

Global Non-Traditional Security Observation

Vol.1, No. 24 March 2023



Center For
International Security
SAINT-PIERRE
圣皮耶国际安全中心

Members of the Academic Committee



Yu Xiaofeng

Chairman

Expert in Non-Traditional Security and Peace
Development Studies
Visiting scholar of Harvard University
and Oxford University
Ph.D. in Philosophy, Zhejiang University



Wei Zhijiang

Committee Member

Expert in Non-Traditional Security/NTS Theory
Doctoral Supervisor and Professor of
International Relations, Sun Yat-sen University
Ph.D. in History, Nanjing University



Feng Changgen

Committee Member

Expert in Technology Security
Former vice Chairman, China Association for
Science and Technology
Academician, International Eurasian Academy
of Science
Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry, University of
Leeds



Yu Xiang

Committee Member

Expert in Intellectual Property
Academician, European Academy of Sciences
Doctoral Supervisor and Professor of
Huazhong University of Science and
Technology
Vice President of Hubei Normal University
Ph.D. in Management, Huazhong University
of Science and Technology



Xu Xiaolin

Committee Member

Expert in Non-traditional Security Governance
Distinguished Professor, School of Public
Administration, Hunan Agricultural University
Former Dean of School of Public
Administration, Huazhong University of
Science and Technology
Expert of Academic Degrees Committee of
The State Council public Administration
Subject Review Group
Ph.D. in Management, Huazhong University
of Science and Technology



Huang Jiangan

Committee Member

Expert in Marine Safety
Professor of Social Science in Zhejiang
Province
Chief Expert of Zhehai University, Zhejiang
Zhoushan Islands New Area Research Center
(CZZC)
Ph.D. in Political Science, Peking University



Chen Bin

Chief Editor

Secretary-general of China Non-Traditional
Security Forum
Director of the St. Pierre Center for
International Security
Vice President and Senior Research Fellow,
Guangdong Indo-Pacific Institute for Peace
and Development
Ph.D. in International Relations, Jinan
University

Consultants



Ritu Agarwal

Expert in Economic Security
Associate Professor, School of International
Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Delhi



Chen Xinmin

Expert in Population Security
Professor of Economics and Management,
South China Normal University
Expert Advisor to the Governor of Guangdong
Government on Decision Making
Ph.D. in Economics, Jinan University



Keven E. Bermudez

Expert in Mental Health and Psychosocial
Support in Humanitarian Emergencies
Director of the Good Neighbor Association in
Barcelona, Spain
Ph.D. in Global Health Research, Queen
Margaret University



Cheng Xizhong

Expert in Overseas Interests Protection
Honorary Professor, Non-traditional Security
Research Institute, Southwest University of
Political Science and Law
Executive Consultant, China Shield Consulting
Service Co. Ltd
Senior Fellow, Chahar Institute



Gao Jianbo

Expert in Information Security
Professor of Geography, Beijing Normal
University
Ph.D. in Electronic Information Engineering,
UCLA



Chris Hadley

Expert in Social Security
Ph.D. in NTS Management Studies, Zhejiang
University



Hu Jing

Expert in Food Security
Professor, South China Normal University
Director, Institute of Agriculture and
Urbanization
Ph.D. in Economics, Renmin University of
China



He Yiping

Expert in Economic Security
Former Executive President of Guangdong
International Economy Association
Former Director, Economic Committee of the
Guangdong CPPCC
Former Chairman, Guangdong Environmental
Protection Group CO., Ltd



Mohd. Aminul Karim

Expert in Regional Security Cooperation
Professor of Business School, Independent
University of Bangladesh
Member, All India Management Association
Ph.D. in Power Politics and Modernization,
University of Dhaka



Li Xiaofeng

Expert in Economic Security
Doctoral and post-doctoral Supervisor and
Professor of Economic and Trade, Guangdong
University of Foreign Studies
Ph.D. in Management, KyungHee University
Postdoctoral Fellow, Fudan University



Liu Guozhu

Expert in Non-traditional Security Theory
Doctoral Supervisor and Professor of World History, Zhejiang University
Researcher, Non-traditional Security Research Center, Zhejiang University
Ph.D. in History, Nankai University



Lin Jian

Expert in Cultural Security
Research Fellow, National Academy of Development and Strategy, Renmin University of China
Director, Social System Engineering Research Center
Ph.D., Philosophy, Renmin University of China



Yannis A. Phillis

Expert in Industrial Security
Professor Emeritus and former Rector of the Technical University of Crete
Member, European Academy of Sciences and Arts
Ph.D., Dynamic System Control, University of California, Los Angeles



Filippos Proedrou

Expert in International Relations/ Energy Politics
Research Fellow, University of South Wales
Ph.D. in International Relations, Democritus University of Thrace



Jeffrey Reeves

Expert in Cultural Security
Vice President, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
Ph.D. in International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science



Syed Hussain Shaheed Soherwordi

Expert in Terrorism Issue
Professor and Chairman of the Department of International Relations, the University of Peshawar
Ph.D. in US Foreign Policy, University of Edinburgh



Kate Tulenko

Expert in Public Health Security
CEO and Founder, Corvus Health
Ph.D. in Medicine, Johns Hopkins University



Johannes Urpelainen

Expert in Energy Security
Professor, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University
Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Michigan



Vlado Vivoda

Expert in Energy Security
Research Fellow, Sustainable Minerals Institute, University of Queensland
Ph.D. in International Relations, Flinders University



Yao Yu

Expert in Cyber security
Doctoral Supervisor and Professor, Northeastern University
National key research and development plan appraisal expert
National 863 high-tech program evaluation expert
Ph.D. in Computer Software and Theory, Northeastern University



Yu Naizhong

Professor, School of Marxism, Changsha University of Science and Technology
Ph.D. in Philosophy, Renmin University of China



Yu Tiejun

Expert in International Security Theory
Professor and Head of Department of National Security Studies, School of International Relations, Peking University
Director, Center for International Security and Peace Studies, Peking University
Vice President, Institute of International Strategic Studies, Peking University
Ph.D. in Political Science, Peking University



Zhang Jinsheng

Expert in Trade Security
Former Director, Shenzhen WTO Affairs Center
Senior Research Fellow, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Ph.D. in Economics, Senior Economist



Zhao Ying

Expert in Industrial Security
Former Director, Institute of Industrial Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Professor, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences



Zhou Shuwei

Expert in Social Security
Senior Think Tank Expert, Guangdong International Economic Association
Distinguished Research Fellow, Counsellor's Office of the Guangdong Provincial People's Government
Former Deputy Inspector, Guangdong Provincial Department of Commerce



Zhu Xinguang

Expert in Social Security
Professor, College of Philosophy, Law and Political Science, Shanghai Normal University
Director, Southeast Asia Research Center
Ph.D. in International Relations, Nanjing University

Researchers



Ai Shangle

Research Fellow in Financial Security
Postdoctoral Fellow in Applied Economics,
Jinan University
Ph.D., International Relations, Jinan University



Cheng Yonglin

Research Fellow in Financial Security
Professor, Guangdong International Institute of
Strategic Studies, GDUFS
Ph.D. in International Relations, Jinan
University
Postdoctoral Fellow of Finance, Fudan
University



Fan Shouzheng

Research Fellow in Terrorism
Associate Professor, People's Public Security
University of China
Ph.D., Institute of International Relations,
Nanjing University



Hou Ying

Research Fellow in Social Security
Postdoctoral Fellow, Jinan University
Ph.D. in International Relations, University of
Macau



Jin Jiyong

Research Fellow in Public Health Security
Doctoral Supervisor and Professor, Vice
President, School of International Relations
and Public Affairs, SISU
Ph.D. in International Relations, Fudan
University
Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Public
Administration, Zhejiang University



Chen Yongpin

Research Fellow in NTS
Chairman, Guangzhou Economic and
Technological Development Zone
Ph.D. in Environmental Science, Chinese
Academy of Sciences



Chen Yumei

Senior Fellow in Cyber Security
Superior Electrical Engineer
Director and Doctoral Supervisor of
Government Data and Social Innovation and
Entrepreneurship Research Center, Jinan
University
Ph.D. in Management, Macau University of
Science and Technology



