

American Foreign Policy Interests

Volume 34, Issue 2, 2012

Rethinking America's Joint Force: Strength and Credibility in a Constrained Fiscal Environment

Author-Wayne Porter

Abstract

In today's constrained fiscal environment, we must "re-mission" a smaller, more interdependent Joint Force with an emphasis on capability rather than capacity. America's military is primarily intended to defend the nation from attack, prevent and deter war, and when required, to win decisively in operations ranging from low-end irregular warfare through high-end conventional warfare. In this century, our nation's economic strength, values, and credible influence will play as much a role in sustaining our security and prosperity as will military power. Working closely with other departments of the government as well as with partners and allies, the Department of Defense must rely on three key stakeholders—Congress, the service chiefs, and the combatant commanders—to shape a strong and adaptive military. Rather than focusing on traditional ends, ways, and means, this article addresses the "concept, form, and function" our Joint Force should pursue in support of the National Security Strategy.

Triple-Pronged Engagement: China's Approach to North Korea

Author- John Delury

Abstract

For U.S. policymakers, the question of China's approach to North Korea is critical, because whether Washington likes it or not, the road to Pyongyang now leads through Beijing. Seoul, too, is looking to Beijing to handle Pyongyang. But South Korean anxieties over China's intentions and American reliance on Beijing's "leverage" obscure a clear picture of China's actual approach to North Korea. When considered with the cold eyes of foreign policy realism, China's approach reveals itself to be "neighborly engagement" based on three prongs: bilateral political ties, bilateral economic cooperation, and multilateral diplomatic engagement (the Six Party Talks). That is the reality with which U.S. and South Korean strategists have to work.

The Russian Diaspora in International Relations

Author-Andy Byford

Abstract

The article examines the harnessing of the contemporary Russian diaspora in certain domains of Russia's international relations. It looks specifically at Russian officialdom's ambivalent efforts at developing and engaging with a global network of state-backed diaspora associations, especially as instruments of cultural outreach. The focus is on the relatively recent implementation of this strategy in the West. The first half of the article discusses the ideological ambiguities of this project in general terms; the second examines how it plays itself out in practice, on the example of the United Kingdom. The article suggests that analysing the ambiguities established in the relationship between state and diasporic structures in this context is vital to understanding the current role of the Russian state in the politics of Russian diasporisation.

Purchasing Power: Oil, Elections and Regime Durability in Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan

Author- Andrea Kendall-Taylor

Abstract

This article examines the link between oil abundance and regime durability by providing insight into how and why oil-rich leaders use elections to maintain power. Using data from presidential elections in Central Asia, the article argues that oil-rich leaders are better able to manipulate their economies in the run-up to elections than their resource-poor counterparts. Oil-rich leaders use oil profits to increase pre-electoral spending to increase popular support, to deter potential opposition and to secure elite loyalty. Such electorally timed increases in spending help oil-rich leaders increase their re-election prospects and ensure their continued control over their countries' resources.

Pacific Affairs

Volume 85, Number 2, June 2012

Japanese-South Korean Textbook Talks

Author-Sakaki, Alexandra

Abstract

One of the most notorious issues haunting Japanese-South Korean relations is the controversy over textbook depictions of Japan's colonial rule and war atrocities in the early twentieth century. In recent years, a number of bilateral projects have been launched on both the non-governmental and governmental level, seeking to narrow divergences in historical perceptions. Focusing on the Japanese side, this article assesses the impact of recent non-governmental textbook projects, arguing that these projects—while important and encouraging—have a limited capacity to prompt changes in educational policies. Textbook talks officially endorsed by the government and supported by a critical mass of politicians remain indispensable to promote a transnational reconstruction of the past. Based on a comparison between Japanese-South Korean and German-Polish government-backed talks, the paper identifies how decision makers can help foster an atmosphere conducive to the work of bilateral textbook commissions. It concludes that a key requirement for successful talks is that politicians, utilizing a variety of measures, pursue the dual goal of demonstrating high-level commitment to the talks and shielding the work proactively from nationalistic pressures. In contrast to their German counterparts, Japanese political elites have so far failed to pursue such an environment, casting doubts about progress in the textbook dispute for the foreseeable future.

