ONTEMPORARY NTERNATIONAL **ELATIONS**

Changes in the International Pattern and Construction of the International Order in an Age of Multi-polarization (Part II) Cui Liru

International Relations Think Tanks: Achievements, Issues, Zhu Feng et al. Experiences and Solutions

European Integration—Its Current Predicament and Development. Wana Shuo & Li Chao

North Korea's Fourth Nuclear Test and Changes in Northeast Asia Lin Limin & Zheng Yu

> Vol. 26 No. 3 May/June 2016

Contemporary International Relations

Contents

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Special Issue Studies

Changes in the International Pattern and Construction of the International Order in anAge of Multi-polarization (Part II)Cui Liru

1

In response to multipolarity, the Obama administration has adjusted its foreign policies but still faces both internal and external constraints. In terms of the Asia-Pacific Region, Sino-US relations are of vital importance to the shaping of the future order, which calls for strategic cooperation in response to various threats despite growing competition between each other.

Symposium

Construction of China's Think-tanks on International Affairs: Achievements, Limitations, Referential Experiences and Concrete Measures

On April 6, 2016, the Editorial Department of CIR held a symposium on "Construction of China's Think-tanks on International Affairs". Participants discussed the achievements and limitations of current construction of think-tanks on international affairs and put forward some suggestions for future development of China's think-tanks. We have selected several choice extracts from key speeches given at this spirited and wide-ranging discussion.

International Relations Think Tanks and Their Issues	Zhu Feng	14
How to Help Think Tanks Produce High-quality Research	Feng Zhongping	18
American Experiences and Chinese Characteristics	Yuan Peng	21
Building Symbiotic Mechanisms between International Relations Think Ta	nks and Colleges	
	Tao Jian	25
The Development of Chinese Think Tanks Is A Mixed Bag	Wang Wen	28
How to Avoid 'the Single-log Bridge Phenomenon' in Chinese Think Tanks	s Lin Limin	33
Finding a Focus: Developing International Relations Think Tanks	Zhao Minghao	36

International Politics and Security

Abe Government's Development Aid Strategy towards the Greater Mekong Subregion

Zhang Jiye & Niu Jusheng 40

The deep-seated strategic goal of Japan's development aid strategy in the greater Mekong subregion is to draw relations with these countries closer, consolidate Japanese power and influence in the region, and achieve economic benefits. Since the subregion is vital to the Belt and Road project as well as China's national security, China must intensively understand and react to the Abe strategy.

U.S. Election Politics and the Normalization of US-Cuban Relations

Zhang Wenzong & Dong Chunling 58

The resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba is not only a key result of Obama's "reaching-out" diplomacy but is also closely connected to US election politics. The US embargo on Cuba will hopefully be lifted soon unless some political hurdle emerges. Even so, normalization of US-Cuban relations still has a long way to go.

European Integration—Its Current Predicament and Development Trend

Wang Shuo & Li Chao 77

With its high-flying aspirations for integration experiencing a post-Brexit stall, the Europe Union is trying to correct its political tailspin exacerbated by economic woe, refugee resettlement and religious terrorist attacks. Though the challenges to European integration lie both in the EU's profound internal defects and the nature of modern crises, the EU will not stop striding the way of integration and neither will a fundamental reversal occur because of the crises.

Korean Nuclear Issue Studies

North Korea's Fourth Nuclear Test and Changes in Northeast Asia

Lin Limin & Zheng Yu 93

After North Korea's fourth nuclear test, the Northeast Asian political environment is about to change in several ways. Although efforts by the US, South Korea and Japan to tighten their alliance and provoke a "regime change" in Pyongyang have not restored the former political Cold War climate, the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia will inevitably grow more complex, confusing and tense because of this move.

China and the World

China's Cooperation with International Health Organizations in Africa: Review and Outlook Xu Weizhong 115

Africa has long played an important role in China's overseas health work and medical cooperation. With the rapid improvement in Sino-African relations and China's engagement in the fight against Ebola, we predict that China will become even more engaged in multilateral health cooperation in Africa and other parts of the world.

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