

European Journal of International Law

Volume 23 Issue 1, February 2012

The Protection of Humanitarian Legal Goods by National Judges

Author- Carlos Espósito

Abstract

National judges are increasingly exposed to deciding on issues regulated by the international legal system, given its expansion and specialization. However, this is just one of the many ways in which national judges interact with international law: they have the potential not only to receive and take into account international law, but also to shape and contribute to its modification, acting alone or in conjunction with other judicial authorities, and considering or ignoring the interests of several actors. The attitude of judges towards international norms, in the reception and modification dimensions, depends on a variety of factors worth exploring in detail. Such exploration allows us to ascertain how and when judges are more prone to protecting legal goods enshrined by international norms.

International Courts and the European Legal Order

Author- Matthew Parish

Abstract

The growth of a range of different areas of international law gives rise to the possibility of conflict between them. International courts and tribunals created by one branch of international law may be called upon to adjudicate in other areas of the discipline. The risk of conflict presents a particularly acute problem to the EU legal order, because the Court of Justice of the European Union sees itself as the final, and exclusive, authority on questions of interpretation of EU law. On two occasions the Court has issued opinions prohibiting EU Member States from signing agreements creating international courts, because those courts' roles would necessitate construing EU law and their composition would mean they could not guarantee the 'homogeneity' necessary to EU law.

Diplomacy & Statecraft

Volume 23, Issue 1, 2012

Empire by Association: The Arab–Israeli Conflict and the United States in Lebanese Imaginations

Author-Maurice M. Labelle

Abstract

In August 1962, the Kennedy Administration secretly sold Hawk missiles to Israel. To the chagrin of many American officials, the arms sale became public one month later. This revelation had a profound impact on Arab–American relations. Alongside the American military intervention in the Lebanon crisis of 1958, the Hawk sale solidified the cultural process in which the United States became an “imperial” power in Arab–Muslim imaginations. Through its perceived sponsorship of Israeli militarism, the United States was deemed guilty of empire by association. Washington's open association with Israel led many to perceive Tel Aviv as an agent of the American Empire.

The Science behind United States Smart Power in Honduras: Archaeological Heritage Diplomacy

Author- Christina Luke

Abstract

The cultural heritage of Honduras offers a critical platform for United States heritage diplomacy under the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Cultural Heritage Center. Of specific note is the formal 2004 Honduran–American Memorandum of Understanding for the preservation of cultural property and, beginning in 2001, periodic projects under the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation. The diplomatic efficacy of American cultural heritage policy and the Ambassadors Fund comes from long-term, sustained funding from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Fulbright Program. Established networks by archaeologists have enabled the successful re-entry of United States cultural diplomacy in Honduras in the last decade.

International Affairs

Volume 88, Issue 2, March 2012

Smart muddling through: rethinking UK national strategy beyond Afghanistan

Author-PAUL CORNISH

Abstract

One of the first steps taken by the newly elected Conservative–Liberal Democrat coalition government was to initiate a review of the national strategy of the United Kingdom. The review culminated in October 2010 in the publication of a revised National Security Strategy as well as a new Strategic Defence and Security Review. With the benefit of over twelve months of hindsight, this article is concerned with the formulation, the implementation and the longer-term implications of the 2010 strategy review. The first part of the article assesses

the review as a national strategic plan. What were the strategic challenges addressed by the review, what decisions, judgements and misjudgements were made, and what was overlooked? In part two the authors turn to operational matters: how far was the UK's post-review strategic experience (i.e. in Afghanistan and Libya) consistent with the decisions and promises made in 2010? Part three discusses the review as a public statement of national policy, gauging the impression it has made on the national strategic narrative since 2010: how was the review received, what reputation has it acquired and what was/is the quality of the debate surrounding it? Finally, in part four the article asks what the 2010 review and its aftermath reveal of the formulation and implementation of national strategy in the United Kingdom. Was the 2010 review simply the latest in a long series of attempts by government to find a convincing and durable compromise between security challenges and national resources? Or was the review the beginning of something different altogether? Could UK national strategy henceforth be more of an adaptive, iterative process than a compressed period of analysis and reflection followed by the publication of a policy statement with an inevitably brief shelf-life?

NATO's 2012 Chicago summit: a chance to ignore the issues once again?

