CONTEMPORARY NTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

On the Changes in the International Order

Yuan Peng

Strategic Choice Matters

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Contemporary International Relations

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Selected Papers of Symposium

International Order: Past, Present and Transformation

A symposium on International Order was sponsored by this journal on July 2, 2014. Participants included some thirty scholars and experts from Chinese universities and academic institutions. The discussion focused on the three topics of The International Order Seen from Historical and Theoretical Perspectives; The Current International Order: Nature, Characteristics and Changing Trends; and China and the Transformation of International Order. A spirited and insightful debate was conducted with not a few penetrating theoretical and policy thoughts.

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Research Report

The Global High-Speed Railway Construction and Its Geopolitical Implications

Lin Limin

Construction of a high-speed railway linking Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America is a serious proposal that will profoundly impact international relations. Discussion of the "internationalization" of high-speed rail transportation is being led from the advanced position of China's well-regarded achievements in this field. Global geopolitics and traditional geopolitical theories will also undergo revolutionary changes as cooperative planning proceeds.

Asia-Pacific Research

Toward A China-U.S.-ROK Cooperative Triangle

Sun Ru 103

A converging point has emerged on the horizon, with an increasing number of calls for building China-U.S.+X mechanisms among Chinese scholars, and a veritable zeal for initiating a ROK-U.S.-China dialogue from President Park Geun-hye of South Korea. This paper intends to explore the possibility of such a trilateral dialogue and cooperation arrangement, by analyzing the background to the trilateral relations, their respective stance and considerations, as well as any hurdles involved in the process.

International Politics and Security

How Effective Are U.S. Sanctions on Iran?

Wang Jin 119

U.S. sanctions on Iran have expanded since the start of the Iranian nuclear issue. They have grown from small-scale embargoes to today's sanctions on multiple sectors including finance, trade, energy, and personnel. During U.S. President Barack Obama's tenure, there is very little likelihood that the U.S. will resort to force, leaving Washington with no other means than sanctions to persuade Iran to change its nuclear policy. This means that although sanctions have a limited effect, the U.S. will continue to primarily rely on them to force Iran's hand.

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