Social Mobilization of the Underdogs: The Damansara Save Our School Movement in Malaysia

Author- Ang, Ming-Chee

Abstract

How are social movements of the underdogs sustained and how are the constraints experienced by these movements overcome, in particular, constraints imposed by non-liberal democratic states? Using the Damansara Save Our School movement in Malaysia as its case study, this article describes factors that led to the successful resistance of the Damansara New Village community against the closure of its community school, the Damansara Chinese Primary School. Although inexperienced in social movement activities, from a village, small in size, and financially and socially disadvantaged, the villagers of Damansara New Village successfully sustained their resistance for seven years and eventually procured compromises from the Malaysian authorities, which reopened the school premises in January 2009. Lacking access to democratic institutions in the country, the Damansara Save Our School movement relied on unconventional, yet highly institutionalized, resistance methods to mobilize support and engage in political contention. This

article analyzes three components that led to the movement's successful endurance: institutionalization of the Save Our School Committee as the main mobilization machinery; formation of a temple school that sustained the functioning of the school, physically and symbolically; and dynamic adaptation of movement repertoires to overcome constraints imposed by the stronger and not so liberal state. For the movement community and supporters alike, the reopening of the school premises in 2009 attests to the miracle of everyday resistance by underdogs in surmounting unjust policies imposed by a powerful state.

Contemporary South Asia

Volume 20, Issue 2, 2012

A state in flux: Pakistan in the context of national and regional change

Author- C. Christine Fair

Abstract

Over the past 10 years, Pakistan has passed through some of the most turbulent and difficult times in its history. The war in Afghanistan post 9/11 has put Pakistan on the front line of the war on terrorism and provoked violent Islamic militancy within Pakistan and some grave policy choices for Pakistan itself. Riven in addition by the natural disasters of earthquakes and floods and hobbled by political instability, economic woes, and deep social, religious and ethnic divisions, Pakistan has reached a point of great flux with important national and regional changes imminent. This collection of six essays focus on critical elements of this flux – political Islam, militancy and religious minorities, political patronage and democracy, the economic impacts of the floods and Pakistan's relations with the US and its regional foreign policy – to identify key trends which will shape Pakistan's future.

The US–Pakistan relations after a decade of the war on terror

Author- C. Christine Fair

Abstract

This essay examines the arc of the US–Pakistan relations amid the developments of the last decade of the war on terror. It argues that Washington's pursuit of dehyphenated relations with India and Pakistan, and failure to follow through on early promises to Pakistan, made it more likely that Pakistan would again return to a policy of supporting the Taliban and increase Pakistan's dependence upon Islamist terror groups to prosecute its security interests. After a decade of fraught ties, culminating in a particularly tumultuous year in 2011, the US and Pakistan seemed poised for collision. With no remedy in sight, this rupture in the US–Pakistan relations will have enormous implications for regional and international security.

Third World Quarterly

Volume 33, Issue 6, 2012

Police in the Development Space: Australia's international police capacity builders

Author-Vandra Harris

Abstract

International police now contribute the second largest proportion of personnel to peacekeeping missions after militaries. They are thus key contributors to post-conflict transitions in developing countries. In the past decade Australian police have played a major role in a range of international missions in the Asia-Pacific region, partially funded by Australia's international development budget. Increasingly the Australian Federal Police, as Australia's lead agency in this area, has explicitly adopted the development language of capacity building to describe a significant part of their role. This paper considers the contribution of Australian police to building or developing the capacity of new and/or re-formed police forces following conflict. It also examines the degree to which international police missions are able to contribute to broader development goals and achievements within these settings. In doing so, it engages with the question of 'outsiders' (non-development professionals) performing development work in the increasingly populated space of post-conflict recovery and reconstruction.

Reframing Development through Collaboration: towards a relational ontology of connection in Bawaka, North East Arnhem Land

Author- Kate Lloyd

Abstract

This paper draws on the collaborative experiences of three female academics and three generations of Yolŋu women from an Aboriginal family from Bawaka, North East Arnhem Land to contribute to debates in development around participation, power and justice. Through a reflection on the process of collaboratively co-authoring two books and associated outputs, the paper discusses the way the collaboration is guided by collective priorities that are held as paramount: trust, reciprocity, relationships and sharing goals. The paper draws particular attention to the essential role that families and non-human agents play in shaping these priorities. The relational ontology which underlies this collaboration is inspired by a Yolŋu ontology of connection that requires us to acknowledge ourselves as connected to each other, to other people and to other things. Guided by this Indigenous ontological framework, we reframe the concept of collaboration and of development as inherently and always relational.