Author- ANDREW M. DORMAN

Abstract

NATO and its members are beginning to gear themselves up for the summit in Chicago in May 2012. Such summits are always important, especially when they are held in the United States during an election year and in the aftermath of the French presidential elections. This article addresses the issues that are likely to be most prominent at the Chicago summit—NATO's wars; enlargement and Russia; burden-sharing; and divergent agendas—before drawing some general conclusions. The outstanding question is whether these issues will lead to division within NATO and hence its possible demise—or will they be finessed?

Economic & Political Weekly

VOL 47 No. 14 April 07 - April 13, 2012

The Chinese Agriculture Miracle Revisited

Author- Zhun Xu

Abstract

A large body of work has tried to attribute the remarkable growth of Chinese agriculture between 1979 and 1984 to the dismantling of collectives. This paper critically reviews the evidence and finds that decollectivisation did not contribute to agricultural growth in the early 1980s. In particular, its response to Lin (1992)

challenges the consensus and argues that decollectivisation was largely irrelevant to the exceptional growth in this period. It is held that a more intensive application of modern inputs and favourable weather conditions accounted for most of the spurt in growth.

India's Human Development in the 2000s

Author- Ankita Gandhi

Abstract

The India Human Development Report 2011 undertakes a disaggregated analysis of a large set of indicators and is unhesitating in its criticism of our failures in human development outcomes even while recognising that there is empirical evidence of achievement in many dimensions. The main findings of the report point out that the states are converging on important indicators of human functioning and that the indicators among the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and Muslims are converging with the national average. But low absolute values of various social indicators among these groups continue and the pace of convergence can improve only if these low levels are addressed.

Asian Affairs

Volume 43, Issue 1, 2012

THE RESURGENCE OF ASIA

Author- Meghnad Desai

Abstract

After a period of some 250 years in which Europe has been in the ascendancy, the economic pendulum has begun to swing back towards Asia, "back" because until about 1750 it was Asia that dominated the Eurasian land mass with its large cities, sophisticated lifestyles and flourishing trade. Then Europe embraced the modernizations of the Industrial revolution and reaped the benefits. Now a dynamic Asia is modernizing very fast. Is it sustainable? Much depends on whether Asia can resolve peacefully those problems of old-style nationalism which exhausted Europe. Even so, the statistics of recent growth in India and China cannot necessarily be extrapolated into the future; export-led growth is one thing, running global businesses is quite another. There is much talk of corruption in Asia, but this is perhaps a problem to be managed, rather than solved. Asia is not just South Asia (India), East Asia (China) and South East Asia (the "Tiger" economies). Recent events in the Middle East (West Asia) suggest a move towards democracy, which could transform the nature of Asia. And then there is Central Asia, with its

huge mineral resources. The Resurgence is proceeding at a different pace in different parts of Asia and the fantastic prospect is of the whole Eurasian land mass prospering at the same time.

THE CORPORATION THAT CHANGED THE WORLD: HOW THE EAST INDIA COMPANY SHAPED THE MODERN MULTINATIONAL

Author- Nick Robins

Abstract

For over 200 years the East India Company was the world's largest corporation. Set up as a merchant trading house in 1600, it became a permanent joint stock company in 1657, the forerunner of the modern multinational. The tension between investment and speculation was reflected in a share price which rose and fell with its fortunes. In the beginning bullion was brought from Britain to pay for Indian goods, which were then shipped to Britain. But in 1766, not long after Clive's victory at the battle of Plassey, the Company acquired the diwani, the right to collect the taxes, in Bengal. A situation of "unrequited trade" was thus established. Suddenly the profits from tax collecting more than covered the cost of trade goods. The dividend, jumped from six per cent in 1766 to 12 per cent in 1769. The shares soared. Then the Company's position in South India was threatened and the share price collapsed. The Company had overwhelming debts, but was judged "too big to fail". It had to be bailed out by the British government, which in return secured the right to nominate representatives to the Bengal Council. Corruption and accountability became increasingly important themes. By the time Warren Hastings was Governor-General the company was purchasing vast quantities of tea from China. What could be sold to China in return? Answer: Indian opium. This trade notoriously led to war with China. But by the end of the Second Opium War, the Indian Mutiny had put paid to the Company's rule over India, though the Company continued a financial existence until 1874.

