

## SUMMARIES

### **Ukraine Crisis and “Western Unity”**

**Andrey Kortunov**

Although there have been profound divisions in the western world, since the Biden administration came into power, the “Western Collective” led by the United States has strengthened its “unity”, which has been further strengthened at an alarming rate after Russia’s “Special Military Operation” against Ukraine. The unity of the west is moving towards strengthening the unity of politics, military and military technology. The goal of the United States is to return to the unipolar world at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries. Under the “new unipolar” scenario, Russia has returned to its position after the collapse of the Soviet Union 30 years ago, and its situation will be more difficult. In the foreseeable future, Russia will not gain the trust of the West as it did in the last decade of the last century, and Russia will suffer more severe repression than it did 30 years ago. It is reasonable to believe that the Western Collective has entered a period of unity, and this process is likely to continue for at least the next few years. However, the current unity process in the West has very specific boundaries, which is unlikely to be maintained for a long time. It is only a matter of time before the western world changes from centripetal trend to centrifugal movement.

**Key Words:** Ukraine Crisis, Russia, Western Collective, “Western Unity”, International Order

### **A Multidimensional Exploration of the Ukraine Crisis**

**Zhao Huirong**

The Russia – Ukraine conflict has complex historical and practical factors, which is the result of the accumulation and intensification of contradictions among different actors in international relations. Based on the analytic hierarchy process of international relations, this paper explores the root causes of the Russia – Ukraine conflict from the international system, regional system, national level and individual level. Russia’s pursuit of dominance in the Eurasian region, the United States’ pursuit of consolidating global hegemony, and Ukraine’s pursuit of independence by joining the Western camp are the main contradictions in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Internal and external factors promote Russia to escalate the contradiction into a military conflict. Since the end of the cold war, the Western bloc led by the U. S. has continued to promote strategic squeeze and comprehensive containment against Russia, and Ukraine has finally embarked on a pro – western and anti – Russian Road, becoming the bridgehead for the west to contain Russia, which is an external factor to stimulate Russia to take military action. The high expectation for the status of a great power and the cruel reality

have prompted Russia to have a strong psychological gap, a sense of plunder and humiliation. The eastward expansion of NATO has prompted Russia's security anxiety to rise. In addition, Russia has made relatively optimistic judgments about the international situation, combat targets and its own strength before the conflict, which has become an internal factor to promote Russia to make decisions. Strongman Russian President Putin is at the core of Russia's decision-making system. He shows and releases Russia's strategic demands and security pressure in the form of military conflict. Ukrainian President Zelensky chose to unite the United States against Russia, which played a role in promoting the escalation of the Russia-Ukraine conflict into a comprehensive military conflict and the protraction of the conflict.

**Key Words:** Russia-Ukraine Conflict, US-Russia Contradiction, Geopolitics, Analytic Hierarchy Process

**Transformation of Political Party Power and Changes of Political Party System:  
A Case Study Based on Changes of Party System in Central and Eastern  
European Countries** **Gao Ge**

The change of political party system in central and Eastern European countries from the leadership of the Communist Party to multi-party competition is unprecedented. Scholars at home and abroad have studied this issue from different angles, but there are few results of panoramic investigation and theoretical analysis on the change of political party system in central and Eastern European countries. Based on the existing theories about the party system and its changes, combined with the reality of central and Eastern European countries, this paper constructs a research framework around the core concept of party power transformation, and explains the changes of the party system in central and Eastern European countries from four aspects: the change of the nature of the party system, the change of the type of the party system, the change of the mainstream competition structure, and the institutionalization of the party system. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, central and Eastern European countries gave up the leadership of the Communist Party at almost the same time and changed to a multi-party system, completing the transformation of the nature of the political party system. In the next 30 years or so, the types and changes of the political party system in central and Eastern European countries have shown a diversified trend. The mainstream competition structure in most countries has changed to varying degrees, and the institutionalization of the political party system has not changed significantly from weak to strong. Although the multi-party system in most central and Eastern European countries has been established, it has not yet formed a stable model, and the development prospect is not sure. Studying the changes of political party system from the perspective of the transformation of political party power helps to clearly reflect the process of change, but the change of political party system is the result of the joint action of many factors. In-depth research also needs to examine other factors besides the transformation of party power.

**Key Words:** Party Power Transformation, Political Party System, Institutionalization, Central and Eastern European Countries

### **Contemporary Russian Diplomacy: The Evolution of Theory and Policy**

**Liu Fenghua**

Since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, due to the changes in the international and domestic situation and the adjustment of Russian leaders' diplomatic ideas, Russian foreign policy has experienced the evolution process from transformation to finalization. This process can be divided into five stages: Pro – Western Diplomacy (1991–1995), “Multi – polarization” Diplomacy (1996 – 2000), Pragmatic Diplomacy of Great Power (2001–2004, 2009–2013), Neo–Slavic Diplomacy (2005 – 2008) and Power Diplomacy of Great Power (from 2014 to the present). Russian political ideas such as Russian Westernism, Slavic Doctrine, Eurasianism and Powerful Nation Thought have had important impacts on Russian diplomatic decision – making. Russia's foreign policy has both changed and inherited, and a number of consensuses has been formed, including pursuing the status of a great power, safeguarding national security, pursuing international power, taking advantage of international mechanisms and paying attention to economic diplomacy. These consensuses will be followed by the Russian government in the future. For a long time to come, Russia will continue to pursue a Power Diplomacy of great power.

