

Learning Lessons from the Ukraine Conflict

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Lessons Learned regarding Russian Military Operations in Eastern Ukraine

Information Cutoff Date: November 2018

IDA Force Structure and Personnel

- Prioritizing high-readiness light forces for small-scale interventions on periphery
 - Russian SOF in Crimea
 - Paramilitaries
 - Train and equip separatists
 - Non-governmental volunteers
 - Russian BTGs

IDA Ground Operations in Ukraine

- Indirect fires
- Drones
- Munitions
- EW and cyber
- Armor

IDA Air Operations and Air and Missile Defense

- Absence of air power
- Integrated air defenses

IDA Information Operations

- Courting public opinion
- Limiting operations
- Demoralizing the Ukrainians

IDA Implications for the U.S. Military

- BTGs
- Operating under Threat of Surveillance and Targeting
- Operating without Air Superiority
- Logistics
- Responding to Hybrid Warfare



Implications of the Ukraine Conflict for Future Warfare

IDA Balancing the Benefits and Risks of Connectivity

- Emissions Control
- Protection from indirect fires
- Stand-off conflicts
- Counter-detection strategies
- Training for degraded environments



Conducting Operations in Contested Air Environments

- Viability of helicopters
- F2T2E in denied airspace
- Munitions
- Counter-UAVs

Balancing the Benefits and Risks of Unit Size and Dispersion

- Massing of effects
- Heavy forces
- Vulnerabilities of concentrated forces