

ABSTRACTS

Geostrategic Pivots and U.S. Hegemony: Implications in the Asia-Pacific Region

LIU Zongyi

ABSTRACT: The core objective of U.S. strategy of global hegemony involves maintaining the Eurasian balance of power, grabbing and controlling geostrategic pivot areas, and preventing those areas from falling into the hands of strategic rivals. In building its global strategic pivots, the U.S. has focused on connecting the “points” into “lines,” in order to build a network to shape regional and global order. The United States has achieved its global dominance in the international order and system mainly through building binding and unbinding relations with countries of great strategic value. With the rise of emerging economies like China and India, the “geographical pivot of history” and “pivot states” have shifted to the Asia-Pacific region. Accordingly, the United States is accelerating the restructuring of its global strategic pivots and networks, which will intensify geopolitical confrontation and fuel the strategic opportunism of some pivot states and regions. Renewed focus on strategic pivots will pose challenges to regional and global security and stability, hinder global and regional economic cooperation and development, and prompt some regional powers and group of states to put forward their own “Indo-Pacific” visions and policies, which will present both challenges and opportunities for China. China should properly handle its relations with neighboring countries, adhere to the path of peaceful development, and avoid falling into geopolitical confrontation with regional powers.

KEYWORDS: strategic pivot, geopolitics, the United States, China, Indo-Pacific strategy

U.S. Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Strategy: Effects and Challenges

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ABSTRACT: In a policy speech at the Pentagon in late 2019, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper labeled China as the United States' principal military challenge—a major shift in U.S. defense strategy that will shape U.S. military posture and local security dynamics in the Indo-Pacific region. China is now the imaginary adversary in the formulation and implementation of U.S. maritime strategy. Advanced and sophisticated weapons systems have been given priority to prepare U.S. navy for possible intervention in conflicts in the South China Sea. Washington is closely watching Beijing's growing power projection capabilities, accelerating military modernization, and the implementation of civil-military fusion strategy. U.S. strategic shifts for the Indo-Pacific region is presenting significant challenges for China, including undercutting Beijing's attempt to erect a pan-Asian security architecture, creating difficulties for Beijing's efforts to protect its maritime interests and rights, and threatening China's maritime strategic environment. To cope with an increasingly competitive regional landscape, Beijing needs to build up a world-class navy and increase investment in military research and development, especially in such new frontiers as artificial intelligence, quantum information, big data, and cloud computing.

KEYWORDS: maritime strategy, Indo-Pacific strategy, Asia-Pacific maritime security, China's maritime security

The Kindleberger Trap in Global Health Governance and China's Response

JIN Jiyong

ABSTRACT: The Covid-19 pandemic is both a public health crisis and a stress test for global health governance. Effective health governance hinges on the provision of global public goods for health. Generally, the hegemon underwrites the operation and stability of the global public health regime by ensuring the

sustained supply of global public goods for health. But when the hegemon is unable or unwilling to shoulder this responsibility, global health governance may run the risk of falling into the Kindleberger Trap. The leadership vacuum that is opening up amid the coronavirus pandemic is accelerating the process. At present, China should adopt a three-pronged approach to promote bilateral health cooperation with leading countries like the United States, strengthen regional institution-building with ASEAN, South Korea, Japan, and Belt and Road countries, and improve the performance, credibility, and integrity of global organizations like the WHO and G20. The Kindleberger Trap in global health governance can be overcome by adapting regional health coordination to make it more agile and effective.

KEYWORDS: Covid-19, health governance, global public goods, Kindleberger Trap

Public Health Cooperation and the Building of A China-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future

LUO Shengrong and MA Wanchen

ABSTRACT: The Covid-19 pandemic presents a major challenge to global public health security. The growing health crisis has highlighted the urgency of building a community with a shared future in a globalized world. China has been working together with its Southeast Asian neighbors to mitigate the economic and social impacts of the coronavirus crisis under the framework of China-ASEAN health cooperation. But the unprecedented public health emergency has also exposed major vulnerabilities in regional public health governance, such as incompetence, funding shortfalls, lack of strategic mutual trust, and differing security perceptions. Facing a common, invisible enemy, China and ASEAN members should foster a broad-based regional health consensus to strengthen political trust, increase the supply of public goods for health, and establish a robust cooperative mechanism for public health security.

