



# CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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*Qiu Yuanping*

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# Contemporary International Relations

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### Special Reports

**Pronounced Clashes in a Changing World** *Qiu Yuanping* 1

The current US judgment over the international situation is hasty, one-sided and negative. By deliberately reducing the dependence between China and the US over shared interests, the US pushes Sino-US relations towards a new cold war. China seeks convergence of its national interests and humanity's common interests. In pooling the wisdom to design an operable international strategy and in using international cooperation in this globalized era, China is committed to new approaches to international relations and great power relations.

**Shifting Great Power Relations: Toward Consolidation of US Hegemony** *Ji Zhiye* 10

The series of unilateral foreign policies taken by US President Donald Trump has worsened relations between the US and other powers including China, Russia, the EU and Japan, prompting their officials to turn to seeking bilateral arrangements when need arises. Though among these countries there is willingness to cooperate, the US seeks to consolidate hegemony. The US focus is to contain China and sanction Russia in economic and trade fields. In geopolitics and security, the EU and Japan are heavily dependent on the US and follow the US lead.

### Belt and Road Studies

**A Four-Pronged Analysis on the Skeptics of the Belt and Road** *Wang Yiwei* 17

This paper runs a four-pronged analysis on the phenomenon of skeptics from the dimensions of scientific principles, mentalities, cognitions and senses. The author believes that people's opinions on the Belt and Road reflect their outlook on China, the world and the West. In order to alleviate this skepticism, the paper strives to set up a new, comprehensive Belt and Road Study as a platform of joint discussions on the Belt and Road Initiative.

### International Politics and Security

**The EU's Role and Policy** *Zhang Jian* 34

There is now more space for collaboration between China and the EU in fighting hegemony and unilateralism and in maintaining a multilateral international order. In the EU, an unprecedented sense of crisis is leading to policy adjustments. In the same period that the EU must increase strategic independence, enhance cooperation with major

powers and stabilize its international mechanism, China is actively participating in global governance construction and reform.

### **The Challenge of India-US Security Cooperation to India's Tradition of Strategic Independence**

*Wang Shida*

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India-US close security cooperation has had a serious negative impact on India's overall foreign strategy, especially its tradition of long-standing strategic independence. It has eroded material and institutional foundations for India's strategic autonomy, and deteriorated India's geostrategic environment, which is not conducive to realizing its dream of being a great power.

### **The Nature of No-Fly Zones in International Relations**

*Zhao Guangcheng*

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A No-Fly Zone (NFZ) is a unique mode of humanitarian intervention that is understudied in international relations. This article focuses on the politics of NFZs in international relations, and investigates their nature by empirically reviewing all three cases of NFZs to date. NFZs represent a middle ground for international intervention which, both legally and legitimately, may be aimed at either protecting populations or promoting regime change in weak states, depending on the circumstances.

### **Putting Sri Lanka's Debt Issue into Perspective**

*Wang Se*

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By reviewing the current situation of Sri Lanka's debt problem, as well as its nature, causes and relation with Chinese loans, this article argues that the loans from China are neither the main source nor the main cause of Sri Lanka's debt problem. Instead, the projects they financed will bring promising economic returns to Sri Lanka in the long run.

## **Bilateral Ties**

### **Japan's Political Development in the Later Period of the Abe Administration and the Sino-Japanese Relationship**

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With Shinzō Abe's re-election as the president of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the current Japanese government's political and security policies are likely not to change, namely, the promotion of multilateral cooperation in the US-Japan alliance, a moderate adjustment of Japan's China policy, and a return to utilitarian diplomacy to maximize Japan's national interests. Meanwhile, the healthy development of bilateral relations depends on the consolidation of the political foundation, deepening mutually beneficial cooperation, and constructively managing and controlling disagreement.

### **The Evolution of US-Cuba Relations in the Trump Era**

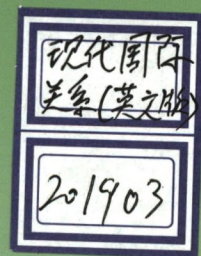
*Cao Ting*

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Since 2017, US president Donald Trump has adopted a series of tough policies aimed at overturning Obama's legacy of diplomacy toward Cuba. In order to ensure the stability of the political transition and economic development, the Cuban government has adopted a "rational and prudent" struggle strategy vis-a-vis the United States, and this has meant that relations have not completely broken down. However, stagnation in the normalization process of US-Cuba relations has produced some negative effects.



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