Economic & Political Weekly

VOL 47 No. 16 April 21 - April 27, 2012

India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement

Author-, P K Sudarsan

Abstract

Against the backdrop of stalling multilateralism and proliferating regional trade initiatives, India signed a regional trade agreement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in August 2009. But the agreement has raised apprehensions on the possibility of large-scale import of commodities from the ASEAN countries, affecting the livelihood of many stakeholders. Fisheries is one area of concern since some of the ASEAN members – Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia – are leading exporters of fisheries products. Using simple revealed comparative advantage indices, this paper

looks at the likely impact of the agreement on India's fisheries trade by identifying the complementarity and competing product categories. The simulation results show that tariff reduction will have a trade creation effect, an improvement in welfare and limited tariff revenue decline. The study also shows that the India-ASEAN FTA may not lead to large-scale import of marine products and affect the livelihood of fisherfolk.

Does India's Employment Guarantee Scheme Guarantee Employment

Author- Puja Dutta

Abstract

An analysis of the National Sample Survey data for 2009-10 confirms expectations that poorer states of India have more demand for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. However, we find considerable unmet demand for work on the scheme in all states, and more so in the poorest ones, where the scheme is needed most. Nonetheless, the scheme is reaching the rural poor and backward classes and is attracting poor women into the workforce.

Round Table

Volume 101, Issue 1, 2012

Religious Fundamentalism, Constitution-making and Democracy in Kenya

Author-Oscar Gakuo Mwangi

Abstract

This article examines religious fundamentalism, constitution-making and democracy in Kenya with regard to the arguments surrounding the inclusion of the Kadhis Courts in the country's new Constitution promulgated on 27 August 2010. Kadhis Courts deal with matters of Muslim law and have been entrenched in Kenya's Constitution since the country's independence in 1963. The article argues that the Church and clergy took a fundamentalist position regarding the inclusion of the Courts with the aim of influencing the country's predominantly Christian voters to reject the proposed new constitution at the referendum stage. Kenyans, however, the majority of whom are Christians, overwhelmingly endorsed the constitution. The article underscores that the Church, therefore, lost its moral responsibility and institutional legitimacy as an agent of democracy. The Kenyan experience indicates citizens can ignore religious fundamentalism for the common good of society.

'Mutual Hurting Stalemates', 'Ripe Moments' and Third-party Intervention

Author- Fonkem Achankeng

Abstract

This paper explores ex-British Southern Cameroons' restoration of independence and statehood conflict with the Republic of Cameroon from the perspective of Zartman's 'mutual hurting stalemates' and 'ripe moments' framework in the timing of peace initiatives by third-party interveners. In analysing the conflict, the argument in the article is that powerful third parties need to use their power to intervene in deep-rooted conflicts whether or not they are violent, because violent or not, such conflicts remain destructive. The article traces the conflict from the independence-by-joining concept of the United Nations against the background of the incompatibility theory of plural societies. It provides an exploration of the dynamics involved in Zartman's framework, including its criticisms. The discussion of the implications of the concept highlights the vested interests of international mediating powers in play in international mediations, especially in post-colonial settings involving power imbalance between the conflict parties. In situations such as the Southern Cameroons' restoration of independence and statehood conflict with no open war and thousands of casualties, refugee flows and visible material destruction, the article questions whether the 'mutual hurting stalemates' and 'ripe moment' concept may not be a rationalisation for inaction.

China: An International Journal

Volume 10, Number 1, 2012

China's Food Security and Its Global Implications

Author- Yanjie Huang

Abstract

China's food security is a cornerstone of China's socioeconomic stability and a key issue for the world food market. Over the past twenty years, China has seen its food production generally rising commensurately with population growth. There has been need for only minimal supplements from the world grain market, despite recurrent natural disasters and two episodes of precipitate output fall. Underlying China's strong grain security is the government's full support for agricultural production, tight control on land use and some strategic use of the world market. In future, China's continued food security will largely depend on the government's capacity to address short- and long-term climate and environmental challenges.

