

**Financializing security**

**Political prediction markets and the commodification of uncertainty**

Author-Rob Aitken

Abstract

The logics of 'finance' and 'security' have been enmeshed within each other in complicated ways since at least the start of the 20th century. As fields deeply alive to the possibilities and dangers associated with risk and uncertainty, finance and security occupy overlapping but uneven fields of operation. This article examines one particular financial mechanism – political prediction markets – in order to trace out the tensions and intersections of finance and security in one particular site. Political prediction markets are designed to harness the predictive power of the market to address an inherently uncertain object – the weather, political events, terrorism, etc. A series of recent cases – most notoriously a proposal by the Pentagon to construct a 'terrorism futures market' – have sought to recast political prediction markets as a security practice and to enlist these markets in the ongoing 'war on terror'.

**Towards a 'new' political anatomy of financial surveillance**

Author-Anthony Amicelle

Abstract

This article examines dynamics of financial surveillance and risk-based regulation in the context of ongoing activities to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. Close analysis of the situation in the UK reveals entangled forms of co-regulation and ultimately co-production of surveillance that challenge 'institutional boundaries' of the state regarding policing and intelligence practices. It is argued that ongoing transformations in the anti-money laundering field reveal a dual movement that combines forms of indirect administration with a process of 'neoliberal bureaucratization'. The article aims to show how current policies against 'dirty money' still paradoxically work on the basis of heterogeneous goals and misapprehensions between 'professionals of security' and 'professionals of finance'.

**China in Fiji: displacing traditional players**

Author- Jian Yang

Abstract

A widely held perception in Oceania is that China has taken the opportunity of Western sanctions against Fiji's military-led regime to expand its influence in Fiji. Observers and media in the region were alarmed by the sudden increase of China's pledged aid to Fiji shortly after the 2006 military takeover. They are concerned that China has a well-calculated strategy of displacing traditional Western players in Fiji, most notably Australia and New Zealand. Such concern is not well founded. While China does have multiple interests, including strategic interests, in Fiji, there is no clear evidence to suggest that China aims to displace the traditional players there. China's growing influence in Fiji is part of China's global rise. Both Australia and New Zealand are committed to Fiji and the South Pacific as a whole. Given its substantial interests in Australia and New Zealand, it is not in China's interest to increase its influence in Fiji at the cost of its relations with these two traditional players.

## **Substantiating the cohesion of the post-cold war US-Japan alliance**

**Author- Hyun-Wook Kim**

### **Abstract**

Notwithstanding current disarray, the post-cold war US-Japan alliance has enjoyed its most cohesive status in its history. Japan altered its passive cold war alliance policy and became a more active and equal partner with the United States. Even though there exist many explanations of what has caused this cohesiveness, there is hardly any attempt to substantiate the level of alliance cohesion itself. The purpose of this essay is to demonstrate the cohesion of this alliance by employing concrete operational indicators: homogeneity in goals, threat perception, strategic compatibility and command structure. By investigating how these operational indicators have changed over time, the author proves substantially that the post-cold war US-Japan alliance has developed more cohesively.

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## **Comparative Political Studies** **July 2011; 44 (7)**

### **Executive Elections in the Arab World**

**Author- Jason Brownlee**

### **Abstract**

Although elections loom large in the study of nondemocracies, scholars continue debating what function those elections play. This article sets evidence from the Arab world in a global context to evaluate three theorized roles for elections: safety valve, patronage network, and performance ritual. Executive elections in the Middle East and North Africa remain less common and less competitive than polls in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. This profile is largely consistent with the observable implications of leading theories. The data, though, also show theoretically rich differences. Although levels of competition and participation in Yemen, Tunisia, and Algeria fit expectations about elections being safety valves or political spectacles, Egypt's presidential election stands apart, with exceptionally meager public involvement. In such circumstances, where competition and turnout are both unusually low, other social and political phenomena may matter more than elections for regime survival, resource distribution, and the manifestation of state power.

### **Notionally Defined Contributions or Private Accounts in Eastern Europe**

**Author- Emanuel Emil Coman**

### **Abstract**

This article is concerned with what determines a government's choice of pension reform. It starts from an argument by Myles and Pierson that claims that the newer pension systems are able to privatize whereas the older, matured systems faced with the double payment problem tend to adopt notional defined contributions (NDC) accounts. This argument is retested with in-depth qualitative analysis of the pension reforms in Latvia and Poland. The analysis brings three main contributions. First, it shows that within the matured camp the double payment problem is visible at different degrees. The systems with little visibility, although mature, can still privatize. Second, it shows that the NDC option is fit to deal with more urgent fiscal problems, whereas the privatization option is fit for long-term demographic problems. Third, the analysis finds that the two options in Myles and Pierson's argument can be used by governments symbiotically.

