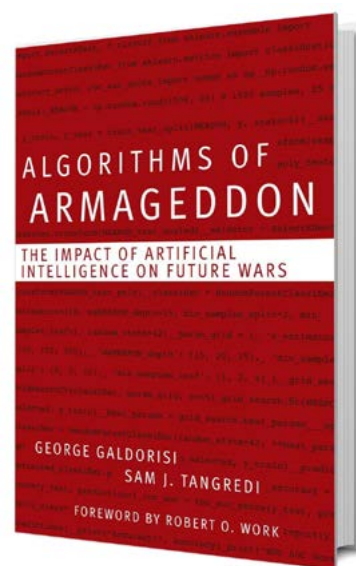


intelligence in public media

Algorithms of Armageddon *The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Future Wars*

Reviewed by Ana P.

Authors: George Galdorisi and Sam J. Tangredi
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Reviewer: Ana P. is a CIA analyst.



AI in and of itself is nothing. Militarized AI is a tool for humans to control other humans.

As we ponder the many ways in which artificial intelligence (AI) will disrupt our world, there is perhaps no subject more important for the intelligence practitioner than that of war. In their short book *Algorithms of Armageddon*, military experts George Galdorisi and Sam Tangredi deftly weave together history and technological advancements to write an absorbing work accessible to military and technological novices who bring to it an open mind and willingness to reflect on the fundamental changes our world is facing.

Galdorisi and Tangredi provide one of the most succinct backgrounds of the development of AI, unraveling the story of our exploration of knowledge and logic

and providing an absorbing history of AI. Leveraging their storytelling abilities, the authors draw the reader into the cumbersome subject in an engaging, thought-provoking manner, carefully introducing the basics of AI before exploring AI's many uses in war, and outlining the technology's stark risks.

The authors examine not only AI's use in conflict but its potential employment for other nefarious purposes. In later chapters, Galdorisi and Tangredi scope out hypothetical scenarios in which AI could play a role in future combat and the subsequent results, ably taking complex ideas and making them relatable. Instead of providing answers to the many debates the book evokes, the authors ask readers to travel with them and ask profound questions of the world we live in and what is to come.

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Algorithms of Armageddon

Oscillating between discussing AI challenges and US approaches to the issue, Galdorisi and Tangredi explore the ways in which our key adversaries are utilizing the technology, many in ways that fundamentally differ from our approaches to these tools. Perhaps the most cogent, clear, and targeted chapter is the second to last which urgently calls for a national conversation on the use of AI in military settings, while warning that the United States will lose the military AI race without a direct, significant effort.

The one downside to the text is that the authors perhaps attempt to cover too much ground in this short work. For this reader, their desire to review so many topics and information made some chapters feel chaotic and disjointed, at times giving short shrift to subjects that could have benefited from greater discussion. For example, Galdorisi and Tangredi discuss in great detail the limitations the United States faces in the application of AI but leave the reader wanting

more regarding how our allies are approaching this technology and how the US military and private industry can work together to better harness these technological advancements, among other topics.

As intelligence professionals, it is incumbent upon us to ensure we are prepared for what is to come and well versed in the benefits and risks of AI, harnessing this knowledge to enhance our work. Starting off with the building blocks of AI and military basics before delving into the hard truths and questions related to the technology's use in war, Galdorisi and Tangredi provide readers with a broad and accessible overview of these topics. For those seeking an entry to these issues, or for seasoned professionals looking for another thought-provoking book, this work will leave both groups with a solid basis of AI and war and eager for a sequel.

The reviewer: Ana P. is a CIA analyst. ■