

Special Feature:

A drastic development over North Korea

- 12 **Roundtable: Interlocking East Asian Summit diplomacy**
The situation in Northeast Asia is dynamically changing through the Summit diplomacy of China, ROK, and Japan with the U.S. and North Korea in the dead center. Experts analyze the international politics over the denuclearization of North Korea and discuss the direction of Japanese diplomacy.
Akihiko Tanaka (GRIPS)/Lee Jong Won (Waseda University)/Yuji Miyamoto (Former Ambassador to China, Miyamoto Institute of Asian Research)
- 28 **What will happen to the roadmap of “denuclearization?”**
The Summit meeting between the U.S. and North Korea has suddenly been decided to take place. There are numerous difficulties that awaits the negotiations and “denuclearization” process. The author identifies these problems then organizes the roadmap and options.
Kazuto Suzuki (Hokkaido University)
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China had a great impact in North Korea’s “denuclearize first” policy. How much can Xi Jinping contain North Korean actions? This essay examines its “limits” and its prospects.
Hiroko Imamura (University of Toyama)
- 40 **Japan-U.S. Summit meeting: Abe-Trump relationship is put to test**
The President’s “words” and “actions” are the results of the situations over the Korean peninsula and the low approval ratings of Republicans in preparing for the midterm elections in Autumn. It is necessary for Japan to calmly determine where the U.S. stands.
Masayoshi Tanaka (NHK)
- 46 **U.S.-North Korea Summit meeting: President Trump’s aims and odds of winning**
What does President Trump see as a condition of “success” in preparing for the U.S.-North Korea Summit meeting? Wouldn’t Japan or ROK be troubled by easy compromises? The author analyzes the U.S. strategy.
Doyle McManus (LA Times)
- 50 **Will the “traditional amity” between China and North Korea revive?**
China has been moving vigorously with regards to the situation over North Korea. However, North Korea has not changed its stance of “alienating China.” Will Chinese diplomatic efforts that deals with the risks of the military power of Japan, US and ROK go towards them bear fruit?
Rumi Aoyama (Waseda University)
- 56 **ROK diplomacy accelerates through “North-South dialogue” and “U.S. as a lynchpin”**
Moon Jae-in has strenuously urged the U.S. and China towards a clear objective of realizing a breakthrough in the North Korean problem. Japan, which is being “sidelined” as an inhibiting factor, needs a candid recognition of the current situation and a reconstruction of its strategy.
Kan Kimura (Kobe University)
- TREND 2018
- 70 **Transformations in the international political dynamics actualized through NPT and nuclear disarmament**
A “transformation” in nuclear disarmament process is evident at the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference, exemplified by the conflict between the nuclear states such as the U.S. and Russia on the one hand and countries that agrees to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on the other.
Nobumasa Akiyama (Hitotsubashi University)
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Syrian civil war has become increasingly chaotic after the fall of ISIS. In addition to this development, the decision by President Trump to withdraw from the JCPOA holds large risks for new conflict in the Middle East.
Nobuhisa Degawa (NHK)

DIPLOMACY

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International Criminal Court was established in 2002. The author overviews its structure and prosecution mechanism, then highlights the efforts and difficulties in making international humanitarian law as universal values.
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Indochina, which used to be at the forefront of severe political conflict during the Cold War period, is now looking at numbers of large-scale development cooperation ? perhaps too many - that regards this region as a coherent one. The author examines its impact and analyzes Japan’s strategy.
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Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, and Austria. Anti-EU right wing administrations supported by those critical of the influx of refugees and the “Western European” countries that denounces them for their heavy handedness. Will the trust between the East and West in EU recover?
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President Putin has been reelected in a landslide in Russia amidst the lack of any credible opponents. However, the international environment surrounding Russia is becoming increasingly severe.
Akiyoshi Komaki (Asahi Shimbun)