Hou Jianxiong

Distinguished Research Fellow in Overseas
Interests Protection
Executive Vice President, Guangdong
International Economic Association
Chairman, Guangdong Shineng Power
Equipment Group Co.,Ltd
Expert in Advisory and Validation of Major
Administrative Decisions, Government of
Guangdong Province



Haung Yongdi

Research Fellow in Non-Traditional Security
risks of the Belt and Road Initiative
Associate Professor, School of Public
Administration, Guangdong University of
Finance
Director, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao
Greater Bay Area Urban Governance Institute,
Guangdong University of Finance



Irfan Ullah Khan

Research Fellow in Non-Traditional Security
Management
Master of Science, International Relations,
School of Public Affairs, Zhejiang University
Ph.D. Candidate, Non-traditional Security
Management, School of Public Affairs,
Zhejiang University



Li Fangfang

Research Fellow in Global Health and Sustainable Development
Global Health Diplomatic Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross
Ph.D., University of Amsterdam and Barcelona Institute for Global Health



Li Qian

Research Fellow in Marine Security
Ph.D. In International Relations, Sun Yat-sen University



Liu Fengyuan

Senior Research Fellow in Financial Security
Director, Capital Market Research Centre, ECUPL
Professor, School of International Finance and Law, ECUPL



Liu Tianyang

Research Fellow in Non-Traditional Security Governance
Associate Research Fellow, School of Politics and Public Administration, Wuhan University
Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Melbourne, Australia



Lu Jinling

Research Fellow in NTS of Southeast Asia
Vietnamese Language Information Officer, Asean College, Guangxi University for Nationalities



Bakirov Maksatbek

Research Fellow in Security of Central Asia
Master, Osh State University
Ph.D. in Management of Non-Traditional Security, Zhejiang University



Li Jia

Research Fellow of Cultural Security
Associate Professor, School of International Studies, Zhejiang University
Ph.D. in Management, Zhejiang University



Liao Danzi

Senior Research Fellow in NTS Theory
Distinguished Research Fellow, Digital Security and NTS Research Institute of Zhejiang Province
Ph.D. in NTS Management, Zhejiang University



Liu Jinshan

Senior Research Fellow in Economic Security
Professor of Economics, Jinan University
Ph.D in Economics, Renmin University of China



Liu Yuanling

Senior Research Fellow in Climate Security
Research Fellow, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Ph.D. in International Relations, Renmin University of China



Mai Fang

Senior Research Fellow in Financial Security
Legislative Advisory Expert, Standing Committee of the Guangdong Provincial People's Congress



Mo Youheng

Research Fellow in Marine Security
Ph.D., Candidate in international law, Wuhan University



Qin Shengyong

Senior Research Fellow in Public Health Security
Director, International Medical Cooperation Office, Sun Yat-sen University
Ph.D. in International Relations, Jinan University



Tang Quan

Distinguished Research Fellow in Overseas Interests Protection
Former Deputy Manager, International Department, Central City Security Group
Senior Expert, Certification for Information System Security Professional (CISSP)
China's State Registered Senior Social Security Defender (Occupioal Qualification Certificate)



Wang Duxing

Research Fellow in Society Security
Policy Research Fellow, Government of Huizhou, Guangdong
Ph.D in International Relations, Jinan University



Wang Zhuo

Senior Research Fellow of Social Security
Professor, School of Public Administration, Sichuan University
Director, Anti-Poverty Research Center in Western China
Ph.D. in Law, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics



Xie Guiping

Senior Research Fellow in Borderland Security
Chief Expert of the National Social Science Major Tender Project
Ph.D. in NTS Management, Zhejiang University



Imran Ali Sandano

Research Fellow in NTS Theory
Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Sindh - Pakistan.
Ph.D. in NTS Management, Zhejiang University



Diana Toimbek

Research Fellow in NTS Theory
Senior Expert in the Laboratory of the International Studies, Kazakhstan
Ph.D. in NTS Management, Zhejiang University



Wang Xinhe

Senior Research Fellow in Arctic Issues
Associate Professor, Institute of International Studies, Qingdao Academy of Social Sciences
Ph.D. in School of International Relations, Renmin University of China



Xie Fahao

Research Fellow in Social Security
Postdoctoral Fellow in Applied Economics, Jinan University
Ph.D. in International Relations, Jinan University



Xu Tao

Senior Research Fellow for Security in Central Asia
Director, Central Asia Research Office, Development Research Center of The State Council
Doctoral Supervisor and Researcher of China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR)
PhD., Moscow State University



Zhang Jianhua

Research Associate of Trade Security
Ph.D. in School of Economics and Trade,
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies



Zhao Xin

Distinguished Fellow in Overseas Interests
Protection
Director, Guangzhou Xin liang Zhao cheng
Law Firm
Vice President, Guangdong Lawyers
Association of Law



Zhou Long

Research Fellow in Population Security
Head of Department of Democracy, School of
International Relations, GDUFS
Ph.D. in International Relations, Jinan
University



Zhong Xiaojun

Research Fellow of Economic Security
Master's Supervisor and Associate
Professor, Guangdong Polytechnic Normal
University
Head of Business Department, College of
Finance, GPNU
Ph.D. of Economics, School of Economics,
Jinan University



Zhou Zhanguai

Senior Research Fellow in Resources Security
Director, International Water Security
Institute, Research Center for NTS and
Peaceful Development, Zhejiang University
Ph.D. in Management, Zhejiang University



Zhang Yadi

Fellow in Migration Governance
Lecturer, School of Journalism, Chongqing
University
Ph.D. in NTS Management Studies, Zhejiang
University



Zheng Xianwu

Senior Research Fellow in Regional
Cooperative Security
Doctoral Supervisor, Professor and Vice
President, Institute of International Relations,
Nanjing University
Ph.D. in History of International Relations,
Nanjing University



Zhou Muliang

Senior Research Fellow in Economic Security
Director, International Investment Promotion
Department, Guangzhou Commercial Bureau



Zhou Yanping

Research Assistant in Trade Security
Ph.D., School of Economics and Trade,
Guangdong University of Foreign Studies



Zou Guanyang

Senior Research Fellow in Public Health
Security
Professor, Guangzhou University of Chinese
Medicine
Ph.D., Queen Margaret University, Britain

Table of Content

01

Think-tank Tracking

02

Frorefront Research(CSSCI)

Debates on Climate Change and Security in the UN Security Council: Convergence, Divergence and the Underlying Logic

Beyond Biodefense: “Dual-Use” Security Narrative and Evolution of US Biotechnology Policies

Aid Security: An Emerging Issue from the Perspective of Aid Carrier

Model Hypothesis of National Security Governance under the “Situation-Consciousness-Action” Framework

03

Scholars Interview Series

David Welch: Rethinking Security - Cultural Understanding in Conflict Resolution and Management

Mélanie Juza : Marine Heat Waves Will be More Frequent Especially in the Mediterranean, Affecting Wildlife, Fisheries and People’s Life

Ricardo Francisco Reier Forradellas: Central Banks’ Monetary Policy in the Face of the COVID-19 Economic Crisis

Amy Erica Smith: The Impact of Identity on Elections in Brazil

04

Researcher Column

Diana Toimbek: Energy security and its implications in Kazakhstan

Editor's Note

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the traditional notion of security has expanded to encompass a wide range of non-military threats such as climate change, pandemics, cyber attacks, and economic instability. This has necessitated new ways of thinking and new approaches to addressing these challenges. In this edition, we feature articles that delve into the various dimensions of non-traditional security, including most trending NTS issue in the world press.

Agriculture Committee of World Trade Organization (WTO) member held a meeting where members vowed to intensify their efforts to address the severe food security crisis, which is especially challenging for least developed countries and net food-importing developing countries. The World Food Programme warned that the world continues to face “the largest hunger and nutrition crisis in modern history” caused by conflicts, climate change and economic shocks.

The United Nations used its first conference on water security in almost half a century to push governments to better manage the world's water. In the conference UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said that “we are draining humanity's lifeblood through vampiric overconsumption and unsustainable use, and evaporating it through global heating.”

