

FOCUS ◎ **The Transformation of the International Order in the Middle East**

82 Roundtable **The current situation in the Middle East**

While US influence in the Middle East is receding, China is becoming more involved. Experts discuss the situation in the Middle East from various perspectives.

Koichiro Tanaka (Keio University)

Satoru Nakamura (Kobe University)

Chie Ezaki (National Defense Academy)

Amane Kobayashi (The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan)

94 **Gulf states becoming more autonomous as US influence recedes**

The international relations in the Middle East have become multi-polar and the foreign policies of the Gulf states are undergoing significant changes.

Koji Horinuki (The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan)

100 **Iran pursuing multi-faceted diplomacy: Strengthening relations with China**

Iran has surprised the world by strengthening its relations with China.

Kenta Aoki (The Middle East Institute of Japan)

106 **The Netanyahu government enforces judicial reform: Israel shaken by the rise of the religious right**

The Netanyahu government's judicial reform and the surge in settlers to the West Bank are due to the rise of the religious right. The room for domestic dialogue is being lost.

Hiroyuki Suzuki (The University of Tokyo)

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112 **'Separation of Politics and Economy' revealed at the ASEAN Summit**

Although strong opinions were expressed on the Myanmar issue and the South China Sea territorial disputes, ASEAN prioritised economic issues.

Koya Jibiki (Nikkei)

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The G20 Summit in New Delhi avoided division. However, there are concerns that the G20's problem-solving capacity has deteriorated.

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This article discusses the background to the coup in Niger and the prospects for the future.

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Japan's international peace cooperation is at a crossroads. Japan can contribute to international peace in many ways.

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The target of the atomic bombing was changed from Kokura to Nagasaki on 9 August 1945. This article reveals what happened in Kokura.

Hideaki Miyama (Hiroshima University / Hiroshima Television Corporation)

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Perceptions of China around the World

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China's increasing concentration of power in the hands of Xi Jinping is making policy coordination difficult.
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In the context of the US-China rivalry, cooperations between a small number of countries are becoming more active.
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China has become closer to Russia and is seeking to expand its influence in the Central Asia.
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China's influence operations against Taiwan will become more offensive. Japan and Taiwan can cooperate to deal with the China's operation.
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For India, China is both an important partner and a rival. How will India engage with an increasingly multipolar world?
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Brazil aims for national autonomy and global multipolarity. How will Lula's presidency change the close relationship with China?
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De-risking proposed by Europe as an approach to China is limited and stricter regulation. This article deciphers the EU's aims in the energy and hi-tech sectors.
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China has embarked on mediation in the Middle East. China will face the complex realities of the Middle East.
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US economic sanctions have made it difficult for China's semiconductor industry to manufacture highly advanced chips.
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