

American Foreign Policy Interests

Volume 34, Issue 6, 2012

Sudan: American Policy toward the Land of Endless Conflict

Author- Herman J. Cohen

ABSTRACT

Sudanese ethnic wars, mainly between African-speaking peoples in the south and the minority Arab regime in Khartoum, have ravaged Sudan for the past sixty years. The southern peoples have suffered tremendously because of fighting on their lands and racial discrimination. U.S. policy toward Sudan has varied over the years, with mostly an antiterrorist focus. It was not until the Bush (41) administration that the U.S. policy aimed to resolve the civil war. Bush's efforts were successful in ending the war and bringing about self-determination for the southern peoples, who opted for secession, and the creation of a newly independent state.

U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas Exports and America's Foreign Policy Interests

Author- Jonathan Chanis

ABSTRACT

The export of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the United States to other countries has significant foreign policy ramifications. Given the uncertain impact of such exports, it is not surprising that the U.S. administration has equivocated on various permitting decisions. However, in December 2012 or shortly thereafter, the Department of Energy is expected to release a study analyzing and evaluating many of the trade-offs involved in such exports. Unless this report conclusively demonstrates that (1) LNG exports would cause significant damage to U.S. residential and industrial consumers and (2) that higher domestic natural gas prices would not be more than compensated for through the gains of international trade, the administration should permit the construction of at least three or four more LNG export terminals. Such a permitting approach would not greatly change the existing domestic natural gas market, and it would allow the government to observe how the markets and their participants react to the change. Besides the probable benefits accruing to the United States through increased trade, such a change would bring a number of other foreign policy benefits.

International Security

Winter 2012/13, Vol. 37, No. 3

Nuclear Disarmament and Nonproliferation

Author- Jeffrey W. Knopf

Abstract-

Does the extent or lack of progress toward nuclear disarmament affect the health of the nuclear nonproliferation regime? Commentators have long asserted both positive and negative responses to this question as if the answer were self-evident. Given that opposite positions have been advanced with equal conviction, a more systematic analysis is required. This analysis begins by attempting to identify all of the potential arguments that can be made both for and against the hypothesis of a disarmament-nonproliferation linkage. The arguments are grouped in terms of five broader sets of explanatory factors: security, institutions, norms, domestic politics, and psychology. This approach clarifies the various causal microfoundations that could underpin different arguments in the debate as well as the types of empirical tests that would be most relevant for evaluating the "linkage hypothesis." Comparative assessment of the arguments on both sides suggests that signs of commitment to nuclear disarmament by the nuclear weapon states will tend to enhance support for nonproliferation. Because of the multitude of other factors that affect state decisionmaking, however, progress on disarmament will not by itself address all of the challenges to making the nonproliferation regime effective.

Is a Nuclear Deal with Iran Possible

Author- James K. Sebenius

Abstract-

Varied diplomatic approaches by multiple negotiators over the past several years have failed to conclude a nuclear deal with Iran. Mutual hostility, misperception, and flawed diplomacy may be responsible. Yet, more fundamentally, no mutually acceptable deal may exist. To assess this possibility, a "negotiation analytic" framework conceptually disentangles two issues: (1) whether a feasible deal exists; and (2) how to design the most promising process to achieve one. Focusing on whether a "zone of possible agreement" exists, a graphical negotiation analysis precisely relates input assumptions about the parties' interests, their no-deal options, and possible deals. Under a plausible, mainstream set of such assumptions, the Iranian regime's no-deal options, at least through the fall of 2012, appear superior to potential nuclear agreements. If so, purely

tactical and process-oriented initiatives will fail. Opening space for a mutually acceptable nuclear deal—one that avoids both military conflict and a nuclear-armed or nuclear-capable Iran—requires relentlessly and creatively worsening Iran's no-deal options while enhancing the value of a deal to the Iranian regime.

Round Table

Volume 101, Issue 6, 2012

Fiji Economy

Author- Biman Chand Prasad

Abstract-

Twenty-five years since the first military coup in 1987, Fiji continues to muddle through both politically and economically. The promise of a general election under a race-free constitution remains the fervent hope of all citizens. Economically the country continues to slide downwards, reflected in poor economic growth in 2010 and 2011. A poor level of private sector investment remains a feature of the macroeconomic picture, and it is unlikely to change for the foreseeable future. This article provides an overview of the Fiji economy and reflections on future prospects.

