

# Global Non-Traditional Security Observation



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## **Editor's Note**

Initially, security challenges used to stem from traditional aspects, but nowadays, non-traditional security threats have come to the forefront. The world is extremely vulnerable to non-traditional security threats that need a collective approach to address transnational issues. This issue focuses on the expansion of NTS understanding, and the most trending NTS issues.

The Security Council has convened a briefing on "Maintenance of international peace and security: promote common security through dialogue and cooperation". It was one of the signature events of China's Council presidency. In the concept note, China said that risks to international peace and security are growing, as traditional threats are compounded by emerging threats such as pandemics and food insecurity. The meeting aimed to provide an opportunity for Council members to consider the concept of security from a broader perspective, including how to address emerging and non-traditional threats.

NATO, being a traditional military alliance, is recognizing that climate change presents major challenges. It is using space technology to monitor rapid environmental change and identify related hazards. Satellites are providing NATO Allies with invaluable data about earth's climate and weather patterns, and a better understanding of a changing climate overall.

According to the World Economic Forum, it is estimated that by 2050, with the global population expected to reach approximately 10 billion, the demand for food will be 60 percent higher than today, putting our food supplies under greater stress. It also claims that climate change, pandemics, urbanization, soil degradation and wars all contribute to reducing the availability of arable land. In addition, water shortages, pollution, political turmoil and poverty give greater impetus to the alarming issue of world hunger.

It is clear that climate change knows no borders. It is a transnational issue, which has speeded up recently due to the towering increase in anthropogenic activities. It has destabilized countries and regions, and ultimately threatened global security. The recent heat waves in Europe, dialed up by climate change, are leading to the most intense forest fires of recent years across the continent. Along with the surging temperatures, decreasing rainfall is making the fires even more dangerous. While third world countries are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, as such; the climate breakdown has indiscriminately stroked Pakistan.

I hope this edition will also provide valuable input regarding the expansion of NTS and the trending issues. I promise, it will continue the same momentum in the future.

Oct.1st, 2022

## **Think-tank Tracking**

## Forests, Trees, and Agroforestry: Their Roles in India's Sustainable Development and Climate Action

#### **Ecological security: climate security**

By Rajiv Chaturvedi, doctor, Environmentalist.

And Alexandre Strapasson, Research Fellow, Energy Expert.

And Amit Garg, Professor in the Public Systems Group at Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad,

Forests, trees, and agroforestry have a key role to play in India's sustainable development and climate action, however, climate change has already started to unfold and adversely impact vulnerable populations, including forest dependent communities in India and other developing geographies. Based on this background, this paper first reviews the goals of the Paris Agreement and the difficulties encountered in its implementation, holds that lofty long-term pledges in absence of matching shortterm actions may not be very helpful for our planet's sustainability. The paper then forecasts India's emissions under different scenarios until 2050. The first scenario is to maintain India's current policies (India is a relatively low real emissions country). The second scenario, termed as "Development First" scenario, is built around India's key developmental ambitions of Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self-reliance) etc.. By comparing the two situations, this paper finds that major benefits could be obtained through sustainable land use practices nationwide. However, lack of data availability and sometimes lack of data sharing mechanisms can adversely affect research in these areas. There is an increasing need for innovative forestry informatics tools and integrated databases towards a more effective climate action.

#### Source:

Energy Expert.

Forests, Trees, and Agroforestry: Their Roles in India's Sustainable Development and Climate Action | belfercenter(belfercenter.org)

### Attacks on Ukraine nuclear plant - what's at stake?

#### **Ecological security: nuclear pollution**

By Antony Froggatt, Senior Research Fellow and Deputy Director, Environment and Society Programme And Dr Patricia Lewis, Acting Deputy Director, Research Director, Conflict, Science and Transformation; Director, International Security Programme

As the war in Ukraine continues, further shelling of the Zaporizhzhia power plant prompts fresh concerns over nuclear safety in the region. Zaporizhzhia, one of the world's largest nuclear power stations, which used to belong to Ukraine and is currently in territory controlled by Russian forces, was attacked and damaged again in early August during the war. Therefore, this paper first analyzes the danger degree of the event, points out that the impact would likely be nowhere near as severe as the 1986 Chernobyl disaster and more likely be similar in scale to the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis. Finally, the article describes the international community's response to the incident, pointing out that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has expressed serious concern about the incident, has been on site to investigate the situation, and proposes further measures. At the same time, the power loss caused by the damage to the nuclear power plant will have a great impact on Ukraine, which may further aggravate the energy crisis.