Third World Quarterly

Volume 33, Issue 5, 2012

Education, Development and the Imaginary Global Consensus

Author- Jonas Lindberg

Abstract

In the context of knowledge-intensive globalisation and severe poverty, policy makers in the South face various educational planning dilemmas. These are ultimately political, implying that there are no ways of avoiding tensions and trade-offs when attempting to handle them. Such dilemmas have been subject to debate in the research community and have been framed differently in different historical contexts. The contemporary development policy discourse, however, largely conceals the existence of dilemmas by suggesting that we have reached a global consensus regarding the role of education in development. This article illustrates that this consensus is imaginary and consequently aims to reframe educational planning dilemmas in the contemporary policy context. It is shown that the dilemmas have changed character and now largely revolve around how to navigate and negotiate in highly complex political landscapes. Future research should focus on such ongoing wars of position and expose the many tensions concealed by the hegemonic policy discourse.

Africa's Quest for Developmental States

Author- Timothy M Shaw

Abstract

After a generally disappointing half-century since recapturing formal independence, at the turn of the second decade of the 21st century, Africa(s) may now be able to seize unanticipated emerging opportunities to move from 'fragile' or 'failed' towards 'developmental' political economies. The continent displays innovations in terms of sources of finance, new regionalisms & transnational governance leading to distinctive insights for analysis & policy, both state & non-state. Its potential for renaissance is reinforced by South Africa's accession as the fifth of the BRICS at the dawn of the decade.

Comparative Political Studies

June 2012; 45 (6)

Authoritarian Responses to Foreign Pressure Spending, Repression, and Sanctions

Author-Abel Escribà-Folch

Abstract

This article explores how international sanctions affect authoritarian rulers' decisions concerning repression and public spending composition. Rulers whose budgets are not severely constrained by sanctions will tend to increase spending in those categories that most benefit their core support groups. When budget constraints are severe, dictators are more likely to increase repression. Using data on regime types, public expenditures and spending composition (1970–2000) as well as on repression levels (1976–2001), I show that the empirical patterns conform well to the theoretical expectations. Single-party regimes, when targeted by sanctions, increase spending on subsidies and transfers which largely benefit their key constituencies. Likewise, military regimes increase their expenditures on goods and services, which include military equipment and soldiers' and officers' wages. Conversely, personalist regimes targeted by sanctions reduce spending in all categories and thus increase repression more than other autocracies.

Accounting for the Effects of Identity on Political Behavior

Author- Steven L. Burg

Abstract

This article examines the determinants of identification within the autonomous communities (ACs) of Spain and explores whether "activated identities" guide behavior. The authors test this hypothesized effect empirically and demonstrate that regional and especially (non-Spanish) national activated identity affect preferences for exclusionary policies and for greater autonomy or independence for the AC. Both preferences and activated identities increase the likelihood of voting for regional, rather than statewide, political parties. The authors argue that the strength of attachment to identity (i.e., to the AC to or Spain) and the effect of identities on preferences constitute the mechanisms that link identity to behaviors.

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism

Volume 35, Issue 5, 2012

Combating Terrorism in the New Media Environment

Author-John Curtis Amble

Abstract

Since the 1990s, *jihadist* terrorists have leveraged the power of the Internet in more imaginative ways than state security services charged with countering them. Terrorist groups are now harnessing the unique characteristics of the new media environment that has taken shape in the past decade, while security services struggle to conceptualize this rapidly evolving virtual landscape. But new media offers unique opportunities to these services, particularly intelligence agencies, to confront the terrorist threat. Identifying and exploiting these opportunities, both strategic and tactical, will lend critical advantage to governments in their worldwide confrontation with global *jihadists*.

Analysis of *Jihadi* Terrorism Incidents in Western Europe, 2001–2010

Author- Javier Jordan

Abstract

This article offers a descriptive analysis of *jihadi* terrorist activity in Western Europe during the years 2001–2010. Following collection and classification, the information has been analyzed using the following variables: target countries, terrorist method used, stays in training camps, links to organizations, and degree of completion of the terrorist incidents.

