

The Army War College honored Dr. John Deni for excellence in public scholarship

By Elena Patton 20 October 2021



Dr. John Deni, a research professor for the Strategic Studies Institute, received the Excellence in Public Scholarship and Engagement Award for his audio/video podcast about his article on disbanding the NATO Response Force.

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The Army War College honored Dr. John Deni for excellence in public scholarship during the academic year 2021.

Deni received the Excellence in Public Scholarship and Engagement Award for his audio/video podcast about his article on disbanding the NATO Response Force, published by the Atlantic Council in Feb. 2021 (linked on this page).

Deni's piece illuminates the reality that this rapid reaction force has only been utilized three times in its history but never for its intended purpose—to act as a quick response force in the event of a security crisis.

The Atlantic Council asked Deni to write a piece in preparation for the Atlantic Council summit that showcased 20 new ideas for NATO in 2020.

"I am pleased to have won an award in this category because I think it is important that we take the scholarship that we build at the War College, for example, a book, and translate that into a variety of different formats," said Deni. "We seek to educate through our scholarship but oftentimes we don't reach all of the audience if we limit our ideas to a single format."

Deni is committed to this work of distilling his work into various formats, writing op-eds and monographs, posting to blogs, and participating in podcasts and panel discussions about his research.

"My goal is to take all my scholarship and translate it into various formats so I can reach as wide of an audience as possible," said Deni.

Deni noted that this is particularly important when it comes to the sometimes esoteric topics and questions that guide his research.

The focus of his research at the Strategic Studies Institute—the research arm of the War College—deals mostly with Europe, NATO, multinational coalitions, interoperability among allied forces, forward presence, and how the alliance does what it does.

Deni has been a Research Professor of Security Studies at SSI since 2011 and teaches electives in the European Regional Studies Program. Before coming to the War College, Deni served as a political advisor to Army senior leaders in Europe. Prior to that, was a consultant specializing in national security issues for the U.S. Departments of Defense, Energy, and State.

This past year, the University of Michigan Press published his book *Coalition of the unWilling and unAble: European Realignment and the Future of American Geopolitics*, which examines the economic, political, and demographic factors behind our Allies' ability to work with the U.S.

The Army War College Press published his article "Security Threats, American Pressure, and the Role of Key Personnel: How NATO's Defence Planning Process is Alleviating the Burden-Sharing Dilemma," in 2020.

Deni earned his B.A. in International Studies and History from William &

mary, his M.A. in American Foreign Policy from American University, and his Ph.D. in International Relations from George Washington University.

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