

國際安全研究

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Abstracts

3 **Realistic Logic and Ultimate Value of Political Security in Contemporary China**

MA Zhenchao

[Abstract] In the contemporary Chinese national security system, political security is the foundation and guarantee of national security. The homogeneity of the political party system, state power and state system featuring socialism with Chinese characteristics, together with the unity of the party leadership, determines the fundamental position of political security (security of political power). Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC, the Central Committee of the Party with Xi Jinping as the core, has made clear that maintaining the security of political power is the core issue and primary issue of political security. The essence of security of political power consists in the ruling security of the CPC. Ensuring the absolute leadership of the CPC and its ruling position is the only criterion to measure ruling security. The ruling status of the CPC is born more out of winning the hearts and minds of the people by seeking happiness for them than as a choice of history. The CPC's ruling security depends on human security, that is, to ensure that the political rights enjoyed by the people as masters of the country to manage their own state affairs should not be eroded and undermined. Therefore, fundamentally speaking, the ultimate issue of political security in contemporary China is the security concerning the political rights of all the citizens of the People's Republic of China. It is not only closely related to the long-term peace and order of the country but also is bound up with the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the well-being of the people.

[Keywords] national security, political security, security of political power, CPC's ruling security, human security

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23 **US Military Climate Change Risks Management and Its Behavioral Logic under the Trump Administration**

ZHAO Xingshu

[Abstract] Under the Obama administration, the US national security community has reached a rough consensus on climate change, that is, climate change has posed potential threats to national security of the United States. Together with the deepened understanding of the correlation between climate change and national security, the US security system has gradually begun to incorporate climate change factor into its strategic planning and daily practice. After Donald Trump came into office, the climate element in the US security policy-making has neither been removed nor even reduced. On the contrary, it has been reinforced in some ways or to some extent. However, the intensified trend has undergone new changes which are highlighted by the following two perspectives. First, the US military has shifted its focus on climate change from long-term threats to immediate threats, from indirect threats to direct threats and from global disasters to specific damages. Second, the

US military's approach to climate change has shifted from laying equal stress on both mitigation and adaptation to focusing mainly on adaptation. These changes are not only based on realistic calculations of security interests by the US military, but also result from the internal contradictions and reconciliations among US policy-makers. In the future, it is expected that the US military's climate policy process will continue. Nevertheless, whether the US military's climate policy will generate "spillover" effects and then influence the decision-making of the federal government will invariably depend on the game between the White House and the Congress.

[Keywords] climate security, climate change risks, the US military, the US Department of Defense

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42 **Analysis of the Effects of Climate Change on Water Resources Security in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau**

Li Zhifei

[Abstract] The Qinghai-Tibet Plateau enjoys a high reputation as the roof of the world, the Asian water tower and the third pole of the earth. It serves as an important bulwark against threats to China's ecological security and a reserve base of strategic resources, where resource politics and geopolitics converge. As the world's third largest repository of freshwater, the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau is subject to a series of changes. Climate change is accelerating glacier ablation and bringing about changes in the annual runoff and seasonal flow of trans-boundary rivers, which gives rise to more instability in the distribution of water resources that may exacerbate regional water scarcity and cause more flood disasters highlighting the need for improved water governance. The impact of climate change on the water resources security of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau will generate a chain of political, economic, and security effects. It will not only affect hydropower development plans and infrastructure construction of countries in the highlands and increase the complexity of geopolitical bargains, but also has a negative impact on China's overseas hydropower investment and puts the Belt and Road Initiative and the 13th five-year water resources planning under more international pressure. Subjected to climate change, water resources security of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has become closely linked with the survival and development of over one billion people which plays a key role in regional stability and peace. In this regard, China should proactively put into practice the concept of building a community of shared future for mankind and play a more important part in safeguarding water resources security of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. Technically speaking, in-depth investigation and consistent tracking research on water resources of the plateau should be strengthened. Politically speaking, the regional climate change governance and cooperation framework need to be further improved.

[Keywords] climate change, the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, glacier ablation, water resources security

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64 **Human Security Governance under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

DONG Liang

[Abstract] The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a new plan for global

development, aims to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. The core of the Agenda consists in eliminating global poverty and promoting inclusive development. The Agenda covers a variety of issues from poverty and hunger eradication to urgent actions on climate change. The Agenda's conceptual core embodies human security advocated by the United Nations. Human security emphasizes the correlations of various threats and considers human security and human development as the same thing that complement each other. This governance concept calls for extensive use of the expertise and resources of the United Nations and taking into consideration of the important roles played by actors in both public and private sectors at local, national, regional and international levels so as to develop a comprehensive network of governance with the engagement of various stakeholders. This framework encompasses important traditional and non-traditional security issues ranging from food security, climate security, environment security and social security to anti-terrorism and unlawful immigration. Among these, climate change, resource consumption and the North-South disparity are the primary causes that impede sustainable development. All of the above-mentioned security agendas demonstrate the relevance of a wide range of economic, social and environmental goals. Therefore, a holistic approach should be adopted to construct a human security governance mechanism with the United Nations as its core and to build a multi-layered governance system with extensive international partnerships so that the vision of sustainable peace across the world advocated by the UN can be achieved.

