

## SUMMARIES

### **From Secondary Player to Major Player: Evolution of Russia's Middle East Policies**

**Tang Zhichao**

During the Cold War, the Soviet Union and the United States had been seeking hegemony in Middle East and the two big powers dominated this region. With the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia's role in Middle East suffered a disastrous decline. Due to the political turmoil, shrinking of power, and a fundamental change in its foreign strategy, Russia has for a long time reduced to a secondary player in Middle East affairs. In the Putin era, Russia's position in Middle East has gradually increased. Especially after entering the second decade of the new century, in response to the new chaos in Middle East, Russia has made active efforts to return to Middle East by virtue of the Syrian war, and once again become a major player in Middle East. "US out and Russia in" has become a distinctive feature of the current geopolitical situation in Middle East. However, due to limited power, the role of Russia in this region is still not comparable to that of the United States and the former Soviet Union. Putin's Middle East policy still adheres to pragmatism and thus the Middle East is not placed in a "New Cold War".

**Key Words:** Russia, Middle East, Foreign Policy, Pragmatism

### **The Adjustment and Trend of US's Central Asia Strategy**

**Yang Yucai and Yuan Yi**

The new version of US's Central Asian Strategy announced in February 2020 shows that Trump attempts to get out from Afghanistan, consolidate its regional influence and strengthen the containment of China and Russia in Central Asia. It is the succession and development of the US's Central Asian strategy since the end of the Cold War. In the past 30 years, the US's regional strategy has experienced four periods: (1) power vacuum soon after the end of the Cold War; (2) the great development of the global counter-terrorism alliance after 911; (3) strategic re-balancing in the context of withdrawal from Afghanistan; (4) the new era of regional strategy facing the competition of great powers. The US's Central Asian strategy in different periods shows its comprehensive utilization of policy approaches and strategic means in various fields such as politics, economy, diplomacy, and military, and its regional strategic goals

features multi-domain, multi-path and comprehensive means. The latest round of strategic adjustment outlines the basic trend of US's Central Asian policy, which are adhering to political transformation, committing to economic shaping, emphasizing diplomatic re-balancing, and strengthening the preset of military arrangement.

**Key Words:** US, Central Asia, Strategic Adjustment, Policy Trend

### **China – Russia Agricultural Cooperation under the Background of China – US Trade Friction**

**Zhang Hongxia**

The Ukrainian crisis triggered economic sanctions on Russia by Western countries. Russia's economy, especially technology – intensive and capital – intensive industries, got into troubles, but its agriculture developed rapidly. By developing import substitution of agricultural products, Russia gradually got rid of its dependence on imported food, and agricultural products became Russia's important export products after energy and military equipment. Against the background of China – US trade friction, China needs to diversify the sources of agricultural imports to ensure supply security. In recent years, with the promotion of China's "Belt and Road" initiative, China and Russia have carried out multi – level cooperation in agricultural trade and investment, which has laid a good foundation for agricultural cooperation between the two countries. But China and Russia need to explore more potential for cooperation, draw on each others' advantages and achieve mutual development.

**Key Words:** Russia's Agriculture, Sino – Russian Agricultural Cooperation, Agricultural Subsidies, Import Substitution; Soybean Trade

### **Grain Trade between China and Kazakhstan: An Analysis from the Perspectives of Supply – demand, Logistics and Facilitation**

**Guo Hui**

Oversupply is a main feature of Kazakhstan's grain market. So Kazakhstan is trying to open up overseas grain markets. The current scale of China – Kazakhstan grain trade is very small. This article focuses on the main reasons why China rarely imports Kazakhstan's wheat resources. It is believed that the stability of wheat supply, the degree of grain trade facilitation, the storage and logistics facilities, and the grain collection and storage are the main obstacles to Kazakhstan's export to China. In addition, there are some factors influencing China's import of Kazakhstan grain. Firstly, Kazakhstan is far from China's main grain – consuming area and the trade cost is high. Secondly, China's large wheat stocks still need to be digested. Thirdly, Xinjiang, which borders

Kazakhstan, is a province with balanced grain production and sales. Lastly, China's private enterprises have a small number of grain quotas. In such a situation, China should guide and encourage Chinese enterprises to cooperate more on the agricultural industry chain of Kazakhstan, strengthen the cooperation in the field of agricultural services, and help Kazakhstan achieve agricultural structural adjustment and economic diversification.

