

Race & Class

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Radicalisation: the journey of a concept

Author- Arun Kundnani

Abstract-

Since 2004, the term ‘radicalisation’ has become central to terrorism studies and counter-terrorism policy-making. As US and European governments have focused on stemming ‘home-grown’ Islamist political violence, the concept of radicalisation has become the master signifier of the late ‘war on terror’ and provided a new lens through which to view Muslim minorities. The introduction of policies designed to ‘counter-radicalise’ has been accompanied by the emergence of a government-funded industry of advisers, analysts, scholars, entrepreneurs and self-appointed community representatives who claim that their knowledge of a theological or psychological radicalisation process enables them to propose interventions in Muslim communities to prevent extremism. An examination of the concept of radicalisation used by the industry’s scholars shows its limitations and biases. The concept of radicalisation has led to the construction of Muslim populations as ‘suspect communities’, civil rights abuses and a damaging failure to understand the nature of the political conflicts governments are involved in.

School desegregation and the politics of ‘forced integration

Author- Shamim Miah

Abstract-

Using the programme for creating the controversial school academies, local governments in the UK have attempted to force an integration of schools with majority white and ethnic minority pupil cohorts via new mergers. This has largely been as a response to analysts’ fears about self-segregation and insufficient community cohesion, following riots in northern towns in 2001 and the spectre of radicalisation among young Muslims following 9/11 and 7/7.

Australian Journal of International Affairs

Volume 66, Issue 5, 2012

Nuclear non-proliferation trends in the Asia-Pacific

Author- Michael Clarke

Abstract-

Despite the recent surge in both governmental and academic advocacy of nuclear disarmament, including initiatives of the Obama administration and the Australian and Japanese governments, the spectre of further nuclear proliferation arguably remains a key challenge for international security. This article suggests that this is particularly the case in Asia due to three major dynamics: (1) the stasis of the international non-proliferation regime embodied in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty; (2) the state of flux in the global and regional strategic nuclear environment; and (3) increasing regional demand for nuclear energy. This article argues that developments in each of these realms of nuclear affairs hold the potential to increase proliferation pressures in the region.

Unselfish giants? Understanding China and India as security providers

Author- Rory Medcalf

Abstract-

With fast-growing economies, defence capabilities and international interests, China and India are becoming increasingly active as contributors of public goods in international security, such as anti-piracy operations, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, capacity-building, stabilisation and peacekeeping. This article examines the drivers and characteristics of China's and India's growing roles in contributing to security public goods. It also considers the extent to which modernisation of these rising Asian powers' conventional military capabilities is suited for these roles; the conditions under which China and India might expand such activities; and some of the possible consequences of enhanced Chinese and Indian roles in protecting the commons using military means. Those effects include potential impacts on the management of transnational security problems, the extension of Chinese or Indian geopolitical influence, the worsening of Sino-Indian strategic competition, and the ways other powers might respond, particularly in situations where China or India act unilaterally. Policy implications for existing public goods providers, such as Australia, are briefly considered.

Asian Affairs

Volume 43, Issue 3, 2012

THE ART OF RESISTANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Author- Charles Tripp

Abstract-

The author looks at the relationship between art and power and the ways in which resistance to power is manifested in art. This is a universal phenomenon, but the examples discussed are all from the Middle East, principally the Palestinian struggle, Iran, Lebanon and Iraq. Posters, graffiti etc all have their place and the events of the Arab Spring have shown the potential for the defacement of official public images as an act of defiance. The precise impact of these various art forms is not easy to measure, but clearly when someone can tear down the image of a president with impunity, something in political life has changed.

IDENTITIES AND THE STATE IN PAKISTAN

Author- Ilhan Niaz

Abstract-

This paper examines Pakistan's identity as a state, a religious community, a developmental enterprise, and a primordial society. It argues that over time Pakistan's state and developmental identities have weakened while its religious and primordial identities have gained in strength. This change in the balance has grave implications for Pakistan in terms of the working of the state and its legitimacy in the eyes of its own people. There is therefore a need to rehabilitate the state and developmental identities at a functional level, which means investing in improving the quality of governance and policy planning in Pakistan over the long-term.

