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Rosenau (1990), theorized the increasing interconnections of early globalization using the concept of 'turbulence'. Several decades later, human societies continue to complexify, deriving in no small part from rapid technological advance. Given the dual-use nature of technology, benefits to human progress cannot be uncoupled from military developments. The Russian invasions of Ukraine (2014, 2022) have most dramatically signalled a shift away from predictable politics. In 2014, the invasion demonstrated that the use of military force to achieve political objectives was not a relic of the past. Further, it made visible what was previously kept in the shadows - the conduct of warfare through non-kinetic, and holistic means – 'hybrid warfare' (Paeck & Solis, 2016). The 2022 expansion of the war confirmed that hard military power is irreplaceable when required and that warfare is constantly evolving. Yet, events in Ukraine may only represent opening acts of a new 'turbulence' – an era of renewed geopolitical competition and dangerous arms race escalation. The mass uptake of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and coming of age of space, cyber and quantum technologies, imply that not only societies, but also military capability and geopolitical strategy may profoundly change in short order. This shift implies a massive burden for the functional imperative of Western militaries (Huntington, 1957), who defend nation-states which are themselves increasingly complex (Vertovec, 2007). Using Rosenau's (1990) concepts of 'habits and learning', this paper argues that new learning is required to prepare for worst-case scenarios. This paper examines how warfare and geopolitical strategy are being re-imagined in potentially overlooked post-2022 sources: within emerging private sector originators of technologies, and publications of non-NATO member states, contributing to discussions of military preparedness within Western militaries.