**Key Words:** Kazakhstan's Agriculture, Grain Supply and Demand, Grain Trade, Grain Security

### **The Process, Experience and Reference of Russian Military – civilian Integration**

**Zheng Xueping, Lei Lei and Lu Weizhong**

After the world war II, the military – civilian integration has become a trend worldwide. Structurally reforming the defense industry left by the Soviet Union and stimulating the innovation and industrial development capabilities are one of the main tasks for Russia's economic recovery. In the 1990s, due to financial constraints, changing policies and other issues, the transformation of the military products to civilian products only received limited results. Since 2000, the internal structural adjustment of the military industry has become the main tone of Russia's military – civilian integration, and diversifying the production of the defense industry complex has become its core goal. After more than 10 years, the road of Russian military – civilian integration has entered a good development track, of which the practices and experiences are worth learning.

**Key Words:** Russia, Production from Military to Civilian, Military – civilian Integration, Production Diversification

### **The Political Transition of Central and Eastern European Countries in 30 Years: Observations and Reflections on the Transition Progress**

**Gao Ge**

The political transition of Central and Eastern European countries refers to the transition of state system to capitalism and transition of political system to western democracy. The transition of the state system was completed with the end of the upheaval in Eastern Europe but the transition of the political system would take longer. In terms of different evaluation criteria, the progress of the political transition can be judged in different ways. Economic transition, diplomatic transition, and the state – building of the newly independent state are carried out simultaneously with the political transition and thus affect the political transition process a lot. Specifically, there is a positive correlation between economic transition and political transition. Diplomatic transition

plays a clear guiding and driving role in political transition. State building, as a prerequisite for political transition, has also affected the transitional progress. The socialist system in more than 40 years and the previous history underlie the current transition in these countries.

**Key Words:** Central and Eastern Europe, Political Transition, Economic Transition, Return to Europe, State Construction

### **The Functioning Logic and Implementing Limits of Aid Conditionality: Based on Historic Observation for EU's Aid to Ukraine**

**Zhang Peng**

Conditionality is a critical and sensitive issue between the aid donors and recipients, and it has special connotations and preconditions. The traditional donors normally use the leverage of aid to attach additional conditions and achieve strategic goals. Based on the existing research, this paper reviews the historical process of EU's aid to Ukraine. Since its independence in 1991, Ukraine has experienced frequent constitutional and regime changes. The pro – Russian and pro – European forces have continued to split and the geo – political game between big powers has constituted an external factor of Ukraine's crisis. Seeking external support and returning to Europe has always been the primary goal of the Ukrainian governments. Through its foreign aid, EU tries to help Ukraine achieve stability and successful transition. This not only reflects interest exchanges and idea interaction between two sides, but also shows the functioning logic and implementing limit of the greatest donors' aid conditionality. As an “emerging donor”, China should pay attention to this pattern of regulatory aid which combines comprehensive incentives and flexible transformation, then continually enrich global development cooperation systems through its development resource and non – conditionality aid model.

**Key Words:** Foreign Aid, Conditionality, EU, Ukraine

### **Understanding the “Russian World” from the Perspective of Conceptual Changes**

**Zhang Yanjun**

In recent years, Russia has made all – round efforts in discourse – narrative construction. It has gradually built up an identity system based on conservative values, “Russian world” and “Great Eurasia”. Since the “Russian World” was proposed as a formal concept system, its connotation has been constantly changing. Under this conceptual framework, the living space of the overseas Russian is further constructed, and the structural tension between the politicians and overseas Russian has gradually

affected the formulation and implementation of Russia's foreign policy. Accordingly, this concept has been transformed from a communicating platform for overseas Russian and their homeland to an important tool for serving Russian political practice and foreign policy, countering Western expansion, and maintaining its own security. It is no longer confined to providing a shelter for overseas Russian, but rather to establish a unique system of Russian civilization.

**Key Words:** Russian World, Policy of Overseas Russian, Post – Soviet Union Space, Empire Mentality, Identification

### **Policy of Food Purchase Certificate in the Soviet Patriotic War**

**Zhang Dan**

The invasion of Germany in 1941 exacerbated the existing food crisis of the Soviet Union. To deal with the issue of insufficient food, the Soviet government made a policy of food purchase certificate, which divided urban residents into four categories and two classes and provided rationing food in terms of certificates. In practice, this policy was disturbed by insufficient food supplies and shadow distribution. As a response, the Soviet government worked hard to widen the supply channels and strengthen the supervision of food resources. Thanks to the efforts of the Communist Party and the support from the society and foreign allies, the operation of the policy became increasingly better and played a significant role in ensuring people's basic survival need and improving labor productivity in key sectors. However, the policy also caused social critiques and left some problems which needed to be resolved by the agricultural reform.

**Key Words:** Food Purchase Certificate, Rationing, Four Categories and Two Classes, Shadow Distribution