Chinese Education in Diplomacy

Author- Xi Xiao

Abstract

This article reflects upon contemporary education in Chinese diplomacy covering three aspects: curriculum contents, teaching methods and teaching goals. It argues that the curriculum contents have the following shortcomings: poor awareness of the real problems in China's diplomatic practices, lack of global awareness that is consistent with China's image as a great country, blurring of the boundaries between academic and

policy systems, oversight of practices and lack of good understanding of ancient, early modern and contemporary Chinese diplomacy and lack of adequate training in research methodologies. Teaching methods are problematic as the continued dependence on traditional historical research methods has failed to recognise the usefulness of theoretical analytic tools. Also, the value of case studies has not been fully recognised and utilised. With regard to teaching goals, Chinese diplomatic teaching desperately needs some vitality. This article makes recommendations for improving Chinese education in diplomacy, such as applying psychology in diplomatic education, offering a course on comparative diplomacy, developing a course on diplomacy theory, emphasising diplomatic history and improving the training in social sciences research methodologies.

Israel Affairs

Volume 18, Issue 2, 2012

Israel's foreign policy

Author- Yitzhak Mualem

Abstract

Arms sales are a prominent issue in Israeli foreign policy. This subject has influenced the history of the state in the international arena. Arms sales serve two main goals: economic improvement, and a means for shaping the domestic policy of the recipient state. The government of Israel has acted to improve its relations with the recipient countries in the political and strategic areas in the framework of its foreign aid to those countries. Yet it has acted to change the policy in those countries – Ethiopia, Argentina and Iran – pertaining to their indigenous Jewish communities.

The influences of global news messages on national governability

Author- David Mekelberg

Abstract

The environment has been forced to the margins of Israeli political discourse in the past and has received little attention from formal institutes. Nevertheless, since the mid-1980s, environmental consciousness and public discourse have increased, mainly encouraged by Israeli civil society. This paper argues that since Israeli governmental and educational systems do not deal with environmental issues, the development of environmentalism in Israeli society is the outcome of a three-step process: first, an increase in the homogenization of cross-border messages; in turn this contributes to the homogenization of principles, norms, rules and decision-making procedures; and finally, plays a role in creating a greater sense of belonging to the global community. The paper probes the development of global environmental messages' influence on Israeli society and politics between the two first main UN environmental conferences of 1972 and 1992 by

presenting a qualitative and quantitative analysis of *The New York Times* (USA), *The Times* (UK) and *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot Ahronot* (Israel) during the time of these conferences. A comprehensive survey is presented, along with interviews with representatives from 78 environmental NGOs in Israel that were established by 1995.

Europe Asia Studies

Volume 64, Issue 3, 2012

Russia's International Images and its Energy Policy

Author-Valentina Feklyunina

Abstract

In recent years, the Russian authorities have invested significant effort into promoting a positive image of Russia as an energy supplier. Yet, Russia's behaviour sometimes seems to contradict the declared aim of improving this image. A particularly interesting case is the way the Russian authorities and Gazprom handled the dispute with Ukraine over gas prices in December 2008–January 2009, when the transit of Russian gas to a number of EU member states via Ukraine was seriously affected. This essay argues that in order to understand Russia's position during the crisis, one should take into account the impact of international images on Russian politics, in particular self-images and constructed images that the Russian authorities have been projecting in the West and in Russia itself.

The Russian Far East in Russia's Asia Policy

Author- Natasha Kuhrt

Abstract

The Russian Far East has, since Gorbachev, been used in foreign-policy discourse as a tool to access the integrative processes of the Asia-Pacific. However, vulnerability, symbolised by the border with China and the asymmetry of the Sino–Russian economic relationship, highlights the geopolitical and geoeconomic implications of engagement with the Asia-Pacific. The ‘modernisation’ agenda, which became a *leitmotiv* of the Medvedev administration, focused attention on the challenges of development in this region, but development within this agenda tends to be based on the most optimistic scenarios, and development plans for the border areas are heavily geared towards China. Integration with the Asia-Pacific is often advocated as a means of escaping economic dependence on China, but approaches and strategies remain overly politicised.