#### Source:

Attacks on Ukraine nuclear plant – what's at stake? | chathamhouse(chathamhouse.org)

### COP27: The West must limit the use of all fossil fuels

#### **Ecological security: carbon emission**

By Promit Mookherjee, Associate Fellow at the Centre for Economy and Growth, primary research interests include sustainable mobility, techno-economics of low carbon energy transitions and climate finance.

Any hope of meeting the Paris Climate Goals rests on an unprecedented and transformative shift away from fossil fuels. In fact, COP26 was the first time all UNFCC signatory countries managed to reach any agreement aimed at reducing fossil fuel consumption. However, due to the agreement's weakened stance on coal usage, the final agreement turned out to be quite contentious. Although the agreement does not

constrain national initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, Europe is being forced to shift away from coal because of the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on energy supplies, and increase its own commitment toward reducing dependence on all fossil fuels at COP27. This paper further explains why has the agenda focused on only coal, and makes recommendations on how to proceed with the decarbonisation agenda in times of possible future crises, such as disruptions in the natural gas market, including the developed world must reimagine its dependence on all fossil fuels and so on.

Source:

COP27: The West must limit the use of all fossil fuels | ORF

### Appréhender et Résoudre les Dilemmes liés au Déploiement de l'hydrogène dans l'UE (Understanding and Solving the Dilemmas of Hydrogen Deployment in the EU)

#### **Resource security: Energy security**

By Diana-Paula Gherasim, Research Fellow, Center for Energy & Climate, Research Fellow, Center for Energy & Climate, Research Interests: EU 2030 energy & climate framework

Faced with multiple crises, the European Commission (EC), with the support of EU member states, is on a path to accelerate the decarbonization of the European energy system while promoting its resilience and supporting the deployment of hydrogen and its derivatives. There is no doubt that political, regulatory, industrial and investment efforts are underway in Europe to enable the effective deployment of hydrogen and, in particular, the development of renewable energy sources. However, the regulatory framework is complex and fragmented, with more than 10 legislative instruments and communications under debate at the European level. This creates a situation of uncertainty that could hinder the development of the sector. As a result, the EU still has a lot of work to do to achieve the "2030 target" mentioned in REPowerEU. This work focuses on the need for a clear and stable regulatory framework, the establishment of an infrastructure for oxygen supply based on progress observed on the ground, the development of a real industrial ecosystem and the definition of a common European understanding of the international dimension of the hydrogen energy market.

#### Source:

Appréhender et résoudre les dilemmes liés au déploiement de l'hydrogène dans l'UE | IFRI - Institut français des relations internationales

## Storm Without End: The Economic and Fiscal Impact of COVID in Canada

#### **Economic security: Financial security**

By Livio Di Matteo, Professor of Economics, Lakehead University, Research Interests: examines value for money in health-care spending

The international economic and financial disruption and impact of the pandemic has been enormous. Canada and its provinces were not immune to the economic impact of the pandemic. The first wave of the pandemic had the most severe economic impact because of its novelty and the uncertainty of its consequences and spread, as well as the various measures to contain the virus in the absence of a vaccine or immunity. By April 2020, Quebec experienced the largest drop in employment and the tourism industry was hit hard. In trying to put the pandemic behind them, it is unclear whether the federal and provincial governments have learned any clear lessons about how to respond to a COVID-19 recovery or a new pandemic while minimizing disruptions to the economy. In the meantime, the pandemic experience seems to highlight the ultimate resilience and adaptability of companies, workers and consumers in the Canadian economy as they adapt to the challenges of the new economic environment.