Reflections on Fiji since Independence

Author- Stewart Firth

Abstract-

Fiji's post-colonial journey has been fraught, a promising beginning hobbled by political instability, periodic military coups and stagnant economic growth. Political disagreements over the best form of political representation have featured prominently in Fiji's political discourse, with no enduring resolution in sight.

Diplomacy & Statecraft

Volume 23, Issue 4, 2012

The Halban Affair and British Atomic Diplomacy at the End of the Second World War

Author- Peter K. Parides

Abstract-

In winter 1944, Sir John Anderson, senior minister in the government of Winston Churchill, and Wallace Akers, the chief executive officer of Imperial Chemical Industries, tried to initiate an independent and secretive atomic diplomacy that aimed to repair the Anglo–French atomic relationship. At the centre of this diplomatic debacle was a meeting in Paris between Hans Von Halban and Frédéric Joliot. Halban also travelled to Montreal at the behest of Anderson and Akers to ensure the continuation of Anglo–French atomic co-operation. Their actions not only failed to achieve their intended goal; they also brought about the unintended consequence of straining the Anglo–American atomic alliance and exacerbating France's bitterness at the Allies' refusal to invite France into their atomic alliance. This analysis is significant because it sheds light on the understudied area of British atomic diplomacy and increases the understanding of the Anglo–American “special relationship.”

Twilight on the British Gulf

Author- Gregory Winger

Abstract-

The 1961 Kuwait crisis stands as a key event in the evolution of American strategic thinking on the Persian Gulf. Following Iraqi threats to annex Kuwait, Britain despatched a sizable military force to the Emirate hoping to pre-empt an Iraqi invasion. When the Iraqi invasion failed to occur, Britain was forced to weather a political maelstrom as it struggled to withdraw its forces. Although the United States was largely an observer to the crisis, London's actions required Washington to acknowledge the limits of Britain to meet the political challenges of the Middle East and protect Western interests in the region. This realisation provided the impetus for Washington to diversify its strategy in the Persian Gulf and increasingly seek regional solutions for its security concerns.

Europe-Asia Studies

Volume 65, Issue 1, 2013

Russia, the West and the 2007–2008 Electoral Cycle: Did the Kremlin Really Fear a 'Coloured Revolution'?

Author- Peter J. S. Duncan

Abstract-

In the period before the 2007–2008 elections, there was much talk from the regime about the danger of a 'coloured revolution' in Russia. The article considers whether the fear of revolution was genuine or artificially created to discredit opposition and strengthen support for the regime. It seems that tensions inside the regime and the unexpected occurrence of the previous coloured revolutions led to real fears of revolution in Russia, although this was in fact unlikely. Russian policy towards the West and the rival election programmes are examined to investigate whether the regime was creating an 'enemy image' of the West.

Reckoning with the Communist Past in Romania

Author- Lavinia Stan

Abstract-

During the first two decades following the collapse of the communist regime, Romania has reckoned with the human rights infringements perpetrated from 1945 to 1989 with the help of a range of official and unofficial, judiciary and non-judiciary, backward- and forward-looking methods pursued by a variety of state and non-state actors. This article summarises the progress registered to date in court trials, lustration, access to secret files, property restitution, the truth commission, rehabilitation of former political prisoners, compensation to victims and their descendants, the opinion tribunal, forensic investigations, rewriting history books, unofficial truth projects and memorialisation.

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism

Volume 36, Issue 1, 2013

The Future of Insurgency

Author- Seth G. Jones

Abstract-

What are key historical trends in insurgencies? And what do these findings suggest about the future of insurgency? We examine four aspects: causes of insurgency, outside support, strategies, and tactics. Based on an examination of quantitative and qualitative data, we make several arguments about the future. China could become increasingly involved in supporting insurgencies and counterinsurgencies if its economic and military power continues to increase and its global interest expands. In addition, insurgent groups will likely require less time to achieve high levels of sophistication for improvised explosive devices and other asymmetric tactics, which we expect they will use against more powerful mechanized counterinsurgent forces. We also expect that insurgent groups may take advantage of commercially-available technology to communicate, distribute propaganda, and recruit individuals. In addition, insurgents will likely make further use of encryption, anonymizing services, location-masking tools, and other related technologies to protect their online activities.

