

# East Asian Strategic Review 2015

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JMSDF P-1 patrol aircraft (Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force photo)  
Japan-US-Australia defense ministers meeting (Japan Ministry of Defense photo)  
JMSDF helicopter destroyer *Hyuga* (Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force photo)

## Preface

Security risks are on the rise in East Asia, making it all the more important to cultivate an objective, comprehensive understanding of the context and realities of rapidly changing international affairs through vigorous but detached discussion founded on sound logic and accurate information. *East Asian Strategic Review (EASR)* is aimed at facilitating such discussion among experts and general readers in the international community by presenting them with concise empirical analyses of major trends and developments in the East Asian security environment made by researchers at the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS).

*EASR 2015* analyzes the significant security developments that took place in regional countries and subregions mainly during the period from January through December 2014. Also included are a thematic chapter and sidebars that explore medium- to long-range concerns and specific items of interest deemed critical to the study of East Asian and global security.

This book is divided into an executive summary, an introduction, chapters on specific countries and subregions, and a thematic chapter. The executive summary highlights the main focuses of each chapter, while the introduction provides an overview of key emerging trends in the East Asian security environment to aid the reader's understanding of the background to the various developments analyzed in the chapters that follow. Each of Chapters 1 through 7 examines a particular country or subregion, providing expert analyses of matters such as Japan's new developments in security policy, North Korea's economy and nuclear development issue, trends in the foreign and security policy of South Korea, China's domestic situation and foreign policy, the situations in Southeast Asian countries and the South China Sea, the foreign and defense policies of India's new administration, Russian security policy and the situation in Ukraine, and the ways in which the US rebalance to the Asia-Pacific is being put to the test. Chapter 8, the thematic chapter, examines security issues pertaining to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats—a subject that has recently been gathering international attention as a global security challenge.

It is our hope that *EASR 2015* will encourage deeper discussion of the security challenges facing Japan and other countries in the region, and help foster greater mutual understanding and interaction among all stakeholders in the region. We

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would also be very pleased if colleges and graduate schools around the world would employ this book as a textbook or reference work that can spark younger generations' intellectual interest in specific security issues of our rapidly changing world.

This edition was written by: Eiichi Katahara and Tomotaka Shoji (Introduction); Sugio Takahashi (Chapter 1); Hiroyasu Akutsu, Tetsuo Murooka, and Yukiko Eguchi (Chapter 2); Shinji Yamaguchi, Yasuyuki Sugiura, Rira Momma, and Yasushi Wada (Chapter 3); Yoshihide Matsuura and Hideo Tomikawa (Chapter 4); Mari Izuyama (Chapter 5); Yoshiaki Sakaguchi, Shigeki Akimoto, and Hiroshi Yamazoe (Chapter 6); Shigeo Kikuchi and Hiromu Arakaki (Chapter 7); and Sukeyuki Ichimasa, Shuji Sue, and Kiwako Tanaka (Chapter 8). It was edited by Koichi Arie, Tomotaka Shoji, Kiwako Tanaka, Michito Tsuruoka, Hideo Tomikawa, Tsuyoshi Nakazawa, Masami Nishino, and Yu Harada.

The analyses and descriptions contained herein are solely those of NIDS researchers, and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Government of Japan or the Ministry of Defense. *EASR* is based on open-source information, including domestic and foreign news reports, government or non-government publications, and academic analyses. The titles and ranks of people mentioned herein are, in principle, those that were current at the time of the events described.

Finally, I would like to warmly thank the authors who painstakingly contributed to *EASR 2015*, and all others who diligently planned, edited, and managed this project.

March 2015

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*EASR 2015* Editor-in-chief  
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