**Key Words:** Russian Foreign Policy, Russian Diplomatic Theory, Russia – West Relations, Russian Policy towards the CIS Region, Sino – Russian Relations

### **“Spaghetti Bowl” Effect: Overlap and Failure of International Institutions in Central Asia**

**Zhou Zhuowei**

International organizations, international mechanisms, international treaties and other international systems have become the main ways for countries to participate in global and regional governance, and have become a platform for multilateral communication, cooperation and interest games. Central Asia is located in the “heart zone” of the Eurasian continent, and various forms of international systems led by the outside and concerned about different problem areas participate in regional governance. Central Asian countries are also willing to make use of these regional international systems to reduce costs and maximize institutional benefits. Can the numerous and various levels of international systems play an effective role in solving problems? This paper aims to take central Asia as an example to analyze the reasons for the “spaghetti bowl” effect, that is, the failure of governance, caused by institutional overlap. The overlap and failure of institutions are not inevitable causality. Cooperative governance can be carried out by strengthening the cooperation between institutions, but the interest preferences and cognitive differences between big countries always exist, which reduces

the possibility of such cooperation.

**Key Words:** International Institution, Institutional Overlap, Institution Failure, Central Asia

### **The Principle of Sovereignty and Its Competitors: Order Construction and Evolutionary Logic of Digital Space**

**Feng Shuai**

The stability and development of digital space depend on the reasonable construction of order, but the characteristics of digital space itself have led to the diversification of power sources in space. As the cornerstone of the international system of real space, the principle of sovereignty has to be adjusted accordingly according to the requirements of the digital age. However, the practice of digital space construction shows that the principle of sovereignty is still an indispensable theoretical foundation in the process of digital space order construction. At the beginning of the establishment of digital space, the technological community once tried to abandon the principle of sovereignty and construct an idealized digital space order. However, with the development of the times, there is a deep coupling between digital space and real space, and uncontrolled network attacks, capital “enclosure movement” and serious inequality spread in digital space. In this context, the principle of sovereignty once again returns to the digital space and plays an increasingly important role in the construction of order. The major powers in the world have put forward various forms of digital sovereignty narration, and the competition and cooperation process of multiple narration will determine the future prospect of digital space order to a great extent. The idea of a community with shared future in cyberspace advocated by China naturally coincides with the original ideal of digital space, and will become the mainstream voice in the construction of digital space in the future.

**Key Words:** Digital Space, Order Construction, Digital Sovereignty, Sovereign Internet, Cyberspace, Community with Shared Future

### **Russian Digital Economy Transformation and Value Chain Construction**

**Yu Nanping and Zhang Yiran**

Driven by the design and policies of the government, the transformation of Russian digital economy has made significant progress in some areas, including the construction of digital economy value chain. The construction of Russian digital economy value chain is supported by government, local market and local technology, which shows Russia’s relatively unique development path of digital economy. However, the weak foundation of the ICT industry, the low innovation ability of large companies, and the weak educational model of technical talents restrict the development potential of the underlying technology of Russian digital economy. At the same time, the bottleneck of data capacity

constrained by market scale and application scenarios, especially the existence of computing power weakness, also restricts the transformation of Russian digital economy and the construction of digital economy value chain. However, these constraints are still superficial, and the deep-seated structural constraints derived from the system on technological development need to be further studied.

**Key Words:** Russian Digital Economy Transformation, Digital Economy Value Chain, Data Capability, Computing Power

### **An Exploration of Digital Sovereignty Policy in the Digital Transformation of Central Asian Countries: A Case Study of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan**

**Kang Jie**

In recent years, Central Asian countries, represented by Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, have successively introduced digital policies, started the process of digital transformation in social public services, the real economy, finance and other fields, and actively explored how to safeguard their digital sovereignty in foreign digital cooperation. Kazakhstan regards government governance and digitalization of public services as an important starting point for the construction of domestic digital sovereignty. Uzbekistan has adopted a diversified foreign cooperation strategy, using external technology and investment to promote the construction of digital government and digital infrastructure, which are crucial to its domestic digital sovereignty. Both countries have firm demands to maintain digital sovereignty and independence and data security, and both adhere to the country's leading position in Internet Space Governance and digital transformation. The two countries' practice of constructing and safeguarding their own digital sovereignty is in line with the "pluralism and balance" line of their foreign policies to a certain extent.

**Key Words:** Digital Transformation, Digital Sovereignty, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan