

An A2/AD in the Western Mediterranean? Is Algeria developing anti-access/area-denial capabilities?

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Abstract

The operational and strategic effects associated with the creation of defensive bastions in the seas off China, in Eastern Europe, or the Persian Gulf have prompted extensive military debate. The article aims to contribute to this debate by speculating on the potential creation of an Algerian A2/AD bubble in the Western Mediterranean. Such a zone does not appear to exist, but Algerian military developments allow it to monitor air and naval movements in an area comprising the Straits of Gibraltar, the Balearic Islands and Sardinia and to increase its capability to deny access to these parts, thus consolidating an AD zone with potential strategic effects. © 2021 Informa UK Limited, trading as Taylor & Francis Group.

Author keywords

A2/AD; Algeria; IADS; Straits of Gibraltar; Western Mediterranean