

East Asian Strategic Review 2010

The National Institute for Defense Studies
Japan

The Japan Times

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First edition: May 2010

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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 978-4-7890-1398-7

The National Institute for Defense Studies
East Asian Strategic Review 2010

Printed in Japan

Preface

East Asian Strategic Review is an annual publication that analyzes and describes the East Asian security environment in terms of trends and events that took place during the past year in each country and area under review. It is based on the unique perspectives of researchers at the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS), and as such does not necessarily represent the official position of the Japanese government or any of its organs. The descriptive commentary in this, the 2010 edition, covers the period from January to December of 2009. In addition to highlighting the major security-related developments of specific countries and areas, each edition devotes the first two chapters to issues deemed essential to analysis and understanding of the East Asian security landscape.

For this edition, Chapter 1 examines how nuclear-weapon states, against the backdrop of growing global momentum toward nuclear disarmament, are working toward nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation, and analyzes the challenges that stand in the way of their efforts. Chapter 2 probes Pakistan's exigent struggle against terrorism, a subject that is a key focus of the new Afghanistan and Pakistan strategies established by US President Barack Obama's administration. Topics covered in the chapters on specific countries and areas include: North Korea's domestic and foreign policies and South Korea's policy toward North Korea; trends in China, which is increasingly projecting its international presence sixty years after its founding; the situations in ASEAN member states, and the current state of ASEAN's intra- and extra-regional relationships; foreign policy and military reform as pursued by Russia, which has formulated a new national security strategy; the challenges faced by the Obama administration with regard to domestic politics, foreign policy, and security; and developments surrounding the security policy of Japan's new government.

This edition was written by Mari Yoshioka-Izuyama, Tetsuo Murooka, Hiroyasu Akutsu, Masafumi Iida, Makoto Saito, Masayuki Masuda, Yoshihide Matsuura, Shinji Hyodo, Shigeki Akimoto, Yoshiaki Sakaguchi, Eiichi Katahara, Katsuya Tsukamoto, and Sugio Takahashi, with Shinichi Ogawa providing support to the writing process. Editing was handled by Shinji Hyodo, Yasuaki Hashimoto, Joji Okuhira, Hiroshi Yamazoe, Hiromu Arakaki, Michito Tsuruoka, Yasuhito

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March 2010

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