DIPLOMACY

Vol.85, May/Jun 2024

Contents of Features

76 The "logic" and the "benefit" of North Korea's cooperation in war

North Korea has started to launch missiles again. The "New Cold War" narrative is eroding not only deterrence against the South but also the global nuclear non-proliferation regime.

Hideya Kurata (National Defense Academy)

82 Can North Korea's "theft of research" be prevented?

Research, which is based on openness and transparency, needs to be managed responsibly and ethically. This report examines threats to fair research and countermeasures based on cases of North Korea's technology acquisition and theft. Sumiko Ono (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

92 Weakening yen is a "signal" for economic normalization

The global economy has shifted to a "high-inflation" trend, and the sharp depreciation of the yen due to the widening interest rate differential indicates that the economy is normalizing in tandem with inflation. Japan needs to realize its resilient economy and society.

Shumpei Takemori (Yomiuri Shimbun)

98 How Yemen's Houthi rebels saw the latest Gaza war and the "Axis of Resistance"

As the order in the Middle East is shaken by the Gaza conflict, the "axis of resistance" is focused. This article deciphers the ideology and principles of these pro-Iranian, anti-Western networks.

Tomoaki Yoshida (The National Institute for Defense Studies)

104 Putin's administration: Unmissable Issues in the "long-term scenario"

Putin's fifth term, which began with a resounding victory in the presidential election, justifies the war in Ukraine but leaves some uncertainties. What are the strategies and challenges for a long-term administration? Shuhei Mizoguchi (Hosei University)

110 Russia struggling in the "War on terror"

The attack on the concert hall shocked the Putin administration. What is the reality of Islamic extremist organizations in the former Soviet region? Can Russia carry out a two-front strategy against Ukraine and terrorism? Kosuke Toqashi (Doshisha University)

116 The Horn of Africa: The composition of instability

Ethiopia, a landlocked country seeking a port, and Somaliland, an unrecognized state, have signed a memorandum. Reading the geopolitical composition of the "Horn of Africa" where diverse actors intersect.

Mitsugi Endo (The University of Tokyo)

122 Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) as a card for "complex crisis"

As Feminist perspective on conflict resolution becomes more important, WPS, which proposed a quarter of a century ago, is attracting attention. This article considers the significance of the deepening of WPS.

Akiko Horiba (Sasakawa Peace Foundation)

128 The Latest OECD Theory: What is the strategic value in confronting common global challenges?

The OECD has transformed itself into an organization that leads the economic order, involving emerging and developing countries, and we examine its advanced efforts and their impact on Japanese diplomacy.

Kazuo Kodama (former Ambassador, OECD Delegation)

134 Special interview: Synergy between the US-Japan alliance and Asian diplomacy

Former Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, who led Japan's government during the turbulent 2000s, including the "war on terror" that began on 9/11 and the rise of China as an economic power.

Yasuo Fukuda (former Prime Minister of Japan)

Special Feature:

Increasing extreme polarization in the U.S.

6 The conflict between unilateralism and internationalism in the United States

Explaining America's introvert impulse from the foreign policy ideas of the two major political parties. What could Japan do to curb US unilateralism?

Satoru Mori (Keio University)

14 Roundtable: While America is changing, who support the international order?

As the presidential election approaches, Republicans and Democrats are divided into extremes, deepening the political divide.

The transformation of America is shaking up the international order.

Takashi Imai (Yomiuri Shimbun), Nobukatsu Kanehara (Doshisha University), Mieko Nakabayashi (Waseda University)

24 Who will be the key player in "MAGA diplomacy"?

We look at the candidates who may join up with Trump's second cabinet and what their policies will be. What kind of "shock" should we prepare for?

Tetsuo Kotani (Meikai University)

30 The genealogy of American isolationism and the logic of the Trump's Republican Party

Two hundred years have passed since the declaration of the Monroe Doctrine, which symbolized American isolationism. How have the policy implications changed according to domestic and international circumstances?

Hiro Nakajima (Osaka University)

36 Will Gen Z give up on Biden?

The nationwide university protests against Israel's action in Gaza are a clear expression of Generation Z's will. Their "justice" goes beyond a simple liberal-conservative distinction and influences the presidential election.

Seiko Mimaki (Doshisha University)

42 NATO's 2% guideline and the U.S.

A former Trump administration called for NATO members to spend at least 2% on their GDP on defense, while they hesitated to do so. However, the situation changes after the Ukraine war.

Tsuyoshi Goroku (Nishogakusha University)

48 China's resistance to the downward spiral of hegemony

The global economic slowdown is hurting China's growth, and great power rivalries are hampering multipolarity. Chinese economic strategy is to boost ties with Russia and Europe. President Xi's visit to Europe is a stepping stone.

Masayuki Masuda (National Institute for Defense Studies)

54 Three key points of the "Trump economy"

How will the global economy be affected by the return of Trump's "America First" policy? Exploring why the U.S. economy is robust and what the economic security issues are.

Tomoyuki Ota (Mizuho Research & Technologies)

FOCUS©To watch ahead of South Korea's general election

58 Roundtable: How will the general election impact South Korea and East Asia?

The opposition parties won a landslide victory at General election in South Korea. How does the outcome change in the domestic situation and foreign policy, relations with North Korea, China, and Russia, and the possibility of Japanese involvement?

Noriyo Isozaki (Gakushuin University), Yasuyo Sakata (Kanda University of International Studies), Tetsuya Hakoda (Asahi Shimbun)

70 Recent missile development of North Korea

What is the extent of the threat posed by North Korea's increasingly active missile development? We analyze North Korea's missile launches over the past few years.

Satoru Miyamoto (Seigakuin University)