







Q



Home ▶ All Journals ▶ Politics & International Relations ▶ Defence and Peace Economics Volume 15, Issue 3 ▶ Trends in the costs of weapon systems an

Defence and Peace Economics >

Volume 15, 2004 - Issue 3

1.504 51 13 Views CrossRef citations to date Altmetric

Original Articles

Trends in the costs of weapon systems and the consequences

David L. I. Kirkpatrick

Pages 259-273 | Published online: 19 Jul 2011

66 Cite this article ▶ https://doi.org/10.1080/1024269032000123203



Abstract

Full Article

➡ Reprints & Permissions

This paper notes that the outcome of military operations is determined largely by the relative performance of the equipment deployed by rival forces. In this competitive situation, the performance and unit cost of key weapon systems tend to increase rapidly and persistently. Furthermore, developments in military technology are increasing the fixed/variable cost ratios of individual weapon projects and of national force structures. These two trends in weapon costs will, in coming decades, affect the development of national defence procurement strategies, of the globalized defence industry, and of geopolitical alliances.

Keywords:

Weapon cost growth

Defence procurement

Defence planning and policy

Network centric warfare

Related Research Data

The procurement nexus

Source: Defence Economics

The affordability of defence equipment

Source: The RUSI Journal

The rising unit cost of defence equipment — The reasons and the results

Source: Defence and Peace Economics

Linking provided by Schole plorer

Related research 1

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by 51

Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

Dove Medical Press

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up











Accessibility



Copyright © 2025 Informa UK Limited Privacy policy Cookies Terms & conditions



Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954 5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG