

East Asian Strategic Review 2009

The National Institute for Defense Studies
Japan

The Japan Times

Copyright © 2009 by the National Institute for Defense Studies

First edition: May 2009

All rights reserved.

No part of this report may be reproduced in any form without written,
prior permission from the National Institute for Defense Studies.

Written and edited by:

The National Institute for Defense Studies
2-2-1 Nakameguro, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153-8648, Japan
Phone: +81-3-5721-7005
E-mail: ear@nids.go.jp
URL: <http://www.nids.go.jp/>

Published by:

The Japan Times, Ltd.
4-5-4 Shibaura, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0023, Japan
Phone: +81-3-3453-2013
Fax: +81-3-3453-8023
URL: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/>

ISBN 978-4-7890-1352-9

The National Institute for Defense Studies
East Asian Strategic Review 2009

Printed in Japan

Preface

The maintenance of peace and stability in East Asia requires an objective understanding of the regional security environment. With the aim of facilitating that understanding, researchers at the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS) examine trends and developments in the East Asian security environment from their unique perspectives, and compile their analyses into the *East Asian Strategic Review (EASR)*, which is published annually for dissemination throughout many parts of the international community. This, the 2009 edition, covers the period from January to December of 2008.

The analyses of 2008 trends and developments critical to East Asian security are divided into separate chapters according to country and area. In addition, the first two chapters explore medium- and long-term issues that strongly warrant attention in the study of East Asian security. Chapter 1 investigates the effects of the nuclear energy renaissance on the nuclear non-proliferation regime, and measures being taken to respond to those effects. Chapter 2 analyzes the present and future of issues pertaining to climate change, energy, and food, as well as their impact on security. The chapters on specific countries and areas probe: the domestic and foreign policies of North Korea, which is striving to become a de facto nuclear weapons state, and the policies that South Korea's conservative government is taking toward the North; trends in China, a nation that has increased its presence as a major power by hosting the Beijing Olympics; the involvement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in international cooperation regarding the Sichuan earthquake and the Myanmar cyclone, and the current state and problems of ASEAN's intra-regional and extra-regional relations; the current situation and outlook of diplomacy and military reform in Russia, a country that is taking an increasingly hard-line stance as it regains its national power; the numerous domestic, diplomatic, and security challenges faced by the Obama administration of the United States; and issues that lie along the future path of the Japan-US alliance and Japan's defense capabilities. It is hoped that this book will help to enlighten readers on the East Asian security environment and stimulate deeper discussion on security in the region.

The *EASR* is founded on the perspectives of the members of NIDS team that wrote and edited it, and the views expressed herein do not necessarily represent

Preface

the official position of the Japanese government or the Ministry of Defense. It was written by Shinichi Ogawa (Chapter 1), Keishi Ono, Shigeki Akimoto, and Hideo Tomikawa (Chapter 2), Tetsuo Murooka and Hiroyasu Akutsu (Chapter 3), Masafumi Iida, Makoto Saito, and Masayuki Masuda (Chapter 4), Tomotaka Shoji (Chapter 5), Shinji Hyodo and Toyoko Kudo (Chapter 6), Eiichi Katahara and Katsuya Tsukamoto (Chapter 7), and Sugio Takahashi (Chapter 8). It was edited by Yoshiaki Sakaguchi (Editor-in-chief), Eiichi Katahara, Ikuya Kozuka, Hiroyasu Akutsu, Joji Okuhira, Masami Nishino, Hiroshi Yamazoe, and Hiromu Arakaki.

March 2009

Yoshiaki Sakaguchi
Editor-in-chief