As the Russo-Ukraine War persists, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice encourages learning from warfare developments

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine rages on, a new form of warfare has developed. It is our job to learn what we can from it, said Condoleezza Rice in a press conference Monday.

The former Secretary of State said the ability of privately held technologies to fulfill many government duties more efficiently, "is one of the stories that we really need to study about this Ukrainian Conflict."

In the digital age, social media has proven its influential impact. Yet, it has recently taken on a new role in the Russo-Ukrainian War.

"You're experiencing the first real [social media war,](#)" Rice said.

As Ukrainians have taken to platforms such as Tik Tok, Instagram and Twitter to record ground footage of the Russian invasion, the war in Ukraine has been described as the [most internet-accessible war in history.](#)

Rice said she believes the Ukrainians have been "very clever" in using social media to break through Russian information blockades.

Universally accessible technology was one of Rice's most efficient tools during her 2005-2009 term in office when identifying land settlement divisions with Israelis who were encroaching on Palestinian settlements.

Instead of waiting on the declassification of photographic satellite evidence from the National Reconnaissance Organization, Rice said she relied on Google Earth.

"I said we're going to have a monthly Google Earth test, and I would show them what Google Earth showed about where the settlements were," Rice said. "So even then, these technologies were starting to make a difference."

However, given the unprecedented nature of social media use in wartime, Rice said once conflict stabilizes, we must "deep dive" into "how these technologies have changed the face of warfare."

The use of [Clearview AI](#), facial recognition technology used in Ukraine to identify dead soldiers and Russian assailants, reunite families and combat misinformation spread through social media, has demonstrated some of the positive impacts of artificial intelligence.

But, the use of AI and [deep fakes](#) in wartime are developments "that we have to be concerned about," Rice said.

Deep fakes, a term that stems from fake but often very convincing images, audios and videos, made possible by AI, have made this a "scary time for technology," Rice said.

While encouraging a wary stance, Rice said that as long as the authoritarian regime in China works to develop AI, the U.S. must remain at the forefront of progress.

"I often liken this and ask the question, 'What if in the race for the atom bomb, the Soviet Union or the Nazis had won?'" She said. "So, this is a race we have to win."

Nine years into the Russo-Ukrainian War and over a year of Russian occupation in Ukraine, Rice said this has become a struggle that Ukraine must also win.

"I don't know if winning means taking back all the territory," Rice said. "But an independent, Democratic Ukraine, free of Russian Pressure and better integrated into the West and able to rebuild itself, we have got to make sure that, that happens."