Journal of Environmental Law

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Liability for Damages in Oil Spill Accidents

Author- Thomas J. Schoenbaum

Abstract-

This article compares the international regime that creates liability for damages for oil spilled into the sea with the most significant national law on oil pollution liability,

the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) enacted by the USA, which remains outside the international regime. US law is particularly relevant at this time because the Deepwater Horizon litigation growing out of the 2010 spill by a BP-owned oil concession is the first big case under the OPA 90 law. The US oil liability regime is much broader and more comprehensive than the international regime, which is limited to oil spills from ships carrying oil as cargo in bulk (oil tankers). This deficiency highlights the need for a more comprehensive oil pollution liability regime, since the current international regime would not have covered the Deepwater Horizon incident. The international regime and US law are markedly different also with respect to the types of damages recoverable, the procedure involved to file a claim, and various limitations on liability.

Countering the Obscurity of Obligations in European Environmental Law

Author- J.J.H. van Kempen

Abstract-

European environmental law has become increasingly complex and at times lacks the clarity to allow for effective implementation and thus effective environmental protection. This lack of clarity is a result of the amount of rules, their level of detail and the obscurity of their legal status. This article intends to help tackle this third obstacle by introducing a qualification method to label obligations as either obligations of best efforts or obligations of result. Using the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union, definitions of both categories of obligations are determined and a qualification method is derived. This method is then applied to article 4 of the European Water Framework Directive to give an illustration of how this method can be used to obtain more legal certainty regarding complex European environmental obligations.

Comparative Political Studies

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The Rise of Outsiders in Latin America, 1980–2010

Author- Miguel Carreras

Abstract-

One of the most significant developments in Latin American democracies since the beginning of the third wave of democratization is the rise to political prominence of outsider candidates in presidential elections. I use an original database of political outsiders in Latin America to examine the institutional factors that contribute to the emergence of political outsiders. Using a fixed effects variance decomposition (FEVD) model, I find that, in addition to the favorable conditions already identified in the

literature—legitimacy crisis of traditional political parties and negative socioeconomic conditions—the rise of political outsiders is determined by institutional factors, such as nonconcurrent elections, compulsory voting rules, and reelection provisions.

Religion in Politics

Author- Ekrem Karakoç

Abstract-

This study investigates the factors that affect variations in secular attitudes toward politics. The literature suggests that modernization may weaken traditional bonds with religious adherence and the state can assume an important role in this endeavor through mass education, industrialization, and other factors. However, this explanation is incomplete in light of the resurgence of religious movements. This study argues that economic inequality increases the positive evaluation of the role of religion in politics through its effect on religiosity and participation in religious organizations. Employing a multilevel analysis on 40 countries, this study demonstrates that inequality decreases attitudes toward support for two dimensions of public secularization: *the secularization of public office holders* and *the influence of religious leaders in politics*. Simultaneously, the effect of modernization on these attitudes varies. The results also suggest that although inequality diminishes secular attitudes of all socioeconomic groups, its effect is nonlinear, with a greater effect on the poor.

International Affairs

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Britain and Europe

Author- ROBERT COOPER

Abstract-

In the period before Britain joined the European Economic Community in 1973 the founding Six set up agricultural and budgetary policies which worked to Britain's disadvantage and caused friction over a long time. After a lengthy battle to obtain a rebate on contributions to the EU budget, which came to a close with the Fontainebleau Agreement of 1984, the UK contributed to a more liberal, open Europe, especially with regard to the single market and trade and foreign policy. There were sporadic bursts of leadership, as exemplified by Margaret Thatcher's work to complete the single market and Tony Blair's on European security. Britain has been a successful and influential member of the EU, except in a few areas where it has showed reluctance or opted

out, most notably treaty change and Economic and Monetary Union. In spite of this, and of the problems that lie ahead in these areas, the balance sheet on both sides is positive.

