This useful collection begins with Leo P. Ribuffo’s history of religious influence on U.S. foreign policy. This collection introduces a series of essays and responses exploring the recent emergence of religious freedom and resistance to religious persecution as aspects of U.S. foreign policy, as mandated by the International Religious Freedom Act (IRFA) of October 1998. J. Bryan Hehir points to the complexities of incorporating such concerns into the established human rights approach, and suggests that those concerned with religious freedom and persecution work with the present human rights establishment to present religious freedom as one of the core human rights. He counsels those who recently...
the American reaction to the persecution of Christians and Jews overseas, as well as Peter Henne describes how the United States and Russia have drawn on faith as part of their geopolitical struggles and asserts that while it is difficult to untangle the influence of military, economic, and cultural factors, the religious soft power of the United States and Russia does matter. The Geopolitics of Faith: Religious Soft Power in Russian and U.S. Foreign Policy. By: Peter Henne. June 6, 2019. Most examples of religious soft power involve the Middle East or Muslim World. But religious soft power arises around the world, including two great powers whose geopolitical struggles define contemporary international relations: the United States of America and Russia. Both have drawn on faith as part of their geopolitical struggles.