KEYWORDS: public health cooperation, China-ASEAN community with a shared

future, Covid-19, global governance

Sino-Japanese Cooperation and Public Health Governance: A Nontraditional Security Perspective

WEI Zhijiang and WEI Shan

ABSTRACT: Public health security is an important area for nontraditional security cooperation between China and Japan. Beijing and Tokyo have made remarkable achievements in improving health systems and facilitating technical exchanges through global, regional, and bilateral cooperation, especially in terms of rapid response and comprehensive governance amid public health security threats such as an epidemic. However, there is still much progress to be made. The two countries have not yet established a robust cooperative mechanism for public health security. More practical cooperation should be pursued in such areas as early warning, joint research and development of vaccine and therapeutics, and joint prevention and control mechanisms. Moving forward, the two sides should increase strategic mutual trust by strengthening closer public health cooperation among diverse actors and establishing mechanisms for joint prevention and control, information sharing, and early warning. As neighbors, Beijing and Tokyo should also further strengthen their bonds by forging a community of shared health security.

KEYWORDS: nontraditional security, public health emergency, Covid-19, Sino-Japanese cooperation, shared security

Upgrading Global Health Governance: A Human Security Perspective

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ABSTRACT: The many problems that have long plagued global health governance can be attributed to the absence of a human security-centered approach to health crises. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic only underscores the longstanding deficiencies, contradictions, and shortfalls in the current global health regime.

Infectious diseases in a globalized world rarely stay within the country where they originate. But prevention and control efforts across the world remain country-specific. Nations respond to pandemics with varying senses of urgency, making global consensus and coordination extremely difficult if not impossible. Human security, both as a concept and an approach, has guided China's response to major infectious diseases over the past decades. In practice, Beijing has attached equal importance to development and protection as the most important dimensions of human security. The reform agenda that will enable the global health regime to better handle future health crises must involve three lines of efforts: building a broad-based consensus that humanity is a large health community; strengthening various health institutions at the bilateral, regional, and global levels; and forming a comprehensive health resource network that can facilitate coordinated, effective, and flexible global responses.

KEYWORDS: human security, Covid-19, global health governance, Chinese practice

Toward A High-Quality Development Theory for the Belt and Road Initiative

ZHANG Chun

ABSTRACT: While promoting the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative has been an established international consensus, the urgent need for further theorization has been underscored by the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. To construct a high-quality development theory for the initiative, one should combine the short-, mid-, and long-term missions of the BRI and existing development efforts and visions at both domestic and international levels, and translate the theory into the guidelines for joint construction of the BRI. Joint construction of the BRI should first of all ensure joint development and then maximize development effects of existing efforts and foster momentum for future development of the international community and the BRI partners, with institutionalization as the guarantee of its sustainability. The theory of

high-quality development has three core concepts, namely, joint development that act as the “stabilizer,” augmentative development that serves as the “amplifier,” and institutionalized development that provides an “institutional instrument.” In the post-coronavirus era, joint construction of the BRI is more important as the project of the century is expected to provide a new impetus for world economic growth and contribute Chinese ideas, plans, and programs for global sustainable development.

KEYWORDS: Belt and Road Initiative, high-quality development, joint development, augmentative development, sustainable development

Managing China’s Agricultural Aid: A “Dual Track Plus” Model

YU Haomiao and XU Xiuli

Abstract: With more and more actors participating in foreign aid programs since the beginning of the 21st century, the traditional horizontal model of aid management is now giving way to a more sophisticated and interactive model. Field research and case studies have shown that China’s management of agricultural aid programs represents a “Dual Track Plus” model in which two parallel mechanisms, i.e., a horizontal, bureaucratic one and a vertical one involving frontline agencies, social groups, and individuals, develop side-by-side, complete with a plus: support from and coordination with international organizations. This emerging model has improved the allocation of aid resources, increased aid effectiveness, and helped align China’s aid programs with global governance initiatives. Studies on how to improve this model have both theoretical and practical value as they provide a fresh perspective on aid effectiveness evaluation and help strengthen macro-planning and management in the conduct of foreign aid.

KEYWORDS: development aid, agriculture, dual track, South-South cooperation