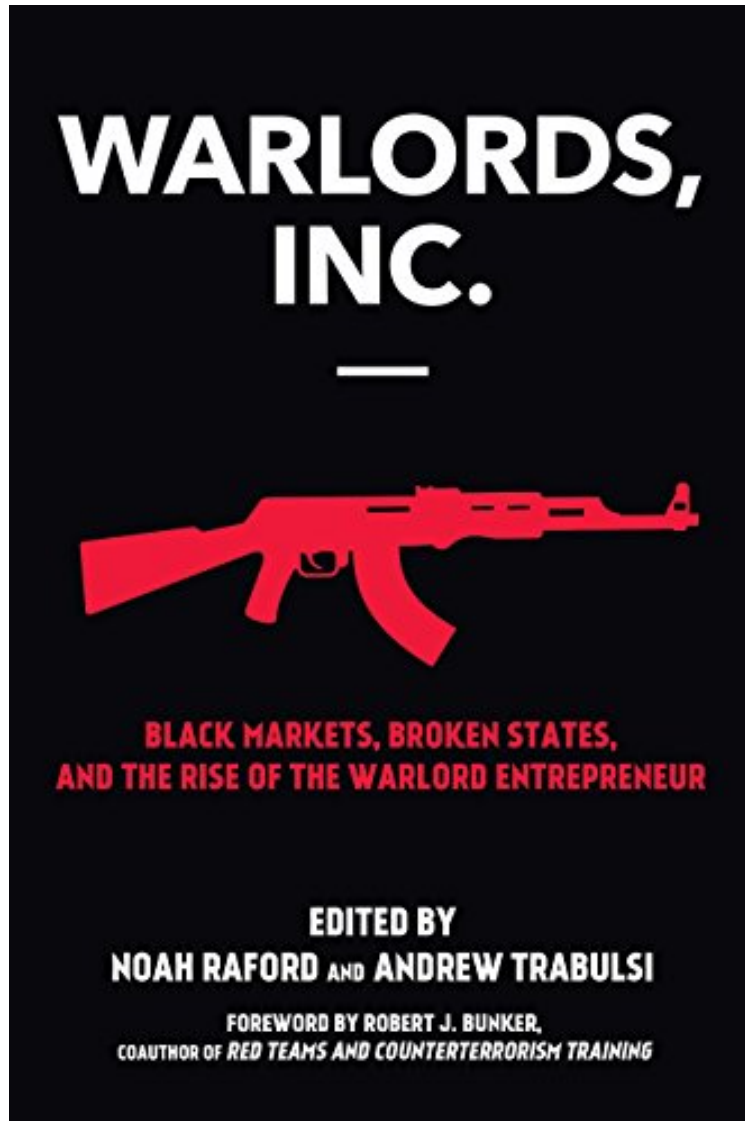


Warlords, Inc.: Black Markets, Broken States, and the Rise of the Warlord Entrepreneur

From North Atlantic Books

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From North Atlantic Books : Warlords, Inc.: Black Markets, Broken States, and the Rise of the Warlord Entrepreneur before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Warlords, Inc.: Black Markets, Broken States, and the Rise of the Warlord Entrepreneur:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Worthy read on a timely and urgent issue By Nicholas Leach This book tells the story of how non-state actors - whether they be drug cartels, armed militia groups, street gangs, or corrupt private sector actors - seek and attain political and economic power, weaken governments, and pose urgent

threats to the future of human security. Despite what some of the other reviews claim, the authors have a long history of experience in the field, with backgrounds in intelligence, law enforcement, and geopolitical analysis, including work in counterterrorism and counterinsurgency operations. Many chapters detail models for how state failure and fragility occur, what the consequences are, and why the problems posed by non-state actors are ubiquitous and intractable for existing systems of governance to resolve. The book describes how revenue models for different criminal organizations work and why the concept of 'entrepreneurialism' isn't reserved exclusively for 'legal' economies. While the work is very detailed and rigorously researched, it reads very evenly and does not feel overly academic. Given the seriousness of the topic, this is the kind of book that will prove valuable for a wide audience, whether that be career intelligence officers or just someone with an interest in the subject. Even if you only read one chapter, you'll walk away with eyes opened and more informed. Highly recommended.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A diverse group of articles