#### Source:

Storm Without End: The Economic and Fiscal Impact of COVID in Canada | Fraser Institute

## Societal Long COVID Here to Stay, Says Book: 'Normality Will Not Return'

### Biosafety: Major emerging infectious diseases

By Brian Michael Jenkins, Senior Adviser to the RAND President, Research Interests: Peacekeeping and Stability Operations

COVID-19 has been a global pandemic for about two and a half years, and the post-pandemic society is a new and more dangerous place where we feel pressured to be wary of each other, edgy, and soon violent. The pandemic has exacerbated distrust of American institutions, which many see as dysfunctional, ineffective, corrupt, and even authoritarian. The pandemic shows that our ability to work together as a society

is declining. Political divisions have deepened. The pandemic reveals a deep distrust of science and basic facts. We don't know how long these effects will last, just as we don't know when the pandemic will end. The effective control of pandemics in the present may be only temporary, a health crisis that produces and bequeaths an anxious population, and we are not sure when another variant will lead to a new surge or when a new disease may engulf the planet.

Source:

Societal Long COVID Here to Stay, Says Book: 'Normality Will Not Return' | RAND

Paquete Económico 2023: Ganan los Multimillonarios, Siguen Perdiendo las Mujeres, la Salud, el Medio Ambiente y los Derechos Humanos (Economic Package 2023: Billionaires Win, Women, Health, Environment and Human Rights Continue to Lose)

#### **Cultural security: Human rights issues**

By Mariana Gurrola Y., Comunicación Fundar para prensa, Research Interests: Europeanisation and EU institutions

This article discusses about Tennessee's licensing requirement for would-be lawyers, an example of how occupational licensing holds parents back, especially mothers. Under state law, lawyers with part-time work experience must either take time off to prepare and sit for another exam or else they are prohibited from practicing law in the state. This article points out the fact that law students routinely spend months preparing for the exam and even take out loans to cover the thousands of dollars to successfully complete it, which hits working mothers especially hard: of the 21.4 million voluntary part-time workers in 2016, 67 percent were women. Therefore, this article criticizes that Tennessee's licensing rule holds some of these women back and contributes to the fear that many women have that they will be penalized for going part time or taking leave from work while their children are young. In the end, this article appeals that the admission by motion rule requiring full-time work should be changed to allow for greater flexibility for mothers, parents, and any other lawyer that chooses to work part time in the years to come.

Source:

Egregious Licensing Rule Holds Working Mothers Back in Tennessee | cato(cato.org)

### **SCO Needs Proactive Climate Action**

#### **Ecological security: Climate security**

By Damodar Pujari, Fellow, Research Interests: Climate Change, Sustainability

The extreme weather conditions in Uzbekistan, China, India, and Pakistan are turning climate change into a serious economic and human rights crisis. This calls for collaboration between countries facing similar climatological conditions to solve regional challenges. Multilateral initiatives like Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) can offer this platform, and an opportunity presents itself at the September 15-16 SCO Heads of States Council summit in Samarkand. Here, India as host of the SCO Summit in 2023 can help, in three specific ways. One, is the conclusive settlement of transboundary water-sharing agreements. Despite bilateral agreements, spats over water-sharing like the one between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan over the waters of the Syr Darya River, have prevented achieving the broader goal of peace and stability in the region, and now need mediation by a third party. Two, China can exhibit a similar accommodative benevolence towards its regional compatriots, especially Kazakhstan, and provide data transparency in water consumption. Three, India can the take the lead in building water coordination groups within the SCO that can serve twin geo-strategic objectives.

Source:

SCO needs proactive climate action - Gateway House

### Will the FED Strangle Latin America again?

#### **Economic security: Treasury security**

By Ernesto Talvi. Senior Research Associate, Research Interests: Global and Emerging Market Macroeconomics

Fed Chairman Jerome Powell recently reiterated his firm commitment to raising interest rates, and in August the U.S. inflation rate now stands at 8.3 percent, the highest level in four decades, leading many to wonder if Latin America is adequately protected from the collateral damage of another "Volcker Moment". In April 1980, U.S. consumer

prices rose at an annual rate of 14.6 percent, to which Volcker's Federal Reserve reacted sharply. The benchmark federal funds rate rose from 9.9 percent in July 1980 to 22 percent by the end of that year, leading to deep and prolonged recessions in 1981 and 1982. Today, Latin America's ratio of foreign debt to exports is at the same level as in 1980, and twice as high as GDP. But fears of another "Volcker Moment" are unfounded because of the fragility of the U.S. economy itself. The Fed's natural concern about the health of the U.S. financial system limits how fast and how much it can raise interest rates. This means that inflation is likely to exceed the Fed's 2% target for the foreseeable future. As an unexpected benefit, above-target inflation will help dilute high levels of debt.

