

SUMMARIES

Trump's Return and New Trends in Major Power Relations

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Editor's Note: In January 2025, Trump was sworn in as the 47th president of the United States, marking a major shift in American politics. In the months since he took office, his re-election has not only reshaped American domestic politics, but also had a profound impact on global order. Trump administration's diplomatic philosophy, with "America First" as its core, has further impacted the multilateral framework and exacerbated the complexity and uncertainty of major powers relations. Sino-US relations are facing a new round of tests; US-European relations are once again in turmoil by Russia-Ukraine conflict, trade disputes and differences in values; US-Russia relations have taken a dramatic turn, but Russia-Ukraine conflict remains a deadlock. In general, Trump's return is not only about the United States itself, but also affects the rebalancing of the global power structure. Faced with this change, countries need to seek strategic adaptation in turmoil, both guarding against risks and seizing potential opportunities. To this end, this magazine has invited a number of leading international experts to discuss the theme of "Trump's Return and New Trends in Major Power Relations" to deeply analyze the global impact of this major issue.

The Sino-US-Russia Strategic Triangle Effect and New Thinking of Great-Power Diplomacy

Zhao Kejin

Trump's re-election as the US president has created a "Trump shock wave" in the adjustment of major power relations, triggering new changes in Sino-US-Russia strategic triangle. Due to the change in the balance of power between China and the United States caused by the rise of China, the relationship between China, US and Russia has increasingly had a strategic triangle effect. The logic of the strategic triangle effect lies in the "triangle inequality" effect in geometry. The security or diplomatic behavior of any actor (C) is deeply affected by the other two actors (A, B). This logic is fundamentally the realization form of the principle of balance of powers in major power relations. The impact of the "Trump shock wave" on major powers relations has concentratedly reflected the linkage effect of Sino-US-Russia strategic triangle, leading to an essential change in the logic of major power diplomacy, which is

manifested as the great power has no internal affairs, non-traditional diplomacy and competition has a bottom line. The relationship between China, US and Russia has gradually opened up a new track. This change in the logic of major power diplomacy means that the relationship between China, US and Russia is no longer entirely a triangular plane game of great power strategic competition. It is a three-dimensional game of competition and cooperation among the three major political and economic systems. In order to adapt to Sino-US-Russia strategic triangle effect and the changes in the logic of great power diplomacy, China needs to establish a new thinking in great power diplomacy, focus on coordinating the relationship between the world's major changes, Chinese-style modernization and the community with a shared future for mankind, develop a new ecology of great power diplomacy, shape new strategic advantages, and actively seek support from the new middle zone. In particular, it should promote the establishment of a meeting mechanism between the heads of state of China, US and Russia, incorporate great power diplomacy, neighboring diplomacy and the new middle zone into the framework of Sino-US-Russia strategic triangle, and strive to build a global partnership network, and continuously enhance its strategic initiative in controlling the strategic triangle of China, US and Russia.

Key Words: Trump Shock Wave, Sino-US-Russia Strategic Triangle, Strategic Competition and Cooperation, Great Power Relations, Diplomacy of China

Systemic Roots of Regional Conflicts: Long-term Competition between the United States and Russia and Peace in Eurasia **Wang Wei**

The continued Russia-Ukraine conflict has caused huge humanitarian damage so far. The international community generally hope to see the conflict de-escalated and regional peace restored as soon as possible. Since 2025, the development of international events has given the world hope for resolving conflicts and establishing peace. However, the nature of the conflict a priori determines the difficulty and limit of its resolution. Russia-Ukraine conflict is a regional conflict with systemic roots and a systemic product of the long-term competition between the United States and Russia. After the Cold War, in order to realize the demand for a unipolar order, the United States has curbed global challengers at the system level and prevented a single major power from dominating regional affairs in key areas. In Eurasian region, the United States' policy has three major aspects: one is to transform Cold War opponents, the second is to expand Western influence, and the third is to deal with relations with Russia. The United States regards NATO as the best platform for implementing the superiority strategy. At the same time, European Union has also included former socialist countries in the list of candidate countries. The expansion of Western