**Israel Affairs**  
**Volume 17, Issue 3, July 2011**

**A revised look at online journalism in Israel**

**Author- Dan Caspi**

**Abstract**

The flourishing online press in Israel and its implications for Israeli society are assessed according to a four-stage media development model (penetration, institutionalization, self-defence and adaptation). During the first decade of the current millennium, the online press became entrenched, shifting from the penetration stage to the institutionalization stage. Since then, the printed press has been showing signs of adaptation to the new online press. It seems that the powerful media conglomerates have again succeeded in intensifying their hold on the new platform, leaving us with a new journalism but the old hegemony.

**Israeli public relations and the Internet**

**Author- Ruth Avidar**

**Abstract**

This paper explores Israeli online public relations practice, including Web 1.0, and social media usage among Israeli public relations practitioners and organizations. The paper demonstrates a gap between the dialogic potential of the Internet and its actual utilization by Israeli practitioners and organizations. Still, it is expected that Internet usage, and mainly social media usage among Israeli practitioners will grow as well as their awareness to the dialogic and interactive potential of social media.

**Intelligence and National Security**

**Volume 26, Issue 4, August 2011**

**Hearts and Minds, Cultural Awareness and Good Intelligence: The Blueprint for Successful Counter-insurgency**

**Author- Isabelle Duyvesteyn**

**Abstract**

Are a hearts and minds approach, reliable intelligence and cultural awareness the most important ingredients for success in counter-insurgency, as present prescriptions claim? This article focuses on some of the notable non-kinetic aspects of counter-insurgency and aims to critically reflect on their role and importance. It argues that the hearts and minds ideas, the emphasis on intelligence and cultural awareness are often problematic both for their methodological foundations and empirical weight. The article closes by identifying avenues for further research.

## **British Intelligence Failures in Iraq**

**Author- John N.L. Morrison**

### **Abstract**

This article looks at specific instances of how the United Kingdom's strategic culture dealt with two specific perceived security challenges – Afghanistan as the home of terrorism and Iraq as the supposed possessor of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) – and how the UK's cultural background both determined and misled those involved in the intelligence cycle. These were not new problems – the UK intelligence community had been aware of the potential for cultural bias for decades but repeatedly failed to learn the appropriate lessons. In the case of Iraq these endemic problems led to failures at all four stages of the traditional intelligence cycle – requirement-setting, collection, assessment and dissemination. The overall result was a loss of public confidence in intelligence which may have lessened its overall influence in the wider strategic culture for many years.

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### **East European Politics & Societies**

**May 2011; 25 (2)**

## **Dissidence, Republicanism, and Democratic Change**

**Author-Paul Blokker**

### **Abstract**

The dramatic changes of 1989 have been widely understood as the confirmation of Western, liberal democracy as the ultimate model of the modern polity. The fact that 1989 was about a dual language that not only emphasized the rule of law and the implementation of rights, but also articulated ideas of democracy alternative to the mainstream liberal-constitutional idea, has not been at the forefront of interpretations of post-1989 trajectories. This does not mean, though, that 1989 has not had implications for the democratic imaginary and structures emerging in the new democracies. Dissidence has had important even if less visible implications for democratic imaginary and structure in ways that are still being played out.

## **Hijacked Ideas**

### **Human Rights, Peace, and Environmentalism in Czechoslovak and Polish Dissident Discourses**

**Author-Kacper Szulecki**

### **Abstract**

Central European dissidents, although in many ways constrained by their post-totalitarian regimes, were nevertheless taking part in a transnational circulation of ideas. This article is inspired by contemporary studies of cultural (g)localization and links them to the research on dissent to show that the dissident intellectuals in Central Europe (the particular contexts of Czechoslovakia and Poland are investigated) were not only the receivers, but also retransmitters and “generators,” of “universal” ideas. To grasp their role and to understand the nature of “universal” ideas, it is necessary to look into domestic contexts to see how internationally functioning ideas are localized—that is, recontextualized and translated. What is more, locally altered meanings can influence the international “originals” so that a new meaning can be renegotiated.

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### **International Relations of the Asia Pacific**

**Volume 11 Issue 1, January 2011**

### **East Asian relative peace and the ASEAN Way**

**Author- Timo Kivimäki**

#### **Abstract**

East Asia has experienced a drastic decline in incidences of warfare and has had exceptionally low levels of battle deaths after 1979. However, East Asian peace had already begun in 1967 inside ASEAN. Is it possible that East Asian peace began in ASEAN and spread to the rest of East Asia? This is the question that this article aims to tackle by showing the association between a reasonable and plausible explanation, the ASEAN Way, and East Asian peace after 1979. The argument about the role of the ASEAN approach in the pacification of East Asia is based on an examination of the patterns of frequency of conflicts, numbers of battle deaths and conflict termination. In this kind of examination, it seems that the recipes for peace in East Asia after 1979 are similar to those of ASEAN after 1967, and that their relationship to conflicts was also very similar.