DigitalOcean study finds growing cybersecurity concerns among small-to-medium-sized businesses (SMBs) and Startups. Cybersecurity threats are more real and prevalent than ever before. For businesses, security breaches risk not only exposure to customer data and a decrease in trust, but also losses in revenue if systems are taken offline through attacks such as distributed denial of service.

ASEAN and China reaffirmed commitment to advance their comprehensive strategic partnership at the 24th ASEAN-China Joint Cooperation Committee meeting held at the ASEAN Secretariat. Notable progress has been made in various areas of the ASEAN-China Plan of Action 2021-2025 and its annex to advance the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership particularly in political dialogue and cooperation, non-traditional security, trade and investment, food and agriculture, ICT, cyber security, digital economy, tourism, education, public health, culture and information, media, environment, and sustainable development.

We are grateful to our contributors who have shared their insights and expertise in these important areas. We hope that this issue will provoke thought and stimulate dialogue on the critical issues facing our world today.

As always, we welcome feedback from our readers and look forward to hearing your thoughts on this issue.

1st April, 2023

Think-tank Tracking

Truth-Agnostic Chatbots Show the Need for a Search Alternative

Technology security: AI

By Blayne Haggart, CIGI senior fellow and associate professor of political science at Brock University in St. Catharines, Canada.

The article argues that the rise of chatbots highlights the need for a new approach to information search that takes into account the possibility of deliberate misinformation and the limitations of automated systems. The author, Haggart, notes that chatbots, which use artificial intelligence to simulate conversation with users, are becoming increasingly sophisticated and can be used to disseminate false information. He suggests that chatbots are "truth-agnostic" in that they are designed to generate engagement rather than provide accurate information. He maintains that chatbots are symptomatic of the broader challenges associated with information search in the digital age. It is also suggested that current search algorithms prioritize engagement over accuracy, which can result in the spread of misinformation. To address these challenges, Haggart believes that we need to develop new search models that prioritize accuracy and provide users with more control over the information they receive. Such models could include more transparent algorithms, greater user input, and alternative search engines that prioritize accuracy over engagement. Haggart argues that the rise of chatbots highlights the need for a new approach to information search that prioritizes accuracy over engagement. He brings up that developing alternative search models that take into account the limitations of automated systems and the possibility of deliberate misinformation will be crucial for ensuring that users have access to accurate information in the digital age.

Source:

Truth-Agnostic Chatbots Show the Need for a Search Alternative | CIGI (cigionline.org)

Global Data Flows Require a New Forum for Governance

Technology security: Data flow security

By Amrita Vasudevan, CIGI fellow and an independent researcher focusing on the political economy of regulating digital technologies and investigating the impact of these technologies through a feminist lens.

The article notes that current governance structures are ill-equipped to address the challenges posed by global data flows, which are shaped by a range of actors including governments, private companies, civil society, and individual users. It suggests that existing governance frameworks are often fragmented, siloed, and slow to adapt to changing circumstances. To address these challenges, the author argues that we need to develop a new forum for global data governance that is more inclusive and responsive. She maintains that such a forum should involve a range of actors, including governments, companies, and civil society, and should be designed to support cooperation, transparency, and accountability. The article suggests that such a forum could be guided by a set of principles and norms that reflect the values and aspirations of a diverse range of stakeholders. Such a framework could help to ensure that global data flows are managed in a way that is consistent with human rights, democratic principles, and the public interest. The article believes that the increasing volume and complexity of global data flows requires a new approach to governance that is more inclusive, flexible, and responsive. Developing a new forum for global data governance that is guided by principles of cooperation, transparency, and accountability will be crucial for ensuring that global data flows are managed in a way that reflects the values and aspirations of a diverse range of stakeholders.

Source:

Global Data Flows Require a New Forum for Governance | CIGI (cigionline.org)

We should be worried about corporate due diligence – but for the right reasons

Social security: multinational corporations

By Fanny Sauvignon, Research Assistant in the Foreign Policy Unit at CEPS, current research covers EU connectivity engagement and international partnerships with countries and regions in Asia-Pacific and across the “Global South”.

The article raises concerns about the implementation of due diligence laws by multinational corporations. While due diligence laws have been hailed as a step towards corporate social responsibility, they are often used as a shield to protect corporations from legal responsibility rather than a tool to prevent harm. The author highlights the limitations of current due diligence laws, which often focus on individual incidents of harm rather than the systemic issues that enable them. This approach allows corporations to avoid addressing the root causes of the problem, resulting in cosmetic changes that do little to prevent future harm. In addition, the burden of proof is often placed on victims rather than corporations, further hindering accountability. The article suggests that a more holistic approach to due diligence is needed, one that considers the impact of corporate activities on human rights, the environment, and social justice. This would require a shift away from a legalistic perspective towards a more ethical and moral one, where corporations are held accountable not just for the harm they cause but also for the harm they enable. While due diligence laws have the potential to promote corporate responsibility, their implementation must be rethought to address systemic issues and hold corporations accountable for their actions. This requires a shift in focus from legal compliance to ethical responsibility and a recognition that corporations have a social and moral obligation to prevent harm.

Source:

We should be worried about corporate due diligence – but for the right reasons | CIGI (cigionline.org)

Can Biden's New Asylum Policy Help Solve the Migrant Crisis?

Social security: immigration

By Diana Roy, Writer/Editor of CFR, covers Latin America and immigration for CFR.org.

The article discusses the recent changes to US asylum policy implemented by the Biden administration. The article examines whether these changes can help alleviate the ongoing migrant crisis at the US-Mexico border. The new policy includes the implementation of a more efficient asylum processing system and increased support for Central American countries to address the root causes of migration. It also includes the creation of an asylum program for Central American children and the expansion of the existing Central American Minors Program. The author suggests that these changes may help reduce the number of migrants making the dangerous journey to the US-Mexico border by providing them with more viable options to seek asylum in their home countries or in the US. However, the author also notes that the success of these policies will depend on their implementation and the cooperation of the governments in the region. The article also highlights the challenges of addressing the root causes of migration, such as poverty, violence, and corruption, which require long-term solutions beyond immediate policy changes. In conclusion, the article suggests that while the new asylum policy is a step in the right direction, it will require sustained efforts to address the complex issues driving the migrant crisis.

Source:

Can Biden's New Asylum Policy Help Solve the Migrant Crisis? | CFR (cfr.org)

Technology as a Driver of Gender Equality and Peace

Cultural security: gender equality

By Abigail Edwards, Research Assistant, Project on Fragility and Mobility Image.

Alexis Day, program manager for the Smart Women, Smart Power Initiative and outreach manager for the International Security Program at the CSIS.

Erol Yayboke, Director, Project on Fragility and Mobility and Senior Fellow, International Security Program.

In the nine countries that the U.S. aims to cover in its Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability (SPCPS), women are still constantly left out of decision-making spaces, excluded from the paid labor force, deprived of access to valuable assets, and regularly experience gender-based violence to varying degrees, all dynamics that can exacerbate state fragility. These dynamics can be mitigated, at least in part, through technology. The article proposes four ways to utilize technology for gender equality's sake. First, technology-driven pathways strengthen women's economic inclusion by providing women with opportunities to remotely learn marketable skills, connect and share best practices between female tech entrepreneurs, as well as take part in the growth and development of their community's digital infrastructure. Second, digitizing disaster relief will capitalize women's intimate knowledge of their communities, while providing them marketable skills and employment within the information technology sector under the general background of climate change. Third, digital tools can boost women's participation in civil societies by restoring their agency and inclusion in decision-making spaces. Fourth, technology serves as a tool to fight impunity and combat gender-based violence. In the end, the author takes a look into the future, suggesting a few possible directions for SPCPS and identifying possible obstacles.

Source:

Technology as a Driver of Gender Equality and Peace | CFR (cfr.org)

Two crises, two continents: how the labour-market impacts have differed

Economic security: labor market

By Zsolt Darvas, Senior Research Fellow at the Corvinus University of Budapest.

