

# THE WASHINGTON QUARTERLY



## 5 PROVOCATIONS

### 7 Iran and the Great Sanctions Debate

■ *Meghan L. O'Sullivan*

Amid a flurry of sanctions activity on Iran, the question persists: Do sanctions work? Policymakers will be well-served by a subtle understanding of what increases the chances of sanctions contributing to a positive outcome, and when to adjust the sanctions strategy.

### 23 Should Israel Become a “Normal” Nation? ■ *Barbara Slavin*

External pressures are rising on Israel, creating a diplomatic crisis, to constrain its disproportionate use of military force, acknowledge its nuclear weapons arsenal, and actively seek a comprehensive peace agreement. It is time that Israel become a “normal” nation.

### 39 The Anatomy of Japan's Shifting Security Orientation

■ *Tsuyoshi Sunohara*

The fissures appearing in the U.S.–Japan alliance's foundation are deeply rooted, not the function of one political leader or party. Factors like relations with China, nuclear policy, and the future of the Japanese constitution have made Japanese political factions, and alliance dynamics, more complicated.

**59 Engagement without Recognition: A New Strategy toward Abkhazia and Eurasia's Unrecognized States**

■ *Alexander Cooley and Lincoln A. Mitchell*

Two years after the Russia–Georgia war, Eurasia's unrecognized states remain isolated and dependent on regional patrons. To facilitate integration, a new “engagement without recognition” approach toward at least Abkhazia could also serve as a model with others.

**75 Decoding Turkish Foreign Policy Hyperactivity**

■ *Ziya Meral and Jonathan Paris*

Much of the recent discussion on Turkey misses the point. The key question is *not* whether Turkey is giving up its U.S. and EU ties in exchange for closer ties with the Islamic world. The key question is: has fresh Turkish zeal backfired, leading Ankara to miscalculate its influence and risk losses to Turkey's potential stabilizing role as well as its own interests?

**87 The End of the African Renaissance** ■ *Bruce Gilley*

Twenty years ago, an African renaissance was proclaimed, an attempt at a fruitful encounter with modernity after decades of self-destruction. Today, it is time to admit that the African renaissance is over, with tyranny, stagnation, and conflict on the march again.

**103 Getting Back on Track in Bosnia-Herzegovina**

■ *Christopher S. Chivvis and Harun Dogo*

The situation in Bosnia has unfortunately deteriorated in the last four years. With the fifteenth anniversary of the Dayton Accords and national elections arriving this fall, the time is ripe to reorient transatlantic strategy, particularly on three issues.

**119 Will China Change the Rules of Global Order?**

■ *Gregory Chin and Ramesh Thakur*

China is now set to embark on a qualitatively different phase of international engagement, continuing to adopt many global standards, rules, and norms of international

conduct, but challenging others, along with Brazil and India, to accommodate these three “developmental states.”

## **139 U.S. Power after the Financial Crisis**

141 **Picture the Problem: The Geopolitical Impact of the Financial Crisis**

143 **American and Chinese Power after the Financial Crisis**

■ *Joseph S. Nye, Jr.*

The United States has been widely blamed for the recent financial crisis, while China continues to grow and benefits from projections about the future. But be wary of the wrong long-term projections from the recent crisis that could lead to costly policy miscalculations.

155 **Understanding the Geopolitical Implications of the Global Financial Crisis** ■ *Wu Xinbo*

Although it is still early, the financial crisis has expedited three global trends: the evolution of international power away from unipolarity; views of the United States as part of both solutions and problems in global affairs; and a search for new models of governance and development.

## **165 Washington Watch**

167 **Storm Clouds Gathering for the Democrats**

■ *Charles E. Cook, Jr.*

The House seems to be teetering on the edge of shifting into GOP hands, while the fight for a majority in the Senate seems to be getting tighter. A funny thing has happened on the way to the 2010 midterm elections, beginning in September 2009.