

The People's Nuclear Weapon: Strategic Culture and China's Nuclear Deterrent

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Dr. Babiarz received his PhD from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. His research concerns the historical development of China's nuclear weapons program. Over the past 15 years Dr. Babiarz has worked and studied in Shanghai, Nanjing, and Beijing, and most recently worked for the United States Department of Defense as a research analyst.

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Abstract:

Since becoming a nuclear state in 1964, China has maintained one of the smallest and most vulnerable nuclear forces among the great powers despite possessing the resources to build a larger force, presenting a puzzle to national security academic and policy communities alike. Dr. Babiarz argues that China's military culture restricted the development of its nuclear weapons program during the Mao era. This suggests that ideas about military strategy influences the development of national weapons programs.



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