The article compares the labor market impacts of two major crises, the 2008 global financial crisis and the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, in Europe and the United States. Although both crises led to significant economic downturns, the labor market outcomes have been quite different. The 2008 crisis had a more severe and lasting impact on the labor market in Europe, where unemployment rates increased significantly and remained high for several years. In contrast, the US labor market was more flexible, with unemployment rates peaking at a lower level and recovering more quickly. The COVID-19 pandemic, however, had a more severe impact on the US labor market, with a sharp increase in unemployment rates that surpassed the levels seen during the 2008 crisis. In Europe, on the other hand, government support programs such as wage subsidies helped mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the labor market, and unemployment rates did not rise as sharply. The article argues that the differences in labor market outcomes between the two continents can be attributed to differences in labor market institutions and policies, such as the flexibility of employment contracts, social safety nets, and active labor market policies. The article suggests that policymakers should learn from the experiences of both crises and take steps to strengthen labor market institutions and policies to better prepare for future crises.

Source:

Two crises, two continents: how the labour-market impacts have differed | brugel (bruegel.org)

The gender-equal platform economy is a myth – fixing it requires firm action

Cultural security: Gender equality

By Leonie Westhoff, Associate Researcher in the Jobs and Skills Unit at CEPS. Her work focuses on European labour market and social policy, including topics such as the platform economy, the digitalization of work and skills development.

Work in the platform economy – or the “gig economy” – is on the rise, which offers flexibility and autonomy when scheduling work. Technically, platform economy should offer women a “gender-blind” online environment that encourages female labour market participation and gender equality. However, the author believes there’s still room for improvements. It is proved that labour platforms reinforce the gender wage gap and gender stereotypes. Besides, having children is demonstrably associated with lower participation in work, earnings and working hours. Platform economy simply enables women to end up pulling a “double shift” than challenging the underlying inequalities and gender roles. It is also suggested that algorithms needs to be more gender-sensitive. A “gender-blind” algorithm that does not factor in structural differences in outside responsibilities actually ends up reinforcing gender inequality. The article ends by proposing some possible directions for the future. Improving working conditions on these platforms is the first step to take. It will benefit everyone working on and through them, but especially women, who have a lower level of work intensity and less additional outside income than male platform workers, increasing the potential for vulnerability and exploitation. On top of regulation, companies can also be proactive and champion anti-discriminatory practices in the online labour economy, for instance by explicitly designing algorithms in a gender-sensitive way.

Source:

The gender-equal platform economy is a myth – fixing it requires firm action | CEPS (ceps.eu)

Taming digital titans

Economic security: Market competition

By Sanjeev S. Ahluwalia, Advisor, Observer Research Foundation. He remains affiliated with The Energy Research Institute (TERI).

This rapid accretion of economic power of the top five digital titans in the United States (US) between 2010 and 2022 invited deeper scrutiny and rethinking of whether the regulatory arrangements for ensuring “competition in the market” were adequate. Four developments torpedoed technical regulatory solutions honed over the previous century. First, rapid growth in venture capital and private equity funds privileged headline growth in revenues over profits. Second, globalisation created the space for rapid growth, shrinking the present value of current profits to a small fraction of future profits. Third, a lively startup ecosystem provided opportunities for growth through the acquisition of enterprises. Fourth, tech costs are front-loaded and marginal costs are low. Integration across business lines produced new regulatory challenges. Measures to avoid unfair discrimination became necessary. Frenetic innovation in the markets does not easily convert into competition in the market. Instead, aggressive, private equity-funded tech titans often neutralise competition by acquiring nascent competitors. The article maintains that regulating big corporates is also protecting public interest. It is also noted that smartphone manufacturers’ future is also changed along with the regulation against Google. For retail consumers, the potential for more competition in future is insufficient compensation for an immediate increase in consumer prices.

Source:

The gender-equal platform economy is a myth – fixing it requires firm action | ORF (orfonline.org)

The Great Gender Glitch: Women and Online Violence

Social security: Feminism

By Arundhatie Biswas, Ph.D is Senior Fellow at ORF. Her research traverses through multi-disciplinary research in international development with strong emphasis on the transformative approaches to women's empowerment, equality and socially inclusive pedagogy.

According to UN Women's Gender Snapshot 2022 report, low- and middle-income countries have lost out on an estimated US\$ 1 trillion from the gross domestic product in the last decade by excluding women from the digital world, the damaging trend of cannot be rectified if concerted efforts are not undertaken to tackle the increasing online violence against women. As we engage more and more with the virtual world, its power is progressively becoming roguish, further deepening old gendered inequalities. Online gender-based violence surged globally during the pandemic and most nations struggled to grapple with the violation of women's online lives in the absence of a strong legislative framework. The article maintains that the bracketed approach of interweaving cybercrimes against women within the larger areas often blindsided the fact that online violence against women has detrimental effects capable of causing social, economic and psychological damage. It can disable women's rights to political participation and freedom of expression which can have serious repercussions in democratic discourse. Law enforcement agencies also often tend to minimise the risks of online crime against women negating the fact that it can be as offensive and threatening as offline violence. The author suggests that a multi-pronged and proactive approach perhaps can go a long way in tackling these crimes head-on.

Source:

The Great Gender Glitch: Women and Online Violence | ORF (orfonline.org)

The heightened prevalence of noncommunicable diseases in women

Biosafety: noncommunicable diseases

By Shoba Suri, nutritionist, Senior Fellow with ORF's Health Initiative.

Women and girls are especially at risk of getting Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), because nearly two out of every three of them die from NCDs, which equates to 16.8 million deaths. The article identifies the problems with women's health in low- and middle-income nations have altered significantly during the past three decades. NCDs are now the main cause of death and disability among women in both developing and developed countries. The morbidity and mortality caused by NCDs also compromise women's sociocultural position in communities and have an effect on their health and development throughout their lives. Beyond just their personal health, these diseases have a significant influence on women and children. The article suggests that The exposure and vulnerability to NCD risk factors varies between men and women. Compared to men, women are much more likely to be obese, leading to a great amount of NCDs like coronary heart disease. High healthcare costs, lost productivity, and catastrophic expenses are brought on by NCD, which is a detrimental factor because women are the group least able to afford NCD treatment. The article points out that a combination of prevention, early identification, and treatment is necessary for a significant decrease in NCD mortality, and investment and commitments are needed on a global and national scale.

Source:

The heightened prevalence of noncommunicable diseases in women | ORF (orfonline.org)

Frorefront Research(CSSCI)

Debates on Climate Change and Security in the UN Security Council: Convergence, Divergence and the Underlying Logic

YUAN Sha

Although the debates on climate change and security in the UN Security Council have lasted for more than a decade, no universal resolution on climate change and security has been reached so far. Most of the existing research literature tends to use the securitization theory to describe and explain this process, which lacks both explanatory power and narrative integrity. This paper points out that the securitization theory cannot provide a convincing explanation for the process and results of the Security Council's debates on climate change and security due to its ignoring of the initiative of the "audience" in the securitization process. Therefore, this paper attempts to establish a new framework for comparative analysis, in which a more complete analysis could be made via the verbatim proceedings of these debates. It argues that there are actually two discourse practices in the debates representing two kinds of cognition and logic concerning security risks and countermeasures against climate change rather than just the pathway and logic of securitization. From the perspective of policy, although there exists limited consensus in this prolonged debate, deep divergences on climate change and security and different logic behind them as well as discourse competition, especially among the permanent members of the Security Council, lead to the low political feasibility of adopting a binding universal resolution. The global climate change governance regime based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change remains to be the most authoritative, legitimate, universal, and professional international institutional response to the issue of climate change. As a permanent member of the Security Council, China should not only maintain the regime's status as the main channel, but also play a greater role in the debates on climate change and security in the Security Council.

Source:

薄燕.(2023). 安理会气候变化与安全辩论: 共识、分歧及其逻辑. 国际安全研究 (02),110-133+159-160. doi:10.14093/j.cnki.cn10-1132/d.2023.02.005.