The UK and European defence: leading or leaving

Author- SVEN BISCOP

Abstract-

The UK, with France, initiated the European, today Common, Security and Defence Policy (ESDP/CSDP) in 1998–9. A strong consensus on the need to address capability shortfalls, which the UK accepted to attempt under the EU flag, however masked the lack of consensus about the extent to which the EU would also make policy and launch operations (which would require permanent planning and conduct structures). This debate about the degree of EU autonomy *vis-à-vis* NATO and the US is one of the reasons why Europeans collectively have no strategic vision on the regions and scenarios for which they should assume responsibility, as the Libyan crisis demonstrated. But also on the capability side, the UK in the end never fully committed, withholding the necessary budget to allow the European Defence Agency to operate as intended and resisting moves towards military integration, such as Permanent Structured Cooperation, in favour of bilateral arrangements such as the 2010 agreement with France. Meanwhile, however, the US came to demand that Europe take charge, autonomously, of crisis management in its own neighbourhood. British policy now seems to have struck a dead end. London has managed to slow down the CSDP. NATO has seen even fewer results in capability development, but when it comes to operations, in the absence of US leadership NATO is equally blocked by the lack of a collective European strategic vision. London, with Paris, remains the only European actor able and willing to engage in crisis management and war, but cannot mobilize many other capitals to join in. Unlike the US, the UK does not have the means to go in alone if necessary. A fundamental revision of policy is needed if the UK wants to maintain its level of influence in security and defence.

China Report

Vol. 48, No. 3 August 2012

Great Power Politics in East Asia: The US and China in Competition

Author- Harsh V. Pant

Abstract-

China's rise has altered the strategic realities in East Asia with the US having to manage a power transition in the region. The signals from Washington that it would not allow growing Chinese power in Asia-Pacific to go unchallenged have become unambiguous. The region is witnessing great power politics at its most pristine and geopolitical competition between the global superpower and its most likely challenger is in full swing. This article outlines the changing strategic realities in East Asia with China's rapid ascent in global hierarchy and argues that the US has had to recalibrate its regional policy in response to the growing demand from the region for it to play a more assertive role if it wanted to retain its role as an offshore balancer.

China and Vietnam in the South China Sea Dispute

Author- Tridib Chakraborti

Abstract-

The South China Sea dispute which has spilled over from the twentieth to the twenty-first century, is yet to find an amicable solution. The root cause of this tension is the dispute among the various claimants as regards the procurement of energy resources and securing territorial legitimacy. The entry of the US into the picture has further complicated the problem. In order to evolve a congenial regional environment, the disputing countries must evolve a collaborative outlook, not confrontationist, and adopt a regional perspective rather than proceed from their national interest only and take recourse to multilateral mechanisms as a means to reduce tension in the region. If the prognosis that the '21st century is the century of Asia' is to be made a reality, then the economic prosperity and development of the Asian region will be essential, for which, all the disputing countries should change their mindset from local to global level and keep the South China Sea region as less tension-prone as possible.

Round Table (The)

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Foreign Policy in Transition: The ANC's Search for a Foreign Policy Direction during South Africa's Transition, 1990-1994

Author- Matthew Graham

Abstract-

At the beginning of the transition from apartheid to democracy, the African National Congress (ANC) was unprepared for foreign policy discussion, a lack of readiness magnified by the collapse of international Communism and the Cold War ideology. President De Klerk and the National Party controlled foreign policy in the early years of the transition and began the process of reintegration with the international community, The ANC initially struggled to adapt to the new international situation, whereas De Klerk was successful in wooing the international community. In the later stages of transition, the ANC developed a greater sense of direction and substance in foreign relations, although there were differences of opinion among and between the leadership and the rank and file. Already in 1994 there was evidence of tension between idealism and pragmatism. Post-apartheid foreign policy under Mandela was riddled with inconsistencies, which stemmed from the events of South Africa's transition