Source:

Volverá la FED a Estrangular a América Latina? - Real Instituto Elcano

## **Chaos in the Palestinian Authority: From Counter-Terrorism to Reconstruction**

#### Social security: Massive terrorist campaigns

By Orit Perlov, Social media analyst, Research Interests: the discourse on the social networks in Arab states

Recent months have seen a steep rise in the use of live fire in the Palestinian cities against IDF forces, as well as in the number of shooting incidents and attacks against both IDF positions and soldiers and civilian traffic on roads in the West Bank. Following the security escalation, US administration and Egyptian government figures have conveyed messages of warning to the Israeli government. The Israeli security response focuses on counter-terrorism and widespread arrests of suspects almost every night, especially in the northern West Bank. Ironically, however, it encourages additional waves of terror and violence and increases the motivation of young Palestinians to enlist in the fight against the Israeli security forces. Most of these young people did not experience the second intifada and are motivated not only by hatred of Israel and resistance to the occupation, but also by revulsion toward the Palestinian Authority and its leader, Mahmoud Abbas.

Source:

Chaos in the Palestinian Authority: From Counter-Terrorism to Reconstruction | INSS

## Tax on Mobile Money Transfers Hits the Poor Hardest in Ghana

#### Social security: Polarization of the rich and poor

Mike Rogan, Associate Professor, Rhodes University, Research Interests: tax and development

Ghana's introduction of a 1.5% tax on mobile money transactions in May 2022 has been watched closely by policymakers across Africa. The proponents of the electronic transaction levy (e-levy) argue that taxes on mobile money — commonly referred to in Ghana as MoMo — present an opportunity for cash-strapped governments to raise funds in the complex post-pandemic context. The designers of Ghana's e-levy argued that it would lead to a better distribution of the tax burden by bringing ostensibly untaxed informal sector workers into the tax net (fairness) while shielding the poorest (equity). While the threshold is successful in shielding some lower income users, the author found, the e-levy is still highly regressive. The evidence suggests that the threshold should be raised and regularly adjusted for inflation. More generally, revenue authorities should focus on other ways of taxing high income workers in the informal economy, including professionals. At the very least, revenues from the e-levy should be used in a way that offsets its distributional impacts. This could mean targeting new spending on public infrastructure, goods and services that benefit informal workers. Government could also subsidise premiums paid by informal sector workers to join the National Health Insurance Scheme or contributions to the National Pension Scheme.

#### Source:

Tax on mobile money transfers hits the poor hardest in Ghana - Institute of Development Studies (ids.ac.uk)

## Frorefront Research(CSSCI)

## The "Bottom-up" Norm-setting and the Formulation of International Cybersecurity Norms

WANG Lei

Applications of information and communication technology has posed a great threat to international peace and national security, but the formulation of international norms for cybersecurity is still in progress. While states are striving to reach a normative consensus, they are often subject to political and power gaming. Against this backdrop, Internet corporations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have started to actively engage in the norm-setting process in a "bottom-up" manner and have proposed a variety of normative initiatives that are different from the existing achievements. Can this practice break the deadlock and accelerate the formulation of international cybersecurity norms? Internet corporations and NGOs expect strict regulations on states' behaviors in cyberspace and want to play a more important role in cybersecurity governance. Their normative initiatives driven by these expectations have indeed reinforced existing international norms in many respects. However, the state actors that dominate the norm-setting process employ a strategy of both cooperation and struggle, with Internet corporations and NGOs having limited power and influence in the norm-setting process. The United Nations Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) and a small number of states have showed limited openness to non-state actors and thus made it possible for some selected normative initiatives to be brought onto the intergovernmental agenda. But disagreements and games among states still prevent these normative initiatives from becoming widely recognized international norms.

