

## **Abstract**

Artificial intelligence is nowadays a key element in many people's everyday life. Since its beginning, this technology has grown leaps and bounds, drastically revolutionizing everything it has touched throughout its developing process. Arguably, every aspect of society has more or less been impacted by artificial intelligence. Military affairs do not appear to be immune to this, with many examples of this technology's implementation in this field appearing more and more. However, it appears likely that the effects experienced so far by countries' military affairs are still quite limited, with the technological potential of artificial intelligence bound to drastically change military affairs altogether. So much so that it can be even argued that artificial intelligence has the potential to completely revolutionize them. For this reason, one may argue that this technology could be the upcoming Revolution in Military Affairs. This thesis will look into this specific idea, aiming to prove that the world is witnessing the coming of a new Revolution in Military Affairs, based on artificial intelligence.

To verify this idea, the methodology this work will make use of consists of taking all of the three levels of war one by one, to then analyze the revolutionary potential that AI has in transforming each one of these. This process will be carried out through secondary document analysis.

Technological potential alone, however, is not enough to prove whether we are witnessing a new Revolution in Military Affairs. Especially in regards to artificial intelligence, it is crucial to also look at the social environment in which this technology is implemented as well. To look into this, strategic cultures of the two countries that appear to be the leading powers in this field, the United States and China, will be analyzed and compared to one another, highlighting the key differences between these two nations.

The research carried out through this paper highlights the existence of an upcoming Revolution in Military Affairs based on artificial intelligence, with specific elements that can be found to different extents in both countries. Strategic culture is key in understanding why different elements are more or less present in different countries, hence becoming necessary in understanding the potential of the topic at hand alongside the analysis of its technological potential.

**Title:** Artificial Intelligence as the upcoming Revolution in Military Affairs. The cases of the United States and China through the lens of Strategic Culture.

**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence (AI), Autonomous weapons system (AWS), China, Cyber warfare, Information warfare, Operational level, Revolution in military affairs (RMA), Strategic culture, Strategic level, Tactical level, Technological potential, Three levels of war, United States.