### **Japan's alliance diversification: a comparative analysis of the Indian and Australian strategic partnerships**

**Author- Thomas S. Wilkins**

#### **Abstract**

As part of its movement toward 'normal country' status, Japan has begun to engage in a policy of alliance/alignment restructuring and diversification. This is a twin-track policy – the reconfiguration of existing allied relationships and the creation of new cooperative bilateral links. In recent years, Tokyo has deepened its ties with the United States and Australia on the one hand, while cultivating new partners such as India, as well as several Southeast Asian states. This article examines the nature and dynamics of two of the most important new strategic partnerships: India and Australia.

### **Salvage or Plunder? Israel's "Collection" of Private Palestinian Libraries in West Jerusalem**

**Author- Gish Amit**

#### **Abstract**

During April–May 1948, almost the entire population of the residential Arab neighborhoods of West Jerusalem fled the fighting, leaving behind fully furnished houses, some with rich libraries. This article is about the "book salvage operation" conducted by the Jewish National and University Library, which added tens of thousands of privately owned Palestinian books to its collections. Based on primary archival documents and interviews, the article describes the beginnings and progress of the operation as well as the changing fortunes of the books themselves at the National Library. The author concludes with

an exploration of the operation's dialectical nature (salvage and plunder), the ambivalence of those involved, and an assessment of the final outcome.

### **Palestinian Citizens of Israel and the Discourse on the Right of Return, 1948-59**

**Author-** Maha Nassar

#### **Abstract**

This article traces the evolving discourse on the "right of refugee return" among the Palestinian citizens of Israel during the first decade of Israeli statehood, with emphasis on the role of the local Arabic press in shaping and reflecting that discourse. More particularly, it focuses on al-Ittihad, the organ of the communist party (MAKI), which paid the greatest attention to the refugee issue. In tracing the party's shift from a humanistic/anti-imperialist stance on the issue to one emphasizing the refugees' inalienable right to return, the article sheds light on MAKI's political strategy vis-à-vis the Palestinian minority. It also illustrates the political vibrancy in the early years of the community, generally viewed simplistically in terms of a pre-1967 quiescence and post-1967 politicization.

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### **Journal of Peace Research**

May 2011; 48 (3)

### **Transnational terrorism, US military aid, and the incentive to misrepresent**

**Author-** Navin A Bapat

#### **Abstract**

This study proposes a strategic explanation for the USA's continued provision of military aid to host states with problems of terrorism, despite its poor empirical record. Using a game theoretic model, I demonstrate that US military aid creates a moral hazard problem. If host states are provided with the tools to pacify their territory only if terrorist campaigns are ongoing, but will lose this aid once the problem of terrorism ceases, host states have little incentive to accelerate the demise of terrorist groups. However, the model demonstrates that while military aid does not accomplish the US goal of disarming terrorists, military aid is effective at preventing host states from negotiating with terrorist organizations. The provision of military aid provides a disincentive for host states to reach a negotiated settlement with terrorist groups, and therefore prevents terrorist organizations from altering the status quo that is favorable to the USA.

### **The adverse effect of transnational and domestic terrorism on growth in Africa**

**Author-** Todd Sandler

## **Abstract**

This article investigates the adverse effects of domestic and transnational terrorism on income per capita growth for 51 African countries for 1970–2007, while accounting for cross-sectional (spatial) dependence and conflict (i.e. internal conflicts and external wars). The findings of the fixed-effects panel estimator suggest that transnational terrorism has a significant, but modest, marginal impact on income per capita growth. These results hold for two different terrorism event datasets. However, domestic terrorist events do not affect income per capita growth. Our findings differ from those in an earlier study on the impact of transnational terrorism on African growth, because we uncover a much more moderate effect. In our study, regional impacts and terrorism–conflict interactions effects are also distinguished.

