

FOREIGN AFFAIRS



MAY / JUNE 2010
VOLUME 89, NUMBER 3

Comments

Helping Others Defend Themselves *Robert M. Gates* 2

In coming years, the greatest threats to the United States are likely to emanate from states that cannot adequately govern themselves or secure their own territory. The U.S. government must improve its ability to help its partners defend themselves or, if necessary, fight alongside U.S. troops.

The Brussels Wall *William Drozdiak* 7

For years, an invisible wall has kept the European Union and NATO apart. As the United States and Europe face common threats across the globe, the time has come to break down the bureaucratic barrier and meld NATO's hard power with the EU's soft power to confront today's challenges.

The Global Glass Ceiling *Isobel Coleman* 13

It is now accepted wisdom that empowering women in the developing world is a catalyst for achieving a range of international development goals. It is time for multinational corporations to get on board: funding education for girls and incorporating women-owned firms into their supply chains are good for business.

Essays

The Geography of Chinese Power *Robert D. Kaplan* 22

The rise of China is not an existential problem for China's neighbors or the United States, but it is a geopolitical challenge. On land and at sea, abetted by China's favorable location on the map, Beijing's influence is expanding—from Central Asia to the South China Sea and from the Russian Far East to the Indian Ocean. By securing its economic needs, China is shifting the balance of power in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Reviews & Responses

- Overpowered?** *Michael Mandelbaum* 114
 For Jack Matlock, Giulio Gallarotti, and Christopher Preble, the authors of three new books about power and U.S. foreign policy, the essence of “the power problem” is that the United States has too much of it. But the era in which U.S. foreign policy could be driven in counterproductive directions by an excess of power is in the process of ending.
- It Takes the Villages** *Seth G. Jones* 120
 Current efforts to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan are based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the country’s culture and social structure. Three new books make clear that seeking to impose change from Kabul will never work; rather, defeating the Taliban will require local, bottom-up efforts—beginning with a deep understanding of tribal and subtribal politics.
- To the Finland Station** 128
Vance Chang, Hans Mouritzen, and Bruce Gilley
 Does Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou’s diplomatic strategy amount to a case of “Finlandization,” as Taipei drifts out of Washington’s sphere of influence and into Beijing’s? Or is Taiwan simply pursuing détente, while remaining a strong U.S. ally and a beacon of democratic values? Taiwan’s Foreign Ministry, the father of “Finlandization,” and Bruce Gilley debate.
- Recent Books on International Relations** 134
 Including Richard Cooper on the opium trade, Walter Russell Mead on Union and Confederate foreign relations, Robert Legvold on how Russia beat Napoleon, and Nicolas van de Walle on the World Cup in South Africa.
- Letters to the Editor** 155
 Including Marisa Porges and Jessica Stern on deradicalization; Joseph Chamie and Jack Goldstone on demography.

The articles in Foreign Affairs do not represent any consensus of beliefs. We do not expect that readers will sympathize with all the sentiments they find here, for some of our writers will flatly disagree with others, but we hold that while keeping clear of mere vagaries, Foreign Affairs can do more to inform American public opinion by a broad hospitality to divergent ideas than it can by identifying itself with one school. We do not accept responsibility for the views expressed in any article, signed or unsigned, that appears in these pages. What we do accept is the responsibility for giving them a chance to appear.

THE EDITORS