Illuminating the Global Suicide-Attack Network

Author- Benjamin Acosta

Abstract-

This article examines the contemporary phenomenon of suicide attacks by fusing network analysis and time-series econometrics. We find that a global network of militant organizations drives the reproduction of the suicide-attack phenomenon, and brokers within the network mark the primary perpetrators and diffusers of the tactic. The introduction of a fourth level of analysis of political violence demonstrates that network connections between organizations form a system that perpetuates suicide attacks. An organization-level analysis reveals that ideological congruence facilitates the establishment of network connections. As exemplified by the wide range of employers and targets, and moreover by the generation of an autogamous function, contemporary suicide attacks represent a unique sociopolitical phenomenon. Accordingly, organizations that use the tactic warrant a distinct classification.

Third World Quarterly

Volume 34, Issue 1, 2013

Livelihoods as Intimate Government

Author- Edward R Carr

Abstract-

Livelihoods approaches emerged from a broad range of efforts to understand how people live in particular places. They have since cohered into often instrumentally applied frameworks that rest on the broadly held assumption that livelihoods are principally about the management of one's material circumstances. This assumption limits the explanatory power of livelihoods approaches by shifting a range of motivations for livelihoods decisions outside the analytic frame. This article extends efforts to recover a broader lens on livelihoods decisions and outcomes by conceptualising livelihoods as forms of intimate government, local efforts to shape conduct to definite, shifting, and sometimes contradictory material and social ends. By employing a Foucault-inspired analytics of government to the study of livelihoods in Ghana's Central Region, the paper presents a systematic, implementable approach to the examination of livelihoods and their outcomes in light of this reframing, one where material outcomes are one of many possible ends of intimate government, instead of the end. By opening the analytic lens in this manner, we can explain a much wider set of livelihoods outcomes and decisions than possible under contemporary approaches.

Redefining Poverty as Risk and Vulnerability

Author- Jacqueline Best

Abstract-

The existence of global poverty poses a dilemma for liberal economic governance. Its persistence is an irritant to expert assertions that things will get better soon, making it necessary to develop new theories about the causes and nature of poverty and new strategies for managing and reducing it. This paper examines the most recent shift in how the World Bank and other organisations conceptualise and manage poverty, by beginning to view it through the lenses of social risk and vulnerability. The paper examines the evolution in how the Bank has historically sought to contend with the problem of poverty, and then considers the various expert debates and bureaucratic negotiations that shaped how this new conception of poverty as risk and vulnerability came to be institutionalised. Finally, I consider the implications of this shift for how the problem of poverty is governed, suggesting that it involves a much more dynamic ontology of poverty and requires the use of a more proactive set of techniques.

Foreign Policy Analysis

Volume 8, Issue 4, 2012

Latin American Foreign Policy Analysis

Author- Rita Giacalone

Abstract-

This article reviews the evolution of foreign policy analysis (FPA) in Latin America in order to explore the role played by domestic contextual factors and external theoretical influences. Applying notions that Jorgensen (*Journal of International Relations* 6 (1):9–42) has employed for the study of European FPA, it concludes that incorporating the cultural-institutional context in which Latin American academics write enhances our understanding of national variations and of how internal and external factors get connected.

Rights, Institutions, and Foreign Direct Investment

Author- Robert G. Blanton,

Abstract

A burgeoning body of literature assesses the sociopolitical factors that influence investment decisions, including the nature of domestic institutions, societal rights, and participation in international institutions and agreements. Oddly enough, these have evolved largely as separate lines of research, and little effort has been made to compare the relative importance of these sociopolitical factors in making investment decisions. Moreover, though the diverse nature of foreign direct investment (FDI) is widely noted, extant research relies almost exclusively upon the examination of aggregate FDI. As a result, scholars have little insight into the ways that investors prioritize these factors, or how they vary across different industries. In an effort to synthesize these strands of research and further deepen our understanding of the determinants of investment decisions, this study models the prospective impact of several sociopolitical variables that have been found to significantly influence FDI—human rights, democratic governance, and commitment to international trade agreements and investment treaties—across multiple investment sectors.