By Connie (She who hikes with dogs) *Warlords, Inc* is a collection of scholarly essays written by contributing authors to a variety of journals. Each essay stands alone and covers a diverse range of warlords. These warlords aren't just drug cartel leaders, these are people who have taken advantage of a country or state that is under a weak leadership. Noah Radford presents these articles under three topics, and differentiates them from each other. We don't just have cartel leaders, we have insurgent leaders, and we have criminal leaders (which are different from cartel leaders)

Several interesting points are made from these essays. We are introduced to terms like "deviant globalization" for the criminal gangs that operate across the country. Warlords of any sort don't want to take over the country, they just want to control their share of the power, although insurgent groups like Colombia's FARC has been known to help out with some of its citizens. Warlords come into existence because of a weakness in the government. The articles aren't always smoothly connected, as each article has a different author. What the reader is exposed to is a variety of opinions covering a wide area if insurgency. These articles would be most appealing to sociologists, political scientists and criminologists.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A bracing, clear-eyed view of the outlaw markets of Globalization

By Steve Grant This book is a well-curated collection of papers and think-pieces around a very powerful, new way of thinking about black and gray market activity. *Warlords, Inc* is a multidimensional dive into the unintended consequences of globalization. I found the overall thesis of "wildcat capitalism" in the global gaps created by weak states to have tremendous explanatory power. Forget about post-Cold War blocs or "clashes of civilizations," this book is the first cogent thesis to explain terrorism, the drug trade, mercenary activity, and other "illegal" activity through the lens of 21st-century network capitalism. A wonderful companion piece to Parag Khanna's *Connectography: Mapping the Future of Global Civilization*, and a refreshing tonic to retreaded thinking like Huntington's *Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*. Highly recommended.

Combining path-breaking research and analysis from leading political scientists, advisors to heads of state, and award-winning academics, *Warlords, Inc.* pulls back the curtain on the secretive world of drug cartels and violent insurgencies, revealing their inner workings and implications for a world driven by unrelenting change and growing political uncertainty. These essays show how, as the complexities of modern geopolitical pressures mount, the world's elaborate but fragile political systems are becoming increasingly vulnerable to breakdown and deliberate disruption. The authors demonstrate that as infrastructures such as IT networks, global supply chains, and financial markets become increasingly volatile, the stability of entire populations hangs in the balance.

Warlords, Inc. traces the evolution of forces that are reshaping the future of the geopolitical landscape: Mexican drug cartels, revolts in the Middle East and Africa, military conflicts in Eastern Europe, the growth of slums and street gangs in India, and the proliferation of cyber-attacks and drone warfare. The contributors demonstrate how the underworld of the global economy thrives, how it disrupts and maintains power, and why, looking toward the future, we should all be paying attention.

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From the Trade Paperback edition.

"Absolutely gripping... The focus is on the importance of non-state actors—whether they are hackers, Wall Street corporations, Afghan tribal leaders, or Indian left-wing insurgents—in the modern geopolitical landscape. The authors look at how these actors disrupt the modern economy, provide pseudo-governmental services, and figure into both contemporary globalization and possible future changes brought about by climate change and regional

instabilities. While such a wide-ranging collection can provide only the beginning of insight into these complex topics, it will ably serve to whet the intellectual appetites of its readers." —Publishers Weekly "This important and terrifying book should be read by everyone who cares about the future of human civilization." —Anatol Lieven, author of *Pakistan: A Hard Country*

About the Author
ANDREW TRABULSI is a consultant and entrepreneur who focuses on technology and economic development policy. Based in San Francisco, his work and research has included technology capacity building with indigenous communities in the rainforest, community development work with the Federal Reserve Bank, innovation consulting with Deloitte LLP, and analysis of the REDD+ carbon finance programme. **NOAH RAFORD** works as an advisor to the United Arab Emirates Prime Minister's Office, where he provides policy and strategy advice on a range of special projects. Previously he helped design, develop and manage the nation's first foresight and scenario planning unit. He has consulted with governments, NGOs and private corporations around the world on a range of issues related to foresight, urbanism, risk, governance, policy, and strategy.