



U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
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NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

CSF

Current Strategy Forum

United States Naval War College | Newport, Rhode Island

June 11-12, 2024

This year marks the 73rd annual Current Strategy Forum (CSF) at the Naval War College in Newport, hosted by the Secretary of the Navy. The first CSF was held on 9 May 1949 under the title “Round Table Talks.” This event offers an opportunity for the Nation’s public servants, scholars, and senior military officers to join the College faculty and students to discuss the future strategy of the United States. Over the years, the CSF has expanded to include a cross section of America’s civilian and military leadership to encourage a wide-ranging debate on national and international security. This year’s theme:

America’s Seapower and Maritime Statecraft

The wars in Europe and the Middle East, and the danger of conflict in Asia and the Pacific, underscore the need for clear strategic guidance to provide for the security and wellbeing of the American people and the partners of the United States around the globe. In a speech at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro introduced the theme of Maritime Statecraft as a guiding principle for understanding the importance of seapower and maritime strategy in upholding an American-led, rules-based international order. The Secretary underscored the importance of strategy in meeting the challenges ahead for the United States. “I always say that I expect my Admirals and Generals to be skilled warfighters. But more so, I demand that they be strategic thinkers — that they strive first to deter our adversaries and, if called upon, be victorious during times of conflict.” The Naval War College, since its founding by Stephen B. Luce and the teachings of Alfred Thayer Mahan, has led professional military education in developing future leaders to be strategic thinkers.

This year’s forum will seek to understand the role of the United States naval forces and maritime statecraft as part of an overall national strategy to meet the strategic challenges before us.

“We are here to preserve the peace, respond in crisis, and win decisively in war.”

Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy, Chief of Naval Operations

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

DAY ONE, TUESDAY, JUNE 11

0800 Administrative Announcements

0805 Welcome and Introduction

Rear Admiral Peter A. Garvin, U.S. Navy, President, U.S. Naval War College

0810 Keynote Address: An Interview

Mr. Steven V. Brock, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Navy
with Dr. James R. Holmes, U.S. Naval War College

0845 Keynote Address: An Interview

Mr. David E. Sanger, *The New York Times*
with Dr. Derek S. Reveron, U.S. Naval War College

0930 Break

0945 Keynote Address

Dr. Andrew F. Krepinevich, Jr., Solarium LLC

1030 Panel 1

Maritime Statecraft – Past, Present, and Future

Moderator: Dr. John H. Maurer, U.S. Naval War College

Dr. Paul M. Kennedy, Yale University

Dr. Toshi Yoshihara, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments

Dr. Emily O. Goldman, U.S. Cyber Command

1200 Keynote Address

Vice Admiral Daniel Dwyer, U.S. Navy, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, N7, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

1245 Adjourn Day One

DAY TWO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

0830 Administrative Announcements

0835 Keynote Address

Dr. Elizabeth C. Economy, Hoover Institution

0930 Panel 2

Maritime Statecraft – Strategic Challenges before America

Moderator: Professor Kathleen Walsh, U.S. Naval War College

Dr. Aaron L. Friedberg, Princeton University (virtual)

Dr. Sarah K. Kirchberger, Kiel University

Dr. Michael E. O'Hanlon, Brookings Institution

1100 Break

1115 Keynote Address

LtGen Gregg P. Olson, Director, Marine Corps Staff, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (virtual)

1200 Current Strategy Forum Adjourns