#### Source:

王蕾. 自下而上的规范制定与网络安全国际规范的生成. 国际安全研究 (05),130-156+160. doi:10.14093/

Translator and Editor: Xu Wen

## The Era of Synthetic Biology: Biosafety, Biosecurity and Governance

PENG Yaojin

Synthetic biology, one of the most promising fields of modern biology, has not only introduced the concept of engineering into biological research and development, but also incorporated multidisciplinary concepts, methods and tools. As a result, it is able to design, modify or create novel or specialized biological systems or organisms. The broad application propect of synthetic biology and its revolutionary progress are expected to improve many aspects of human life. However, as a typical dualuse research field, the development of synthetic biology has been accompanied by a series of potential biosafety and biosecurity risks, which may wreak havoc on humans, animals, plants and the ecological environment as well as threatens national security. The existing governance models are no longer appropriate for the rapid development of synthetic biology that has brought disruptive changes to science and technology. In order to develop a proper model of risk management in the field of synthetic biology, it is necessary to take into consideration the status quo and trends of synthetic biology development, objectively and effectively analyse the ensuing safety and security issues as well as their evolutionary trends. Further efforts can be made to develop a comprehensive and dynamic risk governance model of biosafety and biosecurity in the field of synthetic biology, taking into overall consideration of state laws and regulations, government supervision, self-regulation of the scientific community, and international cooperation and dialogue among governments and communities.

#### Source:

彭耀进. 合成生物学时代: 生物安全、生物安保与治理[J]. 国际安全研究,2020,38(05):29-57+157-158. DOI:10.14093

Translator and Editor: He Xiangning

## **Scholars Interview Series**

Teresa Nogueira Pinto:

The International Order and Aid Model are in a Constantly Changing Status



Teresa Nogueira Pinto graduated in Political Science from the Portuguese Catholic University and is currently an assistant professor of Universidade Lusófona. Since October 2011 she regularly contributes to the Geopolitical Information Service (GIS) and World Review intelligence platforms as an analyst on African affairs. She has also participated in national and international conferences and published articles in the area of African Studies. She works as a consultant in International Relations, Risk Analysis and Business Intelligence. Her representative as Constitutionalism and Developmental Authoritarianism: Power, Law and Legitimacy in Post-Genocide Rwanda.

Since the 21st century, the international development assistance cooperation system has begun to change dramatically with the continuous growth of China and other emerging countries, and their influence in the field of development assistance has been rising. Based on this, the Center conducted an exclusive interview with Teresa Nogueira Pinto, hoping to understand her views on the international order and aid paradigm.

The international order is changing, and so is the aid paradigm. To understand such changes, two key trends must be considered. The first is the end of the unipolar – or uni-multipolar – moment. The liberal world order is fragilized, the US are no longer indisputably in charge and new key actors have emerged in both the global and regional spheres (China, Russia, India, Turkey). The second is what has been defined as the democratic recession. After the excessive optimism which characterized the 90s – crystallized in Fukuyama's thesis about the end of history – we are once more in a moment of power politics, where the anarchy of the international system is more visible, and geopolitics (and geoeconomics) are back. For those who believe that history, like economy, is cyclical, there is not much surprise.

The most relevant aspect of this "democratic recession" is the fact that it demonstrates that it is possible to detach capitalism from liberal democracy. The sacred formula of the Washington consensus is put into question. The symptoms of this change are everywhere to be seen. We can think about the case of China. where state capitalism converges with the socalled "Chinese-style democracy", and where millions have been lifted out of poverty. We can also think about the rise of personalized, authoritarian (or semi-authoritarian) regimes in countries like Turkey, Ethiopia, or the Philippines. And, perhaps most importantly, we can think about the rise of nationalism and of identarian movements, which is a reaction to global governance, cosmopolitanism and the hyper-globalization which characterized the previous moment.