Contemporary Security Policy

Volume 33, Issue 1, 2012

Organizing for Counter-insurgency: Explaining Doctrinal Adaptation in Britain and Germany

Author- Tom Dyson

Abstract

Why do allies not adapt evenly even in time of war? This article maps and explains differentiation in the development of the stabilization and counter-insurgency doctrines of the British and German militaries during deployment in Afghanistan. In doing so the study analyses the neglected issue of the organizational capabilities of the British and German militaries to develop and apply military doctrine that is appropriate to the exigencies of the contemporary operational environment. Drawing upon documentary analysis and semi-structured interviews, this article uncovers new empirical material on the institutional reforms which have been undertaken to strengthen the adaptability of doctrine and its application in operations. It finds that while the British military's organizational capabilities were characterized by deficits at the tactical level between 2006 and 2009, recent years have seen significant improvement. In contrast, the organizational capabilities of the German military remain stunted. While international structure is the main independent variable driving doctrinal adaptability, domestic variables exogenous to the military are the dominant intervening factor determining the development of effective organizational capabilities. Neoclassical realism provides the strongest analytical leverage in understanding the factors determining the capacity of militaries to adapt doctrine to the operational environment.

Deterring Conventional Terrorism

Author- John Gearson

Abstract

This article considers the developing role of deterrence in countering conventional terrorist threats, tracing the post-9/11 rejection and later rediscovery of deterrence as a tool of counter-terrorism. Why do so many policymakers assume that the 'new' terrorism represented such a break with the past? Why was deterrence neglected as a consequence, under the belief that few terrorists do not aspire to be strategic in their campaigns? To the contrary, this analysis shows that most terrorists are open to attempts at coercion and in particular can be influenced by denial-based strategies. In the case of the United Kingdom, denial-based strategies successfully diverted a potentially crippling campaign of economic dislocation in the 1990s, with lessons for today's challenges.

International Security

Vol. 36, No. 4: Spring 2012

Targeting Top Terrorists

Author- Bryan C. Price

Abstract

Several states, including Israel and the United States, have put decapitation tactics, which seek to kill or capture leaders of terrorist organizations, at the forefront of their counterterrorism efforts. The vast majority of scholarly work on decapitation suggests, however, that leadership decapitation is ineffective at best and counterproductive at worst. Contrary to this conventional wisdom, leadership decapitation significantly increases the mortality rate of terrorist groups, although the results indicate that the effect of decapitation decreases with the age of the group, even to a point where it may have no effect at all. This finding helps to explain the previously perplexing mixed record of decapitation effectiveness. Terrorist groups are especially susceptible to leadership decapitation because their organizational characteristics (they are violent, clandestine, and values based) amplify the difficulties of leadership succession.

Does Decapitation Work? Assessing the Effectiveness of Leadership Targeting in Counterinsurgency Campaigns

Author- Patrick B. Johnston

Abstract

Is killing or capturing insurgent leaders an effective tactic? Previous research on interstate war and counterterrorism has suggested that targeting enemy leaders does not work. Most studies of the efficacy of leadership decapitation, however, have relied on unsystematic evidence and poor research design. An analysis based on fresh evidence and a new research design indicates the opposite relationship and yields four key findings. First, campaigns are more likely to end quickly when counterinsurgents successfully target enemy leaders. Second, counterinsurgents who capture or kill insurgent leaders are significantly more likely to defeat insurgencies than those who fail to capture or kill such leaders. Third, the intensity of a conflict is likelier to decrease following the successful removal of an enemy leader than it is after a failed attempt. Fourth, insurgent attacks are more likely to decrease after successful leadership decapitations than after failed attempts.

Survival

Volume 54, Issue 2, 2012

Turkey and America Face Iran

Author-Aaron Stein

Abstract

Rapidly unfolding events in the Middle East, particularly in Syria, provide Washington and Ankara both motivation and opportunity to cooperate over how best to blunt Iranian influence.

Libya's Assets and the Question of Sovereignty

Author- Leonardo Bellodi

Abstract

International law remains silent on who should represent a state, and contains no criteria to distinguish between legitimate and illegitimate governments.

American Grand Strategy and the Democratic Peace

Author- Paul D. Miller

Abstract

US foreign policies for two decades have been justified with reference to the spread of democracy and human rights. As a grand narrative to explain America's role in the world, there is no credible alternative.