Editor: He Xiangning

Beyond Biodefense: “Dual-Use” Security Narrative and Evolution of US Biotechnology Policies

DING Di

Biotechnology has been both a tremendous catalyst and a potential risk for the advancement of human society due to its “dual-use” nature. Ever since 9/11 terrorist attacks, the US government has been working on its discourse manipulation of the “dual-use” concept in the field of biotechnology, which not only contributed to the final formation of a unique security narrative, but also accelerated the evolution of US biotechnology policies. From the Bush administration to the Biden administration, biotechnology under the “dual-use” security narrative has generated multiple security effects and developed both defensive and competitive objectives in the field of biotechnology policies. Theoretically, there is an obvious contradiction between the defensive and competitive objectives, which highlights the fact that Washington’s hegemonic logic has eroded its rational policy making against the backdrop of great power competition. Practically, US biotechnology policies have gone beyond its biodefense strategy with an attempt to “decouple” scientific research from that of America’s competitors and strengthen militarized investment so as to suppress America’s competitors and maintain its leading position in biotechnology. As is known to all, the development of emerging biotechnology contributes to globalization and benefits all humanity. The policies and actions based on US hegemonic logic is against the law of science and technology development, and may “backfire” and exert severe and negative impacts on the development of US biotechnology itself as well as global biosecurity.

Source:

丁迪.(2022). 超越生物防御: “两用性”安全叙事与美国生物技术政策的演进. 国际安全研究 (06),113-150+154. doi:10.14093/j.cnki.cn10-1132/d.2022.06.005.

Editor: Xu Wen

Aid Security: An Emerging Issue from the Perspective of Aid Carrier

Mao Weizhun

Foreign aid is a focal issue in the studies of international politics and international political economy. On the one hand, foreign aid, as a kind of special international public goods provided by donor countries, plays a significant role in global governance and international development. On the other hand, foreign aid, being an instrument of foreign policies for a given country, has inherent strategic implications in the arena of global competition. In international politics, foreign aid committed to further development is closely related to security issues. The aid-security nexus has evolved from being generally correlated to being inter-embedded and all the way up to securitization. Security considerations have increasingly affected the process of foreign aid and exerted a dramatic impact on the aid carrier linking together the donor and recipient countries. In view of the securitization factor in foreign aid, this paper aims to study the complexity and developing trend of the aid-security nexus, examine the aid carrier from a security perspective and finally advance the conceptual framework of “aid security”. This framework attempts to explore diversified security threats and identify various risk sources facing financial resources, human resources and institutional resources in the aid process from different perspectives like international structural transformation, relations between donors and recipients, and the domestic politics of relevant countries. Therefore, aid security can be guaranteed through technical conditionality and transparency, budget management, security personnel training programs as well as reforms of the global aid system.

Source:

毛维准 .(2020). 援助安全：一个基于援助载体的新议题 . 国际安全研究 (04),24-58+157-158. doi:10.14093/j.cnki.cn10-1132/d.2020.04.002.

Editor: Xu Wen

Model Hypothesis of National Security Governance under the “Situation-Consciousness-Action” Framework

YANG Huafeng

The complexity and uncertainty of national security risks put forward increasing demands for a more efficient governance system and greater governance capabilities. Synergy concepts of the governance theory pedigree and the “active voice” of security theories meet the practical needs of national security affairs. On the conceptual dimension of “security, sense of security and securitization”, a “situation-consciousness-action” analytical framework has been established to examine security status, security perceptions and security actions. The objects, concepts and policy actions of the national security governance system are just embedded in the interactive construction process between the above mentioned three elements. Firstly, in discussions about the identification and threshold range of the objects of security governance, the boundary of public affairs being put into the security agenda is characterized by “critical point elasticity” due to the difference relationship between security and risk as well as the dynamic equilibrium relationship between politicization and securitization. Secondly, under the dominant government paradigm, subjects of security governance present a security concept pattern featuring “ability>status>perception” and show “sequence preference” in the supply of security order and security services. Third, in the policy-making process of security governance, the inverted triangle structure consisting of policy environment, policy awareness and policy choice forms the upper end of the governance hourglass, while the hierarchical triangle structure made up of political parties, government and society forms the lower end of the governance hourglass. The former presents a funnel effect with the top-down dripping of information flow, resource flow and power flow. The latter, along with the multi-layered transmission of policy implementation, sometimes takes on such bureaucratic effects as increased transfer, target deviation and reactive governance, which forms the “hourglass-model” of governance action.

Source:

杨华锋.(2022). “情境—意识—行动”框架下国家安全治理的模型假设. 国际安全研究 (06),61-85+152-153. doi:10.14093/j.cnki.cn10-1132/d.2022.06.003.

Editor: He Xiangning

Scholars Interview Series



Dr. David Welch is currently working at University of Waterloo as a Professor of Political Science. His research interests focus on international relations and international security. His recent research includes "Security: A Philosophical Investigation" and "What's Really Going On in the South China Sea? "

Recently, conflicts have been increasingly evolved around actors with different culture and civilization. However, systematic knowledge on the role of cultural elements in understanding global and social conflicts is limited. To address these issues, the Center conducted an exclusive interview with Dr. David Welch on the cultural understanding in conflicts and security to get his answers on the role of culture in conflict resolution and management, and the most critical way for our thinking to change around security in order to make the world safer.

Cultural understanding in conflict resolution and management

Culture is an understudied subject in the fields of conflict management and resolution. The reason for this is that political science for many years simply assumed that states had fixed (and similar) interests, and that decision makers were “rational” about how they promoted them. This led to a focus on deterrence, compellence, bargaining, negotiation, modeling strategic interactions, and so forth — all things that essentially assumed that culture is irrelevant. But the field is finally realizing that ignoring culture is a major oversight. Many important state interests are, in fact, socially constructed, not “given,” and what people care about is deeply informed by their cultural commitments. Those commitments include powerful norms about justice and appropriate behaviour that implicate not only material stakes (such as claims to disputed territory) but also ideational and social ones such as standing, dignity, respect, honour, and “face.” They also affect styles of interaction, including styles of negotiation. Whenever states find themselves in a dispute of some kind, cultural differences always pose risks of miscommunication, misperception, misjudgment, and inadvertent escalation.

It is important to note that “culture” permeates every level of social interaction. There are, of course, “national” cultures of the kind that ethnographers and anthropologists study; but there are also diplomatic cultures. The current international system is, in fact, an international society, and states that are well-versed in diplomatic culture have an easier time managing disputes with other states that are similarly well-versed, all other things being equal, than

with “rogue” states or states that have simply not yet internalized the norms of civilized international behavior. This is one of the things that makes dealing with North Korea so difficult. The North Korean regime has never fully embraced the norms of international society.

Clearly, managing a dispute is easier if you understand the other side well. This includes understanding the cultural underpinnings of their interests and their behavior. This kind of understanding is what I call “empathy,” or the capacity to see the world from another’s point of view. Empathy does not require agreeing with another’s point of view; but it does require a good-faith effort to reconstruct it. Empathy, like culture, is an understudied concept in the study of International Relations.

Necessary changes to think about security

It depends upon the answer to a series of prior questions. Safer for whom? Safer from what? How do we know what is worth trying to make safer? Who gets to make judgments of that kind? These are among the questions I posed and sought to answer in my latest book, *Security: A Philosophical Investigation* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). The analysis leads to the conclusion that the two most important ways in which our thinking needs to change to make the world safer is that we have to stop treating the planet as an inexhaustible store of resources and we have to stop putting ourselves (i.e., human beings) at the centre of the analysis of security. Our primary obligation is to promote the conditions for lives worth living of all advanced species and to leave the planet in good condition for whichever species will eventually replace us. The kinds of issues that

we tend to obsess about when we think about security (for example, interstate war) can be important issues in the short run, but in the grand scheme of things they are unimportant compared to the longer-term imperative of reversing the damage that we as a species have done to the only habitable planet that we know of.

Editor: Fang Yaoyuan

Mélanie Juza:

Marine Heat Waves Will be More Frequent Especially in the Mediterranean, Affecting Wildlife, Fisheries and People's Life



Dr. Mélanie Juza is currently working at the Balearic Islands Coastal Observing and Forecasting System as an Engineer-Researcher of Modelling and Forecasting Facility. Her research interests focus on Physical Oceanography. Her recent research includes “Sub-Regional Marine Heat Waves in the Mediterranean Sea From Observations: Long-Term Surface Changes, Sub-Surface and Coastal Responses” and “The Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service Ocean State report”.

