Emergency Entries

Understanding the second Xi administration

6 Cover Story Interview

45th Anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic ties and the future path of Japan-China cooperation

Masahiko Komura (Vice-President, Liberal Democratic Party)

13 The Trajectory of Xi Jinping's "domination"

How was Xi Jinping? who was positioned under the two influential figures of Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao? able to reach the top in name and reality? This essay examines how Xi has eliminated political opponents through his corruption crackdown campaign and looks back at how he concentrated power to find out where the "source of power" lies.

Ichiro Korogi (Kanda University of International Studies)

19 Profiles of the new Politburo Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China

The eyes of the world were fixated on who would be selected for the Politburo Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China. The successor was unnamed, which is an anomaly. Where is the second Xi administration headed? The author looks closely at the selected members' profiles. Li Hao (Doctoral Student, University of Tokyo)

- 24 Foreign policy of the second Xi Jinping administration: Between the ideals and reality What kind of foreign policy will the second Xi administration take? This article analyzes the "political report" presented at the National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Shin Kawashima (University of Tokyo)
- 30 PLA aims to become "world class": It's strategy, ability, and civil-military relations The Xi administration's goal for strengthening PLA is not limited to improved equipment, but also command structure and organizational reform including control competence. This essay explains this overview and explains its effects on the security of East Asia. Masafumi lida (NIDS)
- 36 A stark reality follows the banquet: US-China relations after the summit meeting The US-China summit meeting ended in a friendly fashion, but it likely won't be long until this amicable relation breaks down. North Korea, trade imbalance... Nothing has been successful in influencing Chinese behavior. Bonnie S. Glaser (CSIS)
- 43 Will the real China please stand up?: A Southeast Asian perspective on China's growing power and influence

While the Southeast Asian countries are heavily tied to China economically, they are also wary of overexpansion of Chinese power. This article looks at the current situation in China and the role of Japan and the US from Southeast Asian perspective.

Aileen Baviera (University of the Philippines)

50 The era of US-China competition over state models

One cannot understand the whole picture of Chinese economy by only looking at daily stock market numbers or changes in GDP. The author analyzes the policy speech given by Xi at the Party Congress in order to understand his framework of thought and explains the full picture of Chinese challenge, which is different from that of Western countries

Junhua Wu (The Japan Research Institute)

57 Creation of a gigantic economic platform by Alibaba

The platform-based economy exemplifies the momentum of Chinese economy. This essay details the birth and growth of "Alipay" and analyzes the "strength" of Chinese microeconomy that is overcoming the underdeveloped nature of institutions and social capital.

Mariko Watanabe (Gakushuin University)

DIPLOMACY

Vol.46, Nov./Dec. 2017

Contents of Features

TREND 2017

70 President Trump's East Asia trip: Various "Successes"

The East Asia trip by President Trump showed a marked difference among the leaders of Japan, China, and ROK. The reporter that accompanied him writes about the "complicated matters" that resides behind the self-congratulatory tone.

Masayoshi Tanaka (NHK)

78 Europe enters the "M&M (Macron and Merkel) era"

The leadership of EU has been entrusted to Macron and Merkel. The author primarily analyzes the political philosophy and policies of President Macron and predict the future direction of EU. Shuichi Kawashima (Meiji University)

84 What "Alternative for Germany" posed to the post-war regime

The political party AfD - "Alternative for Germany"? that has gained seats in the German parliament for the first time since the end of WWII is not simply a radical right party. This article looks at the reasons for why this populist party, which has successfully absorbed people's dissatisfactions, was supported by the people. Yoshitaka Hanada (Former Consul General of Japan in Frankfurt)

88 Catalan independence and various aspects of identities

Catalan independence is gaining heat with the referendum. The author analyzes the history of complex ethnic groups and culture since the era of Franco's dictatorship. Sho Muto (Kwansei University)

95 Utility of Parliamentary exchange: Confidence building through communication with other countries The government is not the only entity in charge of foreign policy. We live in an era where the value of pluralistic personnel exchanges is increasing. The author, who is in charge of parliamentary exchanges behind the scenes, reveals its role and reality.

Jun Niimi (Former Director General, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives)

102 Solidary felt with the people at disaster site though the evacuation operation: 2017 Central

Mexico earthquake and the Japan Disaster Relief Team

Japan Disaster Relief Team(JDRT) was sent to Mexico for search and rescue operations. The author, who was in charge of the operation, talks about the value of dispatching JDRT and Japan's role in international emergence assistance.

Hidetoshi Kawasaki (MOFA)

Interview B to D STRATEGY②

108 Inbound strategy 2020: The key lies in collaboration among companies in the transportation industry Foreign policy and business are intertwined, exerting mutual influence. In this second installment of "B to D Strategy series," the author looks at the tourism strategy and opportunities for the aviation industry. Shinya Katanozaka (President and CEO, ANA HOLDINGS INC.)

FOCUS: Changing power landscape in the Middle East

128 Roundtable: A new chaos is hiding "Post-IS": Discussing the fluid Syrian situation
Territorial control of IS in Syria is about to end with the fall of their "capital" Raqqa. However, this region is difficult since the exit of IS does not immediately imply stability.

Satoshi Ikeuchi (University of Tokyo)/Kohei Imai (IDE-JETRO)/Koichiro Tanaka (Keio University)/Hiroshi Oka (MOFA)

130 Repercussions of "corruption exposures" in Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's anti-corruption crackdown campaign has led to nearly 200 arrests. What are the goals of Corn Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who has assumed control?

Namie Tsujigami (University of Tokyo)