we can learn from the past to better formulate strategy for the future. For example, in “The Dark Side of European Integration,” Tommaso Pavone observes that the European power nations established during World War II still preside over current European Union (EU) legislation. He talks about the present EU debt crisis as well as Germany’s creation of an informal empire, an action that forced Greece’s hand, and France’s control of the agricultural market. To emphasize another historical lesson, Dr. Liselotte Odgaard unveils the effects of the Cold War on US and Chinese programs of international order in her article “In-between Order.” Dr. Odgaard explains the differences in strategy as seen in US and Chinese foreign policy, addressing how a healthy balance of the two would create an ideal global strategy. Dr. Ssebunya Edward Kasule reveals that Africa could benefit from East Asian, European, and American lessons by learning from these past mistakes. In “Self-Interest in African Regional Economic Organizations,” he unearths the power struggles among member states in Africa’s past, suggesting that they should learn from these blunders to move towards becoming more modern and globalized nations, such as those presently found in Europe or Asia. Lastly, Lt Col Jérôme de Lespinois of the French Air Force sums up the importance of diplomacy among allies in his article “What Is Air Diplomacy?” He guides us through the history of diplomacy in the French Air Force and discusses how each strategy has emerged from a lesson learned from a previous regime. The author goes on to explain the role of the air force as a political tool throughout the course of history and the means by which the French have arrived at their current strategy.

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