[Keywords] 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, sustainable peace, climate change, human security, international institutions

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82 “Say No to Decline” and “American Fortification”: Trump’s Grand Strategy

GE Hanwen

[Abstract] The United States is acknowledged as an important center for grand strategy in theory and practice. In the post-Cold War era, “liberal hegemony” constitutes the basic connotation of the US grand strategy. Against the backdrop of America’s relative decline, President Trump’s National Security Strategy has shown that the United States is going to shift its grand strategy. This strategy has, in essence, subverted “liberal hegemony”. Apart from the strategic goals to pursue and consolidate its world hegemony, Trump’s grand strategy strongly emphasizes the deteriorating security environment and increasing external challenges facing the United States, advocates strengthening the economic and military power of the United States unilaterally, abandoning multilateralism and stopping to give support to international mechanisms so as to prevail in the future major-power rivalry. Given that Trump’s grand strategy, obviously contrary to the trend of international political and economic development, has inherent defects and may generate many uncertain effects, China’s national security environment is subject to its direct impact.

[Keywords] the United States, national security strategy, Donald Trump, national security, hegemony

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101 **“Dispatching Troops and Withdrawing Troops” and the Realization of Russia’s Geopolitical Goals in Syria**

MA Jianguang and LI Youren

[Abstract] It was in the fifth year after the outbreak of Syria crisis that Russia formally sent troops to Syria and became an important force in fighting against the Islamic State. Through military actions, Russia successfully prevented the spread of terrorist activities, enhanced its international influence and gained a strategic advantage in the Middle East. At present, conflicts among different groups remain complex and multi lateral forces continue their in-depth game playing. Russia announced the withdrawal of troops from Syria twice and demonstrated its “smart power” in a military and diplomatic linkage mechanism. Thanks to its ingenious maneuvers, Russia was able to gain strategic dividends and attain part of its defined geopolitical goals. However, Russia’s prolonged involvement in Syria’s geopolitical competition with the United States and the West has undoubtedly become a heavy burden on the country’s rejuvenation. The lasting unrest in Syria and in-depth intervention of external major powers made it impossible for Russia to completely withdraw from Syria. Scrambling for the dominance and international discourse power centered on Syria and the Middle East will be repeatedly staged among major powers. As Putin is at the helm of the state in his fourth term of presidency, Russia will still face severe challenges in addressing the Syrian crisis, breaking down Western sanctions and revitalizing its national economy. Therefore, Putin and the elites of Russia are supposed to explore and come up with “new ideas” to tackle these problems.

[Keywords] Russia, Syria, dispatching troops, withdrawing troops, geopolitical goals

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117 **Overseas Chinese Communities and the Construction of the “Belt and Road” Security System**

CUI Shoujun and ZHANG Zheng

[Abstract] Overseas Chinese are the external extension and integral part of the Chinese nation and the overseas Chinese communities are the main organizational form of overseas Chinese. Overseas Chinese communities serve not only as an important force for safeguarding the rights and interests of overseas Chinese but also as an important strategic resource for implementing the “Belt and Road” initiative. Overseas Chinese communities are numerous and widely distributed in the world. In the new era, they are becoming increasingly consolidated and internationalized, getting younger, diversified and specialized and actively participating in politics as well as the management of overseas Chinese affairs. In the context of a worsening overseas security situation, there is an imbalance between the supply and demand for China’s overseas security, thus putting the overseas Chinese enterprises and citizens into a predicament of insufficient protection of their interests. In the course of constructing the “Belt and Road” security system, overseas Chinese communities function as an indispensable and supplementary asset to the official security forces of the Chinese government and this is also true of private security companies and corporate entities. Overseas Chinese communities have unique and irreplaceable

advantages in that they are well acquainted with the public opinion and social conditions of their inhabitant countries, enjoy a wide range of contacts and connections with local politicians and entrepreneurs and have a good grasp of foreign languages and a deep insight into foreign cultures. However, it is noteworthy that multiple identities of the younger generation of overseas Chinese and the development predicament facing the overseas Chinese media have posed some challenges for constructing an overseas security system. To give full play to the “security leverage” role played by overseas Chinese communities in the “Belt and Road” security system, priorities should be focused on building a “Major Overseas Chinese Affairs” working environment, strengthening the self-building of overseas Chinese communities and their collaboration with enterprises, improving the service platform of “Overseas Chinese Help Center” and promoting overseas joint protection mechanism.

[Keywords] overseas Chinese, overseas Chinese communities, the “Belt and Road”, security system

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138 **Private Security Companies: New Actors in Maritime Security Governance in Southeast Asia**

LIU Yanfeng and XING Ruili

[Abstract] In recent years, maritime private security companies in Southeast Asia have been growing rapidly. Their involvement in maritime security governance in Southeast Asia should be attributed to the combined effects generated by the changing maritime security environment, the gap between maritime security supply and demand, the Southeast Asian democratization process and the reforms in the security sector. The straits and ports are the key governance areas focused on by private security companies. Through two case studies (the Malacca Strait and Indonesia’s Belawan Port), it can be seen that in the Malacca Strait, although private security companies have posed threats to national sovereignty, they have been fully capable of dealing with maritime security threats and thus been currently given “acquiescence” by relevant governments. However, in Belawan Port, multiple subjects actively participate in security governance. With private security companies attempting to compete with other actors, insecurity has been generated in the port area. Comparatively speaking, private security companies involved in security governance of the Southeast Asian straits and ports bear such common characteristics as secrecy, complex relations with governments, regulatory difficulties and a strong tendency to pursue profits. Currently, it is imperative that China further tap the potentials of maritime private security companies being subjected to rules and regulations and meanwhile pay attention to the common and different practices of private security companies in the Malacca Strait and Belawan Port. In addition, strategic cooperation with Southeast Asian private security companies should be encouraged by the Chinese government so as to further protect China’s overseas interests.

[Keywords] security privatization, maritime governance in Southeast Asia, private security company, Malacca Straits, Belawan Port

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