Contemporary South Asia

Volume 20, Issue 1, 2012

Judging democracy in Pakistan

Author- Mohammad Waseem

Abstract

This article deals with the judicialization of politics in Pakistan under the Supreme Court Chief Justice Choudhry (2009–). Confrontation between the executive and judiciary under him led to speculation about the imminent collapse of the democratic system, given the history of military take-over in the country. The use of judicial review, whereby the Court exercised the power of interpreting the Constitution with impunity, was widely criticized as an attempt to encroach on the territory of the legislature through case law. At the institutional level, the Court sought to exercise veto power over the appointment of judges and to deny the right of oversight to any government agency. The Court's pursuit of public interest litigation through frequent *suo motu* actions taken in a populist mode led to brinkmanship on the part of the executive and judiciary. Despite this power play, the Court's operations fell into the category of *modus operandi*, instead of being a fight to the finish. However, the Court's pursuit of judicial reform relating to cheap and speedy justice and accountability of the higher judiciary remained far from satisfactory.

Dissipated energy: Indian electric power and the politics of blame

Author- Elizabeth Chatterjee

Abstract

This article presents the Indian electricity sector as a case study of the evasion of responsibility in public policy. India's electricity policy repeatedly fails to meet its own targets and is universally lambasted as inadequate. The state appears aware of many of the reasons for these failures, yet policies have consistently failed to make effective corrections. Part of the explanation for this institutional and policy stasis lies in the pervasive shirking of responsibility by actors throughout the electricity sector. The sector is analysed to explore the mechanisms through which responsibility is displaced, deflected or dissipated. These mechanisms include 'agency', 'presentational' and 'policy' strategies, which are both pre-emptively and reactively deployed. Using these strategies, responsibility is shifted through (1) institutional architecture which formally delegates power to other actors, especially exploiting the ambiguity in federalism, sectoralism, privatization and decentralization; (2) rhetorical displacement of blame onto other actors or 'exogenous' factors and (3) everyday policy procedures and bureaucratic practices designed to distance officials from decision making.

African Affairs

Volume 111 Issue 443, April 2012

The big fish won't fry themselves: Criminal accountability for post-election violence in Kenya

Author-Stephen Brown

Abstract

This article examines the demand for criminal accountability for the atrocities committed after Kenya's contested December 2007 elections. It explains why, despite strong popular desire for accountability through prosecutions and the threat of and actual International Criminal Court (ICC) involvement, the government has failed to take concrete steps to try those believed primarily responsible. The article argues that the fundamental reason why the government has not initiated systematic prosecutions in regular domestic courts – or created, as promised, a hybrid national/international tribunal – is that those in charge of establishing these processes are, in many cases, those whom it would prosecute or their close allies. A hybrid tribunal now seems unlikely and credible national trials are an improbable alternative, though there are some reasons to be more optimistic following the new constitution of 2010. For the time being only international justice, which is beyond the government's reach, can achieve a breakthrough in criminal accountability, albeit in a very limited way.

Security, development, and force: Revisiting police reform in Sierra Leone

Author- Erlend Grøner Krogstad

Abstract

This article adds empirical and historical depth to the debate about security sector reform (SSR) by analysing British-led reform of the Sierra Leone Police (SLP) against the backdrop of late-colonial policing reforms. It argues that the security–development logic that frames SSR skates gingerly over a difficult problem familiar from the late-colonial period: that of investing sufficient coercive capacity in the state for it to withstand threats without simultaneously making it more effective at oppression. Whereas colonial discourse balanced the goal of introducing a civilian order against relatively specific advice on how to organize and use force in emergencies, the security–development discourse offers little guidance as to the type and level of force the police should be equipped with in the service of development.

Foreign Policy Analysis

Volume 8, Issue 1, January 2012

Assigning Role Characteristics to China

Author-Chih-yu Shih

Abstract

This paper distinguishes and integrates national identity and national image through a deep role analysis. It argues that the meaning of China's rising rests upon the views of those who evaluate China's role playing. This role analysis mediates between

international relations and Chinese foreign policy. It also mediates between China watchers and their China. The two dimensions of role–role taking and role making–generate four different discursive approaches to interpreting the rise of China, each in its own way associated with the affects of opportunity and threat. They are “nation state,” “civilization,” “Tianxia,” and “Asianism.” In response to the external view on the rise of China, Chinese narrators often take the Tianxia and nation state approaches as components of their conception of national role. These conceptions mediated by role-making and role-taking, evolve into four possible strategic focuses—national interests, imperialism, sovereignty and center-periphery. While this last strategic focus on role-taking has recently attracted enthusiastic response in China, it has been re-appropriated by social science concepts such as soft power and social capital that assume an egoistic role-making China is on the move.