Recently, many regions have suffered devastating damages as a result of the temperature spike. On July 18, London became one of the hottest places in the world, with temperatures anticipated to exceed those in Western Sahara and the Caribbean. From Spain to Turkey, the Mediterranean Sea has seen a series of exceptional temperatures this summer according to scientists. Marine heat waves are one aspect of global warming and are bringing negative consequences. To address these issues, the Center conducted an exclusive interview with Dr. Mélanie Juza on the causes and impact of marine heat waves, especially in the Mediterranean.

Marine heat waves occur when ocean temperatures are extremely warm during a prolonged period. More precisely, marine heat waves are usually defined as extreme ocean temperatures that are warmer than the 90% of the local historical temperature records during at least 5 consecutive days.

Although marine heat waves have been relatively recently addressed, historical and near real-time ocean data now enable us to detect and characterise them, as well as analyse their long-term variations at sub-regional and local scales. The monitoring and analyses of marine heat waves at such scales help to better understand the drivers, mechanisms and consequences, such as the impacts on marine ecosystems, oceanic circulation and climate.

As for the formation, marine heat waves are caused by anomalous atmospheric conditions – that increase the solar radiation into the ocean and reduce the ocean heat losses (such as warm air temperatures, suppression of surface wind speed, absence of precipitation or no cloud cover), or by ocean processes – that transport warm waters (such as ocean currents).

In the Mediterranean Sea, marine heat waves have been related to large-scale atmospheric anomalies (e.g., persistent high-pressure system) inducing hot and dry weather. Such atmospheric conditions were the causes of the extreme events (which were particularly intense, long and spatially extended) in the Mediterranean in summer 2003 and more recently in 2022 in the western sub-basin.

It is important to mention that the ocean temperatures in the Mediterranean Sea have strong

spatial variations, for example between the south and north of an island, or near the coast, or in the enclosed bay. So, locally, we can find warmer values of sea surface temperature than at regional scale.

Marine heatwaves have significant consequences. They affect wildlife and fisheries.

The increasing ocean temperatures and extreme warm events threaten the marine ecosystems. Several studies have shown the devastating consequences on marine species and habitats at surface and in sub-surface, worldwide and particularly in the Mediterranean, such as coral bleaching, declines in seagrass meadows and kelp forest, harmful algal blooms, mass mortalities of marine organisms, change in behaviour and redistribution of marine species.

In the Mediterranean, marine heat waves have strongly affected key species such as the endemic seagrass meadows (“*Posidonia Oceanica*”) or coral populations. The “tropicalization” of the Mediterranean, with invasive species which are particularly voracious, also contribute to the decline of habitats and modify the distribution of the marine species.

People’s life has also been affected. The impacts on marine ecosystems and biodiversity have direct consequences on the goods and services provided by the oceans, impacting sectors of the blue economy such as fishery (through mortality, decline or migration of species) and tourism (through spreads of jellyfishes, harmful algal blooms or infection diseases).

In addition, increasing ocean temperatures may also contribute, combined with specific atmos-

pheric conditions as triggering conditions, to the increase in frequency and intensity of extreme phenomena such as storms with torrential rains that may cause floods, loss of beach or destruction of infrastructures.

All these caused by marine heat waves has something to do with climate change. The ocean has absorbed 30% of the anthropogenic carbon and 90% of the exceeding heat of the climate system. As a consequence of climate change, ocean temperatures are substantially increasing. The Mediterranean Sea, which is a semi-enclosed and relatively small ocean basin with many islands and coastal areas, is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change and responds rapidly to global warming. More precisely, the warming rate of the sea surface temperature in the Mediterranean Sea is 3- or 4-times higher than in the global ocean and has substantially increased in the last decades.

As indicated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in various recent reports, the extreme events are becoming more frequent and intense, in particular, the marine heat waves. Their frequency has doubled since 1982 and their intensity is substantially increasing. In the future, marine heat waves are expected to be much more frequent and even more so without a reduction of the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Editor: Fang Yaoyuan

Ricardo Francisco Reier Forradellas: Central Banks' Monetary Policy in the Face of the COVID-19 Economic Crisis



Dr Ricardo Francisco Reier Forradellas is currently professor contracted doctor by the Catholic University of Ávila in Spain, and director of Ávila Business School. He has over 12 years of experience in university education and business management, specializing in business and management, sustainable development, economic analysis, and business strategy for digital activities. Publications: "Central Banks' Monetary Policy in the Face of the COVID-19 Economic Crisis: Monetary Stimulus and the Emergence of CBDCs"; "Business Methodology for the Application in University Environments of Predictive Machine Learning Models Based on an Ethical Taxonomy of the Student's Digital Twin".

As a global crisis event, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought significant impact and shock to the economic sector. As the dominant financial center institutions, major central banks have introduced corresponding monetary policies to respond to the crisis and mobilize development vitality. What role do banking institutions play in crisis response? How to balance the financial environment changes with crisis response measures? What are the economic development trends in the post-pandemic era? In response to these questions, SPCIS conducted an exclusive interview with Ricardo Francisco, focusing on the monetary policy of central banks in response to the COVID-19 crisis, to learn about his views.

A series of relief measures have been announced by banks in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The first thing we have to understand is that, as a channel for savings and investment, banking institutions are an essential cog in the wheel for the proper functioning of the economy. It is senseless to present banks as an enemy to which taxes must be raised and restrictions imposed, since these consequences will ultimately be paid for by the customers. It is important to note that in the banking sector, the pandemic has had a much smaller impact than that suffered by the financial crisis of 2007 (whose effects in Europe occurred, above all, from 2008 onwards) and by the subsequent debt crisis. If in the crisis that began in 2007-2008, the financial and banking sector was mainly responsible for the global chaos generated -although, logically, apart from the banking sector it would be necessary to add the responsibility of public authorities, legislators, regulators, etc.-, in this new catastrophe it has been considered as one of the necessary mechanisms to mitigate its effects and achieve rapid economic recovery. For example, during the pandemic, Spanish banks mobilized nearly 140,000 million euros of financing for more than 750,000 companies and the self-employed in collaboration with the State and its credit lines. The expansive monetary policies developed by the monetary authorities during and after the pandemic - together with factors such as the war in Ukraine, the rupture of stocks, etc. - have resulted in an inflationary process that has "shocked" a large number of economies. Inflation has led to an increase in interest rates, which has led to one of the most dangerous situations that can occur at the economic level: inflation and high-interest rates.

The adjustments and provisions that financial institutions had to make following the impact of the 2008 crisis have meant that the sector is relatively more prepared to withstand the effects of a pandemic of such dimension, although without ignoring the certain risks that the sector was already facing in 2019 (balance sheet, debt, cost, business and, above all, rentability problems). The pandemic has further "thinned" the income statements of banking operators. However, this trend - aggravated by the virus - was already visible in recent years marked by exceptionally low-interest rates. On the profitability side, of course, it is necessary to take into account the increase in credit delinquency as a consequence of the effects of the pandemic on households and companies, as well as the payment deferral measures taken by the sector.

The final effects of this decline in profitability, in the case of Spain for example, has meant an unequivocal strategy of digital channels (offline will become practically a residual sector of the business); a considerable increase in commissions and expenses to be borne by the customer who does not comply with a series of conditions and, finally, branch closures and collective layoffs. In my opinion, a new process of banking concentration will be inevitable. The consolidation of the sector will be a reality marked by a process of mergers to increase profitability and business volume to be able to operate in an environment marked by new technologies and banking digitalization. Likewise, these mergers or concentrations will not only be due to the competitive interests of the banks themselves but also as a consequence of the measures and regulations imposed by the banking authorities. Finally, the presence

of new competitors will also define the future profitability of the banking sector. One of the opportunities for the sector is to consider "Fintechs" not as potential competitors, but as possible collaborators in the search for new profitability formulas. Perhaps the biggest challenge lies in the so-called "BigTech" companies, as they have large customer databases, highly loyal users, and the potential to become "BigTech Banking".

Editor: Long Yixun



Amy Erica Smith is an associate professor of political science, as well as a Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Professor at Iowa State University in the United States. Professor Smith's research examines how ordinary people understand and engage in politics. Her primary expertise is in Latin America, and particularly Brazil. Her publications include: Religion and Brazilian Democracy: Mobilizing the People of God, Talking it Out: Political Conversation and Learning in Unequal Contexts.