A Million Media Now! The Rise of India on the Global Scene

Author- Daya Kishan Thussu

Abstract-

India's growing profile on the global scene owes much to the vibrancy of its cultural and creative industries, media and telecommunications. This article analyses India's media in terms of four 'dividends' (and their corresponding deposits): democractic, diasporic, digital and demographic. Although the deficits produce considerable challenges, the dividends are stronger and the author is optimistic about India's capacity for development and ability to lead to globalisation with an Indian flavour. He reflects on India's potential contribution to international media studies, especially in relation to liberal pluralism, representation of Islam and discourses about development.

Journal of Strategic Studies

Volume 35, Issue 5, 2012

Escalation and the War on Terror

Author- John Stone

Abstract-

This article makes a case for treating escalation in irregular warfare as different in kind from the regular variant that was originally theorized during the Cold War. The regular variant emphasizes the role of clearly defined and commonly recognized 'thresholds' as a means of organizing cooperation within conflict. In contrast, the irregular variant can reward efforts by weaker terroristic actors to erode the moral significance of the combatant/non-combatant threshold, just as it can reward efforts by their stronger adversaries to bolster it.

Regaining Strategy: Small Powers, Strategic Culture, and Escalation in Afghanistan

Author- Jan Angstrom

Abstract-

In Western operations in Afghanistan, small European powers escalate in different ways. While Denmark and the Netherlands have contributed to Western escalation through integration with British and US forces, Norway and Sweden have done so by creating a division of labour allowing US and British combat forces to concentrate their efforts in the south. These variations in strategic behaviour suggest that the strategic choice of small powers is more diversified than usually assumed. We argue that strategic culture can explain the variation in strategic behaviour of the small allies in Afghanistan. In particular, Dutch and Danish internationalism have reconciled the use of force in the national and international domains, while in Sweden and Norway there is still a sharp distinction between national interest and humanitarianism.

Third World Quarterly

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The Gender Logics of Resistance to the 'War on Terror': constructing sex–gender difference through the erasure of patriarchy in the Middle East

Author- Nicola Pratt

Abstract-

This article asks, 'How are femininities constructed in resisting the "war on terror" and with what implications for women's agency and the conceptualisation of gender?' It examines the understudied gender logics of non-violent resistance to the 'war on terror' by focusing on a series of conferences held in Cairo, between 2002 and 2008, uniting opposition to imperialism, Zionism, neoliberalism and dictatorship. Whereas much feminist scholarship conceptualises sex–gender difference within patriarchy as the major source of women's subordination, women speakers at the Cairo conferences erased patriarchy as a source of subordination and valorised sex–gender difference as a source of agency in resisting the 'war on terror'. Femininities were constructed against the dominant narratives and practices of the war on terror through the representation of national/religious or class differences. These 'resistance femininities' represent strategically essentialised identities that function to bridge differences and mobilise women against the 'war on terror'.

Flexibility versus Inflexibility: discursive discrepancy in US democracy promotion and anti-corruption policies

Author- Jeff Bridoux

Abstract-

This article analyses US discourses on democracy promotion and anti-corruption strategies. The analysis shows that there is a cosmetic agreement in these discourses on notions of the good society that identify democracy as a good thing and corruption as a bad thing. However, despite this agreement, there are differences in the discourses on the measures recommended to promote democracy and fight corruption that may lead to policies and processes pulling in opposite directions. This discrepancy arises, on the one hand, from a mode of operation of democracy promotion that is flexible and adaptable to various contexts and, on the other hand, from the uncompromising and inflexible language of anti-corruption policies that threatens to 'undo' what US democracy promotion's rhetoric aims to achieve ownership and sustainability of democratic reforms through re-empowering the state.