

Mightier than the sword

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Note sur le contenu : Introduction : why study civilians? Who (and what) is a civilian? A framework for civilian control Civilian control after the Cold War Civilian control and the war in Afghanistan Civilian control and capabilities Conclusion : the civilian ethic

Résumé ou extrait : "The civilian role in managing the military has never been more important. Today, civilian leadership of defense policy is challenged by the blurring line between war and competition and the speed of machine decision-making on the battlefield. Moreover, the legitimacy of political leaders and civil servants has been undermined by a succession of foreign policy failures and by imbalances of public faith in the military on the one hand and disapproval of civilian institutions on the other. A central question emerges: What does appropriate and effective civilian control of the military look like? Combining scholarly expertise and firsthand civilian experience in the Department of Defense, Friend argues that civilians combine authoritative status, political expertise, and institutional power to ensure that democratic preferences over the use of force prevail. With an historical and theoretical perspective, Friend compares the standards for civilian control of the military in the American system to cases of actual civilian control choices. Using case studies from the post-Cold War and post-9/11 periods, the book focuses on the ways political context shapes whether and how civilian controllers--the civilians in

professional and institutional positions with the responsibility for defense matters--exercise control over the military and each other. Mightier Than the Sword provides insights that enrich civil-military relations scholarship, as well as lessons aimed to revitalize American democracy." (4e de couv.)

Sujet - Nom commun : Suprématie du pouvoir civil sur le pouvoir militaire -- États-Unis
Relations pouvoir civil-pouvoir militaire -- États-Unis
Politique militaire -- États-Unis