



## The Myth of National Defense

*Hans-Hermann Hoppe (Editor)*

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## **The Myth of National Defense** Hans-Hermann Hoppe (Editor)

With eleven chapters by top libertarian scholars on all aspects of defense, this book edited by Hans-Hermann Hoppe it represents an ambitious attempt to extend the idea of free enterprise to the provision of security services. It argues that "national defense" as provided by government is a myth not unlike the myth of socialism itself. It is more viably privatized and replaced by the market provision of security.

## **The Myth of National Defense Details**

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Author : Hans-Hermann Hoppe (Editor)

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## **From Reader Review The Myth of National Defense for online ebook**

### **Nick says**

I wish I could rate each essay individually because there is a wide spread. Of the 4 sections, the last one is the best because it contains Hoppe's contribution, and a good essay by Walter Block (well... good economics. Terrible philosophy). The Rothbard essay in section 1 is also a highlight.

Other good parts were the historical essays explicating the mechanics of privateering and guerilla warfare.

However... There were some really strange essays here basically advocating a strange form of conservative monarchism. I know this is Hoppe's angle, but its weird to read "anarchist/libertarian/feudalist" pieces nonetheless. I remain unconvinced that monarchy is preferable to democracy. Monarchy definitely has some positive tradeoffs compared to democracy, but I don't think the essays proved that it is a preferable system. I think in his zealous hatred of democracy (which I share, don't get me wrong), Hoppe (or the authors of the essays he selected) tries to prove too much. However the criticism of democracy in these is good, and they are kind of fun to read in a voyeuristic kind of way regardless.

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### **Frederick Hammill says**

The author spends many pages ruminating on a topic on which he isn't particularly familiar.

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### **Prashant says**

Really good collection of essays, especially the one which explains why more weapons among people results in less crime(and also more nukes results in less nuclear war).

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### **Adam says**

Really opened my eyes to some of the possibilities of an anarcho-capitalist society and some of the myths that are out there. Especially liked the chapters on privateering and monarchism, totally changed my view on both subjects.

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### **Werner Ende says**

Since Molinari one of the most important books about this essential issue on discussing the institution state as as at least necessary evil.  
recommended by stay-free.org

### **Dennis Beery says**

This series of essays gets to the very heart of why tax-funded, government sponsored "national defense" is inefficient and utterly incapable of providing actual defense (e.g. 9-11). A couple of the essays were quite technical and of little value. But the essays by Rothbard, Hoppe, and Hulsmann were excellent, as were the historical essays and those dealing with the ideology behind modern warfare.

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### **Daniel Moss says**

Unmistakably 5 stars. Such a powerful book--one that really gets your paradigm to shift. National defense is the fallback, the go-to justification, for the existence of the state by any and all who, without studying the issue, assume the state is a necessary evil.

"...to argue that a tax-collecting government can legitimately protect its citizens against aggression is to contradict oneself, since such an entity starts off the entire process by doing the very opposite of protecting those under its control."

-Walter Block

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### **Monica Perez says**

From the horror of wars of ideology to the democratic state killing its own people to the ability to defend oneself even from foreign attack, the Myth of National Defense is essential reading for anyone ready to question his or her assumptions that the all-encompassing modern state is the only way or even the best way to defend oneself.

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### **Josh Wilmoth says**

This is my new favorite political philosophy book. It eviscerates arguments in favor of government monopoly of the defense industry, and in the process demonstrates the folly of democratic systems.

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