MISSILE DEFENCE AND CROSS DOMAIN COMPETITION

A DIFFERENT TAKE...

PROFESSOR JULIAN LINDLEY-FRENCH
I will let Anthony and Brad deal with the technical aspects of MD and cross domain warfare...

...let me focus on the implications for European defence.
“Covenants without credible missile defence are but words, and of no use to any man”.

Thomas Hobbes,

Leviathan

1651
THE ESSENTIAL EUROPEAN PROBLEM:

THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN A RULES-BASED SYSTEM HAVE NO POWER (EUROPEANS) WHILST MANY OF THOSE WITH POWER DO NOT LIKE RULES.
MY CHALLENGE: MUCH OF THE DEBATE IS ABOUT LEGACY MISSILE DEFENCE. EUROPE’S FUTURE DEFENCE NEEDS A MISSILE DEFENCE COMPONENT AS PART OF A CREDIBLE MULTI-LAYERED DEFENCE THAT UNDERPINS DETERRENCE.

MY ASSERTION: WE WILL NEED TO RECONCEIVE MD IN A WORLD IN WHICH THE STRATEGIC SPACE AND THE BATTLESPACE MERGE AND COERCION ACTS ACROSS DOMAINS AGAINST OUR FORCES, RESOURCES AND PEOPLES MORE SYSTEMATICALLY THAN HITHERTO.
MY POINT: THE MDR AND THE END OF INF HAVE PROFOUND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE DEFENCE OF EUROPE. EUROPEANS WILL ONLY ENSURE A RULES-BASED ARCHITECTURE IT THEY HAVE A CREDIBLE DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE ARCHITECTURE

MY SPECIFIC QUESTION: WHERE SPECIFICALLY DOES MISSILE DEFENCE FIT IN THE NEW ARCHITECTURE OF EUROPEAN DETERRENCE?
MY AIM: TO RAISE THE THRESHOLD OF COST OF COERCION OF ADVERSARIES GIVEN THE SCOPE, NATURE, CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY OF 21ST CENTURY WARFARE...

...TO MAKE A RULES-BASED SYSTEM TENABLE
WHY WE MUST RE-THINK MISSILE DEFENCE:

- Emergence of strategic rule-breakers who see defection as power/coercion.
  
  - A revolution in often civilian technology that is revolutionising the battlespace

- A leap forward in the speed of missile/drone technologies that will accelerate the speed of shock

- A power vacuum in the West as Europeans retreat from balance of power
Strategic consequences:

The centre of triangular gravity between arms control, people protection and power projection is shifting back towards the latter and placing a premium on protection

No protection, no projection!
PROTECTING AGAINST WHAT?

SYSTEMATIC 5D WARFARE: DISINFORMATION, DESTABILISATION, DISRUPTION, DECEPTION & DESTRUCTION
DETERRENCE

DETERRING SUCH WARFARE REQUIRES HARDENING AND PROTECTION OF HOME BASE AGAINST THE APPLICATION OF CHAOS AND COERCION
MISSILE DEFENCE AND CROSS DOMAIN WARFARE

MISSILE DEFENCE IS THUS PART OF THE HARD FOUNDATION UPON WHICH TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY PEOPLE PROTECTION AND POWER PROJECTION STANDS
MISSILE DEFENCE AND CROSS DOMAIN FUTURE FORCE

EFFECTIVE MD WOULD ALSO ASSURE A EUROPEAN FUTURE FORCE THAT WILL NEED TO OPERATE TO EFFECT ACROSS SEVEN DOMAINS OF AIR, SEA, LAND, CYBER, SPACE, INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE
RUSI MD 2019

MISSILE DEFENCE AND STRATEGIC CREDIBILITY?

THE FUTURE FORCE WILL ONLY OPERATE TO DETERRENT EFFECT IF INFRASTRUCTURES, COMMAND AND RECOVERY DEMONSTRABLY HARDENED VIA MULTI-LAYER DEFENCE OF WHICH MD AN ESSENTIAL LAYER
THE KNUB: MISSILE DEFENCE AND CREDIBLE DETERRENCE

MISSILE DEFENCE WILL NEED TO DEFEND AGAINST 21ST CENTURY MISSILE SYSTEMS, INCLUDING HYPersonic SYSTEMS, IF DETERRENCE IS TO REMAIN CREDIBLE IN A WORLD IN WHICH THE RULES ARE BEING FLOUTED...

ONLY WITH SUCH A BEDROCK OF POWER WILL RULES AGAIN HAVE A CHANCE OF BEING ESTABLISHED.

ERGO, MDR RIGHT TO CONSIDER EVOLUTION OF STRATEGIC MD
MISSILE DEFENCE AND THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS?

DO WE AS A COMMUNITY AND AS THE WEST HAVE THE POLITICAL COURAGE TO RECOGNISE THE WORLD I DESCRIBE AND THE AMBITION TO PUT THE MULTI-LAYERED STRATEGIC DEFENCE IN PLACE I DESCRIBE?
MISSILE DEFENCE AND THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS?

OR, ARE WE MERELY DISCUSSING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LEGACY SYSTEM THAT PROVIDES A REASON FOR THE RULE-BREAKERS TO BREAK RULES AND AFFORDS NEITHER PROTECTION OR DETERRENCE IN THE FACE OF EMERGING THREATS?
MISSILE DEFENCE AND THE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS?

WHAT WOULD THE NEW ARCHITECTURE OF DEFENCE LOOK LIKE OF WHICH MD IS A PART GIVEN THE THREATS?
“World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers with threaten it”.

The Schuman Declaration, 9 May 1950