

Russia-Ukraine War: Strategic Conundrum by Bharti Das and Uday Pratap Singh, Pentagon Press, Pages: 278, Price: 1,295; ISBN: 978-8197198656

Scope, Structure, and Strategic Contribution



The book makes a significant contribution to the growing literature and analysis by researchers on the Russia-Ukraine War. The book aims to combine multiple perspectives, varying from India's national security concerns to global geopolitical shifts and regional impacts. It is divided into three broad sections i.e., India's Perspective and Strategic Response; Global Impact and Geopolitical Implications; and Regional Implications. These enable readers to grasp all dimensions of the war and also its ripple effects on diplomacy, global economy, world order and regional dynamics. The chapters on India's strategic recalibration and lessons for future hybrid warfare add fresh insights for Indian and South Asian audiences, as this is something that is often missing from Western analyses.

Writing Style, Methodology, and Accessibility

The language throughout the book is largely crisp and direct by being to the point and relying on concrete examples, historical evidence and strategic analysis. That said, some chapters begin with extended historical surveys before diving into current dynamics. Though this can enrich context, however, for a reader seeking purely contemporary analysis it can feel like a detour.

Analytical Breadth and Scholarly Rigor

It offers a thorough comprehensive analysis covering evolving warfare, global diplomacy, economic consequences and geostrategic shifts. Citations and references are relied on by all the authors from a wide array of sources, data, previous literature, referencing treaties, past conflicts and alliance dynamics.

Gaps, Limitations, and Structural Critique

The comprehensive thematic breadth leaves out certain critical dimensions like detailed military-technical assessments, frontline

operational analyses and the evolving role of emerging technologies such as artificial-intelligence-enabled targeting and cyber-kinetic integration. Some chapters are descriptive narrative rather than possessing analytical depth, creating unevenness across contributions. The book would have benefited from tighter cross-chapter integration, more comparative case studies and deeper examination of long-term implications for global security architectures and great-power competition. The book's may feel slightly disjointed to some readers owing to its organisation shifting from India-centric analysis to global context and then to a region-wise breakdown.

Overall Assessment and Recommendation

The book's strengths outweigh minor structural quibbles as it fills an important gap in existing analyses by tying Indian strategic thinking with a global view. *Russia-Ukraine War: Strategic Conundrum* is strongly recommended for anyone seeking a well-rounded, India-anchored yet globally aware analysis of the conflict. It is particularly valuable for students, policymakers, strategic-studies scholars and general readers interested in how the war reshapes international order and what lessons India and other comparable nations could draw.

Mr Neelotpal Mishra, dis