Given the professor's understanding of Brazilian political activity, SPCIS interviewed her on the issue of the Brazilian presidential election. Professor Amy Erica Smith pointed out that the 2018 election may mark the beginning of a more polarized political stage, in which people identify their political affiliations based on their identity. In this process, certain factors such as media or political institutions may help shape or reinforce people's identities. The center interviewed Amy Erica Smith on issues such as identity, cultural divides, and the current trend of political polarization in the world that may have an impact on the election.

In Layton et al. (2021), the authors focus on three kinds of identity: race, gender, and religion. Much of Professor Smith's work has been focused on the last of these, religion. Cleavages around evangelical versus Catholic versus non-religious identities have long been present in Brazilian society, though not intense. However, with some important exceptions, those cleavages did not strongly and consistently impact people's electoral choices. In some elections, evangelicals would vote a bit to the right of Catholics, and in other elections a bit to the left; the one consistent pattern is that people tended to support candidates from their own religious groups. In the past decade or so, that has started to change, as evangelicals have increasingly come to form a solid base of support for candidates on the right, and the non-religious for candidates on the left. As Taylor Boas and Smith show in a working paper (Smith and Boas 2021), across Latin America the solidification of evangelicals as a support base for the right is largely the result of the rise in sexuality politics issues such as LGBTQ rights and abortion on the political agenda. When newspapers and politicians increasingly emphasize these issues, religious and cultural conservatives become political conservatives at the voting booth. The implications of Smith and Boas is that the news media are important for activating latent cleavages. In addition, Professor Smith's 2019 book shows church communities help shape or enforce people's identities during this process (Smith 2019), while Matheus Ferreira, Mario Fuks, and her show the further importance of social media (Ferreira et al. 2023).

With regard to the cultural division, in Professor Smith's opinion, the cultural division in the

election is a real reflection of public opinion and political preferences, in that religious communities are associated with stable, long term issue preferences that help to shape political cleavages. That said, the cultural division is also to some extent a result of a political game among elites, in that politicians highlight and activate the issue cleavages through their rhetoric. Nonetheless, what is ultimately driving the cleavages is the views of the masses, not primarily their religious and political leaders.

When referring to the new trends that will emerge in Brazil's presidential election with the background of increasingly polarized politics, Professor Smith says that we can expect to see the cultural right in Brazil continue strongly to emphasize "culture war" issues such as gender, sexuality, and abortion for political gain. In addition, we may see emphasis on issues related to race, though this is an area where the right is less likely consistently to have an advantage in public opinion.

Editor: Zhou Yaqi

Researcher Column

Diana Toimbek:

**Energy security and its implications in
Kazakhstan**



Diana Toimbek is a PhD in Social Sciences and Associate Professor of Political Science at IT University in Astana, Kazakhstan. Her main research area is non-traditional security and she is the author of "Formation and evolution of non-traditional security discourse" and "Problems and prospects of transition to a knowledge-based economy in Kazakhstan".

Energy security is a complex issue that has received increasing attention in recent years due to the growing demand for energy, rising energy prices, and the effects of climate change. Governments, policymakers, and businesses around the world are taking steps to enhance energy security, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and promote the development of renewable energy sources.

Energy security has been defined in various ways in the literature. Some definitions focus on the reliability and affordability of energy supply, while others emphasize the environmental and geopolitical implications of energy use. For example, the International Energy Agency defines energy security as "the uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price" (IEA, 2019). The United States Department of Energy defines energy security as "the ability of the United States to ensure that it has the energy resources necessary to meet its national security and economic requirements" (US DOE, 2020). Hence, it is a crucial aspect of any country's economic and national security. It refers to a nation's ability to meet its energy needs in a reliable and affordable manner without compromising its economic and political stability. Energy security is not only important for developed nations but also for developing countries that are striving to achieve economic growth and social development.

Since this sector is vital for economic development and national security, without access to reliable and affordable energy, economies would suffer, and the standard of living for people would decline. Industries that rely on energy, such as manufacturing, transportation,

and agriculture, would be affected, and their ability to compete in the global market would be compromised. Furthermore, energy security is critical to national security. Countries that rely on imported energy are vulnerable to supply disruptions, which can be caused by geopolitical tensions, natural disasters, or infrastructure failures. These disruptions can lead to power outages, economic instability, and social unrest. For example, the 1973 oil crisis, which was caused by an embargo imposed by Arab oil-producing countries, led to widespread energy shortages, inflation, and recession in many countries.

Today, energy is one of the most important sectors of the economy of each country, including Kazakhstan, and its security is listed as the most important part of national security in general, and economic security in particular. Every year there is an increase in energy consumption and meeting this demand is the top priority. It can be said that currently ensuring energy security is an important area, which has increased markedly in recent years due to the influence of both internal and external factors. Therefore, energy security, considered in the system of economic security as one of its main elements, implies the optimal use of limited resources and the use of environmentally friendly nature, energy, and material-saving technologies, including the extraction and processing of raw materials, the creation of environmentally friendly products, minimization, processing and waste destruction.

Determining the place and role of energy security depends primarily on the degree to which countries are provided with energy resources. In this regard, we can single out countries with

insignificant reserves of their own; countries with an average supply of energy resources; and countries rich in their own resources. In the first case, countries are highly dependent on imports, and energy security is often understood more as “supply security” – the creation of guaranteed internal and external energy sources in order to overcome external energy dependence. This is confirmed by the content of the EU energy strategy, which sounds like “Energy Supply Security Strategy”. Such an approach reflects the vision of the problem of energy security exclusively on the part of the importing countries. For the second category of countries with medium reserves of energy resources, the ability to meet energy needs on their own is of great importance. In the case of a relatively rich domestic resource base, the main emphasis is on maintaining the so-called "demand stability". Thus, energy security is classified into "supply security", "the ability to provide one's own energy resources" and "demand stability".

Recently, one can observe a certain change of emphasis in the interpretation of the very concept of energy security. If earlier energy security was understood as an exclusively stable supply of hydrocarbon resources to the main consumers, now it is interpreted much more broadly and includes production, transportation and sale on world markets. Accordingly, not only supplier countries, but also transit states, consumers, as well as transnational energy corporations, that is, representatives of all links in the energy chain, must bear their share of joint responsibility. Thus, strengthening the interaction between the state and business entities in the field of economy and energy is possible on the basis of intersectoral, interregional and

interstate conditions of functioning. These circumstances, as well as the need to find more effective forms of public administration to ensure the energy security of countries, taking into account its social aspects and achieving a triple balance of "energy - economy - ecology", predetermined the relevance of the subject matter. The transition to an ecological economy and an economy of sustainable development is associated with an increase in the production and consumption of natural resources, their depletion, degradation and their irreplaceability, which, in turn, negatively affects the social development of the state.

In modern world, energy security is becoming one of the conditions for the stability of the system of economic, social and environmental parameters that determine the quality of life of the population and are, in essence, an indicator of the effectiveness of public administration. The complexity and multidimensionality of the concept of "energy security" is manifested in its interpretations. As many researchers note, the concept of "energy security problems" arose at the beginning of the twentieth century and was due to the need for uninterrupted supply of the armed forces and the military-industrial complex of the country with oil and oil products. At the same time, the first academic studies of energy security issues date back to the 1960s of the last century, which came in handy during the oil crisis of the 1970s. Later, in the 1980-1990s, scientists' interest in energy security declined due to the stabilization of oil prices, as well as the reduction of the threat of economic embargoes, the restoration of economic ties that were cancelled during the independence of a number of countries. Energy security issues came back into the spotlight

in the 2000s due to the increased needs of Asian countries, disruptions in gas supplies to Europe, and the need for countries to pursue policies to decarbonize energy systems due to climate change.

The concept of energy security has a significant difference between modern and "classical" discourse. As mentioned earlier, in the 1970s and 1980s, energy security meant the stability of cheap oil supplies under the threat of an embargo and price manipulations by exporters. The modern significance of energy security problems has become much wider than just providing oil and includes a wide range of issues. Moreover, energy security is closely linked to other energy issues, such as ensuring equal access to energy while mitigating the effects of climate change. Thus, modern society is faced with the task of rethinking the classical discourse of the concept of energy security. In Western literature, many researchers in this field in the 2000s formulated energy security as "4As", that is, availability (availability of resources in the geological sense), accessibility (ability to access resources in the geopolitical sense), affordability (suitability of supplies in the financial and economic sense), acceptability (acceptable terms of supply in the social and environmental sense). Meanwhile, there are some doubts that the "4As" formula is unlikely to help conceptualize the "new" paradigm of energy security, since it is widely believed that energy security means different things in different situations for different people.