International Relations

June 2012 26 (2)

International Policing and International Relations

Author- B.K. Greener

Abstract

The idea of creating an international police force (IPF) was first mooted by Lord David Davies in the 1930s. In 1963 U Thant, Secretary General of the United Nations, then

claimed that he had ‘no doubt that the world should eventually have an international police force’. Yet our international system has been and continues to be based on states, their sovereignty and a correlative ‘inside/outside’ distinction: a distinction which is resistant to this idea of some form of systematic international policing writ large. Instead of the establishment of an IPF, a new form of international policing has emerged through the unprecedented use of police abroad and the potential consolidation of more specific operational policing norms.

Toward a Completely Constructivist Critical Terrorism Studies

Author- Jacob L. Stump

Abstract

This paper uses Patrick Thaddeus Jackson’s monism/dualism distinction to clarify ongoing methodological debates among students of critical terrorism studies (CTS). We map the distinction onto the CTS literature and emphasize the distinctive ontological starting points and the distinctive epistemological frameworks entailed by each perspective. Then we critically engage monistic, or interpretivist, CTS research, especially that of Richard Jackson. We argue for a more methodologically explicit and logically consistent interpretivist CTS and we suggest three important steps that researchers can take to achieve this aim: (i) take an explicit ontological stance; (ii) embrace reflexivity; (iii) conceptualize terrorism as a meaning-making practice.

Journal of Conflict Resolution

February 2012; 56 (1)

Why Split? Organizational Splits among Ethnopolitical Organizations in the Middle East

Author- Victor Asal

Abstract

Why do political organizations split? Drawing insight from organizational theory and social movement literature, this article explores the effect of organizational factors on group schism. Using a new data set of 112 ethnopolitical organizations in the Middle East, the article examines to what extent organizational factors such as leadership structure, organizational legality, and tactical intensity, as well as contextual variables such as state violence and external support for the organization, influence group

schism. Findings show that organizations with a factional or competing leadership structure and those that use violence as a tactic are at a greater risk to split. Contrary to research on political parties, which highlight the importance of factional leadership structure in relation to the maintenance and growth of the party organization, findings suggest that competing leadership structure, along with the employment of tactical violence, precipitates ethnopolitical organizational fission and eventual splintering.

Commitment Problems or Bidding Wars? Rebel Fragmentation as Peace Building

Author- Jesse Driscoll

Abstract

After highly fragmented civil wars, order is often secured through the selective co-optation of rebel field commanders and atomized insurgents. This paper presents a formal model of civil war settlement as a coalition formation game between various regime and rebel factions. This approach emphasizes the ability of installed civilian rulers to lure warlords into the state based on promises of future wealth, then use divide-and-rule tactics to pit different warlord factions against one another. Quantitative and qualitative data from Tajikistan, including an original data set of warlord incorporation and regime purges during wartime reconstruction, are used to evaluate the model.

East European Politics and Societies

May 2012; 26 (2)

Lessons from “Post-Yugoslav” Democratization

Author-Vedran Džihić

Abstract

State weakness is one of the main obstacles for democratic stability. Yet under certain circumstances even a mere electoral democracy may gain stable support from the citizenry. Mere electoral democracy is best understood as a regime of elite governance endowed by a certain support from the citizens but without any ambition of the ruling

elite to increase the quality of democratic rule. This article explores the historical reasons of this specific type of political regime in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia. Departing from the empirical examples from the Western Balkans, the article comes to some rather general conclusions about the concept and sequence of democratization: Conducting elections too early may produce serious challenges to sustainable democratization.

Perpetual Transitions

Contentious Property and Europeanization in South-Eastern Europe

Author- Alina Mungiu-Pippidi

Abstract

This article studies comparatively the property restitution policies of Eastern and Western Balkan countries, focusing mostly on internal and external constraints to a permanent solution. The role of the European Court of Human Rights is analyzed in depth, as well as the subtle shift of policy of the EU institutions from the earlier Eastern Balkan accession to the Western Balkans one. While the situation of property restitution in South-Eastern Europe provides clear evidence that Europeanization helps transformation, particularly if the EU openly assumes the role of a transformation agent, it also highlights the limits of its power.