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This book focuses on ascertaining what distinguishes the Cold War that the U.S. sustained with the USSR from the one now emerging with China. By comparing their characteristics, it elaborates on how well prepared the US is to undertake this fresh challenge. In doing so, the book analyses six fundamental differences between both cold wars; ideology, alliances, strategic consistency, military, economics, and containment. While the configuration of factors benefited the US during its first Cold War, they now point in the opposite direction. While the first Cold War was instrumental in projecting the US to the pinnacle, the second can only accelerate its dwindling.

Alfredo Toro Hardy, PhD, is a Venezuelan retired diplomat, scholar and author. Before resigning to his country's Foreign Service ahead of retirement age he was Ambassador to the U.S., U.K., Spain, Brazil, Chile, Singapore and Ireland, as well as Director of its Diplomatic Academy. Visiting Professor at the universities of Princeton, Brasilia and Barcelona, Fulbright Scholar, Academic Advisor to Westminster University and a two-time Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center Resident Scholar. He has authored or coauthored 35 books and numerous papers on international relations.

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