As a result, energy independence, in any definition, is the most powerful mechanism for ensuring the energy security of a country and a guarantee of energy sustainability of devel-

opment in relation to external factors. Energy independence factors that ensure the availability of the required type of energy in the necessary volumes in any region are the main indicators of energy security in relation to internal impact. The same factors characterize the stability of a country's energy sector to external conditions. Hence, energy security, along with factors affecting energy independence, is also determined by the affordability of each type of energy. These formulations show that these definitions - independence, security, efficiency and sustainability in the energy sector, with sufficient difference, are closely intertwined and have mutual influence. The general principles of sustainable development include the requirements to ensure the interests of future generations and preserve the environment. The main parameters that determine the sustainable development of the energy sector according to this principle are:

- the world level of economic and technical efficiency in the entire cycle of a country's energy complex;
- the level of energy impact on the environment, ensuring self-healing;
- internal policy aimed at ensuring the availability of the amount of all required types of energy to all social groups of the population not below a certain social minimum;
- acceptable level of uneven consumption by regions;
- optimal institutional structure of the energy complex;
- participation in international energy markets.

For the Republic of Kazakhstan, transition to sustainable development is an urgent necessity since the energy sector is one of the leading links in the socio-economic life of the coun-

try. This sector produces a significant part of industrial products, and the country is largely developed through energy exports. Kazakhstan has reserves of coal, uranium, oil, natural gas, metals and ores, a strong potential in hydro-power and in the use of other renewable energy sources. The total volume of recoverable fuel resources (oil, gas, coal and uranium) of Kazakhstan is about 34.9 billion tons. In the structure of recoverable natural energy resources of Kazakhstan, the main share is coal and uranium reserves (46% and 30%, respectively), while oil and gas account for up to 25% in total. A small share of oil and gas in the country's energy resources, despite their rather large physical volumes, is due to the enormous reserves of coal - over 70 billion tons (geological reserves exceed 175 billion tons). The predicted recoverable resources of the continental part of Kazakhstan are estimated at more than 10 billion tons of petroleum and oil gas and more than 7,000 billion m³ of natural gas. The Kazakh sector of the Caspian Sea has resources estimated at 13 billion tons of petroleum. Coal reserves at the achieved level of production can be considered practically unlimited.

Due to significant reserves of fossil fuels, according to the World Bank, Kazakhstan is one of the twenty world leaders in the production of primary energy resources with a total annual volume of about 160 million tons. According to the data of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the World Bank, in terms of consumption of primary energy resources, in view of the relatively low population and the corresponding scale of the economy, is in the 28th place in the world ranking, which corresponds to 0.6% of the total primary resources consumed in the world. At the same time, British

Petroleum estimates the volume of domestic consumption of primary energy resources in Kazakhstan at the level of 60 million tons, which corresponds to the 34th place in the world. Moreover, Kazakhstan has significant renewable energy resources such as hydro-power, solar and wind power. The potential for hydraulic energy is estimated at more than 160 billion kWh. But the reserves of fossil fuels and some types of renewable energy (small rivers, wind) are distributed very unevenly across the territory of Kazakhstan.

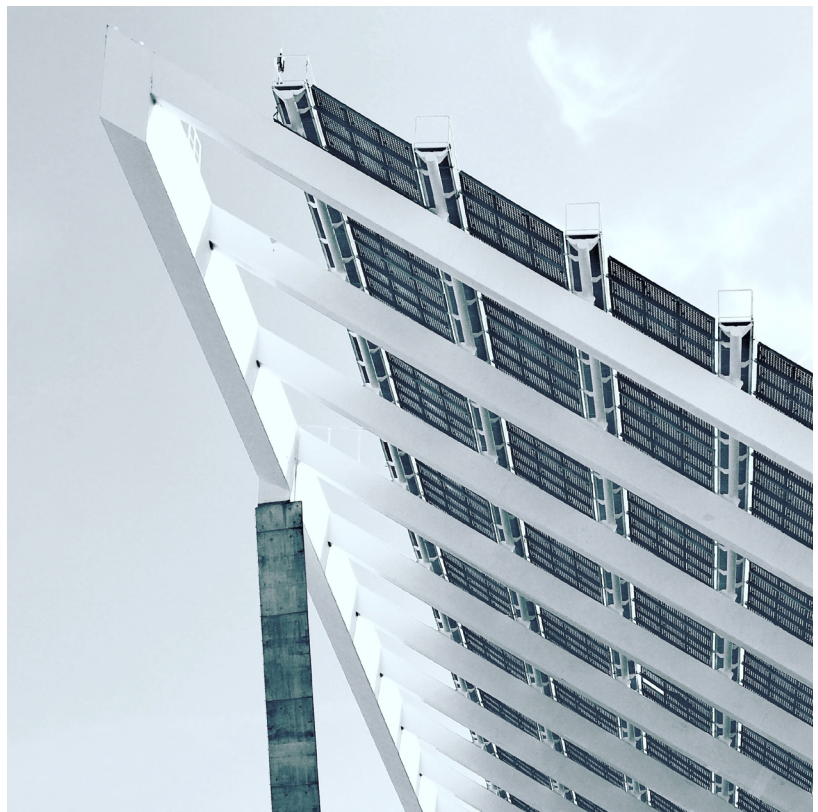
The need to solve the problem of ensuring the energy security of the state is currently becoming extremely relevant due to the tension of the fuel and energy balance, most of which are energy-deficient resources, aging and increasing physical and outmodedness of equipment, and limiting the volume of reconstruction and development of fixed assets of the fuel and energy complex. As a result, all this can lead to an energy crisis, which in turn, will limit the export of oil and gas for the “energy security of the world community” and is associated with a shortage of capacities, a shortage of energy resources, a high energy intensity of the economy and a deficiency of financial resources.

The ongoing processes of globalization of the world energy industry, the interpenetration and complementarity of the energy complexes of individual countries, the unification of regional energy markets - all these factors cause increased attention to the problem of ensuring energy security. The sufficiency of the economic security of any country, and hence its national security, will be determined by the level of its energy security. Today it is becoming more and more obvious that without energy securi-

ty it is impossible to ensure either sustainable production or consumption of energy, and the latter is an indispensable condition for the survival, functioning and development of any socio-economic system. Therefore, without energy security, all other types of security cannot be maintained. no matter how long it takes.

In the modern world, the issue of energy security is becoming a serious issue, since reliable and guaranteed supplies of energy produced in an environmentally friendly way are the basis for the prerequisites for the harmonious development of the modern economy. Industrial leader countries consider a stable energy supply for national industries as the basis for their sustainable economic development and maintenance. appropriate level of defense capability.

Editor: Wang Xingyi



Editors



Wang Xingyi
EXECUTIVE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF CHINESE
VIEWS OF NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY,
RESEARCH FELLOW, GUANGDONG
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY ASSOCIATION



Fang Yaoyuan
RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Han Ouyu
RESEARCH ASSISTANT



He Xiangning
RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Xu Wen
RESEARCH ASSISTANT



Ding Zhiyue
EDITOR



Global Non-Traditional Security Observation

Global Non-Traditional Security Observation, published by Saint-Pierre Center for International Security, is a monthly magazine which seeks to follow up the information about China's non-traditional security and broadcast introduce Chinese view about non-traditional security studies, providing an informational channel which is time-bound and stable for researchers and enterprises worldwide.

The copyright of this publication belongs to Saint-Pierre Center for International Security. Please indicate source: "Saint-Pierre Center for International Security" for reprint, translations and compilations. If you wish to contact Saint-Pierre Center for International Security for content and copyright issues, please contact us within thirty days.



***Saint-Pierre Center for
International Security***

Room 1803, Asia International Hotel,
326 Huanshi East Road, Yuexiu
District, Guangzhou
+86 83870795