Community has changed the political landscape of Europe and compressed Russia's geopolitical space. Entering 21st century, Russian economy experienced a period of rapid growth, which greatly boosted Russian morale. Since then, Russia has begun to rebuild its influence in the "post-Soviet space". The two different demands for order between the United States and Russia have collided fiercely. In the long-term process of the United States and Russia competing for influence, Russia-Ukraine conflict is just one of the tragic episodes. Although Russia and Ukraine, as direct parties, have internal contradictions, the long-term competition between the United States and Russia is the systemic root of the conflict. As long as the root of the conflict is not eliminated, there will always be huge hidden dangers for peace. In the past three decades, the West has continuously promoted the strategy of comprehensive advantage under the slogan of "the bigger NATO, the better", which has so far caused the unintended consequence of "the bigger, the less secure". If the United States and its European allies deny their responsibilities and ignore the harm of confrontational foreign policy, then establishing a lasting peace would be an unattainable goal.

Key Words: Great Power Competition, Unipolar Order, Regional Order, NATO Eastward Expansion, Post-Soviet Space

Russia's Reconstruction of Its Great Power Identity and Its Strategic Choice of Diplomacy with the United States

Yu You

After the end of the Cold War, Russia has always regarded its great power identity as the core content of its national self-cognition, and pursuing and maintaining its great power status has become the primary goal of its foreign strategy. In the process of Russia's reconstruction of its great power identity, its choice of diplomatic strategy toward the United States has always been the focus of international academic attention. Especially since the outbreak of Russia-Ukraine conflict, Russia has made some adjustments to its diplomatic strategy toward the United States. During Biden administration, Russia adopted a conflictual foreign policy in response to the United States' comprehensive containment and extreme pressure; after Trump came to power, Russia-US relations adjusted, and Russia adopted a competitive diplomatic strategy to seek interest exchange and risk hedging. Against this background, this article explores the internal logic and interactive relationship between "cognitive factors" and the adjustment of its diplomatic strategy toward the United States in the process of Russia's reconstruction of its great power identity. The study believes that in the process of Russia's reconstruction of its great power identity, the differences in the initial cognition of Russia's identity between Biden administration and Trump administration have correspond to the states of "cognitive dislocation" and "cognitive adjustment" in

the cognitive interaction between Russia and the United States. Based on this, Russia chooses conflicting diplomatic strategies and competitive diplomatic strategies. Although the relationship between Russia and the United States has released a signal of easing after Trump's re-election, Russia's determination to pursue an important pole in the multipolar world and the cognitive conflict between the United States and the United States to maintain itself as the primary pole in the multipolar world will not change fundamentally. The world today is in a major change that has not been seen in a century. Studying the evolution logic of Russia's foreign policy towards the United States and the interaction between the great power relations between Russia and the United States is of great significance for explaining the generation mechanism of cooperation and conflict between great powers and maintaining world peace and stability.

Key Words: Identity Cognition of Great Power, Strategic Interaction, Diplomatic Strategy, Russia-US Relations, Russia

The Russian Strategic Community's Understanding of the Expansion of BRICS Mechanism from the Perspective of Global South

Guo Xiaoting, Zhang Jian

Expansion is the intersection of the development of the BRICS mechanism and the collective rise of the Global South countries. Russia combines its own demands with the changes in the international order, takes advantage of the situation, adjusts its cognition, and regards the BRICS expansion as an institutional tool to realize its own national interests and an important handle to promote a multipolar order. By influencing the direction, form and content of the BRICS expansion, it strives for more space for activities and diplomatic resources, and urges the West to pay attention to Russia's interests and concerns. In Russia's view, the BRICS expansion is not "anti-Western", but to unite more non-Western countries to participate in global governance and increase support for dialogue with the West. Through the superposition of multi-centers, "extension lines" and "integration of integration", it promotes the large-scale development of the Global South countries. This is a new mode of networked partnership that transcends the traditional logic of East-West issues and North-South issues, which is conducive to the adjustment and change of the international order. Russian strategic community's understanding of BRICS expansion is prominently strategic and instrumental, but the action is limited in terms of strategic and realistic nature, and still lacks in terms of comprehensiveness, clarity and feasibility. Russia's active promotion of BRICS expansion demonstrates its urgency to use international institutions to promote national interests and enhance its international status. China and Russia need to reach a consensus in the construction of BRICS expansion and a new model of

