



Óglaigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND



OÉ Gaillimh
NUI Galway

Change or continuity?

Ireland's Defence Forces in an era of unprecedented conflict and challenge.

In association with NUIG.

Call for Papers



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Defence Forces Review 2022 – Call for Papers

This year's edition of the Defence Forces Review examines the theme of change or continuity for Ireland's Defence Forces and western militaries more generally. Given the scale of the recent conflict in the Ukraine, the salience of Report of the Commission on the Defence Forces, together with wider societal and professional challenges, is there not now a very strong rationale for fundamental change as regards defence matters? Or should we expect little change and that a case can be made for continuity?

Papers are invited which explore this theme of change and continuity in detail. They may take as their focus any one, or a combination of the significant drivers for change identified above, or they could involve more defined case studies. Papers may be focused on Ireland, the Irish Defence Forces, but also on Western militaries more generally, or about the security context of other European or small states. However, in all cases topics should be relevant to our theme and must be of interest to the audience for the Defence Forces Review. Submissions are invited, inter alia, to address the following questions/issues:

- How does the war in Ukraine provide lessons (tactical, operational, strategic) of relevance for the Irish Defence Forces as a European small-state military-what are those lessons?
- Has the Ukraine war utterly changed European security and Ireland's part in that?
- Given the intensity and return to large-scale inter-state warfare in Europe, what role and relevance does peacekeeping now have in European security? How has the state of the art of peacekeeping been altered by a wholesale return to an era of European war-fighting?
- How does the Ukraine war challenge but also perhaps confirm Ireland's ideal of military non-alignment?
- To what extent does the war in Ukraine reveal the need for a rethink as regards the role, efficacy and reform of the United Nations as a key global security actor where Ireland has invested much political capital? More specifically, has the Ukraine conflict called into question Ireland's employment of a domestic triple lock mechanism which places UN Security Council mandates centre-stage for the deployment of Irish troops overseas?
- How are other European small state militaries and their security/defence policies changing/responding as the Ukraine war unfolds-and to what extent might their experience be relevant or of interest to an Irish audience?
- How can the many valuable recommendations of the Commission on the Defence Forces be best translated from aspirations to actions-what are the most critical things that need to be implemented and why?
- What has the return to inter-state warfare in Europe meant for the many other roles western/Irish militaries provide-aid to the civil power/authority, disaster and humanitarian assistance?
- What is the scope for change of the Irish military, or other western militaries, as regards diversity, equality, inclusion agendas to reinforce their professional ethos? What could this change look like and what challenges would it entail?
- The war in Ukraine reminds us that a core role for any military is traditional territorial defence of the nation state-but to what extent has that been lost sight of in western societies/Ireland-and why?
- Has the war in the Ukraine made the recommendations of the Commission on Defence more pressing and relevant or actually calls into question some of their relevance?

The 2022 Defence Forces Review will be published in collaboration with the National University of Ireland, Galway and we are delighted to have as part of the joint editorial team: Dr. Brendan Flynn, Comdt Shane Quinlan and Comdt Stephen Molumphy. The Defence Forces Review will be launched in December 2022.

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Based on the above, the editorial team are inviting contributions to the Defence Forces Review 2022. In the first instance, 300 word abstracts and a brief biographical note (no more than 200 words), should be submitted no later than **31st May 2022**. Based on the review of abstracts, the editorial team will invite final contributions. Final submissions should not exceed 3,000 words, should be referenced in accordance with the Chicago Referencing Style, be in Word (.docx) or equivalent format, and are due no later than **26th August 2022**. Final contributions will be subject to a full peer review process and the editorial team will make final editorial decisions. All abstracts and subsequent final submissions should be directed to dfreview@military.ie and by the deadlines stated above.