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中华社会科学基金资助

Supported by Chinese Fund for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Vol. 29 No. 5

September/October 2019



## **Contemporary International Relations**

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### China's Foreign Policy

Theory and Practice of Major Country Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics:

Inheritance, Innovation, and Development

Qiu Huafei and Tu Minghui

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The Central Leadership of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) with Xi Jinping at its core has proposed a series of new concepts, modes of thinking, and strategies in relation to governance and administration. Xi's perspective on diplomacy emerged from the theory and practice of major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics and is the outcome of the combination of the universal principle of Marxism with the specific practice of major country diplomacy in China. In his report to the 19th National Congress of the CCP, Xi proposed to develop a global community with a shared future to forge a new form of international relations, featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win—win cooperation. This shows the constructive role China is playing in the peaceful development of the world, actively participating in and leading global governance and safeguarding the stability of the international order, thus laying the basis in discourse for the theory and practice of major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics for a new era.

### **China and Neighboring Countries**

China and US Strategic Choices and China's Relations with Its Neighbors

Sun Xuefeng and Zhang Xikun

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Strategic competition between China and the United States has gradually intensified while the relationship between China and neighboring countries has stabilized. The implementation of an "America First" policy along with a decline in US strategic credibility is prompting China's neighbors to adopt a more cooperative stance toward China. China's positive response to those gestures and its continued strategic reassurance improve China's strategic credibility. Allaying their security concerns lays a foundation for continuous improvement of China's peripheral security environment. It is imperative for China to grasp this opportunity to resolve disputes with its neighbors to ease its rise dilemma.

# An Analysis of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Mechanism in China's Neighboring Diplomacy Li Wei and Luo Yifu

The establishment and rapid development of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation is based on member states' strong willingness to cooperate. On the other hand, the further development of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation is facing many risks and challenges as a result of the complexities of the internal environment of the Indochina Peninsula and the geopolitical competition of extraterritorial forces in the region. In this regard, China should make more efforts to improve relevant institutional arrangements for the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, broaden the areas and enrich the content of cooperation, coordinate with extraterritorial forces and increase the number of stakeholders.

### **American Studies**

# Changes and Trends in the Independence of the US Federal Reserve Following the Financial Crisis Ma Xue

Since the financial crisis, the Federal Reserve has been gradually losing its independence. There are several reasons for this trend: the Federal Reserve's performance during the financial crisis undermined its credibility, the consolidation of political factors arranged against its independence, and the consequences of the financial crisis weakened the economic foundation for its independence. Trump's rise to power has only strengthened these factors, bringing an additional loss of independence, which will have a profound impact on the economy, society, and politics.

### Trump Administration's Foreign Policy: Structure, Causes and Impacts Diao Daming

The US administration's foreign policy embodies the strategic framework of great power competition, the slogan of "America First," and fragmented decision-making. An alignment of factors such as the response to changes in international and domestic environments, the reconstruction of US national identity, the electoral political pressure that Donald Trump faces, and the confluence of Trump and establishment elites creates complex outcomes. Inherently political and partisan, Trump's foreign policy may already have had some irreversible negative impacts, and it is certain that US foreign strategy and policy have entered a major directional adjustment phase.

### **South Asian Studies**

### India's Foreign Policy Re-Orientation in Modi's Second Term and Future Prospects

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After his re-election as prime minister of India, Modi will likely continue his existing foreign policy. Modi will prioritize Neighborhood First policy, India's relationships with China and the US, as well as multilateral diplomacy to raise India's international status. The second Modi administration will face the challenges of strengthening its capability, balancing its relations with China and with the US, and the rise of ideological conservatism. Forging a stable relationship with India by drawing on the advantages of the association and avoiding its disadvantages will help China better advance its major country strategy, promote its neighborhood diplomacy, and develop the Belt and Road Initiative.

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ISSN 1003-3408 CN 11-2874/D