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## **International Studies Perspectives**

**Volume 12, Issue 3, August 2011**

### **Torture in the Public Mind**

**Author-Jennifer Ramos**

#### **Abstract**

This study considers the clash between views on what is ethically permissible and the claimed imperatives of the war on terror. It does so by examining the forms of reasoning that members of the US public apply when judging the acceptability of torture as a tool of that war. Moral judgments are formed around two models of ethical reasoning. The first, usually referred to as the *deontological* perspective, deems that the ethical merit of an act is intrinsic to its character. The second, *consequentialist*, view, evaluates ethical merit by the consequences an act produces (for example, lying might be good). Because, however, policies often are judged in light of both perspectives, ethical impulses do not always point in the same direction. Our study uses both survey analysis and experimental methods to elicit the relative weight of deontological and consequentialist arguments that have been marshaled for and against torture. We find that across various levels of torture, the former dominate in the public mind. We also find that, counterintuitively, attitudes toward the abusive treatment of terrorist suspects are not significantly related to the intensity of the perceived foreign threat.

### **Maritime Boundary Disputes in East Asia**

**Author- James Manicom**

#### **Abstract**

The impact of climate change on the circumpolar north has raised the profile of the Arctic Ocean to coastal states and presents serious foreign policy challenges. Chief among these is the pending delimitation dispute over the extended continental shelf between Canada, Denmark, the United States, and Russia. While delimitation disputes are not new to Arctic states, extended continental shelf claims are complicated by the existence of multiple claimants and a still developing international legal regime. To inform policymakers about what to expect from overlapping claims to disputed maritime areas, this paper draws comparative lessons for Arctic policymakers based on East Asia's experience responding to overlapping jurisdictional entitlements created by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

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**Studies in Conflict & Terrorism**

**Volume 34, Issue 8, 2011**

**Improvised Explosive Devices in Southern Afghanistan and Western Pakistan, 2002–2009**

**Author: Alec D. Barker**

**Abstract**

Homemade bombs or improvised explosive devices (IEDs) are staple weapons of conflicts in South Asia and especially Southern Afghanistan and Western Pakistan, where the Taliban, their affiliates, and other armed groups use them to undermine recognized governments and policies. This study establishes IED trends in the Afghanistan provinces of Helmand, Kandahar, and Nimroz and the Pakistani province of Balochistan between 2002 and mid-2009, using geo-referenced open source IED event information and statistical or geospatial analysis techniques. This study also furnishes assessments of specific IED technologies, techniques, and procedures (TTPs; like explosively formed projectiles or radio-controlled "spider devices") as well as discussions of their potential causes and observable effects. There are several major trends observed: a continuous increase in volume and lethality of attacks, more expansive geographic distribution of attacks, and multiple bombing campaigns overlapping in Quetta, Balochistan province, that are perpetrated by groups with different means, tactics, and objectives.

**The Plots that Failed**

**Author: Erik J. Dahl**



## **Abstract**

While much of the focus of terrorism research is on successful terrorist attacks, the most significant lessons for terrorism prevention may come from examination of terrorist plots and attacks that do not succeed. This article analyzes 176 terrorist plots against American targets that have been thwarted or otherwise failed during the past 25 years. It considers what kinds of intelligence and security measures are most useful in counterterrorism, and argues that the conventional wisdom about why intelligence fails—because analysts and agencies are unable to “connect the dots”—is wrong. Most plots, especially domestic terrorist plots, are not foiled through imaginative analysis, but through conventional law enforcement efforts and aggressive domestic intelligence collection that reveal to authorities just what the plotters are up to.

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## **Security Dialogue**

June 2011 42:3

### **From bombs to banners? The decline of wars and the rise of unarmed uprisings in East Asia**

**Author-**Isak Svensson

## **Abstract**

One of the most important debates in the field of peace and conflict research concerns whether wars and armed conflicts are declining over time. The region where this plays out most markedly is East Asia: having suffered some of the world’s most brutal wars in the period prior to 1979, the region has since witnessed an era of relative peacefulness. This article asks whether the decline in the level of war in the region reflects a change in the means used to pursue conflicts: are conflicts that previously were fought with arms increasingly manifested through unarmed uprisings based on strategic nonviolent actions? Examining the empirical patterns of armed conflicts and unarmed uprisings in the region, the article shows that there has been a substantial increase in the number of unarmed uprisings in East Asia that runs parallel with a decrease in the intensity and frequency of warfare. Yet, the article also shows that these nonviolent uprisings do not follow on from previous armed campaigns, and that armed and unarmed campaigns differ in terms of aims, nature and outcome.

## **Deconstructing civil wars**

**Author-** Jacob Mundy

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## **Abstract**

The identification of intra-national armed conflict as a leading problem for the international community in the 1990s produced a wave of novel research into civil wars. Though these new civil war studies soon began to claim a degree of consensus on several key questions, the very concept and ontology of civil war has been implicitly and explicitly contested. An examination of the politics of naming civil wars likewise reveals the extent to which varying and sometimes conflicting definitions of civil war are still in

circulation among various observer types. Instead of adjudicating these disputed definitions of civil war, this article details the way in which particular conceptions of civil war produce their object of analysis.