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Podcast: The Modernising Defence Programme Review In Focus

25 February 2019

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The Modernising Defence Programme in Focus

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In December 2018, the Secretary of State for Defence, Gavin Williamson, released the UK Ministry of Defence's (MoD) long-awaited Modernising Defence Programme (MDP) review. In just 28 pages, the document examines the evolving nature of the threats facing the UK since the publication of the 2015 SDSR and addresses budgetary problems in the MoD's equipment programmes.

While encouraging, the report appears to reinforce the government's shifting strategic focus towards countering state-based threats, particularly Russia, despite the fact that remote warfare is likely to dominate British military

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engagement in the foreseeable future. Given that the MDP process was put in place as a means to resolve spending problems, this is a problematic oversight.

Presented by Abigail Watson, the Remote Warfare Programme's (RWP) Senior Research Officer, the RWP team critically discuss the MDP.

The blog series mentioned in this podcast can be read below.

- **Inconclusive Conclusions: The Modernising Defence Programme So Far**
- **The Cost of Intelligence Sharing and the Value of Transparency**
- **The True Cost of Defence Engagement?**
- **Remote Warfare: Cost-Effective Warfighting?**
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About the participants

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Liam Walpole is a Senior Advocacy Officer at the Remote Warfare Programme.

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