Conflicting Role Conceptions

The European Union in Global Politics

Author- Rikard Bengtsson,

Abstract

This article utilizes role theory for analysing the role(s) of the European Union (EU) in global politics. Specifically addressing the interplay of the EU’s own role perception and the role expectations held by other actors, the article contributes two case studies of the role(s) of the EU in relation to two important but different actor groupings—Eastern Europe including Russia and the ACP countries in the developing world, respectively. The analysis points to the tensions that exist between self-perceptions and the perceptions of the EU’s counterparts in Eastern Europe and the developing world, and how these tensions influences the interaction between the actors.

The Round Table

Volume 101, Issue 2, 2012

Fractured International Environmental Governance and the Potential Role of the Commonwealth in Biodiversity and Climate Change

Author- Charles Sampford

Abstract

This paper begins by examining the reasons behind most failures of governance, including fault lines in institutional and professional specialisation, and in ideology. These three, forever competing within and between themselves, frustrate attempts to find solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges. Not least among these are environmental challenges, where preferences and priorities that are geographically, professionally or ideologically narrow inevitably fail to achieve solutions for the greater good. What role can the Commonwealth play in addressing the fracture lines that bedevil solutions for climate change and biodiversity? It may help to stimulate global action on these issues if it can encourage agreement across multidimensional global boundaries. We know the Commonwealth is not a leading global force for controlling climate change or biodiversity loss; but if it had the political will it could be an exemplar of how, between a group of vastly diverse countries across the globe—and on the global political stage—binding agreement and positive action on climate change and biodiversity could be promoted and perhaps achieved. One of the strongest features of the Commonwealth is the generation of long-standing legal and ethical norms whose appeal is obvious even if their implementation is lacking. These norms should not be limited to the rule of law, democracy and human rights, but should include environmental norms because these too are fundamental to a satisfactory human condition.

The Quest for a United Nations Specialised Agency for the Environment

Author- Bharat H. Desai

Abstract

Recent years have seen intense intergovernmental deliberations on issues concerning governance in the field of environment. Their aim has been to address the role of the institutions that provide platforms for international environmental cooperation. There are two main lines of enquiry: the role of regime-specific institutions that cater to sectoral regulatory frameworks (popularly known as multilateral environmental agreements, or MEAs); and the role of institutions that are established to follow up on global environmental conferences or a specific environmental task. Most of these institutions reflect intergovernmental consensual process. However, there are concerns about their proliferation and there is a growing cacophony of calls to 'bring coherence to the fragmented landscape of MEAs, intergovernmental bodies, UN system entities and other international organizations' (Sha Zukang (2011) 'Legal and policy dimensions of sustainable development: expected contribution of Rio + 20', *Environmental Policy and Law*, 41(6), pp. 244–246, at p. 245). In fact the need to bring order to environmental governance has assumed great importance and urgency if environmental cooperation is to be achieved. This paper explores, in

particular, the role of the United Nations Environment Programme and its potential for conversion to a specialised agency of the UN.

Comparative Political Studies

March 2012; 45 (3)

An Irrational Party of Rational Members The Collision of Legislators' Reelection Quest With Party Success in the Japan Socialist Party

Author- Ko Maeda

Abstract

This study presents a new explanation to a puzzle regarding the reluctance of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) to moderate its hard-liner Marxist platform. The author does so by focusing on the preferences and strategies of individual JSP members, in contrast to previous studies that treat the party as a unitary actor. The author shows that Japan's electoral system created a unique environment in which the electoral prospects for some JSP incumbents would be seriously jeopardized if their party increased its popular support. The analysis demonstrates that the degree of security JSP politicians had in retaining their own seats was a significant determinant in their attitudes toward a proposed policy moderation plan that was considered during a critical period in the early 1960s that could have increased support for the party.

The Political Effectiveness of Terrorism Revisited

Author- Max Abrahms

Abstract

Terrorists attack civilians to coerce their governments into making political concessions. Does this strategy work? To empirically assess the effectiveness of terrorism, the author exploits variation in the target selection of 125 violent substate campaigns. The results show that terrorist campaigns against civilian targets are significantly less effective than guerrilla campaigns against military targets at inducing government concessions. The negative political effect of terrorism is evident across logit model specifications after carefully controlling for tactical confounds. Drawing on political psychology, the author

concludes with a theory to account for why governments resist compliance when their civilians are targeted.