



CHINA INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

中国国际问题研究

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**Don't Let Our Vision Be Blocked
by Floating Clouds —A Review of
China's Foreign Affairs in 2018**

Qi Zhenhong

**China's International Positioning
and Its Diplomacy since Reform
and Opening-Up**

Lu Jing

**Japan Seeking "Strategic
Independence": Initiatives,
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in 2018:**

**Developing Rapidly
and Forging Ahead
with Determination**

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主编:阮宗泽

执行编辑:姜志达 吴劲杰

文字编辑:William Jones Benjamin Green

主管单位:中华人民共和国外交部

主办单位:中国国际问题研究院

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地址:北京东城区台基厂头条3号

邮政编码:100005

联系电话:010-85119538

电子邮箱:gyzz@ciis.org.cn

期刊网站:www.ciis.org.cn/gyzz

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Opening new prospects, breaking new grounds and achieving new progress, China's diplomacy in 2018 can be recapitulated with openness, cooperation, steady progress, thus standing at the forefront of the times, mission, and steadfastness. Looking to the future, China will continue to advocate the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind and mark a new phase of major-country diplomacy with Chinese features.

22 Don't Let Our Vision Be Blocked by Floating Clouds —A Review of China's Foreign Affairs in 2018

Qi Zhenhong

In the face of ever-changing and precarious new circumstances and problems, China's diplomacy has kept in mind both internal and international imperatives, and adamantly defended national interests with strategic vision and composure. Under the strong guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, it will proceed from a new historic starting point and make greater contributions to national rejuvenation and human progress.

33 China's International Positioning and Its Diplomacy since Reform and Opening-Up

Lu Jing

International positioning plays an important role in the duality of transformation and continuity in China's diplomacy throughout the reform and opening-up. China's basic attributes as the largest developing country, a socialist state, a participant in the international system and a defender of the international order remain unchanged even as the style, characteristics and manner of its diplomacy become increasingly distinct.

55 The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue and Reconstruction of Asia-Pacific Order

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74 From Wait-and-See to Competition: Evolution of US Perception and Policy toward the SCO

Kang Jie

The US perception and policy toward the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has changed from wait-and-see to precaution and modest cooperation, and now

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competition. Against the background of major-power strategic rivalry, the US will continue competing with the SCO despite the absence of a specified Central Asia policy, with an emerging attempt to divide its members.

94 Japan Seeking “Strategic Independence”: Initiatives, Motivations and Constraints

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Japan is adopting the most independent and high-profile attitude toward the rest of the world since the end of World War II. Its pursuit of strategic independence will likely shape it into a major power in the international political arena. In addition to affecting Japan's own peace and prosperity, it will also change the future East Asian order.

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The Sri Lankan economy has achieved remarkable growth ever since the end of civil war, but it has been perplexed by mounting external debt, which is deeply rooted in the country's history and mainly caused by structural constraints of its economy. While Sri Lanka's debt anxiety toward Chinese investment is ill-grounded, there is room for improvement in specific investment and cooperation models of Chinese enterprises.

165 Evolution, Drivers and Implications of the UK's South China Sea Policy

Liu Jin

The UK has changed its previous stance of not taking sides in the South China Sea issue and started to pressure China in high profile in recent years. The change in such a short span of time results from multiple factors, especially the multifold pressure brought by Brexit. Given a lack of resources and willingness, the UK's challenge might continue but stepping up provocation is not its option.

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