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Thailand is working towards building a new political structure following the promulgation of new constitution. How will the new constitution change politics in Thailand? Will the new king have any impact? Yasuhito Asami (Hosei University)

82 The truth behind "conservative tilt" of Indonesian Islam: the case of Jakarta Governor's trial Protest movement against the Governor led by a minority conservative Islam group gained unexpected tractions. One can see the strategy of the conservatives that tailor to changes in politics and society from this "case" of incumbent Governor's election loss and his guilty verdict for the blasphemy charges. Ken Miichi (Waseda University)

86 Mindanao's martial law and Islam extremists: The details of Marawi siege

The island of Mindanao is under chaos. The backdrop of the fight is the activities of faction-split Islamic extremists and deterioration of social situation due to prolonged fighting. Can Duterte administration establish governance? Midori Kawashima (Sophia University)

90 Four Middle Eastern countries have severed diplomatic ties with Qatar as a counterterrorism measure

Saudi Arabia and other countries have cut ties with Qatar. Underlying reason for this was the anger of surrounding countries towards the government of Qatar, which has not taken adequate steps for counter-terrorism. Satoru Nakamura (Kobe University)

FOCUS[©] Peace building and PKO

98 Roundtable: Pondering peace building in areas of conflict ? experiences from South Sudan SDF engineering units that played an active role in the United Nation's Mission in South Sudan has withdrawn. Based on its achievements, the discussants talk about the future assistance towards South Sudan and PKO strategy. Eisei Kurimoto (Osaka University) / Kazuhiko Koshikawa (JICA) / Akio Miyajima (International Peace Cooperation Headquarters) / Daisaku Higashi (Sophia University)

112 Surging tide of UN peacekeeping operations and Japan

On the basis of world trend regarding PKO, this essay looks back at the implications and achievements of Japan's UN peacekeeping operations. Furthermore, the author demonstrates the deepening of a relay-style, all-Japan coordiation. Yuji Uesugi (Waseda University)

118 Cambodia, Iraq, and South Sudan: Ability of SDF backed by experience

Koichiro Bansho has had various experience in crucial position within the SDF, including Japanese Iraq Reconstruction and Support Group. We asked him about SDF's mission in the field of international peace cooperation, background and implications of the expansion of missions, its achievements, and future challenges. Koichiro Bansho (National Security Secretariat)

- 124 Making peace in South Sudan through sports: JICA'S grassroots sports promotion South Sudan is in turmoil, but the reconciliation between ethnic groups and attempts toward national integration through sports is starting to bare fruit. The author looks at a Japanese-style contribution to peace. Mitsuaki Furukawa (JICA)
- 130 International Peace Cooperation through ODA: Human rights, development, peace building. This article looks back at Japan's trach record of creating cycles of "peace dividends" through its ODA in the Asian region and examines the future contribution towards peace building. Takao Imafuku (MOFA)

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Itsunori Onodera is the Chairman of the LDP panel on ballistic missile defense, which submitted a proposal urging the government to quickly establish a missile defense structure against the military threat of North Korea. We asked him about the effectiveness and challenges of missile defense. Itsunori Onodera (Member of the House of Representatives)

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We must look squarely at the "inconvenient truths" of North Korea, Japan, and all parties involved in order to prevent a military confrontation. A solution should be sought based on this understanding. Masahiro Akiyama (former Administrative Vice-Minister of Defense)

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What will North Korea demand after the successful launch test of the ICBM? The author argues that analyzing Kim Jong Un's style of governance, which is different from that of his father Kim Jong II, without bias is crucial. Atsuhito Isozaki (Keio University)

34 North Korean economy is growing gradually

This article examines various questions surrounding North Korea by looking at the following factors: basic data such as population and land; North Korea's governing structure; military-first politics as North Korea's governing principle; leadership of Kim Jong Un; economic situation; and China's influence. Atsushi Ijuin (Japan Center for Economic Research)

39 Can the US draw a blueprint to shift from sanction to dialogue?

A preparation for "dialogue" in addition to "sanctions" towards North Korea's denuclearization should be done. This essay examines the relationship between various actors' "interests" with an eye on the state that holds the key. United States. Narushige Michishita (GRIPS)

46 Truth and falsehood of "leaving it to China": North Korea's nuclear development and China Will North Korea really abandon its nuclear and missile development through Chinese pressure? The author examines its effectiveness by analyzing changes in China-North Korea relations, US-China relations, and the aim of President Trump.

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52 Moon Jae-in administration faces a dilemma between security and unification

Differences in thinking towards the unification of the Korean peninsula creates friction between ROK and North Korea. President Moon's reconciliatory policy towards North Korea is swaved by North Korea's strategy towards ROK and US, which seeks "acceptation of existence." Tadashi Kimiya (University of Tokyo)

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The future of Brexit has quickly become opaque due to the surprising loss of Conservative Party in the "snap" general election, called by Prime Minister Theresa May in order to strengthen the domestic basis for Brexit. What will happen to UK politics, shaken by generational and educational schisms? What will become of Brexit? Daisuke Ikemoto (Meiji Gakuin University)