

The North Korean Crisis enters a new stage

- 6 Only a year left before military action becomes inevitable**
Pyongyang is developing missiles capable of reaching U.S. proper. If Pyongyang's nuclear armament becomes a fait-accomplis, it will set a dangerous precedent. The U.S. therefore does not count out the military option.
Yoji Koda (former SDF navy fleet commander)
- 14 Decision time for the Trump Administration**
America must stand firm against a threat of the next stage. It is important to keep pressuring North Korea in collaboration with China.
Evans J.R. Revere and Jonathan D. Pollack (The Brookings Institution)
- 24 Could the International Community Unite?**
North Korea has tested its ballistic missile, then its nuclear bomb. The article analyses Pyongyang's intention and its impact on the international community, and seeks to envision possible outcomes.
Shunji Hiraiwa (Nanzan University)
- 30 Do Japan and South Korea really share their strategic interests?**
How to grasp Japan-South Korean relations in a time of U.S. ? North Korea tensions. What effect will Moon Jae-In's Two-track strategy have on U.S.-Japan-South Korea dynamics?
Yuki Asaba (University of Niigata Prefecture)
- 36 The illusion of the "Alliance forged by Blood" - a revolution in Chinese diplomacy**
Beijing has come to signal that, in the face of North Korea's recent provocations, it is no longer bound by the China-North Korea Mutual Assistance Pact. An understanding of China from a new viewpoint is necessary.
Zhu Jianrong (Toyo Gakuen University)
- 44 Special Contribution : Shouldn't the 3 pillars of our non-nuclear policy be "Not have, not make and not let launch"?**
Ryozo Kato (former ambassador to the United States of America)
- Special Feature:
- ## The impact of ASEAN's half century
- 46 Roundtable A test for Japanese foreign policy vision**
With the influence of China rising in the fields of the economy and security, the strategic importance of Southeast Asia is being understood again. Can Japan produce an effective vision of a regional order?
Hirotsugu Takata (NHK) / Fumio Nagai (Osaka City University) / Taizo Miyagi (Sophia University) / Shigeki Takizaki (MOFA)
- 60 "ASEAN+" it's role in softening confrontation**
The article analyzes "ASEAN+", whose role as a forum for discussions for outside powers as well as ASEAN member states is increasing in an era of Chinese ascendancy where ideas originating in the "West" is facing challenges.
Mie Oba (Tokyo Science University)
- 66 ASEAN's struggle with ageing and decline in reproduction**
The ASEAN member states have found themselves in rapid aging and precipitous decline in reproduction. At the same time, widening inequality is raising social tensions. The main problems facing the ASEAN nations are shifting from economic to political and social ones. How should Japan engage?
Kei-ichiro Oizumi (Japan Research Institute)
- 66 Myanmar ; Putting in perspective the increasingly complex "Rohingya Problem"**
The problems in northern Rakhine State (the so-called Rohingya problem) is threatening the viability of the Aung San Suu Kyi administration. What is the cause of discord between the Suu Kyi administration and the international community? Can the stability of the government be restored?
Yoshihiro Nakanishi (Kyoto University)
- 76 Mapping the Mega-FTAs ? from the ASEAN to the TPP**
ASEAN, which has been deepening integration, felt threatened by the TPP and created the RCEP. With trade protectionism seemingly on the rise, how should Japan respond to the emergence of this mega-FTA?
Seiya Sukegawa (Kokushikan University)
- 82 ASEAN's narrow path for human rights and democracy**
The article chronicles the birth ASEAN's human rights declaration, articulates its problems, and seeks to identify ways in which ASEAN's human rights conditions can be improved.
Sei-ichi Igarashi (Chiba University)
- Trends 2017
- 96 Xi Jin Ping's successor identified - his name is Xi Jin Ping**
The upcoming party conference of the CCP is seen as the climax of these steps of Xi Jin Ping strengthening his hold on power. Through the analysis of new party leadership personnel, the article tries to foresee the next step to be taken by China, now "the leader of the emerging nations".
Aya Igarashi (The Yomiuri Shimbun)
- 103 The clearance mechanism as key to improving cyber-space security**
The article contemplates, by focusing on security clearance systems, on institutional designs that can prevent cyber attacks through sharing of information on incidents and countermeasures.
Akira Igata (Tama University)
- ◎FOCUS
Adventures in diplomatic records: reading them, utilizing them, and dispatching your views
- 108 Roundtable "Without sense of history, you will not have sense of foreign policy" ? towards a strategic utilization of diplomatic records**
Diplomatic Archives stores the records of modern Japanese diplomacy. Yet its rich possessions are worthless without people reading and utilizing those records.
Hatano Sumio (Director-General, Japan Center for Asian Historical Records) / Yuichi Hosoya (Keio University) / Madoka Fukuda (Hosei University) / Kayoko Fukushima (Director, Diplomatic Archives of MOFA)
- 122 Reviewing the last 10 years in the disclosure of diplomatic records**
Among Japanese government agencies, the Diplomatic Archives has been a precedent setting existence in matters of disclosure of information. The article examines the progress made in the disclosure of government information and its meaning, and will ponder on the effect the recent legislation regarding the management of official documents .
Jun'ichiro Shiratori (Rikkyo University)
- 128 Diplomatic Archives of the MOFA -Archiving the trajectory of Japanese diplomacy**
The Diplomatic Archives's core business is not limited to the collection of diplomatic documents. It also compiles, edits and publishes "Diplomatic Documents of the Government of Japan". The article narrates the birth of the archives, and presents to the readers the current condition of its vast collection.
Kazufumi Hamai (Teikyo University)
- 134 Hunting for diplomatic records world wide**
Liang Pan, (Tsukuba University)