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Edited by Peter R. Mansoor and Williamson Murray
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Grand Strategy and Military Alliances

Alliances have shaped grand strategy and warfare since the dawn of civilization. Indeed, it is doubtful that the United States of America would have gained its independence without its Revolutionary War alliance with France. Such alliances may prove even more important to international security in the twenty-first century. Economic and financial difficulties alone will ensure that policy makers attempt to spread the burden of securing vital interests onto other nations through alliances, both formal organizations such as NATO and informal alliances of convenience as developed to wage the Gulf War in 1991. A team of leading historians examine the problems inherent in alliance politics and relationships in the framework of grand strategy through the lens of history. Aimed at not just the military aspects of alliances, the book uncovers the myriad factors that have made such coalitions succeed or fail in the past.

Peter R. Mansoor is the General Raymond E. Mason Jr. Chair of Military History at The Ohio State University. He assumed this position in 2008 after a 26-year career in the United States Army that culminated in his service in Iraq as the executive officer to General David Petraeus, the commanding general of Multi-National Force-Iraq. He is the author of *The GI Offensive in Europe: The Triumph of American Infantry Divisions, 1941–1945* (1999), which was awarded the Society for Military History's distinguished book award and the Army Historical Society's distinguished book award. He is also the author of two books on the Iraq War: *Baghdad at Sunrise: A Brigade Commander's War in Iraq* (2008), which was awarded the Ohioana Library Association distinguished book award, and *Surge: My Journey with General David Petraeus and the Remaking of the Iraq War* (2013), a finalist for the inaugural Guggenheim-Lehrman Prize in Military History.

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Williamson Murray is Professor Emeritus in the Department of History at The Ohio State University and the Ambassador Anthony D. Marshall Chair of Strategic Studies at Marine Corps University, as well as a defense consultant and commentator on historical and military subjects in Washington, DC. His most recent books are *Successful Strategies* (edited with Richard Hart Sinnreich) and *The Iran–Iraq War* (written with Kevin Woods), both published by Cambridge in 2014, and *War, Strategy, and Military Effectiveness* and *Military Adaptation in War*, both published by Cambridge in 2011. He is co-editor of numerous books of military and international history, including *Hybrid Warfare* (with Peter Mansoor, Cambridge, 2012), *The Shaping of Grand Strategy* (with Richard Hart Sinnreich and James Lacey, Cambridge, 2011), *The Making of Peace* (with James Lacey, Cambridge, 2008), *The Past as Prologue* (with Richard Hart Sinnreich, Cambridge, 2006), *The Dynamics of Military Revolution, 1300–2050* (with MacGregor Knox, Cambridge, 2001), *Military Innovation in the Interwar Period* (with Allan R. Millett, Cambridge, 1996), and *The Making of Strategy* (with Alvin Bernstein and MacGregor Knox, Cambridge, 1994).

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and

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