All these shifts are impacting the aid system. The most evident challenge has to do with the perceived crisis of multilateralism and the failure of some multilateral institutions. Recent events – the management of the Covid-19 pandemics, economic shocks, the war in Ukraine, emerging political cleavages – demonstrate the limits of global governance. Organizations like the UN or the WTO have proved inefficient in addressing many of their stated goals. Moreover, the key actors sustaining multilateral institutions are also changing. China has embraced multilateralism and is now a determinant player in every relevant forum. This rise of China has also been accelerated by the isolationism which characterized the Trump administration. In this new context, the determinants of aid are rapidly changing. Developing countries have increased their agency and new donors, aid and cooperation mechanisms and partners have emerged (China, Russia, Turkey).

The case of Rwanda is particularly interesting when we consider the dilemmas of aid, and these emerging patterns. Because of its recent and tragic past, Rwanda had an enormous political and moral capital vis a vis a highly discredited international community. After 1994, Rwanda became a donor darling. And while the government implemented several reforms – thus aligning with the economic imperatives of the aid system – and attained impressive results, it never changed its authoritarian nature. Efficiency, i.e., delivering results in a context of low to non-existent corruption, has made Rwanda a good example for an aid system desperately in need of good examples. But Rwanda, under the leadership of Paul Kagame, is also an interesting example because it has been very clear in its refusal to conditional aid (something even more impressive, if we consider that the country's economy is extremely aid dependent). Over the last years, the government has implemented a series of

measures to reduce such dependency, and President Kagame evokes Agaciro [dignity] and adamantly rejects the moral superiority of donors.

This case, in particular, exposes the dilemmas of both donors and aid recipients. The US and the EU have tried to navigate the challenges posed by the regime – including its policy of destabilization in the region and the repression and neutralization of the opposition at the domestic level. However, Rwanda remains a reliable partner in critical domains, including security, which serves the purposes of many western countries (we can consider, for example, the recent migration deal with the UK). And, in this case – as in almost every case - realpolitik has prevailed. At the same time, the government of Rwanda has tried to keep its sovereignty and room of maneuver in both the domestic and regional spheres, without risking a dramatic cut with traditional donors. And, like several other countries in Africa, it has successfully diversified its allegiances and cooperation agreements.

Underlying these dilemmas are two opposing views on development and democratization. For Rwanda, growth and development are necessary and previous conditions to any process of political opening. The main priority is national union, not the implementation of liberal democracy. For traditional donors, in turn, which still operate under the logics of the Washington consensus, it is necessary to impose – or at least to try to impose - a series of political demands.

Translator: Li Yuhan

### **Randall Germain:**

# National Response in the Context of Global Inflation



Randall Germain is a professor at Carleton University and chair of the Department of Political Science. Prior to joining Carleton University in 2003, He taught at McMaster University, the University of Sheffield, the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, and Aberystwyth University. His current research focuses on the political economy of global finance, with emphasis on the regulatory apparatus of global financial governance. His professional service includes convening the International Political Economy Group of the British International Studies Association, and co-editing the Routledge/RIPE Series in global political economy. He is currently on the international advisory board of the IPE Yearbook and the Journal of International Relations and Development.

Since 2022, global inflation has continued to rise. In the face of global inflationary pressures, the central banks of most developed economies have made dealing with inflation a top priority. In this context, the Center conducted an exclusive interview with Randall Germain, hoping to understand his views on inflation.

Much of the rich world is seized by the spectre of inflation, which is running now at levels not seen in OECD countries since the early 1980s. Inflation plays havoc with the price system, and introduces an element of uncertainty in economic affairs that we do need to recognize. At the same time, it is equally important that we understand what inflation does, who it affects, and what further changes it can stimulate. These are important because what is often advocated as the surest 'cure' for inflation can have dramatic consequences for entire societies, and it is unclear whether the cure is worth the relief.

To start with, it is important to understand that a low inflation rate is not typically associated with adverse economic consequences. Hyperinflation has drastic effects which we can all recognize, and no economy can function for any length of time with inflation rates above perhaps 20%. Below this rate, however, the economic consequences are less clear-cut. And to draw the line of 'acceptable' inflation at 2% has long been understood as an arbitrary rate which privileges those whose wealth is primarily held in financial assets. In other words, inflation is most importantly a concern for the wealthy, or at least those whose wealth is predominantly based on interest-bearing assets. Their wealth depreciates when inflation runs ahead of interest rates. The establishment of an inflationary threshold of 2-3% (which dates from the early 1990s) reflects the dominance within our societies of a financial elite, and inflation threatens their interests without question.