partnership, and work with more “Global South” countries to jointly promote the construction of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Key Words: BRICS Cooperation Mechanism, Enlargement of Multilateral Mechanism, Global South, Multipolar World, Russian Foreign Policy

Russia’s Strategic Logic in Building a New Eurasian Security Framework

Liu Dan

As a turning point in the process of reshaping the geopolitical structure of Eurasia after the Cold War, the Ukrainian crisis reveals the multi-dimensional shift of Russia’s security concept and the logic of its systematic construction. This paper uses the analytic hierarchy process to analyze Russia’s security strategy transformation under the background of the crisis from the three dimensions of national identity, regional order reconstruction and international system game. At the national level, Russia incorporates Ukraine into its spiritual territory by constructing a discourse system of “national identity with the same roots and origins”; at the regional level, Russia has always regarded post-Soviet space as the top priority of its foreign policy, maintaining and building its dominance and influence in the “strategic interest zone”; at the international level, facing the eastward expansion of NATO and the exclusion of Russia in the European security framework, Russia has proposed to build a new Eurasian security framework. Russia’s core security interests at these three levels include the “principle of indivisible security”, the legalization of the principle of “Strategic interest zone”, ensure the status of a great power with absolute influence, and the ultimate goal is to form a new security-economic complex, thereby weakening the European-Atlantic security system dominated by NATO. At the same time, Russia also stated that the Eurasian security framework it advocates is open to Western countries, leaving room for dialogue with the West. Russia adjusts its security strategy under the complex international situation. The most fundamental purpose is to maintain sovereignty with strength, break isolation through multilateral balance, and ensure that it becomes an indispensable pole in the global power structure.

Key Words: New Eurasian Security Framework, International Order, Post-Soviet Space, Ukraine Crisis, Russia

New Trends in Afghan Terrorism and Its Spillover Effects Since the Withdrawal of the U. S. Troops

Yang Chaoyue

Due to the wrong policies and hasty withdrawal of the United States, the threat of terrorism has risen rapidly in Afghanistan, making Afghanistan’s transition from chaos to order face many difficulties. The Afghan Taliban, based on its own interests, has

formulated and implemented its own anti – terrorism policy under the influence of ideology, factional characteristics, “alliance” relations, traditional customs and other factors, forming a new trend of terrorism development in Afghanistan, promoting and influencing the re – differentiation and reorganization of terrorist organizations in Afghanistan, and terrorist activities are active. The impact on the security of surrounding areas has gradually emerged. At present, neighboring countries are facing severe challenges brought about by the spillover of terrorism and related issues related to Afghanistan, such as the surge in vicious cross – border terrorist attacks in Pakistan, the increase in the risk of imported terrorist threats in Central Asian countries, and the impact of the Afghan refugee problem on the anti – terrorism defense line of Iran and other countries. At the same time, under the background of profound changes in the international situation and the prominent geostrategic significance of Afghanistan and its surrounding areas, the great power game process centered on the Afghan issue will add new geopolitical uncertainties in Central and South Asia through extensive and profound interactive influences on issues such as terrorism, and will shape the terrorist situation and anti – terrorism pattern in the region from a more macro perspective. As the focus of regional security, Afghanistan’s security and stability are related to the surrounding areas as a whole. China should continue to work with relevant countries to jointly respond to the challenges brought about by the new development of terrorism in Afghanistan, further promote the international community to play a constructive role, and guide Afghanistan to actively participate in shaping a regional security environment that is beneficial to all parties.

Key Words: Afghan Terrorism, Afghan Taliban, Central Asian Security, Great Power Game, Geopolitics