The last period of rich-world inflation – during the 1970s, a time often alluded to with great apprehension by those fixated on the perils of inflation – was a period of considerable redistribution from asset rich wealth-holders to the wage-earning working classes. The 1970s witnessed the high point of union density across the rich world during the past half century, which also had the highest proportion of national income returned to wage earners. What is often portrayed as a period of economic misery was when wage earner economic power was at its peak in the industrialized world. But it was relatively short-lived, as the reaction to this redistribution of wealth in society unleashed a conservative political backlash that brought free market political parties to power in North America and Europe in the 1980s, and this condition continues to shape political debate about market economy in the richest countries in the world

The opening up of China and the former Soviet bloc to the forces of globalization amplified and spread these political conditions and economic pressures, helping to generate decades of spectacular economic growth and a disproportionate return of wealth to those who hold capital in the form of financial assets. But we should not lose sight of who paid for this: the wage-earning classes (now also known as the middle classes), whose incomes have effectively stagnated during this period. It is also the case that throughout this period, inequality and social mobility have worsened across much of the rich world. It is this new social alignment of wealth holders who are most threatened by the resurgence of inflation, precisely because it places new leverage in the hands of wage-earners, who can bargain more effectively for wage growth under conditions of capacity constraints such as the world is now experiencing. This threatens to upend the decades long privileges

of financial asset holders, and so they are correctly worried about the spectre of inflation.

The developing world has 'suffered' with much higher inflation than the rich world for decades; for them, inflation is not returning – it has always been with them. What they now face are supply constraints, which has very little to do with inflation and in many ways lies beyond their control. My advice to policy-makers in these countries is not to increase interest rates to stamp out inflation, as this will have negative growth consequences that will harm their populations. Rather they should make public investments to meet the needs of the food and economic security interests of their populations. These could include government purchases of food supplies, government assistance to produce crops destined for their own countries (rather than export), and planning efforts focused on organizing sustainable domestic food markets. All of this involves using political institutions for the public good, which may run counter to how politics is practiced in those countries.

The rich world will be important to this effort also. Governments in the rich world should not try and squeeze inflation out of their economies, as this will have negative effects on economic growth which will spill over to reduced imports from developing countries (which in turn would reduce the resources available to those countries to invest in their own populations). They should be focused on maintaining economic growth. But they should also recognize the difficulties supply constraints are having in the developing world, especially on food insecurity. There are global institutions which are ready and available to use as part of

the world's response to these threats, and rich world governments should provide resources to these institutions so they can do their jobs. Rich world countries can also increase their food aid and other forms of foreign aid to directly help poor countries meet these challenges. But whether rich country governments will do this of course depends on the political conditions within which they operate. The spectre of inflation is a real concern, but the politics of inflation are the deeper dynamic to which we must all pay attention, because inflation is above all a political rather than an economic issue.

Translator; Li Yuhan

### Researcher Column

### Imran Ali Sandano: China's Cooperation in Non-Traditional Security Threats to Pakistan



Dr. Imran Ali Sandano is a professor at the School of International Relations, University of Sindh, Pakistan. His main research interests include international security, peace and contradiction studies, and human security. He is the author of Common Security: Non-traditional Security in Chinese Perspective and Sufism for a Peaceful Pakistan.

In recent years, non-traditional security issues have gradually increased globally. China and Pakistan share a broad consensus on cooperation in addressing non-traditional security threats, and have been actively addressing increasingly complex crises through the Belt and Road Initiative and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). In the future, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has the potential to play an important role in creating an environment for the Belt and Road Initiative that cuts across all traditional and non-traditional barriers, and in which the Belt and Road Initiative will provide open options for all stakeholders. It will strengthen peace, human and economic development through win-win cooperation and ultimately contribute to the building of a community of human destiny.

Since 1990s NTS issues have gradually risen significantly. Likewise other nation states, China and Pakistan are also facing multiple NTS issues, thus, it has increased results for stronger prospects for traditional and non-traditional security cooperation between both nations. The level in which the China and Pakistan have understanding of its applications and meaning, and of the degree in which other cooperating states on NTS issues are increasingly becoming similar.

China and Pakistan emphasis that NTS challenges have not only exaggerated the means of traditional statecraft (at present less dependent on military means) but also demanded more reliance on bilateral, regional and multinational cooperation with the role of regional and international organizations.

Even though the theme to similar security challenges, diverse historical developments in the different regions of world have feigned the salience that either party imputes at to non-traditional security. China and Pakistan strongly believe that non-traditional characteristics of security flourish with the support of both non-military and military modes.

Especially, China always tried to establish strong bilateral and multilateral cooperation on non-traditional security and believe that it is a practical need. It believes that NTS issues are transnational and can never be solved by single nation or organization but through bilateral and regional and multilateral cooperation.

Traditional security issues always come under the heading of high-politics, such as national defense, territorial disputes, sovereignty, inter-states military posture etc. It falls under basic survival of a nation, state or a regime. States' actions are responsible for conventional security issues, but non-traditional threats are more complex.

Economic security, environmental degradation, terrorism, overpopulation, drug trafficking, pandemic diseases etc. come under the umbrella of non-traditional security issues, which were not given much importance in the past, but have now begun being looked at more closely and paid heed to; these problems are a consequence of activities undertaken by individuals or social groups, that do not align with state policies or laws; this above the law activity, rooted in social, economic, cultural soil of various countries has the potential to easily spill over borders, culminating into global issues.

In the China-Pakistan case, NTS issues have created some concern for Chinese investment in Pakistan. These issues cover fields like terrorism, energy security, maritime piracy, and environmental security. Currently, these NTS issues have become security related concerns for the BRI in general and CPEC in particular. CPEC particularly integrates domestic resources, supply of products, and a strong network based guarantee mechanism for NTS cooperation to address such challenges. Ultimately, responding to and solving all concerned NTS issues will provide a smooth and sound cooperative framework between China and Pakistan and countries along the BRI.

The rapid climate change, terrorism, overpopulation, food and water security are the main NTS threats faced by Pakistan. The havoc wreaked by natural disasters can be decreased

using an early warning system, advances in technology, better infrastructure, sanitation and preparation for disasters. In this regard China is continuously supporting Pakistan.

China and Pakistan are working hard to fight against NTS issues. At the present time, terrorism is a key and direct threat to Chinese investment. Pakistani government is all set to allocate Rs15 billion for security related projects. The money will be utilized for security purposes for CPEC projects. On the other hand energy is in desperate need of Pakistan, and China is investing thirty-eight billion dollars out of forty-six billion dollars in the energy sector. To safeguard energy and infrastructure projects of CPEC, Pakistan has established a special force for security. Pakistan is also getting full assistance from China to maintain good command on transnational crimes, maritime rescue and aid, and environmental security.

It is hard to escape the assumption that BRI has changed the global environment. It has challenged the hegemonic powers and posed some threats to China. On the other hand, NTS issues have opened new fronts to tackle; it is increasingly occupying the resources and time of national and international security experts. The NTS challenges are irregular and difficult to tackle. BRI in general and CPEC in particular provide a multilateral approach to formulate wide-ranging policies to tackle NTS threats.

No doubt that China Pakistan Economic Corridor is facing various non-traditional security challenges wherein traditional security challenges are also matters a lot. CPEC has the potential to play a vital role and paves the way to develop such an environment in which BRI

can cross all the traditional and nontraditional obstacles. It will provide open options to all stakeholders to strengthen peace, human and economic development through win-win cooperation.

In future, mutual cooperative attitude of Chinese policy makers will lead China to work with all the countries and actively respond to all NTS issues, and successfully not only implement the CPEC but also BRI. Ultimately, China, Pakistan and all other countries will become 'a community of destiny' and 'a community of interests'. It will help safeguard Chinese national interest and security, and will develop an encouraging international environment for NTS issues.

Editor: Li Yongshi

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#### Global Non-Traditional Security Observation

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